LOYOLA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
MOOT COURT PROGRAM
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE ONE – NAME
This organization will be recognized as the Loyola Moot Court Program.

ARTICLE TWO – PURPOSE
The purpose of the Moot Court Program is to foster the art of appellate advocacy with responsiveness and enthusiasm through team advancement, academic support, and university involvement, thereby enhancing national recognition and pride among its members.

ARTICLE THREE – MOOT COURT PROGRAM COMPOSITION
The Moot Court Program shall be composed of a Moot Court Staff, and shall be governed by a Moot Court Board.

ARTICLE FOUR – MOOT COURT BOARD
Section One – General Authority
The Moot Court Board shall have the authority to establish all policies and procedures for the Moot Court Program not in conflict with this Constitution, and to preside over any situation not covered by this Constitution.

At the beginning of each academic year, the Moot Court Board shall establish a voting procedure effective for the length of the respective Board’s term of office.

Section Two – Composition
The Board shall be comprised of six senior students. The six Board positions are: (1) Chairperson; (2) National Team Coach; (3) Fall/Spring Team Coach; (4) Intramural Coordinator; (5) Alumni Coordinator; (6) Competition Coordinator.

Each of these positions, with the exception of the Chairman, will head a committee composed of Staff members. The purpose of the committee is to assist the Board member successfully carry out his or her numerous responsibilities. The Staff members shall select which committee to join at the first Staff meeting of each new academic year.

Section Three – Eligibility
The respective Board members must be a senior law student in his/her last 2 semesters of study. As of the 2000-2001 academic school year, Loyola University School of Law
grants a one-half tuition scholarship to each Board member. As of the 2000-2001 academic school year, a Board member may participate in one of the following additional extracurricular activities: clerkship, law clinic, or externship. A fifteen-(15) hour weekly time limit is imposed on the Board member in the selected activity. In the event that any Board member receives a full scholarship for Moot Court activities, that Board member will be precluded from participation in any clerkship, law clinic, or externship.

All Board Members will be precluded from engaging in the following: Law Review Board; Moot Court and/or Legal Writing and Research Teaching Assistant; Moot Court Competition Teams; Officer in SBA (except as a class representative or Honor Board representative); Officer or competitor in a legal or social organization on campus.

**Section Four – Chair of the Board**

The Chairperson shall be responsible for, but not limited to, the following: Chair all meetings of the Board and Staff; Supervise budget expenditures; Coordinate the semester calendar with the Board members; Attend SBA meetings as the Moot Court representative; Provide general announcements of Board activities; Assume responsibility for Board activities; Supervise correspondence to and from the Board; Keep award plaques up to date. Finally, the Chairperson shall at all times keep the best interests of Moot Court in mind and serve the Loyola University Community in this capacity as the need arises.

**Section Five – National Team Coach**

The National Team Coach shall be responsible for, but not limited, duties associated with supervising the team that competes in the National Moot Court Competition.

These duties may include: Arrange team meetings; Set due dates for writing the brief; Schedule practice arguments; Reserve rooms necessary for practice arguments; Arrange photocopying and mailing of team brief; Schedule judges for practice arguments, including faculty and outside attorneys; Coordinate judges list with Intramural Competition Coordinator and the other team coach so as not to overlap; Make travel arrangements for team competition; Handle correspondence with competition host school; Travel with team to the competition; Arrange expense advances for team travel; and, Any other projects as requested by the Chair or other Board members.

The National Team Coach shall head a committee comprised of Moot Court Staff members.

**Section Six – Fall/Spring Team Coach**

Besides general Board duties, this position requires a two semester coaching commitment. During both the fall and spring semester, this Board member coaches a Moot Court Competition Team.
The Spring Team Coach is responsible for, but not limited to the following: Arrange team meetings; Set due dates for writing each part of brief; Schedule practice arguments; Reserve rooms necessary for practice arguments; Arrange photocopying and mailing of team brief; Schedule judges for practice arguments, including faculty and outside attorneys; Coordinate judges list with Intramural Competition Coordinator and the other team coach so as not to overlap; Make travel arrangements for team competition; Handle correspondence with competition host school; Travel with team to the competition; Arrange expense advances for team travel; and, Any other projects as requested by the Chair or other Board members.

The Fall/Spring Team Coach shall head a committee comprised of Moot Court Staff members.

Section Seven – Intramural Coordinator

The Intramural Coordinator is responsible for planning the Argue-On competition in the fall semester and the Intramural competition in the spring semester. This includes, but is not limited to, recruiting area Judges and practitioners to judge the competitions, assigning the competitors’ sides, general hospitality duties, and securing a bench brief/record for the Board and guest judges.

The Intramural Coordinator shall head a committee comprised of Moot Court Staff members.

SUB-SECTION ONE: THE ARGUE-ON COMPETITION

The Argue-On competition is held during the fall semester and is open to all 2L day students and all 2L/3L evening students who have successfully completed the Moot Court course and received at least a C+ on their brief. The Board is responsible for the selection of the new Staff members. The Board may serve as judges for this event. This competition should be planned before any fall fundraising activity so that the new members can participate. Successful Argue-On candidates are assigned to the Alumni Committee to fulfill their Staff requirements.

SUB-SECTION TWO: THE INTRAMURAL COMPETITION

The Intramural competition is held in the spring semester in conjunction with the Moot Court class. The Board is responsible for choosing the new Staff members. Staff selection is based upon the student’s preliminary brief grade of a C+, or better, and the student’s oral argument evaluation. In selecting new Staff members, the Board shall consider the nature of this achievement organization, and that only highly skilled oralists and brief writers shall be invited to be a member of the Moot Court Staff.

The Intramural competition shall be set forth as:
(1) All students taking the Moot Court class must compete in the first round. The judging panel for this round consists of one Loyola Law professor, one Board member, and one practitioner.

(2) The second round consists of the newly selected for Moot Court Staff. The judging panel for this round consists of local judges and practitioners.

(3) The Board shall select eight members of the newly selected Staff to advance to the semi-final round of the competition. A panel consisting of local judges shall judge the semi-final round.

(4) The Board selects four oralists of the eight to advance to the Final Four Round.

(5) A panel consisting of distinguished judges shall judge the Final Round, and they will determine the First, Second, Third and Fourth Best Oralist of the Moot Court class. The Final Four Oralists shall be honored at the annual Moot Court Awards Banquet.

Section Eight – Alumni Coordinator

The Alumni Coordinator is the primary liaison between the Moot Court Alumni and the Moot Court Program. With the assistance of the Board, the Alumni Coordinator hosts two fundraising events per academic year. Additionally, the Alumni Coordinator makes independent inquiries for funds to assist in financing the Moot Court Competition Program.

The Alumni Coordinator shall have a committee consisting of no less than 15 members, not including Argue-On candidates. Argue-On candidates are automatically made members of the Alumni Committee. Any Staff member not attending the first Staff meeting of the fall semester will automatically be a member of the Alumni Committee.

SUB-SECTION ONE: FALL FUNDRAISER – CASINO NIGHT

During the fall semester, The Moot Court Program traditionally hosts Casino Night for students, faculty, and alumni. Board members are not permitted to participate in gaming or bidding. The Alumni Coordinator, with the assistance of all Board Members, will ensure the smooth functioning of the event throughout the evening.

SUB-SECTION TWO: SPRING FUNDRAISER – ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

During the spring semester, The Moot Court Program shall host an Awards Banquet. This Banquet follows the Intramural Competition and the selection of the new Moot Court Board and Teams, The Alumni Coordinator, with the assistance of the Board, is responsible for planning the Awards Banquet.

The purpose of the Awards Banquet is to honor: (1) the Final Four oralists of the current Moot Court class; (2) the author the Best Brief of the preceding Moot Court class; (3) the accomplishments of the Competition Teams; (4) the “outstanding” senior Staff member selected by the Board; (4) the new Board, Staff and Team members; and (5) the Gisevius Distinguished Alumni Award, given to a Loyola Alumnus, who has demonstrated dedicated service to the Moot Court Program. The recipient of this award is selected by the Board. Further, the Board will choose a member of the faculty to serve as a guest speaker for the Awards Banquet.
SUB-SECTION THREE: ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

During the spring semester, the Alumni Coordinator shall publish an Alumni Newsletter. The newsletter shall inform the alumni of the Moot Court Program’s activities for the year, including the outcome of the team competitions during the academic year, and other upcoming events like the Intramural Competitions and the Annual Awards Banquet.

The newsletter consists of articles contributed by the Board pertaining to their activities and efforts throughout the year.

Section Nine – Competition Coordinator

As of the 2000-2001 academic year, this Board position has been changed. Formerly, this person was responsible for coordinating a Moot Court competition to be hosted by Loyola University School of Law. In an effort to increase the exposure of Loyola University’s Moot Court Program through participation in out of state moot court competitions, this position was changed from a coordinator to the Coach of a Moot Court competition team.

Section Ten – Selection of the Board

At the end of each Spring semester, but before the Awards Banquet, the current Moot Court Board shall select the Moot Court Board for the upcoming year.

Section Ten – Term of Office

The Moot Court Board Members shall hold their offices for one academic year. These terms shall end upon completion of the Loyola University School of Law Commencement Exercises. The terms of their successors shall then begin.

ARTICLE FIVE – MOOT COURT COMPETITION TEAMS

Section One – Purpose of Competition Teams

The purpose of the Moot Court Competition Teams is to establish the Moot Court Program’s reputation for excellence in appellate advocacy by participating in nationally recognized moot court competitions. Thereby enhancing Loyola University School of Law’s prestige on a national scale.

Section Two – Team Member Selection

The members of the Competition Teams shall be selected by the Moot Court Board. The Board shall select the Competition Team members for the upcoming year.
Section Three – Team Composition

Each team shall be composed of a coach, two oralists and a brief writer. The team shall adhere to the selected competition rules as they are required. The team coach shall be responsible for keeping the Board informed regarding developments in team preparation and competition.

Section Four – Team Member Removal

To the greatest extent possible, each team shall be self-governing. In the event that a significant dilemma among the team develops, the team coach may consult the Board for advice. The Board reserves the right to remove any member from any team for good cause shown.

ARTICLE SIX – MOOT COURT STAFF

Section One – Composition

The Moot Court Staff shall be comprised of students who have been selected by the Moot Court Board to join the Moot Court Program.

Section Two – Selection of Staff

Students may be selected to join the Moot Court Program either through the Moot Court Spring Class Intramural Competition held in the Spring Semester, or through the Argue-On Competition held in the Fall Semester. A student attains Staff Member status immediately upon selection to the Moot Court Program.

Section Three – Duties of Staff Members

In order to remain a Member in Good Standing, Moot Court Staff members are responsible for fulfilling a work hour requirement and a committee hour requirement. The Board shall establish the work hour and committee hour requirements at the beginning of each semester. No required number of hours is set forth in this document, as each school year may require a different number of hours.

SUB-SECTION ONE: COMMITTEES

In order to remain a member in Good Standing of the Moot Court Program, a Staff Member must join a Committee and perform work hour(s) for that Committee. A Staff Member who is selected to join the Moot Court Program through the Spring Class Intramural Competition must join a committee in the fall semester of the following academic year. A Staff Member who is selected to join the Moot Court Program through the Fall Argue-On Competition will be assigned to the Alumni Committee.
**SUB-SECTION TWO: STAFF WORK**

In order to remain a member in Good Standing of the Moot Court Program, a Staff member must fulfill a work hour requirement each semester. Such work may include, but is not limited to, listening hours – in which a Staff member listens to the arguments of participants in the Argue-On and Class Intramural Competitions; and, work hours – in which a Staff member participates in the Argue-On or Intramural Competition as a videographer, a time keeper, a bailiff, etc.; and other such projects approved by the Moot Court Board. The work hour requirement is to be set by the Board before the first Staff meeting of the new academic year.

**Section Four – Removal of Staff Member**

A termination procedure which outlines removal procedures shall be determined by the Moot Court Board at the beginning of the academic year. In the event a Staff member has not completed either a committee or work hour requirement, the Board, following the aforementioned outlined procedure may remove the Staff member. In applying this removal procedure, the Board shall consider the nature of this achievement organization. Therefore, the Board shall give the Staff member notice and the opportunity to be speak on his/her behalf.

If the Board elects to remove a Staff Member, then that Staff Member is no longer associated with the Moot Court Program. Thus, upon graduation, this person shall not receive a Certificate from the Moot Court Program.