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## Fresh Law Students Learn and Enjoy in Intra-Moot Competition

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-Phyllis Yan, Scarlette Cheung

School of Law concluded Intra-moot Competition for the first year students of the Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB) and Juris Doctor (JD) on 18 November 2010. The Intra-moot competition is held annually for the promotion of sustainable moot culture to our law students.

The competition provides a platform for students to apply classroom learnt legal knowledge into practice and to develop the skills of a legal advocate. It also nurtures a moot culture which is conducive to the development of advocacy in addition to classroom teaching among students. This year, the tournament for the first year students of LLB and JD focused on Law of Contract moot problem. There were 15 teams of 30 students competed for the event. LLB students Bettina Wang and Sin Long championed and the runner up team comprised of LLB students Jacky Fung and Nathan Ma.

Bettina Wang, member of the winning team, dedicated the championship to solid and hardworking preparation in the competition, "the process of preparation, though tough, taught me a lot about presentation, formulation of arguments and doing research. The most exciting part was advocacy and the actual competition. Though it was intimidating to submit arguments in front of judges who constantly fired questions back, it was a great training for to think quickly and to perform well under pressure. This was a fruitful experience and has aroused my strong interest to participate in international moots."



Winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Intra Moot Court Competition Mr Sin Long and Miss Bettina Wang

Her partner, Sin Long shared that "claiming victory in the intra-moot was surely exhilarating. What I value more, however, was the experience. True, preparation work required much endurance, and the actual mooting was quite overwhelming, but it also allowed me to learn to interact with my partner, to work with my 'learned friends' and to cooperate with the bench."

Runner up team member Nathan Ma said it was his first time to take part in the mooting competition and he found that "mooting is useful to the study of law not only in a sense that one learns to acquire knowledge regarding a particular legal question through independent research, but also gradually adopts the mentality of a barrister in court. Through cooperation with my teammate, Jacky, it is exciting to resolve each deadlocks

## in argument together."



Finalists of the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Intra Moot Court Competition (from left) Runner Up: Nathan Ma and Jacky Fung, Winner: Sin Long and Bettina Wang

His team-mate, Jacky Fung has not only learnt court manner, but also how to strive for the best. "We were strolling along the corridor outside CYC building and practicing our speech and if I have not mistaken, it was 12 at that time.....This intra-moot competition has not just allowed me to learn the SOGO section 15-17 but allowed me to gain a life-long friend as well as a glimpse of what a lawyer's life will be in preparing for cases. I am really thankful for the opportunity and I will surely join any mooting competition if I am given any chance to do so!" said Jacky.

The general rounds embarked on 11 November and concluded on 18 November. Mr Gu Minkang, Associate Dean, presented the awards to the champion

and runner up teams. Dr Vernon Nase and Dr Mark Kielsgrad served as judges during the moot. Three LLB students of senior year, Louie Chan, Jenny Hui and Prabhjyot Kaur served as student judges.

Mr Rajesh Sharma, the Moot Director and the judge of the Intra-Moot Competition, highlighted that "all participants have demonstrated an exceptional high standard in the competition and I am very proud to say that you are the talented students and much capable to take part in international moots. The winners of the Intra-moot may also be provided opportunities to work for international law firms during summer time".



General Rounds of the Intra-Moot Competition