

Communications Committee

Committee Bulletin

- **René Bequillard**
- **Camila Mendoza**

Committee Directors

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Welcome Letter from Co-Directors

Dear delegates,

My name is Camila Mendoza, and it is a pleasure to serve as Chair of the Communications Committee. By the time the conference takes place, I will be in 11th grade at Nicaragua Christian Academy, Matagalpa. Since I immersed myself in the world of writing, I have become passionate about journalism, believing that it must be built on commitment, discipline, and above all on the courage it takes to speak the truth to promote needed changes in your surroundings and beyond. Thanks to it, I found my voice in the Communications Committee during the XI Conference of DALE Nicaragua.

It may sound incoherent to find your voice in writing, yet I believe your writing has not only a voice but a power, shown by your words, style, character, and many other aspects that reveal who you truly are. Through my experience at DALE, I can tell that it is more than just a debate program, but a community. It fosters responsibility, communication, critical thinking, and a desire for change. At the same time, it fills you with support, passion, resilience, and hope. The Communications Committee has a special place in my heart and I wish it grows to have the same significance for you. I look forward to collaborating with each one of you, future delegates, to ensure the legacy of excellence and continuous success that has defined DALE since its first conference to its most proximate twelfth conference.

Sincerely,

Camila Mendoza

Chair of the Communications Committee

Dear delegates,

My name is Rene Bequillard, and it is a privilege to serve as Chair of the Communications Committee for this conference. I am currently in 11th grade at the American Nicaraguan School. I enjoy swimming, watching movies, and spending time with friends and family.

I am really excited to work alongside you because I bring previous experience in this sort of committee, having had the opportunity to serve as Director of the Communications Committee at an event at my school. That experience solidified the joy I find in informing, and it reminded me of the vital role journalists play in shaping the legacy of any conference. Whether it's capturing moments, spotlighting achievements, or analyzing the pressing issues debated, our role in the Communications Committee is crucial for documenting and reflecting the essence of the event.

This year, I look forward to working with each of you to continue elevating the standard of excellence that defines the Communications Committee. I hope this experience allows you to expand your skills, connect with peers, and discover the joy of creating meaningful stories. Thank you for being a part of this journey. I'm confident that together, we'll make this year's conference truly memorable. Welcome to the Communications Committee!

Sincerely,

Rene Bequillard

Chair of the Communications Committee

Introduction to the Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is a committee that allows its delegates to experience the conference through the lenses of news agencies. The committee allows delegates to report a new event, interview the stars of the debate with direct questions, and gain access to DALE's social media, where they can share content to complement their work and show the audience what happens inside each one of the debate rooms. The delegates have the privilege of writing articles about the most influential events of the conference while being the faces of the media.

Work of the Delegates

The Communications Committee's delegates will play the pivotal role of journalists throughout the conference. Based on the news agency they were assigned, delegates should be able to stay true to their agency's position and make this experience as realistic as possible by wisely selecting the committees to visit and by being familiar with the general structure of the articles. Delegates will also be expected to be acquainted with the topics that will be discussed in the other committees and with the established rules of the conference. The Crisis Committee and the Communications Committee collaborate closely with each other; therefore, we look forward to delegates to have an active participation in reporting the crises or taking part in them. Delegates will have to write three articles. The first two articles are to be written individually that may cover diverse topics, including crises, presentation of resolutions/verdicts, interviews with DALE Staff, and much more. The third and final article will be a collaborative work among agency representatives. Further information about this activity can be found in the *Agencies Union Article* section of the bulletin.

We encourage delegates to look for external sources of information to provide historical, social, political, or legal background to ensure the articles' reliability. For more information about how articles must be written, go to the *Rules* and *General Article Structure* sections of the bulletin. Lastly, we expect delegates to experiment with various forms of media

to let their talents shine and live their DALE experience to the fullest. Use your authentic voice,
and go the extra mile!

News Agencies Represented

ENGLISH AGENCIES



The New York Times



The Wall Street Journal



The Washington Post



CNN



The Chicago Tribune



ABC News



The Daily Mail



The Guardian



The Economist



Reuters



The Miami Herald



CBS News

SPANISH AGENCIES



CNN en Español



BBC



Telemundo



Bloomberg



Agencia EFE



El Mundo



El Espectador



El País



La Vanguardia

Rules

The rules described above were established to maintain an appropriate environment during the conference. If one of the following rules is overlooked; it will lead to a points deduction or to disqualification from awards.

1. All work must be individual. The article's structure and work cited should follow the permitted format: MLA.
2. The Communications Committee not only will not tolerate plagiarism but also the use of Artificial Intelligence (A.I) in any of its forms.
3. Delegates are expected to adjust to the style, perspective, and strategies of their corresponding news agency.
4. Pre-written articles are not accepted. Only articles written during the conference will be taken into consideration for scoring.
5. If a delegate wishes to write an article about a theme out of the parameters described previously in this bulletin; they must ask the Chairs for approval.
6. The delegates must respect the set deadlines for finishing their articles. Unless a valid excuse is provided; extra time will be supplied.
7. Videos, images, and podcasts are allowed to be posted on the *DALE Communications Committee* Instagram account. Any other type of media should be approved by the Communications Committee Chairs.
8. All content posted must be complementary to the delegates' work and news agencies. Any content that infringes DALE's values or formality will not be tolerated.
9. Communications Committee's delegates must never interrupt an outgoing debate. If they wish to interview a debater they must contact the Chairs of the Communications Committee who are going to be in touch with the other committee Chairs.

10. Integrity, responsibility, respect, and collaboration are the core values expected to be followed all the time during the conference.

Extra Time Policy

Only in specific situations, like a medical emergency, would more time be granted. When additional time is required, the chairs will decide how much time is allowed based on a reasonable and fair explanation as well as the possibility of an extension. Delegates must formally request more time from the chairs who will then decide whether to grant it. Articles that are not turned in by the deadline will not receive all 100 points. Points may be deducted based on the circumstances and the extent of tardiness.

Use of Social Media

Delegates will have access to the Communications Committee Instagram account from the first day of the conference until their final piece is turned in. Access to this account is a privilege, and we entrust delegates with the duty of using this platform professionally. Posting memes or anything unrelated to the conference and news agency is forbidden by the directors. This platform needs to be used with purpose; every post should be devoted to educating readers or promoting items. They will lose access to the account and be disqualified if it is not utilized responsibly.

Delegates are meant to create a highlight with the name of their news agency and their logo to sort their stories, so the chairs are able to keep track of which stories belong to which agencies. Delegates must also sign off each post with their agency and name. Depending on how effectively the delegates use social media, the chairs will take it into consideration for final scores and awards.

General Article Structure

As outlined earlier, delegates are required to write two articles per day, resulting in a total of three articles over the course of the conference. Each article must be between 300 and 550 words. All documents must be uploaded to the delegate's designated folder and include a header featuring their agency's logo, their name, the date, and the time. The text should be in Times New Roman, size 12, except for the title and subtitle, which may be formatted at the delegate's discretion.

On the first day, the first article is due by noon, and the second article must be submitted before the scheduled departure time. On the second day, the deadlines remain the same, except the second article must be submitted two hours prior to the closing ceremony.

Articles should begin with an engaging title and introduction, incorporating a hook, background information, and an overview of the situation. The body paragraphs may include factual details, quotes from delegations, statistics, opposing viewpoints, and other relevant content. The conclusion should summarize the situation, provide updates on its progress or resolution, and include predictions. Delegates are encouraged to use visually striking templates and include photos where appropriate. All sources and images must be cited in MLA format to ensure proper attribution and avoid plagiarism. Additionally, the tone and content should align with the perspective and typical reporting style of the delegate's agency, whether conservative or liberal.

Delegates must bring their computers, phones or cameras, and chargers for these devices. Additional equipment, such as microphones or tripods, may also be brought for recording interviews or capturing debates. Creativity is encouraged—delegates can even design their own accessories.

As a reminder, late submissions will not be accepted without a valid reason and prior approval from the chairs. Overall, delegates are expected to maintain professionalism and adhere to all deadlines.

Complementary Tools

Prepare for an unforgettable XII conference filled with innovation and originality! To fully embrace your role as a representative of a news agency, we encourage you to bring extra tools to enhance your experience on this exciting journey. Consider items like microphones, tripods, earphones, lamps, or any equipment that can elevate your participation and make the experience more authentic. Get creative—design your own tools to add a personal and unique flair to the event. In the Press Corps, the possibilities are endless!

Agencies Union Article

As we mentioned previously through the bulletin, the Agencies Union Article will be the last activity. It consists of an article written by two to five news agency representatives — depending on how many participants are on the committee — and must follow the minimum word count of 650 words and a maximum of 800 words.

In matters of social media use, as delegates are teamed up, they must sign off their posts with the news agencies their teammates are representing, along with the names of the delegates who are in the group.

Collaboration, time management, communication, and open-mindedness are the skills expected to be put into practice while working on this special activity. With this activity, we intend to combine different perspectives and ideas from the delegates into one unique, complete, and diverse piece of work. Consequently, stand out as a team through their work.

Essay Contest

Theme: Is Youth Truly Shaping the Future the Nations Need?

"The future belongs to our youth. As some of us near the end of our political careers, younger people must take over." - **Nelson Mandela**

Our world has faced countless conflicts throughout history that have menaced entire nations, societies, and the future. However, the world is still standing thanks to an essential element that can be considered as a silent but significant weapon to combat the most difficulties: the minds of youth. In an era of new ideas and perspectives, which has brought new challenges with it, the world looks up to young people to take advantage of the power they have to create a new and better world, coexistence, and time ahead. Are the leaders of tomorrow really on the right track to use their energy as fuel for changes, explore, find their true selves, and most importantly, build the future the nations need?

The beautiful places we see are made by architects, who mix creativity and knowledge to create functional, safe, and comfortable spots. Nevertheless, they need the help of engineers who use curiosity, small details, and teamwork to build efficient and sustainable projects. Both are somehow different, but they need each other to accomplish their common goals. Young people have to put themselves in the shoes of architects and engineers, to work with each other, and to start bringing to life a better place to live.

Is youth becoming the clueless tourists that observe a great creation, or the architects and engineers who stand out for their leadership and their aim for shaping the world the youngest generation deserves?

GUIDELINES

The *DALE Essay Contest* is open to all delegates, regardless of the committee they have chosen.

All entries will be judged based on relevance to the topic, coherence, and originality. Please take your time to read through the following guidelines:

- Word count: 800-1,000 words
- Permitted format: MLA
- Header must include:
 - Delegate's name
 - School name
 - Date
 - Email address
 - Committee

The use of Artificial Intelligence (A.I) is completely banned from the Press Corps' Essay Contest. If you have any external research used for this essay, you must cite your sources properly. Any form of plagiarism will revoke you from the contest.

All entries must be sent as a PDF to cammen25@nca.edu.ni

Art Contest

Theme: The Impact of Social Media on Human Connection.

“Social media is about sociology and psychology more than technology.” -Brian Solís

Social media has quickly transformed how we communicate with each other and the outside world. We may connect with each other and create worldwide communities by sharing our lives in real-time on social media sites like Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok. From the comfort of our screens, we can remain friends, learn new viewpoints, and feel a part of something greater.

Beneath this simplicity of use for technology, though, is a complicated question: Is social media making us feel more connected, or is it just making us feel more disconnected? Are the richness and genuineness of in-person encounters being lost as we speak through emoticons and read through meticulously maintained feeds?

This subject explores social media's dual nature, looking at its ability to bring people together as well as its capacity to drive them apart. With this in mind, we hope that passionate and creative artists are able to explore the impacts behind the screen in order to dive deeper into how this impacts humanity and how it could affect the future of our society.

GUIDELINES

Submission of a PDF titled: Delegate Name - Title of Artwork - Committee, and include a 150-200 word description of your artwork.

- 2D and 3D creations are accepted.
- Digital artwork is accepted.
- Submit one art piece per delegate.
- Videos/GIFS are not allowed.
- 2D work: Minimum 20x20cm and maximum 40x50cm.
- 3D work: Minimum 20x20x20cm and maximum 40x40x40cm.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (A.I) is banned from the Press Corps' art contest. Sketches, object/human references used, and parts of the creative process are recommended to be attached to verify the artwork's authorship.

Send a good-quality photo with the artwork's description to rbequillardd@ans.edu.ni

If you have any questions about the essay or art contests, please contact cammen25@nca.edu.ni or rbequillardd@ans.edu.ni