

LETTERS TO DR. DAVE BUILDING A CASE OF EXCELLENCE



**Director of Debate
(1987 - 2019)
A. Craig Baird Debate Forum
Iowa City, IA**

LETTERS TO DR. DAVE
BUILDING A CASE OF EXCELLENCE



EDITED BY

PAUL BELLUS



A. Craig Baird Debate Forum
Iowa City, IA



Dr. Dave

IOWA TM Debate



This Collection Of Letters Is Dedicated To
Dr. David B. Hingstman,
Whose 46 Years Of Service Inspired It
(1973 - 2019)

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Foreword

This collection of letters highlights the significance of Dr. David B. Hingstman's time in debate as a coach, judge, colleague, mentor, and friend. The scope of that significance is represented by the diversity of communities inspired to congratulate Dr. Dave on his retirement. From his first team to his last team, from Iowa debaters to their competitors, from college coaches to high school coaches, and persons only tangentially connected to debate, the 105 letters of thanks, notes of congratulations, and/or shared memories comprising this collection describe his influence on the debate community.

The book is formatted to resemble debate briefs. As the title suggests, individually and as a whole, they build the case of Dr. Dave's excellence. The letters depict a person of the highest character. A role model for debate coaches in leadership, student development, and cultivating intellectual curiosity. Someone for others to emulate as they embark on their post-graduation endeavors be it in the private sector or the academy. Dr. Dave embodies an ethic of selfless service for others. He moves beyond hospitality towards others and expresses genuine, authentic care for the well-being and happiness of those around him. Never wavering in his professionalism, Dave meets others where they are at, seemingly more interested in learning their truths than imparting his own. This is reflected by the many praises voiced about Dave's fairness and openness as a judge. Always cognizant of the diversity surrounding him, he builds inclusive communities as he welcomes difference and celebrates others achievements, even from those who are considered competitors. From the very beginning of his career as a debate coach, Dave was recognized as an intellectual giant, possessing a greater understanding of the arguments in debates than the persons advancing them. As some mention, Dr. Dave became the measure of the standard for excellence in coaching, judging, strategizing, professionalism, and mentoring students at all levels.

Dr. Dave's career in debate spans 46 years, 1973 thru 2019. During that time he determined the outcome of thousands of debates, including the most competitive and highly contested rounds. He influenced the lives of an even greater number of high school and intercollegiate debaters.

From his earliest days coaching debate at his alma mater Lawrence High School, just outside of Trenton, NJ, to his last year as the Director of Debate at the University of Iowa, his accomplishments can only be described as "historic". Upsetting and unseating nationally renowned teams at high school tournaments, Hingstman soon acquired the respect his efforts commanded. His college teams fared equally well. 2 NDT Champions, 5 NDT Top Speakers (including the first person to win the award twice), Co-Champions of the CEDA National Debate Tournament (the 2nd coach in history to accomplish this feat), Copeland Award winners, produced the first team to go 24-0 during prelims at the NDT, Debater of the Year, Graduate Student Coach of the Year, multiple District Champions, 2 Novice National Champions, and too many invitational tournament champions and top speakers to list. His programs consistently ranked in Debate's Top 20.

At the beginning of Dave's coaching career, the programs he was affiliated with were only waypoints along his professional path. While attending Princeton University, he stopped off at Lawrence H.S. to answer the call of two sophomores interested in learning about the theory and practice of competitive debate. Then moving on to the University of Kentucky as the Lawrence team graduated and Dave began law school at Harvard. He stayed with the Kentucky program throughout law school and even into his career as a "big shot" Wall Street lawyer at Simpson & Thatcher in New York city. After much debate and consideration of his career choice, Dave decided to follow his heart and pursue his passion for debate. This led him to Northwestern and a Ph.D. in Communication Studies. It was here that he met Tom Goodnight, soon to become his writing partner, and began working with the Northwestern Debate team. After his course work was completed and he became ABD, Dave took a position as co-director of debate at Baylor University. This is where he began making history; earning an NDT title (Lyn Robbins and Griffin Vincent) and coaching the legendary Lyn Robbins (first two-time winner of the NDT Top Speaker). His stint there was cut short when Paul Slappey, who had just recently taken over as the Coordinator of Forensics at the University of Iowa, persuaded ABD Hingstman to leave Baylor for Iowa. That was 1987.

The University of Iowa and the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum were to become Dr. Dave's permanent home. It was here that he moved on from ABD to Ph.D., after Goodnight and Slappey strapped him to a desk and chair to finish his dissertation. Myth has it that Slappey got Dave's dissertation submitted just as the clock was chiming its final hour before Hingstman's Ph.D. clock ran out. Dave would go on to secure a tenured position in Iowa's Communication Studies Department. During his time at Iowa, Dave coached NDT champions, CEDA champions, NDT top speakers, Copeland Award winners, the first team to go 24-0 in ballots at the NDT, and took the program to new heights, establishing its reputation as a perennial national title contender. In 2019, a year after his teams closed out the CEDA National Debate tournament and the year they lost in the Semi-Final round of CEDA, Dr. Dave decided to retire from Iowa after 32 years as the Director of Debate.

This brings us to the purpose of this book. This collection is a celebration of Dr. Dave's time in debate as told by those who knew him and worked with him. An open call for submissions was placed on social media. Besides alumni and members of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum and Iowa Debate, coaches and former debaters from across the nation reached out to congratulate Dr. Dave and remember him, with submissions from Baylor, Capitol, Dartmouth, Emory, Georgia, Kansas State, KCKCC, Minnesota, Missouri State, NAU, Northwestern, Penn State, Redlands, Samford, SMU, Univ. Neb. Lincoln, UTD, Wake Forest, Wayne State, and Dowling High School. Even after more than 40 years, Dave's very first team at Lawrence H.S., Mark Hermann and Merrill Hirsh, reached out with memories, congratulations, and thank yous for Dr. Dave (Hink). In all, the case for Dr. David B. Hingstman's excellence in debate and as a person is persuasive.

On this day, Saturday, November 6, 2021, we celebrate Dr. Dave's retirement from debate. Be it coach, judge, lab leader, mentor, colleague, or friend, he touched our lives in profound ways. He is the embodiment of fairness, authentic curiosity, and intelligence. A pure expression of care, selflessness, and professionalism. Dr. Dave made every community he belonged to more inclusive and comforting. Enjoy your retirement.

Paul Bellus, University of Iowa

******* The First Letter *******



Thanksgiving!

Bellus, Paul (University of Iowa)

We first met on the Friday after Thanksgiving in 1986 during the Glenbrook's swing. Alex Pritchard, my old coach at Creighton Prep, informed me that he wanted to introduce me to the smartest person he knew in debate. At the time, Pritchard was that person for me. So, knowing Alex's ego, my interest was piqued to discover who he thought was his better. I don't remember much more than we enjoyed each other's company enough that we made a lunch date for the next day. After which, you sat in on the decision between my team and one of the Glenbrook Round Robin teams. We won and you got this big grin on your face, your eyes got big and lit up, and you hugged me. It was my introduction to a person who would move beyond colleague and friend to become family.

A lot has transpired from that fateful November day in '86 to your retirement in 2019. We experienced highs and lows. We've seen the budget go from unlimited spending to being zeroed out to becoming, once again, sustainable. We celebrated winning the Copeland, NDT, CEDA, and so much more. You shared my joy at Xander's birth. Despite the Derecho that blew through Iowa City on June 29th in the middle of institute, you were there for me. We mourned the loss of Slappey and bore each trial together. Always, together. Always in support of each other. No request was too big to grant, nor was there any crisis we could not resolve. We knew we could lean on each other. Trust the other. What we have is more than respect for one another. It is love.

I give thanks everyday that I put aside my debate work to have lunch with you. "What if" (a popular Marvel Comic Universe series - you should watch it) we never met? I don't know if my life would be better or worse because of it. However, I do know that what I consider to be my sincerest, deepest relationship rooted in love (besides Sharon and Xander) may not exist. Therefore, I have no regrets and do not long for any possible alternative life. I know myself to be blessed beyond abundance, with you in my life.

Over the years you have been called lots of things (some of which I will not write because they were said by people who are ill-mannered and ill-bred). Hink (early days), Hinky (only Jason Gordon), Dr. Hingstman, Dr. Dave, Dr. Panic (a unique Iowa reference), ABD, DBH, DLD (drug lord Dave - it's the bags man), and lastly, The Spider (this is a Nathan Coco concoction - it describes the image of you rummaging through one of your many boxes). None mattered to me. The important thing was that you always responded when called. Even more so, you were fully present in the moment. Dispensing with whatever food container you were eating out of, or closing a book, shutting the lid to the laptop, or setting aside the business of the day, you gave me 100% of your attention. Something I know you did for others. Always considering others more important than anything material, like time.

I spent years planning for your retirement. I think I did this to keep me from thinking about your absence from the office. Now that you are gone, I give THANKS! You've earned it. You've created a wonderful life for yourself. Now go enjoy this new adventure in love.

******* High School Days *******

A Brief History

Bredehoft, John M. (Cardinal Spellman High School & Harvard University)

I really wish I could be there to congratulate David in person on his retirement. I am glad you've reached out to the debate community to solicit messages or anecdotes.

Who am I? I debated for Cardinal Spellman High School in the Bronx, 1972-1976 (and have cc'd my primary high school partner, Leo Gagon, in case he wants to chime in on a Dave Hingstman story). I debated for Harvard 1976-1980 (and have cc'd my primary college partner, Mike King, in case he has a Hink story to add). We generally did okay. (For example, won TOC in 1975 and in 1976, won college freshman nationals in 1977 – lost in octas at NDT to Tom Rollins from Georgetown in 1978, darn -- and won NDT in 1979, dropping NDT final round 1980.) We were judged by Hink often both in high school and college, and he was always an A++ pick for us. I also judged for Harvard in college for a number of years thereafter, and actually was “Coach of Freshman Debating in Harvard College” in 1980-81. Hink was at Harvard Law School for much of the time I was debating in college, and he judged college frequently during that period.

As you probably know, Hink coached Lawrence HS, in New Jersey, back when I debated in high school and before Hink went to law school. Hink's top team, Mark Herrmann and Merrill Hirsch, Lawrence high school class of 1975, were in the same lab at the 1974 Georgetown Debate Institute as I was, all coached by Tuna (the late, great Alfred C. Snider). Mark went to Princeton, then law school, and was, last time I checked, an attorney for Aon in London. He has published a number of hysterical and true books and articles about practicing law. Mark did card tricks that summer that, even with the Internet and bribing other magicians, I still cannot figure out. I've lost track of Merrill, but believe he went to Oberlin and I remember he was Harvard Law School class of 1982. It appears he is an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) specialist in Washington, D.C. Neither Mark nor Merrill debated in college, as far as I recall. You may want to follow up and get something from Mark and Merrill if they have not already submitted. I have copied Merrill. I had Mark's e-mail address at Aon but it disappeared when I changed computers – sorry.

Bottom line: Leo and I met Hink in 1974, and I was judged by him and later judged along with him for about a decade, as well as seeing him and hanging with him when he was in law school and for a few years thereafter.

Vintage Hingstman - Dancing a Jig

Herrmann, Mark (Lawrence High School & Aon)

Merril Hirsh and I were the first people David coached in debate, when we were in high school and he was still in college. I don't know how my story scores for humor, but I don't think anyone is going to beat it for vintage. Please give David my best.

Mark Herrmann

It was early 1973. I was a sophomore at Lawrence High School outside Trenton, New Jersey. A classmate of mine, Merrill Hirsh, and I decided to try our hand at debate. David Hingstman had graduated from Lawrence High a couple of years earlier and was now a sophomore at Princeton University. He decided to try his hand at coaching debate. Merrill and I didn't have a clue; David didn't have a clue. It was a perfect match.

Fast forward two years. Merrill and I were in the elimination rounds of the high school nationals at Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis. Unfortunately, we had drawn as our opponents in that round Mike King and Cal Redmond of St. George's School in Spokane, Washington. Many people expected King and Redmond to win the national championship.

We debated. Merrill and I were packing up our eight sample cases of evidence cards. Someone in the crowd had seen the ballots and reported the result of the round to Merrill and me while we were packing, before the result was announced publicly. David had been judging some other round, but his face appeared through the small pane of glass in the classroom door. David mouthed to me, through the glass and across the room: "How'd it go?"

I mouthed back to David, across the room and through the closed door, nodding my head at the same time: "We won."

David responded, with mouthed urgency: "You think, or you know?"

I kept nodding and mouthing: "I know."

Across the room and through the glass classroom door of Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis in June 1975, I watched David dance a jig in the hallway.

Over the course of half a century, the dance has evolved. Through the cha-cha-cha and the rumba, I think.

And now it's time to waltz your way into retirement, David.

You've earned it. Enjoy it.

The Hingstman Surprise

Bredehoft, John M. (Cardinal Spellman High School & Harvard University)

Anecdotes: I'll probably leave this to others. I know Leo has a story about how Hink judged us in the single most important (to us) round of our debate careers, a double-octafinal when we were juniors, no less.

I do remember, however, a very cold winter's night in Malden, Massachusetts early in 1975 or late in 1974. It was when Hink and his high school team from Lawrence were first making their mark on the Northeast and New England high school circuit. (National travel was too expensive in the mid-1970s for most teams.) Tournaments often were six preliminary rounds to octas (or even quarters); four or even five prelims on Friday afternoon and evening (and sometimes late into the night), with a sixth prelim on Saturday early morning, and then out rounds, again, deep into the cold wintry night. (This was usually followed by a four- or six-hour drive back home, arriving in the wee hours of Sunday; nobody's team had money to stay over Saturday nights.) Anyway, we were participating in a tournament held at Malden Catholic HS, north of Boston. I believe it was the announcement of the semifinals, although I could be mistaken in that. Anyway, Hink's team was – at that time – a surprise winner in the prior elim. Echoing from over 45 years in the past, I can still hear the Malden Catholic top debater, Mason Tenaglia, announcing the results in his strong Boston accent: “The winner, on a X-X- vote – LAWRENCE, NEW JOISEY?????????” It was impossible not to laugh at Mason's surprise – and you could HEAR the multiple question marks in his voice. Of course, with Hink in the driver's seat, it was not long before we all learned to respect “LAWRENCE, NEW JOISEY?????” Maybe not the most amusing anecdote to share – but I can still hear Mason's voice in my head, and I bet Hink can, as well.

Sincerely,
John M. Bredehoft

The Best is Left Unsaid - High School Ruined Dave

Hirsh, Merrill (Lawrence High School & Law Office of Merrill Hirsh)

I'm not sure I can top that. As Mark and John have explained, I was Mark's partner at Lawrence HS back when I had more hair.

Dave was in his own way a force of nature. I credit Mark and me with occupying so much of Dave's time while he was at Princeton that he really was ruined for anything else besides coaching debate. Two stories I remember in particular that he had a silly little thesis and for some reason this interfered with his time on debate – so much so, that at the end he got Mark and I to type it so he could get it in on time. Or, almost on time. It was some hours or other late and he had the grade reduced from A to A-, as I recall.

The other was a little later at the Indianapolis Nationals. The night after the round Mark describes, Dave completed his work on a different magnum opus – he came up with an entirely new case we (OK, no one) had never run all year. I don't remember all the details, but it is diabolical. The topic involved changing the method of selecting Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates and Dave had devised a plan that was even topical involving facilitating beneficial party realignment by testing creating ballots in a way that would test whether the party membership agreed with the party leadership's choices. Unfortunately, we were negative in the quarterfinals and lost – so the world never saw it.

Merril Hirsh, FCI Arb
HirshADR PLLC
Law Office of Merrill Hirsh PLLC
2837 Northampton St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20015

Hingstman Instills Hope

Bredehoft, John M. (Cardinal Spellman High School & Harvard University)

Dear David:

Debaters always pride ourselves on our smarts, and often rightly so. While there have been many superior minds in debate over the last forty or fifty years, you stand out. You are one of the most brilliant folks I've ever met, and even looking in my rear-view mirror, back decades to the times we had together so long ago, your intellect shines.

But that's not the reason I admire you. I admire you because you truly and demonstrably could have done anything – anything – and yet you dedicated yourself to the world of debate and communications. You made a conscious choice to forego a life of power and privilege for one of service and teaching. Your dedication amazed me when you made your decision, and it still today inspires me with hope. The hundreds and thousands of lives you have enriched will continue to inspire others for decades after you have taught your last class and signed your last debate ballot.

If I ever have to debate for the salvation of my immortal soul and have a chance to pick the judge – well, you would have no chance, because I'd go for a lock. But if I were required to pick a fair, impartial, and brilliant judge, I would hope to see your name on the strike sheet.

With deep and continuing affection,
Bredebear

Hingstman is Ageless

King, Michael B. (Cardinal Spellman High School)

The only thing I have to add to John's excellent recitation is that "Hink" in 1975 (when his Lawrence HS team knocked me and my partner out of the NFLs, in round 5) exactly as he looks today!!

mbk

Michael B. King (he/him/his), Attorney
CARNEY BADLEY SPELLMAN, P.S.

******* Kentucky Debate *******

Hingstman is Predictable - No Matter the Circumstances

Dzuris, Marie (University of Kentucky)

Dave,

My memories and our friendship started long before you went to Iowa. I believe we first met the summer before my freshman year – working at the Debate workshop. I knew then, that you were/are an awesome person and our friendship would last for a long time.

The number of years you devoted to UK debate, while you were working in NY as an attorney, speaks volumes of your dedication and love for debate and your willingness to help others. It also gave us a chance to talk, hang out, and generally get to know each other. I was always in awe of your brain power and knowledge of debate: both in general and on the topic.

It is you, as a person, though, that brings the biggest smile to my face. You are caring, funny, entertaining, and always willing to listen and give advice when asked. The way you have always done your job at Iowa/and in debate in general, comes from your compassion and caring for others. Nothing less than 100% has always been your way – whether we are talking about work or friendships. I hope that your retirement will give us a new chance to hangout and visit.

I think of you daily because of your nature to always do some things the same way – no matter the circumstance. Many of the times you were in Lexington meant riding in my car. Any time we stopped and parked, you immediately turned the AC or heat off and the blower to the lowest setting. Not once did you fail to take that action. To this day, I do the same when I turn off my car. It may be silly, but it always makes me think of you.

I love you. Here is to years of happy retirement!!!

Marie

Debate or Law?

Kinkaid, Ron (University of Kentucky)

Like many students, I first met David Hingstman when he adjudicated a debate in which I was a participant. I cannot recall the tournament; it may have been Seton Hall University, the University of Pittsburgh, Bishop McDevitt, or Pittsburgh Central Catholic. I am certain it was in the fall of 1977 and that I was debating on the negative.

David awarded the ballot to our opponents that day. I also don't recall who that might have been. After the debate, he asked me about my college plans. At the time, I was hoping to get into Georgetown where I'd had some success in two summer institute tournaments.

David was recruiting for the University of Kentucky. He asked for my contact information and talked to me a bit about college debate. I would not see him again until the following August. He may have written but largely JW Patterson and Gil Skillman took over the recruiting duties.

That following August, I attended the first of my four-pre-season debate workshops at the University of Kentucky. I believe David was involved in all four, but he was certainly involved in the first one. He taught the nuts and bolts of debate (a comparative advantage case with a sample aff advantage, "Ky Gets The Gas" for whatever reason does stick in my memory).

David was a knowledgeable, affable person with whom I got along easily. He provided advice and input into arguments several of my year's of debate at Kentucky. He was also our very good friend. We came to understand his passion for the activity and for its participants. He believed he had the most to offer by coaching young debaters; I believe he was right and I believe his career has established that as fact.

I recall plainly the conflict between law school and debate activities. David is brilliant and certainly would have made a brilliant lawyer. In fact, he did make a brilliant (ok, so this is conjecture) lawyer for a short period of time. However, against advice of some very well-meaning folks in his life (like partners at his law firm, and I believe parents), David chose debate over the law.

This was a brilliant choice; more for the rest of us than David himself. I'm sure the fulfillment David has had in this career more than offsets the goldmine he would've surely accumulated as a lawyer; but, I'm more certain that the effect he has had on the lives of the debaters he's judged and coached far outweighs any financial opportunity costs.

Like many people, I am grateful, and my life's course altered, by David's choice.

Happy 40 years, my friend.

Ron Kincaid
Columbus, Ohio
University of Kentucky Debate, 1978-1982

******* Northwestern *******

It was a Scurvy Crew - “Snakes don’t fly”

Goodnight, Tom. (Northwestern University)

The Hardy Debate Society was in its Golden Age when David Hingstman arrived, fresh from Princeton, Harvard and Wall Street. I had first met David through J. W. Patterson. I recall how he taped debates on cassettes, carrying a duffle bag full of electric cords, small recorders, and tapes. He has the recorder of arguments made by some very prominent people as it turns out. Assets for retirement income, no doubt. The debates of old did not pass away. Hingstman has them gathered. Stored in among his textual tombs and flow chart memorabilia.

We travelled the back trails of District 5. The Missouri Valley was our territory, Heart of America our goal. We had assistants, David Svaldi who wrote his dissertation on John Evans and moved to the Western plains; early Creps who began his dissertation with "the harvest is in and still we are not saved", then disappeared for 20 years; Bren Ortega who recently passed away; and Stephen O'Leary--also from Harvard--who had just sent a year on a trap steamer. It was a scurvy crew. David fit in well with our Hardy House crew. Our favorite catch phrase I recall: "Snakes don't fly."

Seminars were led by Frank Haiman, a head of the ACLU, who taught Freedom of Speech. David Zarefsky who continued and widened American Public Address. Lee Griffin who smoked a pipe and cobbled through Burke's works. Of the course of David's graduate career the time I remember most fondly is the week David, Paul Slaphey and I camped out in the Hardy seminar room working to refine the text of David's dissertation. Timing for a wandering scholar is good.

I want to give my thanks fully, if somewhat belatedly, for David's work with the Owen L. Coon debate program, with keeping the debaters on point, and for enriching all of us in the program. Thank you, David.

It is well that we meet to praise a colleague who has stood the watch, with intelligence, passion, and grace--all these years.

Tom

I do not wish to forget a favorite moment after graduating. Hingstman, Donn Dripps and I had dinner at Smith and Wolinski's in downtown Chicago. Great company and great food.

******* Baylor Bears *******



Dave Commands Respect

Robbins, Lyn (NDT Top Speaker (first in debate history to win title twice), NDT Champion, Baylor University)

I am so pleased to add my (very old) reminiscences to this collection of tributes for David Hingstman.

I had the pleasure of debating under Dave from 1983 to 1987 at Baylor. Dave was the program's co-director, teaming with Robin Rowland. Those of you who know them both will no doubt quickly smile at the obvious contrasts in personality, style, and approach between the two of them; but for those debating for the Bears at the time, it was a goldmine.

Dave's ability to answer seemingly any question on a substantive level, his quick look back through dozens of old flows to show us just exactly how an argument was structured, and of course his endless supply of tapes of past debate rounds were easy-to-identify examples of the resources he brought us. What was less obvious but much more important was his willingness to consider new ideas without any apparent bias or prejudice; his own experience was not colored by "the prevailing wisdom," and he heard us with a fresh mind and agreeable ear. While Dave did not approve "just anything," he was always willing to listen to ideas and offer sage direction.

Dave was also a critical part of those Baylor days because of his calm. Dave was simply always there for us. He weathered storms without appearing worse for the wear, and he provided a steady presence on which we all came to rely. Certain debaters - like Griffin - especially gravitated to him for advice and ideas, and for them, he was a fount. Others of us - like me - went to Dave with specific sticky issues, and we found in him a mind that was not just open but tactically clever.

I am so grateful that my debate experience was shaped by Dave Hingstman. He provided a model of one who was (and is) smart, patient, and careful. Nothing that Dave touched was left undone, and that remains a model to me.

After I graduated and Dave moved on, we coached against one another, and I saw what so many outside of the Baylor community had already understood: the level of respect that Dave commands throughout our sport. I never once heard anyone question Dave's judgment, fairness, preparation, or good will. Dave was (and is) universally recognized as what is best about our judges, our role models, and our friends. It is no surprise to anyone, I am sure, that I still hear from Dave now, 34 years after my graduation.

I congratulate Dr. David Hingstman on his retirement. College debate is better for having known him, and his influence will remain in ways both large and small.

Lyn Robbins

Changing the Trajectory of Life

Vincent, Griffin (NDT Champion, Baylor University)

Dave:

Like so many you have touched, I am grateful for your changing the trajectory of my life. You believed in me. You made me believe in myself. That was a wonderful gift.

I met you 40 years ago as a young high school debater. You encouraged me to debate in college. You were one of the primary reasons that I decided to go to Baylor. When I got to Baylor, you became my coach, my professor, my mentor, and my friend. You taught me the value of hard work and convinced me that I could excel.

When Melissa and I needed your help, you were always there. Ill-equipped to be married and a parent, I needed your help and kindness. You helped to show me a way forward. You told me about the legal profession. I think you might have been the first lawyer that I ever really got to know.

You taught me how to think. You spent countless hours making me a better debater. You taught me how to research. You taught me how to develop arguments. You helped me master the art of time exchange. Your classes were an extension of your debate instruction and helped me learn about argument and persuasion.

Lyn won the 1987 NDT because of you and Robin and in spite of me. But you always made me feel that I contributed. I never dreamed that we would win the NDT. I still do not believe it. But it happened because of you. Your coaching, our research, and Lyn's talent were a hard combo to beat.

Your instruction of and interest in me helped me excel in debate and in the classroom. You helped me earn a scholarship to law school. That changed my life. Much of what I am today is the result of debate and my law school education. Your fingerprints are all over those two things.

Thank you for the extraordinary kindness you showed to me. You are my teacher and my friend.

Griffin

The Origin Story of “Dr. Dave”

Wood, Robert (Baylor University)

"Dr. Dave." Unless I'm mistaken, we Baylor debaters created that nickname in the mid-1980s--probably in reaction to Robin Rowland's insistence that we call him "Dr. Rowland" (previously, we had been allowed to call him Robin).

Dave was a great coach and a great mentor. He and Robin were the best coaches anyone could have had, both professionally and personally.

Dave was also a great friend. I vividly recall a couple of times when he helped pull me out of a funk. Later, he spent a full day drafting a reference letter for me to attend a seminary (which I ended up not attending--sorry Dave, but thanks).

But things weren't always smooth sailing with Dave. Before a particular round, Dave authorized my partner at the time (Danny Plants) and I to run a conditional counterclaim. That doesn't sound like a big deal, but Robin Rowland hated conditional arguments. Robin wasn't at this tournament, though, and Dave authorized us to deviate from Baylor's normal practice. Of course, Plants and I abused the privilege, and we engaged in what Rowland might call "argumentative irresponsibility." We ran eight conditional counterclaims. After the judge quickly voted against us, he reported us to Hingstman, and Dave was steaming. I still recall the start of Dave's lecture to us: "*We talked about a specific strategy . . .*" That was a low point, but it didn't prevent Dave from making strawberry daiquiris for us (with Gordon Ramsay-like precision) as soon as we got home from the tournament.

Dr. Dave, congratulations on your retirement. All of us who had you as a coach and mentor are better for it.

Robert Wood
Baylor, 1989

Dr. Dave of the Sparkling Eyes

Rhaesa, David (Graduate Assistant, Baylor University)

I have no specific memories of David Hingstman during my four years as a Jayhawk.

In 1985, I moved to Waco, Texas. The guy in the office next to Robin Rowland was odd. He sent off strong and intelligent brain waves that I noticed as of a rare quality immediately. And his eyes would literally sparkle at times. And it was at times when one's eyes should sparkle if one has sparkling eyes.

He clearly enjoyed overhearing my imitations of Lee Polk in the squadroom outside his office. Rey Garcia probably remembers more than any of us. Once Dave had me come in his office to give me a book called Political Thinking, but I'd already had it for a course in Lawrence and kept mine. His course on rhetorical history sort of woke my intellectual curiosity. There are mists of margarita fogs. It seemed at times in Waco that David Hingstman was some sort of Ivy League consiglieri for the Polk-English crime syndicate. He sat in on my thesis defense and saw that Dr. English's question about the meaning of "tone" on page 43 was about to make my head explode. Dave made a joke and his eyes sparkled and Dr. Battistoni's eyes sparkled and the question appeared to disintegrate.

David Hingstman is one of the few humanoids who has witnessed how incredibly pathetic I am on a tennis court. And this is still just 1985.

And the girl in the hot tub's name was Lee Anne Fritzler. Was that Oakley's apartment? I guess that's Judge Oakley now.

So, David Hingstman was a quiet member of the debate squad administrative hierarchy. While Robin Rowland was undoubtedly the best at recommending a powerful argumentative gesture, David Hingstman had four articles about the new case none of us had heard of.

David Hingstman convinced Rowland to take me with the Baylor contingent. Connections I made with Karen McGaffery, Christine Mahoney, Erik Jaffe likely my opportunity to work the next two years at Dartmouth College.

During the two years that I was working in Hanover, the major competition was the Baylor Bears. They were really good and David Hingstman was always there.

I've said before that David Hingstman taught us all due diligence by example.

And then I wasn't in Hanover anymore, and Dave wasn't in Waco.

To be continued at his next retirement.

David Rhaesa, Kansas, Dartmouth, Iowa

******* Director at Iowa *******

Trust and Faith in Decisions and People - Dave's First Iowa Team

Lennon, Michael, Jr. (University of Iowa)

Dear Dr. Dave,

Congratulations on the occasion of your retirement. Thank you for your many contributions to the growth and development of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum. Your effort and leadership transformed Iowa Debate.

Some may remember, but some may not, so I will note that it was quite a leap of faith for you to come to the University of Iowa and the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum. You had a good thing going at Baylor, having scored NDT hardware with Mark Dyer, Lyn Robbins and Griffin Vincent in 1986 and 1987. Danny Plants and Marty Loeber were waiting in the wings and would go on to back-to-back NDT Finals appearances. Paul Slappey, rest his soul, somehow persuaded you to make the leap and we are all thankful you did.

I only had the privilege of having you as my coach for one year (1987-88; NATO topic). You arrived in July, as I recall, but don't hold me to that. I remember being in the new squad room on the top floor of the old law building working on a Russian surprise (notice the spelling) attack disadvantage on your first day at Iowa, if memory serves. After all the anticipation, it was nice to finally greet you.

For me, there also was a bit of uncertainty surrounding your arrival. I was the only senior on the squad. The prior year had been a disappointment, missing the NDT after having qualified the year before. There were a number of talented underclassmen on the squad, two of whom were rekindling a high school partnership that had achieved tremendous success. As it turned out, I had no reason to be anxious. You had time and energy for all of us. You rooted for all of us to succeed. You worked hard with all of us in pursuit of success. The practice rounds in the mock courtroom remain a strong memory for me.

Under your guidance, my partner (Steve Wells) and I had a solid year on the national circuit. I remember your continual encouragement as 4-3 break rounds seemed to keep slipping away. I remember your excitement when we got to 5-2 at Wake. And I remember your consolation when we discovered that one particularly miserly judge low-pointed us in an early round, keeping us out of the octo-finals by a point. I remember your elation (and David Rhaesa's) when we broke at Heart. It was so exciting to finally break through at a major national tournament, that we paid no mind to the smart alecks in the KU tab room changing our team name from "Iowa Days" to "Iowa Daze." I took it as a very positive sign of our development under your coaching that year that Ken Strange, rest his soul, sat in on part of Iowa LW's first round at NDT, after having been one of the judges in our elimination round loss to Michigan at Heart. NDT did not end the way we had hoped (4-4), but winning 14 total ballots, more than three teams that made it to elimination rounds, was a solid effort.

But it is not that year of coaching that I got from you that I treasure most. What I treasure the most about my time with you is coaching alongside you. In the Fall of 1988, a trio named Smith, Coco and Sandler turned up in the squad room. Shearer and Wells were still there.

Trust and Faith in Decisions and People (continued)

Lennon, Michael, Jr. (University of Iowa)

Omar Guevara arrived a year later. Those six guys won a lot of debates for Iowa, making the NDT elimination rounds for four consecutive years on the back of first round bids in three. I am grateful for the trust and confidence you showed in me, allowing me to help you coach them to all those wins. My contribution to their success was small in comparison to yours, but I cherished the opportunity to coach alongside you.

It is hard to believe my last debate for Iowa was over 30 years ago. But that realization highlights for me how many lives you touched through debate alone. I have no doubt that they, like me, benefitted from debating for you at Iowa. I look forward to meeting them.

Very best wishes,

Mike Lennon

From a Closet to a Rich and Successful History

Shearer, Shawn (17th Place 1988 NDT, 17th Place 1989 NDT, University of Iowa)

How should we all feel about Dave?

We should start at the beginning – the beginning of the David Hingstman years of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum.

I can only provide the view of one of the first students to have the opportunity to study under and learn from Dave (that's what we called him in 1987) at the University of Iowa. Many that have followed me rightly use "Dr. Dave ." But, that is part of the story that I missed. Others will be able to fill-in the gaps for me.

In April 1985, the University of Iowa (Garman/Leeper) were the 15th seeded first-round bid to the NDT and they lost to Harvard in the NDT finals. In 1985, Paul Slappey was the director of debate at Washington High School in Cedar Rapids and had created one of the best national high school tournaments (with the best debate trophies ever). Paul knew everyone.

The administrative events at the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum from April 1985 to May 1986 are unknown to me. However, the results were a debate program in disarray. In 1985, I was a junior at Valley High School preparing for my senior year of high school debate with high hopes for success on the national circuit and wanting to debate in college. My thoughts were Harvard, Kentucky, Northwestern, or Michigan. Debating for the University of Iowa was not on my mind.

Cary Stamp and I had an incredible year as seniors at Valley, with a round-robin win at the North-South. Cary decided to go to USC and debate (one year later Cary changed his mind and left southern California and came back home to Iowa City and helped rebuild the program).

I was undecided on where to go to school. Paul Slappey had left Cedar Rapids Washington to become the director of debate at the University of Iowa. Paul came to my high school graduation party in West Des Moines seeking my commitment to debate for Iowa. Paul must have had leaked his plans to JW Patterson, because JW also showed up at that graduation party seeking my commitment to Kentucky. It is hard to describe the presence of both Paul Slappey and J.W. Patterson arriving at a high school graduation party in West Des Moines – both of them crashing the event. My parents loved them both.

Kentucky was a strong team and has continued that tradition. Iowa was depleted in numbers, and with all of Slappey's strengths, substantive coaching was not one. Paul promised me that if I would come to Iowa, he would do everything he could to re-build the A. Craig Debate Forum and get me the best coaching he could.

From a Closet to A Rich and Successful History (continued)

Shearer, Shawn (17th Place 1988 NDT, 17th Place 1989 NDT, University of Iowa)

Ultimately, Slappey was persuasive and I had to tell JW I was not coming to Kentucky. As I recall, the first meeting of the team the summer of 1986 was comprised of Mike Lennon (Sr. – Sioux City), Steve Wells (So. - Ottumwa), Kirk Smith (Fr. - Ottumwa) and me (Fr. – West Des Moines). Local high school coaches O'Connor and Jacobs were helping us. We only had four people and computers did not exist and research was still by hand (although scissors, scotch tape, and copiers made fine briefs). The back files were in disarray. The topic was the First Amendment. The research load was heavy and required a lot of time in the law school library (which can be a scary place at 18 years old). The team had a new squad room in what seemed like the attic of the old International Building. We had folding tables and some chairs. We ended up developing a pretty good affirmative – prohibiting restrictions on speech on computer billboards (back then, there really was no internet for the masses, but the literature was forecasting the upcoming changes to society that we all live with daily). We were ahead of the times on thinking about the issues surrounding the First Amendment and electronic communications. But, Kirk and I were freshman.

How does this all relate to Dave (I mean, Dr. Dave)?

At the first tournament of the year in the fall of 1986, Northern Iowa, the first round pairings came out. There it was Iowa (Shearer/Smith) v. Dartmouth (Budner/Mahoney). Budner/Mahoney finished the year as the 4th first round and lost in NDT finals. The only coach with us was Paul Slappey. Needless to say, Kirk and I were a bit intimidated when we saw Ken Strange coaching-up Budner/Mahoney. Paul knew he could offer us little assistance, so he began scouring the hallways, running in his blue shirt, khakis, and penny loafers seeking any assistance he could find. You could hear his southern drawl echoing in the hallways. “Will someone please talk to my debaters! Will someone please come talk to my debaters!”

A few minutes later, in walks David Hingstman the coach of Baylor. He sat down with Kirk and I and told us what he thought Dartmouth would be arguing and what to do. I barely understood half of what he said, but understood enough to clearly know we were not yet researched on this topic. Yet, just that simple conversation and attention from Dave calmed us down – which is what we needed. We took our crushing gracefully, but learned in those five minutes where we needed to go and start working the following week.

At Paul Slappey's behest, David Hingstman left pre-round coaching of his Baylor teams to come coach two Iowa freshman just for a few moments before that round began. Was it Dave's kindness or Slappey's persuasiveness? Probably both 100% each. There was absolutely no reason for the coach of Baylor to come help the Iowa freshman just before the start of the first round of the first tournament of the year. David Hingstman did just that. Dave demonstrated that he was at heart a teacher, an advocate for the activity and its purposes, and committed to the development of all people with whom he interacted. Dave's simple act of taking a few moments to sit down and teach, giving us just some nuggets of his thoughts when he had should have other worries on his mind (his teams in the tournament and his judging responsibilities) will always stand-out to me when I think about Dave.

From a Closet to A Rich and Successful History (continued)

Shearer, Shawn (17th Place 1988 NDT, 17th Place 1989 NDT, University of Iowa)

After that season, Paul told me that he had persuaded (again) Dave to come to Iowa City where Slappey said he would make sure that the debaters at the A Craig Debate Forum were properly coached and taken care of – and, Slappey was insistent that he would make sure Dave (at the time all but dissertation) finished up that damn degree. Slappey often said the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum needs Dave to sit down and finish and defend his dissertation to get rid of that “damn ABD.” I then had three years of Dave’s guidance, and I am forever grateful.

I guess Dave did get rid of that ABD after I left Iowa City and he picked up the new name “Dr. Dave.” When I first learned he was called Dr. Dave, I knew Slappey was happy.

Debate, combined with Dave’s and Slappey’s influence on my life was so significant, that I encouraged my son Tyler Shearer to debate in high school. He debated for Highland Park in Dallas. Tyler won the Texas State Championship his senior year. While looking at colleges his senior year, Tyler and I visited Iowa City in 2013 and we received an emotional and heartfelt reception from Dr. Dave. He met us for lunch, showed us the debate room, walked campus with us. When we were done with the visit, Tyler was a Hawkeye and a new member of the A. Crag Baird Debate Forum.

Dr. Dave has taught and mentored two generations of my family. The Shearer’s will never be able to repay the knowledge and caring he has given us and the impact that he will have on the generations to come.

From taking his time to stop by and encourage the fledgling Iowa freshman while coach of Baylor to coaching A. Craig Baird debaters (including winners of the NDT and top speakers) for more than 30 years, Dr. Dave has been there for everyone in the activity, and has been there as tutor and mentor and teacher for all of his students.

The activity and the skills learned through its preparation were what mattered to Dave. Those skills and rigor transfer across all of life, not just debate. Dave was first of all a teacher and I do not think he understood back in 1986 that he was a teacher. He himself was always seeking more knowledge, as I am sure continued long after I left the University of Iowa and was witnessed by each of the members of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum that came after me.

I hate to see Dr. Dave retire. There are young (and old) minds that still need to absorb Dave’s thinking, decorum and being.

From a Closet to A Rich and Successful History (continued)

Shearer, Shawn (17th Place 1988 NDT, 17th Place 1989 NDT, University of Iowa)

I thank Dave for teaching me how to learn and, through example, showing me what a good teacher is like. I am grateful for Paul Slappey convincing me to come to the University of Iowa. I am grateful for Paul Slappey convincing David Hingstman to come to the University of Iowa. I have grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from both men.

The A. Craig Debate Forum is what it is today because Dave Hingstman left his position at Baylor (after winning to NDT in 1987) to take a flyer on some freshman and sophomores in Iowa City. Paul Slappey convinced him to take that chance and each A. Craig Baird Debate Forum member's life is better because of Dave's decision.

I am proud of what those two men built at the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum. I am also proud of each and every one of Slappey's and Hingstman's students and I am proud to be part of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum. I know that the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum will continue to reflect the influence of these men, just as it continues to reflect and teach the values of Dr. Baird.

When future University Iowa debaters look back on 1987 to 2019, they will see a rich and successful history of Iowa debate. David Hingstman will be seen as directly responsible for taking this team from folding chairs and tables with four debaters sitting in the attic of a building that should have been long condemned to what the program is today. Maybe someday it will be the Baird & Hingstman Debate Forum, or the Dr. Baird & Dr. Dave Debate Forum. Who knows?

Thank you Dr. Dave for everything you have selflessly provided to all of us.

Love you Dave (aka Dr. Dave),
Shawn Shearer

The Torment of Hingstman

Stamp, Cary (17th Place 1988 NDT, University of Iowa)

As a high school senior, I thought I was going to be a superstar college debater. I made my way from Des Moines to the University of Southern California. During my brief time as a Trojan, I made some great friends, felt welcomed and appreciated and learned to love the warm weather lifestyle. However, I had this nagging feeling that USC would be an unlikely place for me to have tremendous national debate success. I felt the pull to return to Iowa and when Slappey pulled me aside and said he had a scholarship for me and that David Hingstman was coming to coach at Iowa, my decision became very clear. Hingstman was coming off an incredibly successful stint at Baylor, winning the NDT the prior year and I was unclear why he would want to make a move to Iowa City. I suspected Slappey had some compromising material on him but I was never privy to that info.

At Iowa, I reunited with my high school partner, Shawn Shearer. Along with Mike Lennon and Steve Wells, we became the first of the Iowa teams that Dave would coach. It was an interesting time with some interesting characters. During our time, we had Rhaesa, Cheshier, a Japanese grad student, Satoru Aonuma, Slappey and his cast of supplicants. As a group, we had a great time, travelled to some “exotic” locations to debate and were united in our decision that Hingstman, while brilliant, had been sent for our amusement.

I always wondered how a guy could go through Princeton, Harvard, and Northwestern and end up in Iowa City. I wanted to escape Iowa from a young age and see the wide world. Dave seemed content with his condo in Iowa City and his economy car (I’m pretty sure it was a Camry). He did not yearn for material possessions or a big job in business or the law. He enjoyed buying a copy of every newspaper each morning and spending his time reading and thinking.

The biggest game that Shawn and I played with Dave was to leave briefs behind in the rooms where we debated. After each round, Dave would check the rooms where we debated to see if we had left anything behind. Eventually, we decided it would be fun to start leaving random items, cut up pages and copies of things we already had to see what he would produce for us later. He never failed to come back with some shredded newspapers or crumpled argument briefs.

I will always be grateful for the example Hingstman set for all of us. He was always prepared and was willing to share his time and wisdom for any student who wanted to make an extraordinary effort. There was no room for slackers and when it became apparent that debate was no longer the most important part of my college experience, I stepped aside so others could soak up his wisdom. Thank you, Dave, for being a great mentor, role model and friend.

Cary Stamp, Jupiter Florida September 2021

The Top Floor of the International Center

Smith, Kirk (University of Iowa)

Hi Dave,

Congratulations on your many years of success at Iowa and your much deserved retirement! I can't believe it has been more than 30 years since our days up on the top floor of the International Center. Our time together, while brief, has always left me with only the fondest of memories of you, your demeanor, and your intellect. I was not your best debater and I certainly was not your hardest worker back in 1987-1988. Nevertheless, you always treated me with the utmost respect and kindness. Thank you for that and our continued friendship! I wish you nothing but the best.

Kindest regards,

Kirk Smith

A “Good Sport”

Smith, Chuck (NDT Top Speaker, First team in history to go 24-0 in ballots at the NDT, Novice Nationals Champion, 3rd Place, 5th Place, and 9th Place (2x's) finishes at the NDT, University of Iowa)

One of the things debaters from the class of 1992 quickly discovered when driving to debate tournaments in the Midwest is that every song on the radio was, or should be, about Dave Hingstman. And, two things Dave quickly learned about us was that we loved to break out into song but were not very good singers. So, for example, when the song “What I like about You” by The Romatics came on the radio, we would start belting out “What I like about Dave.”

I believe it was the trip to the 1989 Kansas Heart of America where the creative juices were particularly flowing. And, we spent the better part of a few hours rolling through Iowa and Missouri composing our own epic re-write of Cat's in the Cradle. At this point, I do not remember all the verses sung that day, but the refrain still rings in my head:

And Mike's in the cradle and Cary's a buffoon

And Dave is f'n with the moon

“When are we going to debate well?” “I don't know when”

But we'll win an out round then, Dave

You know we'll win an out round then

Dave was always a great sport about indulging us and making the debate experience fun. And, that's what we like about Dave.

Hingstman's Pen is as Sharp as His Tongue

Coco, Nathan (First team in history to go 24-0 in ballots at the NDT, Novice Nationals Champion, 3rd Place, 5th Place, and 9th Place (2x's) finishes at the NDT, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave, I am thrilled to celebrate you and your magnificent career as Director of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum. I cannot thank you enough for the countless things that you have done for me personally and academically. Aside from helping me advance and sharpen my skills as an advocate and a debater, you also taught me how to be a good student, a concise writer, and helped me to develop confidence in myself academically. The many skills and lessons that I learned from you in my formative years have been instrumental to my success as a practicing lawyer, particularly the writing lessons.

I still remember the first time I asked you to review a draft political science essay that I wrote Freshman year. It was about three pages long – for me a *magnum opus*. You glanced at it disapprovingly, appeared to wince, and then feverishly marked it up. When you handed it back to me, all three pages were completely covered in red ink. Not a single sentence was spared from your carnage. After making your suggested edits, I was left with a draft that was only three paragraphs long. It was disheartening but also invigorating. No one had ever taken the time to show me how to be an effective writer. You explained to me that proper academic writing was a precursor to proper legal writing. And through the course of several additional (and equally jarring) drafting sessions in my early years at Iowa, you succeeded in making me largely literate and intelligible. Over the years, as I have been charged with editing and dissecting the writing of junior lawyers, I have adopted the same approach and techniques that I learned from you. However, I should note that current Human Resource standards prevent me from using the same colorful language that you employed to describe my early drafting efforts. (Those were simpler times; I miss them tremendously.)

When I reflect upon my time with you over the course of my college years, it is filled with happy memories and grand appreciation. Thank you for that, and I wish you all the best in the years ahead.

-Nathan F. Coco

Instilled Survival Skills

Sandler, Randal (9th Place 1992 NDT, 9th Place 1991 NDT, 17th Place 1990 NDT, University of Iowa)

Dear “Doctor” Dave,

As a fellow retiree (for the most part), I am writing to welcome you to the next stage of your life. But here’s the thing. It is hard, if not impossible, to imagine you as “retired.” Does that mean you’ll take up mahjonn? That you’ll start playing golf? Travel the country in an RV (or your Camry)? Maybe we should start a book club! As long as we keep it light.....

As you embark on this new journey, allow me to congratulate you on a wonderful career and a remarkable run with competitive debate. You are a first-ballot hall of famer. To be honest, while I’m sure every era has its challenges, it’s pretty remarkable that you even survived the late 80s and early 90s. Stamp, Shearer, Omar, Monte, Coco, ... And that’s even before we get to the motley crew of coaches. Wow, if anything, you’re a survivor. And just how much of that Princeton/Harvard/Northwestern education did you incorporate as survival skills? We’d all like to know.

Dave, you have always been an inspiration. From the moment you left Simpson, Thatcher in 1980, you have followed your passions and blazed your own trail. And I have always admired that about you, and I can’t help but think it has influenced me on my own unconventional exit ramp from the peculiar world of competitive debate. I also admire your unwavering intellectual curiosity. I just hope you’ve cleaned out your vast collection of newspapers, periodicals, and old flows in this digital age. We wouldn’t want to see you starring in an episode of “Hoarders”.

I look forward to celebrating your career in style in a few weeks back in Iowa City. Thank you for the opportunity to debate for you. Thank you for helping me to acclimate to a corporate environment where every meeting is taped (and catalogued) - it was a seamless transition. Thank you for your guidance and mentorship, and the confidence you showed in me. And thank you for the meaningful relationship that spans almost 35 years at this point. Hard to believe. So, I congratulate you on an epic career and wish you all the best in this new chapter. I look forward to seeing you soon ... it’s been much too long.

Fondly,

Randal

Success is in the Details

Kueter, Jeff (17th Place NDT, University of Iowa)

Of the many things I learned from Hingstman, two I live with everyday – the superiority of Uni-ball pens and the importance of details. The indoctrination into the cult of Uni-ball began at freshman work week and the lesson stuck. No matter the twists and turns of my career Uni-balls remain the preferred writing instrument.

But, the more significant lesson was the importance of details. As I came to understand it, the lesson was -- you will win more debates and most importantly win the close debates, if you know the nuances better than your opponents. Not being the fastest or most persuasive speaker, I figured early on I might find success by working the details. Worked out ok.

Fast forward to senior season - time to shine, right? Prepping for the Kentucky Round Robin, never been asked to go to that, nervous, and truth be told, more than a little scared about whether I had what it took to compete at the highest level. Only thing to do in that circumstance was to try to outwork the problem. So, I threw myself into prep and, in doing so, totally ignored most everything else.

"You need to pick a song," Slappey and Dave told me and seemingly reminded constantly in the weeks leading up to the tournament. Didn't understand why that was so important and totally blew it off - out of arrogance or hubris or ignorance - foolishness most likely.

The Round Robin comes and its every bit the challenge I expected it to be debate-wise. What I did not appreciate well enough going in were the social functions and their centrality to the experience. At one of those, the selection for the Best Song was made. In the lead up to the announcement, I'll admit to feeling more than a little awkward for having blown it off -- embarrassed more so for not having Iowa (and myself) represented.

Imagine my surprise when they announce that I had won 2nd place for submitting Led Zeppelin's Kashmir, dubbed a most appropriate matching of a song to an affirmative ("Big India" development aid was the aff).

Dave had submitted the song.

All the details matter, not just some, as does kindness. I have kept the trophy all these years (in places where I see it almost daily) as a reminder of those lessons.

The Greatest Gift of All - The Craft of Research

Johnson, Monte (9th Place 1993 NDT, 5th Place 1994 NDT, University of Iowa)

Thank you to David Hingstman

I was recruited to the University of Iowa with the promise of being coached by Dave, who came highly recommended by my High School Coach Bob Gilmore, who had himself been coached by Dave at Baylor University. I did not appreciate until much later that Dave was not just a debate coach but a mentor to me with respect to all kinds of academic pursuits and intellectual interests. I will always appreciate his careful explanation to me of “both sides” of various difficult philosophical and political concepts, and above all his direction for further research. Dave taught me so much about the craft of conducting research at a professional level. This is how I earn my living now, and so I think of him and what he has taught me a lot, and I appreciate it above almost anything else I have learned. Thank you Dave!

Monte Ransome Johnson (Class of 1995), Professor, Philosophy Department, University of California, San Diego

Support Extends Far Beyond Debate

Epping, Eric (University of Iowa)

Dear Dave,

If I remember correctly, your arrival at Iowa was about the same time I began my own participation in debate at Washington High School in Cedar Rapids. I also think the first time I met you was at Washington High School for the 1988 Iowa Caucus Tournament. I was one of the students working with you in the tab room, and I recall at first being intimidated by you. Fortunately, that was not a lasting impression, and I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to learn debate from you, first from attending the Iowa Summer Debate Institute, and later as a member of the Iowa debate team under your direction. Although I was only a member of the team for one year, I have many fond memories of that time, and I consider myself fortunate to have learned from one of the best. Your commitment to the students of debate is evident not just by the success they have had over the years, but also from your support for every one of us individually, which extends far beyond debate. Over the years since my own time with Iowa Debate, I have always enjoyed learning of their continued success, often directly from you when I would see you around Iowa City. Iowa Debate will not be the same without you and all of us who participated during your tenure are grateful for our time together.

Eric Epping
(1990-91)

Portable Skills

Earl, Tiffany (9th Place 1993 NDT, 5th Place 1994 NDT, 9th Place 1995 NDT, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave played a pivotal role in shaping who I am, how I think, how I work and has ultimately contributed in a significant way to my success. It began by taking my desire to compete, and then Iowa Debate provided the opportunity to channel that competitiveness into an academic modality.

Honestly, all of my memories of Dr. Hingstman relate to both hard work-- whether it be going over his detailed notes of "the new case" released by one of our formidable opponents in the quarters or back in my day (during the early stages of Lexus Nexus), seeing his shorthand of various pieces of evidence that he thought we would be able to use. I have fond memories of both Dr. Hingstman and David Cheshire helping us strategize, providing an infinite source of encouragement and being willing to give their time, energy and direction. For this, I thank you!

All of my experience with the A. Craig Baird Debate form and Iowa Debate have translated into my professional life where they took me from finishing near the top of my class at Iowa Law School to a successful law practice at a big firm to leaving the practice to become a commercial real estate broker and developer. I still work as hard as I did back then, and the topics are different but strategic thinking is always paramount.

Many thank yous to Dr. Hingstman and Iowa Debate for helping us all learn how to learn more effectively, encouraging us to work harder and think more strategically. The skills we learned have application to so many professional paths but all lead to success.

Tiffany Earl Williams
Listen. Work. Results.

The Bringer of Joy & Song

Scott, Karen (District IV Champion (2x's), University of Iowa)

To Dr. Dave on your Retirement,

Congratulations on your retirement! While I lack the photographic memory of so many of my peers in remembering specific rounds and arguments, I have nothing but the fondest memories of you during my time on the ACBDF, and have an assortment of memories that have stayed with me all these years. I remember you clear as day moderating all our public debates in Levitt, doing station identification for Iowa Public Radio in the middle of each debate! Your office at the International Center – with papers and cassette tapes lining the walls. Your black Toyota Camry. For some strange reason, you being referred to as “Drug Lord Dave” or “DLD.” The work weeks and the birthday lunches at Carlos O’Kelly’s. Giving me a huge, comforting hug when I finished my last debate at Iowa. Running into you at Old Capitol Mall once where you ran up to me and started serenading me with whatever lite rock song was playing over the speakers (Seriously, I remember this! I think it was Roberta Flack’s Where is the Love). Getting to see you and the new crop of debaters at the occasional tournament here in the Twin Cities. What a joy it was to see you and the team at your final NDT!

I remember talking with others on the team once about how you seemed to know everything and someone said “Dr. Dave has probably forgotten more facts than I’ll ever know in my lifetime.” That’s always stuck with me too, and I’m so grateful you used your talent and intellect to help so many of us find success on the ACBDF. Always on the side of truth!

Happy Retirement!

Karen Scott c/o 1998

Always Special to Have Dr. Dave in the House

Nelson, Chris (University of Iowa)

Nelson Wedding

Wedding for Chris and Liz Nelson, 7/18/98

It was special to have Dr. Dave and Mr. Slaphey drive to Des Moines to celebrate our wedding with us!



Mr. Paul Slaphey, Chris Nelson (Class of 1998), Dr. Dave Hingstman

Epitome of Commitment to Others

Rayburn Yung, Corey (NDT Top Speaker, NDT Finalist, University of Iowa)

My favorite Dr. Dave story, which epitomizes his commitment to helping the team, comes from a double-octas round at the NDT on the Middle East topic. At that time, Gordon Mitchell's Pitt team was running a case that involved sending the scouting casebook to Congress and the Middle East nations. Many of the cards in the 1AC were authored by Gordon, which was an unusual dynamic. It was a weird time. So, to counter-balance the coach -quote asymmetry, Dr. Dave spent an hour before the round writing us a card, on multiple sheets of legal paper, in the cursive handwriting that he never abandoned. It was great. Dr. Dave was always there to do whatever was needed and offered us endless support. I will always be grateful for everything he did for me. I wouldn't be the person I am without him.

Thank you, Dr. Dave. - Corey Rayburn Yung

Corey Rayburn Yung
William R. Scott Research Professor
University of Kansas School of Law

Hingstman is the Standard of Measure - Inspires Academic Career

Jensen, Mike (University of Iowa & University of Canberra)

As a university academic, I want to focus on the role Dr. Dave played in my path to an academic vocation. We all come into contact with lots of academics throughout our time in college. The difference for us on the ACBDF, Dr. Dave was there every semester, at least once a week for squad meetings, but more likely longer than that given the hours spent by the coaching staff doing practice debates, and the long hours in the squad room during work weeks and even outside of that. When I reflect on the journey that got me to where I am today, Dr. Dave was one of the critical people on that path -- who I thank, and sometimes blame -- for me becoming an university academic. I'll never forget my last year at Iowa coaching debate, checking my email on the squad room computers and receiving the message saying I got admitted to my top preference for grad school and they wanted to invite me out for a recruitment visit. That happened in the squad room. And I recall having a conversation with Dr. Dave sometime around then when he told me that he thought I would make a good academic. Hearing this from someone who ended up at Harvard Law as his safety school meant a lot. To be honest, that is probably the statement that, more than anything, has made me question his judgement, but here we are.

It is hard to summarize David Hingstman's contributions as an educator and a debate coach so I have selected two events that were both significant for me and serve as representative anecdotes that capture who Dr. Dave is and his contributions to the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum (ACBDF).

One of the first impressions I had of Dr. Dave when I arrived at the ACBDF's basement headquarters, the squad room, was the extensive library of journals Dr. Dave maintained behind his office. These covered current events magazines, newspapers, and academic journals spanning economics, political science, sociology, and philosophy. In the front of the office, there were shelves filled with books as well -- and this was not even his academic office in BCSB, which of course was filled with more books. It was a debater's dream (not to be confused with debaters dreaming back there as many debaters would go back there to take a nap -- I recall being forced to do so after a month of sleep deprivation in preparation for the NDT). If you perused his collection long enough, you could probably find something back there for any case, disad, or "kritik" that came up in a scouting report. But it was also a wonderland for the intellectually curious. It is from that experience that I began to size up my professors, and now my colleagues, by looking at the libraries they maintained in their offices. It became a marker for how serious an academic you were based on how wide ranging you were willing to explore ideas and topics. And while most American academics fit the mold of a highly specialized scholar in a narrow niche, Dr. Dave's intellectual engagements were far ranging.

After a year in grad school I came back to work at the Iowa Summer Debate Institute and, having read a lot of political theory that first year, I put together a critique of security and identity politics. Having attended seminars with academics who engage some of these topics, I felt more comfortable in making sense of their deployment in a debate context. It turns out, Dr. Dave took the time to read through the file so I asked him what he thought. He casually

Hingstman is the Standard of Measure (continued)

Jensen, Mike (University of Iowa & University of Canberra)

replied that there were three different, incommensurable concepts of identity in play there, briefly summarizing each. Somewhat concerned at this point, I suggested I would go back and redo the file to make it consistent. But he assured me that was unnecessary as it didn't matter. That was a lesson to me in Dr. Dave's intellect. He could quickly take stock of a body of argument on a level much deeper than any of the debaters could. Dr. Dave's court counterplans inspired trepidation around the NDT, but it was likely widespread naivete that saved Iowa's opponents from the generalized fear they probably should have had every time Dr. Dave prepped a team. His capacity to engage with such a wide variety of arguments and think a level or two deeper than the debaters or even the original authors being cited is a mark of a rare thinker.

I spent six years around the ACBDF and those were truly formative years. In the recruitment pitches to parents, we always talked about the significant contributions of debate to the intellectual formation of college students. That the critical thinking, research, and organizational skills debate teaches would serve them well in a variety of career paths. But passion for intellectual engagement with arguments and the ability to learn from Dr. Dave was something that was hard to communicate, but it was a privilege of members of the ACBDF.

Dumbledore of Debate

Foster, Trevor (9th Place NDT, University of Iowa)

The first time I met Dr. Dave was in the stacks of Baker Library at the Dartmouth Institute the summer before my senior year. I was having trouble finding a certain book, and I enlisted the help of several students. When we all struck out, they landed on the same suggestion to talk to Dr. Dave. Back then, I was very intimidated to talk to Dr. Dave. He was teaching the top lab, so the Dr. Dave mythos was incredible—valedictorian at Harvard Law, received one of the highest Mensa scores ever recorded, literally memorized the entire card catalog in the Dartmouth Library, and, heck, his first name was Doctor. But amidst the litany of rumors that surrounded Dr. Dave, one was consistent—“he’ll know the answer, and he’s really nice.” So, I bit the bullet.

Dr. Dave was eager to help, especially in a library. He swept the card catalog number from my hand and began briskly leading me through the catacombs of books like *Dumbledore through Hogwarts*. Without taking a single wrong turn, he led me directly to where I needed to be. After then asking what I was researching, he had a number of other suggestions of where to look and directions on where to find them—including other libraries. He even grabbed a couple of other books for me to read. That is the moment that I learned first-hand that Dr. Dave was, in fact, nice, and he had, in fact, taken the time to memorize the entire card catalog.

I am so grateful for the many opportunities that I was given to receive Dr. Dave’s wisdom and kindness. From greeting my mother and I on campus as I made college decisions to congratulating me at my wedding. We traveled all over the country together, and I certainly listened to my share of NPR. I’ll save the bits during my college debate career for the roast (sorry about that, by the way), but it’s remarkable that after so many years from those days at Baker Library, if a High School debater walked up to me now and asked for help, I’d say the same thing—“talk to Dr. Dave, he’ll know the answer, and he’s really nice.”

Dr. Dave, we were so lucky to receive your warmth, spirit, and generosity. You cared deeply about the activity and the people in it. We all felt it. I hope that you feel all of our love in retirement. Thank you, Dr. Dave. We love you.

Trevor and Melissa

P.S., Melissa still wants you to know that you can come live with us—she’s been planning it for two decades.

Winning Some Debate Tournaments was also Pretty Good

Kristin Langwell (Copeland Award Winner, University of Iowa)

Dear Dr. Dave, many congratulations on a fantastic career. Like so many others my life is so different because of your and Paul's leadership of the ACBDF. My fondest memories are those trips to Santa Monica and all the good food. Winning some tournaments was also pretty great. Thanks for your mentorship, friendship, time, effort and understanding. You are invaluable and I'm so happy for this next, hopefully relaxing, chapter of your life.

Much Love

Kristin Langwell

Eye-opening Advice

Peterson, Andy (NDT Champion, University of Iowa)

What I remember most about Dr. Dave is that he gave you his full attention. When I came to Iowa, I was a kid from a small Iowa high school, debating with a sophomore who had also toiled on the Iowa high school debate circuit. The year before I arrived, Iowa had been in the finals of the NDT and had a number of returning upperclassmen, and though I can't remember what my expectations were for coaching attention, they certainly should not have been very high.

Soon after I arrived for that first week of team practice, however, I found myself debating in front of Dr. Dave. With his stack of legal pads, flowing longhand, he would patiently listen as young debaters tried (with middling success) to learn the ins and outs of college debate. He would patiently provide argument advice, and sometime recommend listening to one of the cassette tapes he had recorded of rounds he judged in the 80s.

The difference between the type of judging and advice you received in high school debate, versus what Dr. Dave provided was eye-opening. The seriousness, sincerity and thoughtfulness of his coaching translated, at least to this young debater, into a belief that college debate was not impossible, and that with hard work would come improvement and, hopefully, success. That lesson, imparted simply by taking each debater he coached seriously, is one of the best I ever received from a coach. I count myself very lucky to have joined a team with Dr. Dave as a coach, and I hope he is able to enjoy a long and well-deserved retirement!

Andy Peterson

Use Intellect in Pursuit of Goals - Assist Others to Raise Their Bar

Cleveland, Clayton (University of Iowa)

I want to be like Dr. Dave.

I want to offer my congratulations to Dr. Dave on reaching this milestone. This is an amazing accomplishment—especially knowing that Dave had to put up with students like me to get to where he is today. Even under the best of circumstances, leading that kind of student takes tremendous effort and dedication. Dave excelled in his role at creating an environment where his students worked to do better. What I first walked into the ACBDF squad room I had no idea what life had in store for me let alone what would happen should I join the debate team. At the time I did not expect that I would become a professor in my own right nor have students of my own. DLD showed himself to be a very conscientious and challenging coach. Of course, Dave drove his teams to excel. He showed how a towering intellect could be used in pursuit of our goals both inside debate rounds and how these pursuits can make our lives better. While he had a disposition that suggested he had exacting standards and occasions where he would be displeased should you fail to meet them, he had a very caring nature. He always showed that he was willing to help and to always pay attention to what is going on even after we left Iowa. I strive to do better because of the role Dave played in my life at the ACBDF. I see Dave as a professor, a teacher, a coach, and a mentor. I think the highest compliment I can give Dr. Dave is that when I became a professor, I tried to emulate him. I used his as a model for working with my own students to raise the bar and push them to work harder and achieve more. His approach to teaching and the students at the ACBDF has left me the understanding what dedication and support are dearly needed to educate and prepare the next generation. He left me thinking that I want to be like Dr. Dave.

-Clayton J. Cleveland

Thanks, Dr. Dave - I'm Happy

Ryan, Andy (NDT Champion, NDT Top Speaker, Copeland Award Winner, University of Iowa)

The title of this story is both true and false. It's true that I'm thankful for Dr. Dave, but it's false to imply I was sad before he came into my life. Yet the statement—"I'm happy"—is the answer to the most memorable question Dr. Dave ever asked me. It is also the end of the third story I want to tell about Dr. Dave. Let me first share the other two.

It is my fault that our Copeland Award season ended in an NDT octos defeat. To say I was inconsolable is an understatement. I talked often about quitting debate and moving on to the next phase of my life (whatever that would be). One day, Dr. Dave called and asked to meet me for dinner. Over dessert, he asked if I really wanted to quit. If I did, he said, he and Paul would support my decision. I told him, honestly, that I wasn't sure. I was excited to debate with Andy Peterson, but if my last year in debate ended in another NDT octos loss, I was concerned that I wouldn't ever get over it. Dr. Dave said, "Only two debaters get to end their year with a win." With grace and warmth, Dr. Dave told me that no one could guarantee I would be one of the lucky two, so if I couldn't accept that my career would end honorably as long as I gave my best at another NDT, then maybe I should quit. He gave me a hug when we left. I don't know if it was the talk, or that the hug felt too much like a good-bye, but I realized on the walk home that Dr. Dave had put me back together again.

Well, sort of. Dr. Dave reignited my competitive drive. But what he really needed to fix was my brain. Debate Iowa straight up and we were invincible—forever on the side of truth. But critiques were all the rage, and cards from French or German philosophers caused me to curl up into the fetal position. At the start of the 2000-2001 work week, Dr. Dave came to me with a reading list: all books; all thick and dense; and all by French or German philosophers. Next, Dr. Dave kicked me out of the squad room. He told me to go home, read his books, and only come back when I understood them. That took a while. Dr. Dave didn't include a dictionary for all the big words that I didn't know. I called him at least once an hour to define words for me. Then I'd have to call him back when I forgot what the words meant or, worse still, when the author used more than one big word per sentence. Those days were pure torture. But by the end, Dr. Dave had fixed my brain—again, sort of. AP was smart enough to talk Derrida with the Ivy Leaguers. And Dr. Dave had taught me the basics, enough to roughly spackle over my still-considerable ignorance. In under a week, Dr. Dave fixed what had been an intractable, eight-year problem with my debating.

Nevertheless, most of my senior year felt like Groundhog Day. But instead of reliving a funny day with a marmot, I kept causing Iowa to lose in the octos of every tournament. In January, though, something unexpected happened. We started winning. The NDT looked to be in reach. Preparing for the NDT as a quasi-underdog felt good. Paul and Dr. Dave built a great coaching staff; the squad was firing on all cylinders; and AP and I were unbeatable (well, in at least 6 out of 8 prelim debates—we can't all be Iowa CS). But my confidence—and all of Dr. Dave's good work—faced a huge test in the octos when we faced Texas EH, the best critique team in the country. To this day, I can't tell you what the debate was about or why we won. But we did. And three debates later, Dr. Dave asked me the question that provided the title for this story.

Thanks, Dr. Dave - I'm Happy (continued)

Ryan, Andy (NDT Champion, NDT Top Speaker, Copeland Award Winner, University of Iowa)

Donn Parsons was ready to declare the winner of the 2001 NDT, but he wanted the coaches to be present, and Dr. Dave was missing. A few minutes later, Dr. Dave bounded into the Waco Convention Center's Bosque Theater and heard Iowa win its first NDT. After I high fived and celebrated my way off the stage, I ran up the aisle to Dr. Dave. As he bear-hugged me, I thought I was going to cry because all I could say was thank you. But Dr. Dave snapped me out of that maudlin moment by screaming in my ear, "Are you happy? Are you happy now?," over and over again. I smiled and said "Yes, I'm happy." And that seemed to be all the thanks he wanted.

The postscript to all three Dr. Dave stories is from my wedding. At the reception, a lawyer from my firm told Dr. Dave and Duck (Scott Deatherage) that I was pleasant and easy to work with. Without missing a beat, Dr. Dave turned to Duck and said: "Go figure. Andy had to become a lawyer to stop being an asshole." That's true, so far as it goes. The deeper truth is that I wasn't going to be pleasant, or happy, or anything else until I grew up. Dr. Dave knew that long before I did. He molded me into someone ready to grow up—proud of my time in debate, but ready to move on. And he did it all without me even knowing it was happening. For that, I will be forever grateful, indebted, and happy. Thanks, Dr. Dave.

Shaped Critical Thinking

Voss, Tara (University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave - Thank you for your dedication and years of leadership at ACBDF and congratulations on this new chapter! I have so many wonderful memories from my years at Iowa — shaped by you, Paul and the team. I learned to think more critically and build better arguments, and had such fun doing it.

Wishing you all the best!

Tara

Don't Go Scaring Dr. Dave

Diebold, Brian (University of Iowa)

I want to join in wishing congratulations to Dr. David Hingstman, or “Dr. Dave” as we all affectionately knew him, upon the occasion of his retirement. Dr. Dave’s kind, quiet, supportive nature left a lasting impression on me. He is the sort of person one simply enjoys being around. One of my favorite memories of Dr. Dave was the time that my debate partner, Louis Reeves, and I jumped out and startled him in a parking lot during one of our tournament trips. We really scared him more than we intended, and immediately felt guilty for what we had done. But rather than get mad, or kick us two upstart freshmen off the team, Dr. Dave waited to get revenge. I’ll never forget the image of him charging up the hotel stairwell later that evening, arms flailing and a wild and crazy expression on his face, as he attempted to scare us back. We all couldn’t help but laugh together. That to me summed up so much of his character – he simply met us where we were at, joining in, not taking himself too seriously, and showing generosity of spirit. I am so grateful for Dr. Dave’s presence in my life, and wish him a well-deserved and happy retirement.

Brian Diebold
Class of 2005

Debate is a Means to an End

Nelson, Jake (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

My sophomore year Tara Voss and I were paired together starting in the spring semester. We only had the opportunity to go to two debate tournaments before the NDT District IV Tournament. Because we didn't have enough rounds together as a partnership, we were not able to apply as a second round bid to the NDT in the event we did not qualify for the NDT at the District Tournament. Iowa, of course, had gotten however many first rounds in a row and Iowa had just won the NDT the prior year. Dr. Dave and the other coaches worked very hard helping prepare us for the district tournament but it just didn't go our way – we finished one spot away from qualification. I was disappointed in myself but more disappointed for what the result meant for Iowa's streak of consecutive NDTs attended by Iowa. While I'm sure Dr. Dave must have shared my disappointment at some level, he never showed it – he simply gave me a hug, said he was proud of what Tara and I did under difficult circumstances, and that we will go to CEDA Nationals in sunny California. It felt really good to know that as much as he cared about leading a top-tier debate program, he cared even more about his students and making sure each student was able to approach the activity on their own terms (let's say my approach the activity differed from my good friend Dan Paul), treated everyone with respect, and made sure they were able to grow as a person and as a student while participating at the ACBDF. I'm confident Dr. Baird shared that vision and the University of Iowa couldn't have been luckier to have Dr. Dave make his fateful decision so many years ago to lead the ACBDF.

Jake



Notes on a Photograph of Dr. Dave at Carlos O'Kelly's

Paul, Dan (University of Iowa)

It is not easy to look good in a Sombrero. Especially as a Caucasian male over the age of twelve. Especially if the sombrero is of the particular model dispensed by a chain tex-mex restaurant with a confusingly Irish name. Especially if it is placed on your head as part of a largely nonconsensual birthday celebration.

And yet. I would argue that Dr. Dave pulls it off.

At the very least, he is able to look “comfortable” in the Sombrero, itself no small feat. That he is able to pull this off feels representative of many of the traits that made him so successful a coach and beloved a mentor. In particular, the casual poise with which he is able to pull off this look in this photo (and others taken during this annual ritual) seems attributable to his:

Preparation: no one knows what the weight of the Sombrero will feel like until it is placed on their head. Nor can one know the angle that the underpaid and likely somewhat sadistic server will set it down upon them. And yet, have any of us seen Dr Dave so much as *flinch* upon receiving the Sombrero? That he maintained his poise speaks to the level of calm preparation we have all seen from him in the squad room. Put in other words: be it in the few minutes before an NDT out round, or in the group dining area of the Coralville Carlos O'Kelly's (with the eyes of the ACBDF on him, cameras ready to immortalize his reaction), the moment was never too big for him.

Sacrifice: let us state the obvious: wearing a birthday Sombrero fucking sucks. The object itself is cheaply constructed (with small pieces of straw jutting out and irritating the skin) and the unusual weight and proportion threaten a cascading failure every time you adjust it. Not only does it make you an object of observation (if not outright ridicule) it is also probably a decent example of problematic cultural appropriation, and the fact that its wearers are not taken to task for questionable acts of representation is probably mostly due to everyone feeling sorry for them for looking so stupid. On top of that, it makes the act of eating (which is, after all, the whole point of being taken out to lunch on your birthday) more difficult, as the eater is now encumbered by a hat whose oversized brim threatens to knock over their drink if they reach for the food at the wrong angle. And yet, Dr Dave never exhibits the slightest irritation. I think this a testament to his inner confidence (which is to say, I think he knows he is sort of pulling it off), but more importantly I think it stems from a trait I have found is common among the best educators: he knows that it isn't about him. He wears the Sombrero for the same reason he did most things during his time in Iowa City: for his students. And while this may seem like the minimum we should expect from our teachers and coaches, the truth is that it often stands out against the competition as visibly as wearing a stupid giant hat does at lunch.

Humility: the comedy of the image comes (like so much visual humor) from the juxtaposition of competing registers. We juxtapose the seemingly “low” register of the Sombrero (either because it is associated with the populist folk art of “mariachi”, or because it is being dispensed in a restaurant whose menu is just as much an indictment of the American

Notes on a Photograph of Dr. Dave at Carlos O’Kelly’s (continued)

Paul, Dan (University of Iowa)

diet as it is a representation of Mexican cuisine) with the “high” register of Dr. David Hingstman PhD / dude who legit hung out with Habermas (and if that is not true, the fact that it seems plausible is in itself confirmation of the point). And so, on the surface, it might seem that I mean that this photo demonstrates that Dr. Dave is not above being made the object of a joke. And while this is true, I do not think this is where the humility lies. Because he is not just wearing the hat; he is *comfortable* in it, and even seems to be getting ready to absolutely *destroy* some dessert empanadas. The point is that while at first the hat and man seem completely at odds, the image is better seen as example of what Kenneth Burke calls “perspective by incongruity,” in which seemingly incompatible images are juxtaposed to reveal a surprising similarity. While the hat may seem to be “lowering” Dr. Dave (in the sense of making him less intimidating than his intellect and his credentials might warrant), the truth is that simply talking to him has the same effect. For all his brilliance, he never made you feel stupid (at least on purpose). His calmness and kindness are the conversational equivalent of wearing a giant sombrero, allowing him to be the smartest person in the room without acting like it.

Perspective: here is the last thing that I want to say about this hat or the time spent in a now defunct restaurant near the mall: it was an immensely joyous occasion. And yes part of this was the free food. And part of this was the fellowship of our teammates. And part of it was the image of this truly brilliant man in a truly stupid hat. But what feels significant now (decades later) looking at this photo, is that *this* was what debating for Iowa was. Not the topics (not that I really engaged those anyway), or the debates, or the victories (though I will defer to the golden generations before and after my time to speak on this with more expertise). The experience of debating for Iowa was the accumulation of a million small moments in which the sum was greater than the parts. And seeing Dr Dave smiling during an August lunch wearing a giant hat, I think that he understood this. I think he felt like this was, despite the backdrop, the biggest and most significant part of the activity. And I think that this hat was, in fact, the perfect one for the occasion.

Support Extends Beyond Debate

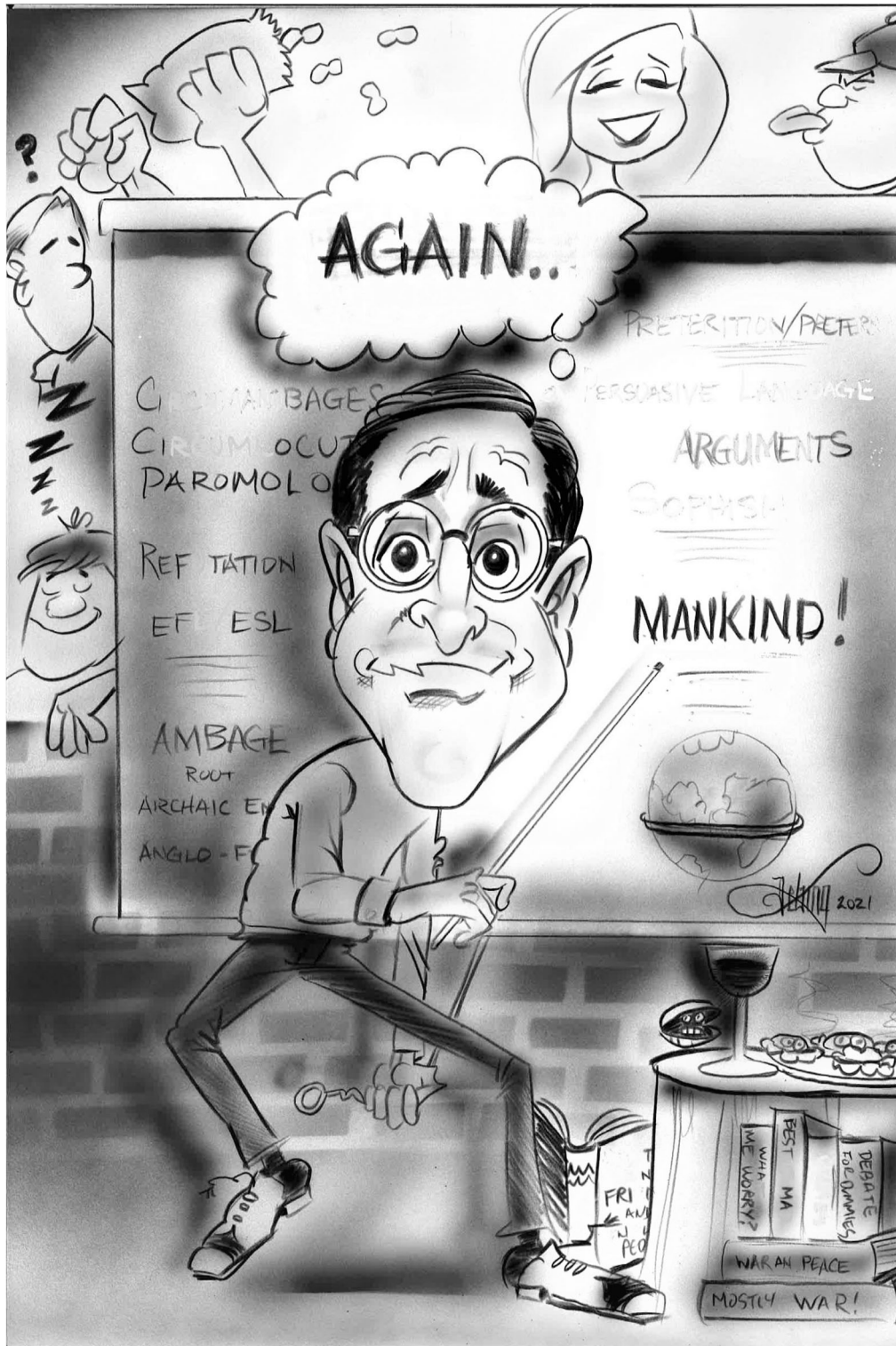
Lantz, Todd (17th Place 2006 NDT, District IV Champion (2x's), University of Iowa & Harvard Law School)

Congratulations Dr. Dave! Your legacy at the University of Iowa and in the debate community is obvious from the incredible effort put into this reunion to celebrate your retirement! I cannot express how much your guidance and support affected my life. Of course your coaching in debate was second to none. We always knew if we had DBH in our corner, then we were on the Side of Truth. But your guidance and support was even more significant in academics and in my life after the ACBDF. Notwithstanding some generous and perhaps egregious exaggerations of my personal achievements from another debate coach who will be remain anonymous, your support undoubtedly had the most influence in my admission to law school and my ultimate career. Thank you so much for your support – and congratulations on your retirement!!

-- Todd Lantz

The Futility

Krantz, Mike (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)



Dr. Dave Drops the Bomb - Mentors a Carny

Schoofs, Ross (University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave. There are so many things to say about this man.

He is truly one of the kindest, nicest individuals I have ever met. It has been nearly 15 years since I graduated, but every time I see or talk to Dave, be that at a wedding or reunion, he wants to know how I am doing, how my family is doing.

He is also one of the smartest people I have ever met. I often wondered if the man had a photographic memory – or how it was that any time the team ran into a new kritik or disad at a tournament a trove of evidence would appear from Dr. Dave that would utterly crush it.

And then there's Dr. Dave's sense of humor. Now, of course there is the sombrero which we all know about or a joke here or there. However, Dr. Dave by and large was pretty straight laced. Rarely did I ever hear him swear much, if at all – regardless of context. Which is what makes this particular moment all the better.

There exists a different side to Dave's humor, one of which I've heard about, seen and been on the receiving end. This humor usually came in the form of crushing a debater's soul while leaving the rest of the room on the floor laughing.

Now, I don't think many would argue that inherent in the nature of all debaters is a particular degree of arrogance. Dr. Dave's humor usually served as a check to that arrogance. I know I was on the receiving end of it many a times, but the greatest I ever saw came at Brian Severson's expense.

Seves and I were in the IC (International Center) (along with I believe Todd Lantz), having an argument over whether f**k could be used as any part of speech with the exception of conjunctions. Seves wasn't so sure and solicited Dave's take on it as he had just walked into the debate room. In a matter of seconds Dr. Dave rattles off:

Well, Seves – you're a f**king moron. Adjective.

Seves, no one wants to f**k you. Verb.

Seves, you're a dumb f**k. Noun.

Seves, you eat too f**king much. Adverb.

Are we done now, f**k face? Pronoun.

Dave turns, walks into his office and that's that.

Business owners. Distinguished Professors. More lawyers than one could count. This is Dr. Dave's legacy - having mentored so many bright minds across the country. And then there's me. I work at a fucking amusement park. Thanks a lot Dave.

PS - I'm still pissed at the B+ in Theory and Practice of Argument.

Dr. Dave Turns Losses Into Career Success

Korab, Sam (University of Iowa)

The intent of this short narrative is to describe my time as a debater at the University of Iowa. I showed up losing at debate and not doing well at the game of life, encountered Dr. Dave Hingstman, and learned how to be successful. A lot of this happened through the public debate program. This story has three parts: the constant lack of success I experienced before listening to Dr. Dave, what he did to help me, and how this help continues to be effective.

I was a transfer student, from another university, who wanted to debate. I was struggling, really struggling. I could not hold down a job. I was on the 7 year plan in college. I was obsessed with debate at the expense of everything else in life. I thought tournaments were the key to happiness. Looking back I can clearly see that I was setting myself up for failure, since I did not have the background or skills to be a varsity level college policy debater. I tried as hard as I could, but I was an abject failure at tournaments. I do not remember winning a round. Dr. Hingstman and Mr. Bellus told me I was not allowed to travel anymore. I remember feeling quite despondent.

Finally, I genuinely asked Dr. Dave's guidance. He indicated he needed people to participate in public debates. I listened to Dr. Dave's guidance: it made me feel like I had value. I could help somebody else. During my last year at the University of Iowa, my focus was on public debates. My fondest memories of my young adulthood are from that time. I simply enjoyed the public debates and getting to be a part of the A. Craig Baird Debate forum. I started winning!

Dr. Hingsman's advice not only allowed me to enjoy myself, it eventually led to a successful career as a substance use disorder clinician. I help people recover from alcoholism and drug addiction. Presently, I am a clinician, with a goal of becoming a counselor. Public debates helped me prepare for this career and help me at my job on a daily basis. First, they helped me immensely when I was earning a certificate in addiction counseling, because addiction studies is basically atheoretical. I did well in addiction counseling school: I earned a 4.00 GPA and very high As in my internships. Second, having had this experience helps me within my career. Debate taught me presentation skills and how to work in groups effectively. These skills are applied on an everyday basis at my job. I have used these skills to work my way into success. I am a clinical associate at one of the nation's leading alcohol and drug treatment centers. I am well on my way to being promoted to a case manager and then a counselor. I have been given an award for embodying the company's philosophy of excellence by the CEO.

To summarize this story in personal terms, I think it is true that Dr. David Hingstman changed the course of my life. He is one of the kindest and most perceptive people I know. I was despondent and frustrated beyond words. He made a simple suggestion and slowly my life got better. I am also thankful for the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum and the University of Iowa for providing space for public debates. Public debate, like all debate, is life changing for many.

Thank you Dr. Dave, Your student, Sam

Iowa Debate's Longest Troll

Vint, Kyle (17th Place 2010 NDT, District IV Champion (first ever 4x's champion), University of Iowa)

As planning for the reunion has picked up, I've increasingly found myself reminiscing about my time associated with the ACBDF. Having debated at Iowa and having returned as a graduate assistant meant that I had the privilege of spanning a decade of debaters, coaches, travel disasters, funding highs and lows, weddings, and slow encroachment of stacks of books in Dave's office through the last remaining walkable paths. Reflecting on that time, it's hard not to focus on Dr. Dave as one of the few constants. His role in my life predated my time on the team, serving as my lab leader during summer debate camp. He then became one of my coaches and ultimately served as my advisor in graduate school.

A lot will be shared in these pages about Dave's seemingly endless compassion, his biting wit, and ability to coach students of varying backgrounds and skills. These traits are at the center of one memory that is as vivid for me today as the day it happened. The story really begins in the fall of my first year on the team at the now demolished International Center during one of our weekly squad meetings. During the meeting, I was offered a soda and I declined, drawing an immediate rebuke from Bellus about why I would turn down the offer. I often embraced my role as team troll and, without really considering the potential implications, simply explained that it would go against my upbringing in the Mormon church. Mind you, this excuse should have been an obvious lie to anyone who knew anything about my love of Diet Coke and other vices, but somehow Dave and Bellus begrudgingly accepted the answer as truthful. Dave, to his credit, was skeptical, but he routed his skepticism through a series of informal questions about the precepts of the faith that I was able to adequately answer with the assistance of wikipedia.

Fast forward to March and the third and final day of the NDT. To that point, the NDT had not been a particularly enjoyable experience. Having been eliminated prior to entering the last day, my partner and I met unfamiliar territory with ample amounts of dejection. That morning, waiting in the "big room" for the round 7 pairings to be released, Dr. Dave bounded up to me, laptop and technology bag in tow, with a massive grin on his face. He let me know that he was sorry the NDT hadn't gone as expected and that he had stayed up through the night to prepare an argument that he thought would mean a lot to me. Excitedly, he told me that he had constructed a new affirmative that explored Supreme Court jurisprudence from the standpoint of the Mormon faith and that we would be able to tie my personal experiences of the topic into the 1AC. Amid the hundreds of people groggily pacing in anticipation of pairing release, I explained under my breath to Dr. Dave that I had been orchestrating a joke at his expense and that, while I was tremendously thankful that he stayed up all night to write the argument, it would not be appropriate for us to read the affirmative. In one of the few times I ever saw Dr. Dave raise his voice, he loudly 'shared' with me and every other person in the room what he thought about the months-long, carefully curated ruse. The world never felt smaller than when the whole of the assembled debate community watched as one of kindest and gentlest stalwarts of the activity rightfully yelled (while still somehow remaining polite; a skill I wish I could one day master) about how much of an asshole I'd been.

Iowa Debate's Longest Troll (continued)

Vint, Kyle (17th Place 2010 NDT, District IV Champion (first ever 4x's champion), University of Iowa)

Thank you, Dr. Dave, for being there for all of us, even when we are going through our toughest days. For decades, you've been an invaluable part of the Iowa debate team and the wider debate community. Your debaters and students are forever thankful for the role that you've played in their lives, even if we did everything to not deserve it.

Cheer!

Kyle Vint

Dr. Dave Imparts His Life Philosophy - Follow Your Heart

Stone, Corey (17th Place 2010 NDT, District IV Champion (4x's), University of Iowa)

One of my strongest memories of Dr. Dave's guidance concerns the worst best advice I've ever received. After finishing my final round of my final NDT as a senior, I spoke with Dr. Dave about my options following graduation. I had, essentially, two choices. One choice was to continue on to graduate school at Baylor, where I had been offered a graduate teaching assistantship. The other choice was to move elsewhere to live with my then girlfriend and figure things out from there. The advice Dr. Dave gave me was straightforward, but sincere. Dave simply advised that I follow my heart.

Following my heart did not lead me to graduate school in the immediate future. Following my heart meant putting my direct scholastic and career development on hold while I pursued a relationship which, ultimately, did not work out in the long-term. That is why I say Dr. Dave's advice was the worst best advice I've ever received. Ultimately, it was following my heart that led me back to graduate school and a different graduate teaching assistantship at Missouri State University. It was following my heart that led me to pursue an education and graduate with distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law. It was through following my heart back to Iowa that I met my now wife, Anahita, while I was in Law School. Following my heart led me to pursue a legal career in representing the indigent. Now, I am an experienced criminal defense attorney and advocate for justice married to my incredible spouse, who I am overwhelmed with pride to say recently began working as an attorney for the ACLU.

Dave never advised me that following my heart would be the easy path, but I think Dave trusted in the qualities of my heart and its ability to guide me to the right path. To know that someone like Dave trusted so fundamentally in who I was as an individual gave me the courage to overcome obstacles of circumstance and, ultimately, find a life filled with happiness beyond my wildest dreams. I have so very much and without hyperbole much of what I have I owe to the tutelage, patience, trust, and advice of a man I am beyond lucky to have had as a mentor. I followed my heart, and it worked out just as he knew. I love you so much, Dave, thank you.

Corey Stone, class of 2011

Placing Others on Right Road While Taking Wrong One

Croat, Spencer (Mediacom Champion, District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave,

You are not a great driver, but you were an excellent mentor. I think frequently of car rides to tournaments where you patiently provided counsel that turned me into a better advocate. I think of the fun times spent at smaller tournaments such as Liberty, Georgia, UNI, and the Mediacom tournament. I valued any opportunity to get one-on-one coaching from you because it always proved to be insightful. For that matter, I appreciated all of the discussion we had about non-debate topics as they proved to be just as engaging. One vivid memory I have—who knows why certain memories stick with us after all the years—occurred during my only trip to the Liberty tournament. Many may not remember, but as I recall, you briefly driving the wrong direction on a highway entrance ramp interrupted the early morning drive to the second day of the Liberty tournament. Consistent with your accomplished career as a coach, you barely missed a beat in providing counsel on the rounds to come as you U-turned to avoid oncoming traffic. In the four years that I spent working closely with you, I always attributed your poor driving to your focus and attention being diverted by your more pressing concern with helping students become better debaters, better students, and better equipped to achieve their aspirations in life. I will always be grateful that you brought me along for a few rides in a long career of car rides influencing so many debaters. I wish you all the best in retirement.

Thanks for the good times,

Spencer

Creating a Home - Receiving a High-Five

Kann, Sharon (9th Place NDT, District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave was an essential part of my experience as both a student and a debater at the University of Iowa. My first year on the team I was one of the only women debating -- an experience that thankfully changed over my years in Iowa City. Dr. Dave went out of his way to make sure I felt like I belonged, whether that was working with me on speech redos, helping with research strategy, or occasionally treating me to a nice dinner (something any college kid can appreciate)! Dr. Dave was there for so many of my formative experiences as a student at Iowa -- including being the professor for my last ever college class. I will always remember leaving that final and giving Dr. Dave a high-five right after!

Sharon

A Few Stories and General Recollections

Aufderheide, Trevor (University of Iowa)

I was an aimless high school senior when I first heard about Dr. Dave. I remember running into a former lab leader at the MBA tournament who asked if I knew where I was going to college yet. I had no clue. "Well, you should take a look at the University of Iowa," he said. "David Hingstman is a legend, one of the best minds and souls there is." That was one of the only times I truly followed a lab leader's advice, and I'm glad I did. Dr. Dave was a steadying force during my college years, both in and out of debate.

I began my time at Iowa in 2010 as a precocious and arrogant freshman, and by no means did this attitude restrict itself to policy debate rounds. Once I heard about the concept of public debates, I loudly boasted that I could defeat anyone in that forum, regardless of the topic. Dr. Dave didn't say anything at the time, but I received a clear response when the public debate schedule came out. I was assigned to defend the notorious 21+ bar ordinance in Iowa City. I don't think the ghost of Atticus Finch could even have swayed the college audience that night, so I sure received the smackdown I deserved. Luckily, the trademark post-debate dinner with Dr. Dave lessened the blow as we went over every rhetorical mistake that had occurred.

I eventually settled on Communication Studies as a major halfway through college, and a lot of the credit for that decision goes to Dr. Dave's mentorship and guidance. I signed up for his Theory and Practice of Argument class to satisfy my math requirement (thanks for making that easy, Iowa) and relearning the Toulmin Model might not be the most exhilarating topic for most practiced debaters. However, Dr. Dave always found a way to make class rewarding for me, whether it was with an optional reading or by letting me help other students in the class. He also humored my frequent visits to the organized chaos that was his office in the Becker building. Dr. Dave's insights, questions, and challenges are the perfect fertilizer for any curious mind; I'm eternally grateful for those chats and the intellectual growth that resulted.

I arrived at the 2012 NDT as prepared to party as I was to debate. My hotel room was stocked with Burnett's, Busch Light, and whatever other god awful swill a 19 year old could afford at the time. Unfortunately, a couple people apparently snitched on me the last night of our stay in Atlanta. I heard a couple knocks and the door and opened it to see Dr. Dave. "Trevor, I've been told that there is alcohol in your room. It's my responsibility to check for it. I'll be back in an hour to conduct the search." Thanks to the most ultimate bro move of all time, I had time to call my hooligan friends and organize a pickup before the investigation occurred. I think it should be okay to include this story now since Dr. Dave is retiring.

The Keen Observation of Dr. Dave Liberates

Long, Devin (University of Iowa)

When Paul asked for a submission, I had a very specific moment that I wanted to thank you for which had nothing to do with a debate argument, tournament prep, or insight on how to be a better debater. It was you giving me a book to read thinking about what I wanted to do with the rest of my life after you graciously drove me to my friend's house coming back from winter break my sophomore year.

I honestly can't tell you the content of the book, but I did remember finishing it in between playing too many video games instead of prepping or doing actual school work. What stands out to me a decade later is you were the first and probably only person in my life who did something to dissuade me from fulfilling what I thought was the only natural pathway to employment at the time and being a lawyer. Either no one else cared or could see that it wasn't ultimately what I wanted to do or would be happy doing. I needed someone to do that and it opened the world up to me where I didn't feel a pressure or expectation to have a career like most other debaters and felt free to travel.

It was probably an incredibly obvious thing to spot given my inability to enjoying working haha, but it still means a lot to me and something I value more than any memory in the debate room because it showed how much you cared about us and wanted what was best for us even when we didn't care or want the best for ourselves. Hope you are staying safe and you have a great retirement, you deserve it Dr. Dave.

Public Debate - Series of Meaningful Community Engagement

Ding, Jeffrey (Mediacom Champion, District IV Champion, Rhodes Scholar, University of Iowa)

My fondest memories with Dr. Dave at the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum revolved around the public debates he would organize throughout the year. It is funny saying that because I thought that debate would take up a much larger chunk of my life in college, as it had in high school, than it ended up occupying. Ultimately, I only had the chance to debate under Dr. Dave on the national circuit in my freshman year at Iowa.

Back then, my debate partner, Liam Hancock, and I were coming off a high school season where we won both the Tournament of Champions and the National Forensics League nationals. It was a successful year on paper — I still remember breaking as top six seeds in both the tournaments at the Coast swing — but I was getting burned out from policy debate. Speaking for myself, although Liam probably wouldn't dispute my characterization too strongly, we were not giving as much back to the activity and the team as they were giving back to us that year. Burned out, I decided to quit the team after freshman year to explore other interests.

Thankfully, Dr. Dave helped me stay connected to the debate team by letting me participate in public debates hosted by the debate team. I got a chance to debate the merits of Obamacare in the state capitol and also debate the feasibility of a 100%-renewable energy approach with two leading national experts, but the public debates I found to be the most meaningful were the weekly ones on topic like a junk food tax in front of our peers at the University of Iowa. Dr. Dave would make sure everything ran smoothly, patiently corralled busy and unorganized college students to do extra prep sessions, and always treated us to amazing dinners afterwards, where hearing Dr. Dave give his unfiltered takes was always a treat.

There are many other memories I could share. He was willing to drop everything to meet up when I really needed advice about applying for law schools. He was always so dependable in prepping us before every round. One time, a team we would debate soon broke a new affirmative case based on one book, and in two hours Dr. Dave had basically read the book and cut a case negative to it.

But for reasons that I can't fully articulate — maybe it's something about how public debates were one of the few bridges between the debate team and the broader community, maybe it's because now I realize why Dr. Dave valued the skills that public debates cultivated (and that these types of forums are needed more than ever) — it is the public debates that stick in my mind. In each of those debates, Dr. Dave always came prepared with four cups of water for each debater. Thank you Dr. Dave for all the small things you did for the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Ding
Class of 2016

Always a Good Meal and Good Conversation

Smaha, Allie (University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave,

Congratulations on your retirement, and thank you for your many contributions to Iowa debate and the broader debate community. I have many fond memories of my time on the team, but my favorites by far are the many fancy team dinners after public debates. Free food is the key to any college kid's heart, but it really was a blast expanding our culinary horizons on evenings filled with lots of laughs and camaraderie in exchange for a little public embarrassment with our peers. I will never forget the dinner where I tried duck for the first time and several of you opted for a fish dinner that arrived with a head staring back at you from the plate!

This list could go on, but my words can't do justice to the impact you made on each of us and our Iowa debate experiences. Wishing you all the best as you head into your next chapter!

-Allie Smaha

Chalk One Win Up to Dr. Dave

Anderson, Audi (University of Iowa)

When I hear Dr. Dave's name, all I can do is smile because he is such a genuine person, not just an amazing coach. I came back to the world of debate after taking several years off and was so hesitant to jump back in. Dr. Dave was always encouraging and constantly reminding me that I could do it if I tried, though I'm sure he would have talked me out of it somehow if I tried to quit. He didn't just care if we succeeded on the debate team, but academically and in life in general. I can't remember a single time he was in the squad room that he didn't have a smile on his face.

My favorite story about Dr. Dave came during the UNI tournament that year. It wasn't any grand gesture but it still sticks in my mind the most. My partner Christopher and I had not won a single round at any tournament so far. We were feeling defeated, and wondered what the heck we were doing. I just remember Dr. Dave outside one of the classrooms with us telling us to take it one round at a time and not to let the previous rounds affect us. He tried to find a few moments to make us smile and not think about debate so we would go into the next round with a clear mind. We won that next round and I am 100% it is because Dr. Dave pulled us back down to Earth. Now we didn't win another round that day but it was okay because Dr. Dave continued to push forward with the notion that we'll get them next time.

Dr. Dave helped make my year and half on the ACBDF some of the best college memories I carry with me.

All I Needed to Know I learned in the First Year of Law School

Wright, Henry (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

Why we hold on to the memories we do is a hard thing to explain, and I don't want to give the impression I know why these stories of Dr. Dave have stuck with me but they are the most vivid and so I feel compelled to share. That said, Dr. Dave's humility, wit, and commitment to his students tend to run through all of these. At the expense of him, and any others, critiquing my writing I'll work my way through a few stories that helped define me and my time at Iowa Debate.

As Dr. Dave was well established as a semi-mythical figure at Iowa Debate when I came into the squad room in the fall of 2014, I wanted to spend more time with him to bolster my debating chops. Unfortunately, that led me to pick his van on the way down to the season opener at UMKC with several other first-year debaters. This was unfortunate because I was not ready to respond to his wit and his "committed" driving style. This driving style makes a lot more sense in New York or Chicago instead of lane changes on long stretches of rural Missouri interstate. On the way down we got to hear Dr. Dave's take on the topic, get his advice for our first college tournament, and listen to stories of Kyle Vint taking advantage of Dr. Dave's good-willed nature. After he got done talking about The Andys winning the NDT I asked him, "Dr. Dave, is there anything that you aren't good at?" He took the briefest of moments to think about it and said, "marriage." Now I am sitting in the back not knowing if I had just hit on something extremely sensitive and ruined my relationship with this guy who everyone revered. I think he was more somber with his phrasing just to mess with me because we shortly after laughed about it. But, in my attempt to compliment him he returned it to me with humility and kindness. As a role model his words, often, were less important than his actions, which seems ironic for such a committed rhetoric junkie. That said, as I reflect on it now, he was not a professor of rhetoric but of communication and the ethos of his action set him apart.

This intense belief in humility also made him a fantastic pre-round prep or post-round support coach. Again, early in my career at Iowa, they took us to UNI's tournament to test ourselves against the regional talent and hopefully come home with some hardware. In the fifth round, we were Neg against Kansas City Community College needing to win the next two to break. In this debate, KCCC had a unique mechanism about technical law detail. We asked Dr. Dave to take a look at it to see if he has any insight on any arguments to help us tailor our strategy to their aff. He very calmly looks at the 1AC cites and laughs to himself and speaking probably a little too loud says something to the effect, "this is not how any of this field of law works!" My partner, Drew, and I saw the joy in his eyes to find that critical flaw in another person's argument knowing it would be to our benefit. The shortcoming of his brilliance is that neither Drew and I had much of an understanding of the legal detail he was getting into so we asked him to cut a card or two before the debate and prayed we would figure it out by the block. Now I don't believe we ever really figured out what the argument was, but we stuck with it as Dr. Dave drew it up in pre-round prep and it won us the debate! Dr. Dave was sitting on the decision listening and what I assume was taking notes but was more likely cracking the code to the meaning of life. Shortly after the beginning of the decision the other team's coach also came in. He was displeased, to say the least, that his team had lost because we were on the side of truth as it related to their legal mechanism. He puffed himself up as this great lawyer and the judge didn't know what she was talking about and that her decision

All I Needed to Know (continued)

Wright, Henry (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

was incorrect. We sat there quietly hoping he would run out of steam when Dr. Dave leans over and whispers, a little too loud, “he can’t be that great of a lawyer if he can’t understand why he is wrong. He should have learned this in his first year of law school.” I was shocked by Dr. Dave’s brutal honesty and how being on the side of truth can imbibe you with the confidence you need to be a great debater. In many ways, it was his way to convince us that we should be confident in ourselves which made all the difference in and outside of those debate rounds.

My initiation by fire into college debate included going to the California Swing, which was an amazing experience. We did not do nearly as well as we hoped and that led to some existential questioning of if I was good enough to keep going in debate. In a round-about way, I asked Dr. Dave about this without trying to give the impression I was fishing for compliments while standing in line to get lunch. Without being harsh he dismissed my concerns as just being part of the process. Adding that if Iowa Debate didn’t believe in us, they wouldn’t have brought us for this experience. That calmed my nerves and reinforced that belief that actions are what we ought to listen to more closely. And, just as quickly he dismissed my concerns, we got to see that the only option left for lunch was the vegan option. To say the least, this brought out the ire of the Great Dr. Dave and reassured me there are bigger concerns in life, like getting to lunch quickly.

I do have one more story, or rather, a conspiracy theory about Dr. Dave which I hope someone can confirm. I believe that given Dr. Dave’s vast knowledge base, perfectionist particularities, and mythical ambiance that he is housing the lost Library of Alexandria in his home. Now, I have no solid evidence of this other than his unusually excellent research, passion for books, and mythical nature of his life and success, other than the marriage of course. Now if anyone has tips that lead to answering it would be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I want to direct a thank you to Dr. Dave personally. You have been a positive influence in so many lives in and beyond the Universities you worked for. The reputation that you have as an academic searching for truth and openness to young peoples’ ideas is phenomenal. While we all have our faults there are few people, I know of that has been as good of a role model as Dr. Dave in decrying dogmatism, acting with humility, and expecting the best in everyone.

Elegy? Homage? Toast? Nope, a Tribute

Jackson, Christopher (University of Iowa & Penn State University)

First, a brief note on the title. Initially, I wanted to refer to this text as an *elegy*. But as Dave isn't dead yet, and J.D. Vance has soured me on the term. I considered *homage*, but we no longer live in the feudal era, at least officially. A *toast* seemed evocative of some middlebrow business conference. Hence: *tribute*.

I would not be the person I am today absent Dr. Dave's influence. I am certain there are hundreds of individuals for whom, in a non-trivial sense, this is also the case. All can attest to his incisive mind, quick (and frequently rather sharp) wit, and devotion to the University. Without in any way minimizing the significance of these qualities, and the inspiration (one can imagine him laughing at this claim, but it's true) it provides those who have the privilege of knowing him, I would like to focus on a different part of him. Specifically, his kindness. Admittedly, this is a trait that may be somewhat time-dependent. By the time I joined the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum in 2015, I was in the position of only hearing of the "nuclear Hingstmanship" era. When I think back on my most meaningful moments with Dr. Dave, they were only tangentially related to the competitive element of debate. To be sure, this is probably because I was (at best) a mediocre collegiate debater.

I remember our late-night chats in the Seashore squad room on subjects ranging from contemporary literature to the evolution of topicality to critical realism. I think of the long drive to the Indiana tournament where I sat shotgun and we talked the whole way through. There was a feeling that, in such moments, I could be at ease and honest about what I thought in a way few debaters truly experience. I think this was because, more than anything else, he really listened. There's a line in Simon and Garfunkel's "The Sound of Silence" about "people talking without speaking, people hearing without listening": that is the opposite of him. I always felt like he was paying attention to what I was saying. How many academics can one sincerely say that is consistently the case with? His gentility also meant he knew when conversations needed to be short. I recall one time we ran into each other while I was showing a young woman around Becker at 1:00 AM. Our interaction was limited to a few words and raised eyebrows. A class act through and through.

So, three cheers for Dr. Dave on a career of the highest caliber. If only more people could have the pleasure of having someone as thoughtful and helpful and driven in our lives as him. A real mensch, through and through.

It's the Small Things

Liriano, Geordano (CEDA National Champion, Debater of the Year, 3rd Place CEDA, University of Iowa)

By the time I had arrived to the University of Iowa as a student and debate team member, Dr. Dave was well established in the community. He had judged debates at the highest levels of competition and he had worked with a vast number of students through the years. While my style of debate was unique insofar as it critiqued many of the assumptions in those debates he judged, when I arrived to Iowa I felt as though he would help in any way he could.

Even when Dr. Dave did not travel for a competition he would send freshly cut evidence that he knew would be helpful throughout the tournament. I distinctly remember receiving evidence right before debates because he was paying attention to the pairings and wanted to extend his help.

Although our argument set was different when I first arrived to the university, through the years Dr. Dave focused on the little things, when research was necessary he would offer his expertise by going through messy institutional tape.

When I began to write this story I thought of moments like the beginning of the year birthday dinners for Dr. Dave, but what I've always admired about Dr. Dave is his tenacity to help and care for his students.

As his student and debater I want to wish Dr. Dave a happy retirement! Your teachings have made an immense impression on students from across generations and parts of the world.

Thank you Dr. Dave

Geordano Liriano

Hingstman Drew Me to Iowa

Gustavson, Sam (CEDA National Champion, 3rd Place CEDA, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave judged me at my first ever college tournament. It was day two of UMKC, and I was a freshman at Baylor just trying to figure out what college debate was. My partner and I were being coached by Dr. Scott Varda, another Hawkeye alum who was very happy when we received the pairing and saw we would get to be judged by Dr. Dave. We were prepping for the round, and Dr. Dave came in and pulled out his signature Macbook, ready to judge. After that debate, Dr. Dave immediately became one of my favorite judges. He was so thoughtful and careful in his decision making, and gave amazing detailed feedback. Dr. Dave judged me all the time after that. Sometimes he would vote for me, sometimes he would vote against me. But he was always thoughtful, respectful, and honest about how he perceived the debate, and always very helpful in his advice after rounds. After my sophomore year at Baylor, I decided to transfer and after some time, decided I wanted to debate for the University of Iowa. Dr. Dave was a big part in me deciding to become a Hawkeye. The relationship we had cultivated as a judge and debater was so strong that I felt very good about him becoming my coach. He immediately helped in making me feel welcome in Iowa. From just small talk and hanging out in the squad room, to helping talk through and prepare arguments, Dr. Dave was always there offering his support to the team. Some of my favorite early memories of Iowa Debate are Geo messing with Dr. Dave in the squad room. We all miss Dr. Dave and no one can deny that without Dr. Dave, Iowa Debate would not exist in its current form. We love you Dr. Dave, and I hope you are enjoying some well deserved relaxation in retirement!

Helpful and Kind

Christophersen, Coco (CEDA National Champion, University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave was always so helpful and kind. My fondest memory of him is, us getting Jamaican food together.

Dr. Dave Kept Me in Debate

Codr, Dwight (DSR-TKA National Champion, University of Iowa)

It was Paul Slappey who recruited me for the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum, and it was Dr. Dave who kept me in it. Through four partners, through successes I still recall and through painful losses I'd rather not, through the rain and snow, on highways late and early, through long nights in the lab cutting cards and through weekends doing practice rounds -- through all of these Dr. Dave gave me confidence, wisdom, strategy, and more than a reasonable number of passes. Although I never had a chance to take a course with Dr. Dave, it was his example -- as an intellectual and mentor -- that largely motivated me to become a professor. I'm so grateful to him and the Forum for everything I had when I was a student and much of what I've become since then. Cheers, Dr. Dave. I'm so grateful to have been a small part of your tremendous legacy.

Best,
Dwight

Accept the Gift of Feedback

Cowart-Douglas, Jessy (University of Iowa)

Debate has taught me so many valuable skills and lessons that I continue to utilize in my daily life. From researching multiple perspectives on any and all subjects, to questioning underlying assumptions and digging deeper in what I'm presented it's made me a better manager. As a Chemical Engineer the ability to present complex technical information in an easy to understand way has been invaluable to my career success. The best lesson that I took from Debate was that even if you don't immediately get the W you need to accept the gift of feedback, improve your position and try again.

Jessy Douglas

Supererogatory

Poulakos, Niko (DSR-TKA National Champion, University of Iowa)

On David Hingstman and the category of the supererogatory:

There's a rare moment of heightened awareness I associate with Dr. Hingstman, one that shifted how I understand what it means to mentor or to teach, to impact others with a genuine sense of intellectual inspiration. From my first year on the debate team at the University of Iowa I felt comfortable making the office in the International Center a home away from home. In hungered stretches of research and binge sessions of readings there, I would inevitably come across a word I knew nothing about. I of course needed to know what it meant, and an incredibly large and vast dictionary lay open on a pedestal just inside Dr. Dave's office. Time and again when needed, I got up and walked a few feet to Hingstman's office to look up a word. On one such occasion, Dr. Dave glanced up from his desk and asked me what word I was looking up. Wading through the weightiest of philosophical concepts in readings those days, searching for the most meaningful of impacts to justify a decision-calculus in a debate, I came across an unknown term, which I shared with Dr. Dave eagerly to see if he'd know it - "supererogatory." Naturally, Hingstman knew the word and relayed the definition on the spot - "doing more than is required, as in more than what is obligatory." I felt a sense of awkwardness in hearing the definition and thinking about what I was doing in the moment by learning about it...was I fulfilling a duty to myself and others on the debate team through reading, learning, and producing evidence, or was debate an activity in which I did more than is required?

I keep coming back to this moment when I think of you, Dr. Dave, because, as it turns out, I had it all backwards then. This feeling of going above and beyond, this wasn't something I uniquely did, it was instead a feeling for the kind of space I was in. There was nothing natural about you knowing the definition of that word or having a dictionary on display; more to the point, it was so profoundly unnatural just how often you were in your debate office, door open, available for any question. You lived this sense of superseding one's duty, you embodied and displayed the ideals of intellectual ethics, and you forged these senses of obligations and sacrifices we as debaters made so that we might become better individuals, teammates, and even a community. Only now do I realize that what I caught a glimpse of then is what I aim for as an academic now, the chance to create such an intellectual space for others.

Supererogatory (continued)

Poulakos, Niko (DSR-TKA National Champion, University of Iowa)

You gave us so much of your time on earth, Dr. Dave. You didn't have to do this; I have to let you know just how much it means that you did. I can't come close to expressing that in a few lines, doing justice to the awe I feel in realizing what boundless devotion compels you. But I can promise you that I will always recognize that I'm at my best intellectually when I try to do as you did, and I can assure you that generations of students will think likewise when looking back upon who they were then in contrast to how they see themselves now. For we here all know that we've been part of something greater than what links us to you individually, it connects us all too. It's a space and time that will endure even after you and I are gone and our time is past, though it must be said to exist and persist precisely because you in particular stood in this space to ground it and poured in so much of your time to grow it. We come together here and now not just to share with you the virtues of debate but to show you a community realized. This is the material context you helped create. This was a period of time that defined so much of our lives. May we excel at being as wonderful for others as you were for us, and remember this time as the era of David Hingstman.

******* Iowa Graduate Students *******

Dr. Dave's Addiction Problem

Aonuma, Satoru (University of Iowa & International Christian University)

To commemorate the retirement of Dr. David B. Hingstman as Professor at the University of Iowa and Director of the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum, let me share with you a previously *untold* story about him during the early phase of his term, recognizing that this might likely embarrass him and those around him.

I came to Iowa City from Tokyo, Japan in 1987, the same year Dave came in from Waco. And for the next couple of years at least, together with several other ACBDF debaters, Dave was struggling with an *addiction* problem. His addition was particularly so severe that watching him in need of *it* badly was painstakingly embarrassing. He was so much into it that he could not resist wanting it during a debate trip. And more often than not, he was seen having it in the debate office located in the basement of the UI's International Center at that time. And whenever I saw him enjoy having it, he looked very happy, relaxed, and even ecstatic.

Yes, Dave was (and perhaps still is) addicted to *dried shredded squid*, a seafood snack popular in Japan. It all started when a Japanese friend of mine visiting Iowa City gave it to Dave and ACBDF debaters as a souvenir. To my biggest surprise, Dave and several others in ACBDF fell in love with it. Who in the world could expect those in the Midwest to like exotic Asian delicacies such as *dried squid*?

To the best of my knowledge, Dave has visited Tokyo three times since then. His official reason for visiting here was to attend argumentation conferences and debate workshops, but I bet that was *not* the one and only business for his trans-Pacific trip: In Tokyo, there are a lot of supermarkets that sell better *dried squid* at cheaper price! In any case, Dave has now become famous among those who teach debate in Japan. Just like great A. Craig Baird, Dave has not only brought competitive success to Iowa Debate but also contributed to the strengthening of international debate network in some significant ways. And, like many other ex-Hawkeyes, I feel very privileged knowing, working, and learning from him. I wish him the best of luck for his post-retirement career!

Satoru Aonuma (GS, 1987-1989)

Snippets of a Friendship

Hamilton, Heidi (University of Iowa & Emporia State University)

Congratulations once again on your retirement, Dave! I hope you have been able to find time to do some of the things you didn't have time for when all your weekends were on the road.

We've been asked to provide a story, but I can't really think of one story that epitomizes you. What I have are memories, or snippets of memories.

When I think of you at Iowa, I remember how you always made me feel welcome as a coach. I entered at a time when the staff was male and "name" heavy: Hingstman, Slappey, and Cheshier, oh my. But you were a mentor and an example. I remember the good humor in which you allowed the team to go to Carlos O'Kelly every year on your birthday to get a picture of you in the giant sombrero. I remember you carrying around a large cat case at every tournament from which you pulled out an argument, a piece of evidence, or a flow of a debate where you had already judged the team Iowa was debating—always what was needed to prep that next round. I remember that when you laughed it was, and is, a full laugh, never held back. I remember others in the debate community describing you as the smartest person in debate (and of course, only being able to agree with them). I remember that when Iowa made the decision to convert your position to a faculty line within the department that you were so respected in the debate community that really no one else would—or could—apply for the position against you. You were an integral part of what defined Iowa debate. I remember that after I graduated, you always seemed pleased to see me at tournaments and conferences, and for these many years, I have been pleased to consider you a friend.

Enjoy your retirement, Dave. It has been well-earned.

Heidi Hamilton

Panic is the Enemy of Excellence

Janas, Mike (University of Iowa & Samford University)

I met Dave in August 1993. After arriving in Iowa City, I wandered to his office in the old law school. I knew that I would be a debate coach, but I'd never personally met Dave. I entered his cluttered third floor room and the first thing he said to me was: "Is that a pinpoint oxford?" referring to my shirt. At the time it seemed an odd introduction. Subsequently, I came to understand that the shirt's significance was that it was a sign that I was the sort of person you could give a team and the keys to a state car and be reasonably certain that both would return in good shape.

Because Dave was finishing his dissertation, I spent most of the next two years playing the Dave's role as Slappey and I traipsed around the country having adventures. Many of my conversations with Slappey regarding Dave consisted of Slappey's singing his praises. While Slappey could be agitated and irrational, often yelling across the hall at Dave for comic effect, there could be no confusion that he loved Dave and that he had tremendous respect for his intelligence and work ethic.

At tournaments, we always had as many teams as we could cover judging and off rounds were rare. The one exception were later elimination rounds. We were fortunate to have multiple good teams and the late elimination rounds were a time of joy and anxiety. Dave would finish coaching the teams and then we would immediately leave the building. Dave was convinced that staying in the same building with an elimination round team would jinx their performance. He lived by the motto that it would be better to be surprised, than to be disappointed---so he would often expect the worst and we would sit reading the newspaper and cutting cards in far off buildings. In a world before the internet, we would sit alone, and they would turn off the lights and, eventually someone would come with news and release us to some angry team (win or lose) that just wanted to go home.

At the time, Iowa's legendary rhetoric faculty and graduate students were a hard, unfriendly group. Dave and Slappey's (and Mrs. Kanellis) office across the river provided an excellent sanctuary to get away from the rest. Dave ran the team with good humor and took the gentle ribbing of the debaters at every meeting. He was especially good at defusing conflict, mostly because Slappey had done such a good job establishing his credibility and making sure that we all appreciated the opportunity to just be with him. Above all, I appreciate that Dave could forge a community out of people forced to actively compete with one another. He demonstrated that compassion was always better than escalation. He taught me that panic was the enemy of excellence. He taught me that you could be smart and competitive and that it did not mean that you had to tear everyone else down. For all these things, I am grateful.

Forever Grateful to Dr. Dave

Hahner, Leslie (University of Iowa & Baylor University)

I arrived at the University of Iowa in 2000. I made it into the graduate program in communication because Dave was willing to take me on as an assistant. I began as a rather dull gem needing a good deal more polish as I continued my education. But Dave was always my champion. From day one, he met with me to ensure my papers were at least a little stronger. He reminded me that I was smart and saw that intelligence in me before anyone else even had a clue.

I remember one afternoon he and I were trying to coach the Andys through a discussion of framework and how they could respond to theory arguments. I tried to explain some different approaches they could take. When it seemed like those brilliant young men may have missed an insight I had supplied, Dave abruptly stopped the conversation to exclaim, "WRITE THAT DOWN!"

Nothing feels quite so good as to be affirmed by the smartest person I have ever met: Dr. Dave. Dave always let me know that he was in my corner. And having Dr. Dave in your corner is one of the highest honors a scholar can attain. I remember sitting with Dave at a coffee shop, in seminar, or in the squad room, where I just listened as intently as I could so that I could absorb the way he processed and his incredible quick wittedness.

Thank you, Dave. I could not have done anything as a scholar without your confidence in me. I will remain forever grateful.

Dr. Dave Evokes a Mental Image - Put Your Hands in the Air

Wiese Leek, Danielle (University of Iowa & Baylor University)

I am sure that there are many people with very detailed and specific stories about one time when Dr. Dave did X, Y or Z thing as part of their memories with the A. Craig Baird Debate Team. For me, no *one* story can really capture what makes Dr. Dave's spirit such a vital part of my experience growing from a very young woman in debate, through the graduate program at Iowa and into my professional life in Higher Education.

Instead, I'll share a mental image that best details what I think of when asked to describe what Dr. Dave means to me. It's Dave in a suit jacket or sweater, some kind of khaki or grey pants, glasses, all of his attention directly on me – listening intently –and then raising his arms in that awkward goal post to shake his fist with enthusiasm, real, sincere excitement and enthusiasm, with the biggest smile, while his head shakes gently side-to-side.

He's reflecting back at me whatever thing it is that I am so excited about that day: the first college speaker award I ever won, the first round I won at the NDT, when I finally graduated from college, the day my team made it through districts, when I got accepted to Iowa and freaked out in front of him and Mr. Slapppy, when Emily & Tara won a round with the new Aff, when I got a conference paper accepted, when I got my first publication, when I got my PhD, my first job, when I got engaged, when I got married, when I hosted the NDT (and it didn't suck!), when I took my next job...

I'd have to have 1000 hands to show Dave how thankful I am for always being there with me. So now I'm throwing up mine to say congrats Dr. Dave! You've earned it.

In spirit.

Danielle Wiese Leek

An Ethic of Faith - A Politics of Service

Schwartz-DuPre, Rae Lynn (University of Iowa & Western University)

Dr. Dave:

The day I moved to Iowa City you took me out to lunch. For the next four years and beyond, you taught me, supported me, and championed me in endless ways. At debate tournaments, I have a happy vision of you hauling 4 bags of overflowing paper and snacks, a computer, and printer running from room to room to ensure everyone had everything you could provide them. You put faith in every debater, coach, and were preferred for your intelligence, fairness, and esteemed experience. As debate changed you were neither bothered or visibly agitated. You shifted and continued to play the game with great success. Your support of women in debate was generous and while I knew your donations to the WDI came from your personal account, you always gave Iowa all the credit.

I know you best as my mentor. I proudly wear the badge of Dr. Dave's first advisee! I remember asking you to be my advisor and you promptly requested a reading list. A week later, when you read everything it took me years to understand, we were a team. I was grateful that you poured over really rough drafts directing and encouraging me further. When I made the difficult choice to graduate in 4 years, you showed me grace as I wrote during off-rounds at debate tournaments. You were there for me professionally and personally—during my defense, through a tornado, and at my wedding (all in one month). After the Afghan Girl took flight you continued to mentor me with regular calls and conference breakfast dates. You listened as I rambled on about my job, writing, and family. I really miss seeing you at conferences.

You have prepared me to be a teacher, a coach, and an author. But most importantly, you taught me to have faith in my students regardless of their beliefs, preferences, and identity. That is a gift I will always hold dear and pay forward. I keep a picture of us at graduation in my office to remind me how grateful I am to have you as a mentor and friend.

Congratulations on your retirement! I hope you are reading for pleasure, watching your favorite films, and enjoying quiet movements with loved ones. I look forward to hugging you in the future.

With love,

Rae

Thank You, Dr. Dave

Abelkop, Adam (University of Iowa & Wake Forest University)

Dr. Dave:

Thank you for a great three years!

Adam

A Fount of Knowledge

Snelling, Tyler (University of Iowa & Concordia College)

I actually lost Dr. Dave's ballot more than I picked it up according to Tabroom, but I do fondly remember one of the times he voted for Emily and me against Kentucky. We had read some "high theory" affirmative based on the French philosopher Bataille about energy and they went for a pretty standard framework argument. I felt good while waiting, but I was beaming when Dr. Dave talked through why they had simply missed the boat on answering our arguments. I appreciated Dr. Dave's attention to detail—which would end up biting me in some of those Ls—and willingness to think through big picture arguments. Now, I have worked with him as a fellow at the Arizona Debate Institute, coached teams to debate in front of him, coached alongside him, and received his guidance as a member of my doctoral committee from start to finish. The only class I had a chance to take with Dr. Dave was essentially an introduction to the department, but I am very thankful for his guidance as I develop my place as a scholar. From random questions at department seminars to benchmark meetings for my degree, Dr. Dave either knew the answer or knew who to contact to figure out the answer. As a first-year graduate student, having someone I knew for years to help figure out the process was simply invaluable. I particularly appreciated when I saw his door open and could duck into his office for a chat. As one of the few other people who tended to still be in the building in the early (and late) evening, I greatly appreciated these conversations because they helped make the whole process of being a graduate student, coach, and teacher at Iowa more familiar.

Through these more than ten-years of moving from acquaintances to friends to colleagues, I am so, so thankful to have been in Dr. Dave's orbit. I know and appreciate that I will continue to learn from his wisdom as I finish my degree and find the next step. Yet, these experiences will never outlast helping him empty his condo after it received extensive damage and move 100+ boxes of books from the second floor of his apartment into the condo. It was hot, things were heavy, and I could be in better shape. But I was happy to help, and I recall this experience every-single-time I consider buying another book; sometimes I refrain but, often, I buy it anyway.

Thank you for everything you have done for me, the debate team, and the department!!

Tyler Snelling

An Advocate for Graduate Students

Baez, Kristiana (Graduate Student Coach of the Year, University of Iowa)

Dr Dave being at Iowa made me feel like I would be okay here. He was an advocate for myself and other graduate students. His office door was open most of the time and I cannot count the number of times I just popped in to say hi or to ask for advice.

His spirit on the debate team is palpable!

One of my favorite memories is receiving a video of he and one of our debaters having a dance off. He helped to cultivate a debate team and a department of loving and passionate people and he should be recognized for that.

A related anecdote, It was not until his final year at Iowa that I found out he was the person supplying the communication studies office with candy. He never talked about it, I assumed some candy fairy came through. This is just one of the many things he did to make sure his people were not just taken care of, but cared for. I miss being able to stop by your office, it's not the same without you, Dr. Dave!

Ways of Being

Varda, Scott (University of Iowa & Baylor University)

My fondest memories of Dave aren't centered in any one story. Instead, they are found in a series of moments when he modeled best behaviors, practices, and ways of being with and for other people. Dave was almost always the smartest person in the room, but possessed an ability to talk with people in a way everyone could understand. His enthusiasm for others was palpable, and always seemed to offer the right kind of encouragement at the right moment. His support for those around him was always front and center, regardless of the context--when he was explaining to a public debate audience that the debate, rather than the arguments, was the thing; when he was illustrating love for learning in his reading of academic literature; when he was offering a kind word, when he was offering tough love; when he was dipping into his own pocket to help out a graduate student; when he was arranging extra scholarship money for an undergraduate (even when extra money for the undergraduate simply meant saying "Paul, get on this"). His laugh was a reminder that you had said something actually funny, or that you were a clown, and just didn't understand you were a clown. Regardless of the context, you knew his reaction was authentic, and had come from a place of love. More than anything, my best memories of Dave will always be wrapped in the beliefs I saw him practice everyday--take care of the folks in your charge, make space for everyone at the table, sacrifice for others if necessary, fight for what is right when needed. More than anything, Dave always seemed to try his best to make you a better person, without preaching about what that sort of person was. To this day, when faced with difficult decisions, I still ask myself, "what would DHB do?" And after I answer, "drink some wine," and laugh to myself, I try to do the thing I think Dave would do.

******* Iowa Debate 2021 *******

A Priceless Legacy

Chen, Ellis (University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave,

Congratulations on your retirement. Although you have never personally coached me, I am tremendously grateful for you. The Iowa Debate team would not be what it is without your hard work. Iowa Debate's history of success and the time that you have invested in building the program have created an excellent environment for me and my teammates, and, to be frank, that environment is priceless.

Best wishes,

Ellis Chen

Dr. Dave Still Dancing a Jig

Namakula, Subbi (17th Place CEDA Nationals, District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

I think the most significant story I have about Dr. Dave is from the very first tournament I went to with the University of Iowa debate team. I remember being so scared, and afraid of failure, and the first day went terribly. We were 0-2 and I felt dejected. Dr. Dave was a very calming presence and I remember him walking quickly from room to room on the second day asking if we needed anything. He would have extension cords, chargers, flow paper, everything you really needed for a tournament. He was so kind too, he would yell Caw Caw down the hall, and he seemed to be totally unphased and cheery, even though I was not doing as well as I could be. He made me feel very confident going into rounds, and of course, was a huge source of wisdom. He knew a lot of the judges and could give insight into how they operated.

But of course, the cherry on top of this whole experience was having a dance-off with him at the end of the tournament. After making a really good comeback and actually breaking at this tournament, me and Dr. Dave were waiting around after the awards were given and Brooke started playing music. I don't even remember what gave me the bravado to think I could beat Dr. Dave, but I challenged him to a dance-off. Brian Rubaei, Brooke, and Coco all encouraged me and I danced with Dr. Dave. I think all in all the experience was only 1 minute at most, but it was such a joyous experience. I mean I felt so comfortable and safe and happy. Having that experience at the first tournament definitely helped me care about debate, and gave me a whole new dedication to the activity. For that, I am so thankful to Dr. Dave.

--

Thanks,
Subbi Namakula
Pre-law, University of Iowa

My Cup Runneth Over

Roetlin, Spencer (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

I only had the honor of debating under the direct tutelage of Dr. Dave for three years, but during that time he left his mark on me and demonstrated his dedication to policy debate and the people who do it. His topic lectures were always an incredibly helpful way to start the season, as he seemed to be an overflowing pool of knowledge on an endless array of subjects. At tournaments he was a calming center to a frantic event, always available to cut cards or think up strategies on the fly. The states counterplan cards he cut on the emissions topic I remember were particularly stellar, with a midterms update from Newt Gingrich about an upcoming red wave being another gem of a card. Thank you, Dr. Dave, for three years of unwavering support in my academic and competitive endeavors. You've more than earned a break after all this time, and I wish you nothing but relaxation and happiness in your retirement.

--- Spencer Roetlin

Hingstman's Legacy Lives on in Future Generations

Cavanaugh, Ryan (17th Place at CEDA, University of Iowa)

Note to Dr. Dave:

Congratulations on your retirement! While I never had the pleasure of getting to work with you, I see everyday the legacy that you have left behind in Iowa Debate. From the Dr. Dave stories that everybody tells to the numerous list of accomplishments on the Squad Room wall, the impact that you have had on this program has been immeasurable. I want to say thank you for making Iowa Debate what it is for generations of new debaters to come.

Inclusive Respect - Humble, Generous, Understanding

Cho, Michael ('22, University of Iowa)

One thing everyone strives to obtain is some form of respect from others. I think for debaters, that strive to obtain respect is emphasized and highlighted before every tournament, after every round, and during every discussion we, as scholars and students, have about the activity we love.

This is one of the many reasons why I look to Dr. Dave as a role model and a person worth celebrating.

From my first introduction to him as a loud, lost freshman, he showed me respect and engaged me as someone beyond just a student or just a debater.

From my mentors, I have heard a plethora of stories that not only rightly characterizes Dr. Dave as a humble, generous, and understanding individual, but teaches me how to be a good person and academic scholar.

From my peers, I know there is not a single negative thing anyone can say. But there is a lot of people that regret not being born just 2 or 3 years earlier – just to be able to see your live reaction to Kyle Vint's shenanigans at the NDT.

Thank you so much for everything you've done for the University of Iowa, the debate family, and my growth as a person. I wish you nothing but the best and I hope to become someone that can one day in some way be comparable to you.

Yay! to Public Debates

Bennett, Elli (District IV Champion, University of Iowa)

Congratulations on your retirement!

Thank you for all that you have done for the Iowa Debate Team. Though you only coached me for a brief time, the work that you have put into the team has made it something amazing. The numerous public debates you have moderated are something that I will remember, from the more serious ones about water quality to the wacky ones that devolved into being about robots. All of us are very grateful for all that you have done for the team, and I wish you the best!

A Culture of Inclusion

Sanders, Jake (University of Iowa)

Although I was never coached by Dr. Dave, his reputation at Iowa Debate precedes him. I've heard countless stories from coaches, alumnus, and current debaters about how Dave was always the kindest and most humble coach, and always created a culture that made Iowa Debate feel like a family. I want to thank Dr. Dave for that specifically, because that feeling of a family is much like how Iowa Debate is today, and without him establishing that culture that wouldn't be possible.

Advice to Dr. Dave From a First-Year

Koperski, Michael (University of Iowa)

Dr. Dave

My name is Michael Koperski, I am a freshman here at the University of Iowa, and while I was not coached by you, your presence on the team has still been felt. Going into work week this year, I heard many stories about you and how you have shaped the team as it exists today. I don't think there was a single team lunch during work week where I didn't hear your name being mentioned at least a few times. Whether it was a current debater reminiscing about your coaching, or Paul and Brian telling stories of some of the shenanigans that went on, I can truly tell that your influence on the team has been a bright part on so many people's lives. So congratulations on retirement after over 30 years of being the director of debate here at the University of Iowa, you've helped so many people, so now take some time to relax, you've earned it.

The Foundation of a Successful Program

Putney, Robbie (University of Iowa)

I met Dr. Dave at the beginning of my freshman year of college. I was joining the debate team just as Dr. Dave was nearing retirement, but I could still tell how much he cared about me and my career on the Iowa Debate Team, which demonstrates how passionate he is for this program and its students. I have heard the history of the Iowa Debate program and how integral Dr. Dave's role was in the team's success, and for that reason, he will forever be a legend at this university and across the collegiate debate landscape. Dr. Dave should also be celebrated for his role in facilitating and encouraging public debates at Iowa, which remains an important way for Iowa debaters to perfect their communication skills in different forums with different audiences. Overall, debate at Iowa would not be nearly as strong or proud as it is now without the ongoing support of Dr. Dave over these last several decades.

******* Coaches Across the Nation *******

As Gentlemanly as He is Brilliant

Koch, Steve (Capital University, Iowa Debater 1966-1970, T.A. & Debate Assistant 1970-1972, 1973-1975, Acting DOF 1979-1980)

This has been hard because I have known Dave for such a long time. Simultaneously, that experience lacks the same intensity as that of the students who have been coached, have travelled with him, and who have interacted with him in so many rich and varied ways.

Speaking as an older alumnus, Dave has my deepest gratitude and respect for taking the Iowa debate program to the heights we all aspired to when the program was being regenerated in the late 1960s. By the time of the 1993 debate reunion, sitting with the late Roger Stetson who debated in the early 70's, we were noting the fabulous progress Dave had made. Later I especially remember Dave at the Tahoe Debate Conference, not too long after the NDT Championship, taking time to talk with my elderly mom who had come up from Oakland to visit. Dave, always as gentlemanly as he is brilliant! Beyond any doubt, the good person speaking well.

Stephen Koch, Ph.D.
Professor of Communication, Director of Debate
Capital University

Consummate Teacher and Gracious Colleague

Wade, Melissa (Emory University)

While David is clearly too young to retire, I am delighted to share some thoughts. The hoopla around David back in the day was that he was the most overeducated debate coach in the U.S. That notion was at odds with the self-effacing humility that characterized interactions with him. David was a consummate teacher and judge in helping build students and colleagues from many schools to hone their talents.

My favorite memory involves the TOC. While many college coaches attended the tournament to recruit, I only went when my children invited me. When I was at the TOC in 1996, Emory had just defeated Iowa at the NDT, our first NDT victory. David presented an award and gave some impromptu comments about Emory's having won its first NDT after coming close many times. Class act moment.

The TOC in 2001 followed the reverse result at the NDT with Iowa defeating Emory. We had also managed to come in second to West Georgia at CEDA Nationals, and second to Liberty University for the overall "points" title. I was to present an award and decided to pay David back—with impromptu comments about Emory's being second for 3 national titles and giving David, Mike Hester, and Brett O'Donnell a shout out. Before I was to present, J.W. pulled me over and encouraged me to give David a shout out for the NDT, reminding me of David's graciousness those years before—that J.W. would consider it a personal favor. I smiled and thanked him for his advice. When I was done, J.W. hugged me and said, how thoughtful to add "those other two guys." J.W. was one of so many who valued David with genuine love.

As am I.

David: I truly hope you enjoy "retirement" as much as Jim and I have. You are wise enough to know you are retiring *to* something meaningful and that your debate family is never far away.

Much love!

Melissa Wade

David Hingstman - Friend

Louden, Allan (Wake Forest University)

My sense is that most folks in our activity, when they think of Dave, it is informed, in part, by our shared debate atmosphere. Such make sense given the activities many tournament weekends, especially when coupled with our awareness of his coaching achievements.

But I seldom have thought of Dave as a debate person. In my mind at least, debate has almost no association with the joining of our personas. I always think of Dave as a mate, a character, a friend. Perhaps it is his wry way of communicating that is charmingly unpretentious, genuine. His nonverbal sharing so subtle as to be out of awareness, but that understated style is what shares his humanity. You feel the person, not presentation or portrayal. Dave's qualities transcend any debate labels.

Seeing Dave not through a debate lens, but simply as my friend, is what makes him special. Congratulations on movin' on . . .

Allan D. Louden, Communication
Wake Forest University
Box 7347, Reynolda Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27109



Hingstman is a Role Model for Judges

Morris, Eric (Missouri State University)

I first became familiar with Dr. Dave when Missouri State (then SMS) switched back to NDT and year before the merger. Dr. John Fritch encouraged our younger ADI attendees to spend as much time as possible learning from Dr. Dave. They did, and accelerated accordingly. I later met Dr. Dave as a judge, where he was well regarded by our debaters as detailed and fair. I recall in considerable detail a debate in fall 2007 where he sat our (for our team) and accurately diagnosed the judging pool split as following the relative emphasis on evidence (his leaning) and technical tag line debating (the other two). It was interesting because my orientation was probably toward the latter that morning, and the discussion moved me closer to his position.

But MANY judges, getting sat out, feel the need to defend themselves – and some attack the other judges to do so. Not Dr. Dave – he approached judging with respect for EVERYONE in the process – both teams, other judges, etc. In his view, the difference in decision reflected less than one approach was right or wrong, but instead that there are multiple approaches, and that the debaters benefit from getting feedback from a variety of perspectives. When our shared activity is at its highest, we all understand that. I have never heard Dr. Dave say or do anything contrary to this philosophy, which is a rare feat in a competitive activity!

The Iowa debaters over Dr. Dave's coaching career were exceptional – not only winning the NDT and reaching elims at majors frequently (a truly impressive feat for a public university), but also enjoying the game's own unusual logic. As I write that, I am thinking about the margin notes I read on the "Tanzania isn't in the Greater Horn" cards that I was about to vote for in the 2001 NDT semifinals. It is hard to reach the correct balance between too frivolous and too serious, but the Iowa teams of Dr. Dave's years did reach that, and were successful in spite of it!

I miss seeing Dr. Dave in the hallways, particularly at the UNI tournament (which I also miss). The excitement and trauma of a season opener is a unique experience, and as that tournament shrank the experience somehow became more meaningful – getting to see the same group of dedicated attendees. Dr. Dave was an integral part of the UNI experience, and even more so after it stopped being a major.

I hope Dave has a long and happy retirement, accessing his credentials only when necessary!

Sincerely,

Ermo (Dr. Eric Morris)
Missouri State University

Hingstman Knew Our Arguments Better Than We Did

McVey, James Alexander (Baylor University & Kansas State University)

Dr. Dave never spent much time outside of Baylor CM's ordinal top 5 judge prefs. He was one of those judges who you could always tell were operating at a different level than the rest of us mortals. Dave could see all the moving pieces and unspoken assumptions and missed opportunities behind our arguments way better than we could and would patiently and calmly explain them to us after the debate. Dave was one of the people who inspired me to reside in the interstitial spaces between debate coach and scholar, a place I now happily occupy on a daily basis. I count him amongst those coaches outside of my school's own coaching staff who most influenced my career. Cheers to you on your retirement, Dr. Dave!

Alex McVey - Former debater @ Baylor University from 2005-2010, current DOD @ Kansas State.

James Alexander McVey, PhD
Assistant Professor & Director of Debate
Department of Communication Studies
Kansas State University

Hingstman's Professionalism Never Wavered

Neighbors Len (Georgia, Samford, Wake, and now William & Mary)

My freshman year of college we accidentally cleared at the NDT (we were a 3-5/4-4 team) and the eventual NDT winners had a couple rough debates and went 6-2. Since they had to debate in the doubles, we had the pleasure of losing a flip to them. The subject of the debate doesn't make much difference, but let's stipulate that it wasn't close, this was obvious, and most everyone was polite and took a requisite 15 minutes to decide the debate. Dave was on the panel, and as everyone was politely giving their feedback, he was busily writing a ballot, which even in 1992 was really a thing of the past. At age 18, I thought it was a bit strange and old fashioned and weird. It wasn't until I began to understand what a professional was, a public intellectual, a scholar, a teacher really looked like that I figured out what he was doing. He was respecting his vocation, his game, and the intellectual integrity of a competition he deeply loved. I can't remember exactly what he said in the decision, other than that we got whooped, but I learned an important lesson from Dave.

Len Neighbors

Hingstman Develops Emerging Academics

Renegar, Valerie (Southwestern University)

I am certain that a litany of people have spoken about Dave Hingstman's kindness and gentle encouragement. The debate world is a strange microcosm that has too little of both. But for me, Dave's most important characteristic was his commitment to scholarship and helping emerging academics puzzle out a way that our vast training in this very odd and misunderstood activity could lead to tenure and promotion.

At the AFA meeting before one NCA, when I was rather randomly serving as an officer, he sat with me and helped me think about how I could turn the work I was doing just being a coach into work that could be published and recognized as significant by the faculty at my university. He helped me learn to see the quest for tenure as a game that can be won, and the my considerable talents thinking through, and extensively researching, complex issues were the exact same skills that I needed to develop a scholarly profile. That shift is REALLY hard to make because so few of senior coaches and directors have actually done it. Dave knew this, and took all fleeing faculty members on as his own. I knew that I could ask him for help in compiling external reviewers, developing professional development opportunities through our organizations, and seeking publication. I didn't need to draw on his generosity much but knowing it was there, knowing that he was a role model for a professor who coached, made a world of difference for me.

Thank you, Dave! You have inspired more tenured and promoted professors than you are likely aware of. You have been a light, a shining example of professional success, for so many.

All warm wishes,

Val

Dr. Dave - A Coaches Coach

Young, Kelly (Wayne State University)

There's a reason Dr. Dave is beloved by the college debate community: he is a consummate professional, a great mentor for professional behavior and coaching excellence. The one thing I immediately remember about my time with Dr. Dave is shortly after taking over for George Ziegelmuller, with all the expectations and pressure involved in that role, Dr. Hingstman welcomed me into the director ranks and shared his own stories of working in the footsteps of other giants. That meant a great deal to me. Later, when he learned that I had received tenure and promotion, he was one of the first coaches to congratulate me on the achievement. Throughout my career, I got to work with Dr. Dave in a variety of roles, like judging together or participating on conference panels. Recently, I was scolded by Dr. Dave for taking too much time during a conference panel, which made me chuckle, because I often had a similar thought about his lengthy post-round decisions! Yet, even in those lengthy breakdowns of every piece of evidence introduced in the debate, I was amazed by the attention to detail and the commitment to educating the students, even if it meant I was a little late to coach my own students or eat a meal.

One of my favorite squads to judge throughout my career was the Hawkeyes. Iowa debaters had great evidence, were excellent (if somewhat slow) speakers, adapted to judges well, and were just good people. They also performed at an amazing level, even when debating higher-quality opponents. I was always confident in my ballots for Iowa, even when the other panelists made bad decisions for a higher ranked team, lol. The character and skill of Iowa debaters is a clear reflection of Dr Dave's leadership.

David, you have had a remarkable career and it was a honor to know you and work besides you. I very much sought to emulate your work and have a team that mirrored Iowa's. Thanks for being a friend and great colleague. I wish you the best in your well-deserved retirement!

Sincerely,

Kelly Young
Wayne State Debate

What I Learned From Dr. Dave, I Took Into Coaching

Voth, Ben (Southern Methodist University)

I believe Dr. David Hingstman is one of the most consistent and significant contributors to college debate in the United States. After coaching in the activity more than 25 years myself, I am still amazed how much David continues to do for all of us in debate. For me, as a beginning college debater at Baylor in 1985, Dr. Hingstman was an indispensable part of learning what debate could and should be.

I think one of the most critical values that Dr. Hingstman imparted was: the importance of evidence.

Evidence has become an important part of how I argue and how I write and teach with regard to scholarship and classroom activity.

I recall a debate round in San Marcos where my partner Don Cimics and I were about to be pulled up to debate a very strong varsity team from the University of Texas even though we were simply a well performing Junior varsity team. We went to Dr. Hingstman hoping he might offer some advice prior to the round. I still recall being rather surprised that he explained a sophisticated legal argument regarding intellectual property and statism. That was impressive in his own right but I recall him reaching into a coat pocket and pulling out an evidence card that had not yet been mounted to a block. He said, 'read this card' and you will be able to link this argument to Texas.

Unsurprisingly, that is exactly how the round transpired and Texas was devastated to hear in the oral critique that they lost to this junior varsity team. My partner and I were euphoric and very happy to tell Dr. Hingstman. He was his usual calm smile and re-affirming 'good job' in responding to our follow through on his coaching. There was a bittersweet ending to this story in that we encountered this same varsity team at another tournament a couple months later. We attempted to run the winning strategy again. This time the 2AC of Texas was filled with 37 carded turns to this position.

We lost that debate. Despite this loss — with no fault to Dr. Hingstman— i further learned that to be a great debater you must be perpetually creative. Dr. Hingstman is without question one of the most careful and methodical thinkers we have in the debate community. Hardly anyone can be thought of taking more time to consider and explain a debate decision. These observable traits always stand as a challenge to my own current efforts to be a good coach of debate like Dr. Hingstman.

Dr. Ben Voth
Professor of Rhetoric
Director of Debate and Speech
Dedman College
Southern Methodist University

It's the People of a Community that Make a Difference

Elliott, Darren (Kansas City Kansas Community College)

Having spent my debate career on the squad at Emporia State University competing in strictly CEDA Debate in the mid 1990s, I knew of Dr. Dave, and always heard wonderful things about the legend of ADI and Iowa, but it would not be until I was coaching “post merger” that I was able to encounter him in person. For even the most successful CEDA programs, the post merger world in those first few years often felt like a battle for those programs to prove themselves to the NDT elite. While Dr. Dave and the University of Iowa certainly falls within the category of NDT elite, there was never an ounce of action on their part that felt as if they thought they were superior to others. Dr. Dave was always a pleasure to see in the back of the room when I was a Grad Student coach at Wichita State. When I became a Director of my own program in 2002, and Dr. Dave would judge KCKCC Blue Devil debate teams over the next almost 2 decades, it was his superb intellect, his thoughtful decision making, and his unequivocal fairness that cemented him as such a special person to us in this activity. We always knew, win or lose, we would get a fair shake and a very thorough decision and critique at the end of every debate! When we became the first community college to qualify teams back to back to the NDT that was a very proud accomplishment. However the year that we became the first community college to qualify two teams in the same year and becoming the first to qualify five teams in a four-year span, what made that most special was those two accomplishments culminated at the NDT hosted by the University of Iowa. Dr. Dave was one of the first to congratulate us, and the first to meet us at that Iowa NDT with a giant smile on his face and a heartfelt congratulations. It is the people that make the most difference in the communities in which we engage, and there is just not a better person to represent debate or a program like Iowa than Dr. Dave. Dr. Dave, congratulations on an amazing career, and on the number of lives you touched that you may not even realize! From your friends at Kansas City Kansas Community College, we wish you an amazing retirement!

Darren Elliott
Director of Debate and Forensics
Kansas City Kansas Community College

I Miss Him

Helwich, D. Cram (University of Minnesota)

It is hard for me to express how much Dr. Dave's mentoring and friendship have meant to me over the course of my career. I have been through nearly a dozen drafts of this note, which have ranged between flower-y and brutalist efficiency. I settled on short and heart-felt.

Dr. Dave and I come from the same academic "family". We seem to see the world in much the same way, and have similar views on the value of debate both as an academic enterprise and as a social good. We shared the D4 corner of the debate universe for nearly 20 years, and I cannot imagine having a more engaged, thoughtful, and fair-minded colleague. Dr. Dave was at the top of my list of persons whom I would contact for professional and debate-related advice, and if I ever found myself disagreeing with him, I would think long and hard about whether my position was justified. He was always our program's most preferred judge, although I had to counsel my teams that his decisions might (would) take a while, and that he might take an interesting path in reaching the right decision. I have enjoyed working with my students to try to out-research and out-smart Dr. Dave's Hawkeyes, and I greatly appreciate the pro-community attitude that Dr. Dave instilled in his debaters. He is one of both the smartest and kindest people I have ever met, and I miss speaking with him at tournaments. Congratulations on a fantastic career, Dr. Dave, and I wish you well in your future endeavors.

--

Dr. David Cram Helwich
Director of Forensics
University of Minnesota

Inspirational Lab Leader

Lynch, Will (Dowling Catholic High School & Valley High School)

I have never known Dr. Dave well. In fact, I am not sure he would even know me by name or recognize me. But I did have the pleasure of spending a few weeks with him in the summer of 1995. It was my first debate camp experience, the summer after my freshman year of high school. I experienced some mild success my first year in the activity and was excited to dive into expanding my knowledge and skills. I had the great fortune of having Dr. Dave as one of my lab leaders.

This was over 25 years ago so I don't have a great recollection of specific exchanges that I shared with Dr. Dave during that time. However, there is one memory that stands out above everything. It was a lecture he gave on topicality. As most newcomers to the activity do, I found topicality confusing and mundane. I may have won or lost a round or two on it my novice year, but it was not something that piqued my interest in the slightest. But I still remember how brilliant his presentation was on this critical piece of the activity. I remember thinking, "how could this man make something like this so interesting?" It changed my understanding of topicality completely. The information and how it was presented (delivery, tone, etc.) also changed my appreciation of it. More importantly, it gave me profound respect for Dr. Dave's intellect and his ability to teach.

Even though I haven't crossed paths with Dr. Dave very many times since those three weeks, that time and specifically that lecture had an impression on me. When I hear people mention or reference Dr. Dave or see an act of appreciation like this collection being put together. I understand why people could share such a love for this man. Best of luck in retirement Dr. Dave!

Will Lynch
Valley High School Policy Debater '94-'98
Valley High School Policy Debate Coach '98-'04
Dowling Catholic Policy Debate Coach '04-'07

******* Intercollegiate Debaters *******

Dr. Dave Sets Bar for Coaching

Rubaie, Brian (University of Texas at Dallas & University of Iowa)

I think this might be the first one from a UTD grad, one more school to add to the list! Dave was a big supporter of UTD Debate and really did make us feel like we belonged in a way that so few others did.

I felt like a fish out of water at my first college debate tournament. I was considering leaving the activity before fate introduced me to Dr. David Hingstman. Dr. Dave answered many post-round questions after our 2-3 debate and told me that I had endless potential. I can only hope that the fifteen years I have spent coaching debate since that moment have provided my students a fraction of what those fifteen minutes talking to Dr. Dave did for me.

An annual survey called the Debater's Choice Awards asked which squad students would compete for if not their own. I always answered 'Iowa' because of Dr. Dave. My wish was granted in 2017, when I became the Debate Coach at Iowa and watched Dr. Dave coach his final national title. Although I can never repay Dave for all that he has done, working to be the kind of coach who deserves to call Dave their mentor is a high bar that motivates me to be better every day.

Dr. Dave is a wonderful teacher, thinker, and listener. He is simply the best of the best. He helped make debate feel like home for a lost kid and he has made Iowa feel like home for me and thousands of others. An old aphorism suggests that you should never meet your heroes, but after seeing and working with Dr. Dave up close in many challenging situations my sense of admiration and awe has only grown stronger. It is an honor to call my hero Dave my friend.

Brian Rubaie

Brian Rubaie, MBA
Debate Coach, University of Iowa
Jefferson Building, Room 324
129 E. Washington Street, Iowa City, IA 52242

A Debate Treasure

Howell-Moroney, Debby (Washburn University and Northern Arizona University)

I debated for Washburn University from 1988-1990 and Northern Arizona University from 1990-1992. I attended the Arizona Debate Institute for 2 or 3 summers. David Hingstman was my lab leader on either SE Asian Trade Policy or Energy Policy (or both). He assigned me a Deep Ecology Disadvantage, which I turned into an internally philosophically consistent Social Ecology disad. I also mined “No-War” particularly John Mueller’s writing. I was so challenged by these assignments I was determined to transfer to Iowa, but Mark Deloach recruited Michael Moroney and I away from Washburn to NAU. Hingstman was always my favorite lab leader and judge. I’m sure I made zero impact on him, in the short window of time in NDT, but he made an enormous impact on me. Congratulations on putting up with us smart-assed know-it-all kids for 40 years. You always were and still are a treasure.

Sincerely,

Debby (Howell) Howell-Moroney

A Top Tier Judge = Respected for Intellect and Integrity

Gail, Lenny (Dartmouth College)

What a legend.

“My name is Lenny Gail, and I’m an old (now very old!) Dartmouth College and Chicago area HS debater. I had the great pleasure of being part of the same debate community as Dave Hingstman for my entire time in academic debate. I saw Dave up close in two different ways.

First, I saw him coach. Seriously coach. Dave’s gray matter was on display through his teams all the time.

Second, and even more, I saw – hell, I had the great good fortunate of experiencing – Dave as a judge. And what a careful, thoughtful, meticulous judge he was. He was indisputably within the top tier of those adjudicating the most complex (and fast) debates of the era. But, Dave was also universally recognized as more than that. I vividly remember not only just his skills but also his integrity. When he voted, I and every other debater I knew treated Dave’s vote AS the result. That was true in high school. That was true in run of the mill college tournaments. And that was true at the NDT.

Dave was synonymous with and a huge part of the nation’s academic debate community. We respected him for his intellect and revered his integrity. And though I’ve long been largely untethered to the debate that was so central to my academic life, I know enough to know that *today’s* debate community will acutely feel Dave’s absence. I am delighted to join everyone wishing him well going forward.

Best,”

lgail@masseygail.com

Ever Meticulous

Lovitt, Ara (Dartmouth College) and Sklaver, Steven (Dartmouth)

Congratulations to Dr. Hingstman on his retirement. Dr. Hingstman was a phenomenal judge, and one of our favorites, due to his intelligence, wisdom, and fairness. He was meticulous and he cared about each debate. We were never a fan of all those audiotape recordings of every debate that he organized, but that was because we knew it gave Iowa a huge edge in their preparation for the next tournament! He was also kind and respectful, and never let competitive rivalry interfere with collegiality. Congratulations on a wonderful and meaningful career, and thank you for letting us be a part of it.

Ara Lovitt and Steven Sklaver
Dartmouth Debate 1990 – 1994

Never Exhibited a Bias

Hylton, Andre (Dartmouth College)

It was always comforting seeing Hingstman on your panel. Whether you agreed with any particular decision of his or not, it would always be well reasoned and fair. And I always appreciated the way Hingstman would meet the debaters where they were - judging each debate on its merits, without imposing his preferences as to arguments or styles.

Andre Hylton
Dartmouth College, 1996

Always Open to Inquiries

Lambrinos, Demetrius (Cathedral High School & University of Redlands)

I first met Dr. Hingstman while attending the University of Kentucky debate institute in 1991, the summer after my freshman year in high school. Dr. Dave gave a lecture on how to create effective tags for your arguments “on the spot” during debate rounds to help orient the judge. It was a simple, but incredibly helpful, advice that I used for years afterwards.

From then on, whenever I saw Dr. Hingstman, I pestered him with questions about debate theory and how concepts fit together. Those conversations - like similar ones with JW, the Duck, Ross, Billy and Southworth - helped form my understanding (and love) of debate.

In 2004, several years after I graduated, while I was attending law school at the University of Iowa, I bumped into Dave near the pentacrest (the main square at UI). We chatted for nearly an hour about debate theory and how things had changed since I graduated. He said that there was a continuity, and that changes in the way people debated simply signified different forms of advocacy. He was so right.

Dr. Dave: You are one of the smartest and most careful people I have ever encountered. You are an inspiring role model, and I cannot think about debate without also thinking of you. Thank you for dedicating your time to make this activity better for everyone.

Demetrius

His Service and Advice Pay Dividends

Bennie, Natalie (Samford University)

Dr. Dave,

Congratulations on your retirement! I want to share a quick story that you likely don't remember but I have always kept in mind. I debated at Samford from 2012-2016 and joined the team as a novice. After a successful first semester, I entered my first tournament in Varsity at the Indiana Tournament in January of 2013. Foolishly, I did not fully realize the difference in competition between novice and varsity, and I entered the tournament with more than my fair share of hubris. Round 1, we were paired neg against a top Louisville team, and you were the judge. I was so nervous, and we knew we lost the debate the second the 2AR ended. You took your time with the decision and delivered a thoughtful, well-reasoned, and careful RFD. There are two reasons this RFD stands out in my memory.

First, I remember being so impressed with your flow of the debate. I was just learning how to flow at all, and in your RFD, you would read out exact lines from cx or speeches that seemed transcribed from a computer, word-for-word correct. I still don't think I'll ever have that good of a flow as you did, but WOW did it impress me as a college freshman. It represented a model of care in judging that I still try to emulate as a judge - two and a half hours of intensive focus on the students debating is a difficult task but one that results in the best decisions and most helpful feedback.

Second, in hindsight, I recognize now that I was teetering on the edge of ending my debate career. The transition to Varsity straight out of Novice was difficult, and I felt like it was an insurmountable challenge. Plus, debate is just a lot less fun when you lose all your debates :) I have received my fair share of unkind and losing RFD's, but I am so grateful you were in the back of my debate for my first major varsity competition. You were helpful and gave your utmost attention to the debate, even though it was a clear crush for Louisville. You gave the most helpful advice and made me hopeful to continue learning and growing in debate. I am entering my ninth year in policy debate, and now that I have transitioned to a coaching role, I could not be more grateful that I stuck it out after that first bad tournament at Indiana. Thank you for your kindness and advice.

Congratulations again on reaching this milestone in your career! I hope this small story reminds you that your service to our debate community continues to pay dividends.

Natalie Bennie
Samford '16

Learned Hand, Dr. Justice Hingstman

Dripps, Donald (Northwestern University)

I met David when he judged a round at Harvard in the winter of 1978. Steve Yokich and I were a third-tier Northwestern team paired rather haplessly against the lead Redlands team of Mark Fabiani and Mark Warfel. They were running a case that, in a rather odd way, regulated the use of eyewitness identification evidence. That was a very strong case, and while Steve and I put up a tussle it was clear even to me then that we were not going to win that one.

David took about an hour before he came out that way. I felt honored to have been taken so seriously in a situation where more than a few judges would have signed off ASAP and headed to dinner.

I did not then know Learned Hand's reference to Justice Holmes as the President of the Society of Jobbists. When, quite several years later, I did find Hand's essay on Holmes, it immediately called Hingstman to mind. As paraphrase would profane, I'll just leave the citation--Learned Hand, *Mr. Justice Holmes*, 43 Harv. L. Rev. 856, 860-862 (1930).

* * *

All best--
oodd

Tale of the Tape

Meurrens, Bradley (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

I remember fondly, some 29 years later, how Dr. Hingstman would record rounds he judged with a tape recorder and a small microphone. Even in the JV division where my partner and I dwelled, he recorded our rounds. I always wondered why he would even bother taping our rounds—certainly we didn't have any arguments that the Iowa debaters had not already researched; why would he be wasting tape on us? But what impressed me the most, and sticks with me to this day, is that Dr. Hingstman always taped our rounds and he never implied or indicated that it was a waste or a burden. He was genuinely interested in our arguments, our articulation, and our debates. He acted as if our rounds were as important as any First Round team's. He was using up his tapes to get our debates straight and I believe he genuinely thought there might be a kernel of truth or a diamond hidden within the rough of our speeches. He listened with great interest and furiously flowed with focus and intention. He provided a strong and reasoned decision that he took time to consider. That really impressed me and inspired me to keep going, to research more, and to keep debating. For the time that round took, he made us feel important and included. For an insecure introvert like me, to have one of the nation's top adjudicators take such an interest in your round and to take the time to say "hi" to you in the hallways between rounds, that was absolutely priceless. I will never forget that.

Thank you, Dr. Hingstman.

Brad Meurrens
University of Nebraska Debate 1992-1994
Public Policy Director, Disability Rights Nebraska

An Absolute Legend

Ridge, Mike (Wake Forest University)

Dave was one of my favorite judge and not because I thought he was biased in my favour! You always knew with Dave that your judge would be extremely careful, thorough and above all else, fair and impartial.

An absolute legend.

- Mike Ridge, Wake Forest Debate, 1988-1992.

******* Communication Studies *******

Generating a Culture of Inclusion

McLeod, Kembrew (Department of Communication Studies)

David Hingstman — a.k.a. Dr. Dave, his rap name — embodied everything that has made debate great at the University of Iowa since 1860, when this tradition began on campus. Dr. Dave served as the director of debate for thirty years, and I see him as a through line who bridges the debate team's storied past and its promising future. During his tenure in this leadership role, he steered the team through many shifts, both cultural and technological.

When I got to know him in 2000 as an assistant professor who was straight outta grad school — I am now the Chair of the Department of Communication Studies — Dr. Dave helped change the culture of debate from one that was dominated by young white men to something was more inclusive of gender and race, and less hierarchical. I also watched him steer the team from the analog world of paper notes into new digital frontiers, which speaks to his open attitude to new ideas and ways of doing things. He had a wide-open attitude about many things, which helped the team thrive and win countless tournaments over his three decades at the steering wheel (both literal and metaphorical).

I fondly remember many things about Dr. Dave during my two decades as his colleague: he was warm, quick to laugh, and was always the voice of reason. He encouraged me as a junior faculty member in ways that gave me confidence, and I have tried to pay back that generosity with my interactions with future generations of scholars. Three cheers for Dr. Dave—the best rapper, er, debate coach of all time!

The Invisible Hand of Dave

Zajacz, Rita (Department of Communication Studies)

Dear Dr. Dave:

It takes a lot of invisible work to keep a department going and, from what I can tell, you performed a disproportionate amount of such reliable work since I entered the Department of Communication Studies in 2006. Your contributions and non-confrontational attitude to solving problems will be missed.

Rita Still-Not-A-Public-Utility-Attorney Zajacz

Dr. Dave - A Noble Rhetoric

Peters, John (Department of Communication Studies)

Dr. Dave was always a calming presence in faculty meetings, doing his level best to keep everything from going off the rails. For no fault of his own, he did not always succeed. He always brought cookies, demure in their tupperware tub, perhaps to keep the departmental blood sugar level above the “hangry” mark, and took copious notes on his laptop. Sometimes I wondered if he was assembling a secret archive of some of the most antic behavior ever known in academic life, though he often volunteered his notes as minutes; he had also found a way to stay busy and shielded from the potential blowups. Postwar campus novels are typically set in English departments, but there were times in our department’s history that could rival any campus novel for crazed and tragicomic material. I am not sure I want to be around on judgment day when the book of life is opened and Dr. Dave’s notes are spoken from the rooftops! One likes to fantasize that in writing them he let loose a bit and left a running sarcastic commentary on the cast of characters and array of tortured speech acts, but no doubt, it is all decorous, and all bile is repressed.

If Dr. Dave’s notes were copious so were his book collections. His office could sometimes seem like a maze, with labyrinthine passageways between horizontally stacked books, plus a lot of library books on the shelves. He worked and perhaps even lived a bit in his office, though he did hire my son Daniel a time or two to help haul books to and from his house on Samoa Drive, so one senses that the book collections in Becker were only the tip of the iceberg. He had the generous habit of leaving his door open during the day, watchfully raising his eyes to passerbys, but shut the door at night: if you came to Becker at night, you could see his office lights glowing from outside. I always felt bad when I’d walk by if I interrupted a meal, but he’d always look up politely over his laptop.

His interest in rhetoric comes, one suspects, from deeply personal wells. Dr. Dave is deeply honest man, but also a slightly cagey figure. There are things about him that nobody knows. Maybe this is true of all of us, but he has some rarely fathomed depths. He is a man of principle, holding to what one suspects are a brand of politics that hardly exist anymore in their spanning of conservative and liberal (or conservatively liberal) tendencies. I admire the Princeton classiness: the tie, the formality, the genteel approach. Though fascinated by argument and constitutionally reasonable, he is deeply averse to quarrels. I identified with him in our common state of being poorly armed against some of the less well behaved Machiavellians around us. When I was department chair, I could always rely on him for any mop-up task, and asked him to serve on an ad hoc committee or two to deal with an impossible situation or two, whose details I’ll disclose when his laptop notes are fully made public. (I.e., never.) He was a glutton for punishment in departmental service, serving many times as Director of Undergraduate Studies and anchoring the big lecture class, “Theory and Practice of Argument.” He is the embodiment of a critical servant.

Rhetoric can be raunchy and slimy and it can be dignified and discreet. Its available means of persuasion can range from a Twitter account to cookies in a tupperware tub. If you don’t believe there can be such a thing as noble rhetoric, or want to know what it looks like, please look to the person of Dr. David B. Hingstman.

******* Friends of the Program *******

Dr. Baird Looks Proudly Upon Dr. Dave

Baird Rees, Barbara (Manhattan, Kansas)

Dear Dave:

If my father were here now, I know he would be extremely proud of your many accomplishments during these past years as the leader of the Iowa debate program. He would be so enthusiastic about all the debate tournaments you have organized and executed and the awards received. He would be proud of the numerous students, probably hundreds, you have mentored and have helped to develop their skills. You have also found the time to create new programs involving speakers and issues for the community.

I hope you will have a chance now to write books! As I wrote to you a year ago, students need your expertise in critical thinking and communicating ideas effectively. You have such a unique knowledge and experience.

Much good luck to you and many good wishes in your retirement.

Barbara Baird Rees
Manhattan, Kansas

Thank You, Dr. Dave, For Your Leadership

Rosenberg Stafford, Virginia (Alumna, A. Craig Baird Debate Forum)

Congratulations on your 32 years of service working with the University of Iowa Speech and Debate Program! The U of I Debate Program was a very important part of my university experience under Dr. A. Craig Baird. I appreciate all that you have done to maintain the high standards and grow the program, with an eye on Iowa high school teams as well as the university teams. You have always been so kind to keep in touch with all of the Baird debaters. I've been proud to watch the continued success of the program under your guidance. Thank you for your leadership.

Regards, Virginia Rosenberg Stafford

Foundation for a Future - Dream-maker

Gotschall Slappey, Libby (Forever Friend)

To the Inimitable Dr. Hingstman,

There was no one more pleased to have you join the A. Craig Baird Debate Forum than Paul R. Slappey. He saw in you the future of the Forum and, as predicted, he was right.

You brought credentials and credibility. Your intellect was the challenge all those budding young minds needed. You encouraged an atmosphere of unlimited learning and growth for the Forum.

Most important, you kept PRS in line.

Certainly retirement is a different world for you with no travel, no deadlines, and no one hijacking your schedule. At the same time, it allows you to read the New York Times, cover-to-cover, as many times as you like.

While Paul's life was sadly cut short, *you* were the torchbearer who carried his dream forward. And for that, we are eternally grateful.

With sincere appreciation,

Libby Gotschall Slappey

A Parent's Gratitude

Vint, Laura

Dr. Dave,

Thank you for being such a positive influence in my son, Kyle Vint's, life. I know that your impact on his life dates back to high school when you were his instructor at the Michigan debate camp, but his time on the University of Iowa Debate team really helped instill a sense of collaboration and capacity for critical thinking. When Kyle returned to coach debate at Iowa he worked with you in a different capacity. It was at this time where I saw him develop his leadership and organizational skills, applying the skills to help mentor students and resolve conflicts.

As a parent, I hoped that Kyle would develop positive relationships with other adults who could influence him beyond what he learned at home. For all that you have done for him and other young people during your tenure at the University of Iowa I am infinitely grateful. It's an accomplishment to be successful in your career but it is truly remarkable and life altering to influence the success of so many others.

Laura Vint

******* The Last Letter *******

From Me to You

Bellus, Sharon

Congratulations on your retirement! You know, every time we come together it's a celebration.

The first time we met was the night before my wedding. I was anxious to meet you. Both nervous and excited to greet my soon-to-be husband's hero. For several years Paul would travel to Iowa City to conduct research and you would put him up for the night. Each time he would return with a "Dr. Dave said this..." story. I knew you to be important to him and that he adored you. Since Paul held you in the highest esteem, I wanted you to like me. But, what would a Princeton, Harvard, Northwestern graduate think of a girl studying to be a nurse while working at Shopko? I worried for nothing. We danced together. Laughed together. Drank together. You made me very comfortable. I understood why Paul loves you so much. It wasn't the vast intellect. Although, I know Paul relied on your insights into his ideas for the team. It wasn't the association with an Ivy League graduate or Harvard trained lawyer. Paul loves you because you are you. Nothing more or less. You are happiest when you can contribute to the joy in someone's life. In fact, I think you learned football and players' names just so you would have more to talk about with Paul. Wherever you are, there is joy.

After that first meeting, many more celebrations were to come. Xander's birth and every one of his birthdays found you with us eating cake and opening presents. You never missed a milestone in Xander's life - Eagle Scout ceremony, graduation, and other small events. We shared too many lunches and dinners to count, but each one full of laughter and good conversation. Our annual Thanksgiving dinner and day of football. It was always my great pleasure to cook for you. I always looked forward to having you over at the house. I was so pleased to learn that we shared love for many of the same foods. In particular, making sweet potatoes with brown sugar and marshmallows just for us on Thanksgiving was a special treat for me. It was something just the two of us shared. No one else seemed to eat them.

Over the years, you and I have grown closer and the depth of our conversations expanded. You understood my request to have Paul at home more when we found out about Xander's needs. You accepted the increased workload without hesitation or remorse for the loss of your time. It would have been difficult for us to survive without your accommodation. I know the program would be very different if you had not been a support for Paul during his time with Chet. For these and so many other countless big and small things you have done for me and my family over the years, thank you.

For some, thank you would not be enough. For you, it's not required. You do not expect any thanks. For yours has always been a gift of love. I hope you will receive mine.

Love, Sharon

If you ever want to stop by for dinner, you know the way and the door is always open. We always have a spare room in the house for guests.

IOWA Debate



First, you are to have genuine intellectual integrity...

Second, we expect you to have social integrity and outlook...

Thirdly, your personality reflects moral integrity.

You are on the side of truth.

A. Craig Baird, Director of Forensics, 1925-1948

IOWA TM *Debate*

