Linfield Forensics Program Statement on Diversity and Equity

Linfield Forensics Program welcomes all competitors to the Mahaffey Memorial Forensics Tournament. Working with the Northwest Forensics Conference (NFC), Linfield has appointed an Equity Officer for the tournament to provide students and others with a resource for the discussion of concerns regarding inclusiveness, harassment, and sexual misconduct.

Tournament Equity Officer

Dr. Jackson Miller, Professor of Communication Arts, Director of Forensics, and Chair of Linfield's Department of Theatre and Communication Arts

- Jackson does equity and inclusion work with a variety of community, professional, and educational organizations. His recent work includes leading workshops on "addressing bias" and "promoting allyship" with corporate and higher education clients, facilitating sexual assault prevention programs for the U.S. Department of the Navy, and teaching courses on communication, marginalization, and social justice. You may contact Jackson via email at jmiller@linfield.edu or by phone at 971-216-0582.

Linfield College

- **honors human rights and academic freedom,**
- **celebrates diverse cultures,**
- **fosters a climate of mutual respect,**
- **and promotes an inclusive environment**
- **that affirms the value of all persons.**

The Linfield Department of Theatre and Communication Arts and the Linfield Forensics Team affirm Linfield commitment to diversity in all these areas. We also support the Northwest Forensics Conference's Equity Project and its goal to maintain an equitable and inclusive environment for all members of the forensics community.

While competing and judging at the Mahaffey Tournament, we ask that you support diversity by refraining from communication interactions that may be perceived as harassment or bullying by others involved in the interaction (including, but not limited to, epithets, slurs, jokes, negative stereotyping or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts, and material or action which demeans or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group, because of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability, and other identities) as well as stalking or any form of sexual misconduct.

We also ask you to keep in mind that forensics is first and foremost an educational activity and that there are many legitimate approaches to and perspectives on ways to interpret the guidelines for each of the forensics events.