Sydney Law School is pleased to announce that it will once again be sponsoring students to participate in the Willem C Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition in Vienna (which is known as the “Vis Moot”).

The Vis Moot was first held in 1994, and it has become one of the most prestigious international mooting competitions in the world. Around 300 universities are expected to compete in the Vis Moot finals in Vienna from 24 – 29 March 2018.

The University of Sydney has participated in the Vis Moot each year since 2009, and has been awarded various prizes each year, including winning or being finalists in Pre-Moot Competitions in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, and 2017, reaching the Quarter-Finals of the Vis Moot in Vienna in 2011, 2014, and 2016, receiving prizes for the team’s written Memoranda in 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, as well as being awarded prizes for outstanding performances as individual oralists in most years.

The benefits of participating in the Vis Moot are extensive. Team members undergo extensive advocacy training, have an opportunity to learn in greater detail about international commercial arbitration and international contract law, and learn great teamwork skills. The University of Sydney also covers the costs of the return flight to Vienna and the costs of accommodation in Vienna. In addition, students selected for the Vis Moot team will be able to enrol in the subject “LAWS3489 / LAWS5189 International Moot” and receive subject credit.

Participation in the Vis Moot involves a substantial commitment of time, both within the semester and during the holiday period. The University of Sydney’s team will need to start working in October 2017, when the moot problem is expected to be released. Each team taking part in the Vis Moot has to submit a “Claimant Memorandum” in early December 2017, and a “Respondent Memorandum” in January 2018.

Further information about the Vis Moot is available at https://vismoot.pace.edu/.

An information session will be held at 1.00pm on Thursday 24 August 2017 in Lecture Theatre NLS100, where you can ask questions and learn more about the Vis Moot. Attendance at the session is not a prerequisite for applying to join the University of Sydney’s Vis Moot team, but you are encouraged to come along to find out everything you need to know about the process.

In order to be eligible for the Vis Moot, you must have completed Contracts and Public International Law, and be in a position where you are able to enrol in law elective units in Semester 1, 2018.

If you are intending to undertake a Vacation Clerkship over the summer period, you are still eligible to be considered.

Applications to be part of the Vis team will close on Friday 1 September 2017, at 5.00pm, and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed shortly afterwards. The team will then be selected, and the team’s preparation will commence shortly afterwards.

To apply, send a current curriculum vitae, a copy of your academic transcript, and a covering letter (max 1 page) to Professor Chester Brown at chester.brown@sydney.edu.au.