

Speech and Debate at the University of California San Diego **Constitution**

Article I. Name

The name of this organization will be the Speech and Debate at University of California: San Diego (SD @ UC San Diego).

Article II. Purpose

The Speech and Debate at UC San Diego team is a student-run and competition-oriented body that is committed to crafting the speaking abilities of the next generation of leaders. We represent UC San Diego in tournaments across California, speaking on a variety of topics, and providing a platform for students to improve their public speaking and analytical skills. In addition, SD @ UC San Diego will seek to sponsor, organize, and run speech and parliamentary debate tournaments, public speaking events, and community service projects in the best interests of public speaking. Members of this organization will strengthen their persuasive communication skills through practice and participation in intercollegiate speech and debate competitions

Article III. Nonprofit Statement

Speech and Debate at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

Article IV. Requirements for Membership

Section I. Membership

Registered UCSD students of any level who are interested in speech and debate may join this club. Until adequate funding is secured, members may need to pay fees to attend specific tournaments. One becomes a member by routinely attending organization meetings and practices, as well as competing in at least one tournament during the academic year.

Section II. Tournament Divisions

In order to participate in intercollegiate competition, members must meet eligibility requirements for their event and division as prescribed by the rules governing each competition (including but not limited to National Parliamentary Debate Association, National Forensic Association, etc.).

Section III. Nondiscrimination Statement

Speech and Debate at the University of California: San Diego does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

Article V. Frequency of Organizations Meetings

Speech and Debate at UC San Diego will formally meet twice a week. In addition to our weekly meetings, we will have practices scheduled at various times and locations throughout the week.

Article VI. Officers

Only registered UCSD students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UCSD students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers.

Section I. Elections

SD @ UC San Diego will be a student run organization, led by the executives and Head Coach. Each office will be selected annually, during spring quarter. New officers will be selected by the existing executive board members and the Head Coach. To qualify for an executive position, one must attend at least one event (including, but not limited to, tournaments, programming and/or fundraisers) prior to elections and be active in the given quarter. Terms will begin at the end of the academic year that the election took place in.

Section II. Roles/Responsibilities/Powers

All officers will be required to attend a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the meetings. Officers are also expected to attend tournaments, fundraisers, and marketing efforts related to SD @ UC San Diego. The officers of this club and the Head Coach reserve the right to suspend, through majority vote, any portion of this constitution and/or by-laws for a period of time. All team decisions shall be made by the officers and Head Coach through a majority vote. The Head Coach has the ultimate decision making authority regarding tournaments and events.

This organization will have seven principal members. Other committees and offices may be created in order to accommodate the needs of the organization as it grows and evolves. Only principal members may vote in team decisions. The principal members are:

President: Responsible for setting the vision and tone for Speech and Debate Program; Working with VPs and other teammates to accomplish specific goals; Implementing strong and unified welcome to new recruits; and Always being available to help board and teammates in needed support.

Vice President of Administration: Responsible for all tournament non-financial documents; communicating with tournament liaisons and staying up to date on tournament logistics; Developing judge communication and database strategy; Updating the Facebook Official Communication Group; and Maintaining Team Content and Intellectual Property.

Vice President of Coaching: Responsible for all competition coaches and running practices; Developing overall education and coaching strategy/curriculum with competition coaches; Developing and maintain specific key performance indicators for competitions; Organizing common literature base (How To Guides) for competition events; and Hosting weekly meetings with competition coaches.

Vice President of Marketing and Growth: Responsible for the branding of Speech and Debate; Developing of media and content for advertising; Running an effective recruitment strategy throughout

the year; Developing a vision and marketing for outreach events (2 per quarter); and Working with Digital Media Chair.

Vice President of Fundraising: Responsible for managing finances and raising funds for program; Maintaining strong relationship with AS and other funding sources; Exploring other avenues for funding; and Working with Treasurer and AS to make sure reimbursements and deadlines met.

Section III. Impeachment

If at any time any of the principal members do not fulfill their roles to a reasonable capacity or harm the integrity of the team, they can be subject to impeachment. Impeachment will require a two-thirds vote and strong support of the faculty coach.

Article VII. Risk Management

Speech and Debate at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at The University of California San Diego, but not part of the University itself.

Speech and Debate at UC San Diego understands that the university does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

Possible risks may include injuries at tournaments and/or in transportation.

All members traveling to an event will sign a waiver of liability. These waivers will be kept by the Vice President of Administration.

Article VIII. Tournaments

Section I. Deadlines

Members must notify their interest in a tournament and event at least 1 week before the tournament. This gives the coach time to register them for the tournament. Once a member has stated his interest in attending a tournament, he or she shall commit to attending.

Section II. Tournament Behavior

Members are expected to behave in a manner that is consistent with those representing SD @ UC San Diego. Members should always remember that they are a representative and ambassador of SD @ UC San Diego and their actions are a reflection on the team, and by extension, SD @ UC San Diego. Officers reserve the right to take disciplinary action towards any member for inappropriate behavior.

Section III. Dropping Rounds

No speech or debate rounds may be dropped, after the entry deadline (see section I), without first consulting the President. Any person that does not follow this procedure or drops against the decision of the President will be subject to fines associated with dropping rounds.

Section IV. Traveling

When travelling off campus to a tournament, members must sign a travel waiver to participate. This waiver must be turned in at least one day before the day of the tournament.

Section V. Judges

The team may be required to bring eligible judges to tournaments, per guidelines set forth by the Tournament Director. In such cases, all members will assist in finding an adequate number of judges for each tournament. If the correct number of judges is not acquired, judging fees will be evenly split among all competitors in the tournament if tournament funds can't cover them. No member competing in a tournament may judge in that tournament, unless allowed by tournament guidelines, i.e. Peer Judging.

Article IX. Debate Coach

The Head Coach is the designated faculty advisor for this organization.

Head Coach: Responsible for overall program, coordinating with President and VPs, and developing competition culture/presentation.

Article X. Amendments

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership at any club meeting.