

Negotiation teams take top trophies



The Energy Law Negotiation Competition teams included (l. to r.) Chase Parker, Ryan Mumper, Joe Potente and Blake McLemore. Potente and McLemore won the national title.



Law students Ben Hill (left), Steve Zavodnick, Molly Cash and Hannah Coleman (right) competed in the Transactional LawMeet, which Hill and Zavodnick won.

School of Law negotiation teams won top honors in two national competitions during the 2016–17 academic year.

In the Energy Law Negotiation Competition, two law school teams captured both first and second place.

Third-year law students Blake A. McLemore and L. Joe Potente won the national title, and second-year students Ryan J. Mumper and S. Chase Parker were second place winners.

The teams competed at the South Texas College of Law against the Southern Methodist University and Tulane University law schools in their final rounds respectively. They were assisted in preparation by law school graduate Reginald R. “Reggie” Smith (J.D.’87), who practices energy law in Houston, and Associate Professor Lisa Milot and Adjunct Professor Daniel J. “Dan” King, who served as guest judges while the teams practiced before the competition.

Notably, this was the first time UGA has participated in this tournament.

Additionally, third-year student Benjamin M. “Ben” Hill and second-year student Steven D. “Steve” Zavodnick Jr. were named national champions at the Transactional LawMeet in New York. A second law school team comprised of third-year students Molly H. Cash and Hannah R. Coleman also competed at the event.

The two teams earned their spots at the national tier of the competition after winning regional LawMeet rounds in Dallas and Denver, respectively. Law school graduates Robert C. Davis (J.D.’99), Amanda R. Norcross (J.D.’05) and Rhys T. Wilson (J.D.’79) helped the teams prepare.

Business Law and Ethics Program Director and Clinical Professor Carol Morgan (J.D.’79) serves as the adviser to the law school’s negotiation teams.

— COMMIT TO — GEORGIA

Commit to the School of Law, Commit to Georgia

Philanthropy in this country amounts to billions of dollars annually being committed to educational institutions, community organizations, religious groups and social causes. And behind each gift is a story.

Virtually every morning this past year I said hello to a law student whose study spot was halfway between my office and the coffee shop. Shy and soft spoken, he was slow to warm to me. But, over time, we established a rapport, centered mostly around the importance of coffee.

One day, I invited a group of law school donors to meet with the student recipient of the endowed scholarship they created. Imagine my surprise when in walks Spencer, the shy, soft spoken young man I had come to know only through our morning greeting.

Pursuing a highly competitive position in Washington, D.C., and driven by an environmental law interest, Spencer conveyed a keen sense of purpose and focus to our visitors. As the donors described their inspiration for creating the endowed scholarship – a lifelong mentor who advocated passionately for the environment – Spencer responded with gratitude. He shared his plans for the future and reflected on his law school life.

These donors used their commitment to tell the story of their mentor and friend. And my shy, soft spoken student, who graduated this May, is now forging his own path. This gift has connected these people through what is now a shared story.

We welcome the opportunity to help you explore your philanthropic commitment to the School of Law and to watch with you as your story unfolds.

—Senior Director of Law School Advancement Anne S. Moser