

**EDMOND, Okla.** – The brightest high school students in America will be joined by counterparts in foreign countries to debate Social Security and Medicare at a leadership and debate camp in Oklahoma, retired Army Gen. Tommy Franks announced Thursday.

Franks also announced that King Abdullah II of Jordan is expected to speak to the students during the event, which runs from July 12 to 17 at Oklahoma Christian University. He said students from Jordan and possibly several other countries will be joining the American students. Those countries will be confirmed at a later date.

“By bringing the best and brightest students together to learn leadership skills and debate key issues, we are ensuring a brighter tomorrow,” Franks said. “We must teach young people from all walks of life how to be leaders, embrace problems and tackle issues head on.

“They can disagree without being disagreeable.”

In addition to Franks, guest speakers during I Debate: Developing Leaders with General Tommy Franks include Mike Huckabee include former governor of Arkansas; John Goodman, National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA) president and CEO; and Mike O’Neal, president of OC. Texas Gov. Rick Perry will serve as one of the event’s celebrity judges.

The students will spend time with retired Franks, learn from renowned leaders and then debate entitlement reform in a team format. The debate will be moderated by popular talk radio host Mike Gallagher.

Austin Sell, a sophomore from Edmond North High School, and Sean Wood, a junior at Edmond North High School, were joined by their families at the press conference. They are two of 48 American students participating in the event. About 30 states will be represented.

For more information on participating students, visit [www.idebate.ncap.org](http://www.idebate.ncap.org).

I Debate: Developing Leaders with General Tommy Franks is hosted by the General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum, the National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA) and the Academy of Leadership & Liberty at Oklahoma Christian University (OC).