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News @ Georgia Law

November 2011

Quarterly electronic newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Georgia School of Law

Featured Events

November 11

[Board of Visitors \(BOV\) Fall Meeting](#)

November 11

[2011 Talmadge Moot Court Competition](#)

November 18

[Law School Association Council \(LSAC\) Fall Meeting](#)

January 19

[Georgia Law Midyear Alumni Reception in Athens](#)

January 20

[Georgia Law Midyear Alumni Breakfast in Athens](#)

February 3

[Striking the Right Balance: Energy Security in International Law Conference](#)

[View more events](#)

Faculty
COLLOQUIUM
Series

INTERNATIONAL LAW
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Series

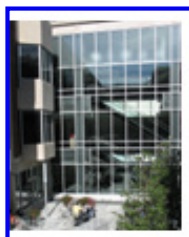
Photo Gallery

* [21st Annual Homecoming BBQ - 11/5/11](#)

* [2011 Reunion Weekend - 11/4/11](#)

* [State Court of Fayette County Judge Carla Wong McMillian \(J.D.'98\) speaks with members of the Asian Law Students Association - 10/27/11](#)

News & Announcements



Renovation complete: Space opens for students/alumni

Just last week, the finishing touches were put on the law school's renovations. These changes, made possible in part by alumni donations, were made to repurpose underutilized areas and to address the overcrowding of public spaces and offices in the law school's primary building. While some new student spaces, the locker room and other offices were made available for use during October, the grand stairway, the Sutherland Courtyard and the remainder of the facility were completed just in time for Homecoming/Reunion Weekend. Plans for carrying this new look and improved functionality through the rest of the building are under development. ([View photos](#))

Georgia Law once again recognized as a "best value" law school

In a recent ranking, Georgia Law was named fifth best in the nation for providing a quality legal education at an affordable price. The listing of "Best Value Law Schools" was compiled by *preLaw* magazine and appeared in its Fall 2011 edition. Other similar listings published in 2011 have recognized Georgia Law for having a high graduate standard of living (2nd) and for providing the most financial value at graduation (10th). ([Read more](#))

Current political issues in Georgia explored

Several members of the Georgia state legislature and its judiciary, including Georgia Law alumni, gathered in Athens last month for a daylong conference on current issues in Peach State politics. Panel discussions focused on immigration, judicial budgetary issues, congressional redistricting and the new Georgia Evidence Code. Hosted by the school's Georgia Association of Law & Politics, panelists for the event included: Georgia State Sen. Hardie Davis, Georgia Court of Appeals Chief Judge John J. Ellington (J.D.'85), Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein, District Attorney for the Western Judicial Circuit Kenneth W. Mauldin (J.D.'80), Georgia State Sen. Jack Murphy, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia Edward J. "Ed" Tarver (J.D.'91) and Georgia Senate President Pro Tempore Tommie Williams, among others. ([View photos](#))



U.S. Supreme Court Justice makes fifth trip to Georgia Law

During September, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas spent two days on campus and led a few classes, held a Q&A for law school students and faculty as well as helped judge the biennial international moot court exchange with Gray's Inn of London. This was the Supreme Court justice's fifth visit to Georgia Law since 2003. ([View photos](#))

* [First Annual Georgia Symposium of Law & Politics - 10/22/11](#)

* [2011 J. Melvin England Mock Trial Tournament - 10/21/11](#)

* [Macon area alumni reception - 10/20/11](#)

* [Georgia Supreme Court Justice Harold D. Melton \(J.D.'91\) addresses members of the law school's Christian Legal Society - 10/17/11](#)

* [Georgia Secretary of State Brian P. Kemp discusses his thoughts on the 2012 presidential primary dates with members of the law school community - 10/11/11](#)

* [LaGrange area alumni reception - 10/6/11](#)

* [Professional Development Roundtable featuring Robert P. Hall III \(J.D.'85\), senior manager and counsel for U.S. government relations and policy at the General Electric Company - 9/30/11](#)

* [1L Family & Friends Visitation Day - 9/23/11](#)

* [U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas visit - 9/21/11 to 9/22/11](#)

* [Joseph Henry Lumpkin Society Champagne and Strawberries Reception - 9/16/11](#)

* [Washington, D.C., area alumni reception - 9/13/11](#)

* [Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal addresses members of the law school community - 9/9/11](#)

[More Photos](#)



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Advocacy program off to great start with two national wins

Georgia Law captured the top trophy in this year's National Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition, which is one of the largest single tournaments in the country. Congratulations to third-year law students William F. Carter, Chadrick A. Mance, Samuel E. Meller and B. Clarke Nash for defeating a field of more than 100 competitors representing 31 law schools from 15 states to finish in the top spot.

Additionally, third-year law students R. Tyler Fisher and Miguel A. Trujillo won the 2nd Annual Mercer University Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition, and Trujillo was named "best oralist" of the championship round. This is the first year Georgia Law has competed in this national tournament, which included 22 teams from 17 law schools.

Conference to examine international energy security

International energy governance issues, regulatory law in the renewable energy sector, and nuclear safety law and nuclear waste legal regimes post-Fukushima are some of the topics that will be discussed during the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law's* energy security conference Feb. 3. Titled "Striking the Right Balance: Energy Security in International Law," the event will feature a keynote address by Commissioner William C. Ostendorff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and is co-sponsored by the law school's Dean Rusk Center. CLE credits will be available. ([Learn more](#))

[More News](#)

Faculty on the Record

Smith Professor [Peter A. Appel](#) has published "[Wilderness, the Courts, and the Effect of Politics on Judicial Decisionmaking](#)" in 35 *Harvard Environmental Law Review* 275 (2011).

Assistant Professor [Matthew I. Hall](#) has been named a [2011-2013 Lilly Teaching Fellow](#). Sponsored by the UGA Center for Teaching and Learning, this program provides tenure-track junior faculty with an opportunity to enhance their pedagogy.

Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs [Paul M. Kurtz](#) received the [Milner S. Ball Social Justice Award](#) at the annual Athens Justice Project fundraiser luncheon during October. Kurtz was honored for his tireless work on behalf of indigent criminal defense in Georgia, on reform of family law nationally and for countless community organizations and causes.

Associate Professor [Elizabeth Weeks Leonard](#) (J.D.'99) has published "Introduction: The Prospects for Public Health Reform" in 39 *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics* 312 (2011). She also served as the guest editor for this issue of the journal.

Professor [Camilla E. Watson](#) has published [Federal Income Taxation: Model Problems and Outstanding Answers](#) (Oxford University Press, 2011).

[More Faculty Highlights](#)

Around the Law School

Georgia Law welcomes two

Alumna [Laura Tate Kagel](#) (J.D.'06) joined Georgia Law as the assistant director of the Dean Rusk Center, while [Lara O. Pulliam](#) has become the school's new stewardship

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In the Spotlight

Brief profiles of members of the law school community.



[Chief Intellectual Property
Counsel for Chevron
Corporation Nicholas N. Leach
\(J.D.'85\)](#)

manager. Since law school, Kagel has served in a leadership role specializing in international human rights advocacy at Amnesty International and has taught German at Clemson University and UGA. At the Rusk Center, she assists with the management of center activities and helps to develop strategic organizational linkages in addition to administering study abroad programs in China and Europe and organizing conferences. Also no stranger to UGA, Pulliam comes to the law school with seven years of event planning experience gained at the Georgia Center. At the law school, she manages the school's gift acknowledgment and stewardship processes, which includes donor recognition events.

Career Services now taking on-campus interview reservations for 2012

Georgia Law invites you to interview on campus or collect résumés from law student applicants during the spring semester at your convenience. The interview season runs from Feb. 18 to April 20. All interview candidates are employer pre-screened. To register, please contact Interview Coordinator Robbie Eddins at eddins@uga.edu or (706) 542-7568.



Dan Coenen featured in "Focus on Faculty"

Associate Dean for Faculty Development Dan T. Coenen was recently profiled as part of UGA's new "Focus on Faculty" website feature. [\(Learn more\)](#)

Midyear alumni events to take place in Athens

Due to the tremendous success of last year's event, the law school has decided to once again hold the midyear alumni reception and breakfast in Athens rather than in conjunction with the State Bar Midyear Meeting in Atlanta. On Thursday night (1/19), LSA President J. Thomas "J. Tom" Morgan III (J.D.'80) will host a reception for all Georgia Law alumni. Superior Court judges who will be in town for their winter conference will also be invited to join in the event, which will take place in the law school's newly renovated facilities. The next morning (Friday, 1/20), alumni are invited to breakfast in the Larry Walker Room of Dean Rusk Hall. Pre-registration is required. More details will be distributed soon.

Nine Georgia Law graduates named to UGA's "40 Under 40"



The UGA Alumni Association recently recognized nine Georgia Law graduates by naming them to this year's "40 Under 40" class. Each year, the association picks 40 graduates who have had a significant impact in business, leadership, community, educational and/or philanthropic endeavors. Those named to this group must have also demonstrated dedication to UGA and its mission of teaching, research and service. It has been said that they represent "the very best of UGA graduates." [\(Learn more\)](#)

Photo courtesy of Wingate Downs

Regional alumni gatherings help to build relationships

For those of you who find it hard to make it back to Athens, regional alumni events are a great way to reconnect with fellow Georgia Law graduates. Thank you to the following alumni and friends who hosted receptions this fall: R. Dale (J.D.'86) and Cynthia G. Hughes – Marietta, Ga.; Charles A. Hunnicutt (J.D.'75) and Dr. William O. and Gail J. Hunnicutt – LaGrange, Ga.; Hubert C. (J.D.'71) and Ann E. Lovein – Macon, Ga.; and Williamson S. (J.D.'59) and Ethelynn Stuckey – Washington, D.C. Please plan to join us this spring in New York City, N.Y., Columbus, Ga., and Gainesville, Ga., as well as in other locations to be announced.



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Professor Lori A. Ringhand



-
Second-year
law student
Van'Nessa A.
Lotson



Please forward any comments or questions to
lawcomm@uga.edu.



Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season

Please note the law school will be closed Nov. 24 – 25 (Thanksgiving Holiday), Dec. 26 – Jan. 2 (Winter Break) and Jan. 16 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

Class Notes & In Memoriam

Class Notes and In Memoriam listings now only appear online in *News @ Georgia Law*. Our goal is to provide this news in a timely manner to alumni and friends.

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