AMERICAN DEBATE ASSOCIATION

Georgetown College Tournament hosted by Georgetown University

[Washington DC, DC/US] – Georgetown University hosted the Georgetown College Tournament during the weekend of Jan. 5 to Jan. 8, 2023. The tournament was attended by 91 teams across three divisions including novice, junior varsity, and open.

Debaters from across the country were asked to debate both sides of the season-long resolution about legal personhood. The full wording of the topic is "Resolved: The United States should vest legal rights and/or duties in one or more of the following: artificial intelligence, nature, nonhuman animal species."

Students who participated at the tournament debated half of their preliminary debates in favor of the resolution and half of their preliminary debates in opposition to the resolution.

At the conclusion of the preliminary debates, the tournament seeded teams in all divisions based on their win-loss record and speaker points. Elimination debates were single elimination for the top four teams in novice, three teams in junior varsity, and thirty-two teams in open.

The novice division featured students who are in their first year of competitive debate. The junior varsity division showcased students who competed in their first two academic years of intercollegiate debate beyond the novice level.

In the novice division debates, teams from Missouri State University, New York University, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Georgia, University of Mary Washington and the University of Rochester competed. Missouri State University, University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Mary Washington victorious and advanced to the semifinals. In the semifinals, the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Mary Washington were victorious and advanced to the finals.

In the finals, Luke Busch and Lance Hungar from the University of Mary Washington bested Fatima Koroma and Iliana Carrillo from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

In the junior varsity division debates, teams from James Madison University, Missouri State University, The New School, New York University, Samford University, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Georgia and the University of Rochester competed.

Missouri State University, The New School, Samford University, University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Rochester were victorious and advanced to the semifinals. In the semifinals, Samford University and Missouri State University were victorious and advanced to the finals.

In the finals, Justin Albright & Jenna Shockley from Missouri State University bested Abigail Montgomery & Grace Scott from Samford University.

In the open division debates, teams from Binghamton University, California State University at Long Beach, California State University at Fullerton, Dartmouth College, Emory University, Georgetown College, Harvard College, James Madison University, Macalester College, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, Missouri State University, the Navy, New York University, Northwestern University, Purdue University, Samford University, Trinity University, University of Texas at Dallas, University of California at Berkeley, University of Houston, University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Kentucky, University of Mary Washington, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, University of Southern California, University of Wyoming, Wake Forest University and University of West Georgia competed.

Binghamton University, California State University at Long Beach, Dartmouth College, Emory University, Georgetown College, Harvard College, Macalester College, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Kentucky, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, University of Southern California, University of Wyoming and Wake Forest University were victorious and advanced to doubles. In doubles, Dartmouth College, Emory University, Georgetown College, Harvard College, Northwestern University, University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Kentucky, University of Michigan, University of Southern California and Wake Forest University were victorious and advanced to the octafinals.

In the octafinals, Dartmouth College, Emory University, Georgetown College, University of Michigan and Wake Forest University were victorious and advanced to the quarterfinals. In the quarterfinals, Dartmouth College, Emory University and the University of Michigan were victorious and advanced to the semifinals. In the semifinals, Emory University and Dartmouth College were victorious and advanced to the finals.

In the finals, Arvind Shankar & Tyler Vergho from Dartmouth College bested Eugenia Giampetruzzi & Grace Kessler from Emory University.

Debaters participating also receive speaker points for each of their preliminary debates. In the novice division, Lance Hungar from the University of Mary Washington was named top speaker. Yiyi Wu from New York University was named top speaker in the junior varsity division. In the open division, Tyler Vergho from Dartmouth College was named top speaker.

Due to a software error in tabulation, two first-year debaters from Harvard College were not acknowledged among top speakers in the open division, despite having achieved these honors.

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The ADA wants to explicitly recognize the stellar performances of Zion
Dixon, who was the 14th overall speaker, and Leah Yeshitila, who was the 23rd overall speaker
in the open division. Congratulations to both debaters.

The ADA Fall Championship was the first ADA-sanctioned tournament of 2023. The next ADA
tournament will be hosted by the Navy the weekend of Jan. 14-16, 2023.

About the American Debate Association
The American Debate Association began in 1985 as an intercollegiate debate association. It uses
the resolution selected by the Cross Examination Debate Association and the National Debate
Tournament. Currently they have 44 member schools. The ADA's mission is increasing
participation, maintaining a balance between education and competition, and ensuring an
equitable and fair activity for all programs, regardless of their size or experience.

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