

The University of Kansas

K.U. Debate Alumni Advisory Committee

The Ides of August, 2007

Dear Jayhawk:

Greetings from the Nest where it is currently 102 degrees with 70% humidity. Jayhawk Blvd is torn up and you cannot drive on it. Bailey Hall has its walls and tiles torn down and many of them are on the floor. The trophy case is in the middle of the hall. All of this less than one week before school begins: on August 16 (when the heat index is expected to reach 110) our school starts – the earliest start in recorded history. It is not a good time to come back.

So when is a good time? October 19-20 that's when. It will be cooler, the few leaves left on the trees will have changed color, Jayhawk Blvd will be paved, Bailey Hall will have new walls, the Jayhawk Football Team will have a winning record (we play 4 non-conference games with Division II schools), and the squad room will be cleaned. It will be a good time to return.

Last May we sent you an invitation for our October reunion, but in case you have misplaced it, here is another one. We are planning several events worth note, and even worth observation, perhaps even participation.

*** On Friday night, October 19 we will have an opening reception and very informal dinner at Maceli's on New Hampshire. It will include Scott Harris' presentation of the squad and time to talk about the current state of Jayhawk debate. Following it will be even more informal group "fellowship" and the exchange of Forensic Fabrications.

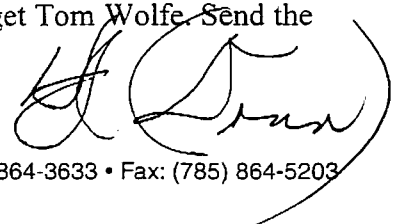
*** On Saturday AM we will have an open house in the squad room with current coaches, debaters, followed by a noon informal luncheon (Remember food that came from the cooler?)

*** Saturday afternoon we will have an audience debate in the Kansas Union featuring teams from the 2007-2008 squad who will adapt their forensic excellence to the audience of former debaters.

*** Also on Saturday afternoon there will be a reception at the home of Andi and Donn Parson, still at 2516 Jasu Drive – a very informal reception.

*** Saturday evening we will have a dinner at the Adams Alumni Center, and have a scheduled a roast of Donn Parson for sins committed 1964-1988. It has been rumored that he is planning a long rebuttal, featuring some of the 1,342 IOUs and promises of high grades, semi final rounds and other things collected, filed – and since found – during those years.

So October is definitely the time to visit the Nest. Come back. Forget Tom Wolfe. Send the registration form soon – before you forget. See you October 19-20!



The University of Kansas

K.U. Debate Alumni Advisory Committee

May 25, 2007

Fellow Jayhawk Debate Alumni and Friends:

We are pleased to invite you to attend the third Jayhawk Debate Reunion, which will be held October 19-21, 2007. The reunion promises to be a wonderful event with several receptions, a dinner honoring the successes of the 2006-2007 squad and introducing the 2007-2008 squad, a chance to honor Coach Scott Harris for his two National Coach of the Year Awards in 2006 and 2007, a roast to honor Donn Parson for more than four decades of service to KU Debate, and other activities. A preliminary schedule is attached which provides additional information about activities.

And the cost for the various events at the reunion is only that we hope that you will share your memories of your time with KU Debate to others at the reunion. All of the events are free for Jayhawk Debate Alumni.

The event will also include a meeting of the Jayhawk Debate Alumni Society and of both the Advisory and Finance Boards for the group. We welcome participation of alumni in any of these events. All of us are concerned with celebrating the present and past of KU Debate and making sure that the future is just as bright. We will be discussing ways to guarantee that future at the reunion.

In particular, we call your attention to the Roast of Donn W. Parson that is scheduled for the dinner on Saturday October 20, 2007. Donn served as Director of Forensics for twenty-four years and also for twelve years as Director of the National Debate Tournament. At an event honoring his service with the NDT, one of the speakers said that he had influenced the post-war development of debate more than any other individual. Many of us experienced that "*influence*" first hand and the roast will be a chance to give back (or "*get even*") for those days. We anticipate that there will be a great deal of demand for the chance to speak (Goldman thinks that we will need to auction off time) and it undoubtedly will be quite an evening. Donn says that he is already planning for the event, which promises to make it even more interesting.

Along with the schedule, we have attached a registration form for the event and hotel information. Please let us know whether you will be able to attend as soon as you can, but for certain by October 5, 2007.

We hope to see you there.

On behalf of the alumni advisory committee,

Joel Goldman
Co-Chair, Advisory Committee

Bill Hensley
Co-Chair Advisory Committee

Bill Russell
Co-Chair Advisory Committee

Mark Gidley
Finance Chair

Hotel Information

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express—call 866-695-0459 and ask for the KU Debate Block. Rooms are \$89 a night (2 Queen beds) and \$95 a night (Executive King). The rooms will be held until September 18, 2007 so make your reservations early.

Third KU Debate Reunion

Preliminary Schedule - October 19-21, 2007

Friday, October 19, 2007

7:00 pm-? - Maceli's 1031 New Hampshire - Opening Reception and Dinner - Presentation of the Squad by National Coach of the Year. Dr. Scott Harris

10:00 pm - Small Group Fellowship Hour

Saturday, October 20, 2007

9:00 a.m. - Meeting of Alumni Advisory and Finance Boards - 116 Bailey Hall

10:00 a.m. – Breakfast with two-time National Coach of the Year, Scott Harris--Bagels and Arguments provided--Visit the squad room and meet the 2007-2008 debate squad and coaches - Breakfast provided by the Alumni Advisory Board

11:00 a.m. - Meeting of the KU Debate Alumni Society

12:00 p.m. - Informal box luncheon - 116 Suite, Bailey Hall

1:00-3:00 p.m. - Audience Debate featuring teams from the 2007-2008 Squad - Kansas Union – Room TBA

3:00-4:00 p.m. - Informal gatherings of alumni

4:15-6:00 pm - Reception at the home of Donn and Andi Parson-2516 Jasu Drive

6:30 p.m. - Adams Alumni Center - Dinner and Roast of Donn W. Parson, Winner of the 2006 Chancellor's Club Career Teaching Award.

Sunday, October 21, 2007

9:30 am - Concluding Brunch - Site TBD

Registration Form

Please return this form to the following address: Robert Rowland, The University of Kansas, Department of Communication Studies, Bailey Hall, 1440 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 102, Lawrence, KS 66045-7574. **Please register by October 5, 2007 to allow us to make arrangements for the meals and receptions.**

Or you can e-mail your response to Robert C. Rowland at rrowland@ku.edu

Note-There is no charge for registration and breakfast, the Parson reception, or either dinner, both of which will be provided by other loyal debate alumni. Of course, alumni are always encouraged to support the program through a donation to one of the KU Debate Endowment accounts.

Your Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>
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Friday, October 19, 2007

7- 10 p.m.	Reception and Dinner at Maceli's, 1031 New Hampshire	_____
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Saturday, October 20, 2007

10 a.m. -12 p.m.	Breakfast with Scott Harris and a meeting of the Jayhawk Debate Alumni Association - 116 Suite, Bailey Hall	_____
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12:00 p.m.	Informal box luncheon, 116 Suite, Bailey Hall	_____
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1:00-3:00 p.m.	Audience Debate, Kansas Union, Room TBA	_____
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4:15 – 6:00 p.m.	Reception at the Parsons (2516 Jasu Drive)	_____
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6:15 – 9:15 p.m.	Dinner and Parson Roast, Alumni Association	_____
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Sunday, October 21, 2007

9:30 a.m.	Concluding Brunch, Site TBA	_____
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