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Dean Logan's Blog

Clark Finals Held in front of RI Supreme Court, at RI Supreme Court

Posted by David Logan on 11/14/2013 at 10:22 AM

The Clark Moot Court Competition is the flagship internal competition at RWU Law, and we are proud of the long tradition of having the final round judged by not just real judges, but by the entire Rhode Island Supreme Court. This year was a special treat, as the Court hosted the competition in its beautiful formal courtroom.

And the Court and a standing room only audience were treated to a terrific final round, pitting Dan Reilly, representing a woman seeking asylum, against the United States government, represented by Sydney Kirsch. The student advocates were remarkably well prepared, mastering both the heart-rending facts and the technicalities of immigration law (even though they were only in their third semester of law school!). Indeed, the Justices commented afterward that they rarely had seen advocates as prepared in the real cases that they hear at the highest level of the state judiciary and I was amazed (and very proud) of how Dan and Sydney were so unflappable in the face of spirited questioning from the bench, and in the atmosphere of formality that can come only in a real courtroom.

Special congratulations to the overall winner of the competition, Dan Reilly, and to the winner of the Best Brief Award, Chris Fragomeni. Below are some pictures from the argument and the celebrations afterward.
Three Clark Champs:

Dan Reilly ('15), Antonio Viana ('14)
and Tolulope Olasanaye ('12)