



China Debate
Education Network



January, 2014

From:

Robert Trapp, Tournament Director

Teresa Green, Assistant to the Tournament Director

Zeng Qingxi and Luo Miao, Local Hosts

**Huang Tingting and Zeng Qingxi, Chief Adjudicators
for English and Chinese**

RE: Invitation to participate in China Open Debate Championships 2014

Friends,

On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to invite you to participate in the 5th Annual China Open Debate Championships held in May 9-11, 2014.

The China Open is the China Debate Education Network's (CDEN) premier international competition in China, aiming at contributing to thriving debate communities in China and encouraging interactions among debaters. Colleges and universities from every part of China and from outside China are invited and encouraged to join the event.

The first four China Debate Opens were successfully held in Xi'an (2010), Qinhuangdao (2011), Shanghai (2012), and Xi'an (2013). This upcoming year's China Open will venture to Chengdu and will be hosted by Sichuan University (SCU). The China Open will feature a diverse group of trainers, competitors and judges.

The tournament offers Worlds Style debate (also known as British Parliamentary Debate) as well as Moot Court. Worlds Style debates will be divided into Mandarin and English divisions. Moot Court will be conducted in English. CDEN and SCU are committed to establishing the China Open 2014 as one of China's best debate events, one that is rewarding for all involved.

Although with a relatively young history, Worlds Style debate has been spreading fast across Mainland Chinese universities in recent years. We are honored to host this year's competition to get Chinese debaters further engaged in Worlds Style debate, and to provide a platform, on which every debater, judge, and educator can have intellectual discussion, intercultural exchange as well as mutual understanding.

Registration Information:

1. Team Cap: 200 teams (100 team cap in Chinese-language debate, 100 team cap in English-language debate, and 24 person cap in Moot Court). Each school is initially limited to 4 teams, only 2 of which can be in the English division. As an incentive for entering the Chinese division, a school is allowed to enter an extra English team for every Chinese team entered, to a maximum of 4 English teams. Thus a school that enters 2 Chinese teams can also enter 4 English teams.
2. As usual, no registration fee is charged, but expenses of lodging and accommodations are borne by participants themselves.
3. No more than 40 debaters who are native English speakers will be allowed to register for the tournament. These 40 debaters will be chosen on a first-come, first-serve basis. We encourage all of the native English debaters to join “friendship” teams with Chinese students. If any native English debater decides to partner with another native English speaker, they will not be allowed to advance to elimination rounds.
4. Native English speakers are welcome to register as a judge for the China Open.
4. Registration will take place online at <http://forensictournament.net>
5. Each school must provide at least one qualified judge. Furthermore, each school must provide one judge for every two teams or portion thereof. Thus, an entry of 1 or 2 teams requires 1 judges and an entry of 3 or 4 teams requires 2 judges. To well ensure the number and the quality of judges and to benefit all debaters, we warmly welcome experienced debaters and to join us as judges. Please contact us if you are willing to come.

Accommodation and Transportation:

For details on transportation and accommodation, please contact to Zeng Qingxi 曾庆熹 at zengqingxi@foxmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you in Chengdu. If you have any questions or concerns you can contact us at: idea@willamette.edu