

THE FULTONIAN

Fulton Wins ADA Nats

Harrison cup returns to BC for the 3rd time



Sean MacDonald & Fisher Pressman hold the Frank Harrison Cup

Sean MacDonald '17 and Fisher Pressman '17 won the Junior Varsity division of the 29th Annual American Debate Association's Championship Tournament hosted by Boston College.

During the preliminary rounds, MacDonald & Pressman achieved a 5-1 record by defeating George Mason (twice), Liberty (twice), and Vanderbilt.

In the semi-finals, MacDonald & Pressman were locked negative against George Mason, who advocated a plan for a light military presence in the Persian Gulf. In a split decision, they defeated George Mason.

In the final round, MacDonald & Pressman faced a Liberty team who had been their nemesis all year, having defeated them in the elimination rounds at both the Mary Washington and Naval Academy tournaments. This time was different, however, as BC vanquished Liberty in a unanimous decision.

As tournament champions, MacDonald and Pressman will have their name engraved on the

traveling trophy named in honor of the late Frank G. Harrison. An accomplished debater, Harrison reached the finals of the National Debate Tournament in 1961 (losing to Laurence Tribe). Harrison graduated from Harvard Law School in 1964, he was elected to the US House of Representative from Pennsylvania in 1982 (serving one term), and he served as the president of the ADA (2000-2004) and the Director of Debate for Trinity University (1988-2006).

Other Fultonians appearing on the Harrison Cup include 1st place winners Wenyu Ho & Dilip Paliath (1993) and Ken Aruda & Brenden Benedict (2010). Also appearing are 2nd place finishers Jared Fields & Dominic Cameratta (1998) and Kevin Hartzell & Derrick Williams (2001).

In the other divisions at ADA nationals, Harvard defeated Emory to win the varsity division and Liberty defeated George Mason to capture the novice title.

Greetings from the Heights

This issue of *The Fultonian* reports on some of the activities of the Society during the 2015-2016 academic year. Highlights include the Fulton winning ADA nationals and the University Club Debate.

We also are pleased to announce that next Spring (during late April or early May), the Fulton will hold another reunion to celebrate the 125th annual Fulton Prize Debate.

We hope you enjoy reading *The Fultonian* and, as always, we welcome your suggestions and feedback.

*John Katsulas
Christy Webster Dunn*

2015-2016 DEBATE TOPIC:
REDUCING U.S. MILITARY
PRESENCE

The intercollegiate debate topic for 2015-2016 was “Resolved: The United States should significantly reduce its military presence in one or more of the following: the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, the Greater Horn of Africa, Northeast Asia.”

With respect to the Persian Gulf, the most common affirmative plan was to reduce U.S. military presence to a lighter military footprint. This meant retaining a few thousand ground troops in Kuwait, along with stationing smaller surface vessels to conduct intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions.

This affirmative claimed three advantages. First, it claimed that reducing the U.S. military footprint would reduce anti-Americanism and thereby decrease the ability of terrorists groups to recruit new members. Second, it argued that withdrawing the 5th carrier fleet from the Persian Gulf would improve relations with Iran and reduce the risk of accidental war between U.S. and Iran. Third, it maintained that a lighter U.S. military presence would encourage better relations between the Arab states of the Persian Gulf and Iran and reduce support by both sides for sectarian conflicts in the Middle East.

To defeat this affirmative, the negative made two powerful arguments. First, it argued that reducing U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf would undermine

our security guarantees to Saudi Arabia and spark nuclear proliferation. Second, it maintained that a lighter U.S. military presence would embolden Iran to become more aggressive toward its neighbors and increase the risk of a regional conflict.

As for the Greater Horn of Africa, most affirmatives advocated closing Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti. Camp Lemonnier is the largest U.S. military base in Africa. From this base, the U.S. deploys Special Forces throughout Africa to conduct anti-terrorism operations, including launching drone strikes into Somalia and Yemen.

This affirmative argued U.S. counter-terrorism operations and drone strikes were counter-productive because they created animosity among the local populations against the United States. Increasing anti-Americanism, the affirmative argued, is the root cause of terrorist recruitment.

In response, the negative claimed that drone strikes were effective in decapitating leaders and disrupting the ability of terrorists groups to plan attacks. Degrading the ability of terrorist groups to operate effectively, the negative argued, outweighed the harms to increasing the recruitment of terrorists.

Finally, the Northeast Asia region involved debates about the desirability of withdrawing U.S. forces from South Korea and Japan. The Japan affirmatives advocated withdrawing the U.S. Marines from Okinawa (see the Fulton Prize Debate story for the pro and con arguments).

Affirmatives advocating the removal of U.S. troops from South Korea argued that the military presence was obsolete; South Korean forces are adequate to deter an invasion from the North.



Harry Townsend, Kevin Lin, Christopher Yu & SeungWan Kang touring the Jerry Falwell museum during the Liberty Tournament



ADA JV champions: Sean MacDonald, Adrienne Brovero (ADA President) & Fisher Pressman

MACDONALD WINS THE DUFFY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEBATE



Sean MacDonald '17

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.

Sean MacDonald '17, an economics and history major from Scituate, Massachusetts, is the 2016 recipient of the Duffy Award.

Debating in junior varsity, Sean won numerous speaker awards including 10th place at Navy and 9th place at ADA Nationals. He teamed with Fisher Pressman to win first place at ADA Nationals, semi-finals at Mary Washington, and quarter-finals at Navy.

Sean is also a two-time Fulton Medal winner. This summer, Sean will be working at Goldman Sachs in New York City.

BILAK 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 currently is Professor and James P. McIntyre Chair in 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.

Jenna Bilak '19, an English major from Chicago, Illinois, is the 2016 recipient of the Quinn Award. In high school, she competed in the Chicago Urban Debate League.

In her first year debating in college, Jenna achieved numerous victories, including reaching the semi-finals of the ADA fall championship hosted by Wake Forest University.

Jenna received 10th place speaker honors at the ADA fall championship and a top twenty speaker award at West Point.



Jenna Bilak '19

PRESSMAN WINS THE MCLAUGHLIN AWARD FOR PUBLIC DEBATING



Fisher Pressman '17

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

Fisher Pressman '17, a Carroll School of Management major from Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, is the 2016 recipient of the McLaughlin Award.

Fisher is an exceptional public debater. He is a two-time winner of the Gargan medal. He delivered the opening speech in the University Club debate and he teamed with Sean MacDonald to achieve a third place finish at the ACC debate tournament.

For the past two years, Fisher has been a member of the Executive Board of Fulton Debate. This summer, he will be working at Deutsche Bank in New York City.

124th FULTON PRIZE DEBATE



Fulton Prize Debaters (L to R): Jenna Bilak, Sean MacDonald, Naveen Senthilkumar, & Fisher Pressman

For the second consecutive year, Sean MacDonald '17 won the Fulton Medal at the 124th annual Fulton Prize Debate held on April 26th in Gasson 305.

The topic for the debate was "Resolved: That the United States should significantly decrease its military presence in Japan."

Serving as the judges were Matthew Bartholomae '12 (attorney and Fulton Debate alum), Rita Rosenthal (Communication Department) and Dr. Anjali Vats (Communication Department).

Debating on the affirmative with Sean MacDonald was Jenna Bilak '19, who was the first affirmative speaker. Debating on the negative was Naveen Senthilkumar '18 and Fisher Pressman '17.

The affirmative advocated significantly decreasing the U.S. Marine presence in Okinawa by closing the Futenma Marine Corp Air Station base, relocating 11,000 marines back to the United States, and halting the construction of a new military base at Henoko.

Decreasing the U.S. Marine presence in Okinawa, the affirmative argued, was beneficial for two reasons. First, it claimed that closing the Futenma base was vital to quelling the growing anti-base movements in Okinawa. The affirmative argued that, should an Osprey aircraft operating out of Futenma crash into a nearby school building, the anti-base movements would grow stronger and force the closure of more important U.S. bases than Futenma. Second, the affirmative argued that the

construction of a new military base at Henoko would harm relations with China and preclude U.S.-Sino cooperation to solve global problems like North Korean proliferation and global warming.

The negative side argued that retaining the status quo level of Marines was vital to preserving a strong deterrent against Chinese aggression in the region and maintaining the credibility of the U.S. extended deterrence to Japan and other allies. The negative claimed that withdrawing the Marines would jeopardize the security of Japan and cause it to acquire nuclear weapons.

In a 2-1 decision, the judges voted for the affirmative side and named Sean MacDonald (the second affirmative speaker) as the top speaker and the recipient of the gold Fulton Medal. Fisher Pressman (the second negative speaker) won second place speaker honors and received the silver Gargan Medal.

ACC DEBATE TOURNAMENT

The second annual Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Debate Tournament was hosted by the University of North Carolina during April 16-17.

The topic for the tournament was, "Resolved: That the United States should adopt substantially more restrictive gun control regulations, including a prohibition on carrying firearms on college campuses."

Competing for Boston College in the ACC tournament was Fisher Pressman, '17 and Sean MacDonald, '17.



During the four preliminary debates, the colleges were grouped into two divisions: the Atlantic and Coastal. The University of Virginia was moved from the Coastal to the Atlantic Division to even off the number of teams in each division.

Boston College compiled a 3-1 record during the preliminary rounds defeating Florida State, the University of Virginia and Notre Dame. BC's only loss was to Wake Forest in a very close debate. BC had the second best record in the Atlantic Division, but did not advance to the final round due to its loss to Wake Forest.

FULTON DEBATE WINS
UNIVERSITY CLUB DEBATE

Boston College defeated the University of Pennsylvania (last year's winner) in the 12th annual Percy. S. Douglas Memorial Debate held at the University Club in New York City. Four members of the Fulton Debating Society participated in the debate: Fisher Pressman '17, Naveen Senthilkumar '18, Sean MacDonald '17, and Harrison Kenner '18.

The University Debates utilized a parliamentary style of debating, whereby speakers were allowed to interrupt during their opponents' constructive speeches by raising points of information. Each side was represented by 4 debaters. The first six speeches were seven minutes in length with each side giving a five minute rebuttal.

The motion for the debate was, "This house believes that there should be a limit to the amount of money that any individual candidate or affiliated entity may contribute toward any campaign or political cause." A month prior to the debate, a coin flip determined the sides for the debate. Boston College was assigned the role of the Government, meaning it supported limits on campaign donations; the University of Pennsylvania acted as the Opposition and advocated against any limits on campaign donations.

The debate was moderated by the Hon. Andrew P. Napolitano, a senior judicial analyst for Fox News and a distinguished visiting professor at Brooklyn Law School. Previously, Napolitano served on the New Jersey bench and was the state's youngest then-sitting Superior Court judge.

Boston College was invited to compete in the Percy. S. Douglas Memorial Debate by Michael Devlin who is a 1988 graduate of Boston College as well as a member of the Boston College Board of Trustees.

To support the Government side, Boston College argued that limits on campaign donations were required to prevent billionaires like the Koch brothers from exerting undue influence on the legislative process. Boston College also claimed that limits were necessary to restore public confidence in the electoral system, citing opinion polls showing overwhelming support for imposing limits on campaign donations by political action committees.

The judges for the debate were the members of the University Club, who by a show of hands, awarded the debate to Boston College. After the debate, the University Club treated all the participants to a spectacular lobster dinner and a tour of the opulent library and meeting spaces of the University Club building.

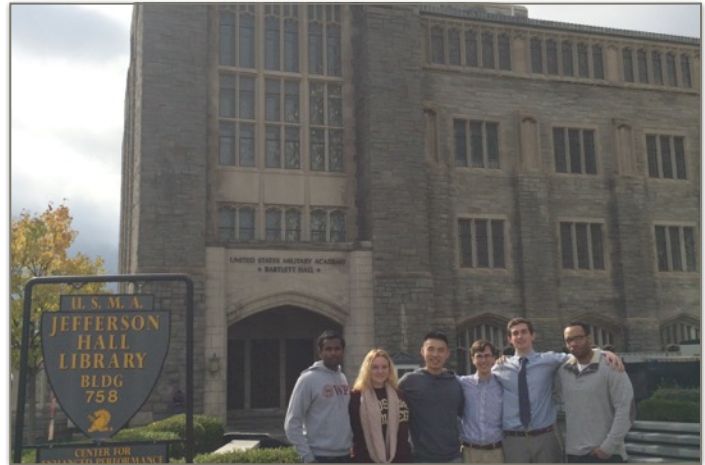
As the champion of the University Club Debate, Boston College will have their names etched on a large sterling silver trophy that is housed at the club and be invited back next year to compete against a new opponent (very likely against Notre Dame). No team has ever won back-to-back University Club Debates and Fulton Debate welcomes the opportunity to break the streak.



*University Club Debate Champions:
Michael Devlin, Harrison Kenner, Naveen Senthilkumar,
Fisher Pressman, Coach John Katsulas, and
Sean MacDonald*

Final
American Debate
Association Rankings
for 2015-2016

1. George Mason University
2. Liberty University
3. Emory University
4. Vanderbilt University
5. James Madison University
6. Wayne State University
7. Harvard University
8. Cornell University
9. University of Georgia
10. **BOSTON COLLEGE**
11. University of Kentucky
12. Mary Washington University
- tie Wake Forest University
14. University of Minnesota
- tie Northwestern University
16. Georgetown University
17. Samford University
18. Missouri State University
19. Indiana University
20. University of Miami
- tie United States Naval Academy
22. University of Texas at Dallas
23. Gonzaga University
24. University of Florida
25. University of Texas at Austin
26. University of Southern California
27. Dartmouth College
28. West Virginia University
29. Illinois College
30. Western Connecticut University



Squad photo from West Point (L to R): Naveen Senthilkumar, Jenna Bilak, SeungWan Kang, Ryan Carreli, Harrison Kenner, and Amin Gholizaded



ADA Debate Banquet: Fultonians feast on roast herb crusted prime rib, lasagna, chicken breast with roasted mushroom sauce, clam chowder, Caesar salad, rice, vegetable medley and chocolate cake



Fulton Prize Debate participants: Front: Rita Rosenthal, Fisher Pressman & Naveen Senthilkumar. Back: Matthew Bartholomae, Anjali Vats, Jenna Bilak, and Sean MacDonald



*Fall ADA championship at Wake Forest:
Naveen Senthilkumar & Jenna Bilak*



U.S. Naval Academy in grand foyer of Mahan Hall (L to R): Sean MacDonald, Jenna Bilak, Fisher Pressman & Harrison Kenner



Stone Age judging panel at the NDT (L to R): Warren Decker (40+ years at George Mason), Stefan Bauschard (former BC coach and now Director at Lakeland High School, New York), & John Katsulas (30 years at BC). Unanimous 3-0 decision for the affirmative from the University of Georgia.

The Fulton Debate Society of 2015-2016

Jenna Bilak '19
 Ryan Carelli '17
 Amin Gholizaded '17
 Nick Janigian '16
 SeungWan Kang '19
 Harrison Kenner '18
 Kevin Lin '19
 Sean MacDonald '17
 William Nouse '17
 Fisher Pressman '17
 Harry Townsend '19
 Naveen Senthilkumar '18
 Christopher Yu '18

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Fulton Debate Web Site

www.bc.edu/fultondebate

Fulton on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/237990206258288/

MARQUETTE DEBATING SOCIETY HISTORY RECLAIMED

The Marquette Debating Society was founded in September of 1902 by Father Redmond J. Walsh, S. J., to provide debating opportunities for freshmen and sophomores who were excluded from the Fulton Debating Society. At that time, enrollment in the Fulton was limited to the best fifty students from the junior and senior classes.

The Marquette Debating Society existed for over half a century (1902 to 1958) and, like the Fulton, held its own prize debate. History about the Marquette is sparse. This oversight is unfortunate because its history is part of Fulton Debate. As they became upperclassmen, many members of the Marquette eventually became members of the Fulton.

To locate information about the officers of the Marquette, the topics for the Marquette Prize debates, and the names of the Marquette moderators, Fulton Debate searched the digital collections of *The Heights*, *The Stylus*, *The Boston College Catalogues*, and *The Sub Turri*. Additional information was discovered in the University archives which had a folder containing a handful of programs from Marquette Prize Debates.

As result of this research, Fulton has reclaimed a significant amount of history about the Marquette Debating Society. On the Fulton Debate Web Site, a new link has been created for accessing the history of the Marquette Debating Society. Much like the Fulton of that period, the moderators were Jesuit priests who held the position for a few years. Ten of the moderators of the Marquette were also moderators of the Fulton.

The first Marquette Prize Debate topic in 1903 was, “Resolved: That the Immigration Laws by further social and intellectual requirements should be made more stringent.” In total, 44 Marquette Prize Debate topics were found. Years for which the topic is not known include 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1930, 1941, 1953, 1957, 1958.

Considerable confusion exists about the color and name of the medal awarded to the winner of the Marquette Prize Debate. In the early years, the medal was called the Marquette Prize Medal and it was a gold medal. 1908 is the first year that a medal was awarded. For the next fifteen years, the medal was donated by different individuals and

organizations. A partial list of donors included Joseph Lannin, president of the Boston Red Sox (1914), the Boston College Club of Somerville (1917), Attorney James A. Dorsey (1920-1921) and the Rev. Francis J. Butler (1923).

In 1924, the Marquette Prize Medal was re-named the Gargan Medal when Helena N. Gargan established a permanent trust fund to support the awarding of a gold medal to the winner of the Marquette Prize Debate. The Gargan Medal was donated in memory of her deceased husband, Thomas J. Gargan, a prominent Boston attorney. At some point, the composition of the Gargan medal changed from gold to silver. It is unclear when this change occurred.

Like the Fulton of that period, the officers of the Marquette were elected bi-annually. One interesting feature of the Marquette is that during its first six years, the Marquette elected a leader of the minority instead of a vice president. So, in the first term of 1902, the first officers of the Marquette Debating Society were Charles T. Daly as President and Edward J. Campbell as the leader of the minority. In the Spring term of 1903, the new officers were Edward J. Campbell as President and J. Ignatius Coveney as minority leader.



Marquette Debating Society of 1942