



CNYMUN 2026

Guest Speakers

We are proud to welcome thirteen distinguished speakers from diverse backgrounds and professions to share their insights to our delegates. We welcome you to listen to their insights and dialogue on this years topics at the times listed below.

Room of Speech: DISEC (Falk Complex 105)

Time: 9:30, Saturday 1/10

PROFESSION: Professor of Practice, Public Administration and International Affairs Department

Robert B. Murrett is a faculty member in the department of public administration and international affairs and serves as the deputy director of the Syracuse University Institute for Security Policy and Law (SPL). He holds a courtesy faculty appointment with the Forensic and National Security Sciences Institute and is on the advisory board of the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, both at the University.

PROFESSION: Professor of Practice, Policy Studies

Kristen (Kris) Patel is the Donald P. and Margaret Curry Gregg Professor of Practice in Korean and East Asian Affairs at Syracuse University's Maxwell School and a Maxwell alumna ('90 B.A. in Economics and Political Science) with over 25 years of experience leading intelligence and analytics programs in the public and private sectors. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in policy studies, public administration, and international affairs, and is a research associate with PARCC and Syracuse University's Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence.



PROFESSION: Economics Professor at Syracuse University

Time: 9:30am - 10:00am, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: ECOFIN (Falk Complex 200)

Dr. Devashish Mitra is an Economics Professor at Syracuse University, specializing in international trade and political economy. He was awarded his Ph.D. at Columbia University and has since worked as a Senior Research Associate at the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs and the South Asia Center. Dr. Mitra will be speaking on current international trade issues and events.



PROFESSION: Professor of Law at Syracuse University

Time: 7:30, Friday 1/9

Room of Speech: SOCHUM (Falk Complex Grant Auditorium)

Dr. True-Frost is a Professor at Syracuse University. She teaches and writes on American Constitutional law, human rights, disability law, and international security law. Her recent research is on accessibility and reasonable accommodation law and conflicts between interpretations of international human rights and regional human rights law. She has also defended individuals accused of crimes against humanity leading the Nongovernmental Organization Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security at UN headquarters. Professor True-Frost will be speaking about human rights violations and child labor practices, as well as challenges that the UN faces going into 2026.





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PROFESSION: Physics professor at Syracuse University

Time: Session 3, Friday 1/9

Room of Speech: SPECPOL (Falk 100)

Mr. Rudolph specializes in particle physics, as well as high energy physics. He graduated John Hopkins University with a two bachelors in math and physics. Then pursued his Ph.D at MIT for physics, specifically the measurement of the $\Upsilon(1S)$ spin alignment. Mr. Rudolph has been invited to speak at SPECPOL due to his expertise in physics and the fundamental forces and particles which is the basis for all nuclear technology.



PROFESSION: Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Syracuse University

Time: 9:30, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: UNHCR (Kittredge Auditorium)

Ms. Woodward specializes in political anthropology and has conducted research on migration and borders, processes of radicalization, and the former Soviet Union and Russia. She graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2019 and has earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology. She will be speaking in the UNHCR committee on the topic of addressing the issues of migration specifically in Eastern Europe and the overall crisis at hand.



PROFESSION: Professor of Geography and the Environment Department at Syracuse University

Time: 10:30, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: CSTD (Eggers Hall 032)

Mr. Huber specializes in political economy, energy and capitalism, climate politics, and resource geography. Mr. Huber got a Ph.D. from Clark University at the Graduate School of Geography. He is a Senior Research Associate at the Center for Environmental Policy and Administration and the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration. He will be speaking in the CSTD committee on water scarcity and technology and also the ongoing situation in Venezuela and its oil.





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PROFESSION: Sociology Professor at Syracuse University

Time: 6:45-8, Friday 1/9

Room of Speech: CSW (Eggers Hall 018)

Dr. Selena Gallo-Cruz is associate professor of sociology. She specializes in research regarding culture, global change, conflict, gender, and much more. She is the author of "Political Invisibility and Mobilization: Women Against State Violence," which has won multiple awards.



PROFESSION: Psychology Professor at Syracuse University.

Time: 10:30, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: WHO (Maxwell Auditorium)

Dr. Aesoon Park is a psychology professor at SU who specializes in research on high-risk health behaviors (particularly with alcohol use/misuse) as a developmental phenomenon. She has great knowledge in the relationship between alcohol and health disparities, alcohol consumption in the youth, as well as the development of alcohol-regulatory policies. She has her Ph.D in Clinical Psychology, University of Missouri.



PROFESSION: Senior Research Fellow at Columbia University

Time: 10:45-11:45, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: ARAMCO (Hinds Hall 117)

Mr. Jonathan Elkind is a senior research fellow at the Columbia University Center on Global Energy Policy. Mr. Elkind has extensive experience within the world of energy policy, most notably with his eight years working as Assistant Secretary for International Affairs within the United States Department of Energy under the Obama administration. Elkind holds a Master of Business Administration in Strategy and International Business from the University of Maryland, a Master of Arts in Russian History and Certificate in Soviet Studies from the W. Averell Harriman Institute, and a Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in History from the University of Michigan.





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**PROFESSION: Professor, Public Administration and Internal Affairs
Department**

Time: 6:45-7:45, Friday 1/9

Room of Speech: G20 (Maxwell Hall 110)

Dr. David Popp earned his Ph.D in Economics at Yale University, 1997. He is the Caroline Rapking Faculty Scholar in Public Administration and Policy in the Public Administration and Internal Affairs Department at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. He has interests in environmental policy and the economics of technological change.



PROFESSION: Professor of International Security; Director of EUCTER

Time: 10:30 to 11:30, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: NATO (Eggers Hall 010)

Dr. Christian Kaunert holds a PhD in International Politics and an MSc in European Politics. He has been invited as an expert for the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the European Parliament, the UNDP, and even NATO. With over 100 publications and significant research, he's an expert in international security, counter-terrorism, and hybrid warfare. He will be speaking on global responses to terrorism, radicalisation, and securitization.



**PROFESSION: Professor of East Asian Languages, Literatures, and Asian
Studies at Colgate University**

Time: 1:45, Saturday 1/10

Room of Speech: JCC Nationalists and Communists (Hinds Hall 021)

Dr. Crespi holds a BA from Brown University and an MA and PhD from the University of Chicago. Currently, he works as a professor of East Asian Languages, Literatures, and Asian Studies at Colgate University. Professor Crespi specializes in Republican- and Socialist-era Chinese illustrated satire magazines, Chinese modern and contemporary poetry, and Chinese literature, film, and literary translation. His speech is titled: Sanmao: The Three-Haired Hero of Civil War Shanghai, where he will discuss a comic strip he is currently researching that relates to the war.





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PROFESSION: Professor, Anthropology Department, & the Ford-Maxwell professor of South Asian Studies at Syracuse University

Time: 1:45pm Saturday 01/10

Room of Speech: UNSC (Hinds Hall 120)

Dr. Mona Bhan is a professor of anthropology at Syracuse University whose work examines political violence, militarization, and civilian life in conflict zones. Her research offers critical insight into how Security Council decisions affect populations on the ground, particularly in contexts involving humanitarian intervention, displacement, and state authority.

