Rice Speech and Debate Wins Close to Home

Nine students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, October 21-22, in the “Bayou City Swing” tournament hosted by Cy-Fair College and North Harris College in Cypress, TX.

In this regional competition, composed of 17 debate teams and 252 individual event entries from 15 universities and colleges, the contingent from the Rice team finished first in Debate Sweepstakes and third in Individual Event Sweepstakes, winning 19 individual awards and 2 team awards.

In debate, Rice “closed out” the tournament in finals, meaning that no final round was held because only Rice teams remained, having eliminated all other teams. The Rice team won 18 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were Texas Southern University, Cy-Fair College, the University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University—San Marcos, Abilene Christian University, the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Kingwood College, and North Lake College.

Awards are listed below.

Debate Sweepstakes: First Place

Individual Event Sweepstakes: Third Place

Nathan Smith and Holly Naylor: Finalists (tie for First Place), Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Hrishikesh Hari and Richard Flores: Finalists (tie for First Place), Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Jessica Streets and Joe Sy: Quarterfinalists, Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Nathan Smith: First Place Debate Speaker.

Hrishikesh Hari: First Place Individual Sweepstakes, Second Place Debate Speaker, First Place Persuasive Speaking, Second Place After-Dinner Speaking, Third Place Extemporaneous Speaking, Third Place Communication Analysis, Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Richard Flores: Third Place Debate Speaker.

Holly Naylor: Fourth Place Debate Speaker.

Rachel Raskin: Sixth Place Persuasive Speaking.
Richard Flores: Sixth Place Impromptu Speaking.

Jessica Streets: Eighth Place Debate Speaker.

Joe Sy: Ninth Place Debate Speaker.

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

The team will be competing next in the Texas Intercollegiate Forensics Association Tournament hosted by Texas State University—San Marcos in San Marcos Texas, November 4-6.