



Debate Union

August 1, 2018

Dr. William T. Scroggins
President/CEO
Mount San Antonio College
1100 N. Grand Avenue
Walnut, CA 91789

Dear President Scroggins:

I am writing to let you know of the outstanding educational outreach work by your Communication Department Chair, Professor Daniel Cantrell. I have known Danny for many years, beginning with his debate participation as an undergraduate student at the University of California, San Diego. I have had the opportunity to work with Danny in a debate outreach program that I founded, the Public Debate Program (PDP). The program offers public speaking, argumentation, and debate training to hundreds of thousands of secondary school teachers and students in 31 countries. Danny has been instrumental in the development and operations of these programs.

PDP students compete in middle school and high school league debate competitions. To ensure that these tournaments are administered in a fair manner, team matching for debates relies on sophisticated tabulation software. The software design must be sufficiently complex to organize tournament operations and have an easy to use interface for relatively inexperienced secondary school teachers and program volunteers to learn and use. The latter is essential for program development in remote and conflict areas of the world. Danny designed, built, and updated the software. It is instrumental in league events throughout California and the US but, more importantly, has helped manage PDP events in rural Uganda and Tanzania, as well as in refugee camps in Turkey.

Most recently, Danny hosted the middle school southwest regional championship at Mount San Antonio College in April 2018. Student teams from 10 debate leagues qualify for the event – more than 450 teachers and students attended the tournament. The competition ran seamlessly, with Danny at his computer, entering data and producing results to stay ahead of the clock a rigorous full day schedule. He organized his forensics students to serve as a professional crew of volunteers and judges. He made my work that day much easier than it might otherwise have been; it is an extraordinary pleasure to collaborate with him.

You are probably aware that Danny is an outstanding and dedicated instructor, exceptionally friendly and cooperative, and a terrific ambassador for your college. I thought it might be helpful to provide some fresh evidence from down the road.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Meany', with a stylized, cursive script.

John Meany

John Meany

Director of Forensics, Claremont McKenna College

Director, Claremont Colleges Debate Union & Public Debate Program

cc: Dean Karelyn Hoover