Student Writing Competition

The University of Montana School of Law’s Public Land & Resources Law Review and the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources are pleased to announce the 2013 Student Writing Competition, in conjunction with the 35th Public Land Law Symposium and 41st National Spring Conference on the Environment. The theme of the Symposium is: “Balancing Act & Paradigm Shift: The Role of Public Lands in America’s Energy Future.”

Awards: The first place entry will be published in the symposium edition of the Public Land & Resources Law Review in the summer of 2013. The winning submissions will receive a $1,000, $500, and $250 cash prize for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place submissions, respectively. Co-authors will share any prize awarded. Students submitting the first, second and third place entries will be invited to attend the symposium on April 18, 2013 in Missoula, MT, where their selection as winning entries will be announced. ABA-SEER will fund travel and hotel costs for the winning students.

Subject Matter: Entries should demonstrate original thought on a question of legal and/or policy significance relating to the symposium topic of the role of public lands and oceans in America’s energy future. The topic is not confined to any particular type of public land or issue in energy or environmental law or policy. Entries will be evaluated based on: (1) originality; (2) contribution to the understanding or development of the fields of energy, environmental and public land law; (3) quality of scholarship; and (4) quality and organization of writing.

Eligibility: Students currently enrolled in law school (in the U.S. or abroad) (J.D. or LL.M. programs) are eligible, including students who will graduate in the spring or summer of 2013. Any relevant article, case comment, note, or essay may be submitted, including writing submitted for academic credit. Jointly authored pieces are eligible only if all authors are students and consent to submit. Previously published pieces, or pieces that are already slated for publication, are ineligible.

Deadline: Entries must be received no later than 5:00 PM MT on January 14, 2013. Email entries and questions to Bradley Jones at publiclandlawreview@gmail.com.

Submission Requirements:

Cover page. This separate page must include the following information:
• Title, author’s name, year in law school, law school name and address, and author’s expected graduation date (the author’s name and law school should only appear on the cover page);
• Author’s permanent and school mailing address, email address, and phone number (indicate effective dates for any contact information subject to change);
• Abstract (limited to 100 words) describing the piece; and
• Certification that the article has not been published and is not slated for future publication (while authors may submit their articles to other competitions, acceptance for publication elsewhere will disqualify an entry from further consideration).

Format: Submissions may be of any length up to a maximum of 40 pages (including footnotes), in a double-spaced, 8.5 x 11-inch page format with 12-point font (10-point for footnotes). Citation style must conform to A Uniform System of Citation (latest edition) published by the Harvard Law Review Association (the Bluebook). ALWD citations will also be accepted. Submissions must be made by email attachment in Microsoft Word format, with the cover page as a separate attachment.