

**LAWS 2086
INTERNATIONAL LAW COMPETITIVE MOOT
APPLICATION FORM 2009**

Before completing this form, please read the attached Information Sheet.

Applications must be submitted by **Monday 13 July 2009 (Week 0)** to lawmoots@gmail.com. You will receive an automated reply once your email has been received. Please do NOT send any other correspondence to this email address. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, 21 July (Week 1), and you will be notified of the outcome by the end of that week. If you are selected for a team, you must be ready to vary your enrolment *immediately*. The last day to add a course is Friday 24 July, and the selection panel may require you to enrol in Public International Law, International Humanitarian Law, or International Commercial Arbitration.

Please direct any enquiries to Associate Professor Jane McAdam, j.mcadam@unsw.edu.au.

1. Name: _____
2. Student No: _____
3. Course/Year: _____
4. Email: _____
5. Phone: _____

(All correspondence will be by email, unless otherwise requested.)

6. Rank, in order of preference, the Moot Team(s) for which you wish to apply:
- (i) _____
 - (ii) _____
 - (iii) _____
 - (iv) _____

Please note: *We cannot guarantee your preference.
 *The Program Co-ordinators may ultimately decide not to field a team for certain competitions.

7. List below your five best law subjects (and the result achieved) to date. Please also **ATTACH** a transcript of all law subject results to date.
- (i) _____
 - (ii) _____
 - (iii) _____
 - (iv) _____
 - (v) _____

8. List mooting/debating/oral advocacy experience to date, with results.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

9. List research experience to date (including research components of courses taken, and marks where known). If possible, please **ATTACH** a copy of your best piece of research (eg an essay).

10. How do you approach working in a team? Do you have experience working in a team?

11. Please circle where your major strengths would lie if you were selected for the team:

- (a) oral advocacy
- (b) research
- (c) oral advocacy and research equally

12. Are there any factors which could affect your availability to engage in team preparation, particularly during the months of December, January and February?

13. Why do you wish to participate in the international moot competition? What do you hope to get out of the program?

14. Set out below any other considerations which you think might be relevant to the consideration of your application.

INTERNATIONAL LAW COMPETITIVE MOOT

INFORMATION SHEET

A BACKGROUND

The International Law Competitive Moot Program was the first program of its kind in Australia. It provides a select group of UNSW Law students with the opportunity to prepare and conduct a mock case before an international tribunal. Each team has a coach, and the program funds (to the extent possible) interstate and overseas travel and accommodation expenses associated with the competition.

Participating in an international moot team is a very rewarding experience, but is also very demanding. We expect a very high level of commitment from all participants, which will require adjusting work, clerkship and/or extra-curricular schedules. If you are selected for one of the international moot teams, you will be precluded from taking part in any other mooting or advocacy competition over the same period.

Participants must be able to:

- demonstrate an excellent academic record
- clearly express and communicate ideas in written and oral form
- listen to others and work effectively in a team
- know how to locate research materials on a range of issues
- think laterally
- manage time and work to deadlines
- accommodate moot preparation time by adjusting other commitments.

Students may also be expected to play a role in fundraising.

B ELIGIBILITY

1 *When can I apply?*

Students who are eligible to take electives in their Law degree are eligible to apply for the program. However, because the competitions run during the first part of 2010, students *currently* in their final year of studies must be available to prepare for the moot and compete in the competition at the relevant time. Please note the special eligibility rules for the Pictet competition (see below).

2 *Do I have to enrol in LAWS2086 in semester 2 of this year?*

No. The work for this subject takes place over parts of semester 2 of 2008, the summer, and semester 1 of 2010. Students may therefore nominate the semester in which they receive formal credit for the program: Semester 2 2009, Summer Semester 2009/10 or Semester 1 2010. You only need to enrol NOW if you want this subject to be counted towards your marks in semester 2 of 2009.

3 *Are there any pre-requisites?*

Although there are no formal pre-requisites for the International Law Competitive Moot, *preferred* pre-requisites include Public International Law (for Jessup, Lachs and Pictet), International Humanitarian Law (for Pictet), and International Commercial Arbitration (for Vis). Students who are selected for a team but who have not yet studied these subjects may be required to enrol in one or more of them.

4 *What are the selection criteria?*

Students are selected on the basis of academic merit, demonstrated research skills and/or advocacy skills. All aspects of a student's record are considered, and team selection and composition depends on many factors.

5 *When does the subject run?*

The majority of the work for each competition will be undertaken over the summer months. Students are therefore expected to not undertake work or other commitments during the summer vacation.

C COMPETITIONS

Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (*maximum 5 students*)

The Jessup Moot competition is the largest and most prestigious international law moot competition in the world. Approximately 1500 students from more than 300 law schools in over 50 countries participate in the competition.

Participants compete first in the Australian National Rounds held in Canberra in early February, with the final held in the High Court before one High Court judge and two other eminent judges. The finalists proceed to the International Rounds held in Washington DC in April. In 2008, UNSW came second in the world.

Preparation for and participation in the Jessup Moot takes place during second semester and the summer vacation. It extends into the first part of semester one if the team is successful in getting into the International Rounds. The problem always involves at least four complex issues, and takes the form of a case before the International Court of Justice. In 2009/10 it will focus on the right to self-determination and the lawfulness of measures taken to protect the economic resources of a State.

Students selected for the Jessup team are expected to not undertake work or other commitments during the summer vacation.

For more information, please see: <http://www.ilsa.org/jessup>.

Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (*maximum 4 students*)

The Vis Moot is held in Vienna, and involves teams from all over the world. In 2007, over 170 teams participated.

The moot involves a dispute arising out of a contract of sale between two countries that are party to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. The contract provides that any dispute that might arise is to be settled by arbitration in a fictitious country that has enacted the

UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration and is a party to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.

Preparation for the Vis Moot takes place during second semester, the summer vacation and the first part of semester one. The problem is released at the end of the first week of October. The written phase consists of two stages with memorials for the Claimant due at the beginning of December, and memorials for the Respondent by mid-February. Oral rounds take place in Vienna the week before Easter.

For more information, please see: <http://www.cisg.law.pace.edu/cisg/moot/inform.html>.

Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition (*maximum 3 students*)

The Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition is organized annually by the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and over 35 law schools compete in it. The Asia-Pacific regional round is held in Sydney in early April (usually to coincide with the Easter break). The regional winners of the Asia-Pacific, European and United States rounds compete in the world finals in October, which are held in conjunction with the International Astronautical Congress. The Lachs Moot has the distinction of having its world final judged by three sitting judges of the International Court of Justice. UNSW won the international competition in 2008.

The moot problem involves complex issues of space law, and takes the form of a case between two States before the International Court of Justice.

Preparation takes place during semester 2, the summer vacation, and in the early part of semester 1. If the team wins the Asia-Pacific rounds, its members must be available to compete in the international competition in October (and take part in practice moots during semester 2).

For more information, please see: <http://www.spacemoot.org/>.

Jean-Pictet International Humanitarian Law Competition (*maximum 3 students*)

The Jean-Pictet competition involves students from faculties of law, political science and military schools around the world in a competition which aims to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of international humanitarian law (the laws of war).

In a series of simulations, students are required to take on the identities of government representatives, military officers, legal advisers, delegates of the Red Cross or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and negotiate solutions to issues arising in situations of armed conflict. The objective of the competition is to convey the reality of applying law to situations of war. It moves students beyond a theoretical understanding of the principles of international humanitarian law, exposing its limits and constraints.

Preparation takes place during semester 2, over the summer vacation, and during the first part of semester 1 of the following year. During semester 2 and the early part of the summer, the team prepares its formal application to take part in the competition. The application, submitted in December, involves an analysis of substantive legal issues, and selection to compete is based on the quality of the submission. Teams which are selected to compete are notified in January, and then they prepare for the competition which is held in Europe for one intensive week in April. Rounds are held in English,

French and Spanish. Winners of these rounds progress to the international final, which is conducted with simultaneous translation.

If the UNSW team is not successful in its application to take part in the competition, students will be offered the option of undertaking a research thesis in international humanitarian law, or undertaking another subject entirely in the summer semester or semester 1 of 2010. For this reason, we cannot offer a place in the team to students who are currently in their final year of studies unless they are prepared to defer a subject (and graduation).

For more information, please see: <http://www.concourspictet.org>.