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## **University of Minnesota College Invitational hosted by University of Minnesota**

**[Minneapolis, MN/US]** – The University of Minnesota hosted the University of Minnesota College Invitational during the weekend of Jan. 27 to Jan. 29, 2023. The tournament was attended by 21 teams in a varsity division.

Debaters from across the country were asked to debate both sides of the season-long resolution about legal personhood in six preliminary debates. 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 based on their win-loss record and speaker points. Elimination debates were single elimination for the top ten teams in the varsity division.

In the varsity division debates, teams from Boston College, Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania, Gonzaga University, Macalester College, New York University, University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, University of Texas at Dallas, University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Mary Washington, University of Southern California, Wake Forest University, Weber State University, University of Minnesota and Western Washington University competed.

New York University, Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at Dallas, Gonzaga University, University of Minnesota, University of Mary Washington and the University of Kansas were victorious and advanced to the octafinals.

In the octafinals, New York University, University of Texas at Austin, Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania, University of Kansas, University of Texas at Dallas, University of Minnesota and Gonzaga University were victorious and advanced to the quarterfinals.

In the quarterfinals, University of Texas at Austin, Gonzaga University, Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania and University of Texas at Dallas were victorious and advanced to

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the semifinals. In the semifinals, Gonzaga University, Dartmouth College and the University of Pennsylvania were victorious and advanced to the finals.

In the finals, Amadea Datel and Maya El-Sharif from Dartmouth College and the University of Pennsylvania bested Avalyn Renee and Andrea Moreno from Gonzaga University.

Debaters participating also receive speaker points for each of their preliminary debates. In the varsity division, Vikram Saigal from New York University was named top speaker.

The University of Minnesota College Invitational was the tenth ADA-sanctioned tournament of the year, in addition to the James Madison University Invitational held Jan. 27-29, 2022. The next ADA tournament will be the NDT District VII Qualifier hosted by the University of Mary Washington the weekend of Feb. 18-19, 2022.

## **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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