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# FORENSICS TEAM

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University of Wisconsin  
**Whitewater**

National Forensics Association  
Tournament | 2020

# WHY WHITEWATER?



In 1979, UW-Whitewater served as one of the early hosts of the NFA national tournament. With a long history of forensics, The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is fully committed to ensuring the 2020 NFA national tournament is a success.

Vendors throughout the city of Whitewater are eager to earn the business of the attending competitors, coaches, and judges. UW-Whitewater is equally excited at the prospect of bringing such a diverse, talented community to our campus from April 16th-20th, 2020. The UW-Whitewater campus will happily provide all necessary rooms for competition, tabbing, awards, assemblies, and any other needs NFA has. Most academic buildings are less than a 5 minute walk away from one another, making traveling between rounds seamless.

The majority of hotels, motels, and eateries are located in Janesville (20-25 minutes south of Whitewater). Teams will find this likely is the ideal option for a balance between reasonable driving distance and a variety of dining choices. 2-3 smaller hotels are also available in both Whitewater and Fort Atkinson (10-15 minutes north of Whitewater).





University of Wisconsin  
**Whitewater**

College of Arts  
and Communication

January 22, 2019

NFA National Council  
Hibbard 174  
124 Garfield Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

To Whom It May Concern:

As Assistant Chair of the Department of Communication, I am pleased to support enthusiastically UW-Whitewater's proposal to host the April 2020 National Forensic Association Tournament.

Clearly, forensics has and continues to play a significant role in our Department's mission to develop communicators who can function in a society which depends on and values successful interpersonal, mass, and interactive communications.

It has been nearly 40 years since it was our pleasure to host the National Tournament (1979). Doing so once again in 2020, with approximately 1200 attendees, would demonstrate the continued importance and contribution of forensic activity to the world of communications.

Be assured the Department of Communication will do all that it can to make the 2020 National Forensic Association Tournament a success.

Please feel free to contact me so that we can discuss any and all matters related to successful hosting of the 2020 National Forensic Association Tournament.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Wildermuth".

Susan Wildermuth  
Assistant Chair Department of Communication

# ROOMS

The room counts listed below are estimates of what will be available in the spring of 2020. Estimates are based off of room usage from the spring 2019 semester. These include use of conference rooms.

Thursday		Friday	
Time	Rooms	Time	Rooms
9:00-11:00	University Center	8:00-10:00	University Center
11:30-12:15	Young Auditorium	10:15-11:30	~55
12:30-1:45	~55	11:30-12:45	~55
1:45-3:00	~55	12:45-1:15	PREP
3:00-3:30	PREP	1:15-2:30	~80
3:30-4:45	~80	2:30-4:00	~90
4:45-6:15	>90	4:00-5:30	>90
6:15-7:45	>90	5:30-7:00	>90

## Saturday/Sunday

There will be 90+ competition rooms available all day on both Saturday and Sunday.

## Monday

Our campus has roughly 15 available lecture halls, theaters, or ballrooms capable of holding at least 60 individuals. Of those 15, at least 6 are able to hold over 100 individuals, making them ideal for hosting semifinals and finals. Our largest rooms are listed below:

Name	Building	Capacity
Summers Auditorium	University Center	232
Hamilton Ballroom	University Center	500
Old Main Ballroom A	University Center	200
Old Main Ballroom B	University Center	200
Connor Conference Room	University Center	200
Timmerman Auditorium	Hyland Hall	400
Young Auditorium	Center of the Arts	1,300

## University Center

This will serve as the central hub for students between rounds. There are ~10 rooms that may be available if more competition rooms are needed.

## Upham Hall

If needed, there are ~5 science labs that can be used in Upham Hall. We are already using 5-10 of their classrooms, but we can use some of those labs in addition based on availability.

## Center of the Arts

If even more rooms are needed, there are ~5 rooms that can be used in the Center of the Arts. This is also where awards would be hosted. It is the furthest building from any other academic building, and may take up to 15 minutes to walk there.

## Extemp Prep

There will be ballrooms or auditoriums to choose from for extemp prep. It will be no further than a 5-7 minute walk for competitors, if not in the same building. Timmerman Auditorium (holds around 400) would probably be best for this. Based on Spring 2019, the room would be available Thursday afternoon through Sunday. Semifinals and finals prep could then be moved to the UC on Monday. Wi-Fi will be provided.



## Opening Assembly & Awards Ceremony

These will be held in the Young Auditorium which seats up to 1,300 people. Seating is comfortable and it is fully accessible. We estimate using this venue will cost roughly \$1,500 for the opening ceremony and awards.



## Students Meeting & Coaches Meeting

Both the student and coaches meetings will be held in University Center ballrooms.

## Accessibility

All areas of the tournament have full accessibility and are in compliance with ADA standards. We, as both a university and individuals, are fully committed to ensuring accessibility needs are met for all attending students, coaches, judges, and guests. Any and all concerns in this area will promptly be addressed.

# **TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT**

## **Tab Room**

The tab room will be located on the 2nd floor of the University Center. It is a conference room with faded windows and a beautiful view of campus. Its location makes it very easy to retrieve ballots, since ballot drop/pick-up will be on the 1st floor of the same building. With postings also being in the same building, it reduces travel time between there and tab.

## **Ballot Stuffing**

Adjacent to the tab room will be a large conference room with tables set up to help make the ballot stuffing process as efficient and easy as possible.

## **Ballot Drop/Pick-Up**

Next to the University Center lab is an open area where tables can be set up for ballot drop/pick-up. Being in a central location, this gives judges plenty of time to travel from the ballot table to/from their rounds.

## **Ballots**

Printing ballots will be easy and cost-effective through our on-campus university printing services.

## **Judges**

The UW-Whitewater forensics team has many alumni of the program who would love to judge. Whenever we travel for tournaments, we have more people asking to judge than we are able to bring with. In a location hovering between Wisconsin and Illinois, finding hired judges will not be an issue.



## Printing

Printing on campus will be accessible from multiple academic buildings. The on-campus printing center can print the booklet, schedule, or anything else needed in large quantities before the tournament.

## Postings

There are multiple great locations available to choose from for postings in the University Center. The two best options would either be along the walls in the Hamilton Ballroom, or off the indoor balcony on the 2nd floor that overlooks the 1st floor.

## Computers

While there are not computers set up in the proposed tab room, laptops can be rented by our library free of charge. Personal laptops can be used as well.

## Internet Access

Our campus Wi-Fi is prepared to handle a large increase in users. Our IT department has made recent improvements to increase internet speed and ease of use for guests.

## Video

For video production of final rounds, UW-Whitewater has high-quality cameras for rental. The media department is able to record finals and provide staffing at a rate of \$20-\$30 per hour per camera. The staff will be well trained on how to record rounds in a forensics competition setting.

## Parking

UW-Whitewater Parking Services has proposed the use of Lot 1 for parking during the tournament on weekdays (weekend parking is free). This would mean closing down the lot for everyone except NFA attendees in the morning, while everyone arrives. This makes looking for parking on campus a non-issue.

The estimated cost per van/car to park on campus for the entirety of NFA is \$12.00 (around \$2,000 for the whole tournament). Buses must park along Warhawk Drive if they choose to stay on campus during the day. The UW-Whitewater forensics team is willing to cover the parking fee for all handicap vehicles as part of our commitment to accessibility.

## Funding

UW-Whitewater Forensics, as with most teams, runs on a tight budget. If selected to host NFA 2020, we will apply for matching funds to the hosting fees paid by each team. The money will go toward recording (~\$750) of final rounds, and the rental of Young Auditorium (opening assembly and awards, ~\$1500). Parking will be added to the entry fees for the tournament.

## Staffing - Event Planning Course

The UW-Whitewater Communication Department has expressed initial interest in the idea of having an event planning class for NFA 2020. These students would be able to help with marketing, logistics, and any other needs that arise during the tournament. This is not guaranteed, but it's on the table.

# DINING

## Meals (On-Campus)

Below is a list of all available on-campus food options for attendees. If interested, we can also arrange for schools to purchase boxed lunches through UW-Whitewater catering. These would be an ideal way to handle the lunch crunch on weekends. Boxed lunches would cost around \$10/box.

- Olive
- Chopped (weekdays only)
- Noodle Bowl (weekdays only)
- Jump - Asian Express (weekdays only)
- Einstein's Bagels (weekdays only)
- Drumlin Dining Hall & Esker Dining Hall
- Deloitte Cafe (Hyland Hall, weekdays only)
- Freshens (smoothies/frozen yogurt, weekdays only)
- Collectivo

Olive, Chopped, Noodle Bowl, Jump, Freshens, and Einstein's Bagels are all conveniently located in the University Center. Collectivo is a coffee shop in the University Center, and would likely be willing to be open for longer hours to accommodate NFA's coffee needs on campus.



## Meals (Off-Campus)

Below is a list of some available off-campus food options that are located in Whitewater and within a 5 minute drive from campus.

- Jimmy John's - Delivers
- Taco Fresco - Delivers
- Subway - Delivers (call)
- Jersey Mike's Subs - Delivers (call)
- Beijing Buffet
- Qdoba
- Taco Bell
- McDonald's
- Rosa's (anticipated fall 2019) - Delivers
- Culvers
- Casual Joe's BBQ
- Sweet Spot (Local coffee shop, 2 locations in Whitewater)

Whitewater also has a number of sit down locations for dinner:

- 841 Brewhouse
- Second Salem
- Cozumel
- Gus's Pizza Palace
- The Black Sheep
- Fanatico
- China House

The Milton Avenue corridor in Janesville, where many of the hotels are, offers a wide variety of food options, including Applebee's, Perkins, Buffalo Wild Wings, Dennys, IHop, Texas Roadhouse, Olive Garden, Panera, Red Robin, and more.

# HOTELS

The city of Whitewater currently has two hotels with a third being built. Between the cities of Whitewater, Fort Atkinson (10-15 minute drive) and Janesville (25 minute drive), there are more than the 250 required double rooms. Requests have gone out for room blocks. Many are not reservable until ~50 weeks out.

## Whitewater:

**Baymont:** 1355 W Main St, Whitewater, WI 53190

**Super 8:** 917 E Milwaukee St, Whitewater, WI 53190

**Fairfield Inn:** (approximate address, coming spring/summer 2019) 1260 W Main St, Whitewater, WI 53190

## Fort Atkinson (~15 minutes):

**Holiday Inn Express:** 1680 Madison Ave, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

**Country Inn and Suites:** 1650 Doris Dr, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

-stated they typically do state rate when business is tied to UW-W

**Courtyard:** 1225 Janesville Ave, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

## Janesville (~25 minutes):

The city of Janesville is the largest city near Whitewater. The Milton Ave. corridor offers a plethora of lodging and food options (sit-down and fast food).

**Hampton Inn:** 2400 Fulton St, Janesville, WI 53546

**Holiday Inn Express:** 3100 Wellington Pl, Janesville, WI 53546

**Quality Inn:** 3520 Milton Ave, Janesville, WI 53545

**Super 8:** 3430 Milton Ave, Janesville, WI 53548

**AmericInn:** 3900 Milton Ave, Janesville, WI 53546

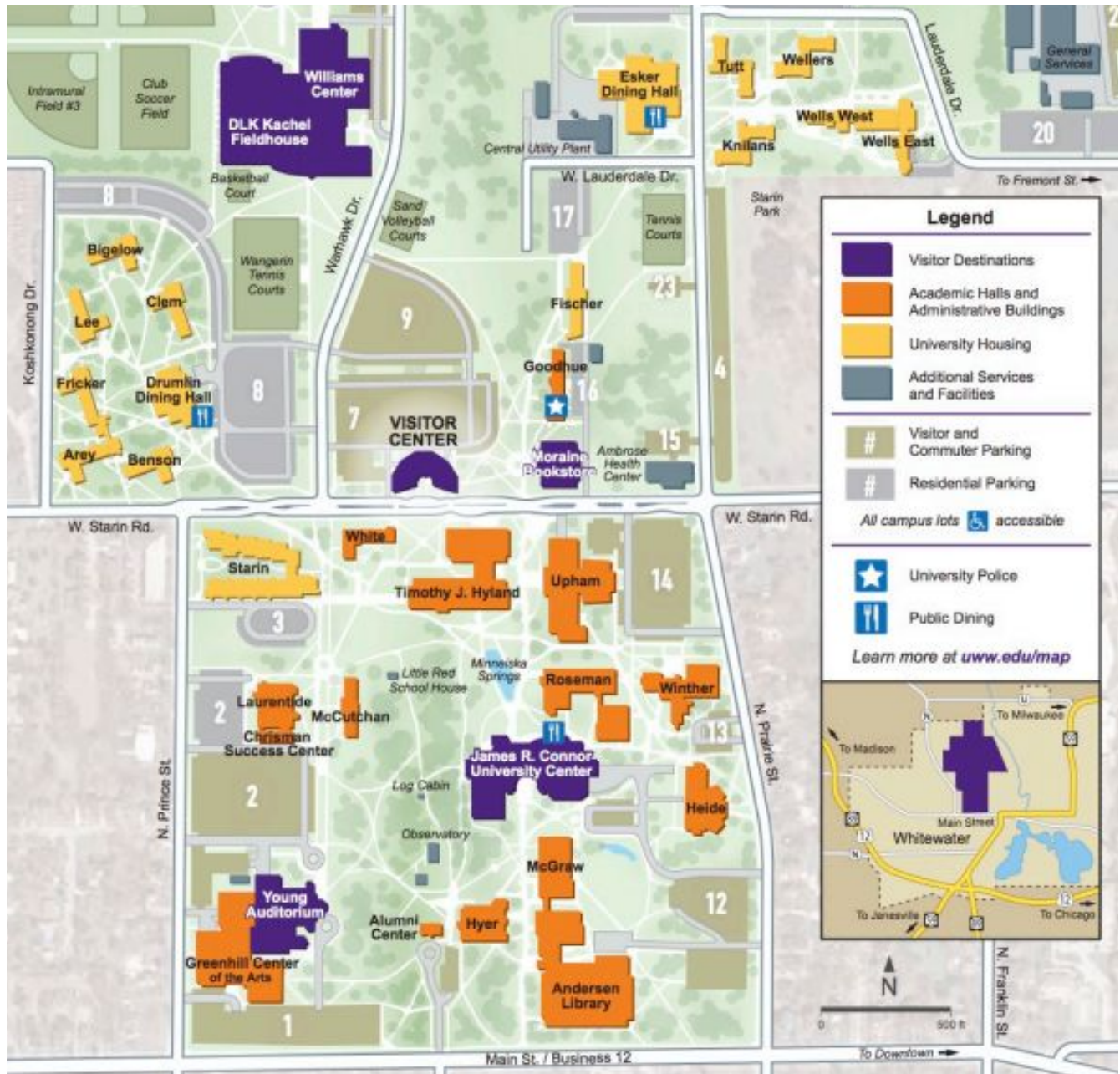
**Microtel:** 3121 Wellington Pl, Janesville, WI 53546

# AIR TRAVEL

Traveling to Whitewater from General Mitchell (Milwaukee) or Dane County (Madison) are going to be the best option for most teams who need to fly in. O'Hare is a slightly cheaper option, with the trade-off being a longer drive.

Airport	Distance from UWW	Address
General Mitchell International Airport	52 miles (1 hour)	5300 S Howell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
Dane County Regional Airport	47 miles (1 hour)	4000 International Ln, Madison, WI 53704
O'Hare International Airport	114 miles (2 hours)	10000 W O'Hare Ave, Chicago, IL 60666

# CAMPUS MAP



# CLOSING LETTER

Dear NFA Committee,

The NFA national tournament has always been a staple of the UW-Whitewater forensics program. As competitors, some of our best memories came from this tournament. It is a special competition that deserves a fully committed host. We would be honored to be that host.

When we began the process of putting together our bid, we were blown away by the university's emphatic support of bringing this tournament to our campus in 2020. Most notably, the UW-Whitewater College of Arts and Communication has been an advocate of our team for decades. Their support of hosting the NFA national tournament is no different. We have attached a letter of support they wrote on our behalf.

We know that there is a lot to consider when deciding who will host a national tournament of this magnitude. We are grateful for the opportunity to submit a bid, and we hope to bring NFA back to Wisconsin once again. Because who doesn't love beer and cheese?

Sincerely,



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