



Dear Judicial delegates, volunteers, and staff,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 YMCA Youth and Government Appellate section!

I am so excited to welcome you to an incredible year of carefully constructed arguments, thought-provoking debates, and a memorable time that will stay with you until we graduate. It's been a whole year since we have had an in-person conference. After all of our struggles with Covid, I am delighted to see every single one of your faces here at this year's conference. For some of us, this is our first in-person conference. In fact, this will be the first for both Freshmen and Sophomores this year. And unfortunately for some of us including me, this is our last conference after attending our sophomore year.

So as I reflect on my time in this program, I am thankful and overwhelmed with all the memories and opportunities it has provided for me. I encourage you to have fun and spend your time to its fullest. Time is something you will never get back and so don't be afraid of trying new things and don't let your fears stop you from pursuing what you want to do in this year's conference. Enjoy every second and every moment during your time here!

This conference will also serve as a period of time to find your voice and confidence. While it may be nerve-wracking to present your argument for the first time in front of judges, this is a great opportunity to grow and conquer your fears about speaking and being confident. This experience will teach you very important skills that will help you in your life. By working with your co-counsel, you will develop cooperative and communication skills and by presenting your well-developed arguments in front of the judges, you will develop ways to quickly think on your feet. Keep practicing, run your arguments and review the given case laws to sharpen all of these skills. All of these skills will be solidified with experience and constant hours of practice.

For all of you guys to have the best time possible, one of my top priorities is to use our time efficiently by staying on schedule. As with the Appellate section, we have multiple rounds on a given day, and running behind prevents us from spending time outside of our rounds with our friends.

If you need help, advice, or have questions about the case, you can always come to talk to me, your advisor, or the district director. We are all here to help you through this process so don't hesitate to ask questions. Take pictures, have fun, and build many memories that you will hold on to for a very long time. I wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Sungjae (Brian) Kang
2021 - 2022 Texas Youth Chief Justice