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### **UGA School of Law students to present research on education law at national conference**

ATHENS , Ga.- Six University of Georgia School of Law students were selected in a national competition to present their research papers at the second annual National Student Education Law Conference, to be held on Sept. 30.

The conference, sponsored by the Education Law Consortium and hosted by the UGA Institute of Higher Education, will allow students in graduate and professional programs across the country to convene with some of the nation's leading education and law scholars on current and pressing issues in education law. The conference is intended to promote dialogue regarding important topics confronting education today and to strengthen the students' research, which will be made available to education law and policy decision makers.

Georgia Law winners are: Pilar A. Delmazo, Mark P. Jones, Anita L. Kumar, Robert S. Lane, Jessica M. Mallanda and Jessica F. Najjar. They will be joined by students from other leading institutions, including the University of Virginia, Georgetown University and American University.

The students will then have their final papers published in the *Education Law and Policy Forum*, an electronic journal sponsored by the consortium. This publication is the first online interdisciplinary journal for education law and policy and serves as a comprehensive and accessible resource for education law researchers at all levels, from K-12 to higher education.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to explain their research on how law affects important issues like student suicide, bilingual education, students with disabilities and collective bargaining for teachers," ELC co-director Anne Proffitt Dupre, a J. Alton Hosch professor at the School of Law, said. "It will also serve as an asset to people working in education law, as these students will soon be able to share their research with the world through the Web journal."

Dupre said she was very pleased with the hard work of the six Georgia Law students whose papers were chosen for presentation and print and which bring promising research and new ideas to the field.

J. Douglas Toma, an ELC fellow and an associate professor at the university's Institute of Higher Education, said, "The institute is pleased to host the *Education Law and Policy Forum*. We are proud of the work of the Education Law Consortium and look forward to continuing to be at the center of the national discussion of law and policy in higher education."

The Education Law Consortium is dedicated to providing ready access to nonpartisan information, research and analysis to assist those setting education policy at the local, state and federal levels. The consortium is housed at the UGA Institute of Higher Education.

The National Student Education Law Conference will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Institute of Higher Education and is open to the public. For more information, please visit the ELC's Web site at <http://www.educationlawconsortium.org> .

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