

Mt SAC Forensics Team Finishes Another Successful Championship Season



The Mt. San Antonio College Forensics team ended their championship season with a successful showing at the 2016 Phi Rho Pi National Tournament in Costa Mesa, California, finishing with an overall gold medal (second place) after Orange Coast College (first place). The team also earned a gold medal in overall individual events team sweepstakes, and an overall bronze in debate. In a field of over 500 competitors, second-year team member Jacqueline Yu was a tournament stand-out earning first place overall speaker in the nation with gold medals in After Dinner Speaking, Informative Speaking, and Communication Analysis, as well as a silver medal in Impromptu speaking. 64 colleges from around the country competed at this year's national tournament.

Some of the team's competitive highlights include second-year team members Joey Fontana and Sarina Wang receiving gold medals in Informative Speaking. "This experience was life-changing. Through hard work and dedication I learned so much about what our team could accomplish," team member Erin Preston said.

"I was very impressed that we had so many students competing for gold medals in the national final rounds. It shows a great level of diversity and talent in the breadth of our program," Director of Debate Professor Daniel Cantrell said. Director of Forensics Professor Roger Willis-Raymondo and Director of Individual Events Professor Roxan Arntson also coach the team, along with the help of the entire Communication Department Faculty.



Phi Rho Pi Results:

Gold Medal: Overall Team Sweepstakes
Gold Medal: Individual Events Sweepstakes
Bronze Medal: Debate Sweepstakes
Bovero Top Speaker Award: Jacqueline Yu

Gold: Sarina Wang Informative Speaking
Gold: Joey Fontana Informative Speaking
Gold: Jacqueline Yu Informative Speaking
Gold: Jacqueline Yu After Dinner Speaking
Gold: Jacqueline Yu Communication Analysis
Silver: Azzaam Siddiqi Impromptu Speaking
Silver: Jacqueline Yu Impromptu Speaking
Silver: Christopher Robles Poetry Interpretation
Silver: Amy Jajieh Persuasive Speaking
Silver: Joey Fontana Persuasive Speaking
Silver: Matthew Rodriguez Persuasive Speaking
Silver: Tiffany Pla Extemporaneous Speaking
Bronze: Matthew Dowling & Matthew Rodriguez Parliamentary Debate
Bronze: Tiffany Pla & Shantel Engle Parliamentary Debate Bronze: Sarina Wang IPDA Debate
Bronze: Anthony Flores Prose
Bronze: Azzaam Siddiqi Informative Speaking
Bronze: Tiffany Pla Persuasive Speaking
Bronze: Matthew Dowling Extemporaneous Speaking
Bronze: Amy Jajieh Dramatic Interpretation
Bronze: Alexandria Romero Dramatic Interpretation
Bronze: Kai Vibar Programmed Oral Interpretation
Bronze: Christopher Robles Programmed Oral Interpretation
Bronze: Kai Vibar & Alexandria Romero Duo Interpretation

-- **Danny Cantrell**

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