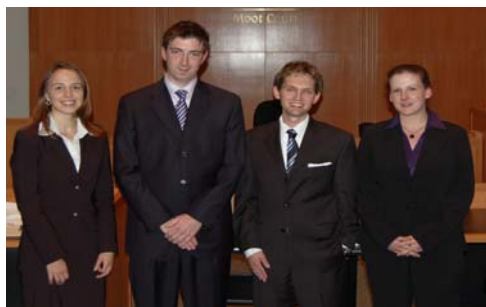


## Nelligan O'Brien Payne Inaugural Moot Court Competition 2007



On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007, 114 first year law students from the University of Ottawa participated in the preliminary round of the Inaugural Nelligan O'Brien Payne Moot Court Competition. The decision under appeal was *McIntyre v. Grigg*, a Hamilton Ontario case in which a first year university student was severely injured after being struck by an impaired driver. In May 2006, the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld a jury award of punitive damages against the impaired driver, Andrew Grigg. That decision was appealed to the Supreme Court of Fauteux, a mock court created for the event. Judges included lawyers from Nelligan O'Brien Payne, other local law firms as well as community members. The focus of the appeal was on whether punitive damages were available in negligence cases involving impaired driving.

The preliminary round was a success. The judges were impressed by the arguments presented by the students and in particular by their ability to answer tough questions posed by the bench. Several teams were in contention to argue in the final round. In the end, Michelle Lufty and Liam Cardill were chosen as finalists for appellant counsel and Andrew Lanoutte and Heather Robson were chosen as finalists for respondent counsel.



*Michelle Lufty, Liam Cardill, Andrew Lanoutte, Heather Robson*

### **Moot Court Finalists**

The final round of the Inaugural Nelligan O'Brien Payne Moot was held on Monday, November 5, 2007. The finalists were faced with an experienced and lively bench composed of Justice Louise Charon, Supreme Court of Canada; Justice Denis Power, Ontario Superior Court of Justice and founding partner of Nelligan Power (now Nelligan O'Brien Payne); and Justice Albert Roy, Ontario Superior Court of Justice. Following the completion of the final round, the bench expressed their congratulations on a job well done as well as their amazement at the high caliber of advocacy coming from first year law students who were just months into their legal studies.



*Allan O'Brien, Andrew Lanoutte, John Nelligan*

### **Best Oralist**

In the end, it was respondent counsel, Andrew Lanoutte and Heather Robson, who were declared the winners of the John P. Nelligan Cup. Andrew Lanoutte was also named as best oralist. Brendan Clancy and Neil Schwartz were awarded the County of Carleton Law Association prize for best factum. Because of the quality of the factums and of oral presentations throughout the competition there were also several honourable mentions.



*Janice Payne handing out the many honourable mentions*

### **Honourable Mentions** (to proceed to the final round)

Darrell Mast and Peter Quansah  
Jennifer Mannen and Anna Lillicrap  
Elizabeth Monpetit and Lindsay Scott  
Mellisa Hisko and Ashley Barber  
Kevin Ludgate and Adam Guy

### **Honourable Mentions** (best factum)

Joy Kohli and Shannon McSheffrey  
Diane Hachem and Yan Zawisza  
Elizabeth Montpetit and Lindsay Scott

*\* Special thanks to the University of Ottawa and in particular, Stephen Blair, for the assistance in preparing for the Moot as well as to all the judges who donated their time to make the event a success. Nelligan O'Brien Payne will be sponsoring the event again in 2008.*