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IMPACT COLLEGE PARTNER WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

In a major victory for IMPACT's Campaign for Policy Debate, representatives of an active college collaborator secured the CEDA national championship using the IMPACT model. CEDA Nationals features over 350 of the nation's finest debaters representing over 95 universities from more than 30 states. It is the largest, evidenced based national championship in the country

The NYU team of Richard Garner (CAS '03) and Nate Gorelick (CAS '03) (NYU GG) won the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) National Championship becoming the first Eastern region school ever to win the tournament in its 20 year history. Nate Gorelick was named the 4th speaker overall and Richard Garner placed 10th. The NYU squad posted an impressive 20-10 win-loss record, including an undefeated record in the elimination rounds. In 2002, Garner was named a member of the CEDA All-American team and Gorelick was made a member of the CEDA Academic All-American team.

After securing a 7-1 record and the 3rd seed out of 66 advancing teams in the preliminary rounds, NYU GG had to win six elimination round debates against University of North Texas (tripleocto finals, unanimous decision), Southern Illinois University (doubleoctos, unanimous decision) James Madison University (octofinals, split decision), Kansas State University (quarterfinals, unanimous decision), Dartmouth College (semifinals, unanimous decision), before winning their final round against Whitman College on a narrow 5-4 decision. Prior to this year the best finishes of any school (including Harvard, Cornell, Columbia and Dartmouth) were semi-final appearances by the University of Vermont, Dartmouth College and Cornell University in different years.

NYU became the first team with a budget under \$35,000 to make the finals, let alone win the tournament. While the average policy debate travel budget nationally is \$22,000, the total NYU budget is \$8,500.

Will Baker, CEO of the IMPACT Coalition and Director of the NYU Debate Team commented, "I am so proud of Ricky, Nate and all of our Coalition debaters. The victory was made sweeter by the presence of NYU debate alumni at the moment of their victory. It proves that a model of coordinated volunteer support that gives non-traditional students chances can still breed dramatic success." The assistant coaches volunteering time to help at the tournament were all NYU alumni: Joe Patrice (graduate--NYU Law School), Kathryn Rubino (graduate--NYU College of Arts and Science), Jacob Weigler (co-founder of the NYU team, honors graduate of the College of Arts and Science). Also, this is the first time that an African American Director has secured a National Championship at the college level.

See the results and more information about the NYU performance at www.cedadebate.org.

2002-2003 topic:

Resolved that the United States Federal Government should ratify or accede to, and implement, one or more of the following: The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty; The Kyoto Protocol; The Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court; The Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty; The treaty between the United States of America and the Russian federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions, if not ratified by the United States.

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*IMPACT stands for Improving Mentor Practices and Communication Techniques.
IMPACT is a 501c3 career development organization holding keys to our success.*