



Lehigh students meet with Iranian Ambassador

By Jordan Wolman

Lehigh students were given the unique chance to hear contrasting opinions on the nuclear arms treaty during individual meetings with John Brevaco, a senior U.S. State Department nuclear arms negotiator, and Gholamali Khoshroo, the Iranian Ambassador to the United Nations.

Within their respective meetings, both the Iranian Ambassador and the U.S. diplomat discussed denuclearization, Iran's relationships with other Middle Eastern countries and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) treaty that was negotiated between Iran, France, China, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom. President Trump recently withdrew the United States from the agreement.

The Ambassador, who objected to the US withdrawal, told the students his country had lived up to the deal, and that Iran's adherence has been validated by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

An engaging question and answer session between both diplomats and Lehigh students followed each of their distinctive remarks. Ambassador Khoshroo pushed back on the U.S. foreign policy strategy in the Middle East, citing American weapons as the cause for the death of Yemeni children in the conflict with Saudi Arabia, American inaction following the 1980 Iraqi invasion of Iran and the current administration's isolationism at the UN.

"The Lehigh/UN Partnership presents unprecedented opportunities for students to meet with senior UN officials and ask them tough questions," said Emma Dillon, '20 who attended the trip. "To be able to meet with officials from both the United States and Iran and ask each of them difficult questions about US-Iranian relations and nuclear warfare is access not many people get."

The LU/UN Partnership arranged for the special, closed-door meetings exclusive to Lehigh students and faculty members, which took place on Oct. 19 at UN headquarters in New York City. Approximately 40 Lehigh members attended the trip.

Lehigh First-Years Attend UN Conference

By Jordan Wolman

Approximately 20 incoming first year students began their Lehigh journey a few days early by taking part in the GlobaLehigh PreLUson program. By Day 3 at Lehigh, GlobaLehigh participants had attended a major conference at the United Nations, met and exchanged business cards with international officials, and explored globalization and culture with sessions on campus.

Alexandra Gainey, '22, a joint international relations and economics major, reflected on her GlobaLehigh experience.

"If I were to use one word, I would say life-changing," Gainey said of the program. "The whole PreLUson experience broadened my lens about globalization and my understanding of foreign relations, culture and language in general."

Gainey pointed out her conversations with a representative from the island of Barbuda as particularly memorable.

Miles Kwiatek, '22, highlighted the UN trip as something that is "hard to beat" on his third day of college.

"The UN was as incredibly diverse and fascinating as one could imagine. There are so many different things to learn and understand, and I think the most exciting part is that it's ours for the taking," Kwiatek said.

Kwiatek spoke of a session he attended with the high commissioner for human rights' office, and explained that his interest in the UN and global affairs "in large part comes from just wanting to learn more about the world, see new places and meet new people."

Ellie Oliver, '22, a global studies major, reveled in the chance to make strong early connections with faculty members.

"It was really good to meet with a lot of the professors that I'd be working with in Global Studies and IR departments, which is what I wanted to get out of it," Oliver said.

Perhaps the truest measure of this PreLUson: each of the three conveyed a commitment to Global Lehigh initiatives and programs and plan on taking advantage of Lehigh's available resources.

Lehigh Senior Elected to UN NGO Executive Committee

"My new role will allow me to enhance the voice of smaller, perhaps underfunded and youth-led, internationally-based NGOs at a higher level within the UN system. I am honored to be able to advocate for more inclusive, equitable youth engagement and to augment the voices of youth change-makers around the world who may not have the capacity to come to New York."



Nadine Clopton, United Nations Youth Representative for Caring and Living as Neighbours (Australia), is the third student in the world to be elected by the UN NGO Department of Public Information Executive Committee.



Lehigh students meet with senior U.S. nuclear arms negotiator John Brevaco at the U.S. Mission to the UN. Approximately 40 Lehigh students attended the trip, which featured a meeting with Brevaco, followed by an engaging discussion with the Iranian ambassador.

While at Lehigh, Dr. Okorochukwu met with Professor Jesseca Marsh, the Director of the Health, Medicine, and Society Program. Dr. Okorochukwu then met with his UN Youth Representatives, Amy Eremionkhale, Sophia Mayone, and Devin Yeatter, answering questions regarding the day-to-day work of CPH, his mission, and expectations for the future of his NGO. This was followed by a meeting with Professor Javier Buceta of the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Program. Last year, Dr. Okorochukwu wrote a letter supporting Dr. Buceta's proposed research grant to the National Institute of Health, which was awarded in the amount of \$450,000 earlier this year. The research focuses on efforts to mitigate future outbreaks of Ebola.

To complete his day, Dr. Okorochukwu met with Professor Todd Watkins, the Executive Director of the Martindale Center for the Study of Private Enterprise and Microfinance Program.



This day-long series of meetings highlighted the ways that the work done at Lehigh intersects with the daily accomplishments achieved by CPH on the ground in Nigeria. Each meeting also served as a point of connection for future collaboration between CPH and Lehigh on matters such as the groundbreaking technology of field test screening for cervical cancer.

The CPH was one of the original NGOs with which Lehigh University collaborated with at the formation of the LU/UN Partnership.

Nigerian NGO President Visits Campus

By Amy Eremionkhale, Sophia Mayone, and Devin Yeatter

On Friday, September 28th, the Lehigh University/United Nations (LU/UN) Partnership hosted Dr. C'Fine Okorochukwu on campus. Dr. Okorochukwu is the founder and director of the Center for Public Health (CPH), a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Nigeria. Among other services, CPH acts as an advocacy and support network for rural communities of Nigeria living without ample access to public health and medical services. CPH produces informational flyers, radio broadcasts, and makes door-to-door visits in an effort to inform the public about common medical diseases and public health issues. It also encourages rural communities to use CPH as a resource so that they can live healthier lives. Under his leadership, CPH runs a hospital in Nigeria named the "Pink Rose Hospital." In addition, CPH has successfully introduced a community-based insurance program for more than fifty communities in some of the rural areas of Southern Nigeria.

DID YOU KNOW...

- 11,000+ Lehigh faculty, staff and students have attended UN events
- 22 Lehigh students serve as UN Youth Representatives
- 42 Lehigh alums have interned at the UN

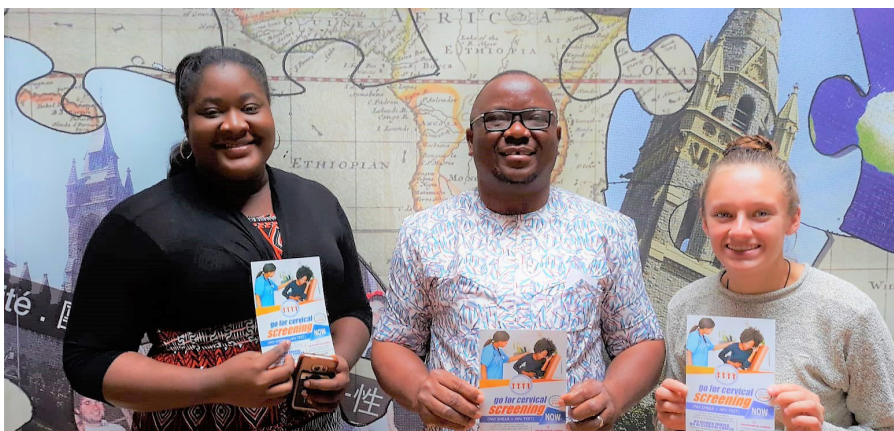
Stay Involved

SAVE THE DATE - April 11, 2019
Lehigh will host a major UN/International Labor Organization conference on campus. The "Future of Work" event will feature renowned speakers, student presentations and a celebration of Bethlehem and Lehigh's past, present and future.

Contact Us

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<https://global.lehigh.edu/un-partnership>



Lehigh University students serving as United Nations Youth Representatives for the Center for Public Health in Nigeria, meet with the organization's director, Dr. C'Fine Okorochukwu during his recent visit to campus. The NGO serves as a network for health and medical support for rural communities in the Sub-Saharan African nation.