LAWRENCE DEBATE UNION
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

106 YEARS OF SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER
World’s most used debate training website -- Rated #1 for “debate” by Google

http://debate.uvm.edu

Lawrence Debate Union Team Website

http://debate.uvm.edu/ldu.html

LDU Newsletter

http://debate.uvm.edu/vofelist.html

LDU’s regular television program – 302 shows!

http://debate.uvm.edu/flashpoint.html

Summer training program – http://debate.uvm.edu/wdi.html
2004-2005 BANQUET PROGRAM:
  Reception  
  Dinner  
  Welcome  
  Senior Speeches  
  Special Awards  
  Annual Prizes  
  Farewell  

Edwin Lawrence wanted a banquet to be held at the end of each debate season to celebrate the forensic experience. Every spring we invite a few honored guests and all LDU parents to join us for a good time. A booklet about the year is prepared, seniors say good-bye, there is a minimum of oratory, and the various prizes for debate achievement may be distributed. Substantial cash awards accompany many of these prizes. These awards are distributed based on service to the LDU and others on the team, and achievement in representing the LDU and UVM in analysis and performance. A committee appointed by the coaches gives out these awards.

BRIEF HISTORY OF DEBATE AT UVM:  
NOW 106 YEARS OLD  

Intercollegiate debate at the University of Vermont began in 1899 when Edwin W. Lawrence ’01 started the University of Vermont debate team. Throughout the early part of this century debate was a constant part of life at UVM. After the Second World War, a cohesive national level of debate competition began to take shape, and Vermont was an important force. Dr. Robert Huber came to UVM in the late 1940's, and throughout the 1950's and 1960's he led the Vermont debate team to national dominance, including national titles at all levels. During this time, Edwin W. Lawrence gave generously to the University to establish an endowment for the debate team and a professorial chair to teach forensics and work with the team — which became the Lawrence Debate Union. The 1980's replaced the doldrums of the 1970's with a revitalized and successful debate team stressing education, competition, and service. Throughout the 1980's and 1990's UVM has been a consistent top national competitor. Since the award was created five out of the eight East Region Debater of the Year awards have gone to UVM students. During this period UVM has national championships in Novice Debate. Junior varsity Debate, and Public Debate, and has placed as high as Third in Varsity Debate and as high as Fifth in the National Sweepstakes race. This is doubly impressive because the vast majority of our opponent schools have extensive scholarship programs for talented high school debaters and a substantially larger budget, while
UVM has students with little or no high school experience and very high travel costs. Success in the 21st Century is possible through a community of students, staff, faculty, alumni volunteers, and friends.

**ORGANIZATION OF THE LDU:**

The LDU is an endowed, co-curricular program at the University of Vermont located within the Speech and Debate program of the Department of Theatre. It is directed by the Lawrence Professor of Forensics and coaches hired by the University.

Members of the LDU are UVM students enrolled in at least six hours of undergraduate study per semester and who are working toward a Bachelor’s degree. Members are expected to attend meetings, participate meaningfully in one of the three LDU areas of emphasis, provide information to the coaching staff about academic schedules and standing, and follow through on voluntary verbal commitments.

The LDU has active partnerships with the Community College of Vermont, St. Michael’s College, Middlebury College, and Burlington High School.

The coaching staff is composed of debate experts who teach debate, explore issues, and coach students to win in competition and in life. They are overworked and underpaid.

The primary budget for the LDU is the income generated each year by the Lawrence Fund to Encourage and Develop Debating. It is our generous bequest from Mr. Lawrence, and as such, the LDU is responsible for the highest standards of good stewardship. It may or may not be completely spent in any given year, and unspent funds are rolled forward to the next year.

The Student Government Association also sponsors the LDU. A small sum of money each year is used to travel and to promote community debates. For these purposes, the LDU elects a student as S.G.A. Coordinator each year, and these funds are spent as directed by the S.G.A.
2004-2005
DEBATERS

Zoe Anderson  
Andrea Aeschlimann  
Julia Benjamin  
Brandan Bisson  
Hallie Brox  
Jacqui Callanan  
Paul Campbell  
Bent Cardan  
Shane Clark  
Kris Crown  
Brady Fletcher  
Nathan Gagnon  
Megan Harlow  
Abram Harrison  
Chris Heilman  
Jason Hitchcock  
Ashley Hogan  
Curlene Hunte  
Matt Jokajtys  
Leslie Keller  
Stephanie Kimerer  
Kuhn Kim  
Sam King  
Nick Landsman-Roos  
Sheila Limprevil  
Carly Lehrer  

Robert Len  
Jake Meany  
Matt Mantone  
Mike McMahan  
Ethan Nelson  
Bill Ottman  
Edwin Owusu  
Toni Pignatelli  
Chris Preble  
Karen Quill  
Timm Reimer  
Aimee Rosato  
Paul Schaefer  
Nathan Shappy  
Matthew Silverman  
Emily Sanders  
Justin Turco  
Carlos Varela  
Tu Vu  
Kamener Whalen  
Chase Whiting  
Jason Williams  
Tarik Yeasir

COACHES

Justin Green, supporter  
Teresa Hill, alum  
Charles Hoag, alum  
Jen Knops, alum  
Adam Lee, supporter  
Greta Lockwood, alum  
Jillian Marty, alum  
Mike Malone, alum  
Eric Mates, alum  
Helen Morgan Parmett, alum  
Justin Morgan Parmett, faculty  
Alfred Snider, faculty  
Abigail Trebilcock, alum  
…and others!  
L. J. Palardy, Office Manager
2004-2005 TRAVEL

Buffalo, NY
Rochester, NY
Cambridge, MA
West Point, NY
Istanbul, Turkey
Ormuz, Slovenia
Oklahoma City, OK
Winston-Salem, NC
Amherst, MA
Denton, TX
Dallas, TX
Ithaca, NY
Evanston, IL
Binghamton, NY
Washington, DC
San Francisco, CA
Spokane, WA
Ljubljana, Slovenia

COACHES OF THE YEAR!
MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

#6 Debate Program in America, 2004-2005 season, Cross Examination Debate Association national sweepstakes.

Junior Varsity National Champions – Jason Hitchcock & Jake Meany

Novice National Champions – Leslie Keller & Megan Harlow, Brady Fletcher & Stephanie Kimerer

Nick Landsman-Roos named to the Cross Examination Debate Association All American Debate Team, 2004-2005.

First Place Sweepstakes – East Region Championship Tournament

First Place – District 8 NDT Qualifier Tournament – Jason Hitchcock & Nick Landsman-Roos

Helen & Justin Morgan Parmett named Eastern USA “Coach of the Year”

Helen Morgan Parmett voted to judge Final Round at CEDA Nationals

Many other awards too numerous to mention.

VERMONT DEBATE BY THE NUMBERS

651 2 1/2 hour competitive debates on energy policy means:

97,650 minutes of debating, 1627.5 hours of debating, 67.8 days of debating, and 2.26 MONTHS OF DEBATING!

PUBLIC DEBATES AND EVENTS

Poetry Slams, Speak Out, Hosted four debate tournaments, regular television program.

JV NATIONALS CHAMPS – NOVICE NATIONAL CHAMPS
OTHER ACTIVITIES

FLASHPOINT
Weekly television show on Burlington Channel 15, Wed. 12:30 PM, Thur. 10:30 PM, Sat. 1 PM. 302 different shows so far. Now also available on the Internet.

INTERNATIONAL DEBATE TRAINING
Slovenia, Turkey.

WORLD DEBATE INSTITUTE
Four week intensive summer debate program held for over 20 summers. In 2004 had over 200 students.

DEBATE CENTRAL debate.uvm.edu
Rated #1 by Google! The Internet's largest and most complete resource for debate related instructional, theoretical, organizational, and reference material. 24,000 hits a day, used by 72 countries, at http://debate.uvm.edu/

THE VOICE OF EDWIN
Our weekly newsletter available to any and all. Let us know if you would like a mail or email subscription.

URBAN DEBATE LEAGUES
Working with 15 cities bringing debate teams to inner city high schools.

PARTNERSHIPS
Asian Studies Outreach Program, UVM
Burlington High School
Corporacion Cultural de lo Barnechea, Chile
Cross Examination Debate Association
English Speaking Union, UK
Free Debate Club of Belgrade, Serbia
Inner Mongolia Normal University, China
International Debate Education Association
Kyung Hee University, Republic of Korea
National Forensic League
Vermont Debate and Forensic League
Vermont Principals Association
World Debate Organization
Za in Proti, National Debate Program of Slovenia

DOUBLE FIRSTS AT ROCHESTER – LDU COACHES PAST & PRESENT
FRIENDS OF THE LDU

Ken Barton, Thrifty Car Rental
Andrea Comtois, Theatre Dept.
Andrew Hendrickson, A&S Computing
Karen McGregor, Vermont Community Access Media
Barbara Mercure, Facilities Scheduling
Jeff Modereger, Theatre Dept.
Wes Wright, CIT

PATRONS OF THE CAUSE

Matthew Byrne, IL
Sallie Chafer, WV
Mike Calore, CA
Nicholas Danigelis, UVM
Steve Dolley, DC
Glenn Ellingson, CA
Laura LaPierre Ellingson, CA
Claudia Greenman, NJ
Jethro Hayman & Cleopatra Jones, NY
Paul Kerr, DC
John Meany, CA
Lindsey Melander, DC
Chuck Morton, MD
Col. Eric Nelson, VA
Pam Peck, OR
Sam Press, VT
Erynne Ross, IL
Maxwell Schnurer, NY
Rae Lynn Schwartz, IA
Paula Skowron, RI
Noel Selegzi, NY
Bojana Skrt, Slovenia
Mimi Supernaw, VA
Lord Watson, UK
Cheryl Wilson, VT

DONATIONS TO THE LDU ARE WELCOME AND TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Nakobe Morgan Parmett
WE WILL REMEMBER

WILL MILLER
An activist role model who inspired generations of UVM students, and especially debaters.

JOAN SMITH
A Dean who really understood the value of debate and wasn’t afraid to stand up and say so when the chips were down.