

FY25 SFAC One-Time Request

Speech & Debate

10/20/2023

1. Executive Summary

The duties of the Speech & Debate program have recently been expanded to include the UH Model Debate program. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, Model UN, Model Arab League, Model G20, and Model World Health Organization style debates. These programs were previously run by the University but existed as partially student-led programs receiving piecemeal support from a variety of different organizations to supplement their budget. The vision of the takeover involves seeing the program transition from one with an ad hoc travel schedule and support network to one where each program receives support like the UH Policy Debate and Mock Trial programs with a full standardized travel and logistical apparatus and skilled coaching to increase competitive success.

These programs are not insubstantial, with roughly 60 students participating across them in various forms over FY23, each with its own travel schedule and with various specific needs to be able to support it as a program. This supplemental request represents a bridge between the prior system of supporting Model Debate towards a model that is consolidated with the rest of the Speech & Debate Program, and which offers a level of support and integration consistent with every other aspect of the program.

This also represents the increased costs accrued to assistant coaching in Policy Debate necessary to cover the increased demands on the Director and Assistant Directors of Debate.

2. Rough Budget Breakdown

Cost Center	Amount
Model Debate Travel Costs	\$30,000
Model Debate Coaching	\$10,000
Supplemental Policy Debate Coaching	\$10,000
TOTAL ADDITIONAL REQUEST	\$50,000