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## Dean's Report 2009

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# 2009 DEAN'S REPORT

REBECCA HANNER WHITE

*This year marks the 150th anniversary of our law school, one of the nation's oldest and most successful public law schools. Although legal education has changed in significant ways over the past 150 years, the markers of a great law school have not. Putting academically rigorous teachers into classrooms with intellectually serious and highly motivated students results in a first class learning experience that produces professionals of the highest caliber. We are committed to continuing that proud tradition at Georgia Law and to enhancing what is already an outstanding work product.*



It is my pleasure to provide you this report on our progress over the past year. As you will discover in reading through it, Georgia Law, 150 years after its founding, is and should be a source of pride for all those connected with our school.

## FACULTY – TEACHING

Our talented faculty is of central importance to the success of our law school. Five members earned new titles or were granted tenure this year. J. Randy Beck and Lonnie T. Brown Jr. were promoted to the rank of full professor, Erica J. Hashimoto was granted tenure and Robert P. “Bobby” Bartlett III and Usha Rodrigues were named associate professors. Additionally, Matthew I. “Matt” Hall, who teaches Civil Procedure and Legal Profession, joined our faculty as an assistant professor.



Professor Randy Beck

Randy joined the School of Law in 1997 and has taught Property, Trusts and Estates, Christian Perspectives on Legal Thought and Constitutional Law. A former U.S. Supreme Court judicial clerk to Justice Anthony

M. Kennedy, he also clerked for Judge Patrick E. Higginbotham of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit and worked as a general litigation associate with Perkins Coie in Seattle, Wash., before coming to Athens.

Lonnie joined our faculty during 2002 and has taught Civil Procedure, Legal Profession, Ethics in Litigation and Conflict of Laws. Last academic year, he served as a UGA Administrative Fellow working in the Office of the Provost. He worked as an associate and partner at Alston & Bird and clerked for Judge William



Professor Lonnie Brown

C. O’Kelley of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia before entering academe. Lonnie also served as the chief organizer of the 10th Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Symposium, which was hosted by our law school in October and is highlighted in more detail later in this letter.

Erica joined the Georgia Law faculty during 2004 and has taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Legal Profession and Sentencing. Previously, she was



Associate Professor  
Erica Hashimoto

an assistant federal public defender in the Office of the Federal Public Defender in Washington, D.C., and a judicial clerk for Judge David S. Tatel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Judge Paul L. Friedman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Teaching Corporate Finance and Contracts, Bobby joined our faculty during 2005. Previously, he was a visiting assistant professor at the Fordham University School of Law and a corporate associate in the Menlo Park, Calif., and Waltham, Mass., offices of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian. Bobby is currently on leave this academic year, visiting at the University of California at Berkeley.



Associate Professor  
Bobby Bartlett

Specializing in corporate law, Usha leads courses on contracts, corporations and the life cycle of a corporation.



Associate Professor  
Usha Rodrigues

Prior to becoming a Georgia Law faculty member in 2005, she was a corporate associate with Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Reston, Va., where she focused on corporate law and technology transactions. Usha also served as a judicial clerk for Judge Thomas L. Ambro of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit.

Our newest professor, Matt Hall came to Athens after serving as a visiting assistant professor at the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and an adjunct at the University of California at Davis. A former judicial clerk for Judge David F. Levi of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California and Judge Marsha S. Berzon of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, he earned his bachelor's degree *cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from the Johns Hopkins University and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Michigan, where he was articles editor of the *Michigan Law Review*.



Assistant Professor  
Matt Hall

## FACULTY – RESEARCH

The Georgia Law faculty continues to produce outstanding scholarship. Recent works have appeared or are forthcoming in journals such as the *Iowa Law Review*, the *Minnesota Law Review*, the *Northwestern University Law Review*, the *Texas Law Review*, *The University of Chicago Law Review*, the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, the *Vanderbilt Law Review* and the *Virginia Law Review*.

First-edition books that have been published in the past year or are forthcoming include: Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Woodruff Chair in International Law Daniel M. Bodansky's *The Art and Craft of International Environmental Law* from Harvard University Press, Hosch Professor Anne Proffitt Dupre's (J.D. 1988) *Speaking Up: The Unintended Costs of Free Speech in Public Schools* also from Harvard University Press and Martin Chair James C. "Jim" Smith's *The Glannon Guide to Property* from Aspen Publishers.

Moreover, Hosch Professor Thomas A. Eaton's article "The Contours of a New FRCP, Rule 68.1: A Proposed Two-Way Offer of Settlement Provision for Federal Fee-Shifting Cases" in *252 Federal Rules Decisions* 551 (2008) (with H. Lewis) was selected for the Southeastern Association of Law Schools' 2009 Call for Papers Award.

## FACULTY – SERVICE

Service is a key part of the school's mission. Many of our faculty have answered the call of service to the legal profession and to the broader community. National recognitions awarded during the past 12 months include Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs and Hosch Professor Paul M. Kurtz being presented with the National Child Support Enforcement Association's Child Support Community Service Award, which honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the child support community.



The National Child Support Enforcement Association honored Associate Dean and Hosch Professor Paul Kurtz with its Child Support Community Service Award.

Law Library Director and Professor E. Ann Puckett was given the American Association of Law Libraries' most prestigious honor, the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes outstanding, extended and sustained service to law librarianship and to the AALL.





*Law Library Director and Professor Ann Puckett was presented the American Association of Law Libraries' Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award by then-AALL President James Duggan. (Highlighted on previous page.)*

to be a member of an American Arbitration Association delegation to the United Nations' Commission on International Trade Law.

Also, Associate Professor Usha Rodrigues was appointed as reporter of the American Bar Association's Special Task Force on the Impact of the Troubled Asset Relief Program on Corporate Governance.

One of the drawbacks of having a stable and experienced faculty is the need, from time to time, to say goodbye to those who have served our institution with distinction. Earlier this year, after more than 35 years of service, Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor and former Dean C. Ronald Ellington retired. Since his retirement, he has been granted emeritus status and has been presented with UGA's Blue Key Service Award, which honors those who have made important contributions to the university, the state and the nation. Fortunately, Ron will continue to teach Georgia Practice and Procedure for us.

Additionally, Kilpatrick Chair of Corporate Finance and Securities Law Charles R.T. "Chuck" O'Kelley retired from UGA after more than a decade of teaching. Chuck now serves on the law faculty of Seattle University.

Professor David A. Brennen, who joined our faculty in 2006 and specialized in taxation and nonprofit law, became dean of the University of Kentucky College of Law after serving as deputy director of the Association of American Law Schools for the past two academic years.

Lastly, Law Library Director and Professor Ann Puckett recently informed me of her intention to retire this coming June. Of Ann's 30-plus year career in law librarianship and legal teaching, approximately half was spent here at Georgia Law.

Associate Professor Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge was selected to serve on the Institute of Transnational Arbitration's Academic Council, to sit on the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Rules Advisory Committee and

## FACULTY – OTHER

One of the great things about being a highly regarded law school is the quality of the visiting professors and guest speakers we attract. These visitors enrich the academic environment of Georgia Law in many ways.

This past spring's Sanders Scholar (named in honor of former Georgia Gov. Carl E. Sanders (J.D. 1948)) was former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, who was assisted in teaching the course by alumnus J. Randolph "Randy" Evans (J.D. 1983).

Joining us this academic year are: former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears who will lead

a course on contemporary issues in family law, Delaware



*Former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears is teaching at Georgia Law this academic year.*

Court of Chancery Chancellor William B. Chandler III who will teach Advanced Corporations, the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law's Miriam A. Cherry who will instruct in the areas of contracts and corporations, the University of New Mexico's Scott H. Hughes who will lead courses in arbitration and the theory of conflict as well as assist with our Civil Externship Clinic, former Central Intelligence Agency legal adviser Frederic F. Manget who will teach Intelligence Law, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Richard J. Peltz who will instruct in the areas of torts and freedom of information law, and the University of Brussels Centre for Economic Law and Governance's Kim Van der Borgh who will teach International Economics.

Our 2009-2011 Public Service Fellow is Alison R. Spiers. Our fellowship program fosters the creation of projects that provide civil legal services to indigent Georgians and incorporate law students in the delivery of these services. As our fourth fellow, Alison's project will serve the legal needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.



*Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich taught a course on judicial review with Randy Evans (J.D. 1983) as this past spring's Sanders Scholar.*



*Delaware Court of Chancery Chancellor William Chandler is teaching a course on advanced corporations this fall.*

Guest speakers who spent time in Athens to share their experience with our students and faculty during the past 12 months include: U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India K.G. Balakrishnan, former Solicitor General of Hong Kong Daniel R. Fung, former U.S. Foreign Service officers Earle St. A. Scarlett and Barbara A.H. Scarlett, and the University of Utah's Amos N. Guiora.



Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India K.G. Balakrishnan (left) speaks to third-year law student David Smythe during a reception following the chief justice's presentation.

Additionally, UGA Center for the Study of Global Issues Director Han S. Park spoke about his role in the August release of two U.S. journalists from North Korea.

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia Judge Lisa Godbey Wood (J.D. 1990) delivered the 2009 commencement address, while Chicago-Kent College of Law's Felice J. Batlan, who spoke about female law school experiences and a recent study she conducted, served as the 27th Edith House Lecturer.

The school's 104th Sibley Lecturer was Stanford's Vice Dean and Gaither Professor Mark G. Kelman, who addressed the valuation of death. This fall's Sibley Lecturer was the University of Virginia's Harrison Distinguished Professor Frederick Schauer, who spoke on the law's impact on the behavior of public officials. In addition, statutory interpretation expert William Eskridge Jr., Yale University's Garver Professor of Jurisprudence, will be our spring 2010 Sibley presenter.

The conferences organized by Georgia Law's faculty and students continue to be of the highest caliber. These symposia enrich the academic environment by encouraging dialogue and furthering research on important and timely topics.

In January, the law school hosted International Commercial Arbitration: *Fifty Years After the New York Conven-*

*tion*, which featured keynote speaker and international dispute resolution authority Gary Born who introduced his new treatise on international commercial arbitration during the event.

Titled *Drawing the Ethical Line: Controversial Cases, Zealous Advocacy and the Public Good*, the 10th Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Symposium featured former U.S. Attorney General W. Ramsey Clark and former U.S. Attorney David C. Iglesias.



Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark (shown) and former U.S. Attorney David Iglesias served as the keynote speakers at a conference on legal ethics hosted by the law school.

The 21st Annual Red Clay Conference focused on green sustainable commerce and featured Associate Professor Peter A. Appel, President of Registry Consultants Dr. T. Rick Irvin (J.D. 2008) and Smith, Gambrell & Russell Environmental Law Section and Sustainability Practice Group Leader Stephen E. O'Day.

Of special note, organizers of the Working in the Public Interest Law Conference – with a keynote address delivered by the Southern Poverty Law Center's Immigrant Justice Project Director Mary Bauer – and the school's annual Equal Justice Foundation Auction won the university's S.O.A.R. Award for Outstanding Campus Event for their combined public interest weekend held early in the spring semester.

Georgia Law also hosted approximately 150 law librarians during April for the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, which promotes law librarianship and seeks to increase the usefulness of law libraries.

This fall, nearly 40 judges and court personnel came to campus from Brazil as participants in the Dean Rusk Center's International Judicial Training Program, which seeks to facilitate reform by offering capacity-building judicial administration programs. In addition, this month, the IJTP took its program on the road for the first time and provided onsite training in conjunction with the Dubai Judicial Institute for members of the judiciary from Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

## STUDENTS

The educational mission of Georgia Law is immeasurably enriched by bright students. Gifted students not only challenge their peers but they also push professors into taking thoughts, theories and principles to the next level of discussion.

Entering Class of 2009 Statistics

|                 | LSAT Score | Undergraduate GPA |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|
| 75th Percentile | 165*       | 3.8               |
| Median          | 164*       | 3.7*              |
| 25th Percentile | 161*       | 3.4               |

\* Represents a school record.

I am very pleased to share that the academic credentials of the entering Class of 2009 are the best in Georgia Law history. Well over half of the students who enrolled this fall scored 164 or higher on the Law School Admission Test, placing these students in the top 10 percent of test takers nationwide. The median undergraduate grade point average of the class was 3.7. Both figures represent school records.

While 71 percent of the students in the first-year class are Georgia residents, they come from 27 states and 90 undergraduate schools. The most represented schools in this class are: the University of Georgia (81), Emory University (13), Georgia State University (13), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (6), the Georgia Institute of Technology (5) and Vanderbilt University (5). The most common undergraduate degrees are: political science, finance, history and English.

This entering class of 241 students is 54 percent male and 46 percent female, with a minority enrollment of 23 percent.

The Master of Laws class is also talented with 13 professionals and practitioners seeking to expand their understanding of law and legal issues with individually fashioned programs. These students come to Georgia Law from countries such as China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Germany, Nigeria and the Republic of Congo.

Also, this year, five of the participants are American.

There are a number of reasons students choose to earn their law degrees at UGA – the caliber of our faculty, the collegiality and quality of our student body and the city of Athens, just to name a few. One additional reason is value. Recently, Georgia Law was ranked 16th in *The National Jurist's* listing of “Best Value Law Schools.”

Also, survey data appearing earlier this year in *The New York Times*, listing starting salaries and degree costs for a select group of law schools, had Georgia Law graduates earning some of the highest salaries in the country while their educational costs were reported among the very lowest. This further speaks to the quality of the education as well as the excellent return on investment provided by our law school.

This fall, we officially began our Business Law and Ethics Program under the supervision of former National Service Industries President Carol Morgan (J.D. 1979). One of the goals of this initiative is to provide students with practical legal training in the context of a business law practice. Key elements include core classes, practice-based courses and experiential learning components such as participation in transactional externships (including the new Corporate Counsel Externship), national negotiation competitions, the school's Business Law Society and the Annual Business/Law Symposium.

Our study/work abroad programs continue to prepare our students for working in a global society. I am pleased to report that approximately 20 percent of our rising second-year class participated in one of our summer programs during 2009. This includes the Global Internship Program, which is UGA's largest program in terms of geographic reach, the Summer Program in China and the Summer Program in Brussels, which both recently extended their

*The New York Times* recently compiled Class of 2008 starting salaries and degree costs for a select group of law schools. The data illustrates Georgia Law's excellent return on investment.

| School     | Median Salary  |               | Salary Range   |               | Total Degree Cost |
|------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
|            | Private Sector | Public Sector | Private Sector | Public Sector |                   |
| Columbia   | \$160K         | \$54K         | \$95-168K      | \$20-75K      | \$124K            |
| Emory      | \$145K         | \$53K         | \$50-165K      | \$37-65K      | \$110K            |
| Georgia    | \$130K         | \$55K         | \$40-250K      | \$30-90K      | \$32K             |
| Stanford   | \$160K         | \$56K         | \$80-200K      | \$46-58K      | \$120K            |
| Texas      | \$165K         | \$50K         | \$38-165K      | \$32-70K      | \$56K             |
| Vanderbilt | \$145K         | \$50K         | \$52-165K      | \$45-70K      | \$109K            |
| Yale       | \$160K         | \$60K         | \$55-200K      | \$30-150K     | \$123K            |



duration from three weeks to three-and-one-half weeks. Furthermore, Georgia Law is one of only a few American law schools to operate a semester study abroad program. Ours is at the University of Oxford.

Our advocacy programs continue to be counted among the best in the country. Over the past five years, Georgia Law has captured six national titles, 13 regional crowns



Capturing first place trophies in the regional round of the 2009 Texas Bar Association National Trial Competition were (l. to r.) the team of Amer Ahmad and Erin Redmon and the team of Titus Nichols and Michael Eshman.

and four state trophies in addition to numerous individual and team honors. This past academic year, Georgia Law had two teams win the regional round of the 2009 Texas Bar Association National Trial Competition and finish as national semifinalists and quarterfinalists. Moreover, the school continued its winning streak in the Intrastate Moot Court Competition by taking home all three trophies – the championship, best brief and best oralist – for the second straight year and the championship title for the fourth year in a row. The law school had a top eight finish at the 6th Annual Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition, and it captured the regional trophy and a national quarterfinalist title at the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition.

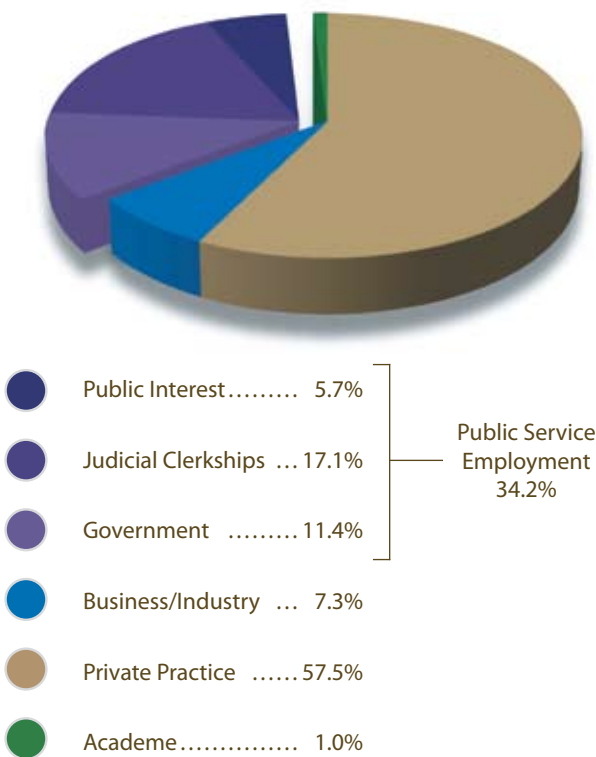
Georgia Law students are also important players in the research role of the school. They regularly organize conferences, and through the more than 30 law student organizations, they sponsor speakers on a wide variety of legal topics each year. However, perhaps the most obvious contribution to the pursuit of legal scholarship by our student body is through our three student-edited journals – the *Georgia Law Review*, the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law* and the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*. Frequently cited, these texts publish works authored by leading scholars as well as select student notes.

Our students answer the call to service through any of the 11 service learning opportunities offered at the school.

Dating back more than 40 years, Georgia Law's clinical-type offerings include: the Capital Assistance Project, the Civil Externship Clinic, the Criminal Defense Clinic, the Environmental Practicum, the Family Violence Clinic, the Land Use Clinic, the Mediation Practicum, the Prosecutorial Clinic, the Public Interest Practicum, the Special Education Practicum and the Corporate Counsel Externship, which is new this year. Georgia Law students also initiate symposia addressing social justice issues, which encourage discussion and action, and organize a range of volunteer efforts, such as food and clothing drives, mentoring students and assisting with income tax filing.

For the Class of 2008, which reported a 98.1 percent placement rate within nine months after graduation (the official reporting deadline of the National Association for Law Placement), 34.2 percent chose employment in public interest, government or judicial clerkship positions. As a whole, this class obtained employment in 19 different states.

More than one-third of the Class of 2008 chose public service employment.



Source: Class of 2008 final report to the National Association for Law Placement (2/2009).



Merritt McAlister (J.D. 2007) is the fourth Georgia Law graduate in the last five years to serve as a judicial clerk for the U.S. Supreme Court.

Of special note is 2007 alumna Merritt E. McAlister, who is currently serving as a U.S. Supreme Court clerk to Justice John Paul Stevens. She is the fourth Georgia Law graduate in the last five years to serve our nation's highest court in this capacity, placing Georgia Law among the top law schools in the nation for supplying clerks to this court.

I encourage you, if you are seeking to hire, to call the school's Office of

Legal Career Services to find a well qualified Georgia Law student or graduate. With the recent addition of Assistant Director Sara Schramm – who earned her law degree from Brooklyn Law School and worked for Simpson Thacher & Bartlett in New York City and Evert Weathersby Houff in Athens – Director Beth Shackelford Kirch, Career Advisor Tricia J. Hackleman and other career services staff are well positioned to assist with filling your needs.

## ALUMNI

This past summer, two of your fellow alumni were presented with the school's alumni association's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Scroll Award. They are Emmet J. Bondurant II (LL.B. 1960) and Kenneth "Ken" Klein (J.D. 1976).

Emmett is a partner at Bondurant, Mixson & Elmore. A trial lawyer with more than 45 years of experience, he specializes in antitrust law. He received a Trial Lawyer of the Year Award from the Georgia chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocacy in 1992 and, in 2000, was recognized by *The National Law Journal* as one of the top 10 lawyers in the United States. He has also served as chair of the school's Board of Visitors and as a president of the Law School Association.



Ken Klein (J.D. 1976) and Emmet Bondurant (LL.B. 1960) (right) were honored with Distinguished Service Scroll Awards.

Ken is currently a partner at Mayer Brown, where he serves as firm-wide practice leader for its Tax Transactions and Planning Department. His areas of focus include international taxation, tax planning, tax transactions, tax controversies and public policy. He was named as one of the "World's Leading Tax Advisers" by *Euromoney's International Tax Review* in 2007 and was selected as a leading tax lawyer by *Chambers USA* in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008. Additionally, Ken is a member of the law school's BOV.

Notably, 1980 alumnus Jere W. Morehead was recently named UGA's new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. He will assume the university's second-highest administrative post on January 1, replacing Arnett C. Mace Jr., who is retiring after 18 years of service to UGA, with seven of those years as provost.



Jere Morehead (J.D. 1980) has been selected as UGA's new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

I would also like to recognize last year's alumni board leaders. Edward T.M. Garland (LL.B. 1965) chaired the BOV, while Henry C. Tharpe Jr. (J.D. 1974) presided over the LSA. Their talents and time, and those of their fellow board members, were very much appreciated.

Others who have lent their skill and knowledge to your alma mater during the past academic year are participants in the Dean's Business Roundtable Series, where alumni come to campus and, in a small group setting, share their professional experiences with our students. Those in attendance last year were: Robert O. Ball III (J.D. 1986), Office Arrow; Otis A. Brumby Jr. (LL.B. 1965), *The Marietta Daily Journal/Neighbor Newspapers*; David S. Golden (J.D. 1971), formerly of CGR Advisors; Frank J. Hanna III (J.D. 1986), Hanna Capital; Kenneth S. Resnick (J.D. 1981), GE Oil & Gas; Michael J. Sharp (J.D. 1991), formerly of Citi Global Wealth Management and now with WilmerHale; and Alan P. Shor (J.D. 1983), The Retail Connection.

In addition, our Alumni Advocacy Series panelists imparted courtroom knowledge and strategies to our students in this popular forum. This past spring, we hosted Morris, Manning & Martin's Holly A. Pierson (J.D. 1996), Cbeyond's William H. "Bill" Weber IV (J.D. 1996), former longtime Georgia Eastern Judicial Circuit District Attorney Spencer Lawton Jr. (J.D. 1971) and Pope, McGlamry, Kilpatrick, Morrison & Norwood's William U. "Bill" Norwood III (LL.B. 1967).



Furthermore, Valerie Caproni (J.D. 1979), who currently serves as general counsel for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, took time to share her experiences with her fellow law school alumnae at an Atlanta gathering in February. This event was hosted by Jeanine Gibbs Garvie (J.D. 1996) at McKenna Long & Aldridge.



*This year's alumnae evening featured General Counsel for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Valerie Caproni (J.D. 1979).*

Some of your fellow graduates also provide support to the law school by helping to organize and host an event. I thank E. Kendrick "Ken" Smith (J.D. 1981) and Caryl Greenberg Smith (J.D. 1982) for welcoming more than 120 guests into their Atlanta home for the Joseph Henry Lumpkin Society Spring Twilight Affair. This event honors alumni who have donated \$1,000 or more annually to the law school.

Additionally, N. Karen "Kay" Deming (J.D. 1978) hosted an admissions reception for admitted students at Troutman Sanders during March.

Another way to support your law school is with a charitable gift. All contributions, large and small, are sincerely appreciated, and I am delighted you are able to be recognized in this *Annual Report*.

Your donations do make a difference, especially in challenging economic times such as these. For the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the school raised more than \$2.1 million from nearly 19 percent of our alumni body. Of special note, in May, the Class of 2009 presented the school with a class gift of almost \$89,000, eclipsing the previous high by more than \$20,000. This effort, co-chaired by Benjamin R. "Ben" Carlsen and Valerie Alva-Ruiz, was supported by more than 54 percent of the class.



*Class of 2009 Legacy Gift Committee Co-chairs Valerie Alva-Ruiz and Ben Carlsen presented a check during graduation to the law school for the record amount of \$88,925.*

Your money, time and talents given to the law school are indispensable investments. Your law school's main areas of need continue to be student scholarships and support for our professors. Talented students impact the level and quality of the academic rigor found in the classroom, and teachers who are afforded time and funding for scholarly pursuits are better poised to educate the next generation of leaders.

Our primary goal is simple – to offer one of the finest legal educations in the country. As members of the Georgia Law community, we have so many reasons to be proud – our dedicated and talented faculty and staff, our engaged and intelligent student body and our successful and supportive alumni base.

Only with your generosity will Georgia Law be able to respond to changes in the legal field, to continuously improve the quality of legal education we offer and to further advance your alma mater among the ranks of our nation's very best law schools. Our students and faculty are counting on you.

Sincerely,

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