

## NFC Minutes

Regular NFC Coaches' Meeting  
Friday, Sept. 7, 2007 Educational Goals Conference  
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007 Regular meeting  
Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, Oregon

The 2007 NFC fall gathering consisted in two separate meetings. On Friday, coaches gathered for a discussion of the educational goals of the Northwest Forensics Conference. Mack Sermon of Albertson served as moderator of the five-hour conversation. That discussion began with the sharing of position program goals from all participants.

An open discussion followed which reflected on many topics included a lengthy and honest discussion of the nature of debate in the Northwest. The coaches reflected on whether there is an "old school parli" and a "new type of parli," and, if the two types do exist, whether a bridge can be built between them.

Some of the topics listed at the end of the afternoon of talk as items of high interest included:

**Nature of designated tournaments:** all AFA NIET events? Too long? Unhealthy? More choice and variety in types of tournaments? Encourage different types of events & different styles of debate? Offer world-style debate? Different types of topics? Topic areas? Should there be more tolerance and recognition of multiple formats of debate? Is there time for judge-student interaction? More educational offerings and training opportunities? Is there community-building at Designateds?

**Judging:** judge philosophies? Strikes? Mutual preference judging? Encourage more judge adaptation? Random judging?

The discussion revealed divisions about the nature of forensics, the nature of debate and the preferred nature of Northwest tournaments amongst schools, but there was also hope that more conversations like this one would be productive in bridging the divide.

The Friday meeting was not a traditional business meeting. Thus, no policy proposals were offered. But the proposals suggested at the close of the Saturday business meeting do provide insight into the nature of the Friday educational conference.

### Minutes of the Saturday business meeting

1. Thank you to Mt. Hood and Shannon for hosting. Words of welcome from Charmagne Eherenhaus, dean of instruction – Social Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering.
2. Attendance.

**Attending only the Friday's educational goals conference:**

**Attending both the Friday's educational goals conference and the regular Saturday meeting:**

Shannon Valdivia, Mt. Hood; Mack Sermon, Albertson; Tom Worthen, Utah State; Sam Mathies, Pacific University; Steve Woods, Western Washington; Derek Buescher, UPS; Melissa Franke, PLU; Dan Adler, Portland State; Chris Richter, Portland State; Mark Porrovecchio, Oregon State; Jackson Miller, Linfield; Greg Young, Humboldt State; Gary Gillespie, Northwest University (Seattle); Craig Rickett, Spokane Falls; Kerrie Hughes, WSU-Vancouver; Kelly Brennan, Clackamas; Steve Hunt, Lewis & Clark College; Christi Siver, University of Washington; M.L. Veden, University of Washington; Becca Garcia, CSI; Aaron Donaldson, Oregon; Brent Northup, Carroll College.

**Attending only the Saturday regular NFC meeting:**

Brooke Adamson, Northwest Nazarene; Dave Kosloski, Clark College.

**Not in attendance this year:**

Lane CC; Seattle U; Seattle Pacific; U of Portland; Reed; BYU-Idaho; Columbia Basin College; Eastern Washington U; Gonzaga; Whitman; Lewis-Clark State; Northwest Christian; U of Montana; Utah Valley State; Multnomah Bible College; University of Alaska; Wenatchee Valley; Willamette University; Lower Columbia College; Boise State University; George Fox University.

### 3. Introduction of officers

President, Brent Northup, Carroll (through May 2009)  
NFC At Large Rep, Mack Sermon, Albertson (through May 2008)  
CC Rep, Kelly Brennan, Clackamas (through May 2008)  
NIET Rep, Sam Mathies, Pacific (through May 2008)  
CEDA/NDT, Derek Buescher, UPS (through May 2008)  
Parli rep, Rob Layne, Willamette (through May 2008).

### 4. Budget Report

**Cash on hand, Sept. 8, 2007: \$3090.68**

Cash on hand, Sept. 8, 2006: \$3005.73  
Cash on hand, Sept. 9, 2005: \$3417.74  
Cash on hand, Sept. 9, 2004: \$1743.44  
Cash on hand, August 25, 2003: \$1182.34  
Cash on hand, August 31, 2002: \$1221.20  
Cash on hand, August 31, 2001: \$1498.55

### 5. Calendar updates.

Calendar corrections. Latest draft of calendar enclosed with survival guide.

#### Tournament reports:

Schools were encouraged to support those hosting national tournaments, such as UPS (NPTE), American World Championships (PSU), Phi Rho Pi (two years away).

#### Designateds:

**Lewis & Clark, October 12-14.** Reminds coaches of hotel deals to the L&C tournament; act now. L&C allows novices one event pattern; juniors two; seniors three. Bring judges. Broad parli topic areas.

**Linfield, November 9-11.** Announced it will have a Worlds Parli division; Character debate returns; Honor of Women; Political Cartoons for extemp; invites parli resolutions from schools.

**Western Washington, January 25-27.** May offer storytelling and/or William O. Douglas. Encourages “comfortable dress.” Parking is Draconian – bring a horse without a license plate.

#### Other tournaments:

**Spokane Falls (March 7,8,9)** will offer a tournament on March 7,8 featuring “old school parli.”

**Portland State** will host U.S. World style championships on April 11 in Portland.

**Portland State** will host a world workshop on Sept. 15, 16

**U of Washington** will host a Novice/Junior parli tournament on March 1. 4 rounds, free, donation accepted. Open debaters can judge.

**U of Washington** invites letters of praise to their executives to encourage support/funding. UW also encourages coaches to meet with UW administrators before our fall meeting.

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**PKD.** National at St. Louis week of March 7.

**UPS** tournament in October will feature three divisions of parli.

**Western States Feb. 15-17** is at U Colorado Boulder in February

**NPTE is at UPS March 15-16,** and UPS will accept regional donations to offset costs.

**IFA** in March is in London.

7. All Conference awards. Distributed by e-mail. Will be in Survival Guide.

8. Special reports:  
Organizational Reports

CEDA, Derek. Wichita, March 21-24.  
NDT, Derek. Fullerton, March 28.  
Worlds @ Thailand; American World Champs at PSU on April 11-13.  
NFA – Jackson Miller. At Tennessee in April  
NPDA – Brent Northup. At USAFA March 28-30  
NPDA Journal – Trischa Goodnow. Send articles.  
NIET, Sam Mathies. District tournament at Willamette, Feb. 25.  
PKD – St. Louis  
DSRTKA – no report  
Western States Conference: Jackson Miller. Tournament two blocks from conference.  
Western States Tournament: Derek encourages entries the Boulder, Colo. Tournament.  
Interstate Oratory – Jackson Miller. Location uncertain as of this time.  
Phi Rho Pi – Chicago.  
NPTE – Derek. At UPS March 15,16.  
Northwest Community College Championships – at LCC on May 2,3  
Seattle Urban Debate League, Derek. Going strong.  
Portland Debate League. Going strong. Meets on Oct. 5, Jan. 8, April 2.  
IFA: London March 15-22

Old Business: none

New Business.

1. The **2008 NFC Coach meeting** will be on Saturday, Sept. 6 on the campus of the University of Washington, hosted by M L Veden and Christi Siver. There will NOT be a Friday educational goals session, but there will be a Friday night informal gathering hosted by Christi and ML with funding support from the NFC.
2. **Derek Buescher**, chair of the committee on tournament structure, submitted two policy proposals to add World Debate and Novice Policy Debate at Designated tournaments. The discussion included reservations about making those tournaments too big and unwieldy and about not being able to run world tournaments in their intended form due to time constraints. But both proposals passed.

*World's BP Proposal: Designated tournaments will offer a division of British Parliamentary "World" debate with four rounds, including time for a pre-tournament judge briefing. Passed: 10 for, 6 against, 4 abstain.*

*Novice Policy Proposal: Designated tournaments will offer a division of Novice Policy debate with at least four rounds. Passed: 13 for; 2 against; 5 abstain*

*A committee was appointed to supervise and assist with these changes. The committee charge included investigating the impact on tournament space/time needs: Derek Buescher, chair; Mack Sermon; Craig Rickett; Tom Worthen, Chris Richter*

**3. Sweepstakes.** Mack Sermon presented his sweepstakes committee report. The coaches were clearly open to revision of the sweepstakes system, and Mack's revised proposal passed.

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Strike the first four paragraphs of Section V. Sweepstakes Calculation, the remainder of the section remains the same.

Insert new beginning of the section:

**V. Sweepstakes Determination**

The Northwest Forensics Conference will recognize the top three schools in Division I, Division II and Division III in two championship categories: Individual Public Speaking and Oral Interpretation (Speech) Events and Debate Events.

An awards committee will award sweepstakes recognition to Gold Medal Schools, Silver Medal Schools and Bronze Medal Schools in Divisions I, II and III based on applications. Application due dates will be determined by the awards committee. The awards committee will determine the number of schools honored in each category.

The awards committee can offer other special awards, based on applications. The awards committee will determine deadlines and the application process for these awards.

The awards for Public Speaking, Oral Interpretation and Debate will be calculated by points earned at each schools best two Designated tournaments, using the NFC Sweepstakes Points Formula. The awards will be given at the conclusion of each NFC season. These Public Speaking, Oral Interpretation and Debate awards will be presented at the final NFC Designated Tournament each year.

First Place Championship Awards for Speech and Debate Events will be named for an NFC associated educator who has made significant, long-term contributions to competitive forensics in the Northwest United States. These names will be confirmed by majority vote of the conference and can be periodically reviewed.

This awards system begins with the 2008-2009 academic year.

Passed: 16 for; 3 against; 0 abstain.

The awards committee was appointed: Melissa Franke, PLU, chair; Mack Sermon, Albertson; Steve Hunt, Lewis & Clark; Derek Buescher, UPS; Brent Northup, Carroll. The awards committee is encouraged to file a report at the Fall 2008 meeting detailing how the sweepstakes system will be proceed during that season.

**The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.**

**Minutes filed by Brent Northup, Carroll**

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