

COMPETITIONS FOR LAW STUDENTS

Since 1998 teams entered by the Law Extension Committee have participated in competitions that emphasise fundamental practitioner skills: interviewing; negotiating; researching and submission preparation. While we do not have the resources to run full internal competitions, Diploma in Law students who are willing to devote the time and accept responsibility for their participation are assisted through coaching, preliminary selection and competition registration.

Our students have reached the finals of both the Australian Client Interviewing Competition and, on two occasions, the Australian Negotiation Competition. In 1998 two of our students, Arlene Cooper and Ian Taylor, represented Australia and won the inaugural International Negotiation Competition, held at Pepperdine University, Los Angeles. In 2004, Patricia Vagg and Peter Starkey won the national Negotiation Competition and went on to represent Australia at the International Negotiation Competition, held in Paris and won by the Danish team from the University of Copenhagen.

While Frank Astill has coached our teams in these competitions, Michael Evans has prepared teams for the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. An intensive introduction to the world of international arbitration, the Vis Moot attracts well over one hundred teams annually to Vienna. In 2003, in recognition of

the high quality of her advocacy, Lucy Pal received an Honourable Mention in the competition for the Martin Domke Award at the Vis Moot.

In 2005 the LEC Team of Rebecca Nott and Scott Bunny reached the semi-final of the inaugural Madhavrao Scindia Memorial International Moot held at the University of Delhi. In 2008 students competed in the Australian Law Students Association annual competitions in Client Interviewing and Negotiation.

Expressions of interest are sought through the Law Extension Committee Webcampus when we are able to take part in a competition. The cost in time, effort and money can be considerable, but the result is not the outcome of the competition, it is the skill and experience gained. To discuss participating in these or other competitions please contact Frank Astill at the Law Extension Committee. Further information on the competitions is available through the following websites: www.cisg.law.pace.edu/vis.html; www.wmin.ac.uk/law/law-comps.htm

In April 2007, the Law Extension Committee organised and hosted the prestigious Louis M Brown International Client Counseling Competition for 2007. The event was held at the University of Sydney and contested by teams from 16 countries.



Diploma in Law students, Patricia Vagg and Peter Starkey (on the left) representing Australia against Ireland (on the right) at the International Negotiation Competition in Paris, 2004.

cvMAIL SERVICES

Many of the major law firms now conduct summer clerkship and graduate recruitment through cvMail's online registration system. For more information, see www.cvmail.com.au

PRACTICAL LEGAL TRAINING

Students who wish to practise law have to undertake practical legal training following their Diploma in Law or degree course. The focus is the day to day work that is done by legal practitioners, and teaching often takes place in the environment of a law firm, whether simulated or through a placement program. Flexible study modes are offered, from full and part-time to electronic courses.

Since the cost of practical training is relatively high, it is prudent to plan ahead if this is your intended career path.

Those wishing to become barristers undertake a reading program. The program is an intensive introduction to professional life as a barrister. Details are available from the website of the Bar Association of New South Wales: www.nswbar.asn.au

Practical Legal Training providers are listed below.

College of Law, St Leonards

www.collaw.edu.au

The College's Professional Program offers full-time and part-time print based and multimedia courses. For further information contact the Enrolment Officer on (02) 9965 7000.

University of Technology, Sydney

www.law.uts.edu.au/prospective/plt.html

The University of Technology is an accredited provider of practical legal training.

The University offers full-time and part-time courses of practical legal training. Both options are available by face to face or distance delivery. Further information can be obtained from the Director of the PLT Program, (02) 9514 3482.

University of Western Sydney

www.uws.edu.au/about/acadorg/clb/sl/courses/plt

The practical legal training program is available in regular attendance or distance modes. Further information may be obtained from the Director of Postgraduate Programs on (02) 4620 3629.

University of Wollongong

www.uow.edu.au/law/plt/plthomepage.html

The University of Wollongong offers a practical legal training course by flexible delivery. Further information is available from the Director of the Legal Practice Course on (02) 4221 4652.

MASTER OF LAWS

Senate Resolution 26 for the degree of Master of Laws at the University of Sydney provides that a person who has completed with sufficient merit all of the examinations for the Diploma in Law may be admitted to candidature for the degree of Master of Laws. Admission is not automatic, and only persons with a very good record are considered for admission.

Senate Resolution 2(b) for the degrees of Master of Criminology, Master of Environmental Law, Master of Jurisprudence, Master of Labour Law and Relations, and Master of Taxation at the University of Sydney provides that a person may be admitted to candidature for the corresponding degrees if he or she is qualified for admission to candidature for the degree of Master of Laws. Please contact the University of Sydney Law School for more information regarding the Master of Laws program.

The study of law is useful in a variety of points of view. It qualifies a man to be useful to himself, his neighbours, and to the public

Thomas Jefferson
(1743-1826)
Letter to TM Randolph,
30 May 1790



PRIVATE TUITION

A number of persons and organisations offer private tuition to students undertaking the course. No person or organisation offering private tuition is an agent of, or is endorsed by, the Law Extension Committee or the Legal Profession Admission Board for the purposes of private tuition in relation to the Board's examinations.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The University is concerned about personal safety. Use well-lit and populated areas. The emergency security number for the main campus is (02) 9351 3333, or 1800 063 487 (free call).

The University Health Service number is (02) 9351 4095.

Under the University's Policy on Smoking in the Workplace, all workplaces within the University are non-smoking areas, including:

- (a) all enclosed areas in general use by large numbers of people, including lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, meeting rooms and libraries;
- (b) all lobbies, foyers and vestibules;
- (c) all offices, laboratories and workshops;
- (d) all common rooms, tea rooms and staff rooms; and
- (e) all University-owned vehicles and boats.

In addition, smoking is banned near air intakes, external doors in regular use and windows regularly opened.

