

Mt. SAC Forensics Wins Back-to-Back Tournaments

The Mt. SAC Forensics team has been quite successful during the winter intersession. At the last two tournaments, the team has taken top honors in the community college division winning first place at the “Close to the Coast” tournament (held at Orange Coast College, Jan 23, 2016) and “Winter at the Beach” tournament (held at CSU Long Beach, Feb 6, 2016). The team collectively won 34 awards at the two tournaments combined.



After travelling to the University of Texas, Austin, for a nationally competitive tournament, the team returned home to capture many top awards at the Close to the Coast tournament on January 23-24, 2016. Co-Hosting with Orange Coast College, the team took home 15 awards while competing against top students from Moorpark College, Orange Coast College, and Bradley University (a nationally ranked university speech program).

Notable results include **Sarina Wang** reaching elimination rounds in three events (winning 1st in Impromptu, 3rd in Communication Analysis, and 5th in Informative), **Anthony Flores** reaching open elimination rounds for the first time in both of his events (6th in Dramatic Interp and 6th in Prose), and **Justin Chao** winning the first Parliamentary Debate speaker award this season (10th). In a close sweepstakes race Mt. SAC edged Moorpark College by 1 point to take the top award in the community college division. Sarina Wang commented that competing against Bradley University “was a real challenge.” She added, “They are one of the top programs in the country and their level of performance is incredible.” Co-Director of Forensics, Professor **Danny Cantrell**, said “to compete against the best, and have such incredible results, is a testament to the dedication of our students, coaches, and school. It is a team effort and we are so thankful for the support we receive from so many individuals across campus.”

This past weekend, the team competed at CSU Long Beach against teams from across the country including Colorado College, Lewis & Clark (Oregon), University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and local competition from Cerritos College, Concordia-Irvine, and El Camino College. Mt. SAC once again took top honors at the tournament winning 19 total awards. Mt. SAC won first place in 4 of the 11 speech events



and made it to finals in 10 of the 11 events. Notable results include **Jacqueline Yu** taking home first place in both Informative and Communication Analysis. Over the last two tournament weekends, Jacqueline has won first place 4 times. Other first place awards include **Matthew Rodriguez** in

Persuasive and **Anthony Flores** and **Chris Robles** in Duo Interpretation. Co-Director of Forensics, Professor **Roxan Arntson**, remarked “this was truly an amazing showing by Mt. SAC.” She added, “we won awards in every event genre and placed in the top three in over half of the events. The team has a lot of depth and talent this year.”

Mt. SAC is next headed to the Cerritos College Tabor-Venitsky tournament which is often a preview of our State and National Championships. The team then enters the championship season with the PSCFA “Chris DeSurra” Spring Championship tournament February 19-21 at Moorpark College. The State Championship is mid-March in Northern California followed by the Phi Rho Pi Community College National Championship held mid-April in Costa Mesa, CA. The team finishes its season with the American Readers Theater National Championship hosted at Mt. SAC the last weekend in April.

2016 Close to the Coast - Jan 23, 2016 - Orange Coast

Impromptu: Sarina Wang, 1st; Jessica Gates, 5th.
Dramatic Interp: Anthony Flores, 6th.
P.O.I.: Chris Robles, 2nd.
Communication Analysis: Jacqueline Yu, 1st; Sarina Wang, 3rd.
Prose: Sophie Hajialakbar, 4th; Anthony Flores, 6th.
Informative: Jessica Gates, 3rd; Sarina Wang, 5th.
After Dinner Speaking: James Conci, 4th.
Parliamentary Debate Speakers: Justin Chao, 10th.
Individual Sweeps: Sarina Wang, 5th.

Community College Sweepstakes: 1st
 Overall Sweepstakes: 2nd

2016 Close the Coast - Jan 24, 2016 - Orange Coast College*

Informative: Jacqueline Yu, 1st.
NFA-LD: Matthew Dowling, bronze.

*(as hosts on Sunday we were not eligible for sweepstakes and had a very limited entry)

2016 Winter at the Beach - Feb 5, 2016 - CSU Long Beach

Impromptu: Sarina Wang, 4th.
Communication Analysis: Jacqueline Yu, 1st; Sarina Wang, 3rd.
Dramatic Interp: Alex Romero, 3rd; Anthony Flores, 5th.
Persuasive: Matthew Rodriguez, 1st; Monica Sharma, 3rd; Tiffany Pla, 5th.
Extemporaneous: Matthew Rodriguez, 5th; Brian Ramos, 6th.
After Dinner Speaking: Erin Preston 2nd; Matthew Dowling, 7th.
Informative: Jacqueline Yu, 1st; Sarina Wang, 4th; Azzaam Siddiqi, 5th.
Poetry: Erin Preston, 5th; Chris Robles, 6th.
Prose: Sophie Hajiliakbar, 4th.
Duo: Anthony Flores & Chris Robles, 1st.

Overall Sweepstakes: 1st