

On behalf of Colonel Suzanne Nielsen, the head of the Department of Social Sciences, I would like to extend an invitation to University of Maryland, Baltimore County to send two student delegates to participate in the 70th Annual Student Conference on U.S. Affairs (SCUSA), hosted by the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. SCUSA 70 meets from the evening of Wednesday, October 24th until noon on Saturday, October 27th.

The largest and oldest conference of its type, SCUSA is an important means through which we promote civil-military engagement among future leaders from around the world. In addition to 60 cadet delegates, approximately 200 undergraduate and graduate students from over 100 universities and 20-30 countries attend SCUSA each year. Conference highlights include an opening senior panel discussion on the evening of October 24th, a keynote address banquet on October 25th, four roundtable sessions, and a closing session on October 27th at which delegates will present recommendations for U.S. foreign policy developed during their roundtable sessions. Our keynote speaker this year is Dr. Susan Rice, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. Other recent keynote speakers have included Amb (Ret) Douglas Lute, Dr. Richard Haass, Secretary Madeleine Albright, Ambassador Thomas Pickering, and Lieutenant General (Ret.) Brent Scowcroft.

The Conference theme this year is "Cooperation Reimagined: American Influence in an Increasingly Complex World." The world we live in is changing, forcing America to reevaluate its role within the international system it has led for the past 70-plus years. Amplified by technological innovations and the speed of communications, a widening set of states, organizations, and empowered individuals can shape geopolitics. Such rapid transformation on the international stage necessitates adapting to a post-world war order. In order to increase the likelihood of achieving preferred outcomes, the United States must assess its roles and those of its allies and partners while redefining global cooperation. During this year's 70th Student Conference on U.S. Affairs (SCUSA 70), "Cooperation Reimagined: American Influence in an Increasingly Complex World," delegates will consider multifaceted, thought-provoking issues that affect the world we know today. Working with students from around the globe, SCUSA 70 delegates will consider complex problems and recommend innovative ways to reimagine global cooperation.