

Dean's Weekly
8 December 2010
English and Philosophy

Past Event

MAJ Debbie Mann and Prof. Melissa Bergeron of the Department of English and Philosophy took two teams of cadets to Boulder, Colorado to compete in the Rocky Mountain Regional Ethics Bowl last week. This competition “combines the excitement and fun of a competitive tournament with a valuable educational experience for undergraduate students.” In preparation for their debates, our teams developed cases throughout this semester, routinely practicing their presentations from four to eight hours per week. Employing a notion of “fun” familiar to our cadets, the collegiate teams clashed intellectually for better than nine hours during the competition; this included a semi-final between one cadet team and a team from the University of Colorado, Denver. In a close contest, the USMA team lost to UC, Denver and failed to win the single bid to Nationals. Losing by only 6 points, our first cadet team placed second in the competition, while our second team secured a respectable third place finish. Despite the loss, the team is devoted to going to Nationals next year and plans to practice and research during the spring semester in preparation for next year’s competition.



Future Event(s)

Joining members of the Dean’s staff, LTC Chris Mayer will attend the 2010 Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) annual conference from 8-10 December 2010 in Philadelphia. The conference will focus on implementation strategies for an effective accreditation process, with special emphasis on assessment, reporting to MSCHE, and MSCHE expectations. LTC Mayer will also attend a pre-conference workshop titled: "Understanding and Using Student Learning Assessment Results." Additional information on the conference can be found at the following website: <http://www.msche.org/?Nav1=EVENTS&Nav2=2010.01.01>.