

**Minutes**  
**Regular NFC Coaches' Meeting**  
Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008

1. **Thank you to ML, Christi and the University of Washington.** Christi and ML hosted a party on Friday night and provided food on Saturday morning. Much thanks for all the hospitality and for hosting.

2. **Introduction of coaches.** In attendance (14): Melissa Franke, PLU; Derek Buescher, UPS; Christi Siver, U of Washington; ML Veden, U of Washington; Steve Woods, Western Washington; Aaron Donaldson, U of Oregon; Jackson Miller, Linfield; Brooke Adamson, Northwest Nazarene; Beth Hewes, CSI; Steve Hunt, Lewis & Clark; Gary Gillespie, Northwest U Seattle; Ross Merritt, Seattle U; Mack Sermon, College of Idaho; Brent Northup, Carroll College.

3. **Introduction of officers**

President, Brent Northup, Carroll (through May 2009)  
NFC At Large Rep, Mack Sermon, Albertson (through May 2009)  
CC Rep, Dave Kosloski, Clark (through May 2009)  
NIET Rep, Kyle Hunsicker (through May 2010)  
CEDA/NDT, Derek Buescher, UPS (through May 2008)  
Parli..ML Veden, University of Washington

4. Budget Report

**Cash on hand, Sept. 6, 2008: \$2507.63**

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

Cash on hand, Sept. 9, 2005: \$3417.74

Cash on hand, Sept 8, 2006: \$3005.73

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

Expenses: awards, student assistant for statistical compilation, president plane to meeting.

5. **Calendar updates.**

Calendar corrections. Latest draft of calendar enclosed.

**Tournament reports:**

**Designateds**

**Lewis & Clark:** Job open to replace Steve Hunt, DOF. PhD, communication credentials. Lewis & Clark tournament Oct. 10-12. Questions in Extemp; forensics criticism; NJO in select events; general topic areas, perhaps US domestic to allow election analysis Lewis & Clark emphasizes the need for judges – and asks that all debate teams be covered by judges.

**Linfield:** Three patterns of IEs. No Character debate. Mad Libs Interpretation; Questions in extemp; Worlds BP will be offered simultaneous with parli; Schools must try to provide judges to cover all debate teams.

**Western:** Same fees, substituting for Pacific with transition in coaches at Pacific; No WO Douglas this year; Storytelling; BP tournament will be offered; Draconian parking problems

**Other tournaments**

**PLU warm up:** Jim Hanson runs the event; Whitman web information; book your hotel yesterday;

Northwest U; World Workshop on Sept. 26, 27. Contact Gary Gillespie

CSI: Beth Hewes will run the standard tournament on Sept. 26, 27.

BYU Idaho has canceled its program.

College of Idaho on Oct. 24,25. Will provide food for hungry speakers.

UPS Round Robin and tournament, Oct. 24-26

UW junior novice parli March 6

## **8. Special reports:**

CEDA, NDT, Derek. Discussed Fort Hays incident, broadcast on You Tube, that led to the firing of a forensics coach. Complex incident, with no easy villains and victims. Discussed the possible need to clarify an ethics policy for the NFC – a code for students, judges, coaches. CEDA Nats at Idaho State on March 20. NDT at UT Austin on March 27.

Worlds: Gary Gillespie. Worlds workshop at Northwest on Sept. 26, 27. Linfield and Western will offer BP. NFA – Jackson Miller. No location set yet.

NPDA – Brent Northup. At U of Pacific in California, March 27-30.

NPDA – members asked how to retrieve articles submitted for unpublished issues.

NIET, Kyle Hunsicker is new district chair, and plans to hold NIET on March 6 at Lewis & Clark, as a swing weekend with a tournament on Saturday and then district on Sunday.

PKD - No information available from those attending.

Western States Conference: At Arizona State on Feb. 13-15.

Interstate Oratory – April 24, 25 at University of Mississippi.

Phi Rho Pi – Hosted by Clackamas in Portland on April 6-11.

NPTE – Derek. Nationals at Berkeley on March 20. 64 bids, break 32. At NAU in 2010.

Northwest Community College Championships – At LCC on April 24.

Seattle Urban Debate League, Run by Jen Johnson and includes hiphop debate.

Portland Debate League. LCC and Mt. Hood are good contacts.

IFA: In Montreal on March 16, 17.

## **Old Business. Discussion of new sweepstakes system.**

Starting this year the NFC will revise sweepstakes. Sweepstakes will recognize debate only, individual events only...and an overall sweeps will honor gold, silver and bronze achievements, recognizing the possibility of multiple gold winners, for example.

Students may also apply for special recognition. Such applications are due Dec. 20 to Melissa Franke and the sweepstakes committee.

### **V. Sweepstakes Determination (passed 2007, in effect this year)**

The Northwest Forensics Conference will recognize the top three schools in Division I, Division II and Division III in **two championship categories**: 1. Individual Public Speaking and Oral Interpretation (Speech) Events and 2. 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.

**New Business: A one-day conference** on forensics assessment.

**“A Conversation about Forensics Assessment” will take place on Sept. 11, 2008, a Friday, at Lewis & Clark College. This will precede the NFC meeting on Sept. 12 also at Lewis & Clark.**

Derek Buescher will chair the committee that plans the conference. The goal is to examine educational assessment as it pertains to forensics and to assist forensics programs in meeting increasing demands for pedagogical assessment of forensics programs. Another goal is to examine the educational goals of programs and how they might be linked to assessment and accreditation. Tangential possibilities include reexamination of awards such as sweepstakes in light of such analysis...and reexamination of the NFC and its events in light of such analysis. But all this is hypothetical and will flow from the work of the planning committee who will guide this conversation.

A committee was formed to plan this conference: Derek Buescher, UPS, will serve as chair; members will include Steve Woods, Melissa Franke, Brooke Adamson, Mack Sermon, ML Veden, Aaron Donaldson.

**Discussions:**

Many topics were discussed at the meeting. Those discussions are summarized in a stream of consciousness form in a separate document to enable those not present to get the flavor of the dialogue.

Discussion topics included

**On the Fort Hays incident which included a You Tube posting and a firing.**

**On the change to the sweepstakes rules.**

**On assessment and accreditation in forensics**

**On nature of parli debate: debate evolution and disagreement on style and speed...**

NFC meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008.

Minutes kept by Brent Northup