

Illinois Speech and Theatre Association

President's Report – 2006-2007

B. J. Lawrence

1. The 2006-2007 year focused on two areas of importance to ISTA:
 - A. I worked closely with the Department of English at Bradley University to assist in developing and approving new curriculum for their teaching majors in Fine and Language Arts. I provided information on textbooks, vital areas of curriculum focus and suggested communication activities for their teacher education students.
 - B. My other area of focus during the year revolved around the promotion of ISTA and our members.
 1. In behalf of ISTA, I nominated Anna Oxborrow for the 2007 Outstanding New Teacher Award presented by the Central States Communication Association. Anna was one of three new teachers and the only high school teacher presented with the award. ISTA was represented during the award ceremony at CSCA on March 30, 2007.
 2. I assisted with the nomination of Tina Winings for the Mracella E. Oberle Award for Outstanding Teaching in Grades K-12. The National Communication Association sponsors the award. Tina will be presented this outstanding award on November 17, 2007, during the 93rd annual NCA convention in Chicago.
 3. I coordinated the submission of the top three panels from the 2006 ISTA convention to the States Advisory Board for presentation at the Central States Communication Association convention March 29-31, 2007. Named the top state panel was "Communicating in MySpace". Also selected for presentation were "A Review of the Institute of Reader's Theatre" and "Spreading the Word on the Importance of Communication".
 4. Emailed congratulations to Ellie Marvin, Normal West High School for receiving the WEEK-Channel 25 Golden Apple award for outstanding teaching.
 5. I submitted a Spotlight Panel from ISTA for the 2007 NCA convention.

2. I represented ISTA at the 2006 NCA and the 2007 CSCA States Advisory Council meetings and presented the state report of our organization at both meetings. I was elected Vice Chair of the States Advisory Council replacing Doug Jennings.
3. The ISTA Executive Board addressed issues of the future of the organization through Long Range Planning and convention planning sessions.
4. I worked with Ed Jodlowski on the 2007 convention and programs.

Respectfully submitted.

B. J. Lawrence, President
2006-2007 Illinois Speech & Theatre Association

**2007 SDTC Annual Report
October 18, 2007**

(1) 2007-2008 STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT COMMISSION:

2007-2008 SDTC Chair:

Christina Tallungan, Glenbrook North HS
Office Phone Number: 847-509-2648
Email: ctallungan@glenbrook.k12.il.us

2007-2008 Commission:

Josh Brown, Homewood-Flossmoor High School
Anthony Gonzales, Belleville East High School
David Song, Oak Park-River Forest High School
Vince Willaredt, Granite City High School

(2) ISTA JV/Novice State Championship Tournament

The JV/Novice State Tournament continues to foster a State Championship competition opportunity for the upcoming talent in Illinois in Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Student Congress.

OLD BUSINESS (generated from Discussion Notes from the 2006 Spring Meeting at IHSA):

(1) Scheduling for JV/Novice State Tournament:

-The issue was raised that rising numbers in the tournament are causing the SDTC to add an Octafinal round to novice policy and to novice LD. Adding that octafinal policy debate round causes the tournament to go until approximately midnight on Saturday evening.

-In order to lessen the impact of the late schedule, the ISTA tournament did lag power match the fourth and fifth preliminary debate rounds. However, the tournament still ran until approximately midnight on Saturday evening.

-There was a proposal to hold the tournament over three days, but a couple of schools said that they would not be able to attend if the tournament was held over three days.

-There was no resolution to this issue except to continue with the same schedule for the 2008 tournament and to continue to lag power round 5 off of rounds 1-3.

(2) Student/Judge Conduct at Tournaments

-This issue was raised at the IHSA tournament meeting as well. Several coaches vowed to remind their students and judges of appropriate conduct and to impress upon judges and coaches what the implications are if people do not follow tournament rules and procedures.

-Misbehavior has risked the existence of the tournament in the past because schools can not host the tournament when property is destroyed or vandalized.

(3) Official Protest Process

-Coaches backed the creation of an official protest process for the JV/Novice State Tournament.

-The creation of this protest process is not the central goal of the SDTC for the 2007-2008 year.

(4) Judging Requirements for JV/Novice State Tournament -

-At the 2007 JV/Novice State Tournament, 1 adult judge was used in each of the JV debate rounds in LD and in policy. This was a change from the previous policy of having 2 students judge the JV division. We received positive feedback from the community regarding this change. There was a concern that this change would unduly increase school expenses to attend the debate tournament since coaches have to pay adult judges, but do not have to pay student judges. After the tournament, there was no feedback that this deterred people from attending the tournament; in fact, numbers, overall increased at the tournament in 2007.

(5) Trophy Quality

-There was a concern raised by a couple of coaches that the quality of the trophies had regressed. As the Chair, I will look into getting "grander" trophies for the tournament, but that the trophies will be constrained by the budget. The 2008 trophies will have an engraving recognizing the 35th Anniversary of the tournament.

2007 JV/Novice State Tournament

Dates: March 9-10, 2007

Location: Homewood-Flossmoor High School

2008 JV/Novice State Championships:

Dates: March 7-8, 2008

Location: Belleville East High School

New Features for JV/Novice State Tournament

-Summer Camp Awards for Novice Policy Top Speaker and the

Novice Policy Champions sponsored by Northwestern University and the

University of Michigan, respectively

-\$500 College Scholarship for one senior

2009 JV/Novice State Championships:

Dates: March 6-7, 2009

Location: Glenbrook North High School

2300 Shermer Road

Northbrook, IL 60062

(3) SDTC Membership and Mission

Membership to the SDTC has grown from previous numbers. We are constantly looking to help foster debate programs across Illinois. One of the primary functions is to create a basic network of debate coaches across Illinois that can support new coaches as well as promote healthy connections between experienced coaches and well-established programs.

If you know of local schools starting debate programs or turn-over of head coaching responsibilities in established programs, please have them contact Christina Tallungan via email at ctallungan@glenbrook.k12.il.us and/or via phone at 847-509-2648.

2007-2008 Goal for SDTC: The SDTC will work to maintain and establish a clear basis for its continued relevancy to its constituency through the following measures that will be implemented this year:

- (a) Award 1 college scholarship that will be given to a senior at the JV/Novice State Tournament
- (b) Establish successor to Chair
- (c) Create Mission statement for SDTC
- (d) Establish an official protest policy for the JV/Novice State Tournament

The 2007-2008 SDTC Goal will be implemented:

- (a) initially, through continued email communication between the members of the State Debate Tournament Commission;
- (b) secondly, by soliciting community feedback regarding proposals, via email and at a meeting at the Homewood-Flossmoor Tournament;
- (c) lastly, by presenting the official scholarship policy, the successor to the Chair, the SDTC mission statement, and the official protest policy to the ISTA Board members.

Creation of the 2008-2009 SDTC Goal:

This goal should be set at the 2008 JV/Novice State Tournament and, from here on, should be set at a meeting at the JV/Novice State Tournament each year for the following year.

(4) ISTA Continues Financial Support to Send an IL Representative to the NFHS Topic Selection Committee Meeting

On August 25, 2006, the ISTA Board moved to support an annual honorarium of \$200 to be given one individual who attends the NFHS Topic Selection Committee as a

voting representative for Illinois. The individual must be a current ISTA member during the year that she/he attends the NFHS Topic Selection Committee as a voting representative for Illinois to receive the honorarium.

This honorarium will be deducted from the SDTC budget and sent to the Illinois representative in August each year.

Thank you to Christina Tallungan of Glenbrook North High School who diligently served as the Illinois representative at the 2007 NFHS Topic Selection Committee Meeting in August.

For more details about the honorarium or becoming the Illinois representative at the NFHS Topic Selection Committee Meeting, please contact the SDTC Chair (see contact info above).

(5) SDTC Budget

Per the August , 2007 Treasurer's Report, the SDTC has a balance of \$4,105.00. The year's expenses and deposits are as follows:

Date	Description of Debit or Deposit	Deposit Amount	Debit Amount	Balance
	Starting 2007 Balance			\$2,500.00
3/20/07	C.Tallungan (Judge Prizes)		\$90.00	\$2,410.00
3/20/07	Andrew HS Fees Refund		\$30.00	\$2,380.00
3/20/07	Tournament Fees	\$4,285.00		\$6,665.00
3/20/07	New Trier Fees Refund		\$225.00	\$6,440.00
3/26/07	Image Specialties (Trophies)		\$2,082.00	\$4,358.00
3/29/07	Josh Brown (Food)		\$340.00	\$4,018.00
4/2/07	Morgan Park Fees Refund		\$25.00	\$3,993.00
6/18/07	Fees Deposit	\$112.00		\$4,105.00
	2007 Final Balance			\$4,105.00

