



INTERNATIONAL AIR AND SPACE LAW ASSOCIATION

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Space Advocacy

Newsletter of the
**IASLA Space Law
Moot Court Competition**

LAUNCH OF THE NEW IASLA SPACE LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

On 1 September 2010, the International Air and Space Law Association launched the new IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition.

In the 2011 Competition Year, the IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition will hold Regional Rounds in the Asia Pacific Region (in Sydney and Canberra, Australia), the European Region (in London, United Kingdom) and in North America (in New York, the United States), followed by the International Finals in The Hague, the Netherlands.

In certain countries in the Asia Pacific Region, there will be domestic funding rounds to enable teams to compete for funding to compete in the Asia Pacific Regional Rounds in Sydney and Canberra, Australia.

Planning and organisation are now well underway for the Regional Rounds and, in the 2012 Competition Year, the goal is to have the Latin American Regional Rounds for the first time, which will be conducted in Spanish.

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.spacemoot.org>.

Ricky J. Lee Principal Administrator

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THE 2011 MOOT PROBLEM RELEASED

The 2011 Moot Problem for the IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition, the **Case concerning the Spacecraft Collision in Outer Space on 26 September 2007 (Lacerta v. Eridanus)**, was released on 1 September 2010.

The Moot Problem deals with international legal issues arising from the collision of a space tourism spacecraft and a satellite launch vehicle in orbit and the consequential damage.

When asked for his reaction after reading the 2011 Moot Problem, Dr. Vernon Nase of the City University of Hong Kong said, “The Moot Problem is a well-written and challenging problem scenario. Ricky Lee runs a very well organised and conducted competition and I would unreservedly recommend it to anyone who wants to compete in a quality international mooting competition.”

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Dr. Vernon Nase, City University of Hong Kong



HOW WE SELECT JUDGES FOR PANELS

One of the most important things to ensure the fairness and impartiality of a moot court competition is how one chooses the judges.

In each of the Regional Rounds, the Competition chooses judges from among law academics and lawyers. There are some important rules that are observed:

- no one connected with any team may act as a judge except as backups in emergencies and then only if they are judging teams that their team will not meet;
- no one assisted in judging a team's practice rounds may judge that team;

OBJECTS OF THE COMPETITION

The objects of the IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition are:

- to promote education and awareness of the principles of space law among students, academics and lawyers;
- to fulfil the need for an international moot court competition devoted to space law that is organised transparently, fairly and professionally;
- to encourage the peaceful settlement of international space law disputes while recognising the diversity of the students united together through participation in the Competition;
- to promote the development of skills in professional oral and written legal advocacy; and
- administer an international moot court competition fairly, impartially, competently and effectively through the application of specific rules.

FORMAT OF THE IASLA COMPETITION

In the **Regional Rounds** of the **IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition**, which are held in March or April each year, with each team competes in four round-robin Preliminary Rounds before the top 8 point-scoring teams advance to the quarter-finals, the winners of those advancing to semi-finals and so on. Each of these oral rounds are adjudicated by 3 judges, while memorials are adjudicated by a separate international panel.

In some of the Regional Rounds, national **Domestic Funding Rounds** are held in selected countries where a team may attempt to win funding to participate in the Regional Rounds. The number of Domestic Funding Rounds will increase over time to increase the participation of universities worldwide.

In 2012, the **Latin American Regional Rounds** are expected to begin and, in future years, Domestic Funding Rounds will be organised in selected countries in the region. These rounds will be conducted in the Spanish language.

The regional champions of the Regional Rounds advance to the **International Finals**, which are to be held in July each year. The details are yet to be finalised, but the current proposal is for the International Finals to be held in Amsterdam and The Hague in the Netherlands.

For more updated details and information, visit <http://www.spacemoot.org>.

- no one who knows the identity of teams may act as a judge;
- no judge may see the same side twice; and
- no judge connected with a university (even just as an alumnus) may judge a team from that university.

In addition:

- each panel of judges would have a balance between an experienced advocate, a international lawyer and space law knowledge; and
- where appropriate, ethnic diversity and experience are balanced on panels.

For this reason, up to hundreds of judges may be needed in order to comply with these rules and guidelines in each of the Regional Rounds !!



MEET OUR PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATOR



Ricky J. Lee

Ph.D. LL.M. B.A.(IntSt.)(Hons.) LL.B.(Hons.) GDLP FCLA ATIA MANZCN

Principal Administrator, IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition

Ricky Lee was appointed the Principal Administrator of the IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition. He has had extensive experience in organising moot-ing competitions for well over ten years.

He has been involved in the Jessup Moot and the Lachs Moot, which he had been Asia Pacific Regional Organiser from 1999 to 2010 and was Secretary and later Chair of the Organising Committee from 2005 to 2010.

Ricky has worked in commercial practice since 1998 and specialises in commercial law, insolvency law, international law and space law, having acted for various members of the space industry, particularly in the commercial launch sector. He has lectured in space law, insolvency law, international business law, corporate and commercial law, European Un-

ion law, Asian law, public international law and legal and advocacy skills.

Ricky is completing a second doctorate at the University of Cologne in 2011 and a Master of International Taxation from the University of New South Wales.

He has published extensively on space law, telemedicine law, commercial law, constitutional law and international law, with three upcoming books to be published in 2010 and 2011. He has also presented papers at a number of Australian and international conferences, including the United Nations Workshops on Space Law.

He is based in Sydney, Australia. In his spare time he enjoys tennis, music and watching his favourite football teams, especially Adelaide United, Real Madrid, AC Milan and the Adelaide Crows.

CONTACT US

SOME SELECTED CONTACTS:

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