Rice Speech and Debate Starts 2009-2010 Season With Success at Home

Hosting and Winning at Lone Star College--Kingwood
Six students from the George R. Brown Forensics Society, Rice University’s speech and debate team, competed this past weekend, September 25-27, in the “Forum in the Forest” invitational tournament co-hosted by the Rice and Lone Star College--Kingwood in Kingwood, TX. The tournament was a “swing” tournament, meaning two tournaments were held in one weekend.

In this regional competition, composed of 18 debate teams from 11 universities and colleges, and 300 individual event entries, the contingent from Rice won 12 individual awards and 1 team award.

The rice team won 9 separate debates.

Among the teams defeated in the tournament were the University of Texas, the University of Houston, Texas State University-San Marcos, Texas A&M University, and Kingwood College.

Awards are listed below.

First Tournament:
Debate Sweepstakes: Second Place

Julie Duong and Katharyn Jia: Semifinalists, Varsity Parliamentary Debate

Julie Duong: First Place Overall Debate Speaker

Katharyn Jia: Fourth Place Overall Debate Speaker

Aparna Bhaduri: Third Place Communication Analysis; Fourth Place Impromptu Speaking; Seventh Place Extemporaneous Speaking

Katie Donovan: Third Place Impromptu Speaking

Second Tournament:
Aparna Bhaduri: Fifth Place Communication Analysis; Fourth Place Impromptu Speaking; Fourth Place Extemporaneous Speaking; Fifth Place Informative Speaking

Katie Donovan: Sixth Place Impromptu Speaking

Success at the University of Houston
The team also competed on the weekend of September 11-13 at the University of Houston. This tournament was also a swing tournament, with two separate tournaments occurring in one weekend. At this regional tournament, composed of 14 debate teams and 160 individual event entries, Rice won 16 individual awards. Among those defeated were
the university of Houston, Texas Southern University, Texas State University San Marcos, William Carey University, and Wiley College.

The rice team won 30 separate debates.

First tournament:
Julie Duong and Jarvis Sam Tie for First Place in Lincoln-Douglas Debate (closed out finals)
Katie Donovan and Kern Vijayvargiya: Second Place Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Tammy Hsu and Ben Chou: Second Place Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Jarvis Sam and Aakash Keswani: Third Place Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate
Ben Chou: First Place Junior Varsity Parliamentary Debate Speaker
Caitlin Barnett: Third Place Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Katie Donovan: Third Place After Dinner Speaking
Kern Vijayvargiya: Sixth Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Shubha Soman: Fourth Place Extemporaneous Speaking

Second tournament:
Katie Donovan: Second Place After Dinner Speaking
Kern Vijayvargiya: Second Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Eric Li: Second Place Impromptu Speaking
Paul Ernster: Third Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Aakash Keswani: Sixth Place Extemporaneous Speaking
Shubha Soman: Seventh Place Impromptu Speaking

The team is coached by Director of Forensics David Worth and Assistant Director of Forensics Glenn Prince.

The team will be competing next at the University of Wyoming this weekend, October 2-3.