

Georgia Law launches learning initiative backed by accomplished alumni

The School of Law broke new ground this spring by bringing alumni to campus for a new educational program targeted to law students. What differentiates the Alumni Advocacy Series from other educational programs is this initiative included a series of presentations from six accomplished alumni lawyers all focusing on key elements for successful advocacy in the courtroom.

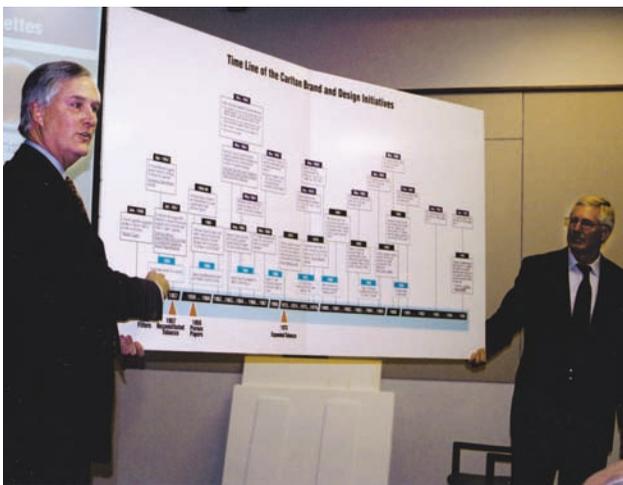
"This is the first time a regular series of alumni presenters grouped around the common theme of advocacy has come to pass," Ronald L. Carlson, Callaway Chair Emeritus and one of the organizers of the educational initiative, said. "It stands as a notable effort to bring to students the wisdom of many of the best lawyers in Georgia and at the same moment to identify to the law school community the achievements of some of our most accomplished alumni."

Session topics were: using expert witnesses, creating successful exhibits, and arguing and winning appeals.

"The original concept for this educational series came from Dean Rebecca White, who asked me to spearhead the effort," Carlson said. "I am pleased to have played a role, with Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.'90) and the alumni office staff, in bringing some of Georgia Law's talented graduates back to Athens to share their experiences and understanding of the practice of law with the next generation."



"Expert Witnesses: How to Prepare, Present and Cross-examine Them" featuring Donald F. "Don" Samuel (J.D.'80), a partner with Garland, Samuel, Loeb, and W.G. "Bill" Scrantom Jr. (LL.B.'55), a partner with Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford
Focusing on the civil side, Bill Scrantom (LL.B.'55) (left) told students to instruct their experts not to try "to sell" the case to the jury. "It's not their job," he said. While Don Samuel (J.D.'80), who spoke regarding criminal trials, said a decision to call an expert should be "based upon whether you should put up any defense at all."



"Demonstrative Evidence - Winning Cases with Exhibits" featuring Andrew M. "Andy" Scherffius (J.D.'74), a partner with Scherffius, Ballard, Still & Ayers, and Gordon A. Smith (J.D.'78), a senior litigation partner at King & Spalding
Speaking on defense exhibits, Gordon Smith (J.D.'78) (left) said one should go through several versions of how to graphically depict something "to find the best delivery." Here, he discusses the finer points of using a timeline with assistance from Andy Scherffius (J.D.'74). Scherffius, who shared his thoughts on plaintiff exhibits, said the presentation of exhibits at a trial "has become an art and science of its own."



"How to Argue and Win an Appeal" featuring Scott A. Farrow (J.D.'86), a partner at Troutman Sanders, and Richard H. "Rick" Hill II (J.D.'95), the hiring partner at Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial
Rick Hill (left), who concentrated on oral arguments, said you have to have "absolute, 100 percent complete deference" for the bench and flexibility in presenting your argument. Regarding briefs, Scott Farrow (J.D.'86) said a key to success in preparing your brief is to write as much of one section at a time as possible. "It's too hard to get into the flow if you have to stop and start, stop and start."

New fellowship to help fill legal services void

Earlier this spring, Georgia Law announced the establishment of the Cousins Public Interest Fellowship program.

This initiative, which seeks to foster the creation of projects that provide civil legal services to indigent Georgians, will offer experienced practitioners the opportunity to focus on these needs, with support from the fellowship and the law school. Additionally, this program will expand clinical experiences for students at Georgia Law.

“We are thrilled to be able to offer such a unique opportunity for legal professionals to initiate a program that will fill a void in the legal services currently provided in our state,” Georgia Law Associate Professor and fellowship coordinator Alexander W. Scherr said. “The fellowship has the potential to affect many future generations of Georgians.”

The first Cousins Public Interest Fellow will begin his or her work this August and will operate under the auspices of the fellowship for two years. A second fellow will be selected in the spring/summer of 2007.

Each fellow must identify a project and a host organization. Scherr said a “project” is a carefully designed initiative that will meet the civil legal needs of indigent Georgians and could include new programs or the expansion and refinement of existing services.

“Some examples are: representation in court on specific legal issues, legal help for personal or small business planning, improved access to the courts and targeted legal education. The possibilities are really only limited

by one’s imagination,” Scherr said.

“Another important feature of the fellowship is that law students will assist with the service delivery of the project under the direction of the selected fellow.”

A host organization is defined as the entity at which the fellow will be based when working with the community. “Host organizations may be either nonprofit or for-profit organizations, but they must be willing to provide office space and resources during the latter part of the fellowship and must be willing to work with the fellow to assure the long-term viability of the project,” Scherr said.

Fellowship applicants must be experienced attorneys, who have practiced law for at least three years.

“The applicant’s prior practice need not relate to the proposed service,” Scherr said. “However, applicants must articulate how their experience will contribute to the success and durability of the project.”

Each fellow will work for two years. Initially, the fellow will work at the School of Law, focusing on preparation and project development. In addition, fellows will teach and work with students in the law school’s clinical programs. Fellows will be expected to start service delivery under the project, working out of the host organization, within one year after beginning the fellowship.

For more information, please contact Alexander Scherr at scherr@uga.edu or (706) 542-6510.

Georgia Law moves up in U.S. News rankings

The School of Law moved up two places in *U.S. News & World Report’s* “America’s Best Graduate Schools” rankings that are released each spring.

Currently ranked 34th in the nation, Georgia Law shares this position with the law schools at Brigham Young University and the University of California at Davis.

Georgia Law Dean Rebecca H. White said that while she takes all rankings with a

grain of salt, she was pleased with the move. “We don’t need *U.S. News & World Report* to tell us that the University of Georgia has one of the country’s best law schools. However, it is nice to be recognized by an independent source as such.”

In terms of public law schools, Georgia Law is ranked among the top 13 schools in the nation and is one of the top four in the Southeast.

Externship program becomes one of UGA’s largest

The International Externship Program has continued its phenomenal growth. The initiative, which began in 2001 with two students working abroad in one country, grew to 11 students working in eight countries last year. This summer, approximately 20 Georgia Law students will work for four to eight weeks in 10 countries on four continents, making this the largest international program, in terms of geographic reach, on the UGA campus.

María Eugenia Giménez, Rusk Center associate director who oversees the program, is pleased with the growth. “Students report their participation among the most personally and professionally rewarding of their academic careers. Additionally, the host institutions continue to hail the results of the program, and several have allowed for permanent future summer positions in their offices.”

With the increased popularity of the program, Giménez said she is working to have more of the “permanent summer positions” established in private firms, government agencies and non-governmental organizations throughout the globe. “We have been successful in making arrangements with 20 organizations in nearly as many countries. This summer, our students will be working in countries such as Brazil, Guyana, Belgium, Hungary, China, India and New Zealand.”

To help offset travel and living costs, each student receives between \$1,500-\$3,000, with the law firm Kilpatrick Stockton providing \$3,000 to three different students working in the Attorney General’s Office in Guyana.

Waller elected to National Placement Board

Anthony E. “Tony” Waller (J.D.’93), the associate director of legal career services at Georgia Law, has been elected to the board of directors for the National Association for Law Placement (NALP). Waller will hold a two-year at-large position on the 14-member panel.

Waller joined the Georgia Law staff in 2000 as the assistant director of legal career services and was promoted to his current position of associate director in 2003.

He previously worked as a recruiter/human resources director at AXIOM Systems and practiced law for five years. Waller earned both his undergraduate degree in agricultural economics and his law degree from UGA.

Founded in 1971, NALP is a nonprofit educational association dedicated to facilitating legal career counseling and planning, recruitment and retention, and the professional development of law students and lawyers. Membership includes virtually every ABA-approved law school in the United States and Canada in addition to more than 1,700 legal employers from both the public and private sectors.

Placement Statistics for 2005: Law Dawgs at 99.0%

Final placement figures for the Class of 2005 were reported to the National Association for Law Placement in February, nine months after graduation (the standard reporting date).

Total Graduates	194
Total Reporting Employment Status	192
Employed	94.8% of total graduates
Private Practice	63.6% of employed
Business/Industry	5.4% of employed
Government	9.2% of employed
Judicial Clerkships	14.7% of employed
Public Interest	4.4% of employed
Academe	2.7% of employed
Advanced Degree Programs	2.1% of total graduates
Unemployed, Not Seeking	2.1% of total graduates
Unemployed, Seeking	1.0% of total graduates

Class of 2005 graduates obtained employment in 14 different states in the nation, in addition to Washington, D.C., with an average salary of \$78,756, and one recent graduate is working in Japan.

Jennings honored for outstanding service

The School of Law Staff Council presented Robin Jennings with the 2005 Emma Terrell Distinguished Employee Award, which is given annually to recognize and reward staff members for their service to the law school.

Jennings was one of 14 nominees for the award. One of Jennings’ supervisors and Georgia Law Advocacy Director Kellie Casey Monk (J.D.’90) said Robin juggles many balls and works tremendously with others. “She has made herself indispensable,” Monk added.

Another nomination stated, “[Robin] comes to work every day with an amazing attitude and a sense of professionalism. It is evident that she cares very much about the students and does everything in her power to help them.”

An Athens native, Jennings has been employed at UGA for more than 18 years,



2005 Emma Terrell Distinguished Employee Award winner Robin Jennings (left) poses with law school Staff Council Chair Cindy Wentworth.

which includes more than 13 years of service at the law school. Jennings’ current title is administrative associate II, and she works

with the advocacy program and prosecutorial clinic at the law school.

Jennings said she loves her job and thrives on the interaction with “her” students. “Receiving this award is doubly special to me because I really enjoy what I do, and it is the first award bearing Emma’s name.”

The award, formerly known as the Employee Distinguished Service Award, was renamed in February 2005 in memory of the late Emma P. Terrell, a long-time employee remembered for her dedication to and enthusiasm for the law school.

The Law School Staff Council presents the award annually to employees who have demonstrated a strong work ethic, a commitment to service and exceptional job performance as well as the cooperation necessary to ensure the law school meets and exceeds its goals. Recipients receive a \$500 monetary award and a framed certificate.

Georgia Law in the news

Courthouse displays of Ten Commandments possible

The Georgia Senate has passed a bill that will allow the display of the Ten Commandments in county courthouses. Although the U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled against a display in Kentucky, constitutional law expert Dan T. Coenen told National Public Radio that, despite its numerous opponents, the Georgia bill may still have a chance if contested in the court system. With Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who cast the deciding vote in the Kentucky case, replaced by Justice Samuel A. Alito, the situation "may flip [to one] much more tolerant of the appearance of religious symbols in public places," he said.

Conspiracy theories continue to surface on Lincoln's assassination

On the April anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, historians continued the debate that his death was more than a "simple conspiracy" by John Wilkes Booth. Georgia Law Professor Donald E. Wilkes Jr., who has authored a number of articles concerning Lincoln's assassination, commented in *The Washington Times* that "new evidence indicates Booth was a Confederate secret agent." Disputing the idea that he acted alone in the murder, Wilkes said, "It seems much more likely that the Confederate government knew and approved of what Booth was doing."

Tougher sentences for juveniles

The Georgia Legislature has passed a law allowing judges to confer stricter sentences on juvenile offenders. Amy's Law, named for an 8-year-old Georgia girl allegedly killed by another child, is part of a nationwide trend of stiffer punishments for juveniles. Child law authority Anne Proffitt Dupre (J.D.'88) said in the *Los*

Angeles Times that, despite the lack of statistical evidence to prove children are committing more serious offenses such as murder, overwhelming public opinion holds that these crimes have been more frequent in recent years, leading many Americans to become strong advocates of harsher penalties.

Citizenship restrictions imminent?

Adding to the debate on immigration reform, several federal legislators are seeking to limit the 14th Amendment, which grants automatic citizenship to virtually all children born in the United States, even if their parents are illegal immigrants. Commenting on the subject to *USA Today*, immigration law guru Peter J. Spiro said these children are likely to spend their entire lives in our country. By denying these children citizenship, "you'd have a significant portion of the population being legally subordinated on an inter-generational basis."



States embroiled in controversy over tax incentives

The legal ambiguity of a state's use of tax incentives to attract industry has been brought to the attention of the U.S. Supreme Court in a recent case involving the state of Ohio. Most states see these incentives as an important means of economic competition but fear rulings against their constitutionality. While a ruling limiting incentives will most likely not do irreparable damage, tax law specialist Walter Hellerstein told *The National Law Journal* "one easy way for states to encourage business is simply to subsidize them." Hellerstein was also quoted on the topic in *Entrepreneur Magazine*, the *Boston Business Journal* and the *Dallas Business Journal*, among others.

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Visiting scholars deliver international colloquium series

This spring Georgia Law offered a new colloquium series focused on international law, where notable scholars from other institutions presented substantial works in progress to the law school's faculty and students.

As part of the International Law Colloquium, students wrote papers on each of the manuscripts presented, actively participated in the colloquium discussion and received course credit.

Co-organizer of the colloquium Daniel M. Bodanksy, the holder of the Woodruff Chair in International Law, said bringing in top scholars as part of a program such as this contributes tremendously to the intellectual vibrancy of the law school.

"A central feature of the international law colloquium series was active student engagement," he said. "I think students were really excited by the opportunity to participate directly in the scholarly conversation about cutting-edge international issues relating to the war on terrorism and the role of international law in the U.S. legal system. This type of dialogue benefits both faculty and students."

Featured international scholars, their home institution and paper title are listed below.

Roger P. Alford, Pepperdine University, "Foreign Relations as a Matter of Interpretation: The Use and Abuse of Charming Betsy"

Laura Dickinson, University of Connecticut, "Democracy and Trust"

Mark A. Drumbl, Washington & Lee University, "Atrocity and Punishment"

Karen Knop, University of Toronto, "Enemies and Outlaws: War and the Public/Private Citizen"

Diane Orentlicher, American University, "Whose Justice? Reconciling Universal Jurisdiction with Democratic Principles"

Brad Roth, Wayne State University, "State Sovereignty and International Legality"

Edward T. Swaine, University of Pennsylvania, "Alien Authority"