

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November 18, 2015**

### **Sky Valley Education Center Junior to Chair Model UN Science and Technology Commission**

**Monroe, WA** – At this year's Pacific Model United Nations (PAC UN), Monroe's own Alexandra Ash will chair the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). The PAC UN will be held this weekend at the Seattle Westin Hotel.

Ash is in her junior year at Sky Valley Education Center (SVEC), and takes classes at Cascadia Community College through Running Start. She has participated in the last few Model UN's through SVEC and when she learned they were looking for people to organize this year's program, she applied.

She worked on the program all summer, and her hard work culminates next weekend with the 3-day conference, where she will run a committee of about 60 students who will be debating world issues.

The PAC UN couldn't pick a better choice to be on the Science and Technology commission. "Since about middle school, I've really had a passion for computer science, engineering, that whole avenue," said Ash, daughter of Greg and Karen Ash. "I believe in not learning in just one aspect, but learning it all, including how to teach it."

This past summer, that passion led to a paid position as a camp counselor at the University of Washington's Computer Science & Engineering Youth Summer Camp (Dog Bytes), where she taught third graders and high school girls an 'Introduction to Programming' course.

But that summer wasn't Ash's first teaching experience, because she has spent the last few years volunteering with SVEC's robotics team. "I love teaching the students and helping immerse them in the engineering field," she said. "It starts as a foreign language to them, and soon they get to really understand it and have a passion for it."

Ash couldn't say enough about the support she's received in helping her find her niche. "My teachers have really helped guide me, and helped me get into these opportunities," she explained.

"Alex is an incredibly mature and delightful young woman," said Karen Rosencrans, Ash's principal at SVEC. "Truly, we are just honored to be a resource for her and her family!"