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Minnesota College Invitational hosted by the University of Minnesota

Minneapolis, MN – The University of Minnesota hosted the Minnesota College Invitational October 17-19, 2025. The tournament was attended by 80 teams across three divisions.

Debaters from across the country were asked to debate both sides of the season-long resolution about labor policy. The full wording of the topic is “Resolved: The United States Federal Government should substantially strengthen collective bargaining rights for workers in the United States.”

Students participating in the tournament debate 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 are single elimination for the top 25 teams in varsity, 6 teams in junior varsity (JV), and 9 teams in novice.

The novice division features students who are in their first year of competitive debate. The JV division showcases students competing in their first two academic years of intercollegiate debate beyond the novice level.

In the novice division, teams from Indiana University, the University of West Georgia, the University of Miami, Southwestern College, and Wake Forest University qualified for elimination debates. After octafinals and quarterfinals, there was one semifinals debate between the University of Miami and Indiana University, and the other semifinals debate was between the University of West Georgia and Wake Forest University.

The University of Miami and Wake Forest University advanced to the championship debate where the team from Wake Forest University, Austin Lovette and Courtneigh Peebles, were named the winners.

In the JV division, teams from the University of Michigan, Wake Forest University, Oklahoma University, Southwestern College, Macalester College, and Indiana University qualified for elimination debates. After the quarterfinals round, teams from the University of Michigan and Indiana University advanced through the semifinals over teams from Wake Forest University and Southwestern College.

In the championship debate, the team from Indiana University, Jay Duggal and Lily Jones, bested the team from the University of Michigan.

In the varsity division, teams from Michigan State University, Macalester College, the University of Georgia, Emory University, Oklahoma University, the University of Michigan, Western Kentucky University, Northwestern University, the University of Kansas, Wake Forest University, the University of Kentucky, Wichita State University, and Gonzaga University qualified for elimination debates.

After a partial double octafinals (Round of 32), octafinals (Round of 16), and quarterfinals (Round of 8), there was one semifinal round between the University of Georgia and Emory University and another semifinal round between the University of Kentucky and Emory University.

Teams from Emory University and the University of Kentucky advanced to the championship debate where the team from the University of Kentucky, Jeremiah Rimpson and Amanti Washington, came out on top.

Debaters participating also receive speaker points for each of their preliminary debates. In the varsity division, Jeremiah Rimpson from the University of Kentucky was named top speaker. Austin Lovette, Wake Forest University, was top speaker in the novice division and Pia Maria Flores Palacious, Southwestern College, was top speaker in the JV division.

The next two ADA tournaments will be hosted at the end of the month by James Madison College and Gonzaga University.

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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