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News Release

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CAL POLY POMONA STUDENT WINS OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY AWARD AT NATIONAL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

POMONA, Calif. — A member of the Cal Poly Pomona Mock Trial team brought home the highly coveted “All National Outstanding Attorney Award” at the American Mock Trial Association Desert Classic National Tournament in Tucson, Ariz., March 14-16.

Chino resident James Perry’s performance as lead prosecuting attorney earned him one of only 11 awards for the 150 student-attorneys participating.

Other notable performances included a perfect score garnered by prosecuting attorney Chris Montoya of Diamond Bar. Ella Tarnate of Cerritos and Sara Yohay of Claremont both received perfect scores for their portrayals of a crime victim and an expert trial witness, respectively. Yohay managed double-duty as both a witness and as a criminal defense attorney.

Members of the Cal Poly Pomona Mock Trial team are students selected by political science lecturer Raul C. Sabado. Students must first enroll and complete PLS 308 in the fall quarter. This political science course teaches students the law of evidence, trial advocacy and substantive law.

“I teach the class like it is part of a law school curriculum,” said Sabado. “The department and I think it’s very important to give pre-law students a realistic opportunity to get a taste of the rigors of law school.”

Though the program finds its home in the Political Science Department, the class is open to all majors and has no prerequisites. For more information, visit www.calpolymocktrial.com.

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