

**November 14, 2009**  
**Chicago, IL**  
**NCA National Convention**  
**Phi Rho Pi Executive Committee Meeting**

**I. Call to Order – Cynthia Dewar-Kudsi**

Call To Order at 1:58 pm

**II. Officer Reports**

**A. Secretary Report – John Schultz**

1. Presented minutes from San Diego 2008 (NCA) MSP.

**B. Treasurer Report – Wade Hesch**

1. Income from all tournament fees - \$58,889.28. Expenses from all tournament activities - \$61,639.48. Net income – (\$8534.30) Clarified that a unique set of circumstances pushed operating budget into the red for the fiscal year.

**C. Comptroller Report – Lisa Benedetti**

1. Reported a \$219,724.09 beginning balance and a \$196,107.28 ending balance for last fiscal cycle.

**D. Vice President of Association Report – Jeff Przybylo**

1. COFO: groups trying to move toward a more comprehensive calendar. Encouraged members to visit the COFO website (collegeforensics.org). Will provide a link between the site and the PRP main page. Emphasized: “try”.
2. PRP: Will be taking bids for 2013 at the national tournament when we meet in New Orleans. Hyatt and Marriott have been corps with which we have worked frequently in the past.
3. CRAFT: 50 people attended the session earlier in the day. Theme for 2009 in San Francisco is “building bridges”

**E. President Report – Cynthia Dewar-Kudsi**

1. Standing committees from last year – please contact CDK if you want to be on a committee. Touch base with people coming off a sabbatical.
2. Report on Ad Hoc Committees. Only two actually convened. Will report in business.
3. CEDA Issue: CDK indicated that CEDA had asked PRP to endorse a community college breakout session. Meeting with CEDA President will have CC institutions vote on whether CEDA will have breakout.

**F. Vice President of Tournament – Duane Fish**

1. Site Visit: Officers and host visited hotel over the summer. Property is beautiful and large. Will mean that other organizations will be there as well. Indicated that hotel is working to get contracted number of breakout rounds. There are issues that DF, host, and other officers to work on. Fundamental issue is space for tab room. Working with hotel to secure acceptable space. Concern about the tournament because of economic climate. 2215 room nights contracted with Marriott. If we don't hit 85%, then we have to begin start paying facility fees.

Opened Floor to Questions: RP: Will hotel attempt to keep teams on same floor this year? DF: It will be a high priority. Depends if arch. Layout is doubles and singles on separate floors. BG: Have we not made room quota in past? DF: No. But this year is much different. Typically we are between 95% - 105% in any given year. Teams coming in early do count for total room nights. TW: Will coaches have the opportunity to get suites? DF: Perhaps, suites not that great.

2. Brochure: Not ready because of issues to be decided at NCA because of ad hoc committees. As tournament director, spring 2010 – in order for an event to make 8 teams total from at least 3 member schools with no more than 3 teams from any school counted in the minimum 8. Other items in old or new business.

**III. Committee Reports**

1. Website: Roland Petrello. Broken links repaired on the website. Very little traffic abnormalities there.
2. Site: Jeff P: After site meeting, John Nash and JP previewed the facility in Schaumburg. Excellent overall quality. Big drinks with umbrellas. RP: Suggested that PRP prioritize free wifi in rooms for future tournaments.
3. Tournament Evaluation: ET absent. Will post results on PRP website.
4. Archives: Tom Custer. Have been housing the documents for the past decade. Department is moving and TC is retiring – so need to find another place to house the archives for the future. #1 – where will they go? #2 – how will they get there?  
Questions: RP – can we scan and digitize? PDF's on the website would be cheap and easy.
5. Special Committee Report: Slots: Elaborate discussion. Chaired by KT and TR. Many options were discussed by all committee members. Final suggestion of the committee:
  - a. Small - 1-15
  - b. Medium - 15.5 – 30
  - c. Large - 30.5 – above

Clarification by WH – why did the chairs vote against the final resolution? KT – didn't see the breakdown as equitable to the small division schools. There was no discussion that was not well-thought out and respectful.

6. Special Committee Report: Schedule: Not much agreement within the committee. Primary considerations: 1. Growing policy debate. 2. Financial consideration. One proposal was to begin debate on Wednesday and go to out rounds with other events. Would like to make change for the 2010 national tournament. Other considerations: 1 - policy debaters would only be able to do any other events at the tournament because of the condensed schedule. 2 - Other committee members believed that no change should be made because of a small vocal minority. Perhaps we should have a wide assessment from the membership before initiating any major changes. 3 – should reassess after one year. Other major consideration: to create a split proposal. Debate early in the week. IE later in the week. Pros: financial viability. Cons: Later rounds in the evening. Awards late on Saturday night. Also, what do teams with debate and IE do if students who specialize in IE or debate only. They will have significant down days. Getting students in without coaches could be prohibitive with many college policies. Other schedule possibility: To condense current schedule down 1 day to begin on Wednesday morning. Turnaround for ballots, placing keys, and tabbing would be substantially reduced for tournament administration. CD – thanked TW for presentation. Indicated that we should discuss this more in an open forum and for future consideration. Clarification: the condensed CEDA-only schedule should be done Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Questions: RP – 1 – fundamental concerns about the split schedule. 2- have considerations been made for impact on CA, IT, STE? 3 – discussions currently are inclusive. Current procedure has not upheld as much inclusivity.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- A. Slots committee: Motion to adopt the recommendation of the slot comm. for sweeps deter for the 2010 national tournament. LB: Second. MSP.

#### **V. New Business**

- B. Schedule committee: (With reservations.) Adopt a shortened schedule for team and LD debate for the 2010 national tournament. (Would

commence on Thursday and conclude with the regular tournament.)  
Lengthy discussion ensued. MSP. 2 Absentions.

- C. Motion: to forward all proposed schedule information from the subcommittee to the general body for the 2010 national tournament. MSP.
- D. Host: things going well with securing judges, finding entertainment, securing shirt designs, office supplies, computers, DJ, etc. Will have same aesthetic appeal as 2001 with JAX / TCC co-hosts.

## **VI. Adjournment**

Moved to adjourn at 4:08 PM.

Moved to a closed meeting at 4:15 PM.