



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press release updated 9-6-18

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Everett Lawson  
elawson@seattlecityclub.org  
206.682.7395

Diane Douglas  
ddouglas@seattlecityclub.org  
206.682.7395

## WA State Debate Coalition Announces Dates for U.S. Senate and WA-8th Debates

*Seattle, WA, September 5, 2018* – The Washington State Debate Coalition, founded by Seattle CityClub in 2016 to increase the frequency and quality of publicly accessible nonpartisan debates in Washington, has finalized the dates for its free, public debates for this fall's U.S. Senate and WA-8<sup>th</sup> District elections.

- Saturday, October 6—Pacific Lutheran University, 7 p.m. (U.S. Senate)
- Wednesday, October 17—Central Washington University, 7 p.m. (WA-8<sup>th</sup> District)
- Tuesday, October 30—Gonzaga University, 7 p.m. (U.S. Senate)  
*\*pending U.S. Senate scheduling*

Debate hosts and co-hosts include: Gonzaga University, Community Colleges of Spokane, Eastern Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University Spokane, and Whitworth University (for a U.S. Senate Debate at Gonzaga University); Pacific Lutheran University, Bethel School District, Eatonville School District, Franklin Pierce School District, and Tacoma Public Schools (for a U.S. Senate Debate at Pacific Lutheran University); Central Washington University, Associated Students of Central Washington University, Cle Elum-Roslyn School District, Daily Record, Easton School District, Ellensburg School District, Kittitas Chamber of Commerce, Kittitas School District, and Thorp School District (for a WA-8<sup>th</sup> Debate at Central Washington University).

Invitations to participate in the debates were extended to Maria Cantwell, Susan Hutchison, Dino Rossi, and Kim Schrier following the primary results. The Coalition has confirmed the participation of Susan Hutchison, Dino Rossi, and Kim Schrier.

"I look forward to the opportunity to share my record of bipartisanship, balancing budgets and protecting the vulnerable, along with my plan to protect the people of the 8th District from tax hikes and wasteful government spending in Congress. I thank the Washington State Debate Coalition for their hard work in organizing the debate in Ellensburg," said Dino Rossi.

"Our democracy depends on an engaged and informed electorate. Thank you to the Washington State Debate Coalition for facilitating thoughtful, open discussion on the most pressing issues facing our state," said Kim Schrier.

With the support of the Coalition's 80 broadcast partners, the debates will be televised and livestreamed statewide. Moderators for the debates include: Monique Ming Laven (KIRO 7) and Mary Nam (KOMO 4) for the U.S. Senate Debate at PLU, Natalie Brand (KING 5) and Ross Reynolds (KUOW) for the WA-8<sup>th</sup> District Debate at CWU, and Mark Hanrahan (KREM) and Mark Baumgarten (KCTS 9/Crosscut) for the U.S. Senate

Debate at Gonzaga University. More information about the Washington State Debate Coalition is available at [wadebates.org](http://wadebates.org).

To register for a debate, please visit the debate's event page: [Central Washington University](#), [Gonzaga University](#), and [Pacific Lutheran University](#).

2018 Lead and Supporting Sponsors include AARP Washington, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Norcliffe Foundation, The Boeing Company, Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund, and Washington REALTORS. Contributing and Event Sponsors include Henry M. Jackson Foundation, PEMCO Mutual Insurance Company, Puget Sound Energy, and the Washington State Tree Fruit Association.

### **About the Washington State Debate Coalition**

The Washington State Debate Coalition was founded by Seattle CityClub in 2016 to enhance Washingtonians' access to those who hold and seek our state's highest elected offices. With 1,800 debate attendees and over 1 million viewers on TV/online in its inaugural year, the Coalition created a solution that tapped into a strong public desire across the state for direct access to candidates.

### **About Seattle CityClub**

Seattle CityClub is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization improving the civic health of the Puget Sound region by providing programs that bridge politics, sectors and generations to inform and engage residents and community leaders.

###