

The Bill Todd Debates, November 30-December 2, 2018



Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the University of Miami Debate Team and the UM School of Communication, and in honor of our friend and mentor, Professor Bill Todd, we are pleased to invite student debaters of all experience and skill levels to participate in a two-day British Parliamentary debate tournament on our campus on Saturday, December 1 and Sunday, December 2, 2018. To help those new to BP, we will also offer a Workshop on BP debate on Friday, November 30. We offer six preliminary rounds and a grand final with English and Spanish language divisions. If there are sufficient novice entries, we will also hold novice finals.

Fees and Judging: Lunch will be provided on Saturday. We will provide awards for top speakers including novice recognition and awards for first time BP participants, as well as trophies for the finalists. There will be no fees for the event, however, we ask that you provide judging to cover your teams. For judging, we will follow the N-1 rule (the number of judges required is the total number of teams entered minus one; and if you have a team entered, you must supply a judge). The judge may be an undergraduate student who is fully enrolled and in good standing. A limited number of judges may be hired for \$100 per uncovered team. UM students will be allowed to participate and will be eligible to receive awards.

Please register for the tournament at <https://forensictournament.net/BillTodd/18>

Deadline for entry: Monday, November 26, 5:00 pm Miami time, however, please enter as early as possible even if your entry is tentative to help us in planning.

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Hotel: We have secured a block with the [Aloft Miami Dadeland Hotel](#) at a flat rate of \$129. While we encourage you to shop around, this is a good rate for Miami in December. The location is relatively convenient to campus, and we have had excellent experience with their service. You may call them at 855-811-0225 (ask for the University of Miami Hurricane Debates) or (easier) go to [Aloft Hotel Link](#). The deadline for hotel reservations is November 2!

Directions: For directions to The University of Miami, and campus maps, visit [Directions and Maps](#). The School of Communication is located at 5100 Brunson Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33124-2105.

Tournament Operation: We are pleased that tab room operation will be under the direction of Will Reilley, Randall Martinez and Dr. William Murphy.

All participants debate at the invitation of the University of Miami according to its tournament rules and the rules the University holds generally for conduct of guests while on campus. Unless indicated otherwise, and where relevant, the tournament will follow the guidelines of the WUDC, available at <http://www.wudc2019.uct.ac.za/wudc-constitution> and the [American Forensic Association Code of Standards](#) related to tournament operation and contestant, judge and coach conduct. Motions will be drawn from The New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, The Economist, The Guardian, and Foreign Affairs. Participation is open to any undergraduate student seeking a degree from an accredited academic institution. Students must have the approval of their institution to compete. Please forward your questions about format, tournament operation, etc.. to David Steinberg at dave@miami.edu or 786-351-3813.

The University of Miami is a tobacco free campus.

Accessibility: If you are in need of accommodations, please contact David Steinberg. All of our classrooms are wheelchair accessible. We will designate a Quiet Room to allow participants to relax and regain composure. Upon request, we will provide a breastfeeding room. There are gender neutral bathrooms on campus. We can provide a list of rental car and car services that accommodate wheelchairs. The University of Miami's Office of Disability Services (ODS) is located in the [Camner Center for Academic Resources](#) in The Whitten University Center N201. ODS staff can be reached at 305-284-2374 (Voice), 305-284-3401 (TDD).

We sincerely hope you will join us in Miami for the Bill Todd Debates. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can answer questions or help in any way. Sincerely,

David L Steinberg
Director of Debate
dave@miami.edu

Patrick Waldinger
Assistant Director of Debate
waldinger@miami.edu

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Tentative Schedule (times approximate)

Friday, November 30, 2018

1:00 pm–5:00 pm British Parliamentary Debate Workshop

Saturday, December 1, 2018

9:00-9:30 am Registration, Francis L. Wolfson School of Communication Courtyard

<http://www.com.miami.edu/directions>

9:30 am Mandatory Judge and Competitor Briefing

9:45 am Round I announced

10:00 am Round I

11:30 Round II announced

11:45 Round II

Lunch (provided by UM)

2:15 pm Round III announced

2:30 pm Round III

4:15 pm Round IV announced

4:30 pm Round IV

Sunday, December 2, 2018

8:30 am Check-in

9:15 am Round V announced

9:30 am Round V

11:00 am Round VI

Lunch (on your own)

2:00 pm Awards and Announcement of Finals

2:30 pm Final Round