FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Champions in 7th Annual Transactional LawMeet® Competition are Named

New York, New York, April 1, 2016.

Today 14 teams competed in the National Championship of the 7th Annual Transactional LawMeet®. In this year’s competition, teams negotiated a merger of two emerging technology companies. The drafting stage took place over two months, with students drafting term sheets, interviewing their clients, and marking up opposing teams’ drafts. The regional portion of the competition culminated with live negotiations on Friday, February 26, 2016. The seven Regional LawMeets were hosted at the following schools:

Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law
Northwestern University School of Law
Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law
University of Denver Sturm College of Law
University of Georgia School of Law
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law
Western New England University School of Law

Two teams were selected from each regional round to compete in the National Rounds, hosted by the New York office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP on April 1. For a list of the 84 teams that participated in the regional competition, please visit www.TransactionalMeet.LawMeets.com. The 2016 National Transactional LawMeet was sponsored by ApprenNet, Inc., Bloomberg Law, and Practical Law. Several other firms provided generous support in each region.

Matthew J. Weber, Jeffrey Brandt, and Christine M. Ristow from UCLA School of Law and Stephanie Drumm, Josh Kohler, and Parker Steel from University of Colorado Law School were named the National Champions of the competition.

Tyson Welch and Derek Ball from University of Denver Sturm College of Law and Jane Pryjmak and Beth St. Clair from University of Washington School of Law were named National Semi-Finalists.

In addition, Christopher Grady, Brandon Knop, and Katie Stevens from Northwestern University School of Law and Stephanie Drumm, Josh Kohler, and Parker Steel from University of Colorado Law School were awarded the “Best Draft” awards to recognize their achievement in drafting the proposed agreements and marking up their opposing teams’ drafts.

Michael Best, Chief Operating Officer of Bloomberg L.P. and co-host of Bloomberg Law on Bloomberg Radio, who served as a judge at the LawMeet, said: “Law firms are looking for students who have had the kind of practical experience that programs like LawMeets provide. Medical Schools and Business Schools have long-recognized how essential it is to incorporate real-world simulations and cases into their training; it’s great to finally see Law School graduates entering practice with skills they would otherwise not learn until they worked on real deals.”

www.LawMeets.com
Partners from some of the leading law firms in the country, corporate general counsels, and other senior practitioners served as judges for the LawMeets held around the country. For a full list, please visit [www.TransactionalMeet.LawMeets.com](http://www.TransactionalMeet.LawMeets.com).

The fourteen teams that competed were from the following law schools: University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Emory University School of Law, University of Richmond School of Law, Mitchell Hamline School of Law, UCLA School of Law, University of Colorado Law School, Northwestern University School of Law, University of Texas School of Law, West Virginia University College of Law, University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University, University of Tennessee College of Law, University of Virginia School of Law, and University of Washington School of Law.

“It is an exceptional hands-on learning experience for students who plan to do transactional work in the future,” said Yue Wang, a 2L student at the University of Virginia School of Law. “Especially because drafting term sheets and negotiating a deal probably won’t be most junior associates’ first batch of assignments, the opportunity we are offered right now — to try our hands in simulated settings and to get substantive feedback from seasoned attorneys involved in high-stakes deals — is immensely valuable for our future practice.”

Christine Ristow, a UCLA 2L, said of the competition, “I loved reacting in the moment to find creative solutions. It was challenging, but exciting.”

Michael Bloom, a Michigan Law Clinical Assistant Professor added, "After two rounds of actual competition, students had the opportunity to watch a model negotiation between two partners performing the same negotiation they just did. To spend months preparing for and then actually doing the negotiation twice in this competitive scenario, and then to have experts provide a model and commentary, provides such rich context for learning practice knowledge and skills. From a teaching perspective, it cemented my belief that this is a model for learning."

**About LawMeets**

LawMeets was founded in 2010 by Drexel University law professor Karl Okamoto as a way to deliver practical skills exercises to law students interested in transactional law. He organized the first Transactional LawMeet, with 11 participating teams, in 2010. This year, LawMeets held the 7th Annual Transactional LawMeet, with 84 participating teams. In 2011, LawMeets added the Intellectual Property LawMeet. In addition to hosting competitions for law students, LawMeets also creates hands-on training exercises for law professors to use with their students and for law firms to use with practicing lawyers.

To learn more about LawMeets, please visit [www.LawMeets.com](http://www.LawMeets.com) or email contact@lawmeets.com.

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