## California State University, Sacramento

**Communication Studies Department**

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The Sacramento State University Debate Team is pleased to invite you to participate in the 2020 Nicholas F. Burnett Classic Debate Tournament to be held at Sacramento State March 7-8, 2020. We will have **six** preliminary rounds of NFA-LD debate in both novice & varsity divisions with appropriate elimination rounds.

The Hornet Cup tournament is named to honor Professor Emeritus Dr. Nicholas F. Burnett, who was the Director of Forensics at Sacramento State from 1987 to 1996. Dr. Burnett coached Sacramento State teams to consecutive quarter-finals appearances at CEDA Nationals in 1988 and 1989 in addition to leading the team as it won many regional and national debate awards. After his nearly 10 years coaching the Sac State team, Dr. Burnett served as chair of the Communication Studies Department for five years and finally retired as the Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Letters in 2012. Dr. Burnett has been a major supporter of this great activity and has touched the lives of many college debaters through the years. He had an enthusiasm for nurturing novices while at the same time coaching varsity debaters as they sought national titles. And as an administrator, he was a staunch supporter of the debate program, ensuring continued funding through the years of economic strain that hurt so many programs in the CSU. To recognize him for his dedication and service to debaters across the nation, we rechristen this tournament in his name. The top speaker award in both novice and varsity divisions will also be named after Dr. Burnett.

Kristen Hamilton Tudor

Director of Debate

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Jared Anderson

Head Debate Coach

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Bethany Davis

Graduate Assistant

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Graduate Assistant

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**Tournament Information**

Hotels: Here are some recommended Hotels near campus.

**Hampton Inn & Suites Sacramento @ CSUS (closest to campus): (916)451-1135**

Larkspur Landing Sacramento (about 1 mile from campus): (855)304-7816

Fairfield Inn Sacramento Cal Expo (about 2 miles from campus): (916)920-5300

TownePlace Suites Sacramento Cal Expo (about 2 miles from campus): (916)920-5400

Transportation: The Sacramento Airport is about a 20 minute drive from campus .There are plenty of rental car companies in the airport. To get to campus or the hotel from the airport, take I-5 south, then merge onto highway 50 east towards South Lake Tahoe. Exit at Howe/Power Inn Road and follow the signs to campus.

Campus: Sac State’s address is 6000 J Street, 95819. I will provide parking permit information the week before the tournament. Most rounds and registration will be in Mendocino Hall, so parking in Lot 2 is the best option. See a campus map here:

<https://www.csus.edu/campusmap/>

Entry Info: Please enter at Tabroom.com. We plan to run this tournament electronically, including pairings and ballots. Please be sure your judges have a device that they can use to enter ballots online (a smart phone works). If you need any help with this system please contact us in advance and we’ll help you figure it out.

Tournament Procedures: We will use the current NFA-LD topic and adhere to NFA rules.   
Divisions may collapse if necessary, but we will make every effort to preserve a novice division. This may mean that we don't break brackets and students from the same team may debate each other.  There will be no breaking of brackets in elimination rounds.  We will, if necessary, have partial-elimination rounds in order to break all winning records.   
We will utilize the RKS Decimal scale for speaker points; points are awarded in one-tenth increments and no ties are allowed.  
Tie breakers - All winning records will break, power-matching and seeding will be determined by opponent wins, starting at the break line

Filming/Streaming - We will also have one room set up with a camera where all debates in that room will be recorded. Teams have the ability to opt-out if they would like, and will be coded off of that room for the tournament. You must let tab know by registration.

Fees & Judging: The fee for each debater is $40, which does include light snacks Saturday and Sunday. Each school is expected to provide one judge for every two debaters entered. The uncovered debater fee will be $75.00 in addition to the entry fee. We’ll pay hired judges $15 per round. Please make checks payable to “CSU Sacramento Communication Studies Department.”

It is important that schools make every effort to fully cover judging commitment with qualified judges. Anyone interested in being a hired judge should contact Jared Anderson or Kristen Tudor.

Awards: In addition to awards for all elimination round participants, we will have awards for the top 5 speakers in each division. The Hornet Cup will be a sweepstakes award recognizing the top team based on the results of the top 3 participants from each team (.5 points for each prelim win, 1 point for first elim win, 2 points for subsequent elim wins).

**Tournament Schedule**

Saturday

8:30am: Registration & snacks in Mendocino Hall

9:30: Round 1

11:00: Round 2

12:15 Lunch

1:45: Round 3

3:15: Round 4

4:45: Round 5

Sunday

8:30am: Pairings & snacks in Mendocino Hall

9:00: Round 6

10:45 Elim 1

12:15 Elim 2

2:00/asap: Elim 3

Subsequent elims, if needed, will start ASAP. Awards will follow.