

MAKERERE WINS 5th ANNUAL NATIONAL INTER-UNIVERSITY CONSTITUTIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS



Fig 1: Mr. Kalema Paul and Ms. Kagina Daniella Mushikazi from Makerere University who emerged winners of the 5th Annual National Inter-University Constitutional Law Moot Court Competitions at Islamic University in Uganda- Kampala Campus on 19th October 2018



Fig 2: (L-R) Ms. Karagwa Rebecca, Mr. Mumbere Abraham and Ms. Khanani Daniella from Uganda Christian University- Mukono who emerged as the Runners Up of the 5th Annual National Inter-University Constitutional Law Moot Court Competitions

On Friday 19th October 2018, The Center for Health, Human Rights and Development [CEHURD] through its strategic Litigation Department organized the 5th Annual National Inter-University Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition at Kampala International University under the theme *“Business, Health and Human Rights.”*

Moots are organized by CEHURD in order to train lawyers in practical areas of litigating health and human rights within Courts of Law, legal writing, and arguing cases in court while maintaining a poise and demeanor that is consistent with Uganda’s legal profession.

The formation of CEHURD was premised on the desire to contribute towards ensuring that laws and policies are used to promote and protect health and human rights of people in Uganda and East Africa at large through research, advocacy, community empowerment and strategic litigation. The moot court Competition is only one of the many ways CEHURD has tried to achieve these goals.

This year’s moot sought to address the question of business and human rights, the state’s obligation to protect, respect and supervise private entities that conduct businesses whose impacts affect health and Government’s need to address issues related to sexual and gender based violence within the context of Uganda.

The Moot also sought to test the participants’ knowledge of the law in as far as the right to health and a clean and healthy environment is concerned while taking into consideration the need to carryout business and infrastructural development that respect health and human rights.

The preliminary rounds of this year’s competition started off at 10am and attracted participation from the country’s top Universities namely; **Cavendish University, Islamic University in Uganda-Kampala Campus, Islamic University in Uganda- Mbale Campus, Uganda Pentecostal University, Bishop Stuart University-Mbarara, Makerere University, Uganda Christian University- Mukono Campus, Uganda Christian University-Kampala Campus, Kampala International University** in a battle of well researched legal submissions by the participants.



Fig 2: Ms. Khanani Daniella from Uganda Christian University Mukono Campus making her oral submissions in the preliminary rounds of the moot competition.

Shortly after the preliminary rounds, **Makerere University took the lead with 83.57% joined by Uganda Christian University Mukono, 82.57%, Uganda Christian University-Kampala Campus– 77.75% and Islamic University in Uganda-Mbale Campus – 75.5%** as can be seen below.

No	Team	Average Score
1.	Makerere University	83.34%
2.	Uganda Christian University- Mukono	82.57%
3.	Uganda Christian University- Kampala Campus	77.75%
4.	Islamic University in Uganda- Mbale Campus	75.5%
5.	Islamic University in Uganda- Kampala Campus	74%
6.	Islamic University in Uganda- Kampala Campus- Substitute team	71.67%
7.	Bishop Stuart University	64.65%
8.	Kampala International University	65.33%
9.	Cavendish University	65.34%
10.	Uganda Pentecostal University	55.59%

The best four teams in the preliminary rounds proceeded to the **semi-finals** with Makerere University versing Uganda Christian University-Kampala Campus and Islamic University in Uganda-Mbale Campus versing Uganda Christian University-Mukono Campus with **Uganda Christian University- Mukono Campus taking the lead with 85.2%, Makerere University with 85.2%** which qualified for the final round.

No.	TEAM	AVERAGE SCORE
1	Uganda Christian University- Mukono Campus	85.2%
2	Makerere University	85.2%
3	Uganda Christian University- Kampala Campus	82.6%
4	Islamic University in Uganda- Mbale Campus	68.2 %

The final round of the Moot that was judged by prominent lawyers and distinguished Judges in the field like the **Hon. Mr. Justice Musa Ssekaana**- Judge of the High Court, **Dr. Zahara Nampewo**- the Executive Director of the Human Rights and Centre (HURIPEC), **Counsel Mbabazi Nicholas**- Partner at Kaggwa and Kaggwa Advocates, **Mr. David Kabanda**- Programs coordinator – CEHURD and **Ms. Primah Kwagala**(Programme Manager- Strategic Litigation).

At the end of the Moot, the Judges computed their results and gave their observations on each of the teams oral presentations and these included;

Hon. Mr. Justice Musa Ssekaana, advised law students of this generation to make use of such opportunities, "I've seen many lawyers who cannot even speak even for their clients. The life as a lawyer involves presenting the client's cause at different forums/people. Even for a non-litigating lawyer, mooting skills are essential as they enable one to feel the system by being a participant."

"I would like to first of all thank CEHURD for organizing this moot. These are things we never had in our days! Moots help you develop confidence and oratory skills," **Dr. Zahara Nampewo- the Executive Director of the Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC)**

"Your client's case lies with the facts, without facts, you have no case and I believe that from this moot, whoever has participated understands the value of health and human rights litigation within Uganda and the East African region." **Mr. Nicholas Mbabazi- Partner at Kaggwa and Kaggwa Advocates.**

"Some rights and laws have not been articulated the way we expected, UCU Mukono looked good in the preliminary rounds and at the semi-finals. They kept their pace even in the final and I congratulate them on dressing professionally for the final round" **Ms. Primah Kwagala- Program Manager- Strategic Litigation at CEHURD**

Mr. David Kabanda (Programs coordinator – CEHURD) explaining the importance of the moot court competitions, " The main objective of the moot is to train students in practical aspects of litigating health and human rights within Uganda's Courts of Law. The moot specifically aspires to train students in legal writing, arguing cases in court, professional conduct and demeanor while arguing cases and preparation of court pleadings. I believe that whoever has participated in this Moot is a future public interest lawyer".

After the Judges of the Final Panel gave their comments, Justice Musa Ssekaana announced the scores for the final Panel and these were;

TEAM	PARTICIPANT	INDIVIDUAL SCORE	AVERAGE SCORE
Makerere University	Kagina Daniella	77.2%	74%
	Kalema Paul	70%	
Uganda Christian University- Mukono	Khanani Daniella	67.4%	66%
	Karagwa Rebecca	64.4%	

Makerere University emerged the winners of the 5th Annual National Inter-University Constitutional Law Moot Court Competitions and Uganda Christian University-Mukono Campus as Runners Up with Ms. **Daniella Kagina** and Ms. **Daniella Khanani** winning **Best Orator & 2nd Best orator** respectively which entitled them to internship slots at CEHURD.



Fig-3: His Lordship Justice Musa Ssekaana handing over the Certificate of Recognition to the Best Orator in the CEHURD Moot- Ms. Kagina Daniella Mushikazi.

Makerere University won the trophy together with Gold medals whereas Uganda Christian University-Mukono Campus took the Shield together with Silver Medals. The Host University received a big plaque for hosting the Moot.



Fig 4: His Lordship Justice Musa Ssekaana handing over the Plaque for the Hosting the 5th Annual National Inter-University Constitutional Law Moot Court Competitions to Dr. Saidat Nakitto- the Dean Faculty of Law at Islamic University in Uganda-Kampala Campus