

Giles Rich IP Moot Court Competition

The Giles Sutherland Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition is an appellate advocacy competition run under the auspices of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA). Problems emphasize patent law and policy, although the fact patterns often include other intellectual property law issues such as copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets. Problems and competition rules are published in mid-October, and may be found at <http://www.aipla.org>. Up to two, two-student teams may participate from William Mitchell each year. William Mitchell covers reasonable travel expenses and pays a *per diem*.

There are three levels of competition during Spring semester: intraschool, regional, and national levels. At the intraschool level, the four Minneosta law schools compete for a \$5,000 scholarship in the MIPLA Cup Competition (sponsored by the Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association, and held the weekend before the regional competition). The MIPLA Cup competition uses the same problem as the regional competition, but emphasizes oral advocacy skill (i.e. briefs are not scored). At the regional level, each team researches and writes two complete briefs, one for each side of the case, which are submitted in early February. Each team also prepares oral arguments for both sides of the case. Oral arguments for the regional level are held in mid-March, and for the national competition in mid-April. At the regional level, teams may receive recognition for first or second place, for writing the best brief for appellant or appellee, or for best oralist team during the first round of the competition. The winners and runners-up of the four regional competitions advance to the national competition in Washington, D.C. At the national level, teams may be recognized with cash stipends awarded to the first and second place teams. Teams arguing in the final round at the national level present their arguments to actual judges from the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Students may earn up to three pass/fail credits for participation in the Giles Rich IP Moot Court Competition. Please note that this competition extends over both Fall and Spring semesters. Students selected to participate in this competition must commit to participate from October until the following March (Spring semester) or April (if advancing to the national competition) in order to receive credit for the class. ***Students interested in competing in this competition must take the course IP Appellate Advocacy, offered only during Spring semester.***