The following is the By-Laws of the DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL MOOT COURT BOARD, hereinafter referred to as the “BOARD”, adopted by two-thirds vote of the Board on this 25th day of March, 2002.

ARTICLE I.
MOOT COURT BOARD

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Board is to further the art of appellate, trial, and skills advocacy at Drake University Law School.

B. Membership

1. General

The Board shall consist of up to eighteen (18) members. Membership on the Board is open to all eligible second-year and third-year students in good standing at Drake University Law School. Good standing is defined by law school policy. Upon appointment, a member shall serve on the Board for the duration of his/her academic career at Drake University Law School. However, no member shall serve for more than 4 semesters. Membership for third-year members shall end on March 31 except they are required to participate in the First Year Argument Final Round.

2. Selection

Each April, the selection of new members shall be made by the current Board. The officers shall determine how many seats on the Board will be vacated at the end of the semester. All eligible students will be notified of the opportunity to apply for Board membership, applications will be made available and accepted, and interviews conducted.

The interviews shall be conducted by the current Board. In selecting students to serve on the Board, the Board shall take into account past participation in inter-scholastic competitions, Board sponsored events, participation in Law School related extracurricular activities, leadership capabilities, outside commitments, and statement of qualifications and desire for membership on the Board. The applicants will be voted on individually by the current Board. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote is necessary for appointment to the Board. At least seven (7) second-year students shall be selected for Board membership.

In the event that special circumstances require election of new Board members mid-year, the current Board shall select new members by an affirmative two-thirds (2/3) vote. All second-year and third-year students shall be notified of the opportunity to apply for Board membership.
3. Duties

All members of the Board are expected to attend all Board meetings and participate actively in all Board functions. Each member must serve on two (2) Board committees.

4. Attendance

Members are required to attend all meetings and Board sponsored activities except for the Mock Trial, Negotiations, and Client Counseling Intramural Competitions. Members are allowed two (2) unexcused absences each semester. Members must notify the President of any absences in order to be excused. Only illness, family emergencies, class, and participation in inter-scholastic competitions will be excused. If a member has more than two (2) unexcused absences, the member may be subject to a credit sanction and/or lose membership in the Board with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board membership, voting by secret ballot.

C. Executive Board

1. Officers

The offices of the Executive Board are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

   a. President

   The President shall be responsible for all activities, meetings, and record-keeping of the Board and moot court, mock trial, and skills teams. The President has the power to delegate authority to officers and individual members for the purpose of carrying out specific Board projects. The President shall assign members to serve on Board committees.

   b. Vice-President

   The Vice-President shall assist members of the Executive Board and keep a record of all inter-scholastic competitions that Drake Law School is not participating.

   c. Secretary

   The Secretary shall take minutes of the meetings and distribute a copy of the minutes to all members and advisor(s). The Secretary shall keep attendance of Board members at meetings and Board sponsored activities.

   d. Treasurer

   The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial matters of the Board. The Treasurer shall work with student coaches for the financing of moot court, mock trial, and skills teams.
2. Selection

Each February, the Board shall select the officers for the subsequent year. Officers shall be chosen from the ranks of the second-year Board members. Officers shall be elected individually by a majority vote of all Board members present. The current president shall give at least two weeks notice to the Board before elections are conducted.

3. Vacancies

If the office of the Presidency is vacated, the Vice-President shall become the President. If the office of the Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer is vacated, any Board member shall have the opportunity to run for the office. The officer shall be elected individually by a majority vote of all Board members present.

D. Meetings

1. General

Meeting shall be regularly scheduled. Special meetings can be called by any member of the Board upon approval of any officer.

2. Quorum

A quorum for regularly scheduled meetings shall consist of a majority of membership of the Board. A quorum for special meetings shall consist of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Board.

3. Voting

All proposals shall be passed by a majority of those voting unless otherwise specified.

E. Academic Credit for Board Membership

1. Credit

Each member of the Board will receive one (1) hour of ungraded credit per semester so long as the member has not exceeded the faculty mandated career limit of six (6) credit hours for Moot Court activities.

2. Credit Sanction

If a violation of the attendance policy occurs, the Secretary shall notify the President. The imposition of a credit sanction can be proposed to the faculty advisor(s), by the President, with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board membership, voting by secret ballot.

F. Board Sponsored Activities
1. C. Edwin Moore Moot Court Competition

Each Fall, the Board conduct an intramural appellate advocacy competition open to Drake Law students who are currently enrolled in Legal Research and Writing. The Board shall select and prepare the problem to be orally argued, administer the competition, and select the four finalists. Selections shall be determined by using the raw score method. The competition shall have two weeks of preliminary rounds, one day of semi-final rounds and a final round held before the judges of the Iowa Court of Appeals. A reception shall follows the final round arguments. Monetary awards for the top four finalists are provided. The Board shall provide a plaque for the winner of the competition.

As Amended 10/28/02.

2. First Year Appellate Advocacy Competition

Each Spring, the Board conducts the appellate advocacy competition for first-year students in conjunction with the Legal Writing and Research faculty. The Legal Writing and Research professors shall select and prepare the problems to be argued. The Board shall administer the competition—obtain judges for four (4) nights of preliminary rounds, food for the judges, arrange the pairings, reserve rooms, copy and send bench briefs to attorney judges, tally the scores.

The President in conjunction with the Board advisor(s) and Legal Writing and Research faculty shall administer the final round (the top sixteen). Moot court, mock trial, and skills team members and all Board members shall judge the final round. The finalists shall receive a new problem to argue.

3. Federal Judges Night

Each Fall, the Board shall administer an event that recognizes the Federal Judiciary of Iowa for their time and commitment to Drake Law School and the legal profession as a whole. The event begins with the National Moot Court teams arguing their competition problem before a bench of Iowa federal judges in the federal courtroom for the Southern District of Iowa. Following the arguments, a dinner/reception is held in honor of the competitors, judges, and members of all inter-scholastic teams.

4. Mock Trial, Negotiations, and Client Counseling Intramural Competitions

Each Fall, the Board shall administer the try-outs for the National Mock Trial, ATLA Mock Trial, Negotiations, and Client Counseling teams. All second-year and third-year students are eligible to try-out.

5. Supreme Court Competition

Each Spring, the Board shall administer this competition in conjunction with the Drake Law School faculty and Iowa Supreme Court. The competition is open to all second-year and third-year students. The Board shall prepare the problem to be argued, administer the
preliminary rounds, obtain judges for the preliminary rounds, assist in all other preparations
needed.

6. Supreme Court Luncheon

   Each Spring, the Board shall administer a luncheon to recognize all moot court, mock trial, and skills team members, the Supreme Court Competition participants, Order of the Barrister recipients, Honorary Order of the Barrister recipient, and Alumni Service Award recipient, and other award recipients.

7. Student Coaches

   Individual Board members shall serve as student coaches of the moot court, mock trial, and skills teams. Student coaches shall arrange travel and finances for team members and assist the team in preparing for the competition(s). Student coaches shall keep the Board updated on team activities.

G. Moot Court, Mock Trial, and Skills Teams

1. ABA Moot Court Team

   Applications shall be made available in the Spring to all first-year and second-year students. Members shall be selected by the Board advisor(s), team coaches, alumni, and third-year team members.

2. Environmental Moot Court Team

   Applications shall be made available in the Spring to all first-year and second-year students. Members shall be selected by the Board advisor(s), team coaches, alumni, and third-year team members.

3. Intellectual Property Moot Court Team

   Applications shall be made available in the Fall to all second-year and third-year students. The Intellectual Property Moot Court advisor shall administer the selections.

4. National Moot Court Team

   Applications shall be made available in the Spring to those students who placed in the top ten in the First Year Arguments, top ten in the C. Edwin Moore Competition, four finalists in the Supreme Court Day Competition, or previously a member of a Drake inter-scholastic appellate team. Members shall be selected by the Board advisor(s), team coaches, alumni, and third-year team members.

5. ATLA Mock Trial Team

   Members shall be selected through a try-out process administered by the Board.
6. National Mock Trial Team

   Members shall be selected through a try-out process administered by the Board.

7. Client Counseling Team

   Members shall be selected through a try-out process administered by the Board.

8. Negotiations Team

   Members shall be selected through a try-out process administered by the Board.

9. Other Competitions

   Upon request, the Board may assist any appellate, trial, or skills advocacy teams not specifically mentioned above as the Board.

ARTICLE II

AWARDS

A. Order of the Barristers

1. General

   Membership in the Drake Law School’s Chapter of the Order of the Barristers is limited to ten (10) third-year law students excelling in the art of appellate, trial, and skills advocacy.

2. Selection

   In early February, applications should be distributed to third-year students who were (1) members of any inter-scholastic appellate, mock trial, or skills team; (2) in the final four of the Supreme Court Day Competition; and (3) members of the Moot Court Board. An invitation to all shall students shall also be posted on bulletin boards and applications made available to anyone who wishes to apply. The applications shall be made due on a certain date at least a week before the end of February.

   All second-year and third-year students who were (1) members of any inter-scholastic appellate, mock trial, or skills team; (2) in the final four of the Supreme Court Day Competition; (3) members of the Moot Court Board; and (4) applicants are eligible to vote. Ballots shall be provided to all those eligible to vote. The Board advisor(s) shall tally the ballots and give them such consideration as is appropriate in selecting the ten Order of the Barristers. They will be announced at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.

B. Honorary Order of the Barrister
An attorney or judge is selected by the Board to receive this award annually on the basis of his/her contribution to the advocacy program at Drake Law School and example as an outstanding advocate in practice. The recipient is announced at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.

C. Rodney L. Hudson Senior Advocacy Award

This award is presented annually to a third-year law student whose past performances in Board sponsored competitions and/or moot court, mock trial, and/or skills team competitions during his/her law school career signifies a commitment to excellence in the art of appellate, trial, and skills advocacy. The recipient of this award is chosen by the Board advisor(s). The recipient is announced at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.

D. Rodney L. Hudson Appellate Award

This award is presented annually to the top oralist in the Supreme Court Day Competition and is chosen by the Iowa Supreme Court. The recipient is announced at the Supreme Court Day Banquet.

E. M. Gene Blackburn Award

This award is presented annually to the student who submits the best brief for the Supreme Court Day Competition. The recipient is chosen on the basis of superior writing skills, which communicate a position based upon an innovative, creative, and concise approach by the Board advisor(s) and the faculty member who teaches the Supreme Court Day Competition class. The recipient is announced at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.

F. Alumni Service Award

This award is presented annually to a Drake Law School alumni who has contributed their time and experience to the Board sponsored activities and/or inter-scholastic teams. The recipient is announced at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.

G. Recognition

1. Board Members

Each Board member shall receive a certificate for his/her participation in the Board.

2. Team Members

All members of inter-scholastic teams and intramural finalists shall receive recognition at the Moot Court Luncheon during the Supreme Court Day weekend in early March.
ARTICLE III
AMENDMENTS

A. Interpretation

The Board shall have the power to interpret these By-Laws and their interpretations shall be final.

B. Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Board.

ARTICLE IV
RATIFICATION

A. Ratification

1. Process

These By-Laws shall be ratified by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Board.

2. Effect

These By-Laws shall take effect immediately upon ratification and shall supersede and nullify all preceding By-Laws of the Drake University Law School Moot Court Board.