

MAY CHENG ('91) Partner, Chair of Toronto **Intellectual Property Group** Fasken Martineau Toronto

Advocacy is really all about the art of persuasion, which is a fundamental lawyering skill. As a lawyer, your job is to persuade clients and others that the reso-

lution or perspective you are advocating is the best one, for all concerned. This is true whether you are a litigator addressing the court or a solicitor negotiating terms to an agreement. As an intellectual property lawyer, I get to do both. The advocacy skills I learned at uOttawa have served as a strong starting point in a challenging and rewarding career.



ALAN D'SILVA ('87) Partner Stikeman Elliot LLP Toronto

One of the the issues I faced as a young lawyer was whether to become a specialist in a particular area of the law or focus on a wide range of areas as a general advocate or general counsel. This issue

remains a dilemma for young lawyers starting out today. My fist mentor, Allan Rock encouraged me to develop my general advocacy skills first. This included taking a leave from private practice to prosecute cases for the Ontario Human Rights Commission as counsel. This allowed me to significantly advance the development of my in court advocacy skills as I was engaged in "hands-on" litigation and given responsibility beyond that of my peers who continued in private practice. Over the years, I have been able to practice in a wide range of litigation areas and have been identified as an expert in a number of areas. I believe that developing strong general advocacy skills forms a strong basis for being able to adapt to different types of cases, different areas of the law and to advocate in different forums. Whether it be in court, in mediations or on an appeal, the skills needed to be a good advocate come from the same basic training and foundation.



LAWRENCE GREENSPON ('78) Partner Greenspon Brown & Associates Ottawa

I have had the privilege of both teaching trial advocacy and working with moot cup students... one of them has become my law partner! Advocates are made, not born, and the foundations for

many fine advocates have been built at the University of Ottawa.



BRENDA HOLLINGSWORTH ('95) Partner Auger Hollingsworth Ottawa

As a both a student and a teacher in uOttawa's advocacy program, I have seen the difference advocacy education makes to a future lawyer's ability to present ideas and build cases effectively. On-your-

feet practice and critique in the classroom is an invaluable way for new and future advocates to hone their litigation skills. Once you have the fundamentals down, you can focus on your client's case without worrying about where to stand or how to tender an exhibit. That's when the real lawyering starts.



ANDREW LANOUETTE ('10) University of Ottawa Gold Medalist 2010

Advocacy is more than just the common assumption of standing before a judge or jury in a courtroom and making an eloquent speech. It's about finding the cases that support your position, creating persuasive facta to drive your

point, working with a team, and being able to knowledgably answer questions about your case. Mooting provides a unique opportunity to acquire these skills through hands-on learning. From the first-year moot to the Jessup and the Vis, the University of Ottawa provided me with this opportunity. Mooting was a chance to learn how to improve my own advocacy skills from excellent coaches and dedicated teammates. I am proud to be an alumnus of what I consider to be the greatest Faculty in Canada where I learned all these facets of advocacy. I hope that I can continue to improve on these essential skills so that one day I can stand amongst those I looked up to during my short mooting career.