

I was lucky enough to be selected for the Cambridge team at the 10th International Roman Law Mooting Competition. Mooting is a type of 'mock trial' that I enjoy: we have a set of facts written for us and two points of law to argue on the basis of those facts, which we then proceed to do with oral submissions to a Judge at a defined level (from a 'trial judge' to the 'Supreme Court').

This competition was held in Trier, Germany. I applied to Girton for an academic fund which they very kindly granted to me, meaning that my flights to/from Germany were completely covered.

The competition in Trier was held over 3 days. Overall there was 8 Universities from across Europe competing (including Trier, Athens, Naples, Vienna, and Oxford). We all competing against each other on a problem relating to the validity of a will and a potentially fraudulent auction, all based on Roman law at the 'in the year of the consulate of Strategius Apion' (539AD). Cambridge got through our group and then the other half of the Cambridge team beat Liege University putting Cambridge into the final.

I was lucky enough to moot in this final, which was held at the stunning Prince Electoral's Palace in Trier. This was an amazing experience, being able to speak in such a prestigious room (well, Palace) in front of the leading world experts in Roman Law. On the evening of the final, we were treated to an 'authentic Roman meal'. This was put on by our hosts, Trier, and was definitely something I won't forget (I wouldn't say I'd choose it, but I can now confidently say that you had to like sweet food during the Roman period). Sadly it was announced at this dinner that we had lost the final, beaten by a very strong team from Tübingen University (South Germany).

Overall, this was a great experience which I thoroughly enjoyed, picking up invaluable advice and experience on the way. I am therefore extremely grateful to have been supported by Girton College.