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RWU Law Students Win National Religious Freedom Moot Court Competition

Posted by David Logan on 02/14/2014 at 08:47 AM

It is only fitting that a team from Roger Williams University won the 2014 National Religious Freedom Moot Court Competition; after all, our institutional namesake was the earliest American proponent of freedom of religion.

We sent two teams to the competition, sponsored by George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., and RWU vanquished the competition, which included more than 2 dozen teams from across the country, from Utah (Brigham Young), Texas (Baylor), the Midwest (Minnesota and Notre Dame), to a slew from up and down the east coast: Florida State, GW, Georgetown, American University, University of Virginia, Villanova, Boston College and Northeastern, to name only some.

The final round was judged by Honorable Jay Bybee (United States Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit), Honorable Allison Eid (Colorado Supreme Court), and the Special Counsel for Religious Discrimination at the United States Department of Justice, Eric Treene. It was a great moment for our young law school when the team of Sydney Kirsch, Dan Reilly, and Antonio Viana emerged champions. A shout out also to the other RWU team that competed—Michael Burke, Danielle Dufault, and Matt Provencher—who helped craft the winning arguments; to Heather Bernier, who provided invaluable support; and to Professor Jared Goldstein, who served as faculty coach.

Below are some photos from that great day.