

CLAIRE RYAN, New Zealand, CA

Claire Ryan is a District Court Judge in her home city of Auckland, New Zealand where she works

in the criminal jurisdiction, the Youth Court and the Mental Health Court. She is an amateur astronomer, a swatch watch collector and occasional cartoonist. She has been attending the World Schools Debating Championships regularly since 2002. She was on the WSDC Chief Adjudication Panel from 2004 to 2008 and was co-Chief Adjudicator in 2007, 2018 and 2019. Claire first attended the International Worlds School Debate Tournament debating in Ljutomer in 2010 and fell in love with the beauty of Slovenia and the kindness of its people. COVID 19 may have prevented her from visiting Slovenia this year but it will not stop her enthusiastic participation!



GEETHA CREFFIELD, Singapore, CA

Geetha Creffield was the national coach of the first Singapore national high school team to compete at the World Schools Debating Championships (WSDC) in 1995. Since then, she has coached Team Singapore on 21 further occasions – including the 2011, 2015 and 2017 WSDCs in Scotland, Singapore and Indonesia where Team Singapore were World Champions. Geetha has also attended 3 WSDCs as a judge. Each year, she judges at multiple tournaments across the work including the Shanghai Debate Opens as well as the Winter Holiday Opens. She enjoys the experience of dealing with different debate circuits. She was the Vice-Chairman of World Schools Debating Council Executive Committee from 2008-09, and was the founding President of the Debate Association of Singapore. Geetha has a passionate belief in the empowerment of young people through debate and theatre. The challenges of 2020 have reinforced Geetha’s belief in the power of speech to empower individuals and allow them to shape their own destinities.



ANASTAZIJA STUPAR, Croatia, DCA

Anastazija Stupar was a debate coach for 7 years and a Team Croatia coach for WSDC in 2015, 2016, and 2017. She convened Winter Holidays Open, Europe’s biggest World Schools tournament, from 2014 to 2020 and co-convened WSDC 2018. In an attempt to escape the realities of life, Anastazija coached, held debate workshops, was a chief adjudicator and/or judged at tournaments in Argentina, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Singapore, Tunisia, and Turkey. As it happens, International Worlds Schools Debate Tournament Ljutomer was the very first international debate tournament she ever participated in, way back in 2009. Clearly, it made an impression.



FILIP GAVRANOVIĆ, Slovenia/UK, DCA

Filip Gavranovič is a student of Politics and International Relations at the University of Cambridge. During his high-school years, he participated in multiple national and international tournaments, winning the Slovenian Nationals (2018, 2019) and Winter Holidays Open Zagreb (2018), as well as representing Slovenia at the WSDC 2019 in Thailand. He remains committed to debate at university - judging World Schools tournaments, attending various IVs and Opens in both debating and judging capacity, convening the upcoming ICYD 2021, as well as actively passing his skills to the younger generation through workshops organized by ZIP - the Slovenian debate association.



JEVON HENRY, Jamaica, DCA

Jevon has been involved in debating since 2013 when he revived the debate society at The University of The West Indies (UWI), Mona - WJC in Jamaica and started to teach debate to high school students with non-profit organization, Debate Mate Jamaica. He went on to be Senior Director of Programs for the organization where he supervised over 60 debate mentors in primary and high schools all over Jamaica. He also created and supervised the delivery of debate curriculum for Exploration Schools Summer Program at Yale University. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Jamaican Association for Debating and Empowerment (JADE).

Among his speaking accomplishments are winning and being top speaker at the UWI Regional (Caribbean) Postgraduate Debate Competition, NCU IV, and UWI Leads Great Debates. As an adjudicator, Jevon has been the CA for all 4 Jamaican National Championships (University, Novice, Secondary, and Primary). He has also been Lead Trainer and CA for the Jamaica Debate Academy and Open twice. Jevon has had international judge breaks at WUDC, USUDC, and PanAms. Recently, he was the coach for Team Jamaica at WSDC 2020 and CA for The Huber Debates 2020. Outside of debate, Jevon teaches Economics at The University of the West Indies.



MLUNGISI DLAMINI, Swaziland, DCA

Lunga lives in Eswatini. He has spent a good part of this decade judging and coaching World Schools Style debating. He coached team Swaziland to the finals of WSDC 2013 Istanbul, Turkey. He was in the CAP at WSDC 2017 Bali, Indonesia, and WSDC 2019 Bangkok, Thailand. Between 2014 and 2016, he adjudicated across the Balkans and Slovakia. He looks forward to 'returning' to Ljutomer where he adjudicated in 2015.



NAOMI PANOVKA, Canada, DCA

Naomi is a second year student at McGill University in Canada studying political science. Since starting university debate, she has broken at 17 tournaments, including the Cambridge IV and Doxbridge 3. Naomi has made 11 open finals, including the Oxford IV, KCL Online Open, and Hart House inter-varsity. She was also the 5th speaker of the Oxford IV, 2nd speaker of the Hart House inter-varsity, top speaker of the Princeton Round Robin, and has ranked in the top ten speakers of 15 tournaments. In high school, Naomi was on Team Canada for two years, was 7th speaker in 2018, and a grand finalist in 2019. She is also a two time champion of the Harvard WSDC debate championship. Naomi has been on 8 adj cores, including Canadian BP champs, Panama Debate Open, Saskatoon WSDC, and has 9 judge breaks, including WSDC 2020 and VWSDC 2020.



SENKAI HSIA, USA/Taiwan, DCA Senkai is a second-year undergraduate at Stanford University. He is recovering from 4 years of UK secondary school British Parliamentary, and now proudly represents the Stanford Debate Society internationally. His achievements as a debater include reaching the Grand Finals of the Berkeley IV 2020, and breaking to the Semi-finals of Cambridge Schools 2019, and winning the Newcastle IV. As an adjudicator, Senkai has advanced to judge the elimination rounds of both the World and European Universities Debating Championships, and the grand finals of the US Universities Debating Championship, Hart House IV and Shanghai International Debate Open. Most importantly, he finally got over his rejection from Team England by judging the Grand Finals of the Online World Schools Debating Championship this year!

He will also be on the adjudication cores of the ADU Novice Championships and the Hong Kong WSDC Debate Open, and has coached students in Hong Kong, the US and UK.

