

10 September 2018

**We Invite Your Law School to Participate in
THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW ARBITRATION MOOT COMPETITION
30 June – 5 July 2019
SCHOOL OF LAW, ERASMUS UNIVERSITY, ROTTERDAM**

Murdoch University School of Law is delighted to invite your University to compete in the 20th International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot Competition (IMLAM) to be hosted by our colleagues at the School of Law, Erasmus University, Rotterdam. Rotterdam is a fantastic port city; a major world port, and a wonderful venue for IMLAM's first foray into continental Europe.

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 over 25 teams from law schools all around the globe. We pride ourselves on 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 2019, will be available online at: <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Law/Mooting/International-Maritime-Law-Arbitration-Moot> in early October 2018. 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 2018 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 2019. 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 2018, 28 teams comprising 86 orallists from 13 countries participated in IMLAM hosted by the TC Beirne Faculty of Law, University of Queensland, Australia.

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 Rotterdam in 2019!

Yours sincerely



Dr Kate Lewins
Moot Director
k.lewins@murdoch.edu.au

 @IMLAMMurdoch