



Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Public Communication Speech & Debate League and Northwest Missouri State University it is our pleasure to invite you to the 2017 PCSDL National Tournament on Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12, 2017 at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. Our host, Prof. Brian Swafford, as well as Prof. Janis Crawford, and myself hope you can join us for this prestigious event.

You will find all of the necessary tournament information enclosed in this invitation, including a tournament schedule, event rules, and entry information. We look forward to seeing you here in Indianola for nationals!

If you have questions about the tournament, please contact Dan West at 740-590-7378 or email westd1@ohio.edu.

Respectfully,

Dan West
PCSDL Tournament Director
Ohio University
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Brian Swafford
PCSDL Executive Committee
Director of Forensics
Northwest Missouri State University

Janis Crawford
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Tournament Information

Events: In debate, one division of College Public Forum, Interviewing and Research Paper will be held. We will utilize the 2017 Spring Semester College Public Forum debate topic.

In speech, we will offer one division in each of the following events in the following flights:

Flight A

Radio News Broadcasting
Table Topics
Pecha Kucha
Duet Improv Acting*
Audition Monologue

Flight B

TED Talks
Impromptu Sales
Stand Up Comedy
Slam Poetry
Great Speeches

*Students may only be entered in one Duet Improv Team

In Speech, students can enter up to 3 events in each flight.

In Debate, students can cross enter in Research Paper and Interviewing. If a student is entered in Public Forum Debate, they may not enter any other events in the debate flight.

Entry Deadline: The deadline for all entries will be **Friday, March 3, at 5:00 p.m.** Confirmations will be sent out upon receipt of entries.

Judges: In debate, each school is required to provide one judge for each team entered. Hired judges are available at a cost of \$100 per uncovered team. In Research Paper and Interviewing, each school is required to provide 1 judge for every 2 entries. Hired judges for Research Paper and Interviewing are available at \$25 per uncovered entry. Judges can only cover ONE division of debate. Dropped judges the day of the tournament will incur an additional \$100 nuisance charge in addition to uncovered judging fees.

In speech, each school is required to provide one judge for every 4 entries. Uncovered judges are available at a cost of \$15 per uncovered entry.

Fees: Debate entries are \$80 per CPF and \$40 per Interviewing or Research Paper entry and \$20 per speech entry. Fees must be paid in full at registration.

Registration: Please join us for registration in Valk Hall on the Northwest Missouri State University campus.

Awards: In debate, trophies will be presented to the top six teams at the tournament as well as any additional teams advancing to elimination rounds. A maximum of 25% of the teams entered in the tournament will advance to elimination rounds. If ties exist, partial elimination rounds will be held. Speaker Awards will be presented to the top 6 speakers Public Forum Speakers at the tournament. Team sweepstakes awards will be presented to the top schools at the tournament.

In speech, trophies will be presented to all of the finalists in each event. Speaker awards will be presented to the top 6 speakers entered in three or more speech events.

In Speech Sweepstakes, awards will be presented in the top schools in each of three divisions, based on the following formula:

Division 1 = 21-30 entries

Division 2 = 11-20 entries

Division 3 = 1-10 entries

An overall sweepstakes award will be presented to the top teams competing in speech and debate.

Entries: Please register for the tournament at forensicstournament.net. If you have not used this site before, you will need to create an account before you will be able to register.

Schools may enter a MAXIMUM of 3 entries in each event.

**2017 Public Communication Speech & Debate League
National Tournament
Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO
March 11-12, 2017
*Tentative Schedule***

Saturday, March 11

8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 – 9:30 am	Round 1 – Debate (College Public Forum, Research Paper & Interviewing)
9:30 – 10:30 am	Round 2 – Debate
10:30 am	Radio Draw
11:00 – 12:15 pm	Round 1 – Speech Flight A
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Break
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Round 1 – Speech Flight B
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Round 3 – Debate
3:00 pm	Radio Draw
3:30 – 4:45 pm	Round 2 – Speech Flight A
4:45 – 5:45 pm	Round 2 – Speech Flight B
5:45 – 6:00 pm	Round 4 – Public Forum

Sunday, March 12

8:00 am	Radio Draw
8:30 – 9:45 am	Round 3 – Speech Flight A
9:45 – 10:45 am	Round 3 – Speech Flight B
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Finals – Debate
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch Break
12:45 pm	Radio Draw
1:15 – 2:15 pm	Finals – Speech Flight A
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Finals – Speech Flight B
3:30 pm	Top Paper Panels - Debate Elimination continues (if necessary)
4:30 pm	Awards

College Public Forum

1. **Philosophy:** Public Forum focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution. Competitors in this team event advocate or reject a position posed by a resolution (prepared by the College Public Forum committee and distributed via the IE-L). The clash of idea must be communicated in a manner persuasive to the non-specialist or “citizen judge”, i.e. a member of the American jury. Public Forum should:
 - a. **Display solid logic, lucid reasoning, and depth of analysis.**
 - b. **Utilize evidence without being driven by it.**
 - c. **Present a clash of ideas by countering/refuting arguments of the opposing team (rebuttal)**
 - d. **Communicate ideas with civility, clarity, organization, eloquence, and professional decorum.**

This is not a debate event, per se, and as such, teams do not have prime facie burdens or the burden of rejoinder. Instead, teams are asked to advocate for (pro) or against (con) the ideas and policies represented within the resolution.

Since this is not a debate event, in the traditional sense, teams are prohibited from utilizing plans (formalized comprehensive proposals for implementation), counterplans and kritiks (off-topic arguments). Multiple competitive venues exist for the application of these argumentative strategies.

2. **Resolutions:** Resolutions will be distributed four times in this inaugural year. Topics will be announced on the IE-L.
 - a. Sept 17 for tournaments Oct 1-31.
 - b. Oct 25 for tournaments Nov 5-Dec 5.
 - c. Jan 7 for tournaments Jan 14-Feb 21
 - d. Feb 11 for the National Tournament, Feb 25 at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN.
3. **Procedure and order of speeches:** Prior to EVERY round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate begins (the con team may lead, depending on the coin flip results). Note: The round begins at the conclusion of the coin flip/sides/positions discussion. Contestants may not leave the room or consult with coaches after the coin flip, which begins the round.
 - a. First Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
 - b. First Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
 - c. Crossfire (first question by speaker A1) 3 minutes
 - d. Second Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
 - e. Second Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
 - f. Crossfire (first question by A2) 3 minutes

- g. Summary – First Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
- h. Summary – First Speaker – Team B 3 minutes
- i. Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
- j. Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team B 3 minutes
- k. Prep Time 2 minutes per team

4. **Timing:** Judges and/or debaters should keep track of speaking time.

5. **Plans/Counterplans:** In College Public Forum, neither side is permitted to offer a plan nor a counterplan (formalized comprehensive proposal for implementation). Instead, each team should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.

6. **Oral Critiques:** No debate ballot may be turned in without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. CPF and the ICFL discourage judges from disclosing decisions in preliminary rounds of competition. The ballot serves as a valuable educational tool to the teams and their coaches. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.

7. **Judges:** The use of community judges is strongly encouraged.

8. **Governance:** College Public Forum is sponsored by the PCSDL and all matters not covered in this description will be clarified by the PCSDL committee.

9. **National Tournament and Qualifications:** Each school in attendance at the College Public Forum National Tournament will be allowed to enter two at-large teams. All additional entries from each school must qualify for the national tournament by being ranked in the top half of teams (with no more than 8 qualifications at any tournament) at a sanctioned Public Forum Tournament during the regular season.

10. **Sanctioning:** All College Public Forum participants are encouraged to be active members of this new forensics community and any and all suggestions and concerns should be directed to the ICFL committee. All College Public Forum tournaments must use the appropriate resolution and must be sanctioned by the ICFL. Sanctioning is available to all schools at the fee of \$1 per team College Public Forum Team entered into competition. To receive sanctioning, a tournament must:
 - a. Have a minimum of three schools competing in public forum
 - b. Have a minimum of 4 teams in attendance.
 - c. Hold a minimum of 4 rounds of competition.
 - d. Use the appropriate CPF topic.
 - e. Submit a completed sanctioning form (attached)
 - f. Submit a complete set of tournament results (prelim rounds as well as a completed elim bracket, clearly identifying first and last names as well as school affiliations of all competitors).
 - g. Pay the sanctioning fee.

- h. NOTE: Any school in attendance may complete the sanctioning process for a tournament.

11. A guide to competing in Public Forum can be found at:

http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/cr103pf_instr.pdf

Note: *This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.*

12. A guide to judging Public Forum can be found at:

<http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/CoachingResources/Public%20Forum%20Judge%20Overview.pdf>

Note: *This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.*

13. Sample resolutions: Listed below are resolutions used in High School Public Forum. College Public Forum will use resolutions similar to the ones listed below:

- a. Resolved: That, by 2040, the federal government should mandate that all new passenger vehicles and light trucks sold in the United States be powered by alternative fuels
- b. Resolved: That the United States government should implement universal health care modeled after the French system."
- c. Resolved: That the United States should significantly increase its use of nuclear energy.
- d. Resolved: That the United States should implement a military draft.
- e. Resolved: That the US Government should increase social services for indigenous peoples in America.
- f. Resolved: That eliminating United States government budget deficits should be prioritized over increasing domestic spending.
- g. Resolved: That the [Fairness Doctrine](#) should be reinstated.
- h. Resolved: That the private ownership of handguns should be banned in the United States

14. For more information: If you are interested in competing in College Public Forum, there are many resources available at the National Forensics League at <http://www.nflonline.org>

Public Speaking Events

Research (Conference) Paper/Presentation - Contestants will submit 4 copies of an original scholarly paper suitable for presentation at an academic conference at the beginning of a tournament. During preliminary rounds, papers will be "competing" head-to-head, like in debate. A judge will receive 2 papers and be asked to rank them first and second. Papers may be on any subject and judges are asked to put aside their research preferences to assess the overall

quality of the paper. The top 4 papers will advance to a Top Papers Panel (Final Round) where they will each author will present their paper (8-10 minutes) much like they should at a conference. A panel of judges will assess their presentation and rank the contestants. PLEASE NOTE: A SEPARATE GRADUATE STUDENT DIVISION WILL BE HELD IN THIS EVENT at invitationals and nationals. Graduate students competing in Research Paper will still be able to judge speech and debate events at the tournament.

Stand Up Comedy – Contestants will present an original 3-4 minute stand up comedy set. Comics learn quickly that the cleaner you work, the more you work. Your material should be appropriate for network (not cable) television. While there are numerous sites that provide instruction on how to prepare a Stand-Up Comedy program, the following provides an excellent overview:
<http://www.standupcomedyclinic.com/1407/top-10-tips-for-performing-in-comedy-competitions2/>

Ted Talks – An original speech by the student that follows the format of Ted Talks. Any use of audio visual aids or technology is entirely the responsibility of the performer. Speeches are 8-10 minutes. Final round at nationals will be videotaped for a TedEx event. While there are numerous sites that provide instruction on how to present a Ted Talk, the following provides an excellent overview: <http://www.presentationzen.com/presentationzen/2009/05/making-presentations-in-the-ted-style.html>

Interviewing - Interviewing is designed to give students the opportunity to sharpen their questioning, job interviewing and resume writing skills. The event will consist of two rounds of interviews which will take place during the tournament and a third round where students will have their resumes evaluated by a judge.

Students will be applying for a generic summer internship in their field. A specific job announcement will be sent to those schools wishing to participate in the event.

Scheduled like debate, in Rounds 1 & 2, competitors will be matched head to head. A judge will interview each competitor for a maximum of 10 minutes using an interview protocol provided by the tournaments. Judges will evaluate students on the interviewing skill and not whether they are a good fit for the job description. This event may be double flighted with each judge interviewing four competitors in one time block.

Round 3 will also be scheduled like a debate, however the judge will evaluate the resumes of the competitors, again evaluating them on the presentation and professionalism of the document and not their qualifications.

The first elimination round will be an interview and will alternate with resume evaluation rounds until tournament is finished.

Competitors in this event **MUST** submit 2 copies of their resumes at registration. Failure to submit a resumes will result in being dropped from the event.

Pecha Kucha

A “Pecha Kucha” or 20×20 presentation contains 20 slides, with each slide shown for 20 seconds, for a presentation of exactly 6 minutes, 40 seconds.

The advantages of the Pecha Kucha format for a conference or a class are clear. Within a given time slot, more presentations can be scheduled and the schedule is predictable. In addition, the atmosphere in a Pecha Kucha session is usually very engaging. Once the “clock starts ticking”, the audience is on the side of the presenter, willing them to succeed. This is a wonderful atmosphere for both new and experienced presenters.

For more information on this event, please see:

http://cmmr.usc.edu//Pecha_Kucha_TipsResourcesExamples.pdf

Acting/Interpretation/Performance Events

Audition Monologue - Students present a 2-3 minute monologue from a published play. Tournaments may designate if the monologue should be humorous, serious or classical and whether the performer should perform one or multiple monologues for the contest.

Auditions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Ability to urgently pursue strong, clear objectives. (Has the actor identified a strong goal or task to pursue in the scene and are they consistently in "high stakes" pursuit of that task)?
- Ability to make varied, specific and bold acting choices. (Is the actor employing different tactics in pursuit of the overall task, are those tactics clear, interesting and specific? Is the actor avoiding the traps of generalizing, emoting, indicating, and playing a single character "color" or "quality" throughout the scene)?
- Mastery of an expressive and flexible vocal and physical instrument. (Does the actor have vocal and physical control? Can they be heard and understood throughout the audition? Is the audition free of superfluous energy or tension vocally or physically)?

- Demonstration of facility with language and a clear understanding of the text. (Has the actor met the specific demands of the language in the text? Do the actor's choices seem grounded in, and informed by a broader understanding of the entire play)?
- Demonstration of range and contrast.

Given the above criteria actors are strongly encouraged to select and prepare material for auditions that will demonstrate the above competencies, and to avoid material designed to demonstrate the actor's cleverness as an end in and of itself.

Actors and coaches are also strongly encouraged to remember that all auditions will be evaluated primarily on an actor's ability to demonstrate the acting competencies listed above, whether the material selected is from contemporary drama, rock opera, musical theatre, Shakespeare, Moliere or Christopher Durang. Actors are expected to illuminate the truth of a character within the context of the world the playwright has created in keeping with the stylistic demands of the play, rather than use the material as a vehicle solely to illuminate their own beautiful singing voices, their dazzling sense of comedy and style, or their ability to entertain an audience. The advice below is particularly useful in helping the actor find and frame material that meets those expectations.

- Find material that you could be cast in today.
- Use material that is within your age range, your vocal range (especially if you're singing), your emotional range, and within the scope of your movement skills.
- Avoid material that requires a dialect.
- Choose material has a clear beginning and moves to a conclusion.
- Use material that focuses on (or showcases) your character.
- Avoid material that you have performed in a complete production.
- Make certain that you select clearly contrasting material.

Choose material in which you have faith, and that which allows you to gain confidence as you rehearse.

Great Speeches - is an event in which the contestant performs a significant speech. **For Spring 2017 speeches must come from non-USA citizens who are currently living.**

Each speech (public address) must have been delivered by the speaker before the speaker's intended original audience. For example, "Sermon on the Mount" is Biblical Prose; "Antony's Funeral Oration" is Shakespearean Drama.

The performance consists of an introduction (maximum 2 minutes) and the performance of the selected text (maximum 8 minutes)

In the introduction, the contestant will include information about each author/speaker, subject, original audience, and occasion. The contestant must also justify the selection for presentation to the contestant's immediate audience. The justification need not be an explicit statement, but may include such subjects as the historical or potential importance, language style, rhetorical technique and audience appeal. Comments about textual accuracy and ghostwriting style may be included where appropriate. All materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources must be documented both orally and in the written text.

The selected speech must have been published. Recorded speeches may be used only if they have also been published in print or online

Judging should be on the general effectiveness of the student's interaction with the audience to share the greatness of the speech. The Judge's primary attention should be on the participant's judgment in choosing and editing the material, sensitivity to author's ideas and purpose, and, especially, the speaker's analysis of historical potential, and/or rhetorical importance of the speech. The student may, but is not required to, use a rhetorical model. Secondly, delivery emphasis should be on communication. Since this is not a prose interpretation event, posturing, impersonation, and imitation are to be avoided.

The student should, at no time, attempt to imitate or assume the persona of the speaker.

The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.

Improvisational Duo – Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes.

Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. Contestants going over or under the allotted time and grace period may not be ranked first in that round. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is **REQUIRED** to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Excessive profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) **will NOT** be tolerated. Contestants are to remain outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Once they have finished with their performance they must remain in the room (unless they are cross entered) until the round is complete.

Hints for Improvisational Duo Judges: The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.

Poetry Slam: Contestants will perform one self-authored poem. No introduction, other than the title of the poem, will be given. Scripts may not be used. Maximum time limit is 3 minutes. **PLEASE NOTE:** For the 2014-2015 season, A SEPARATE GRADUATE STUDENT DIVISION WILL BE HELD IN THIS EVENT.

Poems and performance

- 1) Poems can be on any subject and in any style.
- 2) Each poet must perform work that he or she has created.
- 3) No props, blocking, musical instruments, pre-recorded music or costumes.

The rule concerning props and blocking is not intended to squelch the spontaneity, unpredictability, or on-the-fly choreography that people love about the slam; its intent is to keep the focus on the words rather than poets who movement and/or dance to convey the ideas and meaning inherent in the words of the poem.

Sampling

It is acceptable for poets to incorporate, imitate, or otherwise "signify on" the words, lyrics, or tune of someone else (commonly called "sampling") in their own work. If they are only riffing off another's words, they should expect only healthy controversy; if on the other hand, they are ripping off another poet's words, they should expect scornful contumely.

The No Repeat Rule

Poems may not be repeated in prelims rounds. Students advancing to finals must perform one of their poems from prelims. Each poet should plan on bringing THREE original poems to compete.

The Three-Minute Rule

No performance should last longer than three minutes. The time begins when the performance begins, with the statement (or a similar equivalent): "My poem is entitled (called, named, etc)..." No other introduction is necessary.

Judges will provide time signals. Performances lasting longer than three minutes and ten seconds should not be ranked first in the round.

Limited Preparation Speaking Events

Radio News Broadcasting: Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select and organize a 5 minute simulated radio new broadcast. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any

hypothetical station call letters, time and current weather conditions or forecast and no more than one commercial (maximum 30 seconds). Contestants should strive to present a broadcast that resembles a live radio news segment and refrain from humorous devices (like the traffic girl falling out of the traffic copter or Bigfoot rampaging through town, etc). Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Students will be seated at a table during the performance and may use a stopwatch since time signals will not be given. Judges will not face the contestant during the speech. Students will speak in listed order.

Impromptu Sales

PURPOSE: A speech designed to motivate the audience to purchase or invest in a product or corporation.

DESCRIPTION: Impromptu sales speeches are characterized by articulate argument, clear response to the object/service/investment/slogan, creativity, strong structure, convincing claims, individuality, and delivery choices that reflect the speech's purpose while respecting the audience.

RULES: A standard notecard may be consulted, but all other notebooks and sources of information are prohibited. Maximum time to prepare and present is 9 minutes total.

Round 1: Object – Students will be given an object, and their goal is to sell that object to an audience. Students should take the object as it stands. The student may choose to elaborate upon the object, but may not take the object on the metaphorical level. Students may endow the object with qualities, but cannot transform the object into something else (thus, a pen can have special qualities, but a pen cannot turn into a ball).

Round 2: Sell a service. Students will be given a description of a service, including a short "fact sheet" of this particular service (for example, you are the proprietor of a dog walking service). Their goal is to sell that service to the audience.

Round 3. Sell an intangible object. Students will be given an object to sell that they can't physically hold in their hands (for example, a car). They will be given a picture and/or some information about the object. Their goal is to sell that object to the audience.

Finals: Slogan, loosely based on the tournament's location. For example: "Nebraska Beef: It's what's for dinner" or "Dell's Lemonade: Rhode Island's Finest." Students will create a speech based on that slogan.

Table Topics

This event is designed to encourage development of true impromptu speaking skills.

All contestants except the first will leave the room. All contestants receive the same topic, which will be of a general nature, and they will speak for two-three minutes. Judges will provide time signals. The speech shall be no longer than three minutes. If it goes over three minutes, it is up to the judge to decide if and what kind of penalty to give. Two minutes is the minimum.

The topic will be of reasonable length, will not require a detailed knowledge and should lead to an opinion or conclusion. This may be more of a personal narrative. You are expected to stand but movement is up to the speaker and should come naturally from the speech-not arbitrarily added.

Examples of topics:

What will you never do?

If you had to be someone else for one day, who would you be and why?

What experience from this past year do you appreciate the most?