MinterEllison
Beyond University Borders Competition
An inter-varsity essay writing and public speaking competition

Commercial Topic
Legal essays on any and all commercial law areas are welcomed.

This is an opportunity for you to tailor a competition to suit your strengths and interests; so essays can focus on law reform, a case analysis or the significance of legislative amendments

*Essays should be written for, and targeted at, a corporate audience as Grand Final judges are corporate lawyers

Competition Progression
Semi Final
- 2-3 students from each university will advance to the Semi Final
- All Semi Finalists create Power Point presentations to capture the key ideas and arguments from their legal essays

Grand Final
- 1 student from each university progresses to the Grand Final
- 1 week prior to the Grand Final, legal essays of all Grand Finalists are sent to MinterEllison judges
- Each student has 10 minutes to deliver a PowerPoint presentation and answer questions from judges
- Panel of lawyers from MinterEllison will judge Grand Final and select competition winner

2019 Key Dates
Paper submission window opens: 17 June
Paper submission window closes: 1 July
Semi Finalists notified: 10 July
PowerPoint presentation due: 17 July
Grand Finalists notified: 24 July
Grand Final: 31 July

Eligibility
This competition is open to students of all year levels
Participants must be a current law student from Deakin, La Trobe, Monash, Melbourne, RMIT or Victoria University

Inquiries
For all students, please direct inquiries to: Juliana Teng (Inter-varsity Competition Leader) at monash.intervarsitycompetition@gmail.com

Submissions
Deakin University students: director-competitions@deakinlss.org
La Trobe University students: competitions@latrobslsa.com
Monash University students: monash.intervarsitycompetition@gmail.com
Melbourne University students: externalcompetitions@mulss.com
RMIT University students: president@rmitlss.com
Victoria University students: president@dictumsocietyvu.com

All paper submissions must be sent to the appropriate email addresses and include:
- your name
- word count for your legal essay
- area(s) of commercial law that your essay covers
**Competition Rules**

**Paper Submissions**

1. Students can submit a legal essay on any commercial law topic of their choice or submit a research essay that was written as part of a unit for their law degree
2. Students must have authored the paper they submit
3. The paper must not exceed 3000 words (includes headings / excludes footnotes)
4. Only short explanatory footnotes are excluded from the word count
5. The paper must abide by the referencing rules outlined in the Australian Guide to Legal Citation 3 or Australian Guide to Legal Citation 4
6. Students must email their paper submissions for consideration by 5:00pm 1 July 2019
7. Whilst the intellectual property rights over the paper remains with the student, the student consents to having the paper distributed amongst judges for the exclusive purposes of this competition

**Semi Final**

1. Semi Finalists must create a PowerPoint presentation to supplement their paper submission
2. Semi Finalists must edit their legal essay to ensure it does not exceed 1500 words
3. Any Semi Finalist who does not submit a PowerPoint presentation and edited legal essay by 5:00pm 17 July 2019 is disqualified
4. Only one student from each participating university will advance to the Grand Final stage. This student will have achieved the highest overall score for their paper component and PowerPoint component

**Grand Final**

1. All Grand Finalists must deliver an un-interrupted speech lasting up to 10 minutes on the key ideas and arguments within their paper submission. A warning will be given at the 9-minute mark to signal the last 60 seconds. Students must stop speaking at the 10-minute mark
2. All Grand Finalists must prepare for, respond to, questions from the panel of judges
3. During the Grand Final, all Grand Finalists are permitted to use the same version, or an edited version, of their PowerPoint slides which was previously submitted for the Semi Final
4. The competition winner will be the student who has the highest overall score for their paper component, public speaking component and PowerPoint component

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**This competition is brought to you by MinterEllison and the Monash Law Ambassadors; in collaboration with:**

- [Dicum Society](#)
- [Monash LSS](#)
- [RMIT](#)
- [La Trobe University Law Students’ Association](#)