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## Dean's Report 2008

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# 2008 DEAN'S REPORT

REBECCA HANNER WHITE



Dear Alumni and Friends,

*This is a very exciting time in the University of Georgia School of Law's history. Next year, we will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the law school.*

**A**s you may recall, the school's founders – Joseph Henry Lumpkin, Georgia's first chief justice; Thomas R.R. Cobb, a preparer of the code of the state of Georgia; and William Hope Hull, solicitor for the

U.S. Treasury – opened the institution in the fall of 1859 and graduated the first class in the summer of 1860.

Much has happened over the past 15 decades, and I believe each of the founders would be especially proud of how the school's curriculum has evolved, of the quality of the modern faculty and student body, and of the school's rich tradition of producing leaders for our state, region and nation.

In fact, when fighting for the Franklin College (as UGA was then often called) to be more than a "classical, liberal arts college," which "forced [its students] to leave the state in order to earn qualifications in specialized fields," Thomas Cobb was quoted as saying, "As a result, your professors, our authors, our engineers and your

manufacturers are, in the main, imported like other goods of foreign growth."

Nearly one century later, Gov. Carl E. Sanders (J.D. 1948) elaborated on this sentiment at the groundbreaking ceremony for Hirsch Hall's expansion in

1964 by stating: "The people of Georgia want and deserve nothing short of the best. The University of Georgia School of Law is, therefore, to be one of such excellence that no citizen of Georgia need ever leave [the] state because a superior legal education is available elsewhere."

This is a standard the School of Law strives to exceed and to expand upon at every turn as we compete at a higher level with other leading law schools.

With support from you, our alumni and friends, we continue to meet the challenges and opportunities that face the School of Law, one of our nation's finest law schools. This report details some of our activities from the past year.

*"The people of Georgia want and deserve nothing short of the best. The University of Georgia School of Law is, therefore, to be one of such excellence that no citizen of Georgia need ever leave [the] state because a superior legal education is available elsewhere."*

CARL E. SANDERS  
J.D. 1948  
University of Georgia  
Governor of the State of Georgia  
1963-1967

**FACULTY**

You may have heard me say that an outstanding faculty is indispensable to the success of an academic institution. At the School of Law, we have good reason to be proud. This past year, three of our accomplished faculty were rewarded with new titles.

Dan T. Coenen was named the new holder of the Harmon W. Caldwell Chair in Constitutional Law. He also carries the title of University Professor, which is a permanent designation awarded to no more than one UGA professor campus-wide each year. A UGA faculty member since 1987 and a former U.S. Supreme Court judicial clerk, Dan teaches in the areas of constitutional law and contracts.



*University Professor and Caldwell Chair in Constitutional Law*  
Dan Coenen

Specializing in criminal law and evidence, Julian A. Cook III has been awarded the title of J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law. Julian joined the law school faculty in 2006 as an associate professor with nearly 10 years of legal teaching experience, most recently at Michigan State University. Last year, he attained the rank of full professor.



*Hosch Professor*  
Julian Cook

Erica J. Hashimoto was promoted to associate professor. Also specializing in criminal law and evidence, Erica joined our faculty in the fall of 2004 and has taught Legal Profession and Sentencing as well. Before coming to Georgia Law, she worked for four years as an assistant federal public defender in the Office of the Federal Public Defender in Washington, D.C.



*Associate Professor*  
Erica Hashimoto

In addition, I am pleased to announce that this academic year we have enhanced our faculty with two associate professors and one assistant professor – Lori A. Ringhand, Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge and Hillel Y. Levin, respectively.

Lori comes to the law school from the University of Kentucky and is leading courses in constitutional law, election law, and state and local government law. She earned her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the



*Associate Professor*  
Lori Ringhand

University of Wisconsin, where she graduated second in her class and served on the *Wisconsin Law Review*. Her Bachelor of Civil Law, with distinction, is from Oxford.

From the Catholic University of America where he was selected professor of the year four times, Bo’s teaching and research interests include the Supreme Court, international dispute resolution, arbitration and international business transactions. This former U.S. Supreme Court law clerk (of which our faculty now includes five) earned his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Harvard University, his M.Litt. from the University of Aberdeen and his J.D. with high honors from the University of Chicago, where he served as executive editor of *The University of Chicago Law Review* and was inducted into the Order of the Coif.



*Associate Professor*  
Bo Rutledge

Hillel joins the faculty as an assistant professor teaching Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law and Legislation. Previously, he served as an instructor and fellow at Stanford Law School where he taught legal research and writing. Hillel earned his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Yeshiva University and his J.D. from Yale University, where he served as note and book note editor of the *Yale Journal of Law and Humanities*.



*Assistant Professor*  
Hillel Levin

Our faculty continues to produce legal scholarship of the highest caliber. Over the past 12 months, Hosch Professor Thomas A. Eaton, Associate Professor Erica Hashimoto and Shackelford Distinguished Professor of Taxation Law Walter “Wally” Hellerstein have had scholarly articles cited in opinions handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court, while Professor Donald E. “Eugene” Wilkes Jr.’s work was referenced in a Georgia Supreme Court opinion.

Leading journals carrying recent work from our faculty include: *The University of Chicago Law Review*, *Constitutional Commentary*, the *Northwestern University Law Review*, the *Stanford Law Review*, the *Texas Law Review* and the *Vanderbilt Law Review*. Additionally, the Harvard University Press will very shortly publish Hosch Professor Anne Proffitt Dupre’s (J.D. 1988) book *Speaking Up: The Unintended Costs of Free Speech in Public Schools*.

A few recent honors received by our faculty include Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Woodruff Chair in International Law Daniel M. “Dan” Bodansky being



redesignated by the U.S. government as an arbitrator under the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, which is committed to the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment.

Also, Shackelford Professor Wally Hellerstein was awarded the 2008 Daniel M. Holland Medal for outstanding contributions to the study and practice of public finance by the National Tax Association and the 2007 Franklin C. Latham Award for Distinguished Service in State and Local Tax Law by BNA Tax Management, and was named "the most influential academic in state and local taxation" in a survey conducted by *State Tax Notes*.

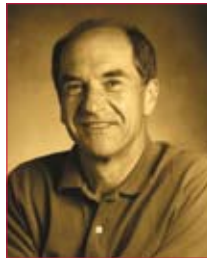
After more than 30 years of service to the law school, Lumpkin Professor James F. "Jim" Ponsoldt retired this past July. He joined the faculty in 1978 and taught Antitrust, Communications Law, Criminal Procedure and Business Crime. I know you join me in wishing him and his family well as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

I am pleased to announce that this academic year our faculty will be enriched by several visitors. Following our spring 2008 Sanders Political Leadership Scholar, former U.S. Sen. Wyche Fowler Jr., will be former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich. The former speaker will be assisted by alumnus J. Randolph "Randy" Evans (J.D. 1983) in presenting his class in the spring.

Also, former Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals Marion T. Pope Jr. (LL.B. 1953) will speak in the spring as a Sanders Lecturer. We are truly grateful for the opportunity to bring those who have distinguished themselves in politics or other forms of public service to campus under the auspices of the Sanders Scholars program, which is generously funded by Georgia's 74th governor and Georgia Law alumnus Carl Sanders.



*Associate Dean and  
Woodruff Chair in  
International Law  
Dan Bodansky*



*Shackelford Professor  
Wally Hellerstein*



*Former U.S. Sen. Wyche  
Fowler led a course on  
the U.S. Congress and the  
Constitution as a Sanders  
Scholar in the spring of 2008.*



*This coming spring, former  
Speaker of the House Newt  
Gingrich will teach at  
Georgia Law and will be  
assisted by Randy Evans  
(J.D. 1983).*

Additionally, for the fall semester, Delaware Court of Chancery Chancellor William B. Chandler III is teaching Advanced Corporations, and Frederic F. Manget, who worked for the Central Intelligence Agency for 22 years (mostly as a legal adviser in the Office of General Counsel), is leading a class in intelligence law.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, Edward J. Kionka, a Southern Illinois University faculty member for 30 years, will teach in the areas of torts and federal courts, while Lewis & Clark Law School's Joseph Scott Miller will conduct patent law, intellectual property survey and trademark law courses as well as a statutory and constitutional interpretation seminar.

In the spring, the University of Miami's Zanita E. Fenton will instruct in the areas of family law and critical race feminism, Widener University's Juliet M. Moringiello will lead classes in bankruptcy and electronic commerce, and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Robert Steinbuch will teach Evidence and Legal Profession.

Moreover, 2003 alumna Sarah B. Schindler is on campus this academic year serving as a visiting assistant professor and will teach in the areas of real estate transactions and animal law. You may recall this position is aimed at assisting outstanding Georgia Law graduates with the transition into the legal teaching academy. She follows former alumni Emily Hammond Meazell (J.D. 2002), Kelly Casey Mullally (J.D. 1998) and Elizabeth Weeks Leonard (J.D. 1999), respectively, in this post.

Furthermore, our new Cousins Public Interest Fellow for 2008-2010 is Crystal Chastain Baker (J.D. 2003). The Cousins Fellowship program fosters the creation of projects to provide civil legal services to indigent Georgians and offers experienced practitioners the opportunity to focus on these needs with support from the fellowship and the law school. Crystal's program, titled the Heirs Property Project, aims to help low income families, primarily in south Georgia, to maintain ownership of land that has passed through generations without formal probate.

Previous fellows, Torin D. Togut and Julie M.T. Walker, focused their efforts on helping parents with children who have disabilities and attend public schools and on assisting mothers who are incarcerated and seek stable parental care for their children during their imprisonment. I am very pleased to share with you that Torin's project has been formalized into the 10th service learning opportunity in our curriculum and bears the name Special Education Practicum.



In March, five former secretaries of state gathered in Athens to discuss U.S. foreign policy with the goal of providing advice to the next American president. Participants included: (l. to r.) Henry Kissinger, Warren Christopher, Terence Smith (moderator), James Baker, Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell.

Over the past 12 months, we have been fortunate to host several prominent events and distinguished guests. Chief among them are former U.S. Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger, James Baker III, Warren Christopher, Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell, who gathered to discuss current U.S. foreign policy with the goal of providing advice to the next presidential administration before a live audience of more than 2,000 in Athens. Moderated by *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer's* Terence Smith, the conference, titled *The Report of the Secretaries of State: Bipartisan Advice to the Next Administration*, was sponsored by the Dean Rusk Center (in association with the Southern Center for International Studies) as part of its 30th anniversary celebration. An edited one-hour version of the program is available for viewing on the law school's homepage at [www.law.uga.edu](http://www.law.uga.edu), and the entire two-hour transcript is available as an *Occasional Paper* from the Rusk Center (ordering details are on the Web site as well).

Moreover, we were honored to host U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas at the law school earlier this fall. During his time with us, he met with faculty and students, as well as lectured in Anne Dupre's Children and the Law class. This was Justice Thomas' fourth visit to Georgia Law, and we are proud this Georgia native has been so supportive of our state's flagship law school.

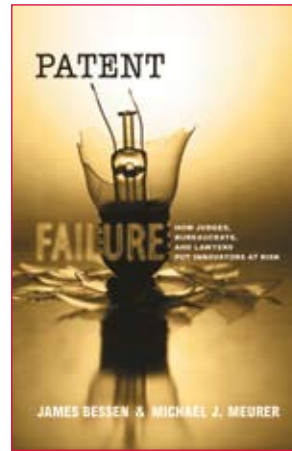
Our country's first Secretary of Education and one of the first women to serve on the federal bench, Shirley Mount Hufstедler, delivered the 26th Edith House Lecture last spring, where she addressed the availability of federal judicial review for prisoners incarcerated at Guantanamo Bay.

Vice President of the European Parliament Diana Wallis served as the Willson Center-Dean Rusk Center Annual Lecturer. She also joined other American and European experts in private international law to explore new European Union legislation on the law applicable to torts during a symposium, which was organized by the Rusk Center and the Georgia Society for International and Comparative Law. The Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Air Force Jack L. Rives (J.D. 1977) (who recently became a three-star general,

making him the first TJAG to hold this rank) spoke about his career and his current appointment as head of the Air Force legal team. Likewise, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration David M. Spooner spoke to students, as did General Counsel of Citi Global Wealth Management Michael J. Sharp (J.D. 1991).

The spring Sibley Lecturer was University Professor Jeremy Waldron from the New York University School of Law, who spoke on the concept and the Rule of Law. Earlier this semester, Boston University Utley Professor George J. Annas, who specializes in health law, delivered the 104th Sibley Lecture.

Another special guest was our commencement speaker, U.S. Representative John Barrow. Although not a graduate of Georgia Law himself, Rep. Barrow has many familial ties to the law school, including being a direct descendant of a member of the first class to graduate from the school in 1860 – Middleton Pope Barrow – and, coincidentally, a distant cousin of 2008 alumnae Kathleen F. Parker and Lucy Pope Dodd (who is a great-great-granddaughter of Middleton Barrow and a fifth generation Georgia Law graduate).



Georgia Law co-hosted a day-long symposium that focused on Bessen and Meurer's book *Patent Failure* and examined the authors' claims that the U.S. patent system has fallen short in providing predictable legal boundaries.

Other key academic events held at the law school over the course of the past year include: A symposium on James Bessen and Michael J. Meurer's book *Patent Failure: How Judges, Bureaucrats, and Lawyers Put Innovators at Risk* was spearheaded by Post Professor Paul J. Heald and explored the growing consensus that the U.S. patent system is in need of reform.

The Environmental Law Association hosted the 20th Annual Red Clay Conference titled *Can Red Clay Go Green? Adapting Law and Policy in the Face of Climate Change*, featuring keynote speeches by climate change specialist David Hunter, American University assistant professor of law, and David D. Caron, the co-director of the Law of the Sea Institute and University of California at Berkeley Maxeiner Distinguished Professor of Law.

The Third Annual Working in the Public Interest Law Conference probed different approaches to solving poverty through the law with keynote addresses from Yale University Douglas Clinical Professor and Supervising Attorney Stephen Wizner and prominent Atlanta attorney and the

*Fulton County Daily Report's* 2007 "Newsmaker of the Year" B.J. Bernstein (J.D. 1987).

Members of the civil clinics organized a moot court on "Civil Gideon" that examined whether the Constitution requires a lawyer for poor people in civil cases involving fundamental legal needs, with the Southern Center for Human Rights' Gerald R. Weber (J.D. 1989) and Mercer University Law and Public Service Program Director and Professor Timothy W. Floyd (J.D. 1980) arguing the hypothetical case.

Additionally, the International Judicial Training Program, run by the Rusk Center's María Eugenia Giménez (LL.M. 1989) in partnership with the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, celebrates a decade of operation this fall. Recognizing that a strong and independent judiciary is the foundation of a democratic nation's stability, this program seeks to facilitate reform by offering capacity-building judicial administration programs tailored to the individual needs of each participating country. Since its inception, the IJTP has hosted more than 300 judges and court personnel from countries such as Armenia, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Egypt and Ghana.

## STUDENTS

For the past several years, I have reported that we enrolled one of the most academically talented classes in the school's history. This year will be no different. Members of the entering Class of 2008, composed of 229 students, boast a median undergraduate grade point average of 3.67 and a median Law School Admission Test score of 163, placing them among the top 12 percent of test takers nationwide. Both of these statistics tie existing school records. Furthermore, the top quarter of the class achieved an LSAT score of 164 or higher and an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.82.

The entering Class of 2008 represents a diverse as well as an accomplished group of students. For the second time in School of Law history, the majority of the first-year class is



*Members of the entering Class of 2008, one of the most academically talented classes in the school's history, enjoyed a cookout during orientation.*

composed of females. This year's class includes 115 females and 114 males. The only other time there was a majority female class was in 2004.

Although the majority (76 percent) of the members of the class are state residents, the students come to the school from 22 different states. And, approximately 22 percent self-identified as members of a minority group. Members of this class studied at 72 different undergraduate institutions. Among the most popular feeder schools for this class are: the University of Georgia (83), Emory University (17), Georgia State University (7), the University of Florida (7), the University of Virginia (7), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (7), Furman University (6) and the Georgia Institute of Technology (5). The most popular undergraduate degrees were political science, business, English and history.

This class was recruited by our new Director of Admissions Paul B. Rollins, Associate Director Gregory L. "Greg" Roseboro (J.D. 1987) and Assistant Director Ramsey Henderson Bridges (J.D. 2005). Paul, who earned his law degree from Yale University, came to Georgia Law from the University of South Carolina School of Law, where he was the assistant dean for student services. (Paul replaced longtime Director of Admissions Giles W. Kennedy who retired in December 2007.)

On a special note, Greg was named the law school's director of diversity programs earlier this year. In addition to his admissions work, he will now also focus his attention on the various diversity issues facing the law school as well as legal education in general.

This fall, the Master of Laws program enrolled 15 students from 12 countries, including China, Colombia, France, Ghana, India, Liberia, Nigeria, Poland, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Venezuela and the United States.

As mentioned earlier, the law school curriculum has evolved over the years. More recently, emphasis has been placed on increasing international opportunities and skills-based courses.

Regarding international offerings, this past summer, approximately 20 percent of the rising second-year class (43 students) participated in one of our summer study/work abroad programs – the Brussels Seminar on the Law and Institutions of the European Union, the Georgia Law Summer Program in China and the Global Internship Program. Another key offering in our internationally based initiatives is at the University of Oxford and is one of the few semester-long study abroad programs offered by an American law school. It is held each spring.



An additional area of growing interest for our students is business/transactional law. Currently, the school is exploring the creation of a transactional law and ethics program, coupled with more transactional skills-based courses. Alumna Carol E. Morgan (J.D. 1979) has joined the law school to assist us with this task.

A nice complement to this new curricular focus is the school's new Dean's Business Roundtable Series, which brings prominent alumni and attorneys who have excelled in the business setting to campus. Among those who visited under this program last year were: Kathelen V. Amos (J.D. 1982), president of the AFLAC Foundation; R. Brandon Asbill (J.D. 1992), assistant general counsel of Red Hat; Jan M. Davidson (J.D. 1986), member of the legal department for Delta Air Lines; John T. Glover (J.D. 1972), former president of Post Properties; Susan S. Lanigan (J.D. 1988), executive vice president and general counsel of Dollar General; William J. Stembler (J.D. 1971), chairman and CEO of the Georgia Theatre Company; Larry D. Thompson, general counsel of PepsiCo; and Audrey B. Tillman (J.D. 1989), senior vice president and director of human resources for AFLAC.

Moreover, under Carol Morgan's guidance, the law school fielded two teams in the American Bar Association Law Student Division's Negotiation Competition in November.

I am pleased to report the School of Law was ranked sixth in the nation by *The National Jurist* magazine earlier this fall for providing clinical opportunities for our students. And, previously, I mentioned the establishment of our newest service learning course – the Special Education Practicum.

Our journals – the *Georgia Law Review*, the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law* and the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law* – continue to publish important and thought-provoking scholarship by leading academics and students. Of special note is that Robert H. Snyder (J.D. 2008) received the 2007 Deak Award for his note that appeared in a 2007 issue of the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law*. This award is for the best student article in the United States appearing in a student-edited international law journal and is the student equivalent of the prize for the best article in the *American Journal of International Law*.

The school's accomplished advocacy program had one of its best seasons last academic year. For 2007-2008, our competitive teams finished with three national titles and four regional/state trophies in addition to numerous individual and team honors. The national championships were won at the National Emory Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition, the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition and the William W. Daniel National Invita-



The law school's advocacy program won national titles at the National Emory Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition, the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition and the William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition, making 2007-2008 one of its best years.

tional Mock Trial Competition. I look forward to sharing this year's successes with you in the future.

Further speaking to the caliber of Georgia Law's students and the quality of the education they receive here, another survey by *The National Jurist* recently ranked our school among the top 25 percent of law schools for where law firms choose to interview on campus.

Moreover, the graduating Class of 2007 enjoyed a placement rate of 99.1 percent within nine months after graduation (the official reporting deadline of the National Association for Law Placement). This class obtained employment in 17 states with an average starting salary of \$94,024.

For the school's most recent graduates, the Class of 2008, approximately 89.8 percent were holding an offer or planning to pursue post-graduate education when receiving diplomas in May.

If you are seeking to hire a lawyer, I strongly urge you to contact the school's Legal Career Services staff. I am confident they will be able to identify well qualified Georgia Law students or alumni to suit your needs.

## ALUMNI

The law school's alumni body is more than 8,800 strong, and many of you have distinguished yourselves in your professional and personal lives. However, there are a few highlights I would like to share with you. This summer, alumna Merritt E. McAlister (J.D. 2007) was selected as a U.S. Supreme Court judicial clerk for Justice John Paul Stevens for the October 2009 term. Counting her service, the School of Law will have had graduates serve our nation's highest court four out of five years, placing our law school among the top public law schools in the country for supplying clerks to the Supreme Court.



Counting the selection of Merritt McAlister (J.D. 2007) as a U.S. Supreme Court judicial clerk for the October 2009 term, the law school will have had graduates serve the nation's highest court four out of five years.

Also, in late July, 1979 graduate Luis A. Aguilar was sworn in as a member of the presidentially-appointed five-person governing body of the Securities and Exchange Commission.



This year's Distinguished Service Scroll Awards were presented to Avant Edenfield (J.D. 1958) (left) and Eleanor Banister (J.D. 1980).

Closer to home, the Law School Association named Eleanor F. Banister (J.D. 1980) and B. Avant Edenfield (J.D. 1958) as the 2008 recipients of the Distinguished Service Scroll Award, the alumni association's highest honor. This award is given to individuals

whose dedication and service to the legal profession and the law school deserve special recognition and is presented during the LSA's annual breakfast held in conjunction with the State Bar of Georgia Annual Meeting each summer.

Eleanor graduated *summa cum laude* from UGA in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in education. She taught in her native Madison County for four years before enrolling at Georgia Law. She earned her Juris Doctor *magna cum laude* in 1980 and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. After graduation, she clerked for Judge G. Ernest Tidwell of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia from 1980 to 1983 and joined King & Spalding as an associate in 1983. Eleanor is currently a partner in King & Spalding's employee benefits and executive compensation practice. She has served on the LSAC since 1998 and was president for the 2006-2007 year. She has also been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2003 and has been included in *Atlanta* magazine's "Georgia Super Lawyers" since 2004 and its "Top 50 Female Georgia Super Lawyers" for 2004, 2005 and 2008.

Judge Edenfield earned his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1956 and his law degree in 1958, both from UGA. He then became active in the U.S. Army and the Georgia National Guard from 1957 to 1963. Judge Edenfield also served in the Georgia State Senate, where he was secretary of the Senate Committee on Higher Education. He was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia in 1978, where he was chief judge for seven years and assumed senior status in 2006. He has also sat by designation on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit and has managed dockets in other southeastern District Courts. His other duties while serving as a judge included working on the judicial branch committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States and serving on the Pattern Jury Charge Committee for the 5th and 11th circuits for approximately 25 years.

Service to the law school can be categorized in a number of different ways, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the leaders of our alumni boards. This past year, Michael J. Bowers (J.D. 1974) chaired the Board of Visi-

tors, and Steven P. Gilliam (J.D. 1974) presided over the LSA. The current leaders of these two groups are Edward T.M. Garland (LL.B. 1965) and Henry C. Tharpe Jr. (J.D. 1974), respectively. I would also like to thank all of you who have served as chairs of your reunion gift committees and as class agents (all of whom are acknowledged in this publication with their classes in the 2007-2008 Honor Roll).



I would also like to thank Dean Emeritus J. Ralph Beaird for chairing the law school's successful Archway to Excellence Capital Campaign effort. The School of Law raised more than \$20 million, topping its goal of \$17 million. As the campaign came to a close, we welcomed a number of key gifts that I would like to highlight:

An anonymous donation from a foundation was received to support our nationally competitive mock trial teams.

Sue and Kenneth M. (J.D. 1947) Henson's second contribution under the auspices of the Archway campaign illustrated that once again the law school was one of their top charitable priorities.

Robert O. Ball III (J.D. 1986) made a multi-year pledge to create a new scholarship. Robert's longstanding support of the Law School Fund has grown into this larger commitment, which demonstrates his continued loyalty to his alma mater.

Additionally, Mike Bowers and Roy E. Barnes (J.D. 1972) have agreed to lead a future fundraising initiative benefiting the School of Law. While the initiative is still in the formative stages, Mike, in his key role, has committed \$1 million to help ensure our school continues its legacy of leadership. I am grateful for Mike and Roy's desire to assist our school with this effort.

For the 2007-2008 fiscal year, your donations to the Law School Fund, which provides essential operating dollars for the school each year and is primarily directed toward students, totaled more than \$692,000. This represents a 4 percent increase over last year and is a school record.

I want you to know that each and every gift received this year (and acknowledged in the pages of this *Annual Report*) and throughout the Archway to Excellence campaign has made an impact. These much needed dollars help us in educating the next generation of leaders for our state, nation and



world and with continuing the proud tradition started by the founders of this law school nearly 150 years ago. This support allows us to reward deserving students with scholarship aid, support talented faculty, and sponsor quality events and programs that help to set our law school apart from the rest.

I appreciate you welcoming all of the members of our fundraising team into your offices and homes over the past year. Next month, Scotty G. Mann will join our staff as the director of development. This University of Chicago Law School graduate comes to Georgia Law with significant law school fundraising experience from the University of Minnesota and the University of Chicago. Scotty will replace Anne S. Moser, who will soon be on a leave of absence while her husband conducts research in Brazil. Anne will rejoin the development office staff on a part-time basis next summer.

I was pleased to see so many of you this fall on campus at the Joseph Henry Lumpkin Society (for annual donors of \$1,000 or more) Champagne and Strawberries Reception, which helped to celebrate the conclusion of the Archway to Excellence Campaign; the 18th Annual Homecoming BBQ; and reunion events for the Classes of 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2003.



*Alumni at this year's JHLS Champagne and Strawberries Reception had a chance to visit with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas (left) who was finishing up a two-day visit to the law school during which he met with faculty and students. Among those at the reception were Verner Chaffin (LL.B. 1942) (center) (who was also celebrating his 90th birthday that day) and Jay Cook (J.D. 1964).*

Additionally, I enjoyed seeing several of you at the Fifth Annual Swearing In Ceremony, held at the State Bar of Georgia Conference Center, for those who recently passed the Georgia bar. I also look forward to seeing many more of you at the state bar alumni events in early January.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Eleanor Banister and King & Spalding for sponsoring the Third Annual Georgia Law Alumnae Evening and Judge Julie E. Carnes (J.D. 1975) for being our featured speaker at that February event.

I also want to thank Elizabeth and Edward H. (J.D. 1984) Lindsey Jr. for holding the JHLS Spring Twilight Affair in their home during April. Joining the Lindseys in hosting this event were: Virginia (J.D. 1977) and C. Wade (J.D. 1976) McGuffey Jr., James F. Cook Jr. (J.D. 1984) and the firm of Goodman McGuffey Lindsey & Johnson.

Staying connected with each other is an important part of what makes Georgia Law so special. I frequently say that we are a "first choice law school" for an overwhelming majority

of our entering students each year. A key reason our school is the "first choice" is because of the atmosphere, which reflects genuine friendships and respect among current students, faculty, staff and alumni. Attending school-related events, reading law school publications and written correspondence, telephoning, e-mailing or texting are all easy ways to stay in contact with one another.

Please know the law school's Web site is one of the best ways to locate a current faculty or staff member. However, if you are looking for a way to track down one of your former classmates, the school has recently launched an online alumni directory. You can find it at [www.law.uga.edu/alumni](http://www.law.uga.edu/alumni), and the one-time registration process is simple.

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## News @ Georgia Law

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Many of you have received the law school's electronic newsletter, *News @ Georgia Law*, which debuted in April. Due to the positive feedback and with this new quarterly communication vehicle in place, the school's alumni magazine, *Advocate*, will now be published one time per year. Please look for the next issue in June 2009. If you are not receiving the e-newsletter, please be sure to update your contact information at [www.law.uga.edu/alumni](http://www.law.uga.edu/alumni) or by calling (706) 542-7959.

In closing, the School of Law has accomplished much over the past year. I hope that in reading this report you, our alumni and friends, have taken great pride in your law school. We still have work to do as we strive to compete at a higher level and to enhance the legacy of leadership our school's founders sought so many years ago. With your continued financial support and service, I know our place among the upper echelon of our nation's law schools will be assured.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Hanner White  
Dean and J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law