Dispute Resolution Program

The Dispute Resolution Program gives Loyola law students and professionals tools to resolve conflict using negotiation, mediation, arbitration and related processes. (These processes are collectively known as alternative or appropriate dispute resolution or ADR.) As the costs of trials and pre-trial discovery continue to escalate, and as clients become more sophisticated users of legal services, more cases are being resolved through ADR and fewer are going to trial.

LOYOLA’S DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

- **$507,000** recovered for EEOC claimants since spring of 2012
- **50** clients represented
- **51** mediations mediated by students in 2014-2015
- **6** countries visited by Loyola international dispute resolution teams over the past three years
- **64** law school teams represented at the 2014 INADR competition and the 2015 Vis Pre-Moot at Loyola

“Loyola gave me valuable dispute resolution skills that I use in negotiating contract terms and meeting the needs of my internal corporate clients on a daily basis.”

– Melissa Bocker (JD ’11)  
National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
LOYOLA HOSTS INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMPETITIONS

Loyola and the International Academy of Dispute Resolution (INADR) co-sponsor the International Law School Mediation Tournament every other year at Loyola. The competition was at Loyola in 2014, in London in 2015 and will return to Loyola in March 2016. More than 300 students, mediators, professors, and attorneys from almost 20 countries gather for a four-day training and mediation and mediation advocacy competition where students play the role of advocate as well as mediator.

Loyola also hosts a Pre-Moot every spring before the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Competition.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO USE THEIR SKILLS

Courses
Loyola’s commitment to graduating advocates who are skilled in dispute resolution is demonstrated by the caliber and number of classes devoted specifically to ADR, ranging from Mediation Advocacy to International Commercial Arbitration, and by the requirement that students who wish to obtain the Advocacy Certificate must also study dispute resolution.

Competition Teams
Loyola participates in the ABA negotiation and client counseling competitions in addition to the INADR and Vis competitions. For these competitions, students compete within the school for positions on teams. Students who represent Loyola receive supervision and training by members of the faculty as well as the practicing bar, and they are eligible to receive academic credit for their participation.

REAL CLIENT EXPERIENCES

Advanced students have the opportunity to work with real clients both as advocates in mediations at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (“EEOC”) in the Advanced Mediation Advocacy Practicum, and as mediators through the Center for Conflict Resolution in the Mediation Certificate and Courthouse Practicum. These programs make the Jesuit ideal of being men and women for others come alive for students.

EXCELLENCE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Faculty
The Loyola Dispute Resolution community is vibrant and growing. A faculty of more than thirty full-time and adjunct professors, made up of well-known scholars, mediators, arbitrators and attorneys, contribute by teaching, tutoring and coaching. Alumni also come back on a regular basis to help students practice their skills by serving as judges in mock mediations, arbitrations and negotiations, and as guest speakers. Loyola faculty also present and write on ADR topics regularly. Professor Margaret Moses is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of international commercial arbitration, serves as an international arbitrator and is the author of a well known treatise on international commercial arbitration. Program director, Teresa Frisbie, recently named to the Top Ten Illinois Women ADR Neutrals by Leading Lawyers, is a mediator, arbitrator, experienced Chicago litigator, and columnist at the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin.

LLM Programs
Loyola offers an International LLM in which students can choose an ADR focus. This focus area has been very popular in the past several years. LLM students frequently study international commercial arbitration and mediation advocacy and are able to participate in the EEOC Mediation Advocacy Project. Loyola also offers an LLM in Trial Advocacy, Appellate Advocacy, and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

STUDENT ADR SOCIETY

Loyola has an active student ADR Society. In 2015 the Student ADR Society sponsored a program on restorative justice with Judge Sophia Hall and Fred Van Liew. Information about the ADR Society can be found on the website under student activities.

For More Information
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Loyola students took first place at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition in Hong Kong in 2014.