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ASIL CO-SPONSORS ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST COMPETITION

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will sponsor the International Law Round of the World Affairs Council of America's (WACA) sixth annual flagship competition, Academic WorldQuest 2008. This national high school competition tests youths' knowledge of international affairs and provides an interactive learning experience for the country's future decision-makers. Students compete to earn the title of national champion and to win grants provided by The Maibach Foundation.

This year's world affairs knowledge competition will include close to 800 U.S. high school teams (from nearly all fifty states), comprised of four students apiece. Each team is sponsored by its local Council to compete in regional events to take place between now and March 2008. The regional winners (approximately 45) will go on to participate in the final, national WACA competition, April 5, 2008, in Washington, DC.

At both the regional and final levels participants are tested on their knowledge of a variety of international issues. ASIL's International Law Round will make up the first set of questions, followed by rounds on UN Peacekeeping Operations, Countries, Current Events, People in the News, Great Decisions 2007, East Asia, Organization of American

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States, Elections, and Econ 101. Each round consists of ten multiple choice questions, on which team members confer to reach a single answer.

International Law Round questions for the regional competitions were selected by ASIL members and staff from the Society's publication "International Law: 100 Ways it Shapes Our Lives", available at http://www.asil.org/pdfs/asil_100_ways_05.pdf. The international law questions address topics such as leisure, liberty, public health, environment, public safety, and commercial industry. ASIL questions for the final competition will be drawn from its free, electronic periodical *Insights*, available at <http://www.asil.org/insights.htm>.

"Sponsorship of WorldQuest 2008 is a great match for ASIL, as our mission has a strong public education component," said ASIL Executive Director Elizabeth Andersen. "We are proud to be contributing to this worthy project to help young people learn more about international affairs, and we wish all of the local teams well as they prepare for the upcoming regional competitions."

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. For more information, visit www.asil.org.

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