

Historians: We're Not Just in Libraries Any More History Major Cate Sauter Reflects on the Success of the CSUF Moot Court Team

Cal State Fullerton's moot court team had another successful year at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's competition at Chapman Law School this past January. Moot Court is a simulation of an appellate court proceeding (also known as mock Supreme Court and Supreme Court Simulation). Moot Court involves teams of student-contestants, fictional clients burdened by a legal problem, who write briefs and deliver oral arguments detailing the dimensions of the legal problem before an appellate court. Students argue a hypothetical legal case known as "the competition case" and this year submitted a 20-page written brief arguing either the petitioner's or the respondent's side of both issues. To do so, students must research the cases and laws cited in "the competition case" throughout the summer and fall semester before regional competition in December at Cal State Long Beach and national competition in January.

The 2011 hypothetical case questioned whether or not an Internet chat room is a private protected space under the fourth amendment, and whether or not the first amendment protects threats against the president. This year we had 7 teams compete at the western regional competition at Cal State Long Beach the weekend of December 2-3, where 5 teams earned bids to Nationals including teams Cate Sauter/Michelle Freeman and team Gregory Washington/Colby Johnson who made it to the semi final rounds and placed third and fourth overall.

At the National Competition in January three of our five teams placed within the top 40 teams in the nation, an impressive feat given that there were nearly 700 contestants.

CSUF also won first place in the brief writing category. Fullerton's moot court program has long been considered the "underdog" of national moot court competition going up



against largely conservative, private colleges on the east coast such as College of Holy Cross, Patrick Henry College, College of Wooster, Harvard and Yale. Since moot court began five years ago at CSUF our success rate and appearance at national competition has increased every year, due to the dedication of our moot court students, our coach and mentor Dr. Pamela Fiber-Ostrow, assistant coaches and CSUF Faculty who tirelessly spend weekends and thanksgiving break preparing teams for competition. We hope to continue our successful program during the 2012 moot court season next fall.

Historian or Card Sharp?

Dr. William W. Haddad has been awarded the title of Life Master by the American Contract Bridge League, the ruling body for competitive bridge in the US. The award was made after the annual Southern California bridge tournament held in February in Riverside in which Haddad and his partner, Rich Callen, finished first in a two-day competition against 90 other pairs.



Dr. Haddad has had a long and checkered history in tournament bridge. Early in his college days he played professionally, unfortunately resulting in his forced separation from Ohio State University and a resulting tour in the Army where he helped to make the world safe for democracy.

Historians or Movie Stars?

CSUF History faculty continue their efforts to dominate the airwaves. Drs. Jonathan Markley, Robert McLain, and Stephen Neufeld were all recently interviewed for the H2 (History Channel) program "10 Things You Don't Know about...." To catch them in action, tune in for:

1. Benjamin Franklin - Feb 27
2. Abraham Lincoln - Feb 27
3. J Edgar Hoover - March 5
4. JFK - March 5
5. OK Corral - March 12
6. Mormons - March 19
7. Roosevelts - March 26
8. Pablo Escobar - April 2 (Dr. Neufeld)
9. Caligula - April 9 (Dr. Markley)
10. Hitler - April 16 (Dr. McLain)
11. Rat Pack - April 23
12. Patton - April 30 (Dr. McLain)

