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# Re: Invitation to join the ADC-ICC Asia Pacific Commercial Mediation Competition

Dear Professor Nam

On behalf of the Australian Disputes Centre and the International Chamber of Commerce, we extend a warm invitation to your University to compete in the  $4^{th}$  Annual ADC-ICC Asia Pacific Commercial Mediation Competition (APCMC) being held from 30 Aug – 1 September 2020, in an exciting new, online format.

## **Designed for Tomorrow's Business Leaders and Legal Minds**

The APCMC offers a challenging and inspiring opportunity that is open to all Law, Business and Social Science students. Through this Asia-Pacific competition, the ADC and ICC seek to empower tomorrow's business leaders and legal minds, equipping them with skills to better meet the dispute resolution needs of international commerce, in an expanding and increasingly complex marketplace.

The competition facilitates students' learning and their application of negotiation skills in a commercial mediation setting. Student negotiators seek to resolve moot problems involving international commercial law. They are mediated in the competition by professional mediators, and are adjudicated by a senior panel of ADR practitioners. The APCMC draws significant endorsement and support from world-leading ADR practitioners, jurists and academics.

#### A Reserved Place for Paris 2021

The Asia-Pacific competition is closely associated with the ICC Mediation Competition in Paris. By competing in the APCMC, Universities have the chance of winning a reserved place to compete in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual ICC Mediation Competition in France, in early 2021. This is the world's largest moot exclusively devoted to international commercial mediation with some 66 teams competing. We were thrilled to see the winner of the APCMC in 2019, Auckland University, go on to be the overall winner in Paris, in February 2020. With your support for this year's regional preliminary competition, we are keen to replicate this outstanding achievement in 2021!

## The aims of the Competition are to:

 Create a unique opportunity for students to showcase their negotiation skills in a commercial mediation environment.



- Develop student's skills in collaborative commercial problem solving, analytical judgment and persuasion.
- Connect aspiring students to strong professional networks.

Now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year the APCMC attracts student teams from leading Universities across Australia, Asia, the South Pacific, India and the Americas. Fairness, transparency, friendliness and fun are the hallmarks of this competition. With the students' learning and professional development always cornerstones of the competition, we also seek to create an engaging environment for connecting with peers and building professional business, legal and ADR networks. In 2020 we are creating an online environment where we anticipate even more learning and networking happening, both before and during the competition.

### 'APCMC-Online'

As a global community we remain constrained by COVID-19 restrictions. Anticipating no early return to interstate or international travel, we seek to give Universities certainty that this opportunity will go ahead for their students in 2020. The APCMC will therefore be held virtually, on a specialist Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform, powered by Modron Spaces. This is a great chance for students to explore the world of ODR, and to join the competition from the comfort of their University spaces, or their own homes.

We hope that with 'APCMC-Online', 2020 creates a new opportunity for Universities and students who may otherwise have been constrained from participating by time commitments or travel costs.

The online format also opens up a world of connectivity options for students, and for law firms and corporations seeking to connect with the region's high ranking students. Coaching webinars, roulette networking events, video interviews, wellness webinars, social photo booth, digital swag bags are just some of the compelling reasons for students and coaches to engage in this year's APCMC events.

We have streamlined the registration fee in 2020, with one standard registration fee covering a full team of 4 students and their coaches. For further details, and to register online, please see the website at <a href="https://www.disputescentre.com.au/apcmc/">https://www.disputescentre.com.au/apcmc/</a>.

Thank you for your interest and support. We look forward to welcoming your students into the competition, and hopefully meeting you at the networking events and the Grand Final.

With Kind Regards,

Deborah Cathon

Deborah Lockhart

**Chief Executive Officer**