



15 September 2021

**We Invite Your Law School to Participate in the
22nd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW ARBITRATION MOOT COMPETITION**

3 – 8 July 2022

**RUN VIRTUALLY BY OUR HOST: YONG PUNG HOW SCHOOL OF LAW, SINGAPORE
MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY, SINGAPORE**

Murdoch University School of Law is delighted to invite your University to compete in the 22nd International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot Competition (IMLAM) to be hosted by our colleagues at the Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University, Singapore. After a year of hiatus due to the COVID19 pandemic, we will be returning in a (hopefully) temporary virtual format for 2022.

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.

We run 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 in an arbitral setting. The competition regularly attracts about 30 teams from law schools all around the globe. **In 2022 we will be capping the number of teams at 20.**

Details of the competition, together with the registration form for 2022, will be available online at: <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Law/Mooting/International-Maritime-Law-Arbitration-Moot> by late September 2021. The website also contains the problem from previous years and samples of winning memoranda. Additional rules concerning the virtual aspect of the competition will be available closer to the oral rounds.

The key elements of the competition are:

- The problem will be released in December 2021 and consists of a 'real world' client file.
- The teams prepare two 25 pages memoranda in support of both the claimant and the respondent, due for submission in April 2022. These memoranda are judged by an international panel of maritime lawyers and academics to determine the best written memoranda.

- The teams participate in the oral rounds of the competition via a virtual platform managed by 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:

- *Winner, Oral Hearings and Chris Douglas Championship Trophy*
- *Runner up, Oral Hearings*
- *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) (Sarah Derrington Award)*
- *Best Speaker in the Finals (Ron Salter Award)*
- *Runner Up - Best Speaker in the Finals*
- *'Spirit of the Moot' Award*
- *Newcomer team awards, at the Moot Director's discretion.*

We receive consistently excellent feedback about the competition from students, arbitrators and sponsors.

In 2019, the competition was hosted by Erasmus University Rotterdam. Thirty-one teams from Asia, the Middle East, Europe, the Americas and Australia, and a total of 92 oralists participated. Due to the pandemic, the 2020 competition proceeded only on the papers.

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 coordinator, Mrs Shelan Yen Suin: IMLAM@murdoch.edu.au.

I hope your Law School will consider participating in the IMLAM competition. I look forward to welcoming your team to Singapore (virtually) in 2022!

Yours sincerely



Professor Kate Lewins

Moot Director

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 @IMLAMMurdoch #IMLAM2022