

## UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND SCHOOL OF LAW WINS THE 2009 AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION SECTION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION REPRESENTATION IN MEDIATION COMPETITION

The Tenth Annual National Representation in Mediation Competition was held in conjunction with the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Annual Conference in New York, New York on April 15-16, 2009. In this competition law student teams role-play as attorneys and clients to model appropriate preparation for and representation of a client in mediation.

Many law schools held intramural competitions to determine which team or teams to send to their Regional Competition, then 104 teams from 57 schools competed in nine Regional Competitions for the right to advance to the National Finals. Ten teams were invited to compete at the National Competition consisting of students representing the following schools: Arizona State University College of Law, Rutgers University - Camden - School of Law, Faulkner University, Thomas Goode Jones School of Law, University of Tennessee College of Law, Ohio State University-Moritz College of Law, University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, Washington University School of Law (St. Louis), Suffolk University Law School, University of Richmond School of Law and Seattle University School of Law.

After two preliminary rounds on April 15th the teams from Arizona State, Ohio State, Richmond and Washington (St. Louis) advanced to the Semi-Final Round. The teams from Richmond and Washington (St. Louis) advanced to the Championship Round where Richmond students Faith Alejandro and Paul Falabella defeated Washington students Sadena Thevarajah and Gordon Spring.

The Section of Dispute Resolution would like to thank and congratulate the students and schools who competed at all levels of the Competition this year for their excellent performances in making this year's event a success. The Section also extends its thanks to the numerous conference attendees and local practitioners who volunteered as mediators and judges for the competition.

The Eleventh Annual Representation in Mediation Regional Competitions are scheduled for February and March of 2010. The Finals will be held in conjunction with the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Spring Conference in April 2010 in San Francisco, CA. For more information, visit the Representation in Mediation Competition website at <http://www.abanet.org/dispute/mediationcomp.html>.