“Every time I draw a clean breath, I'm like a fish out of water.”

- Narcotics Anonymous
Delegates,

Welcome to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. My name is Wes Collier and I am looking forward to being your Director. It is an honor to be in charge of your FLCS experience this year. I am originally from Orlando, but now I am a third year Food and Resource Economics major studying at the University of Florida. I joined model UN my freshman year here at Florida and have competed at over ten collegiate conferences. I have directed and staffed at both FLCS and our high school conference, GatorMUN, two years in a row now. In my free time not MUN-ing, I like to hike, travel, and explore as much as I possibly can. I also love to watch and talk about movies.

I chose to run a drug policy committee because of my interest in what I consider the most overlooked political issue in our country today. The debate surrounding the war on drugs has recently begun to resurface as the public has become more and more aware of the relevant facts concerning our current policies, such as the fact that the United States has the largest rate of incarceration in the world. I will dive into this more in the bulk of this background guide; however, I want to make it clear that this committee will be a place for all ideas to be tested and debated. There is no requirement that this committee take a particularly progressive or conservative stance on the issues presented, only that delegates do their best express the interests of their particular positions.
want to see lively and constructive debate on the crises presented. I believe Model UN is a place to have intellectual discussion and conversation; I will be running this committee in that manner.

Lastly, I want to wish all delegates the best of luck and thank you for coming to FLCS! Model UN can be a challenging and exhausting experience, but as you all probably know, it is also incredibly rewarding. I know that all of you took time out of your schedules and lives to make the trip to Gainesville. I know how much you sacrificed to be here. I want to make your time here in the swamp worth it. I take my Directorship very seriously and will work very hard to ensure you guys have the best experience possible. Thank you once again for attending FLCS VI.

Best,

Wes Collier

Director
Parliamentary Procedure

The Office of National Drug Control Policy

Committee will operate in a perpetually moderated caucus. All delegates must vote during a procedural matter and procedural motions will require a simple majority to pass unless it is stated otherwise by the chair.

**Point of Order**

A point of order may interrupt a speech and may be used when a delegate feels the chair or another delegate is incorrectly following parliamentary procedure.

**Point of Inquiry**

A point of inquiry may not interrupt a speech and may be used to direct a question to the chair, but speeches will not be entertained using points of inquiry.

**Point of Parliamentary Inquiry**

A point of parliamentary inquiry may be used to ask a question to clarify a parliamentary procedure and cannot interrupt a speech.

**Point of Information**

A point of information may not interrupt a speech and can be used to clarify a point or motion, or to bring substantive information to the attention of the chair. Speeches will not be entertained using this point.

**Point of Personal Privilege**

A Point of Personal Privilege can be used when a delegate’s ability to debate is harmed for any reason. This can be used to address temperature of the room or a delegate’s inability to hear the speaker. This point can interrupt the speaker.

**Right of Reply**

Right of Reply can be used when a delegate feels that their dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. Right of replies are to be written and sent to the chair. The chair will use chairs discretion as to when to invoke it.

**Motion for a Moderated Caucus**

A motion to enter a moderated caucus must specify the topic, length, and speaking time. Much of the committee will be spent in a moderated caucus.

**Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus**

A motion for an unmoderated caucus must only specify the length of time. Unmoderated caucuses should be used to work on notes and directives.

**Motion to Introduce Documents**

A motion to introduce documents must be made in order for them to be discussed in debate.
Introduction

Goals of Committee

President Collier has just been sworn into office. As a candidate and then President-elect, he has made a promise in his inauguration speech to pass bi-partisan legislation that addresses the recent heroin epidemic sweeping through the Southwest. It will be this committee’s job to negotiate and produce a bill ready for the President to sign by the end of the first committee session or else risk losing the popular support that propelled him into office.

History of United States Drug Policy

1970s

President Richard Nixon declared his infamous War on Drugs on June 17, 1971. Overshadowed by the Cold War, this drastic shift in policy marked the beginning of one of the single most consequential periods in the history of the United States. More Americans have been incarcerated for drug offences since 1971 than have died fighting in our military. It’s arguable that Nixon’s War on Drugs (and as continued by every President that has succeeded him) has had one of the most profound impacts on the fabric of American society second only to slavery and Jim Crow. The Drug War continues to this day; however, both the popular media and elected officials are beginning to question how much good it does and at what cost.¹

Nixon declared the War on Drugs in 1971 in response to a rising surge in the popularity of recreational drug usage in the 1960s. The conventional thinking at the time was that drug use was strongly linked to crime, and to fight crime, the government had to stamp out illicit drugs. However, a former staffer for the Nixon Administration has claimed that the

¹ http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/drugs/cron/
entire policy initiative was the White House’s way of targeting the anti-war hippie movement as well as African American communities; two groups that posed political challenges to Nixon. While these claims cannot be confirmed, the War on Drugs was very much tied to the fight against crime in the 1970s and 80s. Nixon fought the drug war with mostly executive actions, and with little accompanying legislation.

The Office of Drug Abuse Law enforcement was established in 1972 to crack down on street level crime; a year later the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) was officially founded to consolidate all aspects of the Drug War, including the fights against international drug cartels. The War on Drugs claimed an early victory in 1972 when French law enforcement broke up what was called the “French Connection,” resulting in a massive heroin shortage on the East Coast’s black markets.

Through the Ford Administration and beginning of the Carter Administration, drug policy focused mostly on drugs that were determined as a significant threat to public health, which did not include marijuana. This is evidenced by the “White Paper” released under the Ford Administration and by the first Presidential campaign of Jimmy Carter, in which he advocated for the decriminalization of small amounts of marijuana.² Policy took a sharp turn after 1976 when the special interest “Families for Action” began the anti-drug movement spearheaded by parents of the social right. This shift in attitude helped result in the election of Ronald Reagan, a fierce advocate for the War on Drugs and stricter laws concerning drugs that hadn’t been proven to pose a serious risk to public health.

1980s

The War on Drugs in the early 1980s was characterized on the international front by the rise of the Medellin cartel and the largest drug busts to date, mostly in Miami. Domestically, Reagan focused his efforts around the First Lady’s “Just Say No” campaign against teenage drug abuse focused primarily on white, middle class children.

Crack cocaine began to explode in New York City and was brought to national attention by a New York Times headline in 1985. Police moved to crack down on the street level in the inner city areas, targeting mostly poor African Americans who used the drug disproportionally compared to wealthier white people who used powdered cocaine. Though they were nearly identical substances, penalties for using crack cocaine were much harsher than penalties for using powdered cocaine, and subsequently, more African Americans were convicted more often and given longer sentences than white people committing the same crimes.

On November 6, 1984, DEA agents in partnership with the Mexican Government had the “Bust of the Century” in which 2.5 billion dollars worth of marijuana was seized from a farm in Mexico. Successes abroad led to Reagan pushing through and signing the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986. It allocated 1.7 billion dollars to fight the drug epidemics. 97 million dollars went to building new prisons to keep up with the increased incarceration rates and the most controversial aspect of the bill, mandatory minimums.3

1990s to the Present-day

While Bill Clinton ran on a platform that suggested he would reform drug control policy, his actions in office are widely considered to have continued and even strengthened the status quo. He outright rejected many initiatives that reform advocates thought would transition the way the United States dealt with drugs. The George W Bush Administration also continued the war by funneling record amounts of money into drug enforcement as well.

3 https://web.stanford.edu/class/e297c/poverty_prejudice/paradox/htele.html
as enabling the militarization of police forces around the country. Since 2009, the Obama Administration has not made the significant strides that reformists had hoped for with a liberal President. Colorado, Washington, and Washington D.C have all legalized the recreational use of marijuana in this time period.  

Policy Overview

Mandatory Minimums

In the United States, mandatory sentencing is the limitation of judicial discretion by law. People convicted of possession charges are subject to sentencing that must be at least a certain number of years in prison. Advocates of mandatory minimums argue that they deter crime, especially for people with prior convictions. They also argue that they ensure fair and uniform sentencing for everyone convicted of drug related charges. Opponents of mandatory minimums believe that harsher sentences do not deter crime and that these types of laws unfairly target African American and Hispanic communities. Mandatory minimums are also seen as responsible for compelling false confessions. Prosecutors may use the threat of a drug charge to scare the accused into admitting to a crime they may not have committed. Mandatory minimums are also a contributing factor to the surge in American prison populations.

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5 http://www.globalcommissionondrugs.org
Federal/State Disparities

There are significant differences between State and Federal drug laws that directly contradict each other. Legal marijuana possession and use is the most notable contradiction. While Colorado, Washington, and the District of Columbia have all legalized the recreational use of marijuana; it is still a class one drug on the Federal level, putting it in the same legal category as drugs like LSD, heroin, and ecstasy. These drugs are defined as having “no current accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse”.

This puts marijuana into a legal limbo that does not inspire confidence in the legal marijuana industry. It is still very hard for marijuana businesses to find access to credit because financial institutions are still worried about the legality of those types of loans. The industry is still at the mercy of the Department of Justice. While marijuana businesses have enjoyed the DOJ “looking away” under the Obama administration, future administrations could try to crack down in the legalized states.

Foreign aid

An important tool for the United States in the War on Drugs is conditional aid. Conditional aid encompasses giveaways or loans granted to the governments on the condition that they spend it on certain things or pursue a specific policy. In the War on Drugs, conditional aid is used to encourage governments to crack down on drug producers within their own borders in order to stem the flow of drugs into the United States from the source.

This kind of aid often takes the form of military and police training. This kind of aid is often given out to the governments of countries notorious for their drug cartels, such as Mexico and

Colombia. Critics of these kinds of policies question the wisdom in militarizing potentially unstable institutions in struggling democracies.⁸

**Criminalization vs. Treatment**

Common criticisms of the War on Drugs involve the fundamental assumptions of how the government addresses drug use. Critics claim that the United States treats drug addiction as a criminal offence when it should be treated as a public health epidemic. They argue that a more effective approach to combating drug addiction would be to expand publicly funded addiction treatment. They believe a drug abuser should be viewed as a victim, not as a criminal. Proponents of the current system in place believe that prison sentences are an effective deterrent of drug use and, therefore, a deterrent against violent crime.⁹

**Racial bias in enforcement**

The War on Drugs is routinely criticized for disproportionately harming African American and Hispanic communities. Despite there being a proportionately equal level of drug use between white people and African Americans, African Americans are five times more likely to be convicted and jailed because of a drug offence. The bias seems to give a racial charge to not only the enforcement of drug policy, but also the drug policy itself.¹⁰

**Major Themes**

- Should drug use be treated as a crime or as a health crisis?
- To what extent should the government involve itself addressing drug use?
- How do we keep drugs away from minors?
- How do we address the flow of drugs into the country from abroad?

**Positions**

The structure and operations of the ONCP will be slightly modified to make it easier to function as a crisis committee. Delegates will have the freedom to interpret their own positions in creative ways to help keep the committee flowing smoothly. This is not to say that delegates will be free to do whatever they want. The committee will be grounded in reality and delegates will be expected to behave accordingly. Delegates should focus their

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⁸ http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/02/03/us-expands-drug-war-latin-america/1887481/
⁹ http://www.drugpolicy.org/mass-criminalization
research on the institutions and organizations they represent to better understand their portfolio powers.

**Assistant Director of Media and Youth Outreach**
This position directs the national campaign currently in place to prevent drug use by minors. Will be in charge of PR for the office and reports to the Director of the ONDCP. Will have connections within the media and within the White House communications department.

**Assistant Director of Legislation**
This position will report to the Director of the ONDCP. In charge of pushing the President’s agenda in Congress and will speak on behalf of the White House to legislators. Will be responsible for drafting, editing, and compromising in congress in accordance to the White House’s interests.

**Representative to the US Border Control**
This position reports directly to the Chief of the Border Patrol. Will be in charge of expressing and implementing the interests of the border patrol in the decisions the ONDCP makes and in the general debate of committee. Has access to all of the resources of the Border Patrol. This agency does fall under the authority of the White House and must comply with any direct orders from the President; however, that does not mean they cannot disagree with the White House within debate.

**Representative to the FDA**
This position will report to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs. Will have the responsibility to ensure public safety and have a heavy hand in drafting any regulatory policy the committee wants to pass. Will work closely with other positions that focus on the public health aspect of debate. Has access to all the resources of the FDA. As an independent agency, this position has no obligation to work in the interest of the White House and does not fall under its authority.

**Representative to the Attorney General and Director of Legal Affairs**
This position is the Chief legal counsel of the group. Must ensure that all directives that pass are in accordance with the law and the constitution and take the lead when there are legal challenges to directives that pass the committee. Reports to the Department of Justice first and foremost (which itself is under the jurisdiction of the White House). Has access to the resources of the Justice Department. Will represent the group in any court/legal setting. Can work closely with legislators in the group.
Representative to drug inventing and manufacturing companies
Represents non-governmental private interests and therefore does not answer to the White House; rather they will be given their marching orders from Pharmaceutical Companies to push their interests. Has the advantage of running their own PR and trying to influence the debate outside the realm of government. Also in charge of their own funding and finances. They will have an equal vote for the purposes of committee.

Senator (R) - Chairman of the Special Committee on Illegal Drug Use in the United States
Representing the interests of the Republican Party within committee. As a legislator has the connections within Congress to influence legislation passed. Does not answer to the White House, just Republican leadership and own constituents. Has the traditional portfolio power of a Senator. Has sympathized with the Libertarian wing in the past.

Senator (D) - Ranking Member of the Special Committee on Illegal Drug Use in the United States
Representing the interests of the Democratic Party within committee. As a legislator has the connections within Congress to influence legislation passed. Will answer to the Democratic leadership and own constituents. Has the traditional portfolio power of a Senator.

Representative to the FBI
Reports to the Director of the FBI first and foremost, who is under the jurisdiction of both the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence, who are both under the authority of the White House. This position has a duty to promote the interests of federal law enforcement. Has access to the resources of the FBI.

Representative to the National Association of Police Organizations
This position reports to the Police Unions to promote the interests of local law enforcement. A representative of a private organization, this position does not answer to the White House. Has access to the resources of the Unions.

Representative of the Black Lives Matter movement
This position represents the loose organization of activists that fall under the umbrella of the Black Lives Matter movement. Does not fall under the authority of anyone but the people they represent; however, because of this, their influence could be enhanced or diminished significantly by news cycles.

Special Advisor of the Health Effects of Illegal Drug Use
Representing the Surgeon General, this position will be the leading authority in committee to speak about the technical health issues drug use can cause. As a medical authority, it is important for this delegate to inform any and all policy put forth by the committee with the
proper scientific knowledge. Has access to all of the resources of the Office of the Surgeon General.

**Special Advisor of Drug Cartel Intelligence**
This position reports to the Director of the CIA and ultimately the White House. Will have the most access to intelligence briefings about international drug smuggling and trade. Will have some – but not unlimited – access to the resources of the CIA. Will promote the interests of the intelligence community within committee.

**Chief of Staff to the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy**
This delegate will be the one working closest with the Director of the ONDCP. Will be responsible for all the day-to-day operations of the office and partially responsible for the office as a whole, creating comprehensive policy in line with what the White House wants. Will be in charge of cracking down on any ethical wrongdoings within the office. Has the ear of the Director.

**Assistant Director of All local Grassroots Campaigns Against Drug Use**
In charge of implementing the agenda of the ONDCP on a local level and works closest with communities, schools, parents, and teenagers. The role of this position will be to represent these communities and give a voice to ordinary people within committee. Will answer to the ONDCP and ultimately the White House.

**Assistant Director of Addiction and Rehabilitation**
This is a position within the ONDCP in charge of policy that revolves around drug rehabilitation and education. Will be in charge of any federal Drug rehabilitation centers and the funding for state level centers as appropriated by Congress.

**Representative to the ACLU**
Will answer to the President of the ACLU. Will be responsible for promoting the interests of the ACLU in committee, which will revolve around promoting individual liberty and the protection of personal rights. Part of a non-profit sphere and will have access to the resources of the ACLU.

**Representative of the Collection of Legal Marijuana Producers**
Much like the lobbyist position for the collection of drug manufactures, this position will represent the business interests of legal marijuana producers in the states where it is already legal both recreationally and medically. They answer to those businesses.
Representative to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services
A position very similar to the representative to the FDA, except with the distinction that this position answers to the President and works to promote his agenda within the realm of regulation of public health. Does not answer to the ONDCP, rather the Secretary of Health and Human Services, then the White House.

Representative to the Federal Trade Commission
In charge of the economic and trade implications of shifting drug policy. Has a responsibility to protect consumers’ economic rights. This is the authority of the economic implications of changing drug policy within committee. Will have access to the resources of the FTC.

Position Papers
No Position Papers are required.

Helpful Sources:


https://web.stanford.edu/class/e297c/poverty_prejudice/paradox/htele.html


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www.drugwatch.com

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http://hir.harvard.edu/winding-down-the-war-on-drugs-reevaluating-global-drug-policy/