Political Science students win top awards at MOAS competition

Texas State students won several awards at the 11th Model Organization of American States (MOAS) competition Nov. 2-3 at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. Rick Zuniga was named Outstanding Delegate (*1st place in his section*), Brazos Mason and Sein Leon were named Distinguished Delegates (*2nd place in their section*) and Team Nicaragua was named Distinguished Delegates (*2nd place overall*).

Twenty-four Political Science students represented Texas State at the competition. The students participated as delegates from the countries of Nicaragua, Panama, Trinidad, and Tobago. Earlier, some of the students traveled with their professor to Monterrey, Mexico, to attend a workshop in preparation for the competition.

MOAS is a credited academic course through which students learn how the Organization of American States operates. Students study procedures for parliamentary debate and caucusing, learn how to function in groups of countries that share common interests, and learn how the committees that report to the General Assembly operate. Students also study the economic, social, educational, political, and security issues facing the Americas today.

The teams' participation was sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board, Texas State Parents Association, and the Department of Political Science.

The MOAS team representing Nicaragua included Rick Zuniga, head delegate; Rick Gonzalez, Mick Icenhauer, Lisa Gentry, Jonathan Alorda, Sein Leon, Brazos Mason, Fernando Wild, and Brandy Kennedy.

The MOAS team representing Panama included Ryan Clay, head delegate; Garret Bramlett, Alex Scharton, Heidi Kluber, Melanie Aranda, Joshua Godines, and Eric Ketteman.

The MOAS team representing Trinidad and Tobago included Alex Truck, head delegate; Colton Dutton, Amada Knapp, Dalyee Hooper, Jason Ozment, Alex Fernandez, Javier Reyes, and Maira Garcia.