

The Independent Party, known as the IP, is an undergraduate debating and social organization that strives both to encourage consideration and debate of diverse ideas and to promote friendship and good times.

Each week, the Independent Party hosts a **DEBATE** on anything from offbeat Nietzschean philosophy to current foreign policy. Speeches are

followed by a Q&A period, and the extent of speakers' experience ranges from national debate tournaments to high school history presenta-

ble IP debates in general structure but tend to be larger and more formal, and feature a guest speaker such as Howard Dean, Antonin Scalia, or Michael Phelps (well, maybe not the last one, but a girl can hope...).

The IPster is a social creature and often can be found participating in various and sundry forms of debauchery. Every Friday, the IP meets at historic **MORY'S** for lunch, chatter, exchanges with the grumpy staff and Baker's Soup to nurse the weekend's first hangovers. Three times a semester the Party returns to Mory's for an evening of the highly traditional practice of "toasting." (Which, continuing in the vein of great Yale tradition, is followed by afterparties involving assorted beverages, bad 80s music – good music, too – and lots of fist-pumping.)

Once a semester, a horde of IPsters descends upon the unsuspecting city of **NEW YORK** for a day of meetings with important folk, street vendors' wares and cultural experiences of varying quality.

If you're interested in all the IP can offer, join us at our **BLUE-BOOKING BBQ** or at our first debate of the semester:



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tions. These debates are not competitions, and we don't throw freshmen in trashcans, so don't feel intimidated; we love to hear what you think! After 2-3 hours of spirited reparte, the formal meeting is adjourned and IPsters and guests trek to Yorkside Pizza for overpriced milkshakes, garlic bread and even more discussion.

The IP is one of 7 parties in the **YALE POLITICAL UNION**, and the only one that can boast members in both the Coalition of the Left and the Coalition of the Right. Many IPsters dedicate one evening each week to YPU debates, which resem-

Resolved: American Dominance is Good for the World

Wednesday, Sept. 3rd · 7:30 pm · Branford Common Room

Monday 1st

Has the sheer size of the Blue Book given you nightmares? Can't decide between Kiswahili or Farsi for your language requirement? Bring your questions to our **BLUE-BOOKING BBQ** at **2:00 PM** in the **BRANFORD COURTYARD**.

Wednesday 3rd

Join us at our **FIRST IP DEBATE** of the year as we consider the topic **RESOLVED: AMERICAN DOMINANCE IS GOOD FOR THE WORLD**. Has the US role as world superpower been responsible for improvement across the globe? Or has "Coca-Colonization" damaged the fabric of foreign nations and cultures? Is our involvement in the Middle East beneficial and responsible, or has it caused more problems than it has solved? Find out the answers to these questions and more as we kick off the year at **7:30 PM** in the **BRANFORD COMMON ROOM**.

Friday 5th

At **12:30 PM**, join the **IP** for **LUNCH** at **MORY'S TEMPLE BAR** on York Street (next to Toad's). If it's your first visit to Mory's, our Chief Whip will treat you to your very first cup of **Baker's Soup!**

Chairman : Geoffrey "President Levin" Shaw, Branford '10
Vice-Chairman : Alex "Handsome Dan" Soble, Trumbull '10
Chief Whip : Meredith "that Yale thing" Morrison, Branford '11
Secretary : Naomi "all roads lead to Toad's" Lisan, Branford '11
Treasurer : Sasha "Skull and Bones?" Burger, Timothy Dwight '11
SAAAC : River "Rory Gilmore" Clegg, Davenport '11

Director of Development : Alena "not in the Taliban" Gribskov, Davenport '09

Former Chairmen: Carmen Lee, Branford '09, Rachel Bayefsky, Morse '09

These folk constitute the executive board of the IP. Despite what the above might lead you to believe, not all members of the IP are in Branford College.

Alright, so you know that the IP eats at Mory's, travels to New York, and for some odd reason has a lobster as a mascot. So it might be fair to ask what sort of debating this debating society does. We're a social bunch, and the tone and subject matter of our resolutions vary widely from week to week. Our policy wonks and future lobbyists have drooled over topics like **RESOLVED: MAKE VOTING MANDATORY** and **RESOLVED: TREAT IRAN AS OUR ENEMY**. Other weeks, the IP has indulged its philosophical bent as it debated subjects such as **RESOLVED: "HUMAN RIGHTS" IS A NOBLE LIE** and **RESOLVED: GOD IS DEAD**. Some debates like **RESOLVED: THE WESTERN CANON IS ESSENTIAL TO A COLLEGE EDUCATION** have centered around Yale itself, while others still, such as **RESOLVED: YALE'S POLICIES PERPETUATE RACISM** were inspired by hot topics. Once a semester, the IP scrounges up creativity, humor and cheap beer for its "Joke Debate," where past topics of perfectly serious consideration have included **RESOLVED: MY ANACONDA DON'T WANT NONE UNLESS YOU GOT BUNS, HUN** and **RESOLVED: IT'S NOT FAKE IF YOU CAN'T TELL**. Ideas for resolutions can come from everyone, so if something's been whetting your intellectual appetite, email our Vice Chairman at alexander.soble@yale.edu!

Does the IP tickle your fancy, float your boat or make your anaconda want some? Good. Be sure to check out our **upcoming events** on the front page, and direct any questions, fan mail or death threats to our **Chief Whip** (like "Majority Whip" not "Pleasure Dungeon" whip... really) **Meredith Morrison** at meredith.morrison@yale.edu. You can also check out our brand new sparkly website at www.yale.edu/ip.

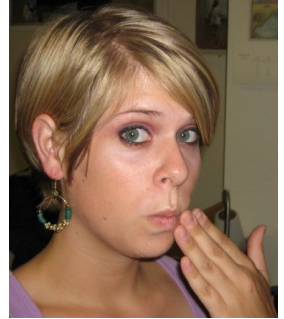
IPster of the Week

Name: Alena Gribskov, DC '09

Title: Director of Development

Major: Political Science

Hometown: San Diego, CA



Hobbies: writing anything and everything, (including for the YDN and the Union Crier), playing softball, and obsessively counting money (thanks to her days as IP Treasurer)

One politician she'd tap (and why): Former Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder, no explanation needed.

Fun Facts: Alena is scared of fish and emus
– She transferred here from NYU
– She speaks German and Spanish, and studied abroad in Berlin and Madrid
– Her previous jobs include stints as a pharmacy assistant, Senate intern, 1-hour photo developer, flower deliverer, and web consultant

Bojangles' Corner

Hey, newly minted Yalies, I'm Bojangles, the official Spokeslobster of the Independent Party. I'll be here each and every week, adding my two cents, recounting my debauchery and speaking for crustaceans everywhere. You might also see me at IP functions...I'm the sketchy one skulking in a dark corner.



The Secretary wanted to tell you about my cocaine-and-the-lungfish incident, but I pulled the plug on that one. You'll just have to ask me in person.

Bojangles, showing his American pride at a 4th of July parade in Bar Harbor, Maine.

