Rice Speech and Debate Wins in Kansas

Eleven students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, October 12–14, in the “Sunflower–Sooner” invitational tournament, hosted by Bethel College and the University of Oklahoma in Newton, KS.

In this regional “swing” competition, composed of 18 debate teams from 12 universities and colleges, and 236 individual event entries, the contingent from the Rice team finished first, winning 49 individual awards and 5 team awards at two separate tournaments.

In debate, Rice “closed out” the tournament after quarterfinals, meaning that only Rice teams remained. This created a five-way tie for First Place among five Rice teams.

The Rice team won 23 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament was the University of Oklahoma, Kansas State University, Bethel College, West Texas A&M University, Kansas Wesleyan University, and Hastings College.

Awards are listed below.

Overall Swing Sweepstakes (full weekend): First Place for teams entered in both debate and individual events.

Parliamentary Debate Sweepstakes: First Place.

Overall Sweepstakes for Part 1: First Place for teams entered in both debate and individual events.

Individual Events Sweepstakes Part 1: Second Place.

Individual Events Sweepstakes Part 2: First Place.

Hrishi Hari and Kirti Datla: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate (five-way tie).

Everette Kreider and Hilary Dowdy: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate (five-way tie).
Holly Naylor and Ted Torous: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate (five-way tie).

Aparna Bhaduri and Cathy Yang: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate (five-way tie).

Brittney Esinpoza and Nicolas Kamas: First Place, Varsity Parliamentary Debate (five-way tie).

Aparna Bhaduri: Forth Place, Parliamentary Debate Speaker


Holly Naylor (Part 2): Fourth Place Informative Speaking; Fourth Place Persuasive Speaking.

Aparna Bhaduri (Part 1): Third Place Persuasive Speaking; Second Place Extemporaneous Speaking; Semi-finalist in Impromptu Speaking; Fifth Place Communication Analysis; Fifth Place Overall Individual Event Speaker.


Cathy Yang (Part 2): Fifth Place Persuasive Speaking; Third Place After Dinner Speaking; Fifth Place Communication Analysis.

Hrishi Hari (Part 1): First Place Persuasive Speaking; Third Place Extemporaneous Speaking; First Place Impromptu Speaking; Second Place Informative Speaking; Second Place Overall Individual Event Speaker; Fourth Place Overall Debate Speaker.

Hrishi Hari (Part 2): First Place Overall Swing Speaker (full weekend); Fourth Place After Dinner Speaking; Third Place Extemporaneous Speaking; First Place Informative Speaking; Third Place Overall Individual Event Speaker.

Ted Torous (Part 2): Sixth Place Extemporaneous Speaking.
Everette Kreider (Part 1): First Place, Parliamentary Debate Speaker; Fifth Place Extemporaneous Speaking; Semifinalist in Impromptu Speaking.

Everette Kreider (Part 2): First Place Extemporaneous Speaking, Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking, Third Place Communication Analysis.

Daniel Shanaberger (Part 2): Fifth Place Informative Speaking; Sixth Place Persuasive Speaking.

Nicolas Kamas (Part 1): Third Place Overall Debate Speaker; Fifth Place Impromptu Speaking.


Kirti Datla (Part 2): Fifth Place After Dinner Speaking; Sixth Place Informative Speaking.

Hilary Dowdy (Part 1): Second Place Overall Debate Speaker; Sixth Place Extemporaneous Speaking.

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 “James (Al) Johnson Invitational tournament hosted by the Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO October 26–28.