

2003 Commonwealth Law Student Moot Melbourne, Australia

7th Commonwealth Law Moot

The Commonwealth Legal Education Association once again organised and ran the Commonwealth Moot Competition. The venue was the magnificent Banco Court of the Victoria Supreme Court.

The competition brought together teams of law students representing all regions of the Commonwealth, i.e. Australasia, North America, the Caribbean, West Africa, South Asia, Southern and Eastern Africa, the South Pacific, and Europe. Regrettably, the team from Nigeria only made it as far as Kuala Lumpur where they encountered ticketing problems and were unable to fly on to Melbourne. However it was a great pleasure to welcome, for the first time, a team from the South Pacific.

The problem, which was written by Max du Plessis of the University of Natal, reflected current Commonwealth and international concerns about the prosecution of crimes against humanity committed by heads of state. The problem itself received considerable praise from the judges both for its originality and its topicality.

THE TEAMS

West Africa (Ghana Law School)

James Marshall Belieb
Bright Okyere Agyekum
Sarah Adwoa Sarfo

Southern and Eastern Africa (University of Pretoria)

Nicole Tracey Lewis
Akua Okyerebea Ampofo-Anti

South Asia (India): (West Bengal National University of Juridical Science, Kolkata)

Mohit P. Abraham
Shravya K. Reddy

South Asia: (Sri Lanka Law College)

Hejaaz Omer Hizbullah
Pubudu Srikantha Sachchithanandan
Fathima Laila Nasry

North America: (University of Montreal Law School)

Annabelle Sheppard
Marie-Eve Robillard
Myriam Corbeil

Europe: (University of Southampton)

Ellie Fargin
Jodie Mittell

Caribbean: (composite team from Caribbean law schools)
Miss Hanna Chrysostom
Miss Yolanda Christie

South Pacific: (University of the South Pacific, Vanuatu)
Sarah Habla
Aca Rayawa
Virisila Lidise

Australasia: (University of Melbourne)
Paul Bernath
Sarah d'Oliveyra

THE JUDGES

As ever, judges and legal practitioners from around the Commonwealth freely gave their time to preside over the moots. The "Roll of Honour" is as follows:

- The Honourable Justice Jenny Bolan of the Family Court of Australia
- The Honourable Justice Kenneth Handley, Supreme Court of New South Wales
- The Honourable Justice Hartley Hansen Supreme Court of Victoria
- The Honourable Justice Stephen Charles, Court of Appeal Victoria
- The Honourable Justice Paul Heath High Court of New Zealand
- The Honourable Justice Robert Osborn Supreme Court of Victoria
- Lord Justice Henry Brooks, Lord Justice of Appeal, Royal Courts of Justice
- The Honourable Justice Barry Patterson, High Court of New Zealand
- The Honourable Justice Anthony Randerson High Court of New Zealand
- Judge President Pio Marapi Teek High Court of Namibia
- The Honourable Justice John Winneke, President of the Court of Appeal Supreme Court of Victoria
- Mr David Ross QC of the Victorian Bar
- The Honourable Justice Frank Vincent Supreme Court of Victoria
- Mr Brin Woinarski QC of the Victorian Bar
- Mr Julian Burnside QC of the Victorian Bar
- Lady Mary Arden Lady Justice of Appeal, Royal Courts of Justice
- The Honourable Justice Scott Booker, Court of Queen's Bench, Alberta, Canada
- The Honourable Justice Patrick LeSage, of the Superior Court of Justice, Ontario Canada
- Justice Roderick Joyce QC, District Court of New Zealand
- The Honourable Justice Robin Millhouse, Chief Justice, High Court of Kiribati
- The Honourable Justice John Perry, Supreme Court of South Australia
- The Honourable Justice Keane, Chief Justice of Ireland
- The Honourable Justice Peter Blanchard, New Zealand Court of Appeal

- The Honourable Justice Rodney Hansen, High Court of New Zealand
- The Honourable Justice Gopal Sri Ram of the Malaysian Court of Appeal
- The Honourable Justice Noel Anderson, New Zealand Court of Appeal
- The Honourable Justice Alan Blow, Supreme Court of Tasmania
- The Honourable Justice Edward Richard, Supreme Court of Northwest Territories, Canada
- The Honourable Justice Geraldine Sparrow, Ontario Court of Justice
- Her Honour Judge Mary Ann Yeats, District Court of Western Australia
- The Honourable Justice Roslyn Atkinson, Supreme Court of Queensland
- The Honourable Justice Tony North of the Federal Court of Australia
- Professor Gillian Triggs, University of Melbourne
- The Honourable Justice Veale, Supreme Court of Yukon
- Lord Woolf of Barnes, M.R.
- His Lordship the Honourable Carl Singh, Chief Justice of Guyana
- The Honourable Justice Paul de Jersey, Chief Justice of Queensland

THE COMPETITION

The competition consisted of a preliminary round in which teams mooted twice. The four teams with the highest scores then proceeded to the semi-finals. The two teams with the highest scores then proceeded to the final. In the event the final was contested by the teams from India and the United Kingdom before Lord Woolf of Barnes, Honourable Carl Singh, Chief Justice of Guyana and the Honourable Justice Paul de Jersey, Chief Justice of Queensland. The winners were the United Kingdom.

At a reception held in the magnificent new law school building at the University of Melbourne moot competitors were presented with their certificates and books donated by the CLEA, Cavendish Publishing and Jordan Publishing. The Turnbull Shield was presented to the winning teams at the Conference Closing Ceremony.

THANKS

The Association is indebted to Ros Macdonald, the CLEA Moot Coordinator for organising and overseeing the running of the competition with tireless efficiency.

The Association is also extremely grateful for the financial and other assistance provided by the following: The Commonwealth Foundation, the Australian Bar Association, the Organising Committee of the Commonwealth Law Conference, the Commonwealth Lawyers' Association, Cavendish Publishing and Jordan Publishing.

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE TURNBULL SHIELD

<i>Year</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Winners</i>
1983	Hong Kong	Australia
1986	Jamaica	United Kingdom
1990	Auckland	United Kingdom
1993	Nicosia	Canada

1996
1999
2001

Vancouver
Kuala Lumpur
Colombo

Australia
South Africa
United Kingdom