



UIC MOCK TRIAL

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2006-2007 UIC MOCK TRIAL TEAM GOES TO NATIONAL COMPETITION



UIC MOCK TRIAL TEAM 2006-2007 first row from L to R: Caty Bautista, Shannon Heath, Shahzeen Karim, Ryan Nolte, Meghan Stokes, & Andie Crivolio. Second row: Jnell Blanco, Towfiq Farraj, Christina Jaremus, Jorge Martinez, Jonas Bourland, Margie Kenny, Rahil Gaulani, Ramsey Meysef, & Karim Basaria. Not shown: Tahanee Hasan.

In their quest to make it to the National Competition The **UIC MOCK TRIAL** Team was successful in the February Central Basin Regional Tournament hosted by Lewis University at the Will County Courthouse in Joliet.

Team 348 (A Team) finished in 2nd place with a record of 7 wins and 1 loss. The A team was lead by Team Co-Captains Ryan Nolte & Shahzeen Karim. Their victories came over the University of Chicago, Loyola University, Illinois State University and Luther College. The team's one loss was by only 2 points to the University of Chicago. Karim Rajabali-Basaria won a Best Attorney Award & Ryan Nolte won a Best Witness Award for his portrayal of a crime scene investigator.

Team A will now advance to the American Mock Trial Association's National Championship Tournament in Tampa, Florida in mid-April. This marks the 11th consecutive year that the UIC Mock Trial team has advanced to a National Tournament.

Team 349 (B Team) finished with a very respectable record of 4 wins and 4 losses. J'Nell Blanco won a Best Attorney Award. Although the B team will not be advancing to a post-season tournament, this team of 8 new-comers persevered and defeated teams from North Central College and St Francis University. The team's losses came against Loyola and Kenyon College, both of which advanced to the National Tournament. Most importantly, many students on the B team are underclassmen who plan to return to the Program next year with the benefit of added experience.

"The heart & soul of the UIC Mock Trial program is the students' dedication to learning, commitment to winning and their love of competition. Although I am proud of our success, I have even greater pride in knowing that these young men and women will benefit more from their experience in this program than can simply be quantified by accolades or a trophy."

Nicholas A. Gowen, Esq. Coordinator UIC Mock Trial Program

MOCK TRIAL HISTORY

The **UIC Mock Trial Team** has been active on campus since 1990, bringing home win, after win, after win. The team has been under the careful evaluation of Cook County Judge **Abishi Cunningham**, and Chicago Attorney **Patrick G. Reardon**. The program has expanded to two teams and recently three UIC alums, who are now attorneys have joined in to lecture and advise this course. Attorney, **Nicholas Gowen**, serves as the on-hands coach and task master. **Carrie Fino**, and **Robyn Haynes**, are also advisors. Nick, Carrie and Robyn are all UIC Mock Trial alums.

In the past few years, the UIC Mock Trial team has won numerous competitions and bested such schools as Northwestern, Iowa, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, and Notre Dame. UIC Chancellor Sylvia Manning recognized the accomplishments of the team at last year's commencement ceremonies.

The Michael B. Arrington Mock Trial Fund has been established to accept donations for the team registrations and travel to the various competitions. Our award winning team needs your support.

MOCK TRIAL HISTORICAL WINS

1996-1997	Great Lakes Regional Champion National Tournament 10th Place
1997-1998	Great Lakes Regional Champion National Tournament 7th Place
1998-1999	Regional Tournament 5th Place National Silver Tournament 10th Place
1999-2000	Regional Tournament 3rd Place National Silver Tournament 3rd Place
2000-2001	Regional Tournament 3rd Place National Tournament 5th Place
2001-2002	Northwestern Invitational 3rd Place Regional Tournament 7th Place National Tournament 4th Place
2002-2003	Northwestern Invitational 3rd Place Regional Tournament Champion National Championship 13th Place
2003-2004	Northwestern Invitational 1st Place Regional Tournament 3rd Place National Tournament 2nd Place National Championship 11th Place
2004-2005	Lewis Invitational: 2 nd Place Regional Tournament: 7th Place National Tournament: 8th Place
2005-2006	Lewis Invitational: 2ndPlace Regional Tournament 9th Place National Tournament 4th Place
2006-2007	Lewis Invitational: 2ndPlace National Championship TBD

SUPPORT UIC MOCK TRIAL

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Are you a UIC grad? _____ **Class of** _____

I am proud to support the UIC award winning Mock Trial Team with my gift of:

“ \$100 “ \$250 “ Other amount \$ _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift payable to: UIC MOCK TRIAL FUN #628440

MOCK TRIAL FAQ's

Q:What is Mock Trial?

A: Mock Trial is a competitive activity designed to teach students courtroom and trial techniques used in litigation. Each year, the American Mock Trial Association creates a fictitious case for undergraduate institutions to prepare for competition. It is from this case that students assume roles of attorneys and/or witnesses and compete in a "mock" trial moderated by judges. Through this hands-on experience, students gain a vivid picture of typical trial protocol, stages, and techniques. Students are critiqued based on their understanding and practice of standard forms of litigation, such as opening statements, direct and cross examination of witnesses, objections, and closing arguments.

Q:Why participate in Mock Trial?

A: Participation in mock trial provides students with a unique way to improve their understanding of the court system, trial techniques, and argumentation. More importantly, mock trial improves students' ability to think critically, argue effectively, present ideas clearly, and adapt quickly. The experience that mock trial offers students is as equally valuable as the skills and knowledge they gain. By working with a team of highly-motivated and hard-working individuals, students build unique relationships and friendships that could not be formed in a less intense environment.

Although students from a wide-range of disciplines actively participate in mock trial, the experience is especially beneficial to those students interested in attending law school. Most law school admission counselors recognize a student's participation in mock trial as a substantial commitment to legal education. Furthermore, students with a mock trial background gain an advantage in law school because the skills emphasized in mock trial are the same skills that second-year law students study in a Trial Advocacy class. Finally, and most importantly, competitions are A LOT OF FUN!!!

Q: What are the requirements to join the UIC Mock Trial Team?

A: There are no "concrete" requirements to apply. The UIC Mock Trial Team strongly encourages students from all disciplines and diverse backgrounds to try out. Early each fall semester, interested students may attend informational sessions where they can pick up an application and sign up for an interview. However, sought-out applicants generally have a willingness to work hard, a passion to learn, and a desire to succeed.
