

International Law Students descend on ANU

Some of Australia's best and brightest international law students will arrive in Canberra on 29 January, for the White & Case Australian National Tournament of the Jessup International Law Moot Competition. The 2008 tournament is the 32nd time that the Jessup, the "Olympics" of legal mooting will be held at The ANU College of Law.

The Jessup Competition is the most prestigious mooting competition in the world. Since 1959, law students from argue a complex hypothetical international legal problem before some of the most eminent international lawyers and judges in the world. In 2008 there are more than 550 teams from 85 countries participating in the competition.

This year the problem students are addressing involves a terrorist incident and the subsequent establishment of Military Commissions, similar to those at Guantanamo Bay, to try alleged perpetrators. Kidnaping, "rendition" and torture also figure in.

Australian teams have performed exceptionally well in the International Finals. Since 2000 Australian teams have won the International Jessup Cup in Washington, DC, on four occasions – the most recent victor being the University of Sydney, which was the winner of the 2007 Jessup Cup.

On Saturday 2 February, the Australian Jessup Moot Final will be held in the High Court at 3.00 pm. The public is welcome. This year Her Honour Justice Susan Kiefel will be presiding.

For more information, contact Donald K. Anton, National Administrator of the 2008 White & Case Australian Jessup Tournament on 02 6125 3516 or antond@law.anu.edu.au