

BC students favor civil rights for all

by John Padgett
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Students attending a debate this week overwhelmingly favor constitutional rights for anyone within the borders of the United States, regardless of their citizenship status.

By a vote of 15-7, those attending a debate forum Tuesday voted to affirm the resolution "Constitutional rights should be guaranteed to all individuals within the borders of the United States." The debate, sponsored by the Brevard Debate Society and Young Politicians of America, was the 19th debate forum hosted by the society since 2001 and was held in observance of Constitution Day.

Speaking first in favor of the resolution, Zachery Christy pointed out that there is a difference between civil rights, which are guaranteed by the Constitution, and privileges, such as drivers licenses and welfare benefits.

According to Christy, curtailing constitutional rights for select groups of non-citizens could have devastating consequences for citizens as well. "To endanger the rights of the person next to you may be to endanger your own," he said.

Speaking against the resolution was Stacy Hawks, who focused much of her argument on the question of illegal immigration.

According to Hawks, an estimated 8,000 people illegally cross the border daily into the United States, which would add up to 2.9 million illegal

immigrants annually. Since the 4th Article of the Constitution guarantees states the right to protect against "invasion," the Constitution allows for its citizens to protect against what she termed the "parade" of illegal immigrants.

Following the formal presentation, a lively debate ensued. Among the questions asked were whether this was the first time in American history that immigrants, legal or otherwise, were subject to suppression of their civil rights, and whether there was a sound constitutional basis for suppressing civil rights for non-citizens.

In an emotional moment, Ryan Feffick wondered how we could call ourselves Americans if we favor suppressing civil rights for everyone in our country. "At one point do we start treating them [illegal aliens] like the human beings that they are?" he asked.

The Debate Society was formed in 2001 "to provide a forum for the awareness and discussion of issues that affect students as members of broader societies, allowing them through their involvement to become more responsible participants within their polities; [and] to promote tolerance of divergent opinions."

At least two more Debate Society forums are scheduled to be held this semester.

Family Weekend Schedule

Friday, September 21

8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Attend A Class With Your Student: Register on-line.

8 am – 3 pm Exhibit: Kevin Hogan: Abstract paintings, prints and digital media works. Sims Building, Spiers Art Gallery
12:30 p.m. **Family Golf Outing:** (\$50/person) You must reserve in advance. Contact David Nelson, 828.884.8215 or nelsondm@brevard.edu.

4:30 p.m. **Alpha Chi Induction & Omicron Delta Kappa Induction Ceremonies:** Porter Center, Francis Pavilion.

6 p.m. **Senior Pinning Banquet:** (\$) Porter Center Amphitheater.

7:30 p.m. **BC Music Faculty, Joint Recital,** Porter Center, Scott Concert Hall

Saturday, September 22

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Family Weekend Check-in:** Academic Quad (Rain site: McLarty Goodson Lobby). Pay registration fee and pick up your Schedule; Sports Tickets/Passes; and information.

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Continental Breakfast with Faculty and Staff on the Academic Quad.** (Rain site: McLarty Goodson)
10 a.m. – noon **Parent Conferences with Advisors or a Faculty Member:**

10 am – 1:30 pm Exhibit: Kevin Hogan: Abstract paintings, prints and digital media works. Sims Building, Spiers Art Gallery

11:30-1:30 p.m. **Lunch:** Feel free to come join us at lunch in Myers Dining Hall

Noon – 1:45 p.m. **Football Tailgate:** Brevard Memorial Stadium, Brevard High School.

2 p.m. **Womens Volleyball:** \$ Boshamer Gym. BC vs. Lincoln Memorial

2 p.m. **Football:** \$ Brevard High School. BC vs. Chowan University

3 p.m. **Women s Soccer:** \$ Main Soccer Field. BC vs. Tusculum College.

8 p.m. **Comedy Coffeehouse,** Porter Center, Francis Pavilion. Comedian Stephano

Sunday, September 23

8:30 a.m. or 10:55 a.m. **Worship Service:** First United Methodist Church. The Reverend Shelly Webb, Brevard College Chaplain, will be preaching at the First United Methodist Church across the street from the College. The entire BC community is invited to attend as part of Family Weekend.

3 p.m. **John Weaver, organ,** Porter Center, Scott Concert Hall \$20. John Weaver, a giant in the organ world and long one of America's finest and most accomplished organists, is retiring from the concert stage and the Porter Center is proud to present him on his Farewell Tour. Tickets can be purchased over the phone (credit card only) at (828) 884-8330.