

To the Province Governors, and especially, the host Province, the Province of the Lower Mississippi, and the Publicity Committee for all their efforts in making this one of the largest conventions in the history of Pi Kappa Delta.

To Karen Marshall and John Cliff for their significant contributions to the Convention.

To Mr. Ralph Yarborough for his remarks to the Convention.

And, be it Further Resolved, That there shall be four divisions in debate: (1) Experimental, (2) Championship (cross-X), (3) Championship Standard, with 50% minimum won-loss, 6 tournaments, at least one quarter-finalist, and (4) Standard.

And, be it further Resolved, That the Championship Cross-X and Championship Standard divisions have elimination rounds.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael B. Minchew, Chairman
Mississippi St. Col. for Women
Rochelle D. Solomon
Youngstown State University

The request by William deMougeot that the report be divided was granted. That part of the report with the exception of the last two paragraphs was carried. After some discussion of the topics of "four divisions of debate", "hidden rounds", "a new topic for each round or for every two rounds", the motion was made to refer to the Contest Committee for further study. The motion was carried.

Ted Johnson, Chairman of the Evaluation Committee, presented the report of this Committee:

I am indebted to Jim Brennick, the student representative of this committee, and professors Hazel Scott and John Mendiola for their aid in bringing together the materials for this report.

The first part of this report evaluates the overall planning and organization of the convention. The nature of the general planning materials submitted to the council,

the housing and recreational facilities, the format of the convention, the scheduling of the time for the convention, the scheduling of tours and the contests are specific items referred to in the first part of this report.

The second section of the report evaluates the formal events of the convention. Evaluations of student meetings, judging assignments and speaking contests are the main items covered in the second part of this report.

The third section of this report extracts from the materials presented in the first two sections of the report a number of points constituting what is considered to be some aspects of the basic problem of the convention.

Part I

A. GENERAL PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION

The general level of planning that took place between the University of Houston and the National Council was very comprehensive and very well organized. The format for these plans should be used as a guide for future negotiations between the National Council and host institution. The format of the plans and the high quality of the materials presented constituted an adequate base from which more detailed planning could have been done.

Despite the commendable organization and relative completeness of the general plans for this convention, the convention can be criticized for continuing one of the main weaknesses of the 1969 convention which the 1969 Evaluation and Invitation committees attempted to correct in their respective reports. The 1969 Evaluation Committee in its report stated:

It is felt that housing and dining facilities should be within easy walking distance of convention and tournament meeting rooms. To take a bus from ones' room at 7 o'clock in the morning to return by bus at 9 to 10 at night is not conducive to a good tournament or convention.

The 1969 Convention Invitation Committee recommended that Houston be the site of the 1971 convention and one reason supporting that recommendation was that Houston could provide housing accommodations easily accessible to the campus. The 1969 Convention Invitation Committee stated:

Students will be housed either in two 17-story dormitories that will be open this fall, or in three motels located within a block of the campus or in the Astro-world complex from which buses will run on a regular shuttle for the 10 minute trip.

Because of the statements of the 1969 Convention Invitation and Evaluation Committees, many persons who attended this convention *expected* to be housed in areas easily accessible to the convention and tournament meeting rooms. Needless to say, most coaches and students did leave their rooms at 7 o'clock in the morning to return by bus at 9 or 10 at night.

It is true that many recreational facilities at the University of Houston were made available, were used and did reduce the negative effect of being contained on campus for long periods of time. The University of Houston and Dr. English and his staff should be commended for making available these recreational facilities. Easy access to recreational facilities is desirable at a national convention of this kind.

Nevertheless, many people at this convention expected to have easy access to their housing facilities, and the containment of those persons for long periods of time in a limited geographical area in which those persons participated in highly structured competitive activities, is a questionable way of producing a desirable and enjoyable convention experience. Moreover, improvement in the opportunity to use the recreational facilities of this campus is considered by many to be a poor substitute for enjoying high quality housing accommodations and various service facilities which were said to be within walking distance of those housing accommodations. There seems to be little sense in having quality housing accommodations, surround-

ed by shopping and entertainment facilities, if people are too exhausted and have but little time to use those accommodations. The expectations of those attending this convention, the time spent in highly competitive and structured activities in relationship to the quality of our housing accommodations and the presence of other facilities for entertainment made our separation from those facilities undesirable.

B. FORMAT OF CONVENTION AND SCHEDULING

Convention Format

The format of the convention was said to not reflect what is meant by the term convention. There were some who believed that the term convention would have been better justified had there been discussion groups and presentations of papers and reports concerned with topics vital to the field of communication. The presence of activities of this nature may have added variety and interest to what many felt to be a somewhat tedious experience.

Scheduling — Convention

The scheduling of the convention to take up a full week of school was considered to be unnecessary and suggestions were made to use Saturday and Sunday in place of two weekdays for the convention.

Scheduling — Tours

The tours arranged were considered to be very good. The tours did provide variety and relief and, for many who did not take the tours, some chance for rest and refreshment. Had it not been for tours and the time for relaxation provided by those tours, the pace of the convention for some would have become more difficult. The tours did provide for a few a vacation and entertainment experience. For years many persons attending this convention have requested that a vacation and entertainment experience be made a part of the convention.

Scheduling — Contests

The scheduling of the contests was criticized and did seem to contribute to fatigue and a sense of boredom and futility. There

were requests that in the future the contests be scheduled so as to have 2 or 3 rounds of debate held in succession followed or preceded by 2 or 3 rounds of individual events. Under the present system, any motivation built up by a participant for a specific contest is frustrated by the advent of another contest in the succeeding round. The present system of alternating events also tends to restrict persons from relaxing for sufficient periods of time and experiencing the offerings of the locale in which the convention is held.

Part II THE EVENTS

A. STUDENT MEETINGS

Some students considered their meetings to be of low quality. Many students did not attend meetings. Students claimed they were not aware of when and where meetings were to be held. Students who did attend meetings were not aware of what was to be discussed or how to function in a parliamentary situation. Students who did attend the meetings framed resolutions that were not carefully thought out or constructed beforehand. Unnecessary time was spent in meetings checking wording. Poor communications between students, coaches, those running the tournament and the Council contributed to a sense of confusion and futility over how to affect the course of events and the immediate problems that came to being during the convention.

In the future the convention should be structured to give direction to those student meetings. Lines of communication must be improved to clarify the place and nature of those meetings and to give students — and perhaps coaches — a feeling that they can affect what is taking place around them. The convention program may not be clear in identifying how students could find out where the meetings were to be held. Coaches who are competent parliamentarians may be assigned as parliamentarians to help give direction and meaning to student meetings.

B. THE CONTESTS AND JUDGING

1. Judging of the Contests

Assigning judges became a problem at

this convention. The single judging list system from which all events chairman selected their judges created confusion. Inaccurate recording of the names of those who were to judge added more difficulties. Some persons who directed judges to buildings had inaccurate information as to the identity of the buildings referred to by code letters. Information that certain schools were or were not in attendance was not transferred effectively from those in charge of registration to those in charge of assigning judges. Some judges appeared late or failed to appear. Distance between buildings was not properly estimated to provide time for some judges to move from one assignment to another and, in some cases, there was late posting of judging assignments. A number of judges were asked to evaluate events about which they knew very little.

To solve the judging problem we recommend that the single list system of listing judges be done away with or improved. That the entire judging system be closely supervised, that judges be penalized for failure to appear after a certain time, that communication be coordinated between registration and judging officials, those who give directions as to locale and those who are familiar with the identity of buildings. Runners to carry ballots may help to facilitate co-ordination. A more effective system for providing professional secretarial services would expedite postings.

2. The Contests Debate

Experimental debate received more criticism. Unexpectedly being presented with propositions of fact and value was questioned. Some students felt they were not prepared to deal with these kinds of propositions. For the most part, however, students felt they did not have adequate time to prepare. The content quality of the debates was criticized but the experience of having to construct and organize arguments with dispatch was commended.

Experimental extemporaneous debate should be continued. Participants should be given more time to prepare and the number of experimental debate rounds

should be reduced. A system using value and fact propositions in the early rounds followed by rounds using propositions of policy may be an acceptable approach for analyzing topics.

Debate was generally criticized for not having more quality teams and for being allowed to develop to where technical terminology, mechanical delivery and formulaistic organizational structures created a somewhat ineffective communication experience. Audience debate, participation by judges in the debates were some of the suggestions made to break out of this formulaistic kind of communication.

Discussion

The policy of traveling judges should be retained but improved. Under the present system judges had difficulty in finding discussion groups, spent too little time observing a group and lost valuable observation time in moving between buildings. The value of a 10 to 15 minute observation period by each of five traveling judges is questionable as a valid evaluation.

One possible remedy is to assign the traveling judge to observe two groups located in the same building, devoting half of the session to one group and the other half to the second group. Another alternative would be to assign one judge permanently to remain with a group for all four sessions and for a different traveling judge each round to remain with the group for the entire session.

Oratory

Orators were criticized for seeming to be disinterested, detached, cold and highly formulaistic in delivering speeches.

Suggestions were made to have participants pay less attention to accurate memorization of manuscripts. It was also suggested that a round of oratory be devoted to reading from the manuscript.

Oral Interpretation

1. It was suggested that code letters and numbers be used to identify schools entered in oral interpretation.
2. To improve the quality of material presented in oral interpretation, more

explicit categories of materials should be delineated by the rules of the contest and a theme should be used as a core for the presentation of poetry, prose and drama. The chairman of the oral interpretation contest committee offers specific recommendations regarding this matter.

3. It also seems to be important that judges who appreciate oral interpretation be scheduled to judge that event.

Extemporaneous Speaking

The primary problem with extemp was a matter of scheduling and posting. Illness of the contest chairman seemed to be the principle cause. At least one experienced person should be used to back up a chairman of an event. In any case, close supervision of a contest committee must exist.

Part III

THE PROBLEM AND ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM

The Problem:

How to efficiently utilize and, or, change convention machinery to create an environment placing more emphasis on personal freedom to improve a learning experience.

Aspects of the Problem:

1. Containing persons for long periods of time away from their housing accommodations or away from the offerings of the locale of the tournament is undesirable.
2. Improvement of the present structures for communication and coordination are needed. Cooperation between registration officials, judging officials, contests officials, and local officials should be improved. Perhaps new coordinating and communication structures, and/or changes in the format of contests should be considered.
3. Adequate supervision of experienced as well as inexperienced persons in the details of planning seems to be necessary.
4. Experienced persons who can predict trouble must be used whenever possible to back up the chairman of contest committees.

5. A major effort should be made to solve problems when signs of those problems first appear.

Respectfully submitted,
Ted C. Johnson

A motion to vote on each part of the report separately was defeated. The report was accepted.

The following recommendation was introduced from the floor by Dave White of the Colorado Beta Chapter:

WHEREAS, the National Convention of Pi Kappa Delta should provide the maximum opportunities for the efficient conduct of fraternity business and for a pleasurable experience for all the delegates, and;

WHEREAS, the present schedule of combining the performance of convention business and tournament competition on the same day precludes the achievement of the aforesaid objectives,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That this body recommend to the National Council that the Council maximize its efforts to achieve the following objective: That the format of the National Convention of Pi Kappa Delta be revised to provide for a division of the convention period into distinct segments, with blocks of time set aside exclusively for conducting convention business, and blocks of time set aside exclusively for holding the tournament, not to exclude meetings at which competing delegate are not required nor encouraged to attend."

The recommendation was seconded and carried.

Diana Marshall, appointed to replace student Council member Karen Marshall, presented an oral report on some of the difficulties students reported on in their meetings. These centered around time and place of meetings being inadequately publicized and arranged, and the problem of transportation to and from the Ramada Inn and the Royal Coach. Reference was

made to the improvement in extempore speaking procedure in the final round.

John Cliff, student Council member presented a summary report of student meetings in the form of two recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION No. 1: The National Council should investigate, and modify if necessary, the rules of extemporaneous speaking to maximize the efficient conduct of this contest. Specific attention is directed toward five specific problem areas:

1. Distribution of topics
2. The post-speech questioning period
3. Timekeepers
4. Contestants staying in the room until the round is over
5. The schematic for sectioning and the requirement that it not be done until the preceding round is completed.

This recommendation was approved by the convention.

RECOMMENDATION No. 2: The National Council should investigate the desirability and feasibility of a competitive event which consists of different schools running the different convention contests.

This recommendation was voted upon and lost.

William deMougeot, Chairman of the Convention Invitation Committee, submitted the following report:

According to the rotation system established at the 1969 convention, the 1973 convention was to be held in the Eastern provinces, numbers 7, 9, and 11. Despite letters and follow-up efforts through the province governors, no bids to host the 1973 convention were forthcoming from that area. Shortly before the convention, and during the past week, efforts have been made to solicit bids from the upper Midwest as well as from the East. As a result, we have a firm bid from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and three "maybes". In none of these cases has sufficient time elapsed for the preparation of all materials

which enable a committee to make an intelligent recommendation, nor have all the schools which might respond to an invitation open to something other than the Eastern area been given a chance to respond.

It is the opinion of this committee that it would be unwise and unfair for this organization to approve a convention site for 1973 on the basis of the information currently available. We therefore offer the following recommendations:

1. That the deadline for submission of invitations be extended to June 1, 1971.
2. That any chapter in provinces 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8 of the Central area, and in provinces 7, 9, and 11 of the Eastern area be permitted to submit an invitation for the 1973 convention directly to the National President, with the understanding that such invitations must be sufficiently complete to enable the National Council to make a final decision.

3. That the National Council be authorized to make the final decision without further action by the member chapters.
4. That chapters in the aforementioned areas be asked to give particular attention to the possibilities within their area of using a convention center, such as a large hotel, with administration by nearby colleges, instead of the single campus concept usually used by Pi Kappa Delta.
5. Finally, that should the 1973 convention be awarded to a site in the Central area, the Eastern provinces should be permitted to bid for the 1975 convention, along with the Central area.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. deMougeot, Chairman
Seth Hawkins
Wayne Wall

The report was approved by the convention.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



English Introducing the Convention Speaker — William English, Director of Forensics and able Convention coordinator, host school University of Houston.



Winning Team in the Championship Cross-Examination Division — Dave White and Kathy Ramage, University of Northern Colorado. This successful team (rumor has it they are engaged to each other) defeated Eastern Montana in the final round.



SUPERIOR DISCUSSANTS: Joanne Gehring, Linda Bell, Irvin Johnson, Karyl McCurdy, Keith Jones, David Kluge, Robert Reichenberg, Ronald De Abreu, Julia Moore, Leon Washington, Jeffrey Burns.

DISCUSSION

SUPERIOR SCHOOLS

Bradley
S. I. U. — Edwards
Ia. Tech.
Frostburg
Towson
William Jewell
Chadron
Dakota Wes. U.
Stephen Austin
Stout State
W. S. U. — Eau Claire

EXCELLENT SCHOOLS

Harding
Harding
Pasadena
S. F. V. S. C.
Central Conn.

Wheaton
K. S. C.
Sterling
Sterling
N. W. Ia.
N. W. Ia.
U. S. L.
U. S. L.
St. Olaf
De'ta St.
Evangel
William Jewell
Chadron
U. of Nevada
Ohio Northern
Calif. State
Grove City
Texas A. & I.
W. S. U. — Eau Claire
W. S. U. — Whitewater



SUPERIOR TEAMS IN CROSS-X DEBATE: (Front Row) Steve Schoenmakers and Dennis Green, South. Colo.; Kathy Raniage and her partner directly behind her, Dave White, Northern Colo.; Tim Christie and Randy Rose, E. Montana; (Second Row) Michael McAdam and Mike Bowen, Rockhurst; Ira Garrison and Mike Melton, U of Houston.

CROSS-X DEBATE

SUPERIOR SCHOOLS

So. Colorado
Rockhurst
U. of Houston
E. Montana
No. Colorado

EXCELLENT SCHOOLS

No. State
Wheaton
Okla. State

Gust. Adolphus
U. T. E. P.
Washburn
U. of Akron
Youngstown
Augustana Ill.
Bowling Green
U. of Dayton
Marietta
Ill. Wesleyan
Augustana S. D.
Ft. Hayes
U. of S. W. La.



SUPERIOR SPEAKERS IN ORATORY: Anna Wuertenberg, Vicki Babington, Randy Pose, Anne Talbot, Patrick Cox, Irene Brzostek, Frank LaFasto; Jim Scheu, Jeanne Tognetti, Steven Scott, Bill Brown, Ron Jeffrey, John Tracy, Ed Roy, Pat Warren.

ORATORY

SUPERIOR SCHOOLS

Cent. Conn. State
Bradley
Ill. Wesleyan
U. S. La.
Frostburg
Southeast Mo.
Southeast Mo.
Montana State
Chadron State
Akron U.
Linfield
David Lipscomb
Tenn. Tech.
McMurry

EXCELLENT SCHOOLS

U. of Pacific
Adams State Colo.
Colo. State
Colo. State
Northern Colo.

Western State
Cent. Conn. State
Bradley
McMurray
S. I. U. — Edward
Wheaton
Coe College
Macalester
Moorhead
Moorhead
S. W. Minn.
Cent. Mo.
Heidelberg
Okla. B. U.
Augustana S. D.
Dak. Wesleyan
No. State S. D.
No. State S. D.
Carson — Newman
S. F. Austin
S. F. Austin
U. T. E. P.
W. S. U. — Eau Claire