

Minutes of the NFC Meeting 2005

September 10, 2005

At the University of Puget Sound

1. Thank you to UPS and Derek. Opening welcome from Kris Bartenen, academic vice president of UPS. UPS provided a hot breakfast which was much appreciated.
2. Introduction of 28 coaches. Attending: Steve Hunt, Lewis & Clark; Andy Kemp, Lane Community College; Joan Howland, UPS; Derek Buescher, UPS; M.L. Veden, University of Washington; Christi Siver, University of Washington; Steve Woods, Western Washington; Bre Forni, Western Washington; Jackson Miller, Linfield; Robert Trapp, Willamette; Gary Gillespie, Northwest University, Seattle; Kara Heinrich, Seattle University; Shannon Scott, Seattle Pacific University; Kerrie Hughes, University of Portland; Amy Culver, Seattle University; Brian Everest, Clackamas College; Eric Sanelle, Portland State University; Ben Garcia, Portland State University; Sam Mathies, Pacific University; Thomas McCloskey, Pacific University; Dan Bloomingdale, Pacific Lutheran University; Tabitha Miller, Albertson College; Mack Sermon Albertson; Dennis Waller, Northwest Nazarene; Chris Bragg, College of Southern Idaho; Tiffany Seeley-Case, College of Southern Idaho; Marty Most, Boise State University; Brent Northup, Carroll College.
3. **Introduction of officers (new elections to be held in the next two weeks)**
President (serving until May 2007) Brent Northup, Carroll
At Large Rep Derek Buescher, UPS (until May 2006)
Community College Rep Dave Kosloski (serving until May 2006)
NIET Rep Sam Mathies, Pacific (serving until May 2006)
NPDA Rep – who is our new Northwest Rep? still Bill?
Policy Rep Jim Hanson, Whitman

4. Budget Report

Cash on hand, August 31, 2001: \$1498.55
Cash on hand, August 31, 2002: \$1221.20
Cash on hand, August 25, 2003: \$1182.34
Cash on hand, Sept. 9, 2004: \$1743.44
2003-2004 expenses (\$3180.12) :Trophies: \$1346; NFC secretarial help \$1070; presidential travel, \$507; Survival guide, \$257.12
2003-2004 revenue: Designated tournament fees of \$3712.50 (\$1183.50, \$1309.50 and \$1219.50.)
Cash on hand, Sept. 9, 2005: \$3417.74
2004-2005 expenses: BN Travel \$277; printing, mailing, office \$449.82; student assistant \$275; trophies \$1314
2004-2005 revenues: \$3982 (three Designateds).
Increase of assets from Fall 2003 to Fall 2004: \$1674.33
Reason for “profit”: Disorganized in hiring assistance, so did more myself. A couple bills are still to be paid. Slightly more students at Designateds. I don’t expect this “profit” to be “normal.” ☺
Budget recommendation: Keep NFC fee at \$4.50 per student for 2005-2006.

5. Calendar updates.

Calendar corrections. Latest draft of calendar enclosed.

Tournament reports:

NPDA nationals: Coaches suggested helping Oregon State host NPDA nationals, specifically by hosting a Northwest Reception at Nationals. Kerrie Hughes of the University of Portland volunteered to organize the event. Donations will be solicited.
Lewis & Clark invited schools to attend. L&C will offer NFA-LD.

Lewis-Clark State was not in attendance, but sent an e-mail announcing that an invitation would be available soon.

Western Washington distributed a tentative schedule and warned of a shortage of local judges. Western asked to be allowed to offer two prelims in individual events rather than three; after discussion, this request was approved 10 to 7. A discussion was held on reducing Western parlimentary prelims from 6 to 5. In a straw poll, coaches voted 10 to 3 to retain six prelims.

UPS tournament will be held October 22-23 with 8 rounds for open parlimentary, 6 for jv and novice. topic committee and topic areas announced prior to tournament. Will use mpj in open only.

Reports from other tournaments:

PLU may offer Spanish Language Debate; PSU will host a world-style debate warm up; Linfield will have many special events (including character debate and women's oration) and special guests at the 75th annual Mahaffey; Mack Sermon is investigating multi-media video debate; Steve Woods invited everyone to a Western Washington peace conference.

Announcements:

NFA will be in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. NPDA is at Oregon State. NPTE is at the University of Oregon; NIET has new rules for qualifying for nationals; PKD welcomes new members; Phi Rho Pi welcomes judges; The Urban Debate league reported on its progress; Steve Hunt encouraged more use of the NFC website;

6. Directory updates. Will be sent for revision via e-mail, and then placed in the Survival Guide.
7. All Conference awards. Distributed by e-mail and at the meeting. Will be in Survival Guide.

Old Business:

Task Force Reports:

Task force on Judges

Judge Report from Brian Everest on efforts to compile a regional directory of judges. Summary submitted after the meeting by Brian:

"The task force of judges will be compiling information on all qualified judges within the region, who may potentially be available for tournament directors to hire. We will be creating a paper application, as well as an on-line registry/directory for coaches to more easily find judges for tournaments they are hosting. The application itself will indicate what type of experience the judge has, as well as how long they have been competing and coaching. We will also be establishing a way for tournament directors to indicate if they are looking for judges and will send out an e-mail distribution to all potential judges that have registered in our directory. We have also been asked to establish a form of judge's philosophy (Steve Hunt at Lewis & Clark College has graciously offered to put this together for our coaches and judges affiliated with each school), so we will also have that information available. We are hoping to have the application ready for distribution at the first designated tournament Lewis & Clark. At that time we will indicate the web address that the information will be found on (either through Clackamas Colleges' website or a NFC website of their selection).

Task force on mission of the NFC

Chair: Jackson Miller, Linfield. Members: Chris Bragg, CSI; Mary Lynn Veden, UW; Steven Hunt, Lewis & Clark; Steven Wood, WWU.

The report from the task force on the mission of the NFC began with the distribution of a list of strengths and weaknesses of the NFC. (Included in back of the minutes).

Topics discussed included:

Increasing student representation on NFC decision-making.

Increasing efforts to assess our educational outcomes.

Increasing efforts to bring schools outside the region to regional tournaments.

Long designated tournaments were discussed, including impact on health and performance.

Marty Most suggested that, while the discussion was fruitful, that a retreat would be more suitable for discussing the mission of the NFC.

Wasting no time, the coaches agreed to schedule a retreat on Friday, Sept. 8, 2006, at Boise State University on the topic: What are the educational goals of the NFC?

The retreat will begin at 10 a.m. on the BSU campus. Derek agreed to be the organizer of the event, with help from Christi Siver, Kerrie Hughes, Brent Northup and Mack Sermon. Programs facing a shortage of funds were encouraged to contact the executive committee, if in need of support to attend the conference.

Coaches suggested a moderator from outside the current ranks such as Bob Withycombe of Whitman, David Frank of Oregon or Kris Bartenen of UPS. The coaches agreed, unanimously, to support the retreat. Brent Northup suggested the retreat start with lengthy introduction of the philosophy of each program,

including written handouts on the goals of each program. Other coaches agreed that might be a productive way to start the retreat.

The traditional NFC coach meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9 at Boise State.

Task force on debate

Chair: Derek Buescher. Members Christi Siver, Dan Bloomingdale, Trischa Goodnow, Tiffany Seeley-Case, Jim Hanson; Shannon Valdivia, Mt. Hood

Mission:

Derek Buescher led a discussion of the state of debate in the NFC. (See handout in the appendix to these minutes). Derek noted that debate in our region is healthy, with local programs having considerable success at national debate tournaments.

A lively discussion ensued about policy debate, parliamentary debate and British parliamentary debate. Questions asked included: How to encourage programs to enter policy debate; how to train judges, coaches and students for policy debate; how to rebuild policy programs at schools that have dropped policy debate.

Marty Most and others voiced concern about the policy influence inside parliamentary debate.

Robert Trapp suggested that perhaps the introduction of British Parliamentary debate into tournaments (where four two-person teams compete in one round, with each person giving one speech).

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.
Minutes compiled by Brent Northup