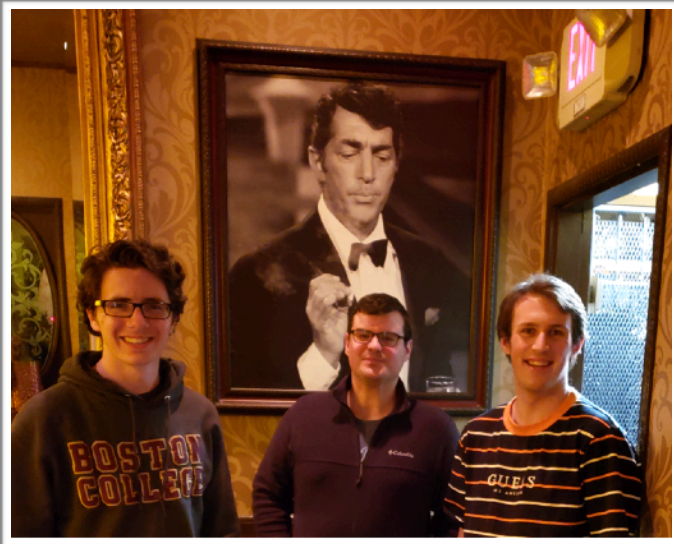


# THE FULTONIAN

## ADA Nationals

*Fultonians Reach Semi-Finals*



*Cross Conrad '23, Coach Adam Lee, and Louis Gleason IV '23  
at The Golden Steer Steakhouse in Las Vegas*

Boston College advanced to the semi-finals in novice at the American Debate Association's (ADA) National Tournament held at the University of Las Vegas during March 6-8, 2020.

Cross Conrad '23 and Louis Gleason IV '23 compiled a 4-2 record during the preliminary rounds defeating teams from Monmouth University, University of Mary Washington, University of Houston, and they received a bye in round 2.

In the octo-finals, BC was locked on the negative side versus Liberty. This was a revenge match for Conrad and Gleason as this was the same Liberty team that defeated them in a 2-1 decision in the quarter-finals at the Northeast regionals at New School. Utilizing virtually the same negative strategy, BC defeated Liberty in a decisive 3-0 decision.

BC met George Mason in the quarter-finals. George Mason won the coin flip and chose to debate on the affirmative. Conrad and Gleason were delighted as they were loaded for bear with negative

### Greetings from the Heights

This issue of *The Fultonian* reports on some of the activities during the 2019-2020 academic year. Highlights include reaching the semi-finals at ADA Nationals and competing in a parliamentary debate tournament in Dublin, Ireland. We also inducted five Fultonians from the 1970s into the Fulton Debate Hall of Fame.

The disruption of Fulton Debate activities due to the coronavirus pandemic is also covered.

As always, we hope you enjoy reading *The Fultonian*.

*John Katsulas  
and Adam Lee*

arguments. The first negative speech by Gleason was so devastating that the second affirmative speaker from George Mason used almost all of his team's preparation time. In a swift decision, all three judges voted for BC.

In the semi-finals, BC faced another Liberty team. BC won the coin flip and choose to debate on the affirmative. Due to some poor time allocation decisions in the first affirmative rebuttal, BC lost to Liberty in a 3-0 decision.

At the ADA awards banquet, Louis Gleason IV was voted by his peers as the best novice debater for the 2019-2020 season.

Over the course of the season, Gleason won numerous speaker awards and reached the elimination round at every tournament he attended. This includes the quarter-finals at five tournaments: George Mason, the ADA Fall Championship, US Naval Academy, Monmouth, and the Northeast Regionals at New School.

2019-2020 DEBATE TOPIC:  
SPACE COOPERATION WITH  
CHINA AND/OR RUSSIA

The intercollegiate debate topic for 2019-2020 was “Resolved: The United States Federal Government should establish a national space policy substantially increasing its international space cooperation with the People’s Republic of China and/or the Russian Federation in one or more of the following areas:

- arms control of space weapons;
- exchange and management of space situational awareness information;
- joint human spaceflight for deep space exploration;
- planetary defense;
- space traffic management; or
- space-based solar power.

Fulton debaters advocated a plan to cooperate with Russia for the removal space debris from Low Earth Orbit (LEO) by developing active debris removal (ADR) technology. The two most promising ADR technologies are to use lasers to zap space debris or to deploy a robotic vehicle to drag space debris to a lower orbit where it would burn up in the atmosphere.

This affirmative case claimed two advantages. First, it argued that removing space debris was vital to preserving a safe and usable outer space environment. In the status quo, the amount of space debris is increasing at an alarming rate. Every day, new satellites are being deployed, which is increasing the density of outer space and making collisions of space objects more likely. Soon, the space environment is nearing a

condition called the Kessler Syndrome, whereby space debris collisions will generate a cascading amount of debris, potentially disabling civilian and military satellites.

The harms the affirmative claimed to losing access to civilian satellites included reducing agricultural production. This relies upon receiving information from global positioning satellites (GPS) to determine where and how often to apply water, fertilizer, and pesticides to crops. Degrading communication with civilian satellites would also damage the U.S. economy. Satellite access is vital to using the internet, making financial transactions, operating navigation systems, monitoring the weather, and regulating smart grid systems that power electrical utilities.

The harms to space debris hitting military satellites include inciting an accidental nuclear conflict. Accidental war is possible because nations may not be able to attribute in a quick period of time that the loss of a military satellite was caused by space debris, and not by an attack by a hostile state. A tit-for-tat retaliation against space assets could escalate to a full-scale military conflict.

The second advantage argued that unilateral deployment of active debris removal (ADR) technology by the U.S. and Russia would create misperceptions and increase the risk of conflict in space. ADR technology is inherently dual-use—meaning it can have both civilian and military applications. For example, the robotic arm for a spacecraft to remove space debris could just as

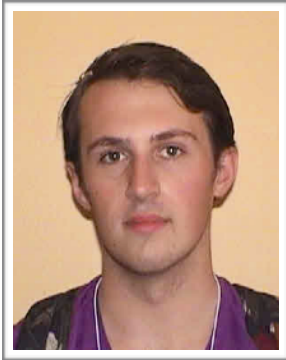
easily be deployed to grab and drag down an operating satellite. Therefore, the affirmative argued, the joint deployment of ADR technology by the U.S. and Russia would avoid misperceptions because both nations would be cooperating when removing any space debris.

This affirmative case was more defensible than others for three reasons. First, there was very good evidence to prove that Russia would cooperate with the United States to remove space debris. Second, since 67% of space debris in LEO was owned by Russia, the United States, acting unilaterally (which is the best counter-plan), could not solve the majority of the problems. Third, it was harder to link unique disadvantages to this plan because the United State has on-going space cooperation programs with Russia, including on the International Space Station and future efforts to explore the Moon.



*Louis Gleason IV '23 was honored as the Novice Debater of the Year by the American Debate Association*

GLEASON WINS THE DUFFY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEBATE



*Louis Gleason IV '23*

The Kevin P. Duffy Award for Excellence in Debate honors the long and distinguished service of Dr. Kevin P. Duffy, Vice President of Student Affairs at Boston College from 1976 to 2000.

Louis Gleason IV '23, an economics major from Danvers, Massachusetts, is the 2020 recipient of the Duffy Award.

Louis won numerous speaker awards this year, including earning top speaker honors at Monmouth and sixth speaker at the U.S. Naval Academy. At the ADA Nationals tournament, he was voted as the best novice debater of the year.

His best tournament finish was semi-finals at the ADA Nationals. Louis advanced to the elimination round in every tournament that he attended, including reaching the quarter-finals at five tournaments.

CONRAD WINS THE QUINN AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING FIRST YEAR DEBATER

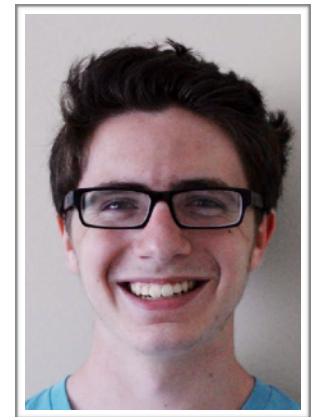
The Joseph F. Quinn Award for Outstanding First Year Debater was created in 2007 to celebrate the service of Dr. Joseph F. Quinn, who is currently the James P. McIntyre Professor of Economics. From 1999 to 2007, Dr. Quinn was the much beloved Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a strong supporter of both the liberal arts and the Fulton Debating Society.

Cross Conrad '23, an economics and philosophy major from Hartland, Wisconsin, is the 2020 recipient of the Quinn award.

Cross earned numerous speaker awards, including second place at Monmouth and tenth speaker at Navy.

Debating with Louis Gleason, he reached the double-octos at West Point, the quarter-finals at George Mason, Navy, Monmouth, Northeast Regionals, Fall ADA Championship at Wake Forest, and the semi-finals at ADA Nationals.

Cross also participated as a member of the Boston College Crew Team.



*Cross Conrad '23*

WHITE WINS THE MCLAUGHLIN AWARD FOR PUBLIC DEBATING



*Lauren White '22*

The Joseph T. McLaughlin Award for Outstanding Public Debater was created in 2010 to celebrate the legendary career of Joseph T. McLaughlin, a Fultonian who reached the final round of the National Debate Tournament in 1964, along with winning numerous national tournaments and speaker awards.

Lauren White '22, a philosophy major from Weatherford, Texas, is the 2020 recipient of the McLaughlin award. She was a member of the BC team that competed in the Edmund Burke International Debating Competition in Dublin, Ireland.

Lauren also participated in tournaments sponsored by the American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA) at Boston University, Northeastern University, and Wellesley College, and a British Parliamentary style tournament held at Brandeis University.

EDMUND BURKE INTERNATIONAL  
DEBATING COMPETITION

Lauren White '22 and Anara Chiongbian '20 traveled to Dublin, Ireland to represent the Fulton Debating Society in a parliamentary debate tournament during March 1-2, 2020 hosted by Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. The competition was part of a week-long celebration of the 250th anniversary of the College Historical Society (popularly known as "The Hist").

Founded in 1770, The Hist was inspired by a club organized by the philosopher Edmund Burke during his time in Trinity in 1747. The Hist is the oldest surviving undergraduate student society in the world. It set the model for debating societies throughout the British Isles and United States. Prominent members of The Hist include Oscar Wilde, Samuel Beckett, and Bram Stroker.

Sixteen teams from fifteen colleges debated in the tournament. The participating institutions included Boston College, Regis University, Cornell University, Yale University, University of Oxford (UK), University of Notre Dame, French Debating Association (FRA), University of Edinburgh (Scotland), Harvard University, University of Denver, University of Cambridge (UK), Queen's University Belfast (UK), King's Inn (Dublin), two teams from the University College, (Dublin), and Trinity College, (Dublin).

The format for the debates followed a modified version of the British Parliamentary style. In every

debate, ten students participated and each delivered a seven minute speech. The Government side (two teams, with a total of four debaters) argued in favor of the motion. The Opposing side (two teams, with a total of four debaters) argued against the motion. The final two speeches were delivered by two individual speakers called the proposing and opposing speakers.

One of the distinguishing features of the British parliamentary style is to allow speakers to raise a Point of Information (POI). The Dublin debates utilized POIs. A speaker could choose to accept or reject any POI request by waving them off. The first and last minutes of each speech were considered "protected time," and no POIs could be requested.

Everyone debated in three rounds. The three motions debated were, "This House believes that money is the root of all evil" (round 1), "This House believes that the democratic experiment has failed" (round 2), and "This House believes that Utopia is a fool's quest" (round 3).

All three preliminary debates were held in the Graduates Memorial Building. This neo-Gothic Victorian building, constructed in 1897, is the home to three of Trinity College's oldest student societies: the University Philosophical Society (the Phil), the College Historical Society (the Hist) and the College Theological Society (the Theo).



*Group photo of the debaters taken in the Trinity College Public Theatre*



*Lauren White '22 speaking in the Debating Chamber of the Dublin College Historical Society*

EDMUND BURKE CONTINUED

The Judges scored each debate round by awarding 3 points to the first place team, 2 points to the second place team, 1 point to the third place team and 0 points to the fourth place team. The two individual speakers were assigned speaker points.

After each debate, the judges gave oral critiques but did not disclose how they rated any of the teams or individuals. Although the organizers promised that ballots containing the ratings of the teams and individuals would be distributed at the end of the tournament, no results were disclosed. Therefore, BC had no idea how well they did.

The tournament broke directly to a final round. The motion for the final debate was, “This House believes that universities are failing society.” The final round debate was held in the Trinity College Public Theatre.

The top four rated teams competing in the final debate were from The Hist, Trinity College, Dublin (Opening Government), Literary and Historical Society, University College, Dublin (Opening Opposition), Literary and Historical Society, University College, Dublin (Closing Government), and University of Oxford (Closing Opposition).

The top two individual speakers were Ren Tillbury (Durham University) and Benjamin Hoffner-Brodski (Harvard).

The judging panel for the final round was chaired by Justice George Birmingham, President of the Irish Court of Appeals. Presiding with him, were Ted Smyth (ex-Auditor of The Hist), Marion Cameron (CEO Sipi Metals Corp.), Caitríona Ni Bhriain (TCD Hist Representative at the World Universities Debating Championship), and Kevin Brennan (Convener of the *Irish Times* IT Public Speaking Competition).

Cora Keegan and Shane Sweeney from the Literary and Historical Society from the University College, Dublin (Opening Opposition) were declared the winner of the final debate. Benjamin Hoffner-Brodsky from Harvard (Opposing Speaker) won top individual speaker honors.



*Anara Chiongbian '20 with the President of Ireland, Michael Higgins*



*Lauren White '22 and Anara Chiongbian '20 touring the Irish Whiskey Museum (after the competition was finished)*

NEW HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES FOR THE DECADE OF THE 1970s

Our five new Fulton Debate Hall of Fame inductees for the decade of the 1970s are John J. MacMillan '74, Robert P. Baker '72, Jane Osborne (McKnight) '75, Michael Reilly, '76, and John Meany.

Our first inductee is John (Jack) J. MacMillan. Jack came to Boston College as a superstar high school debater. Debating for BC High School, he won the Catholic Forensic League National Tournament (with Richard Lewis, the 1969 NDT winner from Harvard).

Debating for Fulton Debate, MacMillan won many trophies debating with a variety of partners: 2nd at Emory in 1969 (with Baker), 2nd at Georgetown in 1971 (with Mary Ellen Raux), 5th place, Oberlin in 1971 (with Martin Moleski), semi-finals at Georgetown in 1969 (with Hoenig), quarter-finals at Dartmouth in 1969 (with Hoenig), octo-finals at Harvard in 1971 (with Baker), quarter-finals at Georgetown in 1970, (with Baker) and 5th place novice nationals in 1969 (with Baker).

Jack MacMillan also qualified for the NDT in 1970 (with Robert Baker) and in 1971 (with Robert Hoenig). He won the Gargan Medal in 1969.

After graduating from Boston College with a philosophy degree, Jack earned an MBA from the University of New Hampshire. He taught economics and management classes at the University of New Hampshire and Granite State College.

Our second inductee is Robert P. Baker, who qualified for the NDT twice (1971, 1972) and won two Fulton Medals (1971, 1972), along with a Gargan Medal in 1970. He also served as Fulton President (1971-1972) and Vice President (1970-1971).

Debating with Jack MacMillan and Jane Osborne, Baker compiled a stellar debate record (those results appear under MacMillan and Osborne). Additionally, in 1970, he was named 3rd speaker at the highly prestigious Brandeis Tournament and advanced to the octo-finals (with Mary Ellen Raux).

In 1972, Baker graduated from BC with a degree in political science and communication; he was the commencement speaker at his graduation.

After BC, Baker attended Harvard Law School, where he earned a JD in 1975. While at Harvard, he

participated in the prestigious Ames Moot Court competition. This moot court contest occurs over a two-year period where teams of six law students write appellate briefs and then make their arguments before judges. In the fall of 1974, Baker's team reached the final round and argued their case before a panel of three judges headed by Thurgood Marshall, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

After graduating from Harvard, Baker practiced law in Boston for two years. He then moved to Los Angeles and began a highly successful career as a litigator and partner in several law firms. In 2005, Baker opened his own law office in Santa Monica, California.

Robert Baker is widely regarded as one of the preeminent lawyers in California. In 2020, Expertise Services named him as one of the top 20 litigation lawyers in Los Angeles. He received the designation of "Super Lawyer" for the years 2005 to 2009 and 2017 to 2020 by the *Los Angeles Magazine*.

Our third inductee is Jane Osborne (McKnight). Jane became the first female to qualify for the NDT in 1972 (with Robert Baker). That same year, she reached the quarter-finals of the Harvard tournament (with Baker).

In 1973, Jane Osborne set another milestone by being the first female to win the Fulton Medal in the Fulton Prize Debate. The prior year, she won the Gargan Medal.



*Jane Osborne '75*

HALL OF FAME CONTINUED

As a Fulton member, Jane also participated in individual events and numerous public debates held on-campus. In 1974, she placed third in Original Oratory at the University of New Hampshire.

After graduating from BC in 1975, Jane earned two post-graduate degrees: a Master’s in City and Regional Planning from Harvard and a JD from UCLA. Returning to New England, she established her own private law practice in Shelburne, VT.

Our fourth and fifth inductees are John Meany and Michael Reilly, the most successful Fulton Debate team of the 1970s. Meany and Reilly qualified for the NDT in 1974 and 1975.

During their sophomore year, Meany and Reilly debated as a team at ten tournaments. They won the New England Forensic Championship (hosted by University of New Hampshire), placed second at Brown, West Point, and the District Tournament (hosted by UMass, Amherst), and reached the double-octos at UCLA and Seton Hall.

That same year, Reilly debated at six other tournaments (for a total of 16) and Meany debated at five others (for a total of 15). Debating with Mike Tannert, Meany finished second at Columbia and advanced to the quarter-finals at Dartmouth. Reilly, debating with Marc Thibodeau, made it to the quarter-finals at Brandeis.

In their junior year, Meany and Reilly became the only team in Fulton history to earn a First-Round At-Large bid to the National Debate Tournament (NDT). Beginning in 1973, the NDT established a new method for qualifying. Before the district qualifying tournaments were held in March, debate teams would submit their records to the NDT Committee, who would rank the performances of all the teams. The top sixteen teams would receive automatic bids to compete at the NDT.

During the 1974-1975 debate season, Meany and Reilly were ranked as the tenth best debate team in the first round balloting. The top ranked team that year was Tom Rollins and Bradley Ziff of Georgetown.

Thanks to the diligence of Mike Reilly and his wife, they were able to locate a copy of the Meany and Reilly debate results for 1974-1975 attached to Mike’s law school application.

If this was not enough to be worthy of the Hall of Fame, both Meany and Reilly had other accomplishments. John Meany served as Fulton President for three years (1973-74, 1974-75, and 1975-76) and won two Gargan Medals (1973 and 1974).

Mike Reilly won the Fulton Medal in the 1975 Prize Debate and served for two years as Vice President (1974-1975 and 1975-76).

After graduating from BC, Mike Reilly earned his JD from Boston College Law School and he now works as an attorney in Boston at the law offices of Tommasino and Tommasino.

John Meany pursued a career as a debate coach for several programs before being hired in 1987 as the Director of Forensics at Claremont McKenna College.

While at Claremont, Meany has enjoyed tremendous success as a coach of parliamentary debate. In 2002, he co-authored (with Kate Schuster) a very influential book on teaching parliamentary debate called *Art, Argument, and Advocacy: Mastering Parliamentary Debate*.

**John Meany and Michael Reilly**  
**1974-1975 Debate Record**

- MIT, quarter-finals
- University of Kentucky, octo-finals
- University of North Carolina, quarter-finals
- Emory University, 2nd place
- University of Houston, octo-finals
- Catholic University Round Robin, 4th place
- Georgetown, semi-finals
- UCLA, quarter-finals
- Redlands, semi-finals
- Harvard, octo-finals
- Northwestern, semi-finals
- Heart of America at the University of Kansas, octo-finals

**CORONAVIRUS IMPACT ON FULTON DEBATE**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, Boston College announced on March 12th that all classes held on campus would be canceled and transitioned to online instruction beginning on March 19.

This forced the cancellation of the Fulton Prize Debate, which was scheduled for April 27.

The pandemic wreaked havoc everywhere, and led to the cancellation of every debate tournament after ADA nationals, including the National Debate Tournament, Cross Examination Debate Association Nationals, and the Atlantic Coast Conference Debate Tournament.

Next year, it is all but certain that every debate tournament will be conducted on-line, including ADA Nationals and the NDT. This April, the University of Kentucky demonstrated the feasibility of holding an on-line debate tournament by conducting its Tournament of Champions tournament on-line without experiencing any problems.

If BC resumes classes in the Fall of 2020 with students physically present, Fulton Debate plans to hold two Fulton Prize Debates—with one in the Fall and another one in the Spring. Given social distancing requirements, the debates will likely take place in Gasson 305 (the Fulton Debate Room) without an audience.



*Cross Conrad '23 and Louis Gleason '23 with speaker awards and quarter-final trophy at Navy*

**The Fulton Debate Society  
of 2019-2020**

- Sophia Carter '22
- Anara Chiongbian '20
- Conner Coles '20
- Cross Conrad '23
- Ben Dewhurst '21
- Louis Gleason IV '23
- Ado Jean-Noel '21
- Daniel Moyer '20
- Noah Valdez '21
- Lauren White '22
- Nicholas Wong '20
- Claire Wortsman '20

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**Fulton Debate Web Site**

[www.bc.edu/fultondebate](http://www.bc.edu/fultondebate)

Detailed biographies of our Hall of Fame members can be found on the Society's web site:

[https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/sites/fulton-debate-society/awards.html#fulton\\_debate\\_hall\\_of\\_fame](https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/sites/fulton-debate-society/awards.html#fulton_debate_hall_of_fame)

**Fulton on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/groups/237990206258288/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/237990206258288/)

**NDT Alumni Newsletter**

(with story about BC in 1964 final round)  
<https://nationaldebatetournament.org/alumni/>