



## **UCSD Speech & Debate Team Dominates at Southern California's Most Prestigious Tournament AGAIN! Team Sets School and Tournament Records.**

"Two tournaments, two championships" marks the start of the UCSD Speech & Debate Team's fifth season. On October 21-23, UCSD's Speech & Debate Team participated in the Sunset Cliffs Speech and Debate Tournament hosted live at Point Loma Nazarene University. The results included many "firsts" and several UCSD Speech and Debate Team school records.

Taking on 31 colleges and universities—from the University of California Berkeley to the University of Utah; from the University of Southern California to the United States Air Force Academy; from San Diego State to Kansas State University—UCSD's team placed the highest number of Finalists in all four competition categories (Individual Events (Speech), NPDA (Team Debate), IPDA (Individual Debate), and British Parliamentary (Team Debate)) at a single tournament in school history.

**For the second tournament in a row—and for the second year in a row--UCSD captured the 4-Year School First Place Sweepstakes Award**, earned via its overall team performance. Setting a Sunset Cliffs Tournament record, UCSD amassed 506 Sweepstakes Award points, which was nearly twice the points earned by 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Concordia University.

Additionally, for the first time in school history, UCSD debaters in the Novice Division won **First Place** in the British Parliamentary debate format.

Beginning with Friday's Individual Events, 11 UCSD Speech competitors reached the elimination rounds. In the Novice Division Jazmyne Jackson rose to **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** in Poetry, while Beverly To earned **4<sup>th</sup> Place** in Informative Speech. Finalists included Dasha Okolysheva and Dayyan Rizvi in Impromptu and Cindy Chanay in Poetry. In the Senior Division, Rebecca Du walked off with **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** in Informative and Summer Ismail placed **7<sup>th</sup>** in Impromptu. Finalists in this Division included Kaitlyn Chin (Informative), Kellen Foster (After Dinner Speech), with Chaturika Bandara and Rafi Overton (Persuasive).

Saturday was devoted to NPDA (two vs. two) debate and a new format, TIPDA (two vs. two using IPDA rules). In the Junior Division, the team of Cindy Chanay and Kevin Gong reached the Quarterfinals. In the Novice Division, Dasha Okolysheva and Darief Maes, along with Amanda Sun and Yiquan Liu, reached the Quarterfinals. Richey Li and Jaime Vargas-Zuniga Areilza climbed all the way into the finals before falling, earning **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**. Tournament top speaker awards went to Felip Gerdes (8<sup>th</sup>), Senior Division; Kevin Gong (3<sup>rd</sup>), Carter Castillo (5<sup>th</sup>), and Khushi Kumar (8<sup>th</sup>), Junior Division; and Dasha Okolysheva (8<sup>th</sup>) and Jaime Vargas-Zuniga Areilza (9<sup>th</sup>), Novice Division. Cindy Chanay achieved top speaker honors—**1<sup>st</sup> Place**—in the Junior Division of NPDA.

Although in our first effort in TIPDA, no teams reached the elimination rounds, tournament top speaker awards went to Kiran Kumar (6<sup>th</sup>), Miloslawa Waniak (7<sup>th</sup>), Julian MacKenzie (9<sup>th</sup>), and David Cordier (10<sup>th</sup>).

Sunday's results in IPDA (one vs. one) debate set another UCSD school record as 16 UCSD debaters qualified for the elimination rounds. In the Senior Division, Michael Wagreich, Felip Gerdes, and Jared Hoffart were Quarterfinalists, while Summer Ismail fell only in the final round, earning **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**. In the Junior Division, Razeen Nasar took **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** and Srijan Chakraborty captured **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**. The **1<sup>st</sup> Place** trophy went home with Carter Castillo. In the Novice Division, **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** honors were shared by Fowsiyo Aden, Emilio Gandolffi-Levine, and Lucas Howard-Ron. Sharing **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** were Marie Shahinian and Kiran Kumar. Gold **1<sup>st</sup> Place** awards went to Annika Dengel, Munira Ibrahim, and Jesus Garibay-Barajas.



Finally, in British Parliamentary Debate in the Novice Division, the team of Arif Ruslan and Hagan Chan went all the way winning **1<sup>st</sup> Place**. Top speaker awards were earned by both debaters—Hagan Chan (**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**) and Arif Ruslan (**4<sup>nd</sup> Place**).

During the Team’s celebration Monday night, Head Coach Robert Campbell remarked, “It felt like we not only participated in this tournament, we also “invaded it”—74 team members and 40 volunteer judges. It was like moving an army from La Jolla to Point Loma! Over two dozen awards and trophies earned at a single tournament--other programs would call that a successful season! Two tournaments this Quarter so far yielding two, First Place Sweepstakes Trophies—I see a trend developing.”

The UCSD Speech & Debate Team is a program sponsored by UCSD’s Communication Department.

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