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Repository Citation

Communications and Public Relations, Office of, "Women's leadership initiative, jurists in residence, inaugural fellows help usher in a new year at Georgia Law" (2016). *News @ UGA School of Law*. 163. https://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/lectures_pre_arch_archives_advocate/163

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Women's leadership initiative, jurists in residence, inaugural fellows help usher in a new year at Georgia Law

The University of Georgia School of Law continues to fulfill its mission of providing first-rate legal training and producing world-class scholarship through unparalleled opportunities within and outside of the classroom. As you will see from the highlights below, our students benefit not only by learning from a dedicated faculty consisting of national and international thought leaders but also from experiences unique to Georgia Law.

I hope you will take a moment to learn how one of the nation's top public law schools is training tomorrow's legal leaders and making a positive impact on the legal profession.

Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge
Dean and Herman E. Talmadge Chair of Law

Georgia Women in Law Lead highlights pathbreakers



One hundred years ago, the state of Georgia first admitted women to the practice of law. Today, women play significant roles as scholars, directors and heads of key administrative units within the School of Law while alumnae are leading firms, corporations and government agencies throughout the nation. Inspired by the many women pathbreakers in law, business and public service, Georgia Women in Law Lead, a year-long initiative, launched in August 2016. **Events** will feature such prominent women as former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navanethem Pillay, Chief Legal Officer of the Krystal Company and On The Border Sloane Perras, and U.S. District Court Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson. Georgia WILL also plans to host a brainstorming session for women professors interested in becoming law school or university administrators at the Association of

American Law Schools Annual Meeting in San Francisco in January 2017.

Jurists bring real world experience to the classroom

During the 2016-17 year, Georgia Law students will have the opportunity to learn from a number of distinguished jurists, including a member of the U.S. Supreme Court and two federal judges participating in the **B. Avant Edenfield Jurist in Residence** program, which was created in 2015 through a gift from an alumnus and former clerk of the late federal judge. The jurists scheduled to teach include:

- Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court **Clarence Thomas**
- Chief Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia **Lisa Godbey Wood** (Edenfield Jurist in Residence)
- Vice Chancellor on the Delaware Court of Chancery **Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves**
- Senior Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia **David B. Sentelle** (Edenfield Jurist in Residence)
- Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama **R. David Proctor**

Inaugural class of distinguished law fellows named

Through the generosity of a \$2 million founding gift made in early 2016, Georgia Law has created the **Philip H. Alston, Jr. Distinguished Law Fellows** program. The first three recipients (pictured above, l. to r.: Lindsey R. Bunting, Katherine G. Howard and Taryn P. Winston) of the full-tuition-plus scholarships were named in August and will benefit from externships, guided research experiences and targeted networking opportunities as part of the fellowship experience. Recipients were selected for their extraordinary academic achievement and exceptional professional promise.

Mentor program creates new level of student support

The beginning of the 2016-17 year marked the start of a new networking program through which all first-year students have been matched with a faculty member, an upper-level law student and a law school graduate or legal professional of similar interest. An overwhelming number of Georgia Law alumni/alumnae agreed to participate in the program, which will provide students with a reliable network for insights and opinions throughout their law school experience.

Faculty influence legal discussion and policy, receive multiple fellowships and grants

- Hosch Associate Professor **Mehrsa Baradaran**, author of *How the Other Half Banks* (Harvard University Press, 2015), has become a leading voice in the debate on postal banking. Baradaran has also participated in a banking reform panel with U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown and Elizabeth Warren as well as delivered talks at the World Bank and the U.S. Department of Treasury.
- Tax scholar **Gregg D. Polsky** has joined Georgia Law's faculty as the Francis Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law. His teaching expertise includes tax, private equity and an innovative course on business basics for lawyers. He is the co-author of *Federal Income Taxation: Cases and Materials*.
- Associate Professor **Kent Barnett** was quoted in the *National Law Journal* regarding his recently released research on the 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision *Chevron U.S.A. v. Natural Resources Defense Council*. The research is the most comprehensive empirical study to date on how the federal courts of appeals have applied *Chevron* deference. The article "*Chevron* in the Circuit Courts" will be



published in the *Michigan Law Review*.

- Several members of the Georgia Law faculty are fellowship or grant honorees, including: Marshall Chair of Constitutional Law **Randy Beck**, who was awarded a Garwood Visiting Fellowship through the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University; Associate Professor **Fazal Khan**, who received the Hartford Foundation's Health and Aging Policy Fellowship; Mediation Practicum Managing Attorney **Eleanor Crosby Lanier**, who was selected for a research grant from the Borchard Foundation Center on Law & Aging; and Professor **Sonja R. West**, who won the National Communication Association's Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression.



The University of Georgia

School of Law, 225 Herty Drive, Athens, GA 30602

(706) 542-5172 - lawcomm@uga.edu

www.law.uga.edu

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