

# THE FULTONIAN

## BC Wins Districts:

*Qualifies to Attend the 67th NDT*



*Ted Kontopoulos and Sullivan McCormick finish first at Districts!*

Sullivan McCormick '15 and Ted Kontopoulos '15 won the District 8 Qualifying Tournament held at Western Connecticut State during February 23-24, 2013, qualifying them to attend the 67th annual National Debate Tournament (NDT) hosted by Weber State in Ogden, Utah during March 28-April 1, 2013.

The District 8 qualifying tournament is 8 rounds with two-judge panels. The six teams with the most ballots qualify for the NDT. Along with BC, schools competing at this year's tournament included Army (2 teams), Bard, Binghamton (2 teams), City University of New York (2 teams), Cornell, Dartmouth (2 teams), New York University (2 teams), University of Rochester, and Western Connecticut (2 teams).

McCormick and Kontopoulos dominated the competition by winning an impressive 15 of 16 ballots. They won the ballots of both judges in their

debates against CUNY, Cornell, Dartmouth, Rochester, Army (versus both teams), and New York University. The only ballot they lost was to Bard in round 3.

The six teams qualifying for the NDT from District 8 were Boston College, 15-1; Dartmouth, 11-5; Army, 11-5; Binghamton, 10-6; Dartmouth, 10-6; and Rochester, 9-7. New York University was the first alternative with an 8-8 record; Bard was the second alternate. Harvard also qualified 2 teams via a first round-at-large procedure which awards bids to the top 16 teams prior to the district tournament.

Fultonians from the 1980s might recall that Weber State hosted the NDT in 1988 (Lisa Marie Ameden '90 and Chris Gassett '89 represented Boston College) and that Dartmouth defeated Baylor in the final round. In 2013, history did not repeat itself, as Emporia State defeated Northwestern on a 3-2 decision.

### Greetings from the Heights

As Boston College celebrates its 150th anniversary, Fulton Debate celebrates its 145th anniversary. According to Charles Donovan's, S.J. history of Fulton Debate, Father Robert Fulton, S.J., started the debate team in 1868 when he deemed there were enough mature students to sustain a viable debate squad.

This issue of *The Fultonian* reports on some of the activities of the Society during the 2012-2013 academic year. Highlights include the 121st Fulton Prize Debate, continued tournament success (including winning the district tournament and qualifying for nationals), and a tribute to departing coach, Patrick Waldinger.

THE 121ST ANNUAL FULTON PRIZE DEBATE

The 121st Annual Fulton Prize Debate was held on May 2, 2013 in Gasson 305. The topic for the debate was, “Resolved: The Department of Energy should approve all applications for natural gas exports to non-Free Trade Agreement nations.” The judges were Mario Powell, S.J., (2000 Fulton Medal winner), Rita Rosenthal (Communication professor), and Dr. Dale Herbeck (Director emeritus).

Debating on the affirmative side and arguing in favor of exporting natural gas were Stephen Ferguson ‘15 (first affirmative speaker) and Sullivan McCormick ‘15 (second affirmative speaker); debating on the negative side were Michael Holland ‘14 (first negative) and Ted Kontopoulos ‘15 (second negative).

The Natural Gas Act stipulates that permits for exports should be issued unless the Department of Energy (DOE) finds that the approval is “not consistent with the public interest.” Natural gas exports to countries that have free trade agreements with the US automatically meet this standard, but exports to nations without free trade agreements are reviewed on a case by case basis to determine if they are consistent with the public interest. While 16 companies have filed permits to export natural gas to non-FTA nations, only one company, Cheniere Energy, has been granted a permit as of May 2, 2013. (Note: After the Prize Debate, the DOE granted a second export license to a terminal in Quintana Island, Texas.)

The affirmative offered two justifications for approving all natural gas exports. First, it argued that restrictions on natural gas exports violated free trading rules under the World Trade Organization (WTO). To support global free trade, the United States generally does not place restrictions on its exports and objects when other countries impose export restrictions. Therefore, restrictions on exporting natural gas, the affirmative argued, will undermine the very clear free trading position taken by the United States at the WTO and cause other nations to place restrictions on exporting their natural resources.

Second, the affirmative argued that exporting natural gas would help the Japanese economy, which is experiencing high energy costs since the closure of its nuclear plants after the Fukushima accident. The affirmative pointed out that Japanese Prime Minister Abe has been practically begging the United States to approve natural gas exports as soon as possible. The affirmative argued that exporting natural gas from the United States would lower Japan’s energy costs by five fold. This would strengthen the Japanese economy and make it a stronger partner in promoting regional security in Asia.

The negative side refuted the trade leadership advantage by making two points. First, it argued that no country had filed a complaint against the United States alleging that its export restrictions on natural gas violate the WTO. So, the fear of this policy establishing a precedent for resource nationalism was baseless.

Second, it argued that the case by case review for approving natural gas exports to non-FTA countries does not violate the WTO. The negative stated that WTO rules allow countries to provide preferential trade privileges to FTA members, despite the WTO rules on non-discrimination. Therefore, the United States is allowed to use a different method of approving natural gas exports for non-FTA nations.

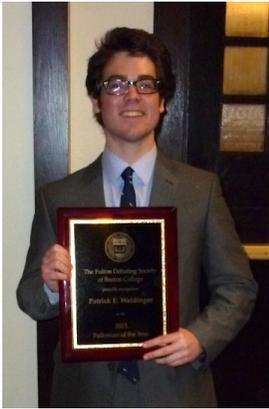
As for the Japan advantage, the negative argued that Japan was pursuing a cheaper alternative for obtaining natural gas, which was to develop the infrastructure for exporting gas from Canada. Since Canada is closer to Japan, the lower transportation costs would enable Japan to buy cheaper gas from Canada.

In a 3-0 decision, the judges voted for the affirmative and awarded the Fulton medal for top speaker to Sullivan McCormick. Second place speaker, along with the Gargan medal, went to Michael Holland.



*2013 Fulton Prize Debate  
From left: Michael Holland, Sullivan McCormick, Patrick Waldinger, Ted Kontopoulos, and Stephen Ferguson*

McCORMICK WINS THE DUFFY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEBATE



*Sullivan McCormick '15*

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 from 1976 to 2000, and a professor in the Lynch School of Education from 2000 to 2007.

Sullivan McCormick '15, a history and English major from Carrollton, Texas, is the 2013 recipient of the Duffy Award. This year, he qualified for the National Debate Tournament and he won the Fulton Medal at the Fulton Prize Debate. McCormick also reached the elimination rounds at national tournaments held at the University of North Texas, the University of Texas at Dallas, and the United States Naval Academy. McCormick and his partner finished in first place at the District Eight Qualifying Tournament and he won numerous speaker awards.

McCormick is also a talented orator. He captured 3rd place honors in the Leonard Persuasive Speaking Contest sponsored by the Communication Department.

KONTOPOULOS WINS QUINN AWARD FOR 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 currently is an economics professor and the Interim Provost. 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.

Ted Kontopoulos '15, a political science major from Glenview, Illinois, is the 2013 recipient of the Quinn Award. Ted transferred this year from the University of Texas, Dallas, making him eligible for the Quinn award as a first year debater at BC. Along with qualifying for the NDT, Ted won numerous top speaker awards, including 3rd speaker at the district tournament, and 14th speaker at the University of Texas at Dallas tournament.



*Ted Kontopoulos '15*

ALLEN WINS THE McLAUGHLIN AWARD FOR PUBLIC DEBATING

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

Patrick Allen '13, a computer science major from Rochester, Minnesota, is the 2013 recipient of the McLaughlin Award. Patrick began competing as a novice in policy debate tournaments but found his groove when he joined the public debate program. He participated in numerous public debates, including matching wits with the Vice-President of PETA in a spirited public debate.

One of the reasons Patrick transitioned into the public debate series was that tournament travel interfered with his entrepreneurial activities. Patrick has a very bright future as a venture capitalist. As a sophomore, he won the \$100,000 MIT Entrepreneurship Competition, and this year, he won the top \$20,000 prize at the Boston College Venture Competition.

Patrick is the co-founder and CEO of Phyre, a company that will manufacture and market a portable data device to enable conference presentations to interact seamlessly on television and display screens.



*Patrick Allen '13*

WALDINGER HONORED AS FULTONIAN OF THE YEAR; LEAVES BC FOR MIAMI



*John Katsulas and Patrick Waldinger  
at the 2013 National Debate Tournament*

At the Fulton Prize Debate, Patrick Waldinger was honored as the 2013 Fultonian of the Year. In the fall of 2005, Fulton Debate was fortunate to hire Patrick Waldinger as its debate coach. He came with excellent credentials. Patrick was an excellent college debater at Catholic University. He won the varsity division of the American Debate Association (ADA) national tournament that was hosted in 2003 by Boston College. Patrick received his Master's degree in Communication at Wake Forest where he also coached their debate team.

Over the past 8 years, Patrick Waldinger has made enormous contributions to Fulton Debate—as a coach, mentor, and teacher to hundreds of students. In his presentation speech, Sullivan McCormick noted that during Waldinger's coaching tenure, Fulton Debate qualified 9 teams to the NDT and won 20 tournaments, including notable first place triumphs at West Point (2012) and the ADA National Championship in Junior Varsity (2010).

However, his excellence as a debate coach captures only a small part of Waldinger's influence. So Fulton Debate asked Brendan Benedict '12, (currently a Georgetown law student) who debated from 2008 to 2012, for his recollections of working with "Dinger":

*"It's finals time at law school, and when I heard this particular coach would be the Fultonian of the Year, I remembered those times, sitting in the debate office during finals, where I would watch*

*his students stop by to drop off their last papers. And even though he taught this elective class mostly for non-majors, and even though most of his students had never seen a debate, people would bring him gifts. He'd ask about their summers and their futures. He offered recommendations to everyone. This is pretty rare at BC. And this speaks to what makes him not only an outstanding coach, but also a caring mentor. He'd inspire you before the round, he'd live and die by your wins and losses, but he'd also have a beer with you and make sure your life is going well. He was not only there for me in my professional milestones – he was there for me in my personal milestones – when I fell for a girl, or got into law school, or lost someone close, he'd be there with a smile and a joke. Which reminds me – he's one of the funniest people I've ever met. One of his greatest hits: 'the key to debate is winning, because then you win.' I think the key to debate is people like Patrick Waldinger, and I'm proud to call him a coach and a friend."*

Next year, Patrick Waldinger will be joining the University of Miami, Florida, as their Assistant Director of Debate. Fulton Debate thanks Patrick for his years of devoted service and wishes him good luck in his new position (except, of course, when Miami debates against Boston College).



*Patrick Waldinger at the  
2013 American Debate Association Championship  
hosted by Wake Forest University*



**CELEBRATING THE "DINGER."**  
Fultonians, faculty, and friends gather to thank Patrick Waldinger.



**ONE FINAL SPEECH.** The "Dinger" reflects on his time with Fulton Debate.



**PARTNERS.** Leandra Lopez and her boyfriend, Patrick Waldinger.



**CHEESECAKE.** It would not be a Fulton Debate function without an elegant dessert baked by John Katsulas.



**GIFTS.** One of many "tokens of affection" given to the "Dinger" by the Fultonians.



**PEARL JAM.** John Katsulas pays homage to Patrick Waldinger's questionable taste in music.



**ONE FINAL MEAL.** The Fultonians enjoy one final meal with the "Dinger."



**KING SULLIVAN.** Who says that Fultonians don't enjoy dressing up?



**ONE FINAL HUG.** Leslie Douglas cannot resist the temptation to give Patrick one final squeeze before he departs for Florida.



**COMM FACULTY.** Colleagues celebrate Patrick's years at Boston College.



**MORE FACULTY.** Bill Stanwood and Ashley Duggan are all smiles.



**FINAL PHOTO.** Leandra Lopez and Patrick Waldinger pose with Rick Sanger and Bonnie Jefferson.

THE DEBATE TOPIC:  
ENERGY PRODUCTION

The intercollegiate debate topic for 2012-2013 was “Resolved: The United States Federal Government should substantially reduce restrictions on and/or substantially increase financial incentives for energy production in the United States of one or more of the following: coal, crude oil, natural gas, nuclear power, solar power, wind power.”

Affirmative cases advocated under this topic included promoting next generation nuclear reactors, expanding offshore oil and gas drilling in the outer continental shelf, establishing a feed-in-tariff to create long-term purchase contracts for solar and wind, extending the production tax credit for wind power, reducing restrictions on testing airborne wind energy systems, and promoting solar and wind power on native lands.

Without a doubt, the most common affirmative case was to have the Department of Defense (DOD) enter into purchase power

agreements to buy electricity from small modular reactors (SMRs). This affirmative claimed two advantages. First, it argued that acquiring small modular reactors would solve for grid reliability problems (i.e., DOD depends on power from the unreliable civilian grid) and improve the military’s ability to conduct overseas military operations. Second, it argued that U.S. development and export of SMRs would prevent the spread of more dangerous reactors that are more prone to causing accidents and nuclear proliferation.

The Fultonians advocated a plan to export natural gas to non-free trade agreement nations (see the Fulton Prize story for an explanation of this case). While the natural gas exports case was difficult to defeat on substance, the Fultonians did lose their share of debates on topicality.

Some judges were misguided in believing that allowing natural gas exports was an indirect financial incentive, and thereby, effects topical.



*Ted Kontopoulos and Sullivan McCormick at the 2013 National Debate Tournament*

The  
Fulton Debate Society  
of 2012-2013

- Michael Allen '15
- Patrick Allen '13
- Stephen Ferguson '15
- Andrew Francisque '14
- Matthew Gruby '16
- Michael Holland '14
- Ted Kontopoulos '15
- Matthew Maerowitz '14
- Sullivan McCormick '15
- Sean Seaver '16
- Nathan Shnipes '14
- Raven Tillman '14
- Alexander Tingle '14

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**Fulton Debate Web Site**

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

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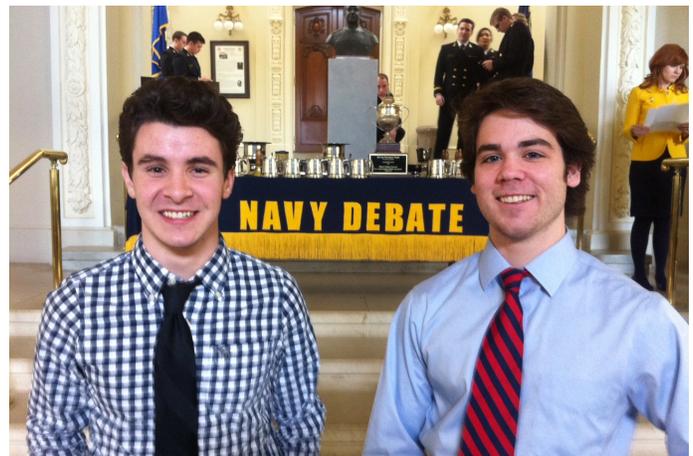
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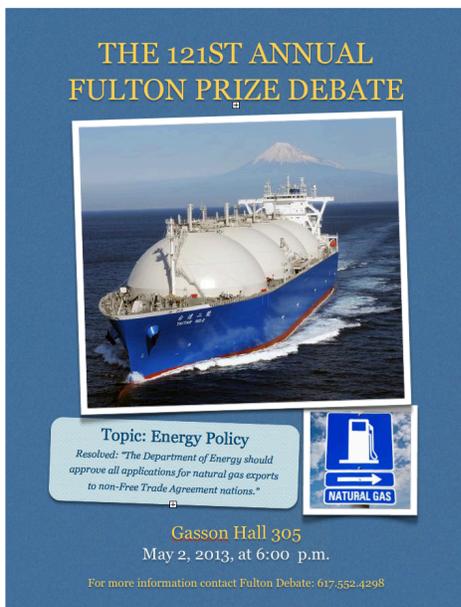
*The Stewart Bell Tower at Weber State University, host of the 2013 National Debate Tournament*



*Sean Seaver, Michael Holland, Stephen Ferguson, and Andrew Francisque at the Army Debate Tournament*



*Ted Kontopoulos and Sullivan McCormick at the Navy Debate Tournament*



*Poster for the 2013 Fulton Prize Debate*



*Michael Holland, Raven Tillman, Stephen Ferguson, and Nathan Shnipes at the Rutgers Debate Tournament*

BC HOSTS GREAT COMMUNICATOR TOURNAMENT

On October 6, 2012, Fulton Debate hosted the Northeast Regional Qualifying Tournament for “The Great Communicator Debate Series.” This is a high school competition sponsored by the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation. The debate series held 8 tournaments comprised of 7 regional tournaments hosted by colleges throughout the United States and an on-line competition open to any student. The first place students from these competitions received an all-expense paid trip to compete for \$30,000 in scholarship money at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and a full scholarship (\$3,000 value) to attend one of the summer programs offered by the National Student Leadership Conference.

The Great Communicator debates were one-on-one debates utilizing a modified public forum format. Each side gave an opening statement (4 minutes), a rebuttal speech (3 minutes), and a closing statement (2 minutes). Before the closing statements, the judge was given a two minute period to pose a question to each side.

Anthony Pennay, the Director of the Learning Center at Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Foundation, formulated the topics for the debate series and assigned each region their own topic. The Northeast region was assigned the topic, “Resolved: The Constitution should be interpreted through the lens of the intent of the Framers.”

In the final round of the Northeast tournament held in the Fulton Debate Room in Gasson 305, Charlie Freyre of New Canaan High School, CT competed against Caroline Rynng of the Joel Barlow High School, CT. Freyre won the coin flip and chose to argue on the affirmative side.

Judging the final round were former Fultonian Alison Mills '90 (currently the Press Secretary for Massachusetts Congressman Michael Capuano), Dale Herbeck, and John Katsulas. In a predictable outcome, the judges awarded the debate to the negative side in a 2-1 decision with Katsulas (the lone conservative) dissenting.

IN MEMORIUM: KEVIN P. DUFFY, 1941-2012

Fulton Debate is sad to report that Dr. Kevin P. Duffy passed away on December 4th due to complications resulting from a fall.

Dr. Duffy was a fixture at Boston College for almost 5 decades. He served as the director of student services (1968-1969), housing director (1969-76), Vice-President of Student Affairs (1976-2000), and assistant professor and director of internships in the Lynch School of Higher Education Graduate Program (2000-2007).

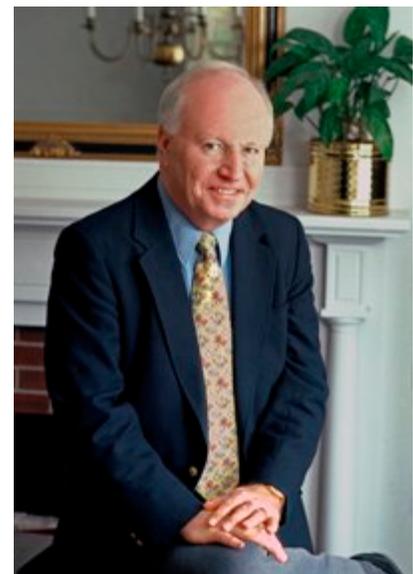
Fulton Debate is grateful for the strong support provided by Dr. Duffy during his years in Student Affairs. The revival of Fulton Debate to national

prominence in the late 1980s happened under his leadership.

Dr. Duffy was a generous supporter of the Society and on more than a few occasions he found additional funds when the Society “miraculously” qualified to attend the National Debate Tournament. (It was not a “true” miracle, Dr. Duffy once observed, if it happened every year.)

In 1994, Dr. Duffy replaced the supplemental appropriations with a permanent increase in the Fulton’s travel budget. Later that year, Dr. Duffy also upgraded the part-time debate coaching position into a full-time job.

Fulton debate extends its condolences to his wife, Dr. Persis C. Rickes, and son, Mark A. Duffy.



*Dr. Kevin Duffy, faithful friend of the Fulton Debating Society and Fultonian of the Year in 2000*