



Wisconsin wins the 18th Annual NNALSA Moot Court Competition

In a riveting performance Dan Lewerenz and William Dalsen of the University of Wisconsin Law School won the 2010 NNALSA Moot Court Competition held in Vermilion, South Dakota, February 19-20, 2010. The University of South Dakota hosted this most impressive event.

Advancing to the final round were Lewerenz and Dalsen of Wisconsin Law against Robert Thompson and Alison Grigonis of the University of California Los Angeles School of Law.

The judges for the Championship round was composed of South Dakota Attorney General Marty J. Jackley, Hon. Robert A. Miller of the South Dakota Supreme Court (Chief Justice, retired), Hon. Jeffrey L. Viken and Hon. Karen E. Schreier (Chief Judge) of the U.S. District Court for the District of South Dakota, and Hon. Roger L. Wollman of the Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

With 45 teams from over 19 law schools, the competition at this year's NNALSA moot court competition was intense. The moot court problem, written by USD Law Professor Frank Pommersheim and USD 3L Alex Hagen, dealt with the religious use of eagle feathers. The teams were well-prepared and the oral presentations were both well-researched and well-argued. Among the schools that fielded teams were Wisconsin, Columbia, Stanford, Michigan, Michigan State, UC-Berkeley, Arizona State, Gonzaga, and the University of South Dakota, the host school.

Best Advocates: 1st place, Lewerenz and Dalsen, Wisconsin; 2nd place, Thompson and Grigonis, UCLA; 3rd place, Joshua Clause and Jeremy Braveheart, University of Michigan School of Law

Best Oralist: 1st place, Dan Lewerenz, Wisconsin; 2nd place, Will Dalsen, Wisconsin; 3rd place was Mark Kaetsu, University of Hawaii Law School.

Best Brief: 1st place, Alexander Hogan and Novika Ishar, Columbia, 2nd place, Caitlin Smith and Courtney Smith, Columbia, 3rd place, Charlotte Skar and Rhiannon Gorman, University of North Dakota.

NNALSA would like to congratulate Wisconsin for their victory. We would also like to acknowledge the University of South Dakota chapter of NALSA for their hard work and hospitality during the event and the USD Administration for their steadfast support of NNALSA. In particular, NNALSA acknowledges Lonnie Wright (Rosebud Sioux), USD, NALSA President, for his leadership and dedication in this most successful event.