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Dean's Letter to the Alumni

C. Ronald Ellington

University of Georgia School of Law

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The University of Georgia

School of Law

October 1989

Greetings!

The 1989-90 academic year is well underway, and I am pleased to report that our Law School is stronger now than ever. With the addition of several new faculty and with the infusion of additional University funds to support our library and assist with computerization, we continue to maintain and enhance this Law School's proud tradition of excellence.

You can be especially proud that our first-year class is yet another outstanding group of academically strong, talented, and eager students. The median LSAT posted by this class is 39, two points above last year's entering class median score, and the highest score in our school's history. For those of us accustomed to the old LSAT scale of 200 to 800, today's 39 is equivalent to a score of 675. This enviable LSAT, combined with the class GPA of over 3.25, ranks our first-year students among the nation's best. In addition, we were able to choose our 221 entering students from a record number of applicants from Georgia and the nation. In fact, applications from Georgia residents increased 18.5 percent this past year.

The research and instructional program at the Law School will be greatly enhanced this year by an additional \$50,000 in state funds allocated to the Law Library to augment electronic research services (WESTLAW, LEXIS, and NEXIS) available to our faculty and students. These funds, I note, are on top of the additional \$100,000 in state funding received by the Law Library last year. Acquiring the tools of modern technology was a high priority at the start of the 1989-90 fiscal year as computers were purchased for faculty to create academic work stations in their offices to access the databases now available at the Law Library.

Five new faculty members joined us in August, the result of an extensive and highly successful faculty recruitment effort. Alan Watson, one of the world's leading scholars in comparative law and legal history, came to us from his position as University Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania to become our school's first Ernest P. Rogers Professor of Law. Watson, a warm and engaging Scotsman, is teaching a first-year property class as well as electives offering historical and comparative perspectives on law and legal institutions.

Three superb Assistant Professors have also joined us. Rebecca White graduated first in her class at the University of Kentucky School of Law in 1981 where she also served as editor-in-chief of the law review. White came to Athens from private practice with the Cincinnati firm of Dinsmore & Shohl. She will teach in the labor law and employment discrimination area. Paul Heald, a 1988 honors graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, joined us after a judicial clerkship with 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. Heald is teaching Contracts and Constitutional Law. Camilla Watson, who teaches in the federal tax area, is an honors graduate of the University of Mississippi Law School and holds a graduate degree in taxation from New York University. She brings us experience in practice and four years of law teaching experience. And, finally, Ed Larson's joint appointment as Assistant Professor of Law and History enables us to increase our interdisciplinary focus and to draw on Larson's expertise in the areas of law, science, and technology. Larson holds a law degree from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in the History of Science from the University of Wisconsin.

I am delighted that Associate Professor Maxine S. Thomas has taken on additional responsibilities at our school as Associate Dean for Student Affairs and will work to improve the type and level of services we provide our students. Dean Thomas recently coordinated a visit by a panel of the Georgia Court of Appeals to hear a day of

arguments in our courtroom. This was an historic occasion, the first time ever the Court of Appeals had sat outside Atlanta. It was a great learning experience for our students.

After 10 years as our dedicated and popular placement director, Jill Birch agreed this summer to assume new duties as our Director of Alumni Programs and Development, replacing Gwen Wood, who is relocating to Augusta with her family. We were fortunate to recruit Brent Routman from the University of Miami School of Law's placement office to direct our Legal Career Services office. A graduate of Ohio University and Cleveland Marshall School of Law, Routman brings to his position here a insider's appreciation of the demands of law practice from his five years in private practice in Miami.

Good teaching should be a hallmark of this school, and it is. We can all be proud that Ronald L. Carlson, John Byrd Martin Professor of Law, was named one of five recipients of The University of Georgia's top teaching honor, the Josiah Meigs Award for Teaching Excellence. Carlson, who often encourages his students to participate in role-playing as attorneys, judges, jurors and witnesses in mock cases, works hard to make his classes both challenging and enjoyable.

In late May, Professors Gabriel Wilner, Julian McDonnell and I traveled to Belgium to inaugurate a course of study in American law for members of the Brussels Bar. Many U.S. law schools vied for the chance to participate, so it was especially prestigious that The University of Georgia Law School was chosen by the Brussels Bar to offer this program for their members. We can expect closer ties between Brussels, the home of the EEC, and our school and state as a result of this connection.

At the law alumni breakfast held in conjunction with the June meeting of the State Bar in Savannah, Cliff Adams turned over the presidency of the Law School Association to Judge George Carley, Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals. Norman Pease of Columbus became president-elect of the Law School Association. As testimony to Cliff's enthusiasm and hard work last year, a magnificent display case for our moot court and mock trial trophies was installed in the Law School Courtroom, a gift of the Law School Association. Law School Association funds have been used to buy new furniture for the large flagstone patio at the Law School and will be used to refurbish the school's lounge outside the placement office. These areas will now provide exceptionally attractive places for student and alumni groups to congregate when on campus.

As I write this letter, the Law School is hosting a fine group of British barristers and law students from Gray's Inn in London as part of an on-going moot court exchange program. And, we are assisting the State Bar in hosting a special joint meeting of the Georgia House and Senate Judiciary Committees studying the proposed new rules of evidence.

Other events later this fall will similarly add to the stimulation that comes from being at the Law School. On October 31, John Hart Ely, a noted constitutional scholar and professor of law at Stanford, will deliver the fall John A. Sibley Lecture. Later that week, the Law School Board of Visitors will kick off Law Alumni Weekend, November 3-4. Mark your calendars now and see the enclosed flyer from Jill for more detailed information. We know you'll want to join us in Athens for what will surely be an interesting and enjoyable time.

I have other good news to share with you. By June 30, the total dollar amount contributed to the Law School Fund reached \$134,405. Forty donors contributed \$1,000 or more! Several law school classes deserve special recognition for their outstanding record of giving. Seventy-one percent of the members of the Class of 1943 contributed to the Law School Fund last year, while 63 percent of the Class of 1946 and nearly half (48 percent) of the Class of 1935 contributed. The award for the largest dollar amount contributed goes to the Class of 1974 which gave \$5,752. Three other classes also gave more than \$5,000: the Class of 1976 (\$5,210), the Class of 1973 (\$5,197), and the Class of 1960 (\$5,175). I am heartened to see such a showing of support from our graduates.

The Law School Fund Campaign for this year is now underway. Let's make it the most successful in our history. Your classmates will soon be writing you to ask for your financial support for the Law School. Please respond quickly, positively, and more generously than ever.

Please remember that just because you are a law school graduate does not mean your contributions to the UGA Foundation will go automatically to benefit the Law School. When you receive a solicitation letter sent to all alumni from the University asking for contributions to the University of Georgia Foundation, you must specify the Law School as the recipient of your gift. It's easy to do: just earmark your contribution by writing "Law School Fund" or another named Law School account on the gift card or check that you return to the Foundation.

As I enter my third year as dean, I appreciate more than ever the strength and loyalty of our Law School alumni. Your support, guidance, and encouragement is invaluable to me and to our school. I am well aware that the place of the School of Law in the front ranks of law schools in this country is due in no small part to your record of accomplishments as professionals, your aspirations for your school, and to your support as alumni. We pledge to do our utmost to be worthy of your loyalty and your continued support.

Sincerely,



C. Ronald Ellington
Dean

A

**Gathering of Friends
Sharing Memories
of
John C. O'Byrne**

A memorial service will be held for Professor John C. O'Byrne who died this past June. All alumni and friends of the Law School are cordially invited to attend the service scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Friday, October 13, in the Law School's Hatton Lovejoy Moot Courtroom. A light reception will immediately follow the service.

Any alumni and Law School friends who plan to attend the service are asked to R.S.V.P. prior to October 10, by telephoning (404) 542-7959 or dropping a note to Jill Birch at the Law School.

**Submit Your News for Inclusion in the Class Notes
Section of the Next Georgia Advocate Magazine**

Alumni are encouraged to share their recent professional and/or personal news with their fellow alumni. Take a moment to complete the brief form below and mail to:

Jill Birch
UGA Law School, Room 215
Athens, Georgia 30602

CLASS NOTES

Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Telephone: () _____

My recent professional and/or personal news is:

NOTE: Feel free to send in a black and white wallet size photograph to accompany your classnotes announcement. Photos will not be returned.

1989-90 LAW SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note these dates in your calendar now so you won't miss any of the Law School activities this year! We look forward to seeing you in Athens.

1989

- Oct. 13 Memorial Service for Professor John C. O'Byrne--10:30 a.m.-Hatton-Lovejoy Moot Courtroom. RSVP prior to Oct. 10-(404) 542-7959
- Oct. 28 Class of 1983 Reunion and Class of 1942 Reunion
- Oct. 31 Fall Sibley Lecture-Professor John Hart Ely of Stanford Law School. Topic: "The Death of the Legal Process Ideal: Constitutional Theory and Practice in a World Where Courts are No Different from Legislatures"-3:30 p.m.-Auditorium
- Nov. 3 Law Alumni Weekend
and Friday: Board of Visitors Meeting-11:00 a.m.;
- Nov. 4 Finals of Talmadge Moot Court Competition-2:30 p.m.; Closing Arguments of Fall Mock Trial Intramural Competition-3:45 p.m.; Law Alumni Reception Dinner-6:30 p.m.-Ballroom at Georgia Center
Saturday: Law School Association Council Meeting-10:00 a.m.; Order of the Coif Induction (Class of 1989)-11:15 a.m.; Pre-game Alumni Reception and Box Lunch-11:30 a.m.; Georgia/Temple Football Game-1:00 p.m.
- Nov. 10 Hulsey-Kimbrell Moot Court Competition-2:00 p.m.-Federal Courthouse, Jacksonville, Florida
- Dec. 15 Alumni Breakfast at Mid-Year State Bar Meeting-8:00 a.m.-Ritz-Carlton Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta

1990

- Apr. 20 Law Day Weekend
and Friday: Board of Visitors Meeting-11:00 a.m.;
- Apr. 21 Closing Arguments of Mock Trial Competition; Russell Moot Court Competition; Student Academic Awards Presentation; Law Day Banquet
Saturday: Law School Association Council Meeting-9:00 a.m.; Law Day Exercises-10:30 a.m.; Law School Association Luncheon-12 noon
- April Spring Sibley Lecture-Speaker and date to be announced
- May 18 Law School Pre-Graduation Open House-1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.-Law School Open House for 1990 Graduates, Family & Friends
- May 19 Law School Graduation Ceremony-11:00 a.m.; Reception-12:30-North Quadrangle
- Jun. 14 Alumni Reception at Annual State Bar Meeting in Savannah, Georgia-5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.-Plimsoll Club at Hyatt Regency, Savannah
- Jun. 15 Alumni Breakfast at Annual State Bar Meeting in Savannah, Georgia-8:00 a.m.-Hyatt Regency, Savannah (room to be announced)

This is not a complete listing of all of the Law School 1989-90 activities. As other events are confirmed, they will be listed in an updated calendar in the Georgia Advocate magazine. Please telephone (404) 542-7959 for further information regarding any event listed.



The University of Georgia

School of Law

Athens, Georgia 30602

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1989 LAW ALUMNI WEEKEND

November 3 and 4
Athens, Georgia



Friday, November 3

- 11:00 a.m. Law School's Board of Visitors Meeting
2:30 p.m. Finals of Talmadge Moot Court Competition
Hatton Lovejoy Moot Courtroom
3:45 p.m. Closing Arguments of Fall Mock Trial Intramural Competition
Hatton Lovejoy Moot Courtroom
6:30 p.m. Law Alumni Reception and Dinner
Georgia Center, Main Ballroom

Saturday, November 4

- 10:00 a.m. Law School Association Council Meeting
Room E, Law School
11:15 a.m. Order of the Coif Induction for 1989 Graduates
Hatton Lovejoy Moot Courtroom
11:30 a.m. Pre-Game Alumni Reception and Box Lunch
Second Floor Patio, Law School (Reception)
Law School Rotunda (Box Lunch)
1:00 p.m. Georgia vs. Temple
Sanford Stadium

1989 LAW ALUMNI WEEKEND
November 3 and 4

TICKET ORDER FORM

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____

Events

1. **Friday, November 3, Law Alumni Reception and Dinner**
Georgia Center, Main Ballroom at 6:30 p.m.

Number of tickets: _____ X \$20.00 per person = \$ _____

2. **Saturday, November 4, Pre-Game Reception and Box Lunch**
Law School Second Floor Patio and Rotunda at 11:30 a.m.

Number of tickets: _____ X \$10.00 per person = \$ _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to: "Alumni Program Fund"
Your completed Ticket Order Form and check must be received no later than October 31.
Please mail to:

Jill Coveny Birch
The University of Georgia School of Law
Alumni Office, Room 215
120 Herty Drive
Athens, Georgia 30602