

April 8, 2016

Dear Missouri State/SMS Debate Alumni & Friends:

We are pleased to invite you to the fifth 'contemporary' reunion of the Spicer Debate Forum, which will be held on **May 13th and 14th, 2016**. This reunion, as with the events in 1997, 2002, 2007, and 2012, will celebrate the recent and historical heritage of the debate program. We are pleased to announce that we have once again reserved the **Tower Club** (901 E Saint Louis St, Springfield, MO 65806) for the banquet and most associated reunion activities. This invitation extends to all former debaters or coaches, friends from the circuit in your era, and any other friends of the Spicer Debate Forum.

Our goal is to celebrate the program (students, coaches, alumni) past and present, and also help lay the groundwork for its continuity into the future. Our hope is to maximize participation from ALL generations. As a result, we are asking for a **donation of \$50 per person** to help cover the costs of the event and ensure that current undergraduate and graduate students can attend at no cost. We are working on several initiatives in conjunction with the reunion.

1. **Debate Heritage Celebration.** We plan to decorate with material commemorating significant events in program history, including but not limited to every NDT qualification or CEDA elim appearance in program history. We are open to suggestions and invite assistance of any kind to help with this effort.
2. **Reunion Program.** We will have a program, which will honor debate supporters. You can also contribute a few words honoring your former coaches or colleagues.
3. **Alumni Advisory Committee.** We would like to have representatives from as many decades as possible join a committee supporting the program in a variety of ways, including proposing future activities, financial planning, fundraising, etc. This committee would primarily operate via email, but would meet in person on the reunion weekend.
4. **Cross Generation Public Debate.** The public debates in 2007 and 2012 were quite a hit, and if we have volunteers, we would like to do one in 2016 as well. Format and topic are negotiable, so contact us if you might be interested.
5. **Other weekend activities.** The wine tasting event on Saturday afternoon will be a fundraiser (additional \$50/person). We are planning a reception on Friday hosted by the former coaches at the home of Don & Vicki Stanton (we will provide shuttle service for this event). There will be time to meet the current team, see how Springfield has changed, and catch up with alumni beyond our official events, etc. If you have other preferred activities (golf, tennis, etc.) we will help to organize alumni outings over the weekend.

Along with a preliminary schedule, we've enclosed a registration form with optional hotel information. You can also register on line at <http://debate.missouristate.edu>. Please let us know if you will be able to attend by May 1st, 2016.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric Morris
Director of Forensics, Spicer Forum

Preliminary Schedule

Spicer Forum Debate Reunion – May 13-14, 2016

Note: This schedule may change; we will post any updates to the debate website, which can be found at <http://debate.missouristate.edu>. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact us via the online registration or by email at ericmorris@missouristate.edu.

Friday, May 13th

6pm Debate Coaches' **Reception** (Don & Vicki Stanton's Home: 2418 W Deer Trail Ct Nixa, MO 65714-7207). All debate alumni & guests are invited to come and visit with debate coaches, past and present!

** We will run shuttles from hotels to this event, so feel free be merry! **

Saturday, May 14th (Locations for events will be posted on website)

If you'd like to gather with alumni for golf, etc., tell us and we'll assist in coordination!

Noon **Lunch with the Current Team**

If you want to talk to current debaters, or learn more about recent changes such as the NFA-LD format, paperless debating, etc., then join us for lunch! Current debaters will also attend all events, but other events focus on the squad's legacy.

4pm **Wine Tasting** at Tower Club (22nd floor) – Separate \$50/person fee

6pm **Cash Bar** open at Tower Club

7pm **Dinner Buffet** at Tower Club (21st Floor) Entertainment includes speeches and a public debate! The podium is open, so share your stories (we have the room all evening!)

901 E Saint Louis St
Springfield, MO 65806
(417) 866-4466

Sunday, May 15th

TBA Unofficial survivors' breakfast.

Registration Form

Please either register online (preferred; <http://debate.missouristate.edu>), send an email (ericmorris@missouristate.edu), call the Communication Department (417-836-4423), or return this form to Debate Reunion, Department of Communication – Craig Hall 375, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, 65897. **Please register by May 1st, 2016.** Even if you cannot attend, we'd love to hear from you!

Do you plan to attend the reunion? Yes / No (If yes, please indicate numbers attending)

Your Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Would you like occasional debate newsletters by email? Please Circle: Yes / No

Mailing Address _____

Phones: Cell _____ Work _____ Home _____

The closest hotel to the Tower Club (across the street) is University Plaza Hotel 333 South John Q Hammons Parkway, Springfield, Missouri 65806. (417) 864-7333. They no longer reserve blocks, and it is graduation weekend. For other hotels, see <http://www.missouristate.edu/visitors>

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>
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Friday, May 13th

7pm	Debate Coaches' Reception (Stanton Home in Nixa).	_____
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Saturday, May 14th

12pm	Lunch with Current Debaters	_____
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4pm	Tom Black - Wine Tasting (\$40)	_____
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7pm	Dinner Buffet at Tower Club (\$50 covers all events except wine tasting)	_____
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Other questions:

1. Are you willing to be in the cross generational public debate? Yes / No
2. Do you have pictures (etc.) you'd offer us to scan for the website? Yes / No
3. We are asking for one or more alumni from each decade to speak with others from their era to boost turnout. Are you willing to help us make a few calls? Yes / No
4. Are there other activities you'd like us to coordinate (Golf, Disc Golf, Sunday afternoon Cardinals' game, etc.) If so, tell us:
