

2025-2026

Recap

Undergraduate Mock Trial
Association's Year-End Report



University
of Windsor

A Message From Our New President



Matthew Livingstone

“

This past year has marked a period of unprecedented growth and success for our Association. We have more than tripled the number of competitions we host annually, expanded beyond competitions to introduce community-building events, and have had tremendous success at out-of-town tournaments. Looking ahead to the 2026–2027 year, our goal is to build on this momentum.

We aim to further develop the community aspect of UMTA by introducing more events such as panel discussions and networking opportunities that connect students with legal professionals. At the same time, we are placing a greater emphasis on training our members into becoming high performing moot/mock competitors.

We will also be making a significant push to expand our presence at tournaments hosted by other universities. Internally, we remain committed to continuously improving our in-house competitions, specifically, we intend to increase the quality of judges and enhance transparency in the scoring process. Together, these priorities will position UMTA for another year of meaningful growth and competitive success. ”

Events



June Moot

UMTA's **first-ever moot** was piloted in June and featured **10 teams** of two arguing **R. v. Campbell**. The case examined whether police violated Charter privacy rights by inserting themselves into a private text-message conversation on a seized phone without a warrant.

August Panel Discussion

UMTA hosted its first ever panel discussion this year. The panel featured four criminal law professionals, including two Crown attorneys and two defence lawyers, who shared their perspectives on criminal practice, advocacy, and careers in the field.



November Moot

The November Moot was not only UMTA's biggest moot to date, but the **largest competition the club has ever hosted**, with **60 competitors across 30 teams** arguing **R. v. Zacharias**. The case focused on whether evidence discovered after an unlawful investigative detention and sniffer-dog search should be excluded under the Charter.

Winter Mock

UMTA's flagship Winter Mock Trial was the largest ever hosted, featuring 48 competitors across 8 teams of six. The case, **R. v. Adler**, centered on an accidental death at a frat party and asked competitors to grapple with the criminal law issue of causation.



2025-2026 In-House Winners



June Moot

In their first ever moot **Sughra Ashori** and **Grace Philemon** took home 1st place.

Mock Trial veterans **Kaillyana Gelinas** and **Elizabeth Spiridon** were the runners-up.

November Moot

In a scene worthy of a movie, after his teammate fell ill the night before the competition, **Abhilaksh** competed solo—winning 1st place in the largest moot UMTA has ever hosted and taking home the \$2,000 prize.

Up-and-commers **Masimo Gualtieri** and **Andrew Wigeluk** were the runners-up.



Winter Mock

After winning UMTA's 2024-2025 Mock Trial, team captain **Garvit Vadera** led his team—**Katrina Chan**, **Tore Veltri**, **Tasvi Mehta**, **Sarah Edwards**, and **Julia Rubino**—to a second victory

Team Captains **Xavier Durocher** and **Tethloach Mat** led the runners-up—**Ali Al-Mashhadani**, **Hassan Howidi**, **Julia Oraha** and **Joya Salibi**.

2025-2026 Out-Of-Town Accomplishments

UWaterloo Black & Gold Invitational



Marking UMTA's first-ever Provincial Mock Trial win, **Matthew Livingstone, Joseph Murtagh, Kailyana Gelinas, Emma Northcott, Elizabeth Spiridon and Faadel Asfari** went undefeated in their six matches at one of the most competitive competitions in the country.

Joseph Murtagh was also named the top lawyer of the tournament.

Lloyd Dean Moot

In their first-ever moot, **Joseph Murtagh and Matthew Livingstone** took home 1st and the \$1000 prize.

Matthew Livingstone was also named the top oralist of the competition.

UMTA's very own **Natalija Crvenkovski and Gabriela Meo** were also the runners-up.



Western Invitational

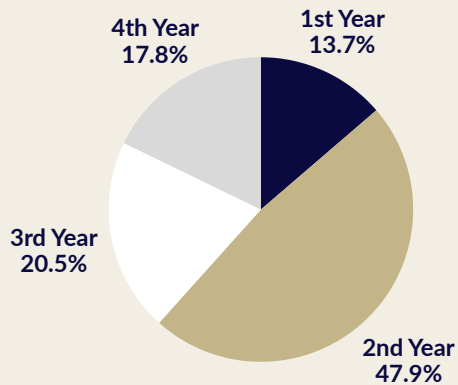
Joseph Murtagh, Matthew Livingstone, Kailyana Gelinas, Emma Northcott, Zaina Hassan, and Elizabeth Spiridon finished second place at Western's annual Mock Trial tournament.

48%
Acceptance
Rate

**149 Students
Applied**

**73 Students
Accepted**

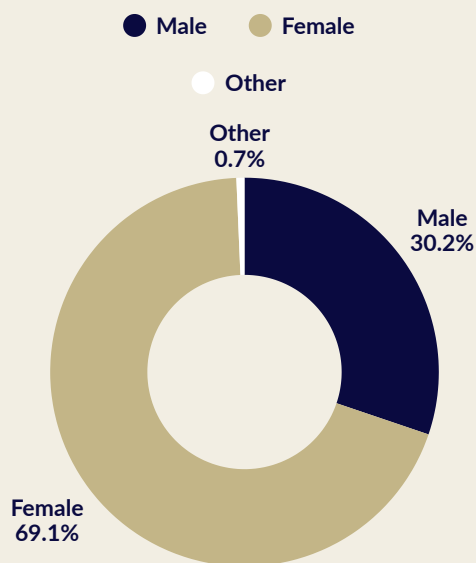
Competitor Age Mix



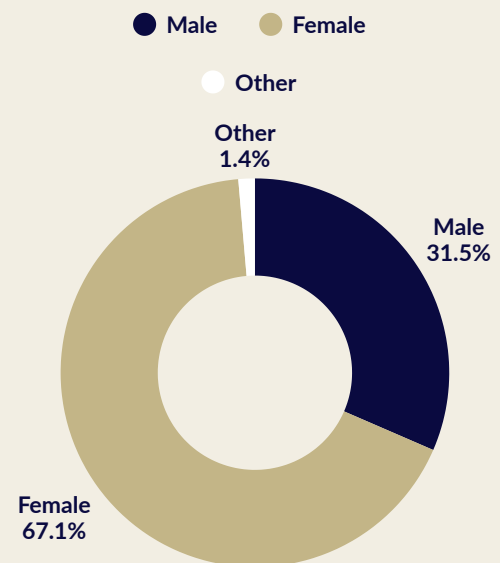
UMTA's competitor base is notably young, which puts the club in a **strong position for continued growth in the years ahead**. While third- and fourth-year students are less represented, this **does not** appear to reflect attrition. Rather, it reflects a change in UMTA's selection model this year, as the club accepted applicants at much higher rates than in the past. This brought in a larger number of first- and second-year students who are still exploring student involvement opportunities. Fewer upper-year students applied overall, likely because they are already more established in their academic and extracurricular paths. Over time, we expect this younger cohort to progress through the club and create a more **balanced age mix**.

While gender representation has never been a focus for the UMTA executive team, this year's data highlighted that women submitted applications at **2.3 times the rate of men**. In light of this, we are committed to reviewing our outreach practices to ensure that UMTA is equally **accessible** and **welcoming** to students of **all genders**.

Gender Representation Among Applicants



Gender Representation Among Competitors



Competitor Program Mix



As expected, the majority of UMTA's membership comes from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. We have made a **deliberate effort to expand our outreach beyond FAHSS**, and those efforts have been particularly successful within the business school. Looking ahead, we hope to continue broadening our reach and see an even more **diverse mix of academic backgrounds** represented at UMTA events.

A Special Thank You to Our Executive Team



Natalija Crvenkovski - President
Matthew Livingstone - Vice President
Madeline McCallum - Vice President
Joseph Murtagh - Vice President of Finance and Operations
May Zarzour - Head of Human Resources
Avery Baker - Head of Social Media
Elizabeth Spiridon - Head of Events
Kailyana Gelinas - Lead Case Writer
Hanna Jasey - Fundraiser
Kaitlynn Kasana - Human Resource Coordinator
Raina Saffron - Secretary

Yasmeen Zabian - Event Coordinator
Nihaal Dhaliwal - Event Coordinator
Sahil Bains - Event Coordinator
Garvit Vadera - Event Coordinator + Team Leader
Abhilaksh - Event Coordinator + Team Leader
Ethan Sasson - Team Leader
Gabriela Duarte Meo - Team Leader
Breanna Lee - Team Leader
Xavier Durocher - Team Leader
Tethloach Mat - Team Leader
Faadel Asfari - Advisor