The University of Baltimore Law School Dean’s Office and Moot Court Board is proud to announce the 2008-2009 Byron L. Warnken Annual Consolidated Moot Court Competition.

In December 2007, the UB Moot Court Board unanimously recommended to Dean Philip J. Closius to rename the Law School’s annual moot court competition “The Byron L. Warnken Annual Consolidated Moot Court Competition” in honor of Professor Byron Warnken’s long service to and support of UB’s moot court program as well as his 31 years on the law school faculty. Dean Closius enthusiastically approved the recommendation.

The University of Baltimore Law School first joined the world of interschool moot court competition in 1972 by competing in the prestigious National Moot Court Competition. By 1978, the University of Baltimore had established three moot court teams, one of which was the National Appellate Advocacy Team, coached by Professor Warnken. Professor Warnken’s 1982 team placed 5th nationally among 137 schools, and his 1983 team placed 16th nationally. In 1991, Professor Warnken became the coach of UB’s National Moot Court Team and he established the “University of Baltimore School of Law Consolidated Moot Court Competition.” The Consolidated Competition enabled students to compete for all of UB’s moot court teams through one consolidated competition. For the next eleven years, Professor Warnken continued to coach the National Moot Court Team and served as UB’s Director of the Consolidated Moot Court Competition. In 2002, his National Moot Court Team placed 9th nationally among 154 schools. While Director of the Consolidated Moot Court Competition, he expanded the program from five to 14 interschool moot court competition teams.

In 2002, the National Moot Court Competition named the University of Baltimore as permanent host of Region 3 (16 law schools in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, and southern New Jersey) and named Professor Warnken as Director of Region 3. At that time, to avoid an appearance of conflict, he resigned as coach of UB’s National Moot Court team and as Director of the Consolidated Moot Court Competition. However, he continued to be a zealous supporter of the moot court program and served as a guest judge for many of UB’s interschool moot court competitions.

Professor Warnken has played a role in nearly 200 appeals, more than 150 briefs, and more than 50 oral arguments. Each summer, he trains at least ten law students in the art of appellate advocacy. Professor Warnken has had three cases in the Supreme Court of the United States. In 1996, the Supreme Court appointed him to brief and argue against U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr.

For these and his many other achievements, the University of Baltimore Law School Dean’s Office and the Moot Court Board is proud to honor the illustrious career of Byron Warnken by inviting students to compete in the competition that shall hereafter be officially known as The Byron L. Warnken Annual Consolidated Moot Court Competition.

On February 1, 2008, the competition packet will become available for download on the UB Moot Court Board webpage (law.ubalt.edu/mootcourtboard). For all competition related questions please email the Moot Court Board at ubmootcourtboard@ubalt.edu.