ACS449.3 NATIONAL STUDENT SPEECH CONTEST COMMITTEE

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

The committee consists of a minimum of seven members, including two members representing each Society and at least one undergraduate student member serving a one-year term appointed by the SASES Executive Committee (ACS031).

The term of office for members is two years.

The chair-elect shall be chosen from this group and serve a one year term. The chair-elect will rotate among the three Societies, starting with ASA in 2013 (the chair for 2012 will serve his 2-year term for 2012 And 2013), CSSA in 2014, and SSSA in 2015. The rotation schedule will then continue on the same pattern in future years. The chair-elect is appointed by the respective Society president and automatically becomes chair the next year.

Headquarters staff, as appropriate, may serve in an ex-officio capacity as appointed by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chair may appoint additional judges and timers for the contest in a given year, who are not official members of the Committee.

C. Functions:

1. Revise and prepare the annual call for entries, and to work with the Headquarters Office in the preparation and distribution of the call for entries.

2. Receive, at the appropriate time, all entries for the contest.

3. Work with the Chair of the ACS449 and the Headquarters Office in making arrangements for the contest to be conducted at the annual meetings.

4. Evaluate all entries in the contest and score according to the rules in effect for that year.

5. Report results of the contest to the Chair of the National Student Awards Committee and to the Chair of the National Student Advisory Committee.

6. To consider and take action on any special charges sent to the Committee by the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Boards of Directors or Executive Committees.

7. To make suggestions and/or recommendations to the National Student Advisory Committee (ACS031) regarding the Contest. These may be sent directly to the chair or through the Chair of the National Student Awards Committee.

8. To prepare and submit an annual report to the Societies.

D. Presidential Responsibilities:

1. The President of each Society appoints new members to the committee in years when an appointment term completes (for their Society).

2. Cooperate with the Committee in its activities, as appropriate or in response to need.
3. Notify the Committee of all deadlines on award selection, annual report, etc.

4. Receive and take action directly, or by referring to the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Executive Committees and/or Boards of Directors, as appropriate, all suggestions and/or recommendations for action from the Committee.

E. Description of Contest:

The intent of the SASES National Student Speech Contest is to encourage undergraduate students to develop and improve their speaking abilities. Awards consist of honoraria, presented to the top five entries, respectively.

F. Contest Rules:

1. Each contestant shall give one speech for not less than five (5) minutes nor more than seven (7) minutes. Speech titles shall be of a specific nature, rather than a general nature. The speech contest Chair shall notify all contestants of the time and place for drawing of subjects and speaking positions.

2. The Chair shall make no preliminary remark about any speaker or subject, nor shall neither the name nor the location of the club to which the contestant belongs be mentioned, nor place of residence. The contestant's name and title of speech shall be announced twice, slowly and clearly. A short interval (not less than one minute) shall be allowed between talks to allow the judges to complete their notes. The Chair shall permit no applause from the audience until the contest is concluded. The contest is open to the general public.

3. At the end of the contest, worksheets and ballots will be collected intact, and one withdrawn and placed in an envelope and sealed as the tie-breaking ballot.

4. Each judge shall provide with a combined speech contest worksheet and ballot and a list of the names of the contestants. (A sample worksheet and a ballot is attached.)

5. At the conclusion of the speeches, each judge shall indicate on the official ballot, choices for first, second, third, fourth, and fifth place. Judges shall disregard under-time or over-time. The timers shall be seated in such a place that the warning signal will be clearly visible to the speakers.

G. Eligibility of Contestants:

All undergraduate students, who are members of ASA, CSSA, and/or SSSA, except those who have won first, second, or third place in a previous contest. Only one contestant from any student club will be permitted to enter the contest. An alternate, listed and certified on the same certification sheet as the primary contestant, may participate in lieu of the primary contestant.
To be eligible in the National Contest, a student must have been a contestant in a campus club contest. The student must qualify for the National Contest as an undergraduate student. Participation in such contests must be verified by submitting the title of the speech used by the contestant, along with the contestant's name and the number of participants in the local contest, to the National Student Contest Speech Committee Chair; a sample of the official form to use for this purpose is attached. A certification sheet for official entry in the contest should also be submitted; a sample of the official certification sheet is attached.

H. Scoring and Judging:

Penalties shall be computed as follows:

a) If the talk runs 15 seconds under 5 minutes or 15 seconds over 5 minutes....................No penalty

b) Under 4-3/4 or over 7-1/4 minutes...............5% penalty

c) Under 4-1/2 or over 7-1/2 minutes..............10% penalty

d) Under 4-1/4 or over 7-3/4 minutes............15% penalty

e) Under 4 or over 8 minutes....................20% penalty

Prior to the contest, the Chair shall appoint three members as counters, with one designated as Chair. At the conclusion of the contest speeches, the judges shall be asked to rise. Each judge shall be seated as soon as his/her ballot has been picked up by the counters. The counters shall retire from the room and shall post each speaker's points on a form previously prepared for that purpose. In posting points, the counter shall allow five points for first place, four points for second place, three points for third place, two points for fourth place, and one point for fifth place, as shown on the judges' ballots. Any penalty to be imposed, according to the above table, shall be applied against the total ballot points of the speaker involved. Any judge's ballot which shows a tie for any position, or which does not contain the names of five speakers, shall not be counted.

The National Speech Contest Committee shall announce the winners based on the findings of the judges, whose decision shall be final, in conjunction with the annual SASES awards ceremony during the Annual Meetings. Appropriate awards will be made to winners of the Contest at the awards ceremony.

I. Revising Guidelines or Procedures:

The award committee may recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, scoring, etc. for this award. All recommendations must be approved by the SASES Student Advisory Committee (ACS031) before said recommendations may be implemented. It is preferable to submit recommendations through the Chair of the National Student Awards Committee.