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The Making of Future Lawyers: Profile on CU Mock Trial's president Taran Guin

At the Wolf law building in the southern part of CU's campus, members of CU Boulder's Mock Trial gather to hone their skills as America's future lawyers. Students meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, working on deliberating prosecution and defense roles in a "mock" trial, to practice law in curated legal cases in a safe and exciting environment.

CU Boulder's Mock Trial is headed by its president, Taran Guin, a 22 year old, fourth year senior majoring in Political Science and minoring in philosophy. As the president of Mock Trial, Taran oversees presentations, financial management, orientation of new members and managing travel logistics for the multiple Mock Trial teams of CU Boulder.

Asking further about the day to day responsibilities of being the president of Mock Trial, " As for the day to day...It's a lot of management and scheduling but the other members and I all work together to make a community for aspiring Lawyers and others passionate about the practice of Law." Taran said.

Although Taran has only been president of the Mock Trial program for a little under a year, many in the community laude him for his strong leadership and concise decision making

along with supporting a welcoming space for aspiring lawyers and others interested in CU's student lead Mock trial program.

In relation to the broader CU boulder community, CU's Mock Trial team has and continues to have an impressive record. In the last two years the program has nearly doubled from originally twelve members to 68 new members, as well as scoring in one of the highest ranks in open round championships known colloquially as "ORC's".

The most recent competition took place at Drake University in Des Moines Iowa, where CU's Mock Trial team placed fifth in a national competition against other universities Mock Trial teams, with more competitions planned in the near future.

As for a more in depth look into CU Boulder's Mock Trial, community outreach leader Kayla Anderson sheds light on some of the systemic issues within CU Boulder's Mock Trial program.

" There's certainly some issues with the systems of Mock Trial...I feel as though the Mock Trial scoring system underrepresents and misscores certain aspects of the law performance and actually applying real world law into Mock Trial." Kayla said.

Kayla's frustrations with the systems within Mock trial seem to also be held by many others within the CU Mock Trial program.

As for what's in store for the future of CU Boulder's Mock Trial, the program is continuing to engage in community events as well as advancing in competitive Mock Trial events across the country.

With the strong leadership of Taran Guin as the programs president and Kayla Anderson as the head of community outreach, CU Boulder's Mock Trial program has a bright and

successful future ahead of it, working to give passionate students an environment to practice and hone their skills for their future careers in the world of law.

SOURCES

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