

Participating in the Mark O. Hatfield Debates

The following document concerns best practices for participating in the Mark O. Hatfield Debates. These include best practices related to debating and judging. The document also covers issues of Accessibility, Equity, Discrimination, and Diversity.

Best Practices for Debating

Debaters in the Mark O. Hatfield debates are expected to follow these best practices for debating:

- Treat the occasion, each other, and the adjudicators with respect and courtesy;
- Respect the rules of the competition;
- Accept the adjudicator's decision; Do not harass, threaten or intimidate judges to vote a particular way
- Use names, gender-neutral pronouns or speaker positions or, if stated, the pronoun preferred by a particular person;

Best Practices for Judging

- Chairs will retrieve their ballots and begin debates on time;
- Chairs and panelists will judge rounds objectively and professionally based solely on the arguments presented;
- Chairs and panelists will recognize and remove personal bias, professional expertise or preference for certain arguments the adjudicator thinks should have been made.
- Chairs will limit their adjudications including returning their ballots via email within 15 minutes;
- Chairs will discuss the decision with other panelists attempting to come to a consensus decision.;
- Chairs will make constructive comments to help all debaters improve;
- Chairs will invite panelists to make comments as well.
- Chairs will treat all debaters and panelists with respect and courtesy;
- Give competitors the opportunity to state their preferred pronoun or any important information for their participation and follow that lead (default to speaker position if nothing is offered)

Equity, Discrimination, and Diversity

Equity Policies:

The following is taken from various Willamette University documents regarding equity, discrimination, and diversity.

Willamette University (WU) in general and the Willamette University Debate Union (WUDU) in particular welcomes a diversity of voices. We pride ourselves on our ability to discuss controversial subjects and to be challenged on our deepest principles and beliefs as individuals, while remaining a community that is mutually supportive and respectful.

WU is a diverse community that provides equal opportunity in all activities, and academic programs. Neither WU nor WUDU discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, veteran status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or status with regard to pregnancy, disability or age. Both WU and WUDU prohibit and will not tolerate harassment or discrimination against any individual in the University community or participants in the Mark O. Hatfield debates. This policy applies to all Willamette University employees and addresses all types of discriminatory misconduct, including harassment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, veteran status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or status with regard to pregnancy, disability, age, or any other basis protected by applicable local, state or federal law. This prohibition includes sexual harassment and discrimination.

Consistent with its mission, WU seeks to assure that all community members and our guests are free to learn and work in an atmosphere free from harassment and discrimination. Harassing and discriminatory conduct is contrary to the positive educational environment WU seeks to foster and maintain. It threatens the well-being of its community members and will not be tolerated by the University. The University will take immediate action in all allegations, of harassment and discrimination to ensure the safety of the WU community and all individuals involved by ending the harassment or discrimination, preventing its recurrence and addressing its effects. Willamette will take appropriate action when this policy is violated

Neither WU nor WUDU will tolerate discrimination in its activities on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, marital status, veteran status and sexual orientation, and we are firmly committed to adhering to the letter and spirit of all federal and state equal opportunity and civil rights laws.

Equity Team:

The leader of the equity team will be Dr. Jade Aguilar, Vice President for equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Professor Robert Trapp also is an equity officer and a mandatory reporter of equity issues. Any issues brought to Professor Trapp's attention will be reported to Vice President Aguilar.

Natalie Lyell and Emilia Cubelos also are members of the equity team. Their responsibility is to see that students understand and have access to Willamette University's Bias Reporting system.

Process for Submitting an Equity Report at the Mark O. Hatfield Debates.

Anyone at the Hatfield debates may report incidents using the form below. Reports will go directly to Jade Aguilar, Vice President for equity, diversity, and inclusion. Vice President Aguilar will respond promptly to the person filing the report.

Anyone needing assistance accessing the reporting form should contact any member of the Equity Team (or any other WUDU student) for assistance.

Reports should be made using the following link:

<https://secure.willamette.edu/cgi-bin/datastore.cgi/biasreport>

Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent allowed under policies and laws.

Reporting Process:

1. Complete the bias report form.
<https://secure.willamette.edu/cgi-bin/datastore.cgi/biasreport>
2. Vice President Aguilar will initially review the report.
3. Vice President Aguilar will discuss the report with the person issuing the report and/or Professor Trapp, as she deems appropriate.
4. Vice President Aguilar will discuss the report about whom the complaint has been filed as she deems appropriate.

Accessibility

All buildings in use by the tournament will have elevators.

Gender-neutral restrooms are located in Waller and Ford; there are unfortunately none in Eaton.

The link below will take you to our interactive campus map. With this map, you can find ADA compliant entrances to buildings, locations of gender-neutral restrooms, elevators, and more.

<http://willamette.edu/about/visit/index.html>

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