

## COFO Meeting Minutes, NCA, Fall 2004

### Present:

Dan Cronn-Mills, Chair  
Michael Dreher, Novice Nationals  
Renea Gernant, NCCFI  
Wade Tesch, Phi Rho Pi  
Duane Fish, Phi Rho Pi  
Jeanine Fassl, Pi Kappa Delta  
Sharon Porter, NPDA, IDEA  
Bruce Wicklegren, DSR-TKA  
Larry Schnoor, AFA-NIET, NFA, Interstate  
Gordon Mitchell, AFA President

Observers: Dan West, Marty Birkholt

1. The previous minutes were approved.
2. Dan thanks Argumentation and Forensics Division for slotting us at AFA.
3. COFO Calendar - The group went through the calendar and suggested changes.
4. Dan reminded everyone about the availability of the Online Index of Forensic Journals
5. Brief discussions from the various national tournaments:  
Novice Nationals - Largest tournament ever, held at Univ. of Houston  
NCCFI - Increased participation from East and Midwest  
Phi Rho Pi - Going to the East for the first time in 2005  
NIET- For 2005-2006, there will be a limit of 66 entries per school; leg qualifications are strengthened (1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> = 1 leg; 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> = 2 legs, etc.)  
AFA - Booklet for new coaches - This project has been dropped for ow.  
NFA - March edition of the journal will be a special issue on starting new forensics programs. The new editor will be Ed Hinck of Central Michigan  
Interstate - Now on DVD, duplication being done. Can purchase for classroom use, not for duplication.  
DSR-TKA: Major changes. Try to have a kickoff tournament; this fell through. Want a developmental conference to be held opposite the Alta conference, perhaps in late August. Now an affiliated organization of AFA.
6. Discussion about the Argumentation/Forensics meeting - NCA discussed possible certification of communication departments. Forensics not currently listed in the rubric.

Sharon mentions that IDEA is working on accreditation standards for non-governmental organizations/debate organizations.

- Jeanine suggests looking at North Central accrediting standards.
7. Discussion from Gordon - AFA: Initiative to start new online journal - this won't compete with *Argumentation and Advocacy*. There are two primary purposes for the journal: 1) Public debate - Publish transcripts, commentaries; 2) Debate - Especially encouraging the publications of competitors. Take what people are working on and publish as scholarship.

New Business:

1. NCA asking for questions about what is forensics. Suggestions should be sent to Larry Schnoor ([lgene9535@aol.com](mailto:lgene9535@aol.com)).
2. Dan brings up having COFO coordinate the forensics calendar. Some discussion. It was moved and seconded that Dan along with Michael work on putting the calendar online in some form.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Minutes recorded by: Michael Dreher, Director of Forensics, Bethel University