

**2017 CSUF California-Endorsed Debate Championship**

 February 28, 2017

Dear forensics friends and colleagues:

As of January 1, 2017 the state of California prohibits any “state agencies, departments, boards, authorities and commissions” (including the commission and Board of Regents of the University of California and California State University) from approving a request for state-funded or state-sponsored travel to the states of Kansas, Mississippi, North Carolina and Tennessee, due to presence of laws enacted in that state that discriminate against individuals on the basis of sexual orientation, gender expression or gender identity. Assembly Bill 1887 makes it impossible for public universities in California to attend this year’s Cross Examination Debate Association’s Championship Tournament hosted in Overland Park, KS. As such, the California State University, Fullerton Forensics team and the Department of Human Communication Studies cordially invite you to attend a western regional championship open to any and all teams who wish to compete at a culminating regional championship in California. The **2017 Fullerton California-Endorsed Debate Championship** will be held on **March 17-19, 2017** and we hope you will consider joining us!

Here are some of this year’s tournament highlights:

* We are located in beautiful Southern California, and next door to some of the best local attractions including Disneyland Resort, Knott’s Berry Farm and California beaches that really do look like scenes from an episode of "The Real Housewives of Orange County."
* We will offer six preliminary rounds in Open, Junior Varsity, and Novice divisions. We will break into out rounds warranted by the size of the divisions.
* We have excellent tournament hotels: The Fullerton Marriott, which is adjacent to the campus, and the Holiday Inn & Suites Anaheim-Fullerton, less than a mile from campus, provide the closest hotel-to-tournament proximity of any tournament hosted this year.
* A Saturday night gathering for coaches and students will take place at the Fullerton Marriott.
* We will provide cool swag to competitors, including t-shirts and timers. Plaques will be given to teams that place and to students who receive speaker awards.
* 3 new special awards for competitors, including a Best of Western Forensics New Competitor Award, a Best of Western Forensics Graduating Competitor Award, and a Best of Western Forensics Outstanding Critic Award.
* Great local hospitality, including healthy and tasty tournament meals (breakfast, lunch and snacks). We are surrounded by REALLY GOOD local Mexican food, too!

The rest of our tournament information is included below.

We believe the tournament will be well-attended, competitive, competently administrated, and fun. We encourage you to take advantage of some of the unique benefits that accompany a visit to our campus in Orange County.

Hope to see you there!

Erika M. Thomas, Ph.D., Director of Forensics, Joel Salcedo, Assistant Director of Forensics,

LaToya Green, Director of Debate, & Maksim Bugrov, Romin Rajan, Joseph Sindicich, Lee Thach, Assistant Coaches



**Format:** 6 prelim rounds. We will be using the 2016-2017 CEDA/NDT resolution. Time limits are 9-3-6 with 10 minutes of prep. Judges should pick a single winning team in each debate and use a 30-point speaker scale with decimals – no ties allowed. If we think no debate has occurred we will average or give zero speaker points at our discretion (none of that “flip a coin and everyone gets 30 speaker points” crap, please).

**Events:** Novice, Junior and Open debate. CEDA eligibility rules apply, but we may collapse novice and junior based on the number of entrants. We will advance those teams with .500 records so long as the division warrants the break, at tab room discretion.

**Entry Information:**

**Registration & Prefs:** You can register at: <https://www.tabroom.com>. Deadline to enter is Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 11:00 pm pacific time. When you register online, please indicate the number of vegetarians, vegans, or other dietary needs of your squad.

**Tab room staff:** Adam Symonds (and periodically, Jon Bruschke) will be overseeing the operation of the tab room. Any questions can be added to Adam or Jon or to the tournament co-directors, Erika Thomas, Joel Salcado & LaToya Green.

**Judging Commitments/Hired Judging:** We require the standard 3 rounds of judging which should cover each team. All judges should provide philosophies online and make known any conflicts of interest in advance. All judges are required to be available through the first elimination round. After the first out-round, each judge is obligated until one round after their team is eliminated from competition.

CSUF will make every attempt to provide hired judging but cannot guarantee extensive coverage. We anticipate only 10-12 extra rounds of judging. Every squad must meet their judging commitment. Schools are required to provide qualified judging and must arrange their own hired judging through Tabroom.

**Decision Times & Elimination Rounds:** All prelim ballots must be turned in to the ballot desk by established decision times. Ballots are due 150 minutes (2:30) after the announced start time of rounds 1-4. Ballots are due after 165 minutes (2:45) after rounds 5 and 6. Roughly fifteen minutes is allocated to post round discussion of the decision, however, you must start rounds on time and adjust the post-round discussion based on late decisions so debaters can move on to their next debate with adequate and fair time. In elimination rounds, we intend to follow a schedule that provides 2:45 decision times.  We ask that panels limit the announcements of decisions and oral critiques to 30 minutes.  Our goal is to release panels for the next debates at 3:15. It is acceptable for team members preparing for the next debate to dismiss themselves if post round discussions continue.

**Diversity-enriched judge pool:**

The CSUF policy debate squad has been historically committed to increasing diversity, and that philosophy continues today. It’s also been our experience that that there has never been a tabulation system that pleases everyone. As such, we do our best to do what we think is good for the overall community. We believe that no system or solution can ever fully correct circumstances where participants act in bad faith, and we are hopeful that alterations in tournament procedure can improve the community if we are willing to collectively acknowledge that we are ultimately bound by pure intentions rather than disciplinary rules.

We comply with the CEDA constitution four tournament sanctioning and follow the Council of Tournament Directors guideline, adopted on the basis of community consensus, which states: “debaters should be prepared to debate in front of all possible judges, and that while placing highly preferred judges is a logical approach, it is not the only goal to be pursued in judge placement.  Other goals include encouraging students to develop audience adaptation skills, helping judges develop as critics, avoiding overuse of highly-preferred judges, and full use of the available judging pool.” We seek to balance these goals.

We will employ an ordinal mutual preference judge system with the goal of equalizing draw. We will use the MPJ system within limits since we are also committed to using all judges to their full commitments. We will also place specific focus on the fair and equitable placement of diverse judges. An individual who wishes to be viewed as a diverse judge can self-identify or opt in as a member of an under-represented group. We ask judges to seriously consider whether they are a member of a traditionally under-represented group before self-identifying, but do not limit to a specific ethnicity or gender category. The litmus test is whether you are a member of a traditionally under-represented group and that identity gives you a unique perspective on the debates. If you know that you want to participate under the diversity-enriched label (participants are not obligated to do so), you can opt in on Tabroom.com or email erthomas@fullerton.edu. All diverse judges encouraged to opt-in to document statistics regarding judge placement, and to make it easier to use numerical analysis to support raising the standard of equitable judge placement in general preference practices. We would like to emphasize that opting-in, will in no way, result in judging past your commitment. Our goal is simply to stimulate more equitable placement. While opting-in will not, by itself, be a solution, we hope it will encourage debaters to produce more diverse judge rankings in future preference sheets by introducing qualified judges to multiple audiences. Questions regarding this policy should be directed toward Equity Advisor, LaToya Green."

**Other Entrant Rules:**

We encourage participating teams and schools to contribute to <http://opencaselist.paperlessdebate.com/> and provide updated information about their most recent affirmative and negative positions.

For guidelines regarding hybrid teams, maverick debaters, and illness, we specify the following recommendations based on The Council of Tournament Directors: Three person teams are not permitted. Hybrid decisions and maverick debaters will be allowed on a case-by-case basis. Hybrids are permitted if the purpose is to expand participation and account for last-minute partner drops, such as illness or due to reasonable extenuating circumstances. Maverick debaters are discouraged from entering but, again, consideration will be given in the case of a partner drop due to illness or other extenuating circumstances. If one debater on a team becomes too ill to compete after the preliminary rounds have started, they may miss no more than 33% of the preliminary rounds and be allowed to return to the tournament.  Maverick teams, however, are unable to advance to elimination rounds. If a team knows that they will be unable to advance at a certain point in the tournament, they should communicate that fact to the tournament director prior to entering the tournament. Such teams are discouraged to enter the tournament.

CSU, Fullerton students may participate in prelims and will be eligible to advance or receive speaker awards.

**Fees:** **$65 per person**. If you are hiring a judge it is $150 per uncovered team. (One judge covers 3 rounds or two teams.) We have only a limited number of hired judges, so we ask that if you are present at the tournament you judge rather than buy out your commitment. We will seek to accommodate schools with financial difficulty; please contact me if your program would like to attend our tournament. **Make checks payable to "CSUF Forensics."** Universities that require a fee invoice or a W9 form prior to the tournaments are encouraged to contact the tournament directors by ASAP. Fees are due at the time of registration; but we will allow reasonable accommodations, such as checks and fees being mailed after the tournament. However, we will require a late fee of $25 if we receive your payment after April 14, 2017. Also, please note that due to our catering costs, there is a $50.00 drop fee for any team that drops *after March 14, 2017*.

**Hotel accommodations:** Due to the late-breaking nature of the tournament, we have two small courtesy blocks available at the nearest hotels, the **Fullerton Marriott** and the **Holiday Inn & Suites Anaheim-Fullerton**. **Both hotels have a very *limited number of double rooms available*.** However, the Marriott has assured us that they can move cots into King Size rooms, and the Holiday Inn has King Suites with a pull-out sleeper sofas available. **Please make your reservations by FRIDAY, MARCH 10.** At the end of the day on Friday, the hotels will release any rooms not reserved with the block for general sale.

**Fullerton Marriott:** Location: California State University, Fullerton (2701 East Nutwood Avenue, Fullerton, CA, 92831). It is immediately adjacent to the campus.

Reservations can be made at 1-800-750-0981 or (714) 738-7800 or by using the following link:

<http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=CSUF%20State%20Debate%20Tournament%20Mar2016%5ELAXFL%60SDESDEA%7CSDESDEB%60124.00%60USD%60false%604%603/16/17%603/20/17%603/10/17&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes>

 Please ask for the “**CSUF State Debate Tournament (Mar2016)**” rate. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact Erika. Also, the direct line for **Kara Lindsey**, the sales coordinator handling the event is 714-447-6619. The rate is **$124** a night for all rooms with up to quad capacity, plus applicable state and local taxes (currently 10.06%). The Rate does include in-room internet and free parking. Please note that you will not need transportation from the Marriott hotel to the campus.

**Holiday Inn & Suites Anaheim-Fullerton**: Location: (2932 Nutwood Ave. Fullerton, CA. 92831) It is less than a mile walk from competition rooms.

Reservations can be made directly by calling 1-888-HOLIDAY or 714-579-7400. Please ask for the **“CSUF Debate” rate**. You can also email **Ashley Felton**, the sales and catering manager handling the event, at afelton@fullertonhi.com or book online with the code: **CSD**. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact Erika. The rate is **$139.99** a night for doubles or King Suites with up to quad capacity, plus applicable state and local taxes (currently 10%). The rate does include in-room internet, free parking AND the breakfast buffet.)

If rooms or rates are not ideal for your teams, we recommend trying the following near-by hotel:

**Quality Inn in Placentia** (710 Kimberly Ave. Placentia, CA 92870). This hotel is a couple of miles from campus and teams will require a vehicle for transportation.

**Disneyland:** Come a day early or stay a day late and see the House of the Mouse! Sadly, Disneyland consistently blocks out the holiday dates for special offers, so we are unable to arrange special rates.

**Tournament Conduct:** All participants are required to follow tournament rules according to the tournament invitation as well as any rules of their sponsoring institutions. We will follow all rules and norms of CEDA, AFA and the Council of Tournament Directors. Additionally, all students and guests must respect our campus policies, showing respect to other teams, coaches, or judges, and conducting themselves in a professional manner. Please try to help out the tournament staff by cleaning up after yourselves in rounds.

We oppose sexual harassment. STRONGLY. The tournament will abide by the CEDA policy on sexual harassment. Further, if a student or coach reports an incident of sexual harassment, or if any of our guests engage in or report destructive, threatening, violent, or harassing behavior, we are obligated as university employees to report the issue to our Human Resources office, follow the university’s procedures and the university is required to conduct an independent investigation. Additionally, in accordance with the CEDA constitution, any issues will be forwarded to the CEDA Professional Review Board. We recommend that any guests with similar or anonymous complaints also contact the PRB directly. We trust that these actions will not be needed; however, we wanted to make you aware of the university’s requirement and the tournament’s procedures.

**Audio and Video Recording**: Following California State University’s University policy Statements, recordings must be permitted if mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or other federal or state laws (Federal 504 Regs., The Federal Register, Vol 42 No. 86 (5/4/77), page 2264, section 884.44, and Title II, The Americans with Disabilities Act, 8/90). In all other cases, consent to record should be attained by all individuals in the round. We strongly recommend that recordings be accessible to those competing/judging if asked but not be shared for public use (unless permission from all parties is given).

**Smoke Free Campus:** As of August 1st 2013, the CSUF campus is **completely smoke free**. Please inform your coaches, judges and parents that smoking on any part of the CSUF campus (including e-cigarettes) is forbidden. This website will provide more information on the smoke free policy including a map of designated smoke free areas (it’s the entire campus). <http://smoke-free.fullerton.edu/> Those individuals who repeatedly disregard the smoke free policy will be asked to leave the tournament.

**Structural ableism & Hospitality Accommodations:**

First, CSU Fullerton Debate recognizes structural ableism among our growing debate community. We strive to make this space accessible for everyone in our community. Please let us know what else we can do to make the experience better for community members. We will continually work to improve the tournament experience.

Our tournament will be making strides toward accessibility in the following ways:

1. We have arranged to hold first floor rooms for coaches or students who require limited room movement. To reserve one of these rooms for the prelim rounds, please contact erthomas@fullerton.edu
2. If students on your team prefer access to a “Quiet Room,” contact us and we will create a a space to go to in between rounds. Any creation of this space is an attempt to allow non-neurotypical people an alternative resting zone that is not the crowded or loud lobby.
3. We suggest each team review ways that everyone can create accessible space. If you need assistance with the issue, the tournament directors can provide recommendations.
4. If you have issues of accessibility, suggestions or thoughts on how to create more accessible space, or have an accessibility need that is not being met, please contact Erika Thomas or Joel Salcedo.

**Who to call and ask questions:** Erika Thomas (office number: 657-278-8319, email: erthomas@fullerton.edu). In-case-of-an-emergency or regarding travel changes, call Erika’s cell phone: 310-736-5210.

**Directions:**

If you are coming from USC’s tournament, use the following directions:

Merge onto the I-10 E. Keep right to take CA-60 E toward I-5 S/Santa Ana. Merge onto I-5 S via Exit 1A toward Santa Ana. Merge onto CA-91 E via EXIT 114B toward Riverside. Merge onto CA-57 N toward Pomona. Take the Nutwood Ave exit, EXIT 7. Turn left onto Nutwood Ave. Time without traffic: 40-45 minutes.

**Airports:**

There are actually four different airports that will get you here, LAX, SNA, LGB, and ONT. Check around for the cheapest fares. Below are the options and directions from the airport to the tournament hotel.

* Los Angeles (LAX): Take the 105 East to the 605 South. Take 605 South to the 91 East. Take 91 East to the 57 North. Take 57 North to the Nutwood exit, turn left under the freeway, and the Marriott will be on your right within a block. Time without traffic: 45-55 minutes.
* Orange County John Wayne (SNA): Take the 55 North to the 91 West. Take the 91 West to the 57 North. Take 57 North to the Nutwood exit, turn left under the freeway, and the Marriott will be on your right within a block. Time without traffic: 15-25 minutes.
* Long Beach (LGB): Take the 22 East to the 57 North. The exit is a little tricky; the 5, 22, 55, and 57 all collide at the same point; just make sure you are in the right hand lane when that happens and follow the signs. Take 57 North to the Nutwood exit, turn left under the freeway, and the Marriott will be on your right within a block. Time without traffic: 15-25 minutes.
* Ontario (ONT): Take the 10 West to the 57 South. Take 57 South to the Nutwood exit, turn right off the freeway, and the Marriott will be on your right within a block. Time without traffic: 40-50 minutes.

**Schedule**:\*

March 17: Rounds 1-2

Round 1 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm decision

 Round 2 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm decision

March 18: Rounds 3-6

Breakfast\* 8:00 am

 Round 3 9:00 am – 11:30 am decision

 Round 4 11:45 am – 2:15 pm decision

 Lunch\* [provided by tournament]

Round 5 3:15 pm – 5:45 pm decision

 Round 6 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm decision

March 19: All Elimination Rounds (open/novice/JV)

 Pairings/Breakfast 7:30 am

First Out Round 8:30 am

Remaining elims 12:00 pm, 3:30 pm, 6:30 pm

\* If any changes are required, an updated schedule will be released at registration.

\*\* All food provided by the tournament and located in SGMH courtyard. Light snacks and drinks will be provided throughout the day and evening.

