Rice Speech and Debate Wins First Tournament of the Year

Fourteen students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, September 16-17, in the “Top of the Rockies” Invitational tournament hosted by the University of Wyoming and Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, WY.

In this national competition, composed of 112 debate teams from 30 universities and colleges, and 260 individual event entries, the contingent from the Rice team finished first, winning 20 individual awards and two team awards.

The rice team won 35 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were the University of Wyoming, the Colorado College, Drury University, Texas Tech University, the U.S. Air Force Academy, William Jewel College, University of the Pacific, and Truman State University.

Awards are listed below.

Overall Sweepstakes: First Place

Individual Event Sweepstakes: First Place

Priscilla Parrett and Robert Crider: Semifinalists, Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Hrishi Hari and Kirti Datla: Double-Octofinalists, Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Maram Salaheldin and Emmanuel Jonas: Quarterfinalists, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Aparna Bhudari and Cathy Young: Octofinalists, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Hillary Dowdy and Adnan Poonawala: Double-Octofinalists, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Hrishi Hari: S First Place Persuasive Speaking, First Place Communication Analysis, Second Place After Dinner Speaking, Second Place Impromptu Speaking, Fourth Place Extemporaneous Speaking.

Ted Torous: Third Place Communication Analysis, Third Place Communication Analysis, Semifinalist Extemporaneous Speaking, Semifinalist Impromptu Speaking.

Priscilla Parrett: Second Place Informative Speaking.

Richard Flores: Sixth Place Impromptu Speaking.
Robert Crider: Semifinalist Extemporaneous Speaking.

Hillary Dowdy: Second Place Top Debate Speaker, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate.

Cathy Young: Eighth Place Top Debate Speaker, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate.

Adnan Poonawala: Nineteenth Place Top Debate Speaker, Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate.

The team is coached by Director of Forensics David Worth and Assistant Director of Forensics Professor Jeremy Grace.

The team will be competing next in the “Forum in the Forest” tournament hosted by Rice and Kingwood College in Kingwood, TX, September 29-October 1.