ELAC Speech Team: Third in the Nation!

Denver, Colorado—April 12, 2014—The awards seem to keep rolling in for the East Los Angeles College (ELAC) Speech Team which made history when the group earned third place team for the first time ever at the 2014 Phi Rho Pi National Championship Tournament in Denver, CO on April 12.

Entered into the division with the most number of schools, ELAC took third place overall in the Individual Events (non-debate) category as well as overall in its division, receiving two Silver Awards.

In total, ELAC earned more points in the tournament than 41 other highly competitive teams across all divisions, large, medium, and small.

Individually, student Sarah Naab clutched two Gold Awards for her moving performances in Prose and Program Oral Interpretation.

California State Champion performer, Raul Herrera also won two Gold Awards, one in Poetry and the other in Program Oral Interpretation.

For his performances of Poetry and Dramatic literature, first year student Gordon Ip earned two Bronze Awards.

Also attending the national tournament were students Israel Beltran, Nicholas Montero and Coach J. Edward Stevenson.

More than 350 students from colleges across dozens of states participated in this high-caliber national tournament.

The success of the ELAC speech team is due in part to the financial support from the Associated Student Union at ELAC.

Additionally, faculty coaches Ryan Smith and J. Edward Stevenson have provided for the team countless hours of instruction, training, and mentoring in order to develop championship performance skills.

The team’s awards will be presented to the College’s administration in the coming days.

For those interested in learning more about the ELAC Speech Team contact its directors: Ryan Smith (SMITHRL3@elac.edu) or J. Edward Stevenson (STEVENJE@elac.edu).