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.