
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON 18.08.11

PRESS RELEASE

INAUGURAL ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CUP 2011

1. The Attorney-General's (AG) Cup is a mooting competition organized by the National University of Singapore (NUS) Criminal Justice Club (CJC), a sub-club under the NUS Law Club, with the support of the Attorney-General's Chambers and the SMU Moot Club. The competition was conceived by Professor Walter Woon from NUS Faculty of Law, shortly after he stepped down as Attorney-General in 2010 and he then raised it with Attorney-General Sundaresh Menon, SC. AG Menon warmly endorsed the idea as a means to increase the level of interest in and awareness of criminal law issues among students, and also as a means to raise the standard of legal arguments and submissions made on criminal law issues.

2. AG Menon said, "The Attorney-General's Cup was borne-out out of the desire to inculcate in budding lawyers, a better understanding of the practice of criminal law and to expose them to the vital skill of oral advocacy in the setting of a contemporary issue in criminal law. Professor Walter Woon and I share the hope that this mooting competition will inspire young aspiring advocates to be passionate about criminal law advocacy. As I highlighted in my Address at the Opening of the Legal Year, there remains today, a relatively small number of lawyers who actively and predominantly practise criminal law. We must address this in any way we can because a vibrant Criminal Bar is vital for the maintenance of public confidence in the criminal justice system and the successful administration of criminal justice."

3. The competition is a criminal law moot that pits teams of 8 top mooters from both the NUS Faculty of Law and the SMU School of Law against each other in a 4-round 'knockout' format. At the first round, 8 pairs of mooters face each other in the Round of 16 and simulate a trial before the District Court. This took place on 22 July 2011. One mooter from each pair then proceeded on to the Quarter-Finals, which simulated an appeal to the High Court on the same issue. The Quarter-Finals were held on 29 July 2011 and one mooter from each pair

proceeded to the Semi-Finals. Both rounds were judged by Deputy Public Prosecutors from the Attorney General's Chambers. The Semi Finals featured a fresh issue based on a 'Wikileaks' scenario, and was judged by the Honourable Chief District Judge Tan Siong Thye on 12 August 2011. From the Semi-Finals, Ms Geraldine Yeong from SMU and Mr Chin Jincheng from NUS were selected to face each other in the Finals.

4. The Finals will be a simulated Reference on a Question of Law of Public Interest from the Semi-Final Court to the Court of Appeal under s.397 of the Criminal Procedure Code 2010. The bench of judges, which consists of the Attorney-General Sundaresh Menon S.C. and Judges of Appeal V K Rajah and Andrew Phang, will hear arguments from the two finalists.

5. The AG's Cup, being a NUS v SMU competition, also incorporates a point system to determine which school will be the ultimate winner of the AG's Cup: a win in the first 2 rounds is worth 1 point each, a win in the final 2 rounds is worth 2 points each, and the winner of the Best Written Submission gains 1 point for their school. The school which gains a majority of the points wins the AG's Cup for their school.

6. Details of the Finals are as follows:

Date: Friday, 19 August 2011
Time: 6.15 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Venue: NUS (Bukit Timah Campus) Moot Court
Block B, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
469G Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259776
Fax: 6874 0902

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