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Many of this year’s competition successes were unprecedented

The Jessup competition was far from the only highlight among spring-semester competitions. “Many of our teams enjoyed unprecedented success this year,” said Dean Mutua.

In the American Bar Association’s Representation in Mediation Competition, held in Bristol, R.I., in March, the team of third-year students Christopher J. Larrabee and Alison E. Romanowski came in third – missing a first-place finish by just one scoring point – and the team of Amanda H. Sullivan and Jordan L. Zeranti placed fifth. These students made up the two winning teams from UB’s own Representation in Mediation Competition, held at the school in November. The teams were coached by mediation attorney Steven R. Sugarman ’85.

By virtue of taking second place in the Northeast Regional Round, a SUNY Buffalo Law team advanced to the national round of the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition in Milwaukee in March. The team of third-year student Alexandra E. Lugo and second-year student Mark C. Murphy fell in the quarterfinals to the eventual winner. They came home with an award for Best Petitioner Brief in the national competition.

The Douglass competition is a national appellate advocacy competition organized by the National Black Law Students Association, the largest law students organization in the United States. This the second consecutive year that a SUNY Buffalo team made it to the nationals.

In the 16th annual Herbert Wechsler National Moot Court Competition, organized and hosted by SUNY Buffalo Law School’s Criminal Law Society in March, one of the two hometown teams – second-year students Jeffrey M. Hartman and Jessica N. Carbone – advanced to the quarterfinal round out of 24 teams. The coach for both SUNY Buffalo teams was Audrey Herman ’11.

In February’s Albert R. Muger National Moot Court Tax Competition, the SUNY Buffalo team of third-year student Alexandre J. Ramirez and second-year student Matthew C. Ronan came out on top, prevailing over 13 other law school teams from across the United States. Another SUNY Buffalo team, third-year students Earl K. Cantwell and Samuel A. Alba, reached the competition’s semifinal round. Elizabeth Blazy-Pennel ’10 and Justin G. Meeks ’06 served as the SUNY Buffalo teams’ moot court coaches.

Founded in 1974, the annual Muger competition is the oldest and most prestigious national moot court tax competition in the United States.