

## NDT Committee Meeting – Texas – Spring 12

Attending – all present, James Herndon as proxy for Ed Lee; Jake Thompsom as proxy for Gordon Stables; Adrienne Brovero as proxy for Tim O'Donnell

Brovero calls meeting to order

Move to approve the minutes (D Perkins, D Cram-Helwich 2nds), unanimous approval

### **Chair's Report** (Brovero for O'Donnell)

- Double-check eligibility for schools and persons – let Tim know ASAP if issues
- Pass eligibility documents to A Brovero for specific students during the Texas tournament

### **Trustees Report** (S Hall)

- Copies of the budget were given at last meeting (New Orleans)
- Budget presented is pretty close to what we have raised and costs
- Hotel will provide hot breakfast – food costs for 3 lunches/breakfasts = \$78/per – good deal
  - o Hot lunch buffets – will be like Dallas Hotel NDT – room dedicated for meals
  - o Are not going to distribute tickets for accounting – community follows norm of informing proper numbers – make sure districts know to inform
  - o Banquet a little less (50 v 37) a person
  - o Opening banquet will be sponsored by District VI
  - o Will have coffee/pastries for elim day
  - o If have over-budgeted may increase Monday am food
- Will stick to fees as per Nov, Fritch's letter (50partic/135observ – 4ppl per team = partic)
- If parents want to come, have people talk to S Hall and will work out arrangements – no way to have people there and not pay given open access to food

Hester questions (Sherry answers):

1. Does that mean rounds are not open to public? Are never open to public
2. Can people watch and leave? Yes, with permission
3. Should we call people out to get them to pay? Use judgment – means can't bring people and say they won't eat – usually if people come for a small chunk of the tournament they speak to Sherry about paying to eat

### **Host report** (S Hall for B Newnam)

- All events at hotel
- Rooms are 99/night – free parking/internet
- 35min drive from airport
- Suburb hotel = lots of room, big rooms, no other events there so should be able to get rooms

- In suburb shopping area – lots of restaurant options, 50 in walk distance
- Can shuttle from airport to hotel – not sure price, think can do big shuttle for \$100 – cab may be too expensive, MARTA doesn't go that far out
- Hotel will shuttle people to local restaurants (5mi radius)
- Few guest rooms will be converted for debates but rooms will be larger suites so space not an issue
- Will be a pre-tournament reception with speaker – not sure who yet – 630-730pm Thursday
- Ballroom seats 400, lots of lobby space with plug access
- Bill will assign work space to teams if people want – Sherry will talk to Bill to make sure people have space with electric
- Lots of water stations
- Most rounds on 2 floors which reduces the elevator issues
- Can open extra elevator, but need key cards for elevator – may have Emory people stationed before rounds begin to help
- NDT url: [www.emory.edu/BF/NDT2012.php](http://www.emory.edu/BF/NDT2012.php)

#### **Director's report** (Brovero for Fritch)

- At-large voting list together
- Prelims at the hotel
- Using the CAT for tab
- Will be Ordinals for prefs
- Speaker points: 10ths and no ties
- Using electronic ballot – will be official ballot
- Entries due 3-19
- Districts are obligated to provide 2 extra rounds to cover scouting directors
- Judges must have judged 12 rounds over the season to be eligible for team commitments, will use debateresults to verify
- Districts need to report tournament results to Fritch, make sure do directly – teams and alts in order – by 3/1 5pm
- All judges in for 4 round minimum
  - o S HALL – let know her know how many teams are applying for 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds – try to collect money and inform her – make checks payable to National Debate Tournament, fee: \$50/team

#### **Future Host Report** (O Guevera)

- Funding: 33k raised so far, baseline at Nov meeting was 30k, trying for 40-45k
- Goal: participant fee as low as possible, zero
- Will be full breakfast/lunch/snack all 3 days
- Dates: 3/28-4/2/13
- Hotel = \$79/night, will honor mid-week if people come early

- Working to offset air costs: Light rail on track should have no need for a car, shuttles from hotel to campus
- Yes, Easter weekend – will provide for religious services for those that want
- Easter = have the best/all campus
- Delta/Southwest to Salt Lake City should be the best deals on airfare, Ogden 20 minutes from Salt Lake
- Weber may be a smoke-free campus in 2013, will look into special dispensation if so
- SHALL NOTES – hotel very nice, hotel and school both working hard, cheaper to rent car in Ogden
- SHALL NOTES – D Weise will be taking over treasurer role, still on board though
- Jake Thompson question: building railroad? Omar: No just extension; S Partlow-Lefevre – partially done already

### **Committee reports**

#### **Appeals (D Perkins)**

- did have a couple appeal
- 1 about whether a determination of not in good standing should be reviewed – decided not to question school's authority – added caveat that this was not a normally good student ruled ineligible on technicality, if so could have been a different result
- 1<sup>st</sup> hybrid approved – AZ: ASU/Ariz – Board accepted payment
- S HALL question: is Rutgers hybrid? A Brovero: don't think so

#### **Bid Allocation (S Partlow-Lefevre)**

- Check eligibility of debaters: 18 rounds in open as team or 32 rounds in open for individual, 40% win-loss required for ranking as alternative to tournament
- NDT chair will forward eligibility list, double-check  
Don't count 3<sup>rd</sup> teams to number of bid eligible teams
- 1<sup>st</sup> round = 1 team counts from school, 2 = none
- Send list of names by deadline as per report – cc Eric, David, Tim
- Confirm participants with Sarah at districts – inform of changes and will re-calculate bid allocation
- Will Repko question: must be 18/32 in varsity? Dallas: must be open
- S Hall – just posted list of subscribers – 1 payment received and not sure for who, think NYU [no school listed just a name (Aziz)]

#### **Paperless Working Group (D Perkins) – No report**

- Hester – what are the issues? Dallas/Sherry – are there things needed to be addressed like ethical norms of jumping/etc, wireless communication between participants
- Hester – if scheduling was part, recognize ADA issues

**Old Biz** – Tim says none

**New Biz** – Tim says none

Hester – says hotel is not confirming the type of rooms we are getting

S Hall – will look into this...know 175 doubles and 25 kings reserved...and most rooms = doubles, have 400 rooms

## **Discussion items**

### **Judge decorum**

- Brovero – Have seen facebook and twitter posts – have seen strategic posting
- S Hall – Saw gchatting in HS elim debate, was stunned – several have seen and acknowledge as problem...think gchat, tweet, texting key...seems to be younger, highly thought of judges...not sure need “net police” but do have norms and can author rule or normative statement...maybe directors need to discuss and put statements in tournament invites
- C Burk – Asking for addition to “vote for 1 team” rule? S Hall – yes
- Perkins – Maybe Director announcement is sufficient as a norm...Thinking about intervening on a personal level
- S Hall – Will intervene in some way...maybe committee can offer appropriate guidance
- M Hester – thinks public action is likely to hold people accountable – thinks it is good to talk to directors – yes can cause fights but not sure that is bad
- J Thompson – Think there may be a problem with a public call-out based on recent events – maybe better to talk to tournament directors
  - o S Hall – tried and got nowhere
    - J Thompson – I would react as a tournament director
- S Hall – program directors and tournament directors should think about this issue and how to handle
  - o A Brovero – how would a director handle “he said, she said”
    - D Perkins – would ask to see a phone
- W Repko – think a statement would be useful – creates norms – others tournaments will follow – make a recommendation to Fritch
- O Guevera – de-pref solves
- W Repko – need to raise the bar
- J Thompson – jv/novice = neglected = bad judging more likely so prefs may not be a solution
- J Thompson/D Perkins – will add that language to their invites
- R Stevenson – should add cross—ex as example of when to be focused

- D Perkins – pass simple resolution that it is **“the sense of the committee that the Director should make a normative statement that judges should provide undivided attention during speeches and cross-examination and avoid distractions such as electronic communication”**
  - o focus on judging – cite examples: electronic communication, be sober, watching sports, goal oriented – undivided attention
  - o D Perkins motion, MHester 2nds – unanimous approval

### **32 round requirement for NDT eligibility**

- D Perkins – letter was written to appeals committee that 32 is not justified – not the jurisdiction of appeals, there was a discussion before about – when rule was passed 4 tournaments met, may now mean 5-6 tournaments required – if district wants to allow participants into the tournament, districts can do and they qualify, they just can’t impact bid allocation – 1<sup>st</sup> measure should be to convince the district to do the above
- W Repko – was the issue due to district prohib partic?
  - o D Perkins – yes
  - o W Repko – thinks the districts should be uniform
- J Thompson – out west, most tournaments are 6 rounds, current rule is cumbersome and impacts small schools (note: Jake speaking as Gordon not Jake)
  - o W Repko – do you allow participation at districts?
    - J Thompson - think so but personally argued against allowing any participation
- D Cram-Helwich – the logic is that attending a large number of tournaments is an issue for small programs, but see that 32 rounds deter less serious programs from padding district tournaments – think 4 tournaments should be sufficient to meet
- W Repko – no think need rule change but local conversations can solve – educate on 18
- J Thompson – G Stables would say 4 enough, Jake disagrees
- D Perkins – no one will change so talk will go nowhere

Move to adjourn (D Perkins, M Hester 2nds) – unanimously approved