

## Litigation clinic creates new opportunities

Georgia Law students are now working on cases in federal appeals courts as part of the school's newest clinic, the Appellate Litigation Clinic. Its creation this past year brings the total number of service learning opportunities available to students to 12.

Overseen by Associate Professor Erica J. Hashimoto, this clinic operates as a small appellate litigation firm with students accepting appointments from the U.S. Courts of Appeals and the Board of Immigration Appeals to represent indigent clients. They then work in teams to draft briefs and handle oral arguments when necessary.

Hashimoto said the school started the clinic to give students the opportunity

to gain experience in an appellate setting while helping clients who might not otherwise receive any legal counsel.

"I think this opportunity is teaching our students how much work it takes to produce a quality brief and also how gratifying it is to see the progress from their work," Hashimoto said. "I want them to get a taste of real life practice and to learn how to provide quality representation."

Third-year student Catherine Henson Curlet said she decided to participate in the clinic for that exact reason.

"I wanted an opportunity to apply the foundation of knowledge I acquired in law school to the actual experience of representing a client on appeal," Curlet said.

"I wanted an opportunity to apply the foundation of knowledge I acquired in law school ..."

—Third-year student Catherine Curlet

This desire became a reality for Curlet when, as part of her work with the clinic, she received the chance to argue before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

"Working with a team of my peers as well as with Professor Hashimoto on an ongoing case has been incredibly rewarding," Curlet added. "I have learned so much, and I know it will make me a stronger advocate as I start my career as an attorney."

## Coming soon . . . A significant transformation of the law school

To address the overcrowding of limited public and office spaces within the law school complex, the summer renovation project of Hirsch Hall and the 1967 expansion will involve enclosing the exterior passageway on the first floor, resulting in additional square footage for community and student spaces.

The Sutherland Courtyard also will be completely refurbished in order to make this exterior space more functional and appealing.

Interior views from the building will be opened up to the courtyard allowing for natural light throughout the area, and the south façade facing the courtyard will be replaced entirely with glass.

Additionally, a three-level grand stairway will be constructed just inside of this very large window to further create a sense of connectivity between the new interior space and the courtyard.

Plans call for the first phase of this construction to be completed in time for classes to begin in the fall.

*Generous contributions from alumni and friends have helped make these enhancements possible. For information on how you can participate in this effort, please contact Director of Development Scotty G. Mann at 706-542-7985 or [scottym@uga.edu](mailto:scottym@uga.edu).*



These architectural renderings depict the renovation of the Sutherland Courtyard and the second floor of the law school's main building.



To view more architectural drawings, please visit [www.law.uga.edu/renovation-2011](http://www.law.uga.edu/renovation-2011).