ORAL ADVOCACY TRAINING

Part 1

February 21 and February 24
Room 3037
12:25 PM
HARDT CUP
COORDINATORS

- Christine Paquin
- Jamie DeWeese
- Ashley Watkins
Overview

- Moot Court Basics
- Sample Argument
- Tournament Structure
- Tournament Schedule
- Oral Advocacy Training
- Questions
What is oral argument?

- Opportunity to engage in discourse with the appellate court
  - Briefs, while crucial to the court’s decision, are largely anticipatory. Oral argument is the opportunity for advocates to be responsive to a judge’s questions and doubts

- Helpful in elaborating an underdeveloped point in your brief, clarifying a rule of law, etc.
Real World Relevance

- Learn how to present legal arguments to panels of judges
- Demonstrate to employers your poise, logical presentation style
- “Moot court or journal preferred”
Law School Relevance

- Participate in inter-scholastic competitions
- Forge relationships with fellow student as well as faculty
- Get in depth understanding of particular areas of law
- Practice and improve your writing skills
Examples

- Carter Phillips: Oral Advocacy Allstar

- Duke Moot Court Board Tournament
  - Dean’s Cup Finals: Feb. 21, 4:30 in 3041
  - BLSA Lecture: Mar. 14 at lunch (look for it in the DLD!)
Rounds 2 & 3

- Sign up for Rounds 2 & 3 by Friday, March 18 (midnight)

- 24 hours before you compete, you will receive the case you will be arguing and 4-5 other cases to use for the argument

- The universe is limited, you will only need the materials provided; in fact, you are prohibited from doing any further research. You also may not work with others on preparation or mooting.

- Once you have signed up, you are required to participate in both rounds

- You should never miss class for Hardt Cup, you can adequately prepare and compete without having to sacrifice your academics
Structure of the Tournament

- **Round 1** (mandatory)
  - Two arguments (one on-brief, one off-brief)

- **Round 2** (optional)
  - New case: 24 hours, closed-universe, two arguments
  - No practicing with fellow competitors allowed

- **Round 3** (optional)
  - Same as Round 2

- **Board Invitations** to top 10% of the 1L class (not of competitors)

- **Finals Rounds**
  - For top 8 competitors (quarters, semis, and finals)
  - Same case as Round 3, 15 min. arguments, 3-judge panel
Dates

- **Round 1:** Tuesday, March 15 – Friday, March 18
- **Round 2:** Monday, March 22 – Friday, March 25
- **Round 3:** Monday, March 28 – Friday, April 1
- **Board Invitations announced:** Friday, April 1
- **Quarterfinals:** Tuesday, April 5
- **Semifinals:** Thursday, April 7
- **Finals:** Thursday, April 14, 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
First Round Arguments

- Tuesday, March 15, Professor Linnartz
  - 4:35 PM – 9:45 PM

- Wednesday, March 16, Professor Ragazzo and Professor Rich
  - 5 PM – 10:15 PM

- Thursday, March 17, Professor Dimond and Professor Andruzier
  - 5:15 PM – 10:15 PM

- Friday, March 18, Professor Mullem, Professor Mock, and Professor Kort
  - 8:25 AM – 8:05 PM
In-Class Presentations

- Monday, February 28, 9:55 AM – 10:50 AM
  - Professor Dimond
  - Professor Linnartz
  - Professor Mullem
  - Professor Mock

- Tuesday, February 29, 9:55 AM – 10:50 AM
  - Professor Kort
  - Professor Ragazzo
  - Professor Rich
  - Professor Andrussier
Other Resources

- Moot Court Board Website
- Office Hours – Cochran Loft
  - March 14, 1-4
  - March 15, 12:15 – 1:15
  - March 16, 12:15 – 1:15
  - March 17, 12:15 – 1:15
- E-mail – hardt2011@duke.edu