

UW HOSTS CLIENT COUNSELING

On Saturday, March 8, 1980, the University of Wisconsin Law School hosted Regional competition in the ABA Client Counseling program. Twelve schools from Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin sent teams of student-lawyers to compete for the right to advance to the finals in Macon, Georgia. The current Client Counseling Competition originated as the Mock Law Office Competition at the University of Southern California in 1969. It has been held each year since then, with the American Bar Association's Law Student Division administering the competition since 1973. In 1979, 120 schools participated.

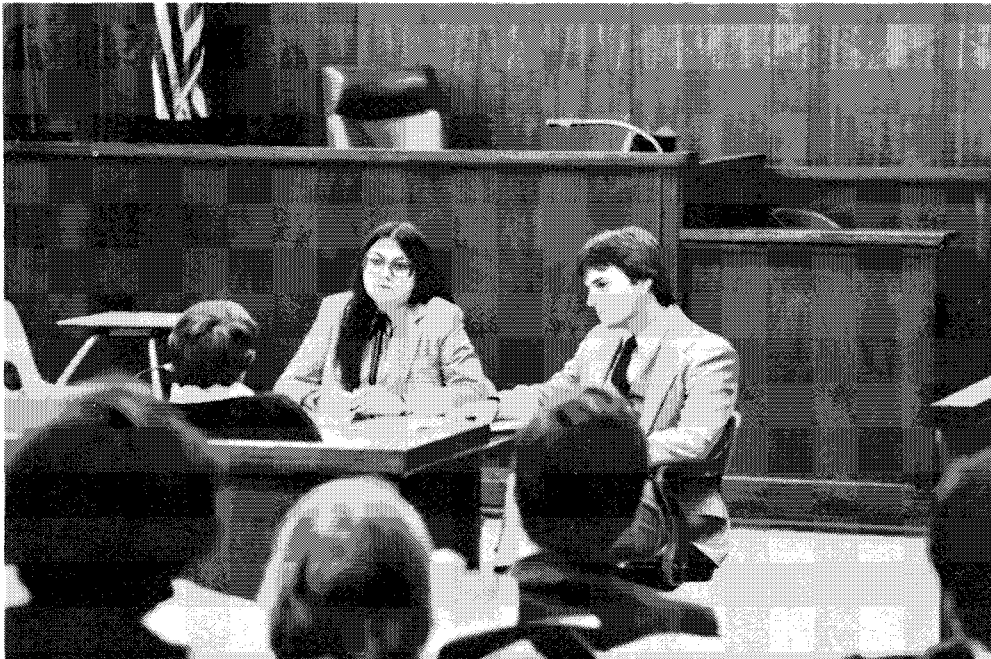
The purpose of the competition is to promote greater knowledge and interest among law students in preventive law and counseling functions

of law practice and to encourage students by contest awards to develop interviewing, planning and analytical skills in the lawyer-client relationship. The competition simulates a law office consultation situation in which law students, acting as attorneys, are presented with a typical client problem. They must conduct a thirty minute interview with a person playing the role of the client and then determine how they would proceed in the hypothetical situation. Teams of judges, including experienced attorneys and non-attorneys with professional counseling experience, observe the interviews and select winners.

Before the preliminary competition student-teams received a brief memo such as a secretary might prepare before the first visit of a client.

They learned that they were to speak with a thirty-four year old widow casually known to one of the student-lawyers. Judges and the clients themselves had more detailed information concerning the problem to be addressed. Clients were not, however, to "spill the beans" about the problem. Rather they were to make normal responses to the attorney's inquiries and to suggest their own concerns. The widow's case involved a business investment with a friend and her interest in protecting two minor children. A similar problem, with the substitution of a thirty-eight year old widower, faced the finalists in the regional competition.

Valparaiso, Illinois and Indiana advanced from the preliminary round, with Valparaiso capturing its second



Regional winners: Jackie Leimer and Jeff Eggers, Valparaiso University Law School

straight regional crown after the final round. Judges were impressed by the winner's show of concern for the client's problems as well as the orderly way they collected information and dissected the various issues in the problem.

While our own team did not advance, they are to be congratulated for the effort necessary to compete. Senior Kathryn Bullon and second year student Laurie Levin were selected as this School's representatives after an intraschool competition. The client counseling program is directed by Attorney Stephen Braden, a practicing lawyer from Madison.

This School would like to publicly thank the persons who generously volunteered their time and expertise as judges and clients for this competition. Those persons are:

Michael Auen
Charles Chvala
Kathy Dean
Nancy Dodge
Michael Erhard
William Fahey
Thomas Kennedy
Rod Miller
David Mills
William Mundt
Rebecca Parsons
Thomas Pfaehler
Mary Ray
Bruce Schulz
Robert Severson
JoAnne Zick



Runners-up: Lauria Ebbesen and Robert Baptista, Univ. of Illinois



Runners-up: David Joel and Keith Kiuchi, Indiana University

1979-80 Fund Drive

If you have forgotten ...

**... it is never too late to contribute.
Our needs span the calendar, remember us.**

If you have given ...

**... Our most sincere thanks, given by the entire Law
School community. We remember you.**