

15th Annual Red Clay Conference Focuses on Water



Participants in the tri-state water negotiations panel were (from l. to r.) McKenna Long & Aldridge's Todd Silliman, Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's Skelly Holmbeck-Pelham, Apalachicola Bay and Riverkeeper's David McLain and Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Bob Kerr.

On the heels of a five-year drought that plagued Georgia and much of the Southeast, one of the region's most precious resources, water, was the focus the Environmental Law Association's annual Red Clay Conference held this spring.

Key stakeholders in the tri-state water war were present to debate the various options under negotiation that according to a Memorandum of Understanding, signed by the governors of Georgia, Florida and Alabama, will hopefully be resolved around the time of publication of this issue of the *Advocate*. In addition, the merits of differing Georgia water allocation bills in the state's legislature were discussed. Other issues covered were stormwater and wastewater management, wetland conservation, coastal preservation and watershed protection.

The luncheon keynote speaker was the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's Executive Director Sally Bethea who spoke about the tri-state water agreement. Key conference panelists were Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Bob Kerr, Gwinnett County Utilities' Jim Scarborough, Georgia Public Interest Research Group's Jen Giegerich, Alston & Bird's Jim Stokes and other leading attorneys, environmental advocates and experts.

The 15th Annual Red Clay Conference drew an attendance of more than 75 attorneys, government leaders, environmental advocates, academics and students. The goal of this annual conference is to increase public awareness of environmental issues on regional, national and international levels through a series of educational presentations and open forum discussions. R.E.M. sponsored this year's conference and additional support was provided by UGA's School of Law and College of Environment and Design.

International Conference Explores Needed Changes in Aviation



The European Union/United States Relations – The Place of Air Transport Panel included (from l. to r.) President of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel Bart DeSchutter, Conference Co-chair and attorney Charles Hunnicutt (J.D.'75), Conference Co-chair and attorney Catherine Erkelens and Executive Director of the Dean Rusk Center Gabriel Wilner. The Vrije Universiteit Brussel aided the Rusk Center in organizing this aviation conference.

In April, the School of Law was the setting for a two-day conference at a critical point for the aviation industry and North American/European relations. Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Transportation Charles Hunnicutt (J.D.'75) said the high-powered group, which included leading industry, government and academic experts in aviation law and policy from both sides of the Atlantic, assembled to discuss some of the most controversial issues regarding the opening up of the aviation marketplace. "The conference identified those areas where continuing research is needed and where