

The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition

(National Round)



(30th – 31st January, 2016)

Organized By:



**CENTRE FOR ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
INSTITUTE OF LAW
NIRMA UNIVERSITY
S.G. HIGHWAY
AHMEDABAD-382481**

In Association with

Forum of South Asian Clinical Law Teachers

The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition (National Round)

The Louis M. Brown International Client Counseling Competition was founded in 1985. In May 2010, the competition's name was subtly changed from "client counseling" to "client consultation". It was felt that "consultation" reflects better the activity as opposed to the words interviewing, advising or counseling. The name of the Californian lawyer Forrest S. Mosten was also added to the title of the competition. The Competition is affiliated with the International Bar Association and collaborates closely with law societies and bar associations throughout the world. The 2016 ICCC will be held at Windsor, Ontario in Canada during April 20-27, 2016. The Brown-Mosten Competition is an annual competition for the winners of national competitions across the world.

The Competition promotes greater knowledge and interest among law students in the preventive law and counseling functions of law practice. It also encourages students to develop interviewing, planning, and analytical skills in the lawyer-client relationship in the law office. Interviewing and advising are a significant part of most lawyers' work. The Competition provides an opportunity for a valuable educational interchange between students, law teachers, and legal practitioners.

The Competition simulates a law office consultation in which two law students, acting as lawyers (attorneys/solicitors/legal practitioners), are presented with a client matter. The students conduct an interview with a person playing the role of the client. Students are expected to elicit the relevant information from the client, explore with the client his or her preferred outcome, outline the nature of the problem, and present the client with a means (or range of alternatives, if appropriate) for resolving the problem. The interview with the client is then followed by a post-consultation period during which the students, in the absence of the client, analyze the interview and discuss the legal and other work to be undertaken. The interview and post-consultation period last a total of 35 minutes. The students are evaluated by a panel of judges. The students are evaluated against specific criteria that emphasize the use of listening, questioning, planning, and analytical skills in a lawyer/client interview. Once the judges have completed their evaluation of the interview, the students are called back in and the judges provide a brief critique of the team's handling of the consultation and post-consultation periods.

Centre for Alternate Dispute Resolution, Institute of Law, Nirma University is organizing The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition, National Round. The Winning team at the national rounds will represent the country at the 2016 ICCC which will be held at Windsor, Ontario in Canada during April 20-27, 2016.

Rules for the event:

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1. Only Law Colleges/Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.
- 1.2. Only *bonafide* students pursuing LL.B. Three Year/Five Year Degree programmes in aforementioned institutions [1.1], during the current academic year are eligible to participate.
- 1.3. Date of the Competition: 30th and 31st January, 2016.

2. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- 2.1. Each team shall consist of **TWO** participants.

3. REGISTRATION

3.1. PRE-ARRIVAL

- 3.1.1. Teams/Participants are required to duly fill the Registration Form (see annexure I) (endorsed by the Head of the Institution) along with the **Demand Draft of Rs.3000/-** drawn in favour of Institute of Law under Nirma University payable at Ahmedabad, which has to reach the organizers (hard copy) by courier/speed-post by **31th December, 2016**. The Registered teams are required to confirm their arrival and verify their registration over email.
- 3.1.2. The teams/ Participants are required to e-mail the scanned copy of the Demand Draft along with duly filled registration form latest by **20th December, 2016** on the id: **clientconsultation2016@gmail.com**

3.2. POST-ARRIVAL

- 3.2.1. All the registered teams are required to be present in person on the 29th January, 2016 between 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Institute of Law, Nirma University, SG Highway, Ahmedabad-382481, Gujarat for confirmation of their participation
- 3.2.2. All the participants shall carry their College/University Identity Cards at the time of registration as well as at all times thereafter, during the competition.
- 3.2.3. Participants are advised to carry photocopies of all duly filled forms that have been submitted to the organizers.

4. ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

- 4.1. The orientation will be held on 29th January, 2016 at 5:00 pm at Institute of Law, Nirma University, Ahmedabad-382481, Gujarat
- 4.2. Participants will be briefed about the details of the event, wherein they are welcome to seek clarifications.
- 4.3. Draw of lots for allocation of team codes will be carried out during this session.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 5.1. All the participants must be dressed in a dignified manner befitting the legal profession for the competition.
- 5.2. Friendly and healthy interaction among the participating teams and with the students of the host college is encouraged and expected.

- 5.3 Use of Mobile phones is strictly prohibited during the competition
- 5.4 Participants shall not reveal the identity of his/her college/university at any point of time during the competition.
- 5.5 Scouting or any other unethical/unprofessional conduct is strictly prohibited

6. TRANSPORT

- 6.1. Institute of Law is situated on Nirma University campus, about 15 kms from Ahmedabad city, on the Sarkhej-Gandhinagar Highway. A 125-acre lush green campus in picturesque surroundings provides a refreshing environment, stimulating intellectual alertness and creativity.
- 6.2. The city of Ahmedabad is well connected with rail, road and air transport and one can reach the university very easily as it is on the prime locations of highway connecting Sarkhej and Gandhinagar

7. ACCOMMODATION

- 7.1 The College will provide accommodation for teams for not more than two participants per team.
- 7.2 Food and transport from the place of accommodation to the Institute for the participants during the days of the competition will be arranged by the Institute.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. COMPETITION ROUNDS

- 1.1. This event shall be conducted in two Rounds namely, Preliminary Round, Semi Final Round.
- 1.2. Preliminary Rounds will have two rounds.
- 1.3. Top 6 teams shall go to the semi final round on the basis of the team score of both the preliminary rounds. The Semifinals shall be held simultaneously in different rooms judged by different panel of judges.
- 1.4. In case of a tie for the 6th place, all the tied teams will be eligible to go to semifinals.
- 1.5. Top two teams from the semi final rounds shall go to the finals of national rounds on the basis of team scores
- 1.6. In case of a tie for the 2nd place, all the tied teams will be eligible for finals.
- 1.7. The problems for the competition will be set in the area of **Contract, Tort Law and allied subjects**. The organizers will select the clients to play the role as required by the problems.

2. COMPETITION PROCEDURE

- 2.1. The teams will have a maximum of 35 minutes of which 25 minutes will be for client interviewing and counseling. The remaining 10 minutes shall be for discussing among themselves (team) and summarizing as to how they will go about with dealing the case.
- 2.2. During this period of 35 minutes if necessary, the competing students can consult any books or laptop, which they may bring with them.
- 2.3. During the post interview period of 10 minutes when the client will not be there, the students will have to summarize the interview, analyze the problem and indicate

the course of action to be undertaken. If the team exceeds the time allocated there will be negative marking. During this time the judges may also seek clarifications from the teams regarding their approach and analysis of the issues

- 2.4. In both the interviewing and Counseling stage as well as post interviewing and counseling stage, one member of the team will take the lead role and the other a supplementary role.
- 2.5. There should be good co-ordination between the two team members throughout the 35 minutes period.

3. JUDGING CRITERIA

The competition shall be judged on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Establishing the working atmosphere and professional approach
2. Eliciting the problem of the client and the tools used in so doing.
3. Clients' goals, expectation and needs
4. Analysis and formulation of the problem with precision
5. Suggesting alternatives
6. Allowing the client to informed choice
7. Effective conclusion of the counseling session
8. Team work
9. Management of ethical and professional relation with the client – dealing with emotional and legal needs of the client.
10. Post interview session interaction with the judges/among themselves

Contact Details

Prof. (Dr.) M.R.K. Prasad, Member, Steering Committee,
The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition,
India Chapter
Mobile: 08373926930

Mr. Rohit Moonka
Assistant Professor & Co-ordinator
The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition
(National Round, 2016)
Mobile: 09723894853

Mr. Vishal Srivastava
Student Co-ordinator
The Louis M. Brown and Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition
(National Round, 2016)
Mobile: 07874109190
Email: adr@nirmauni.ac.in

Centre for ADR, Institute of Law, Nirma University,
SG Highway, Ahmedabad-382481, Gujarat, INDIA
Phone: (079) 30642824/30642804
Email: clientconsultation2016@gmail.com