Mooting success

The University of Auckland continued to excel as one of the world's top universities in mooting this year.

Meanwhile, a vibrant internal mooting programme produced a number of high-quality and entertaining finals at the Auckland High Court over the course of the year.

International Representation

The year was kicked off with unparalleled success at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, which is widely considered the most prestigious mooting competition in the world.

The University of Auckland placed second in the world after the preliminary rounds, progressed to the top 16 knockout round, placed second for its applicant memorial, and was named best applicant team overall for its speaker scores and memorial scores combined.

Meanwhile, Andrew Grant was named as the best speaker in the competition and Michael Greenop was ranked as third best speaker. The success of this team (which also included Tiaan Nelson and Katy Eichelbaum, with coaches Gretta Schumacher and Jack Davies) is a testament to their hard work and the overall standard of mooting at the University.

The University also competed at a host of other international mooting competitions in 2017, with many successes.

The winners of the Stout Shield (Jessica Palairet and James Rankin) competed in the Australian Law Students' Association Championship Moot in Canberra. The team performed fantastically, reaching the final and ultimately finishing as runners-up.

A team of four (Michael Smol, Honor Kerry, Josh Suyker, and Jovana Nedeljkov) competed at the world's largest mooting competition, the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna. Coached by Finn Lowery and Thom Clark, the team also competed in a number of pre-moot rounds Hong Kong, Shanghai, Prague, Stockholm, Belgrade, Brussels, Paris and Heidelberg. Despite narrowly missing out on the finals in Vienna, they won the Paris pre-moot and finished as runners-up at the Heidelberg pre-moot.

Having won last year's Australia New Zealand Air Law Moot, Auckland went on to compete at the International Air Law Moot Court Competition in Malta. The team were awarded third place in the Oral Rounds for Respondent, fourth place in the Written Memorials for Respondent, and fifth place in the Oral Rounds for Applicant.

Later in 2017, the University returned to the Australia New Zealand Air Law Moot, this year hosted in Adelaide, and once again performed strongly. The team of Edward Foley, Jack Garden, and Fraser Gollogly (coached by Hannah Reid and Nick Porter) finished as runners-up. Edward won best speaker in the final, Jack won best speaker in the general rounds and the team was awarded best respondent memorial.

Students from Auckland Law School also travelled to Hong Kong in March 2017 to represent
New Zealand at the Red Cross International
Humanitarian Law Moot, following their win at the national competition in December 2016.

Speakers Hannah Reid and Joy Guo were accompanied by researcher Tia Tureburelevu and coach Treasa Dunworth. The team reached the top 16 round, having placed second after the preliminary rounds. They went on to receive the First Honourable Submission award for the Prosecution memorial and Second Honourable Submission for the Defendant memorial, with Hannah Reid awarded First Honourable Mention for Best Mooter.

Two teams are currently in training for the Willem C. Vis Moot and the Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court, both to be held in early 2018.

We have every confidence that these teams will enjoy similar successes to those before them, and cement the University of Auckland Law School's reputation as a world-leading university in oral advocacy.



The Philip C Jessup team and coaches from left: Andrew Grant, Gretta Schumacher, Katy Eichelbaum, Tiaan Nelson, Michael Greenop, Jack Davies, with Dean Andrew Stockley