

January 4, 2019

Students:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Arizona State University and the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication Invitational speech and debate tournament. I hope this weekend provides you with rich experiences, networking opportunities, and a greater understanding of — and appreciation for — forensics, a field with a strong and valued legacy here at ASU, where our team annually places among the top 20 speech and debate teams.

I applaud you for pursuing an area in which you learn about differing perspectives and how to constructively address them. As you engage in speech and debate, know that the skills you are building will serve you well throughout your life, no matter what path you choose. Critical thinking, collaborative engagement and civil discourse are highly valuable tools for successfully navigating higher education, a career, and a lifetime of interpersonal communication.

While you are here, please take some time to get to know ASU by exploring campus and speaking to students returning from winter break.

Good luck at the tournament, and have fun competing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Crow".

Michael M. Crow
President

Office of the President

PO Box 877705, Tempe AZ 85287-7705 | 300 E University Dr., Tempe AZ 85281
p: 480-965-8972 f: 480-965-0865 president.asu.edu