**Dean Erwin Chemerinsky named 2021 National Debate Tournament Tribe Award Winner**

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**Cambridge, MA.** (March 25, 2021) – Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law at Berkeley, has been honored by the Board of Trustees of the National Debate Tournament, with the 2021 Laurence H. Tribe Award for Excellence in Public Advocacy.

The award, named after 1961 NDT champion Laurence H. Tribe, the Carl M. Loeb Professor and Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard University, is given annually to an alumnae of the National Debate Tournament who has taken advocacy skills acquired through participation in intercollegiate debate and become an exemplary public advocate who makes a real difference in the world.

Chemerinsky was a decorated debater for Northwestern University from 1971-1975. He qualified for the National Debate Tournament three times, reaching the top 16 teams twice and earning top five individual speaker awards twice. After completing a degree of Communication, he attended Harvard Law School, graduating cum laude in 1978.

Dean Chemerinsky’s legal career has been extraordinary. Prior to assuming the Dean’s role at Berkeley, he was the founding dean at the University of California Irvine Law School and has held teaching positions at the University of Southern California, DePaul and Duke. He is the author of 11 books, numerous treatises, and more than 200 law review articles. He is also a regular columnist for legal and news outlets and is a sought after speaker on issues of constitutional import. Chemerinsky maintains an active appellate legal practice, including cases in front of the Supreme Court.

In 2016, he was named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, in 2017 National Jurist magazine named Dean Chemerinsky as the most influential person in legal education in the United States, and in 2021 Chemerinsky was named the winner of the Association of American Law Schools Deborah L. Rhode Award for Pro Bono work. He was recently named President Elect of the AALS.

“Erwin Chemerinsky’s outstanding career as an advocate and public intellectual, shaped by the critical thinking, research, writing, speaking and advocacy skills that he honed through debate training, to advocate for people and issues about which he is passionate is a model for the entire NDT community,” said Dr. Edward Panetta, Chair of the NDT Board of Trustees.

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The American Forensics Association’s National Debate Tournament is one of the most storied traditions in competitive intercollegiate speech and debate. The Tournament, which began in 1947, hosts 78 of the most outstanding teams from across the nation and showcases the best in intercollegiate debate. <https://nationaldebatetournament.org/>