A delegation of five Furman University students and one professor will travel to Hanoi, Vietnam, on Saturday to represent the United States at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation conference.

The conference, which runs through Nov. 19, will bring many of the world's leaders to Vietnam, including President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Furman students will be the only college students in attendance representing the United States, according to a statement from the university.

Established in 1989, APEC is a platform for economic cooperation that facilitates bilateral trade and investment. The organization's signature event is an annual summit hosted each year by an APEC member nation.

Dr. Brent Nelsen, chair of Furman's political science department chair, will lead the student group.

The participating students are Kristen Capogrossi, a junior political science and economics major from Columbia; Daniella Fergusson, a senior political science major from Matthews, N.C.; Webb McArthur, a senior political science and philosophy major from McConnells; Ke Ji, a junior political science and Asian studies major from Madison, Miss.; and Cindy Youssef, a senior political science and Latin American studies major from Greenville.