

## EDITOR'S WORD

Welcome to Parliamentary Debate: The Journal of the Western States Parliamentary Debate Association. This journal has as its purpose to encourage research into and education about the theory and practice of parliamentary debate in the United States and abroad. In this first issue we have articles from faculty members experienced with parliamentary debate, faculty members new to the activity, and from two undergraduate students who have competed in the activity. I feel this mix of contributors is particularly important since Western States Parliamentary Debate Association style advocates increased debater-audience interaction. Therefore, in the future, I hope to continue publishing articles from the entire spectrum of the activity's participants. I believe in the educational value of parliamentary debate, and I'm committed to fostering its promotion. In future issues, we will also have a "Point of Information" feature (letters to the editor) in which you can provide comments about and additional insights into previous articles. If contributions warrant its inclusion, I will also add a section for articles, book reviews, and other such short (300 words or less) items which might be of interest to our debate community. I encourage you to become involved in the advocacy of this activity by contributing in some way to Parliamentary Debate. GDF