National Debate Tournament

Alumni News

Reporting on the 2019 NDT held at the University of Minnesota

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Greetings from the NDT

After a hiatus of several decades, the NDT is resuming its alumni newsletter. Why you might ask? One big reason is that electronic newsletters are easier and cheaper to produce than the old paper versions.

But the primary motivation is to re-connect with our many old friends and share with them some information and photos about the current activities of the NDT.

This issue reports on the events that occurred at the 73rd NDT held at the University of Minnesota.

We hope you enjoying reading the NDT newsletter and we welcome your suggestions and feedback.

Best regards,

NDT Alumni Committee
Adrienne Brovero, University of Mary Washington
Dale Herbeck, Northeastern University
James Herndon, Emory University
John Katsulas, Boston College
Mikaela Malsin, Georgetown University

Upcoming NDTs

74th NDT — March 27-30, 2020

Hosted by James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

75th NDT — March 26-29, 2021

Hosted by Wake Forest University and held at the Westfield Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia (10 minutes from Dulles Airport)

Contacting the NDT

Information about the NDT, including future tournaments and the posting of the alumni newsletter, can be found at our website at this link: https://nationaldebatetournament.org/

Facebook users can follow the NDT at this link: https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Education/National-Debate-Tournament-NDT-162782223799263/

Ideas or suggestions about future stories to include in the alumni newsletter, e-mail to katsulas@bc.edu

Providing the NDT with your e-mail address so you can receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, e-mail to adri.debate@gmail.com

University of Kentucky Wins the 73rd NDT!

Front row: Anthony Trufanov, Dave Arnett (Director), Jacinda Rivas, & Maria Sanchez
Back row: Dan Bannister, Amar Adam (coach), Genevieve Hackman, & Lincoln Garrett (coach)

The University of Kentucky team of Dan Bannister & Anthony Trufanov defeated the University of Georgia to win the 73rd National Debate Tournament held at the University of Minnesota during 22-25 March 2019.

During the preliminary rounds, Bannister & Trufanov achieved a perfect record of 8 wins, along with winning the ballots of every judge on the three judge panels assigned for each debate (24 ballots).

Only three teams in the history of the NDT (Koulogeorge & Gail of Dartmouth in 1984, Coco & Smith of Iowa in 1992, & Arsht & Markoff of Georgetown in 2013) had achieved a perfect record during the preliminary debates.

Kentucky was unstoppable during the elimination rounds and never came close to losing a debate. In total, they won 20 of 22 ballots in their four elimination debates.

As the top seed, Kentucky received a bye during the double-octos round. In their first three elimination round debates, Kentucky debated on the affirmative side. In the octo finals, they defeated Liberty HT in a 4-1 decision. Then, they won unanimous 5-0 decisions against Northwestern JW in the quarter finals and Kansas HM in the semi-finals.

In the final round, Kentucky was locked on the negative against Nathan Rice and Johnnie Stupek of the University of Georgia. Rice & Stupek were a formidable opponent,
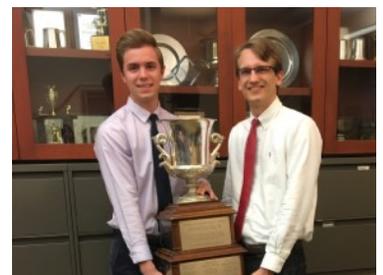
especially when debating on the affirmative.

Prior to the finals, Rice & Stupek were undefeated on the affirmative. They won all four of their preliminary debates on the affirmative and they also won four elimination round debates on the affirmative, defeating UNLV AW in the double-octos (5-0), Michigan GW in the octos (5-0), Harvard CM in the quarters (3-2) and Wake Forest EF in the semi-finals (3-2).

In the final round, Georgia's luck ran out and the University Kentucky prevailed on a 6-1 decision.

This marked the second NDT championship for Kentucky and their first in 33 years. The previous winning team was David Brownell and Ouita

Papka. They were coached by Roger Solt and the Director of Debate was J.W. Patterson.

Nathan Rice & Johnnie Stupek of the University of Georgia holding the second place Walker Trophy.

Award Winners

Brovero receives Keele Award

The Lucy M. Keele award was established in 1996 by the NDT Board of Trustees in honor of the former Director of Debate at CSU Fullerton and a long-time member of the Board of Trustees, to recognize an individual for outstanding service to the debate community.

The 2019 recipient of the Keele award is Adrienne Brovero, the Director of Debate at the University of Mary Washington.

Joshua Zive, a member of the NDT Board of Trustees and an NDT alumnus from the University of Kansas, made the presentation speech for the Keele award.

In his speech, Zive praised Brovero for her outstanding career as a debater at Wake Forest, where she was a two-time NDT semi-finalist (1994 with Marcia Tiersky & 1995 with John Hughes) and the first female winner of the Copeland award (1994-1995 with John Hughes).

Of course, Zive's praise, while factually accurate, was non-topical; the Keele Award is for service, and not a reward for debate success.

However, there is an undisputable argument for why Adrienne Brovero's service to the debate community is deserving of the Keele Award.

Brovero's extensive service includes (1) multiple terms as the District 7 Representative to the NDT Committee, including heading the appeals committee; (2) Chair of the NDT Committee beginning in 2019; (3) two terms as President of the American Debate Association; (4) multiple terms as a Topic Committee member; (5) hosting an annual debate tournament at UMW; (6) and assisting in the administration of running numerous national-level debate tournaments.

Photo caption: Left to right: Judd Kimball (spouse of Brovero), Adrienne Brovero, and Joshua Zive .

Leeson-Schatz receives Ziegelmueller Award

The George W. Ziegelmueller award was established in 1999 by the Wayne State alumni in honor of their beloved and immensely successful Director of Debate (1957 to 2006), who made countless contributions to the forensics community, including serving as the AFA president and the editor of their journal.

The Ziegelmueller Award is presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated success in both the communication profession and in debate tournament competitions.

The 2019 recipient of the Ziegelmueller Award is Dr. Joseph Leeson-Schatz, the Director of Debate at Binghamton University.

Sherry Hall, a Harvard debate coach and member of the NDT Board of Trustees, gave the presentation speech for the Ziegelmueller Award.

In her speech, Hall commended Leeson-Schatz for his exemplary tenure as the Director of Debate at Binghamton. She noted that Joe started the Binghamton debate program as an undergraduate and over many years, built up the program to achieve national prominence.

Some of the notable accomplishments of Binghamton Debate include being ranked as the number one debate program in the 2008 Cross Examination and Debate (CEDA) overall point rankings, receiving a first-round at large bid to the 2019 NDT, qualifying for the elimination rounds at the 2019 NDT, qualifying teams every year but once to the NDT, and providing debate opportunities to students of all ability levels.

Hall also praised Lesson-Schatz for his teaching and scholarship in the areas of gender, animal rights, and feminism.

Photo caption: The entire Binghamton debate squad at the NDT with Dr. Joe Lesson-Schaztz (5th from the left) proudly wearing his 1987 Binghamton Debate & Speech T-shirt.

Hegna earns top Speaker Honors

Jacob Hegna of the University of Kansas, won top individual speaker honors at this year's NDT. He became the first KU debater to be named the top speaker at the NDT since Hubert Bell in 1955.

Jacob and his partner, Nate Martin, reached the semi-finals of the NDT, where they were defeated by the ultimate champion, the University of Kentucky. In the quarter finals, they staged a big upset by defeating the University of Georgia's affirmative plan (US ratification of some of the protocols to three Nuclear Weapons Free zone treaties in the South Pacific, Africa, and Central Asia) in a unanimous decision on topicality.

Over the course of the 2018-2019 season, Jacob earned four top ten speaker awards: 9th place at Kentucky, 9th place at Northwestern, 8th place at ADA Nationals, and 6th place at USC.

As a team during 2018-2019, Hegna & Martin reached the elimination rounds at every tournament and earned a first-round at large to the NDT (ranked as the 14th best team).

Hegna & Martin are coached by Dr. Scott Harris and Dr. Brett Bricker.

Jacob is a senior from Overland Park, Kansas who is double majoring in computer science and mathematics.

Photo caption: Jacob Hegna holding the top speaker trophy next to Greg Rosenbaum (NDT champion of 1974).

First-Round at Large Recipients

There are three ways to qualify for the NDT. At the end of the "regular season," the National Committee extends an invitation to the top sixteen teams. Another forty-six teams are selected through district qualifying tournaments. To fill out the field, sixteen teams that have not qualified received "second round" bids. The teams receiving first rounds for the 2019 NDT included:

1. University of Kentucky BT (Bannister & Trufanov)
2. Harvard University CM (Cooper & Midha)
3. University of Georgia AR (Agrawal & Ramanan)
4. Emory University GS (Gazmararian & Shaikh)
5. University of California at Berkeley FG (Fleming & Gray)
6. University of Oklahoma JS (Juarez & Smith)
7. University of Georgia RS (Rice & Stupek)
8. Wake Forest University EF (Edwards & Fernandez)
9. Northwestern University JW (Jankovsky & Weideman)
10. University of Oklahoma PW (Pickens & White)
11. University of Nevada, Las Vegas HS (Horn & Smith)
12. University of Michigan GW (Goldschlag & Walrath)
13. Binghamton University AY (Allan & Yan)
14. University of Kansas HM (Hegna & Martin)
15. Liberty HT (Harrington & Thomas)
16. University of California at Berkeley RN (Ramesh & Neelakandan)

The Rex Copeland Award, presented before the NDT, is presented to the highest ranked team in the first round balloting. This year, the University of Kentucky won both the Copeland Award and the Larmon Trophy for winning the tournament.

Participating Teams

Arizona State (Ferdowsian & Guthrie)
Baylor (Ramsey & Wilson)
Baylor (Thrasher-Evers & Zoda)
Binghamton University (Allan & Yan)
Binghamton University (De Los Santos & Mendelson)
Concordia College (Boals & Spindler)
Cornell (Luciani & Tilmes)
Dartmouth College (Estrada & Tambe)
Dartmouth College (McCallum & Safieddine)
Emory University (Burgess & Yamout)
Emory University (Cerny & Morbeck)
Emory University (Gazmararian & Shaikh)
Emporia State University (Monteith & Kuiper)
Emporia State University (Sims & Warfield)
George Mason University (Ahmed & Howley)
George Mason University (Buckner & Turpen)
Georgetown (Bernstein & Piliero)
Gonzaga University (Basler & Martin)
Harvard (Aoki & Schnall)
Harvard (Borbon & Gordon)
Harvard (Cooper & Midha)
Indiana University (Aaronson & Dehmlow Dunne)
James Madison University (Bellis & Konrad)
Johnson County Community College (Moncure & Farris)
Kansas State (Engle & Leyba)
Liberty University (Harrington & Thomas)

Liberty University (Macumber & Samuel)
Michigan State University (Grossman & Serrins)
Michigan State University (Jones & Scullion)
Minnesota (Kostelny & Wang)
Missouri State University (Allgood & Morrison)
Missouri State University (Dickerson & Evans)
New York University (Booth & Sherman)
Northwestern University (Fridman & Lowe)
Northwestern University (Jankovsky & Weideman)
Oklahoma (Juarez & Smith)
Oklahoma (Pickens & White)
Rutgers-Newark University (Asafu-Adjaye & Hemnarine)
Rutgers-Newark University (Quiroz & Wyche)
Samford University (Emerson & Windus)
Texas (Coltzer & McKinley)
Texas (Sen & Watts)
Trinity University (Dill & Lair)
Trinity University (Glancy & Grimsley)
UC Berkeley (Fleming & Gray)
UC Berkeley (Ramesh & Neelakandan)
UNLV (Aguilar & Warren)
UNLV (Horn & Smith)
UT Dallas (Beutelspacher & Kaul)
University of Central Oklahoma (Colquitt & Moore)
University of Georgia (Agrawal & Ramanan)
University of Georgia (Haskins & Hoover)

University of Georgia (Rice & Stupek)
University of Iowa (Namakula & Oberto-Besso)
University of Kansas (Butler & Delph)
University of Kansas (Fry & Massa)
University of Kansas (Hegna & Martin)
University of Kentucky (Bannister & Trufanov)
University of Kentucky (Hackman & Rivas)
University of Louisville (Benthall & Yeargin)
University of Mary Washington (Coon & Lewis)
University of Michigan (Goldschlag & Walrath)
University of Michigan (Jacobs & Roche)
University of Missouri - Kansas City (Davis & Hauschildt)
University of Missouri - Kansas City (Mitchell & Willett)
University of Pittsburgh (Ferolie & Ku)
University of Pittsburgh (Katz & Lee)
University of Southern California (Khan & Dille)
University of Southern California (Kuffour & Wang)
Wake Forest University (Edwards & Fernandez)
Wake Forest University (Harper & Van Schenck)
Weber State University (Baker & Thiede)
Weber State University (Morales & Phelps)
West Georgia (Charles & Chan)
West Virginia University (Baker & Modestita)
Wichita State University (Hinecker & Phillips)
Wichita State University (Welch & Lett)

Elimination Round Seeding

1. Kentucky BT (Bannister & Trufanov)   8-0   24 ballots
2. Emory GS (Gazmararian & Shaikh)   7-1   18 ballots
3. UC Berkeley FG (Fleming & Gray)   7-1   17 ballots
4. Georgia AR (Agrawal & Ramanan)   6-2   19 ballots
5. Kansas HM (Hegna & Martin)   6-2   19 ballots
6. Georgia RS (Rice & Stupek)   6-2   18 ballots
7. Binghamton AY (Allan & Yan)   6-2   18 ballots
8. Oklahoma PW (Pickens & White)   6-2   17 ballots
9. Northwestern JW (Jankovsky & Weideman)   6-2   17 ballots
10. Wake EF (Edwards & Fernandez)   6-2   17 ballots
11. Michigan GW (Goldschlag & Walrath)   6-2   16 ballots
12. Oklahoma JS (Juarez & Smith)   6-2   16 ballots
13. Dartmouth (Estrada & Tambe)   5-3   18 ballots
14. Harvard CM (Cooper & Midha)   5-3   17 ballots
15. Rutgers-Newark (Asafu-Adjaye & Hemnarine)   5-3   16 ballots
16. Liberty HT (Harrington & Thomas)   5-3   15 ballots
17. Nevada, Las Vegas HS (Horn & Smith)   5-3   15 ballots
18. Wake Forest HV (Harper & Van Schenck)   5-3   15 ballots
19. Georgetown BP (Bernstein & Piliero)   5-3   15 ballots
20. Louisville BY (Benthall & Yeargin)   5-3   14 ballots
21. Harvard BG (Borbon & Gordon)   5-3   14 ballots
22. Baylor TZ (Thrasher-Evers & Zoda)   5-3   14 ballots
23. Kansas BD (Butler & Delph)   5-3   14 ballots
24. Wichita State WL (Welch & Lett)   5-3   14 ballots
25. Mary Washington CL (Coon & Lewis)   5-3   14 ballots
26. Georgia HH (Haskins & Hoover)   5-3   14 ballots
27. Nevada, Las Vegas AW (Aguilar & Warren)   5-3   14 ballots
28. Baylor RW (Ramsey & Wilson)   5-3   13 ballots
29. UC Berkeley RN (Ramesh & Neelakandan)   5-3   12 ballots
30. Indiana AD (Aaronson & Dehmlow Dunne)   5-3   12 ballots

Top Twenty-Five Speakers

1. Jacob Hegna, University of Kansas
2. Anthony Trufanov, University of Kentucky
3. Harry Aaronson, Indiana University
4. Daniel Bannister, University of Kentucky
5. Caitlin Walrath, University of Michigan
6. Brianna Thomas, Liberty University
7. Advait Ramanan, University of Georgia
8. Miles Gray, University of California at Berkeley
9. Swapnil Agrawal, University of Georgia
10. Ayush Midha, Harvard University
11. Michael Harrington, Liberty University
12. Zahir Shaikh, Emory University
13. Nae Edwards, Wake Forest University
14. Alex Gazmararian, Emory University
15. Nathan Rice, University of Georgia
16. Jacob Goldschlag, University of Michigan
17. Jeffrey Horn, University of Nevada at Las Vegas
18. Nicholas Juarez, University of Oklahoma
19. Johnnie Stupek, University of Georgia
20. Jazmine Pickens, University of Oklahoma
21. Gabriel Jankovsky, Northwestern University
22. James Allan, Binghamton University
23. Nathan Fleming, University of California at Berkeley
24. Darius White, University of Oklahoma
25. Jeffrey Yan, Binghamton University

George Ziegelmuller

Dr. George W. Ziegelmueller, a titan in the world of academic debate, died on May 18, 2019 at the age of 88.

Dr. Ziegelmueller was a much beloved professor of communication and the Director of Debate at Wayne State from 1957 to 2006 where he led Wayne State to national debate prominence.

He qualified teams to an astounding 42 NDT tournaments, achieving two second place finishes (1966 & 1967) and reaching two semi-finals (1993 & 2006).

Dr. Ziegelmueller was also a leading figure in the academic debate community, serving as the president of three organizations: The American Forensic Association, *Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha*, and The Michigan Association of Speech Communication. He also served as the editor for the journals of the Central States Communication Association and the American Forensic Association.

His text book, *Argumentation: Inquiry and Advocacy*, was widely considered as the standard for the field.

Ken Strange

Kenneth B. Strange, a legendary debate coach for Augustana College (Illinois) for 6 years, Dartmouth College for 35 years and Wake Forest for 2 years, died on April 4, 2019 at the age of 69.

As the head debate coach at Dartmouth, Strange won three NDT Championships (1984, 1988 & 1993), placed second five times (1981, 1983, 1987, 2003, & 2008), and had a team reach the elimination rounds in 30 consecutive years from 1981 to 2010.

Strange was widely regarded as one of the best college debate judges. He is the only person who was ranked among the top five judges in the decade rankings for the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s. He placed second in both the 1980s and 1990s survey and fourth place in the 1970s survey.

In 1986, Strange established the Dartmouth Summer Debate Institute, which taught thousands of high school students argumentation and debate skills. For his coaching and teaching excellent, Ken Strange received the George W. Ziegelmueller award in 2001.

Photo caption: Ken Strange and Herb James, director of debate at Dartmouth from 1949 to 1986.

Frank Cross

Frank B. Cross, the 1976 NDT champion (debating with Robin Rowland) from the University of Kansas, died on April 27, 2019 from a rare genetic disorder called adrenoleukodystrophy.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1980, Cross practiced law for four years at Kirkland & Ellis in Washington, DC.

In 1984, he joined the faculty at the University of Texas at Austin, as a professor of business law, and was also later given a joint appointment in the UT law school and UT School of Government.

Cross was a gifted teacher and prolific scholar. He published 8 academic books and 103 law review articles.

Cross also served as President of the Academy of Legal Studies in Business and was recognized as a top teacher by the *Business Week Guide to MBA Programs*.

Photo caption: Robin Rowland and Frank Cross at the 1976 NDT hosted by Boston College.

Friendly Faces

Dallas Perkins, Jr., legendary Harvard Debate coach (Georgetown alumnus) with Jason Regnier, Gonzaga Debate coach (Fort Hays University alumnus)

Alumni Reunion

Two Dartmouth alumni — John Turner, Director of Debate at Dartmouth & Adam Garen, RBC Wealth Management, finance advisor

Our Host

David Cram Helwich, Director of Debate at the University of Minnesota and our congenial host of the 73rd NDT

Power Brokers

Dr. Ed Panetta, NDT Board of Trustees member, University of Georgia, Chair of Communications (University of Massachusetts alumnus), Sherry Hall, NDT Treasurer (North Texas alumna), and Greg Rosenbaum, President of Palisades (Harvard alumnus & NDT donor).

An NDT tradition

Dr. Karla Leeper (Iowa alumna), Executive Vice President for Strategic Communication and Chief Marketing Officer at Augusta University, reads the pairings