



**2025 “THE MENDOZA
DEBATES AT LEE COLLEGE”
SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2024 - BAYTOWN, TX**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Lee College, the faculty of the TASKS Division, and the competitors of the Lee College Debate Team, I would like to cordially extend an invitation for you to attend the **2025 “Mendoza Debates at Lee College” in Baytown, TX on September 26-28, 2025**. For those of you who have never been to the Baytown area this will be a great chance to get the lay of the land prior to the 2025 IPDA National Championship Tournament.

The competition will feature both TIPDA and IPDA (Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity, and Professional) in a single kickoff weekend. In addition to our four Team Debate rounds, there will be SIX preliminary rounds of individual competition on Saturday. AJ Edwards of University of California – San Diego will be serving as the tournament’s Tab Director.

All entries must be received by **Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at 5:00 pm** via ForensicsTournament.net. Changes will be accepted via FTN without charge until **Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.** at which point fees will be set. Late fees will be charged for any changes after the 18th at noon (in addition to any fees associated with the entry).

We’ll be serving complimentary pizza on Saturday, with a designated lunch break on the schedule, and we believe the schedule will permit you all to have a reasonable end time that evening. Our hope is that this will be an excellent chance for colleges and universities in the mid-South to have an accessible option for your novices to have their first tournament experience and for your varsity competitors to get into their groove. Pre-tournament updates will be distributed via the IPDA Listserve and FTN.

In the pages that follow, you’ll find all the details for the “Mendoza Debates at Lee College”. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Cordially,

Joe Ganakos
Director of Forensics, Lee College
jganakos@lee.edu
281.425.6502

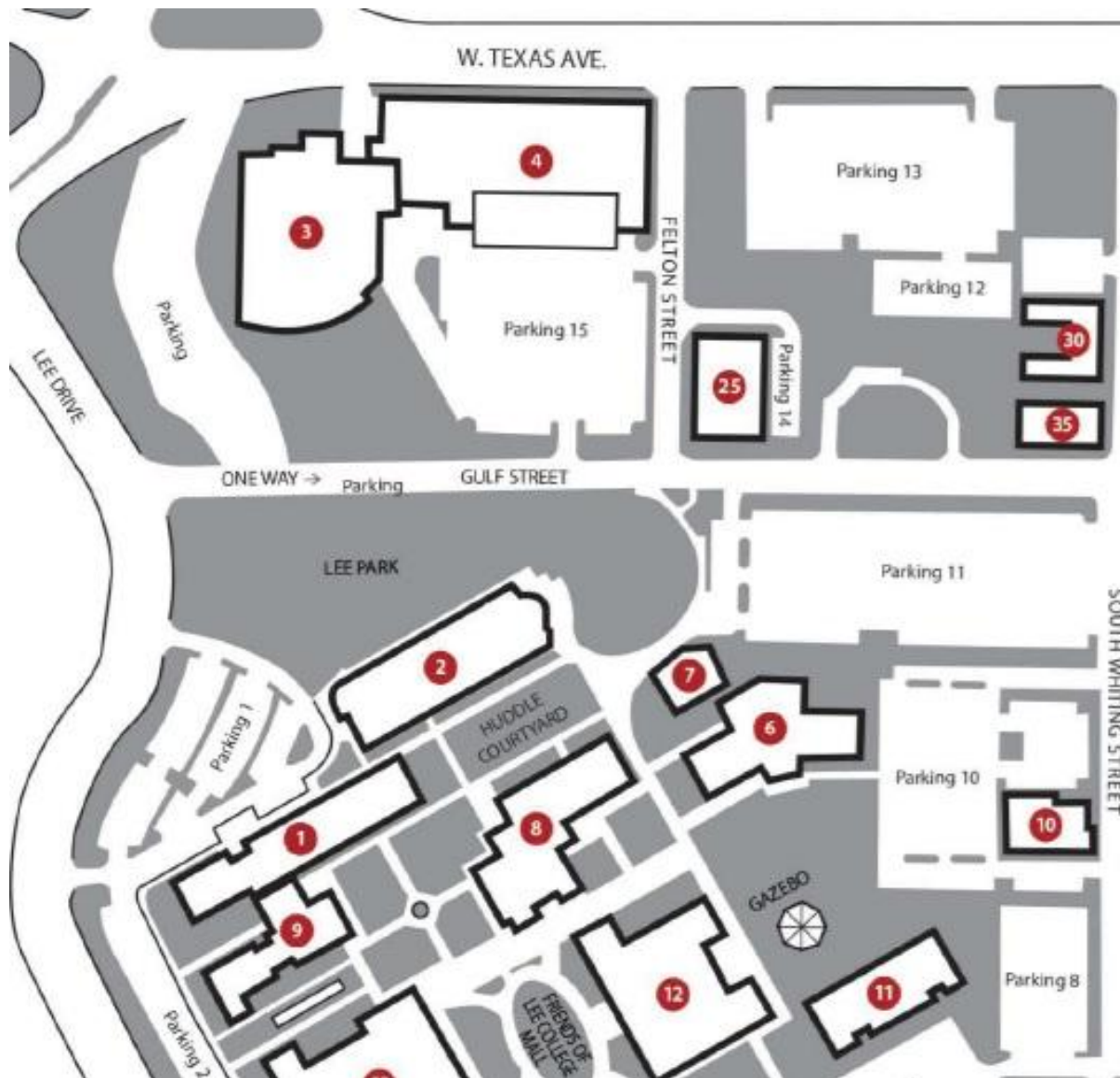
Rigo Ruiz
Head Debate Coach, Lee College
rruiz@lee.edu

HOTEL INFORMATION: We have arranged an official tournament hotel with La Quinta Inn in Baytown, conveniently located off I-10 and approximately 15 minutes from campus. We strongly encourage you to use the State/Government rate when reserving hotels. There are several other hotels within 20 minutes of the Lee College campus, easily accessible from I-10, and near shopping and dining that you may wish to consider:

La Quinta Inn	281.421.5566
Baymont Inn & Suites	281.839.1400
Hampton Inn	281.421.1234
Days Inn	281.421.2233
Days Inn – Baytown East	281.573.1400
Comfort Suites	281.421.9764
Sleep Inn	281.421-7200
Econo-Lodge Inn & Suites	281.837-5560

If you have questions regarding alternative lodging please call me for more options.

ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION: Registration will be in the first-floor lobby of the Lee College ATC & Library (“2” on the map below) located at 150 Lee Drive, Baytown, TX. Each team will be provided a welcome packet with a schedule, map, and information about local restaurants and activities. Parking lots 1 and 11 are the most convenient to Registration and your prep rooms. Awards will be in Rundell Hall (“1” on the map below).



PARKING: No parking passes will be required for the duration of the tournament. We anticipate ample parking for cars and vans with handicapped-accessible parking convenient to all facilities.

DIRECTIONS: The Lee College physical address is 200 Lee Drive, Baytown, TX 77520; registration, tab room, prep rooms and most competition rooms will be in the Advanced Technology Center & Library located at 150 Lee Drive.

FROM HOUSTON, TX

1. Take I-10 East to Spur 330 (Baytown).
2. Exit Spur 330 to Decker Drive.
3. Follow Decker Drive for approx. 1.5 miles as it merges with Market St. and turn left on Lee Drive.
4. Parking Lot 1 for the ATC Building will be your second left (across from Baytown Centennial Park).

FROM TOURNAMENT HOTELS

1. Take Garth Road from the intersection of Garth Road and I-10.
2. Turn left on Decker Drive and it will merge into Market St.
3. Turn left on Lee Drive.
4. Parking Lot 1 for the ATC Building will be your second left (across from Baytown Centennial Park).

MEALS & STUDENT SERVICES: Since most of the tournament falls on a weekend preceding the beginning of the semester, our campus food service will be closed for the majority of the tournament. Numerous options for quick dinners will be available convenient to both the campus and hotels we've recommended. In addition to complimentary pizza on Saturday, we can provide options for food delivery as well. Vending machines will be available in all buildings.

AWARDS: Awards will be presented to all elimination round participants in all events. Awards shall be presented to the top five speakers in each debate division. The three top programs and the top community/junior college shall receive awards for Sweepstakes. In addition, we'll be continuing to offer the "Mendoza Cumulative Sweepstakes" award.

SCHEDULE: We've elected to start early enough on Saturday to permit all prelim rounds to be done that day. Sunday's schedule should permit a less hectic drive home for all regional programs.

Friday, Sept. 26

11:00-11:30	Registration: TIPDA / IPDA
11:45	TIPDA Round 1
1:15	TIPDA Round 2
2:45	TIPDA Round 3
4:15	TIPDA Round 4
6:15-6:35	Coaches' Review
6:45	TIPDA Quarterfinals
8:15	TIPDA Semifinals

9:00
10:00-10:30
10:45
12:15
1:45
2:15
3:45
5:15
6:45

Saturday, Sept. 27

TIPDA Finals
Registration: IPDA Only
IPDA Round 1
IPDA Round 2
Lunch Break (Free Pizza)
IPDA Round 3
IPDA Round 4
IPDA Round 5
IPDA Round 6

8:30-8:50
9:00
10:30
11:00
12:15
1:30

Sunday, Sept. 28

Coaches' Review
IPDA Elim 1
Awards
IPDA Elim 2
IPDA Elim 3
IPDA Elim 4 (if needed)

EVENT INFORMATION:

A. General Information

1. No minimum number of entries is required for schools to count toward debate sweepstakes awards.
2. We will provide ADA accommodations upon request; please let us know at the time you enter if you need any special arrangements.
3. The tab room will operate on a closed basis until Coaches' Review.
4. WiFi login information will be provided at the time of registration. PLEASE ask your teams to refrain from any non-tournament related use to provide the best possible service.

B. IPDA/TIPDA Considerations

1. Please adhere to all rules expressed in the Bylaws and Constitution of the IPDA.
2. In order to keep the tournament running on time, please remind your competitors that they should activate their timers when draw begins, not after the strike process ends.
3. Please remind your judges that electronic devices are NOT permitted for anyone in a round,' including the judge.

C. Tournament Ethics Statement

1. The behavior of all attending the Mendoza Debates at Lee College will be in keeping with the [NCA Policy on Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct](#). We encourage all programs to review these expectations prior to entering this tournament.
2. The Mendoza Debates at Lee College expects that behavior between all participants, coaches, judges, and guests be respectful and appropriate at all times. If any participant has concerns over propriety or good sportsmanship, they should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach, judge, or guests should address any concerns with the Tournament Director exclusively.
3. As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that any decision issued by the Tournament Director is binding and final.

JUDGES: One judge during debate rounds covers 4 IPDA debaters or two TIPDA pairs. As is commonplace in IPDA, once eliminated from competition, IPDA competitors may be used to judge IPDA elimination rounds. All judges are obligated to judge one round beyond the elimination of their program. If you do not bring judges, you will be charged additional fees. For the first time ever, we definitely need your judges more than the fees; PLEASE assist us to the greatest degree possible. We will reserve the power to limit entries to make certain we can provide sufficient judging pools needed to keep clean rounds throughout the tournament.

ENTRIES & DEADLINES: All entries must be received by Tuesday, September 23rd at 5:00 p.m. at. Changes will be accepted without charge until 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 24th at which point fees will be set. Late fees of \$5.00 per alteration will be due for any changes after Wednesday, September 24th at noon (in addition to any fees associated with the entry) through Thursday, September 25th at 11:59pm. Any changes made on the day of registration will be subject to a fee of \$20.00 per alteration, correction, or drop.

Entry fees are as follows:

IPDA (Covered)	\$25.00 per IPDA
IPDA (Uncovered)	\$20.00 additional for each uncovered IPDA entry
TIPDA (Covered)	\$45.00 per TIPDA entry
TIPDA (Uncovered)	\$35.00 additional for each uncovered TIPDA entry

PAYMENTS: For payments, you may:

- Pay in cash at the time of registration.
- Pay via card at time of registration.

Entry confirmations will be available via FTN to all coaches on Wednesday, September 24th by 11:59pm.