We Invite Your Law School to Participate in
THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW ARBITRATION MOOT COMPETITION
29 June – 3 July 2018
TC Beirne Faculty of Law, University of Queensland, Australia

Murdoch University School of Law is delighted to invite your University to compete in the 19th International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot Competition (IMLAM) to be hosted by our colleagues at TC Beirne Faculty of Law, University of Queensland, Australia. Brisbane is a delightful, safe and cosmopolitan city with a bustling port nearby.

IMLAM is a competition open to any law students (either undergraduate or postgraduate) who have not been admitted to practice. The moot problem will involve a dispute relating to commercial maritime law and the controversy will be determined before an arbitral tribunal pursuant to the LMAA terms or other recognised terms. Students need not have previously studied maritime law. In fact, several past winning teams had no prior knowledge of maritime law before undertaking the moot. The moot is exceptionally well supported by maritime arbitrators, the maritime industry and maritime law firms, both international and local.

The competition regularly attracts around 25 teams from all around the globe. We pride ourselves on running a friendly but intellectually rigorous competition which gives a real insight into this fascinating and important area of law, as well as honing the advocacy skills of student teams. An enjoyable social program accompanies the competition to enable students to forge friendships with students from other law schools and meet with senior members of the profession and the maritime industry.

Details of the competition, together with the registration form for 2018, will be available online at: http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Law/Mooting/International-Maritime-Law-Arbitration-Moot in early October 2017. The website also contains the problem from previous years and the winning memoranda.

The key elements of the competition are:
- The problem will be released in early December 2017 and consists of a ‘real world’ client file.
- The teams prepare two 25 page memoranda in support of both the claimant and the respondent, due for submission in April 2018. These memoranda are judged by an international panel of maritime lawyers and academics to determine the best written memoranda.
- The teams attend the oral competition at the host university.
- Each team argues four times in the general rounds: twice for the claimant and twice for the respondent. Distinguished members of the legal profession, judiciary and shipping industry participate as arbitrators.
Awards are presented in the following categories:

- *Best written memoranda, and runner up best memoranda*
- *Highest Ranked team in the General Rounds (David Martin-Clark trophy)*
- *Best speaker and runner up best speaker in the General Rounds*
- *Encouragement Award (team/individual)*
- *Best speaker in the Finals (Ron Salter Award)*
- *Runner Up - Best speaker in the Finals*
- *Runner up Team - Orals*
- *Winning Team – Orals*
- *‘Spirit of the Moot’ award*
- *Achievement award (Sarah Derrington Award)*
- *Best performance by a newcomer team*

In 2017, 26 teams comprising 83 orallists from 12 countries participated in IMLAM hosted by Centre for Maritime Law, National University of Singapore. The grand final was judged by Sir Bernard Rix (former Lord Justice of the Court of Appeal, England), Justice Belinda Ang (Supreme Court of Singapore) and Andrew Moran QC (maritime arbitrator).

We receive consistently excellent feedback about the competition from students, arbitrators and sponsors. I am very happy to answer any general enquiries about the moot and the experience it offers students. Enquiries about registration and logistical/administrative queries can be forwarded to the moot’s co-ordinator, Mrs Michelle Barron: m.barron@murdoch.edu.au

I hope your Law School will consider participating in the IMLAM competition. I look forward to welcoming your team to Brisbane, Australia in 2018!

Yours sincerely

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