

Minutes from the:

American Forensic Association
National Individual Events Tournament
Committee Meeting at the 2009 AFA-NIET
Akron, Ohio
April 3, 2009

Members Present: Frank Thompson, Lee Mayfield, Peter Pober, M'Liss Hindman, Richard Paine, Karen Morris, Leah White, Kyle Hunsicker, Smith, Mark Rittenour, Dan Cronn-Mills, Larry Schnoor, Susan Collie, Dave Gaer, Dan Leyes, Kelly Roberts, Bobby Imbody, Randy Cox

AGENDA

Called to order at 9:36 and Thompson asks for approval of minutes
Collie/m Morris/s

- I. Officer Reports
- A. NIET Committee Chair Report

Thompson reports of a few regular season tournaments requesting confirmation of tournament with fewer than 9 teams attending and tab room errors. Thompson notes that all requests were made with proper documentation which makes the process much easier.

Election of Officers:

Schnoor/m Collie/s moves to elect Thompson as chair--elected by acclamation.

Tournament Director election: Pober/m, Gaer/s moves to elect Schnoor as tournament director of 2010--Motion passed.

Secretary: Pober/m, Gaer/s moves to elect Mayfield to be NIET secretary--motion passed

Vice Chair: Collie/m, Smith/s moves to elect Pober to be Vice Chair for a one-year term--motion passed

- B. Vice Chair Report

Pober asks for delayed votes on any item important to the students. ASU update: funding for program is sustained for next year--no grad student support for next year. He also reports on a point of question from the Student Representatives of who could be nominated for national student representative.

- C. Board of Trustees Chair Report

White reports that is it time to consider the cost of trophies as they will soon be increased.

- D. Chair Emeritus Report

Due to flooding issues Carver is not present but sends word that no request for research proposals at this year's NIET. Thompson reminds us of deadline for research proposals (March 1) and that they should be

submitted to Cindy Carver—and asks that Dist. Chairs remind their Districts.

E. Tournament Director Report

Schnoor reports that there have been no calls for drops, 81 schools participating, and the number of entries is down slightly (1474 this year). Schnoor reports that a number of schools are sending teams without judges, which might mean that hired judge fees will have to be raised in the future. Every judge has two rounds off with the tab staff judging the first two or three rounds. Monday's scheduled has an extra 15 minutes added for the final round of Extemporaneous Speaking.

F. Secretary Report

Mayfield has no report. Minutes will stand as the report.

II. Tournament Host Reports

A. 2009 - University of Akron

Thompson thanks Rittenour for the work already completed. Rittenour reports that most activities will be out of student union, breakfast served at 7 am on floor 3 outside of ballroom, lunch 12-2 main floor of union. Will have to have ticket, all lunches will be to-go on both Saturday and Sunday. Monday the services will be available and are ready to accommodate the increased numbers. Nothing is opened on campus except for Starbucks on Sunday. Prep room for Extemporaneous Speaking will be in JAR arena. Parking is free on Saturday and Sunday. Parking permits are needed for Monday and permits will be given at registration. Use Exchange Street parking deck or alternative parking on Spicer Street. For Saturday's competition the College of Business Administration will be used and is far away. Monday Hazelton Hall will be used for out-rounds. All semi-final rounds seat at least 60. Shrank Hall deck will accept large vans. There will be another event in the union on Saturday—break off rooms and ballroom will not be available. A table with students will be available to answer questions and make reservations if needed, on the main level of the union.

B. 2010 - University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

Morris says nothing has changed but perhaps instead of rain there will be snow. Morris will have an events planning class to assist.

C. Future Hosts Bids (Schnoor, Thompson)

Rachelle Kamrath, UN-Kearney submits a bid for NIET 2011, noting that Kearney is very centrally located. Program is 4 years old but very interested in hosting. The UN-Kearney campus has ample space for the NIET. Ballroom will be used for tab room prep-room for Extemporaneous Speaking. Campus staff has 13 years of hosting very large High School tournament. Tournament hotel would be a Holiday Inn Convention Center and out-rounds would be held there; rates for rooms are \$89. Large amount of parking available at convention center, other hotels are Wingate and Hampton. Space is already reserved if needed. A complimentary hotel room for tournament director is available. The Kearney community is behind the hosting of the NIET, 1200 hotel rooms available in the town. Omaha is 3 hrs from Kearney, Denver is 4.5 hrs,

and Kearney has a small regional airport. Kearney business bureau will pay for the Friday afternoon lunch—AFA will not have to pick up the cost. Complimentary rooms could be used to offer hired judges. UN-Kearney will host a regular season swing tournament in December's first weekend as well as a February swing with Northeast Comm. College the weekend before Valentine's Day. Hired judges (alums with competitive collegiate experience) will be no problem to provide 40+.

Pober encourages us to support a new programs bid for the NIET.
Pober/m collie/s moves to accept bid.

Bid accepted.

IV. Committee Reports

A. AFA-NIET Student Committee (Pober Cannon, Wright)

Cannon introduces the new national representative: Andy Stone, Arizona State, Samantha Harrison, Western KY. New student website—seems to be working (collegespeech.net is the new address). Wright reports that the feedback on Duo agenda item is split support among the District 4/4 vote with the encouragement to a name change to Duo Interpretation from Dramatic Duo Interpretation. Cannon reports of discussion of Dramatic Interpretation; desiring to open up to all forms of Dramatic Texts was the idea. Proposal not supported. Wright encourages the creation of an alumni association.

B. Distinguished Service Committee

Pober reminds that Dave Gaer will receive this year's Distinguished Service Award to be presented at the opening assembly.

C. New Coach Award

Pober reminds that Prof. Lindsay Wakefield will receive her award at opening assembly.

D. Research

Covered in Chair-Emeritus report.

E. Awards

Pober reports that cost going up for pewter plates by almost \$2000, perhaps time to look at a different supplier or a different award. No increase in the cost of the Lucite awards this year, with great thanks to Mid-West Trophy Company. Outstanding Community College will be acknowledged this year as well with over 10 Community Colleges represented.

F. All-American IE Team (Morris)

Morris reports that the committee received 21 applications and the Regional Representatives are busy making decisions. This year the All-American team will have 7 auto-qualifications.

G. Manchester Scholar Series

Pober reports that no award granted this year, but those who have submitted have re-submitted information for next year.

V. Old Business

A. AFA-NIET Alumni Association

Cox reports that a web-based list serve is ready to deploy and will send an announcement to all schools attending this year's NIET to help promote the association. A link will be available off the NIET webpage to make available the list serve.

B. Inclusion of other genres besides drama for Duo

Thompson asks for a review from the Districts:

1—in favor, opposed to limiting to only one script

2—support adding other genres

3—divided, multi scripts any genre, one script any genre

4—one text only, experimental event suggestion

5—coaches would support the use of all genres and all scripts and worried about the conflict between AFA/NFA

6—no clear consensus on opinion but would support

7—divided support for all three proposals

9—would support using other genres, but would rather have a duo use only one genre so no Duo POIish.

Students are mixed in response to the idea with a 4/4 vote among committee members.

Cox/m Cannon/s moved to close discussion until a formal proposal is presented.

Motion passed.

Schnoor suggest a joint committee be formed to represent all Forensic Organizations to come up with a formal proposal for the definition of the event known as Dramatic Duo Interpretation. No formal proposal presented at this point.

Hindman/m, Morris/s moves that we try on a two year (2009-2010) bases to allow multiple genres of literature in Dramatic Duo. The event would be identified as follows:

Duo Interpretation: A cutting from one or more texts of literary merit, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from any genre of literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc, are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript and the focus should be off-stage and not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Motion passed

Paine/m, Wright/s moved to reconsider the above proposal.

Motion failed

C. Code of Conduct (Cronn-Mills)

Cronn-Mills reports on changes to the NDT code of conduct provided. Under first item 5 a suggestion of IE standards as opposed to debate standards is suggested.

Suggestion of added the percentage of research done by students in the IE community separate from the debate community.

The goal is to settle this issue at NCA this fall in Chicago. Cox suggest that the NIET sign off on the Code of Conduct, but then construct our own NIET code of conduct that is specific to the IE community.

Pober/m Morris/s to accept Article 4: Professional Conduct

Motion passed

Suggestion is made that two different sections be included in terms of "Use of Evidence" to make it specific for both communities, but to pass the debate community current wording.

Ad hoc committee formed to create the IE Use of Evidence—Deadline in 2 months, June 1st

Committee includes: White (chair), Roberts, Cox, Paine, and Stone

VI. New Business

A. Tournament items (Schnoor)

Schnoor reports that the student verification form is problematic as they are not being turned in in a timely manner. Too many forms are turned in at Registration. Schnoor/m Cox/s moves to make the formal student verification form should be handled at the District Level at the District Tournament.

Motion passed

Judge Sheet—

Schnoor/m, Wright/s moved that at the discretion of the tournament director to revise the judge verification form for the NIET.

Motion passed

B. Number of Schools needed for State Tournament Qualifications for the AFA-NIET

Collie/m Roberts/s moved that: State tournaments may submit a waiver to the NIET chair for consideration for at-large qualification for the NIET.

Motion passed

C. NIET By-Laws, Article III-L Amendment (DISTRICT 3, COX)

Article III-L of the NIET By-Laws says: Protests of eligibility must

be made in writing and presented to the District Chairperson(.) one week prior to the start of the AFA-NIET District Tournament and (D)decisions concerning the protest shall be made by a vote of the District Committee. Unresolved cases shall be referred to the National Committee.

Cox/m, Pober/s moved to eliminate "one week prior the start of the AFA-NIET District Tournament" from the above Article.

Motion passed

D. Wording change for All American Team (Morris)

Tabled for future discussion.

E. Eliminate the meal package for future NIETs

Mayfield/m, Smith/s moves to eliminate the meal package from the cost of the NIET.

Schnoor reminds us of why the meal package was instituted in the first place and that a meal package is the only way that some schools can feed their students and document the money spent. Paine voiced concern about receiving future bids without the meal option and worries about students not eating if meal options were not available. White urged that if the meal package is eliminated that meal options are made available.

Motion failed

F. Increase number of out-round judges

Cannon/m, Hunsicker/s moves to form a committee to formulate the logistics of increasing the number of AFA-NIET final round judges. The committee will report at that NCA 2009 and vote on the proposal at either NCA 2009 or at the AFA-NIET meeting in 2010.

Schnoor demonstrated that this proposal is logistically impossible given the size of the judging pool at the NIET.

Motion failed

G. Cross-ex in Extemporaneous Final Round

Wright/m, Pober/s moves to formalize as a permanent feature the cross examination in the Final round of Extemporaneous speaking.

Motion passed

H. Tie breaking procedure for National Student Representatives

Wright/m, Pober/s moves to formalize a tie breaking procedure for the election of the national student representatives.

Tie break should be decided by the two sitting national representatives and the national student secretary instead of a coin-flip.

Motion passed

I. Establish time for senior pictures at NIET

Cannon/m, Wright/s moves to set aside time in the schedule to take a picture of the seniors at the NIET.

Motion passed

J. Qualification process for NIET

Thompson formed an ad-hoc committee to look at the qualification process for the NIET

Committee includes: Morris (chair), Imbody, Smith, Collie, Stone, Leyes, Harrison, and Hunsicker

Morris thanks both student reps for their work this year.

Pober/m, Smith/s Moves to adjourn

Motion Passed

Submitted by Lee Mayfield, NIET Secretary