



Advocate



Building the law school family

Roseboro recruits approx. 6,000 over three decades

PREPARE.
CONNECT.
LEAD.

- ▶ No. 1 in High Value jobs
- ▶ Rotunda named for first Black graduate
- ▶ 4 national moot court and mock trial titles



School of Law
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

PREPARE.
CONNECT.
LEAD.

LEADING THE NATION IN LEGAL EDUCATION

#1
in the Nation

High Value jobs for the Class of 2021

Full-time, long-term employment that requires bar passage or where a J.D. provides an advantage and non-law school funded positions

97%
in High Value jobs

#1
or **#2**

Best Value Law School
National Jurist, 2017-2021

#29

Georgia's highest ranked law school
U.S. News & World Report, 2022/23

#1
Georgia Bar Exam Passage
July 2021 results for first-time takers
Eighth straight year to lead

97.7%
Ultimate Bar Passage
Graduates who sat for the bar passed within one year of graduation (Class of 2020)
American Bar Association

Almost 20%
Students placed in state and federal clerkships (Class of 2021)

#21
International Law
U.S. News & World Report, 2022/23

#7
Moot Court 2021-22
University of Houston Law Center/Hunton Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship

Almost \$7M
Reduction in aggregate annual student borrowing compared to 2013

85%
Students receiving some type of scholarship aid (2020-21)

100%
First-generation college graduates and veterans receiving scholarship aid

25+
Distinguished Law Fellowships

93%
Participated in one clinic/externship/experiential learning course (Class of 2021)

23%
Diversity Enrollment (2021-22)

No. 1 in the Nation

The University of Georgia is this year's national champion.

No, I'm not (just) talking about the College Football Playoff National Championship (though that was nice). Rather, I'm spotlighting the employment rate for the Class of 2021.

Based on publicly available data, **your law school has posted the highest employment rate of any law school in the nation for full-time, long-term jobs requiring bar passage or benefiting from a J.D.** (excluding law school-funded positions).

That's right. Name any law school. We outpaced (and outplaced) them.

All of us, especially our graduates, can take enormous pride in these numbers. While this result is seen in the spreadsheets, it is **felt** in the lives of our students and their families.

This outcome offers yet another proof point of our relentless vision to be the nation's best return on investment in legal education. Here are a few others that speak to that goal:

- J.D. student debt has dropped more than 45% over the last nine years.
- 95% of our students pass the bar exam within 12 months of graduation.
- 100% of our first-generation college graduates and veterans receive financial assistance.
- Last year, our students collectively contributed nearly 94,000 uncompensated service hours in clinics, externships and field placements.

Not only do these (and other) results place us in the pole position among Georgia's law schools, they offer a national model of a truly transformational law school. As questions abound about the future of higher education, the crippling burdens of student debt and the industry disruption caused by the pandemic, this new direction reflects your law school's commitment to provide a polestar for this national discourse.

While we justifiably celebrate these achievements, we cannot rest on them. Nor will we. Instead, we have our sights set on higher summits, captured in the following statement:

The University of Georgia School of Law will *redefine* what it means to be a great national public institution – offering a world-class, hands-on, purpose-driven educational experience with a pioneering commitment to accessibility and affordability.

Like all transformational change, this one will involve hard work, strategic bets, difficult tradeoffs, financial commitments, calculated risks and institutional nimbleness. In the coming months, you will hear more about our concerted efforts to define and to realize this vision.

With exhilaration about our law school's future, I close with words of gratitude. We would not have achieved the above-described victories and could not embark on our next voyage without the contributions and investments of countless individuals:

- Beginning with you: our alumni, alumnae and friends. Under the leadership of Board of Visitors Chair Marlan Wilbanks (J.D.'86) and Immediate-past Chair Kathelen Amos (J.D.'82), you have supported needs like scholarships, bar prep stipends, professional attire, clinic operations, student mental health and so much more. You ensured that we **never** left a student behind on the field.
- Complementing your investments, the faculty and staff at the School of Law continue to work far beyond the four corners of their job descriptions. Perhaps no one better embodies this commitment than Assistant Dean Greg Roseboro (J.D.'87), honored on this year's *Advocate* cover. During a career spanning nearly 30 years, Greg has worked in virtually every department at the law school. For the last several years, he has served as director of both admissions and diversity programs. It's safe to say there's not a single student running around the building today whose life has not been influenced in some positive way by Greg. As he prepares to retire – and we honor him with the creation of a scholarship fund bearing his name – Greg exemplifies a culture of compassion, caring and commitment that sets this institution apart from many others.
- Finally, heartfelt thanks go to President Jere Morehead (J.D.'80), Provost Jack Hu and the UGA Foundation Trustees led by Neal Quirk (J.D.'87). They have been unflinching allies to the School of Law as we both pursued our vision to be the nation's best return on investment in legal education and developed our new goal to redefine what it means to be a great national public institution.

It is an exciting time at the School of Law, one brimming with opportunity. If you haven't been to campus recently, I hope this year's magazine offers a glimpse into the amazing work that takes place every day. Come see us (perhaps at Homecoming in October!) and, in the meantime, please accept my sincerest thanks for all you do.

With gratitude,

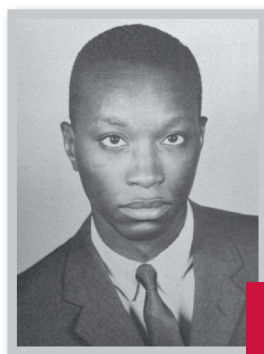


Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge
Dean and Talmadge Chair of Law



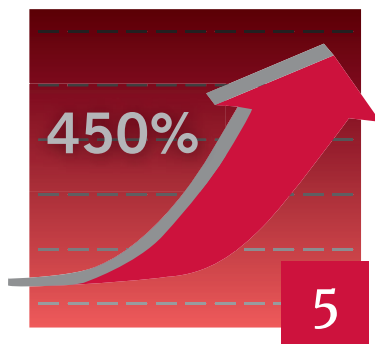
Advocate

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Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Kent Barnett

Associate Dean for Clinical Programs & Experiential Learning Jason A. Cade

Associate Dean for Faculty Development
Andrea L. Dennis

Associate Dean for International Programs
Melissa J. "MJ" Durkee

Assistant Dean for Admissions, Diversity and Inclusion & Strategic Initiatives
Gregory L. "Greg" Roseboro (J.D.'87)

Assistant Dean for Career Development
Anthony E. "Tony" Waller (J.D.'93)

Email departmental inquiries to:
Admissions – ugajd@uga.edu
Alumni/Alumnae Relations – lawalum@uga.edu
Communications – lawcomm@uga.edu
Development – lawgifts@uga.edu
Dean Rusk International Law Center – ruskintl@uga.edu
Law Library – tstriepe@uga.edu
Career Development – cdo@uga.edu

Heidi Murphy, editor and writer; Lona Panter, principal writer; mPrint Design Studio, design; Kaptiv8, website design and hosting.

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ABOUT THE COVER: Assistant Dean Greg Roseboro (J.D.'87) (sitting), who retires Dec. 31, 2022, has had a tremendous influence on the School of Law's current student and alumni/alumnae bodies during his 28-year tenure. In the 2021–22 academic year alone, there were 15 enrolled law students who had family members who were previously recruited by Roseboro. Posing with him are: (l. to r.) Santela Sparks, Justin Blair, Trisha Hyatt, Rachel Hudson, Fletcher Law, Robbie Ottley, George Shepherd, Ta'lor Billups, Akash Shah and Destiny Burch. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.

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School of Law names rotunda after first Black graduate

DAVENPORT PORTRAIT TO BE UNVEILED THIS FALL

Last August, the School of Law named its iconic rotunda after its first Black graduate, Chester C. Davenport. A portrait of Davenport has been commissioned, and it will be unveiled and hung in the school's main entryway during the fall 2022 semester.

Davenport, who passed away in August 2020, was a monumental figure in the School of Law's history. He was the law school's first Black student and remained its only Black student during his law school career. He earned his law degree in 1966, finishing in the top 5% of his class and serving as a founding member of the editorial board of the *Georgia Law Review*.

"It is with great pleasure that I share the news of the naming of the law school's rotunda after one of our law school's seminal figures," Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said. "I am grateful for the support of UGA President Jere W. Morehead (J.D.'80) for this effort and the University Cabinet for its approval of the law school's request. As I have said before, Chester was a trailblazer who achieved much in his lifetime, including the diversification of our law school and the legal profession. It is hoped that this permanent and prominent naming displayed at the main entrance to our school will inspire those who study here to carry on Davenport's legacy of service to state and society."

Since his passing, Davenport was memorialized with the establishment of the Chester C. Davenport Memorial Endowment at the law school and was posthumously awarded the UGA Alumni Association's oldest and highest honor, the Alumni Merit Award.

The Chester C. Davenport Memorial Endowment Fund was created to further Davenport's legacy with scholarships and fellowships that give priority to students who have graduated from Georgia-based historically Black colleges and universities. Recipients also will be selected for reflecting Davenport's reputation for academic excellence, courage, determination and trailblazing spirit.

The Alumni Merit Award is reserved for individuals who bring recognition and honor back to UGA through outstanding leadership and service to the university, the community and their profession.



Above: The Davenport Rotunda, where a portrait of the law school's first Black graduate – Chester Davenport – will be installed during the fall 2022 semester. Photo by UGA Marketing and Communications.

Right: Chester Davenport (LL.B.'66), who passed away in 2020.



After law school, the Athens, Georgia, native and Morehouse College graduate became an attorney in the tax division of the U.S. Department of Justice and subsequently served as a legislative assistant for California Sen. Alan Cranston. Following a position on President Jimmy Carter's transition team and an appointment as assistant secretary at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Davenport co-founded a law practice based in Washington, D.C. He later started a private equity firm.

Davenport's service to UGA included positions on the law school's Board of Visitors and the UGA Arch Foundation. He delivered the law school's 97th Sibley Lecture and participated in the school's 50th anniversary commemoration of the landmark *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* case. In 2006, he made a transformational gift to the law school to support student scholarships. The UGA chapter of the Black Law Students Association bears his name and, in 2016, he received the Law School Association's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Scroll Award.

25+ DISTINGUISHED LAW FELLOWSHIPS

Elite fellowship established in honor of former associate dean

The Distinguished Law Fellowship program continues to give some of the brightest students at the School of Law unparalleled offerings as they pursue their law degrees.

A gift from the John N. Goddard Foundation established the Distinguished Law Fellowship program in 2016, and today – thanks to the foundation and other donors – the law school has the ability to offer more than 25 full-tuition scholarships and professional development stipends to some of the most academically gifted students at the law school.

In addition to financial aid, students receive an educational experience that may include domestic and international externships, guided research experiences and opportunities to meet some of the country's top legal, business and government leaders.

Last fall, the School of Law announced that Joey M. Loudermilk (J.D.'78) and his wife, Ramona, established a Distinguished Law Fellowship named for former Associate Dean Paul M. Kurtz.

It will be awarded with preference given to students with superior academic records who have a demonstrated passion for supporting survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation.

Kurtz (pictured below), who specialized in criminal law and family law, was a faculty member at the School of Law for approximately 40 years. He served as the school's associate dean from 1991 to 2013.



100% of first-generation college graduates receive support

The School of Law has continued its focus on transforming the legal education experience and, for the third straight year, 100% of its incoming first-generation college graduates received aid.

With roughly 10% of each entering class at the law school representing the first person in his or her family to attend college, these scholarships provide not only financial assistance but, in many cases, additional support that can help students as they navigate their studies, financial planning, network development and professional/bar preparation needs.

First-generation students are supported by more than 15 scholarship funds including the First-Start Scholars Program, which was established by 1982 alumna Kathelen V. Amos and the Daniel P. Amos Family Foundation.

Recent donations to support this cohort of students include a gift from 2001 alumnus Gardiner Thompson, who created an endowed scholarship supporting first-generation college graduates.

Also, Susan S. (J.D.'88) and Gregory A. (M.Ed.'87) Lanigan made a pledge to create the Lanigan Family Scholarship for First-Generation Law Students.

More than 100 classmates and friends made a gift to the Judge Steve Goss Scholarship Fund, which memorializes the late Georgia Court of Appeals jurist and 1986 alumnus. The fund will support first-generation college graduates from South Georgia.

In addition, the law school supports these students through programming led by Associate Director of Student Services and First Start Coordinator Amanda J. Fox (J.D.'14). The First-Start Scholars Program offers targeted academic and professional success workshops and groups and added two new initiatives to the portfolio this year: a book club and a recurring social event dubbed "Coffee Talk."

The book club, in which students read Kathyne Young's *How to Be Sort of Happy in Law School*, focused on navigating the myriad pressures of obtaining a legal degree. During both the fall and spring semesters a weekly coffee hour offered students a chance to meet and socialize with other first-generation college graduates and law faculty, staff and students, including members of the First Generation Student Association.

First Start Coordinator Amanda Fox (J.D.'14) (left) talks with students at a weekly Coffee Talk event for students who are the first in their families to graduate from college.

Fellowship funding sees fifth year of growth

INAUGURAL BOOL SIMKINS FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

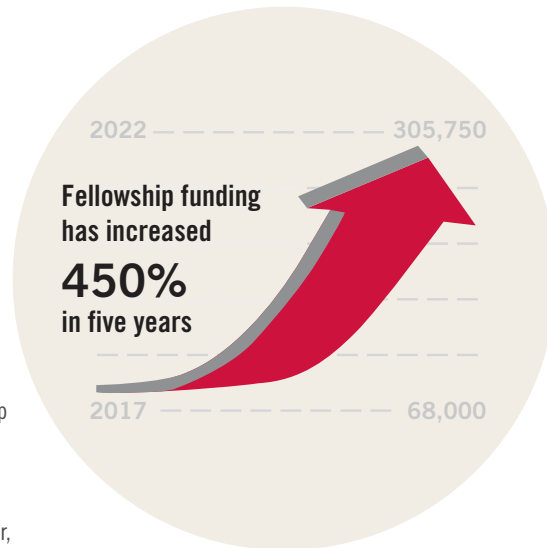
Summer public interest fellowships provide important hands-on learning opportunities for law students. At the School of Law, financial support for these experiences has been on an upward trajectory since 2017. In fact, funding has significantly grown over the last five years, resulting in a 450% increase in support.

During the 2022 summer, 85 students were awarded \$305,750 for legal work in nonprofits, state and federal government, legal services and policy/impact organizations in 14 states and the District of Columbia.

Notably, this past summer's awards included the inaugural Bool Simkins Summer Fellowship, which supports a top performing second-year student in a full summer public interest/pro bono placement. With the help of this grant, Emily M. "Millie" Price worked for the Eastern District of Virginia Office of the Federal Public Defender.

Created by married 2010 graduates Kevin P. Murphy and Elizabeth A. Murphy – in honor of Elizabeth's grandmother, Annie Bool, and great aunt, Mary Simkins – the fellowship is currently the school's largest annual public interest grant and, in the future, it will be awarded in the fall during the on-campus interviewing season for the following summer.

Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said he would like to thank Kevin and Elizabeth for this leadership gift that invests in the success of the school's growing portfolio of public interest fellowship funding. "Not only will the annual award amount be the largest for a fellowship offered by our law school but the timing of the award is significant. This fellowship structure speaks to the law school's desire to have our students follow their dreams for serving state and society, while minimizing financial concerns. It also contributes to our vision of being the nation's best return on investment in legal education," he said.



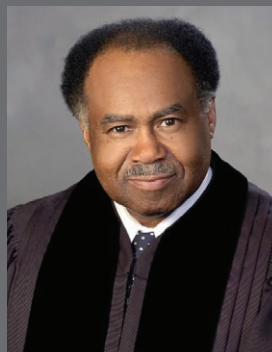
Law school establishes permanent funding for Benham Scholars

In the fall of 2021, the School of Law established the Justice Robert Benham Scholars Program Fund, which provides permanent funding for the school's student initiative honoring the jurist.

This fund – named for retired Georgia Supreme Court Justice Robert Benham who became the law school's second African American graduate in 1970 – will support those who have overcome significant adversity and who have a demonstrated connection with or intent to return to and serve rural or legally underserved communities.

The newly established Justice Robert Benham Scholars Program Fund was created with a \$500,000 pledge by The Hart Family Foundation with assistance from E. David Hart Jr., a 1980 alumnus of the School of Law.

The Benham Scholars Program, which was piloted in 2018 with the help of UGA President Jere W. Morehead's (J.D.'80) New Approaches in Diversity and Inclusion initiative and matching support from the School of Law, addresses four key areas: recruitment, preparation for law school, academic support and career planning.



Retired Georgia Supreme Court Justice Robert Benham (J.D.'70)



David Hart (J.D.'80)

With this additional funding, the scope of the Benham Scholars Program will now include scholarships, participant support costs, bar exam preparation, professional development attire, participation in the school's "early start" program, materials and supplies as well as costs associated with special guest speakers or events.

Benham was the first and longest serving African American member of the Georgia Supreme Court, and he served as chief justice from 1995 to 2001. He was a member of the Georgia Court of Appeals for five years before being appointed to the state's highest court in 1989.

Advocacy teams claim national titles,



National Champs & Finalists: Southeastern Invitational National Moot Tournament

The School of Law captured the top two trophies at the Southeastern Invitational National Moot Tournament, with second-year students Africa Buggs (left) and Lucas Iddings (second from right) arguing against second-year students Nia Waller (right) and Roby Jernigan in the final round. Buggs and Iddings claimed the top spot.



Kairab named nation's top advocate

Haley Kairab (right) won the Top Gun XIII National Mock Trial Competition in June. She tried the case as a solo advocate, with 2022 classmate Cole Harper serving as her co-counsel/trial technician. Top Gun is an invitation-only three-day tournament for 16 law schools that have excelled at mock trial competitions during the past year, and advocates do not receive any details about the case until 24 hours before the competition begins.



National Champions: William Daniel Mock Trial Tournament

Second-year student Brianna Yates (third from left) joined third-year students (l. to r.) Audrey Cunningham, Richmond Wrinkle, Austin Albertson, Peyton Clark and Varad Dabke to win the William Daniel Mock Trial Tournament.



National Semifinalists & Regional Champs: National Moot Court Competition

Third-year students (l. to r.) Haley Kairab, Taylor Lear and Navroz Tharani finished the National Moot Court Competition as one of the top four teams in the country after winning their regional tournament. The National Moot Court Competition is the oldest and most prestigious moot court tournament in the country.

other key victories

Back-to-Back national titles claimed

With the efforts of second-year students Lindsey K. Adams, Rachel L. Byers and Molly N. Laughlin, the University of Georgia won back-to-back championship trophies in the National Online Moot Court Competition.

National Quarterfinalist finish at NTC

Third-year students Haley K. Kairab and Donovan C. Juleus completed the National Trial Competition as quarterfinalists after capturing the top trophy at a regional tier of the tournament. This competition is one of the largest mock trial contests in the country, attracting teams from more than 140 law schools and involving more than 1,000 law students each year.

Georgia has strong showing at Jessup Competition

After being crowned U.S. national finalists, second-year students J. Caleb Grant, Alexander F. “Alex” Krupp, Emily M. “Millie” Price, Courtney H. Robinson and James A. Stewart finished as octofinalists in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, which is the world’s largest moot court tournament boasting participants from roughly 700 law schools in 100 countries and jurisdictions.

School achieves semifinal finish at environmental law competition

Third-year student Jacob D. Swanstrom and second-year students Justin W. Tilghman and Jack K. Mahon were named semifinalists in the Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, hosted by Pace University.

Georgia finishes as quarterfinalists in “best of the best” tournament

Third-year students Destiny J. Burch and Cole M. Harper completed the 2022 Hunton Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship as quarterfinalists. This invitation-only tournament is for the top 16 moot court programs from law schools across the country based on performances from the previous academic year.

UGA wins Intrastate Moot Court Competition for fourth straight year

Second-year law students Kiyah J. Bussie, MariClaire “Claire” Kimbrell and Nicholas R. “Nick” Lewis won the Intrastate Moot Court Competition, bringing home this Peach State bragging right for the fourth consecutive year and for seven of the last 10 contests.

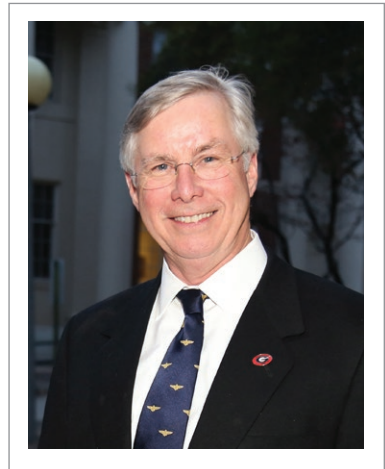
Hulsey/Gambrell trophy stays in Georgia

The University of Georgia defeated the University of Florida in the annual Florida/Georgia-Hulsey/Gambrell Moot Court Competition. Third-year law students Olivia B. Landrum and Roya Naghepour gave UGA its fourth straight victory and increased Georgia’s overall tournament record to 26-11-2.

Major gifts to expand law school clinic’s support for veterans

The Veterans Legal Clinic, which was established in 2018, has already helped approximately 430 veterans and their family members claim more than \$1.5 million in additional benefits since opening its doors. This impact is expected to grow exponentially with the expansion of services for Georgia military veterans and their families later this year.

Thanks to additional financial support from renowned Georgia trial lawyer James E. “Jim” Butler Jr. (J.D.’77) and an anonymous donor, the Athens-based clinic – which primarily assists former military members in Georgia with claims before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – will soon be able to offer:



- A virtual remote outreach program for Georgia veterans statewide, turning last year’s successful pilot of the Georgia Veterans Outreach Project into a permanent service.
- Psychological and medical evaluations to determine the existence of invisible injuries sustained during military service, including those resulting from trauma or toxic exposure.
- Self-advocacy webinars that will educate and empower former military members as they work with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies on various benefits and services that are available to them as veterans.

Since 2019, Jim Butler (J.D.’77) has also supported the school’s Butler Commitment – which guarantees financial aid to 100% of student veteran Juris Doctor matriculants. His gifts have been made in memory of his father, Lt. Cmdr. James E. Butler Sr., who was a U.S. Navy fighter pilot, and his brother, Dennis Butler, who served in the U.S. Army. Photo by Ian MacFarlane.

“I am grateful to Jim Butler and our anonymous donor for their commitments to Georgia’s veterans and the School of Law,” Dean Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge said. “This latest funding will have a transformational impact on the services the Veterans Legal Clinic can provide. It will allow us to build our capacity and scale our efforts with new technologies, ultimately benefiting more Georgians who have served our country.”

Appellate Litigation Clinic makes history before Georgia Court of Appeals



Throughout the 2021–22 academic year, Appellate Litigation Clinic students appeared before six appellate courts and made history arguing before the Georgia Court of Appeals. Led by Director Thomas V. Burch, current students and recent graduates received several victories in their cases. Among them:

Third-year student Roya Naghepour was the first student to present oral argument before the Georgia Court of Appeals when she represented a client suing his county commission in *Williams v. DeKalb County*. Third-year student Dylan L. Mauldin co-wrote the briefs and helped Naghepour prepare for the argument.

Students won a remand in the case *Thomas v. Secretary, Fla. Dep't of Corrs* before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. The court remanded for an evidentiary hearing on whether amending the client's habeas petition would be futile. Third-year student Matthew Moore argued the case and 2021 graduates Jared R. Allen and Olivia B. Hunter helped write the briefs. Third-year student Madison G. Mischik helped Moore with oral preparations.

The clinic won a remand in *Smith v. Dewberry*, a 1983 case where its client was stabbed two hours after warning prison officials that his eventual attacker had threatened him with a knife. The case was argued before the U.S. Court

of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit by third-year student Tinsley J. Stokes and third-year student Mark L. Bailey helped her prepare for the argument.

Successfully arguing for the release of its client, the clinic won the case *Arellano Hererra v. Barr* before the Board of Immigration Appeals. This finding was the subject of an appeal last year before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, in which the clinic won a remand to the BIA. Former students involved in obtaining the client's release were 2021 graduates Jason N. Sigalos and Mollie M. Fiero and 2020 graduate John Lex Kenerly IV. Alumnus Benjamin J. Osorio (J.D.'11) advised the clinic on release procedures after relief was granted. The client is now at home and reunited with her seven children.

The Georgia Supreme Court ruled in the clinic's favor in *Ricky J. Johnson v. The State*. In the case, Johnson had been convicted of multiple theft-by-taking counts for stealing trucks and other property from a construction company, and he was sentenced separately for each count. The court ultimately vacated a lower court's order after finding that its merger analysis was flawed. Third-year students Courtney Hogan and Kirstiana Perryman wrote the briefs.

Third-year student Roya Naghepour was the first law student to present oral argument before the Georgia Court of Appeals.

Negotiations team named regional co-champions at ABA competition

Third-year students Jordan Dillard and Ben Hancock were named regional co-champions after winning three rounds in the ABA Regional Law Student Division Negotiation Competition, which was virtually hosted by American University.

A second team made up of second-year students Chiodera Drayton-Smith and Taylor McClain also earned sixth place – out of 24 teams – in the competition.

OTHER CLINIC HIGHLIGHTS

The **Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic** – the first of its kind in the nation – was presented the 2022 Georgia Crime Victim Service Collaboration and Innovation Award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The honor recognizes “those whose work has been particularly noteworthy and who exemplify the long-term commitment that characterizes many victim service providers, some of whom are also victims of crime.”

With the help of two School of Law clinics and seven-plus years of advocacy, an immigrant grandmother has gained lawful status in the United States. The longtime client initially worked with the **Jane W. Wilson Family Justice Clinic**, which helped her urgently adopt her grandson, an orphaned U.S. citizen child. Once reaching adulthood, the adoptee enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves, at which point the **Community Health Law Partnership Clinic** was able to assist the grandmother in obtaining Military Parole in Place, a discretionary measure that allows close family members of active-duty members in the U.S. armed forces to obtain deferred action and work authorization, which will eventually facilitate the client's family-based pathway to lawful permanent status.

Graduates and friends Invest in Success at the School of Law

Members of the law school community made numerous investments in the success of the law school during the 2021–22 academic year, fueling the school’s vision of being the best return on investment in legal education and helping to redefine what it means to be a national law school. Among those gifts are:

- Dozens of former students and colleagues established the Thomas A. Eaton Scholarship Fund, benefiting law students who have overcome significant adversity and who show great promise of making substantial contributions to the public good and the legal profession. The fund honors Eaton, Hosch Professor of Law Emeritus, who taught at the School of Law from 1979 to 2018.
- More than 100 donors memorialized 1985 alumnus Randall D. “Randy” Quintrell with a scholarship that will be awarded to law students who have shown a commitment to environmental law.
- John (J.D.’77) and Becky Douglas made an additional pledge to their named student support fund, assisting law students with spouses and/or families.
- Darren W. (J.D.’90) and Laura Penn made a pledge to create the Penn Family Scholarship Fund.
- Randall “Mace” (J.D.’92) and Warren R. “Wit” (J.D.’92) Hall made a pledge to establish the Mace and Wit Hall Jr. Class of 1992 Scholarship Fund, aiding law students who have faced a significant disadvantage or hardship.
- Michael L. Goldberg (J.D.’97) furthered his support of law students by making an additional contribution to the Michael Louis Goldberg Scholarship Fund, assisting law students who participated in high school or collegiate athletics.
- Keith W. (J.D.’75) and Frederick W. “Fritz” (J.D.’12) Vaughan made a gift supporting the work of the *Georgia Law Review*, which will now operate out of an office bearing their names. Notably, Keith and Fritz are the only father-son duo to both serve as editor-in-chief of the *Georgia Law Review*.

The law school would also like to acknowledge several anonymous gifts supporting its students:

- \$100,000 scholarship to memorialize Marvin Devereaux, who was a friend of the donor who wishes to remind the law school community that the most important people in their lives may not be those who advance their legal careers.
- \$1.4+ million to the Kenneth M. Henson Distinguished Law Fellowship, honoring the late 1947 School of Law graduate.

Law School Life



Learning on the road

This spring, Assistant Professor Zohra Ahmed (third from right) and several of her students visited Montgomery, Alabama, where they were able to tour The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration. The museum was founded by Montgomery’s Equal Justice Initiative. It is viewed as “an engine for education about the legacy of racial inequity and for the truth and reconciliation that leads to real solutions to contemporary problems.”

Record amount raised for Legal Food Frenzy

The law school community raised a record amount – \$14,734.21 (the equivalent of 58,937 meals) – during the Georgia Legal Food Frenzy, which culminated with the much loved Pie-A-Professor/Peer event. This annual two-week fundraising competition was created in partnership with the Georgia Attorney General, the State Bar of Georgia and its Younger Lawyers Division, and the Georgia Food Bank Association. Funds raised were donated to the Northeast Georgia Food Bank.



Sea Grant Fellows share research

Third-year students Varad Dabke (left) and Rob Hillyer served as Georgia Sea Grant Legal Fellows, during which time they conducted research to address critical environmental, economic and social concerns primarily affecting coastal Georgia for the past two years. Dabke specialized in the area of aquaculture and Hillyer focused on areas of resilience and infrastructure, specifically on local adaptation of road networks. Both students presented their work at the Georgia Climate Conference.



Ellie Williams

TURNING A PASSION INTO A PROFESSION

Ellie Williams knew from an early age that she wanted to help others, and the rising third-year student plans to use her law degree to do just that.

A native of Greenville, South Carolina, Williams began working with those in need while a teenager.

“In high school I started doing volunteer work with domestic violence survivors and I really developed a passion for the work,” she said. “Going into college I knew I wanted to be in a helping profession and I knew I probably wanted it to be with domestic and sexual violence survivors.”

After obtaining degrees in sociology and Spanish from Furman University, Williams moved to Nashville for two years, and she worked with a nonprofit agency and the state government.

“When I was working I was getting a certain amount of exposure to the court system,” she said. “I saw the J.D. gives you a lot of power to effect important change in individual outcomes and on a systemwide level.”

Williams decided to attend law school and, as she began researching her options, she focused on those that offered programs that would give her the opportunity to work with domestic violence survivors.

“I picked Georgia for several reasons. One being the [Jane W. Wilson Family Justice Clinic]; it was huge. The Wilbanks [Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation] Clinic also interested me,” she said. Noting the school also had the Public Interest Practicum, the Prosecutorial Justice Program and the Criminal Defense Practicum, she said, “Seeing this array of opportunities signaled to me this school’s commitment to public service. It sent a message to me that



this is something Georgia values, which has proven true.”

Additionally, the law school’s affordable tuition was appealing as she was considering a career in public interest work. “Knowing it was a really affordable

law school that would simultaneously provide a lot of options and good employment outcomes was a significant factor in my decision,” she added.

Williams was accepted to UGA and was awarded the Jane W. Wilson Distinguished Law Fellowship, which is a full-tuition-plus scholarship.

As a student, Williams has been involved in a variety of different learning opportunities, including the Wilson Family Justice Clinic and Criminal Defense Practicum, the school’s advocacy team and work as a research assistant. She is also a member of the Dean’s Ambassadors, and she has served as the senior managing editor of the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law*.

Williams said that after graduation she hopes to pursue a career working with criminalized domestic violence survivors. In addition to her time in the classroom, she has been able to obtain summer employment to help hone specific skills to do such work.

During the 2021 summer, she worked with the Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project in Washington, D.C., and this summer she took a position with the Georgia Innocence Project. Ultimately, Williams’ experiences at the School of Law will give her the tools she needs to continue the work she grew passionate about all those years ago.

“Being here feels like really launching on a trajectory of being able to make an impact for a lot of people, and seeing that play out in a practical sense in internships and clinics has been really meaningful,” she said.

Molly Laughlin

TAKING THINGS AS THEY COME

Rising third-year student Molly Laughlin has always felt “that things happen as they are supposed to happen.”

After this first-generation college graduate completed her bachelor’s degree and her Master in Public Administration at Georgia Southern University in four years, the timing was right. Georgia was establishing accountability courts, and Laughlin landed the inaugural coordinator position for the Felony Drug Court in the Enotah Judicial Circuit.

Describing the time as exciting, she said, “We went from starting a brand-new program to quickly becoming one of the top 10 programs.” In 2017, she was selected from among her 1,500 colleagues statewide to receive the Tommy Day Wilcox Leadership Award for her efforts.



She said her work was meaningful, adding it was not just the 250 people she helped graduate from the accountability program but their families were affected as well. “People often feel so broken. It was amazing to see the transformation they made with help and someone to treat them with empathy. I think we often lose that sense of humanity as we get so busy.”

Laughlin soon found herself wanting to do more. “I could help my participants

with the felony drug charges they were facing,” she said, “but I could not help them legitimize their children or represent them in a divorce.” Thus, pursuing a law degree became part of her future.

With scholarships to several law schools, Laughlin said she was

Christopher Brock

INSPIRING OTHERS TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Recent graduate Christopher Brock has had several mentors who helped him on his path to law school.

After growing up in Lawrenceville, Georgia, Brock attended Georgia Southern University majoring in psychology with a minor in criminal justice. While there, he received an opportunity through a friend to work as a court appointed special advocate for the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit, where he advocated for foster children in the juvenile court system.

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men,” Brock said. “It reminded me of when I was in high school when I served as a peer mentor. I enjoyed [working with children] and making sure that I could communicate what they needed to the judge and other adults in a position to help. Being in that atmosphere and seeing how attorneys were doing their job piqued my curiosity about law school.”

After graduating, Brock worked as an administrative assistant for attorney Francys Johnson (J.D.’04), who encouraged him to apply to UGA, which Brock said he had never thought about. “I thought UGA was out of my league but [Johnson] said ‘no, apply and go visit,’” he said.

“I participated in a few pre-law scholars’ programs in Atlanta with Eversheds Sutherland and Kilpatrick Townsend to get an understanding of how to best adapt to the structure of law school. At the Kilpatrick Townsend AT&T Legal Scholars program, I met Dean Rutledge and he told me to apply and find a mentor,” he continued. “Later on, I came to visit the school and, once I saw it, that’s when I started to feel a little more comfortable about being here.”

Brock was accepted to UGA and named the inaugural Be Kind Scholar. The Be Kind Fund memorializes the late Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice P. Harris Hines, who passed away in 2018.

“I definitely have enjoyed law school,” he said. “You never look at



the world in the same way. It’s taught me how to think. It’s taught me how to problem-solve and, of course, my writing has really taken on a life of its own. I think overall my law school experience has been great. The thing about UGA Law

is it’s a big school but it’s a small feel. We all want to see each other succeed which makes the rigor of law school less stressful and more motivating.”

In law school, Brock co-founded the Privacy, Security and Technology Law Society, and he was a member of the Davenport-Benham Chapter of the Black Law Students Association and served on the national BLSA executive board. Brock was also the Bible study chair for the Christian Legal Society and participated in the school’s Business Law Clinic.

In 2020, he held his first summer position with U.S. District Court Judge Steve C. Jones (J.D.’87). “He has so much knowledge and Judge Jones is the nicest person you’ll ever meet,” Brock said. “It was so good I went back to work with him twice.”

Throughout law school, Brock has received support from his family. “I cannot count all the ways my parents have supported me. Having a support system like that in law school is so important.”

He also has an aunt who attended law school and has been a mentor and counselor to him. “Those three have taught me so much about being a professional, studying hard and using your skills to serve your community while doing what makes you happy,” he said.

With his law degree in hand, Brock is working for Miller Martin in Atlanta in the areas of government relations and commercial real estate. His dream is to be a Supreme Court justice.

“I hope to be a reflection of kindness to others and that you can be anything you want to and that there are people in the world who are willing to help you get there,” he said.

very grateful to receive the AnBryce Distinguished Law Fellowship at UGA and that it made her choice easy as the fellowship covers her tuition and provides funding for public service work over the summers in addition to other opportunities.

She is very active in the school’s advocacy program and plans to participate in the Prosecutorial Justice Program this fall. She is also a member of the National Black Law Students Association’s *Southern Journal of Policy and Justice* and will serve as the first editor-in-chief of the law school’s newest journal – the *Georgia Criminal Law Review*.

Laughlin, who wears her late mother’s pearls during moot court and mock trial competitions, said she gets her advocacy skills from her dad and her passion from her mom. She also credits her dad with her outlook on life. “He teaches me how to get the most out of life and how to keep pushing even when it’s hard,” she said. “If I’m having a bad day, he encourages me not to focus on the negative and wake up ready to fight again the next day. I think that sense of purpose is what a lot of people are missing.”

As a stress reliever Laughlin and her fiancé, Austin Jackson (who is a lawyer in the Athens-Clarke County Attorney’s Office), operate their own baking business – Cakesmith. She said baking is something she looks forward to doing, and she joked about them being a power couple – in both baking and law.

In her “dream legal kingdom” – where there are no limitations – she would pick all of her cases and defend people who cannot afford an attorney. “I think many of us take for granted the fact that we know how to operate within the legal system. It is a luxury, especially to those who lack resources or knowledge – even something as simple as drafting a will or filing a medical malpractice claim is out of reach.”

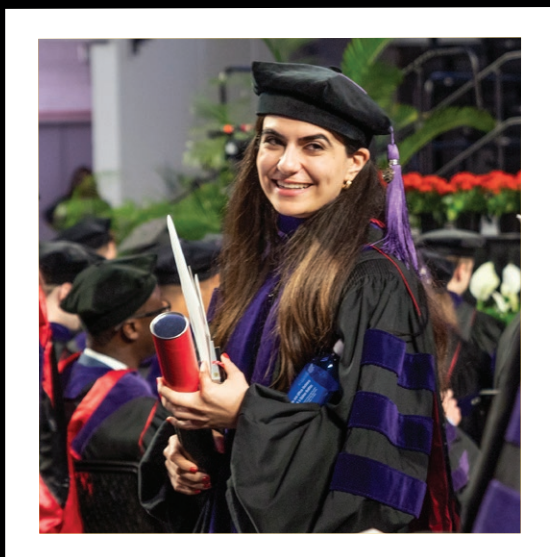
Armed with the faith that things work out the way they are supposed to, Laughlin has her sights on making a difference and ultimately becoming a judge here in the Peach State. “If I am going to help anybody, if I am going to serve anybody, I want to do it in Georgia,” she said.



Dean Bo Rutledge talks with students before the ceremony. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.

2022

COMMENCEMENT



Hannah Sbaity smiles after crossing the stage. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.



Kayla Hope, one of the inaugural Robinson Scholars, hugs Robbie Robinson's widow, Ann, after crossing the stage during Commencement. The Robinson Scholars Program is named after the 1974 law school graduate and slain civil rights leader, and it supports students who plan to work in public interest jobs.



Soon-to-be graduates smile for the camera! First row (l. to r.): Donovan Juleus, Davon Maddox, Destiny Burch and Ta'lor Billups; second row: Kayla Hope, Jeffrey Hendricks, Tatiana Moseby and Jarvis Steele; third row: Eliza Gillispie, Justin Blair, Ashleigh Rasheed-Britt, Jordan Dillard and Christopher Brock.



Haley Klass, president of the Student Bar Association, Class President Sam West (center) and Kate Jensen (J.D.'10) (right), the Law School Association president, pause for a photo. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.



2022 graduates (l. to r.) Cole Harper, Haley Kairab, Courtney Hogan, Abigail Olson and Kirstiana Perryman prepare for their bright futures with appropriate eyewear. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.

U.S. District Court judge encourages graduates to be their best



U.S. District Court Judge Lisa Godbey Wood (J.D.'90) spoke to the Class of 2022. Photo by Dennis McDaniel.

Members of the Class of 2022 – including Juris Doctor, Master of Laws and Master in the Study of Law candidates – participated in the School of Law's Commencement ceremony on May 21.

U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Georgia Lisa Godbey Wood (J.D.'90) delivered the keynote address and noted what a monumental morning it was for the graduates.

"Whether you made it here as a sure thing or whether you made it here despite stunning odds, make no mistake this is a singular accomplishment and a singular opportunity," she said.

"An important starting gun will fire when you start across this stage," she told the graduates. "You have a fresh start to get out of your seat and, one step at a time, take your footprints to your heart's desire. Whether you started from Bosnia or Macon, you can decide one step at a time to end up where you want to be doing exactly what you want to do."

Wood encouraged the members of the Class of 2022 to be their best selves as they embarked on their post-law school lives. She advised them to stay honest with themselves and others and to remain connected to those in their communities.

"There are so many people who need your time, your gifts, your education. Don't save it for later in your career. That day never comes," she said. "Too many people wait aimlessly for a sign [or] long for a miracle to jumpstart their actual life. They don't realize that every morning they see one in the mirror. Your birth – every single one of us – is a one in a billion miracle and today we find out what you do with yours."

She closed her message by encouraging the class to go forth and remember "yourself and your moral compass. . . . Give your career your authentic, honest, connected best."

George and West present Johnson Lecture

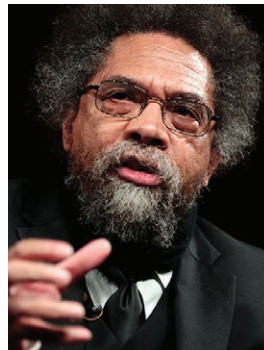
The 2022 Judge Horace J. Johnson, Jr. Lecture on Race, Law and Policy was co-presented by Professor Robert P. George and Dr. Cornel West.



George is the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and the director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. He has served as chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the President's Council on Bioethics. He was also a U.S. member of UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology and a Judicial Fellow at the U.S. Supreme Court. His

essays and reviews have appeared in numerous journals, and he is the author of four books.

West is the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Chair at Union Theological Seminary. He teaches on the works of Bonhoeffer as well as courses in philosophy of religion, African American critical thought and a wide range of subjects – including but not limited to the classics, philosophy, politics, cultural theory, literature and music. West is the former Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University and Professor Emeritus at Princeton University. He has written 20 books and has edited 13.



The two scholars often speak together, focusing on civil discourse in light of their own differing points of view on various political, cultural and social topics.

This lecture series was created with support from UGA's Presidential Task Force on Race, Ethnicity and Community by the School of Law and School of Public and International Affairs in honor of Johnson, who was a trailblazer for the Black community in Georgia. Johnson was a pioneer throughout his life. He was one of five students who helped desegregate Newton County, Georgia, schools in the 1960s. He graduated from the UGA School of Law in 1982. After briefly working in Atlanta, Johnson became the first Black attorney to practice in his home county. In 2002, he became the first Black Superior Court judge to serve in the Alcovy Judicial Circuit when then-Gov. Roy Barnes (J.D.'72) appointed him to the post. He remained in this role until his death in 2020.



Harvard scholar serves as Sibley Lecturer

Tomiko Brown-Nagin delivered the 120th Sibley Lecture, which focused on her novel *Civil Rights Queen: Constance Baker Motley and the Struggle for Equality*.

During the virtual event, which was moderated by Regents' Professor of International Law and Woodruff Chair in International Law Diane Marie Amann, Brown-Nagin discussed the life and times of Motley, who was a pathbreaking lawyer, politician and judge.

Brown-Nagin serves as the dean of the Harvard Radcliffe Institute and is the Daniel P.S. Paul Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard Law School. She is also a member of the history department at the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

In 2019, she was appointed chair of the Presidential Committee on Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Law Institute and the American Philosophical Society; a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a distinguished lecturer for the Organization of American Historians. Brown-Nagin frequently appears as a commentator in the media. Her book *Courage to Dissent* won the Bancroft Prize in 2011.

The Sibley Lecture Series, established in 1964 by the Charles Loridans Foundation of Atlanta in tribute to the late John A. Sibley, is designed to attract outstanding legal scholars of national prominence to the School of Law. Sibley was a 1911 graduate of the law school.

Federal director and alumna delivers House Lecture

Kiran Ahuja, the director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, served as the School of Law's 39th Edith House lecturer.

Ahuja, a 1998 graduate of the School of Law, was nominated to her current role by President Joe Biden after a 20+ year career in public service and executive nonprofit work. Ahuja is the first South Asian American and first Asian American woman to lead the Office of Personnel Management.

Prior to heading the OPM, Ahuja served as the organization's chief of staff. She previously spent six years as President Barack Obama's executive director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and began her career as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. She also was the founding executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum and chief executive officer of Philanthropy Northwest.



The Edith House Lecture is sponsored by the UGA Chapter of the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers in honor of one of the first female graduates of the School of Law. House, a native of Winder, Georgia, was co-valedictorian of the Class of 1925, the first to graduate women.

Rusk Center at 45: A leader in international law

For the eighth time in recent years, *U.S. News & World Report* has counted the School of Law's international law curriculum among the top 20 or so in the country.

This achievement is due in no small part to the support and hard work of everyone affiliated with the Dean Rusk International Law Center, which will celebrate its 45th anniversary in October. The center's leadership team includes Director Melissa J. "MJ" Durkee (Associate Dean for International Programs and Post Professor) and Faculty Co-Directors Diane Marie Amann (Regents' Professor and Woodruff Chair in International Law) and Harlan G. Cohen (Wilner/UGA Foundation Professor in International Law).

The work of the Dean Rusk International Law Center also depends on talented students pursuing J.D., M.S.L. and LL.M. degrees. Exceptionally skilled student advocates on the Jessup International Law Moot Court team finished second in the United States and in the top 16 in the world in this prestigious tournament featuring approximately 700 schools from 100 countries. Tying for best oralist in the world was second-year student Courtney Robinson, while teammate James Stewart was named fifth best. The advocates on the school's Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot team also posted a strong performance.

Student editors of the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law* led the 2021 conference titled "The 1972 Stockholm Declaration at 50: Reflecting on a Half Century of International Environmental Law," and this year also marked the publication of the 50th volume of the journal, one of the oldest student-edited international law reviews in the United States. Meanwhile, Appellate Litigation Clinic students obtained relief for an asylum petitioner after arguing the case before the U.S. Court of Appeals. Students participated in the center's full-semester NATO Externship – now transpiring in partnership with the Washington, D.C. Semester in Practice under the leadership of Jessica Heywood (J.D.'97) – as well as full-semester and summer Global Externships Overseas. The student-led International Law Society also helped create community.

This year the center welcomed a new group of students to the School of Law: an inaugural class pursuing the Graduate Certificate in International Law. This diverse group of post-graduate students from other disciplines within the university joined J.D., LL.M. and M.S.L. students for their spring international legal courses.

The center hosted academics, practitioners and policymakers from all over the world for in-person and online forums, including analysis of breaking-

news events such as the Ukraine-Russia conflict. Other highlights included lectures by visiting scholars – Professor Brienne McGonigle Leyh of the Netherlands' Utrecht University and Professor Natalia Pires de Vasconcelos of Insper São Paulo, Brazil – as well as an LL.M. alumnus, Professor Orkun Akseli of the University of Manchester. The center's International Law Colloquium and Consular Series also featured distinguished guests.

The law school's graduates – who excel as partners in international commercial law firms, as heads of nongovernmental organizations and international organizations, as in-house counsel at leading multinational enterprises and as diplomats and public servants – also provided mentoring and other support.

The Dean Rusk International Law Center looks forward to continuing to strengthen its initiatives in the coming year.



Legal leaders share knowledge and experience



The Solicitor General of the United States, Elizabeth Prelogar, spoke to the School of Law's Washington, D.C. Semester in Practice students about her work and the role of her office. Prelogar is the second woman to ever hold her current position, and she serves as the fourth-ranking individual at the Department of Justice.

This spring, Sibley Professor in Corporate and Business Law Larry Thompson taught a course on Corporate Social Responsibility. Thompson has held various legal positions, including U.S. deputy attorney general, executive vice president of PepsiCo and Volkswagen independent compliance monitor. He was recently named to the National Association of Corporate Directors' Future of the American Boardroom Commission and awarded the *National Law Journal's* 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award.



School launches new journal



The School of Law's newest legal journal, the *Georgia Criminal Law Review*, hosted its first symposium, which focused on sentencing in Georgia and examined the complex issues surrounding sentencing and various reform issues that have taken place throughout the state. The founding members of the journal are third-year students (l. to r.) Daniel Zimmer, Alex Clark, Emmanuel Kyei, Audrey Cunningham and Richmond Wrinkle.

Jurists connect with students in classroom settings

Connecting students with jurists in an educational setting provides a unique and valuable learning experience for School of Law students. During the 2021–22 academic year several members of the judiciary visited Athens. Among them:

Harold D. Melton (J.D.'91), who previously served as the chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, was named the law school's Carl E. Sanders Scholar in Political Leadership. He taught a spring 2022 seminar titled *Representing the State*. The course addressed legal and professional issues that arise when one works as a lawyer for the state.



Former Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Harold Melton (J.D.'91) is now the school's Sanders Scholar in Political Leadership.

Leslie Abrams Gardner, a U.S. District Court Judge for the Middle District of Georgia, served as the School of Law's B. Avant Edenfield Jurist in Residence, named in memory of the longtime U.S. District Court judge who was also a 1958 graduate of the law school. Gardner taught a criminal sentencing mini course.

Georgia Supreme Court Justice Sarah Hawkins Warren served as the spring 2022 Hines Jurist-in-Residence (which honors the memory of the late Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice P. Harris Hines) and taught a mini-course focused on persuading the judge and jury. She also presented a lecture to students on professionalism.

Georgia Supreme Court Justice Verda M. Colvin (J.D.'90) spoke to the incoming first-year class during fall orientation. Colvin welcomed the new students, describing the law as an "honorable and needed profession" and noted "it is everything people have told you and even more."

U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Georgia Steve C. Jones (J.D.'87) visited the School of Law and spoke with students about the role of a federal judge.

U.S. Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia Benjamin W. Cheesbro (J.D.'10) and U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Florida Rodolfo A. Ruiz II spoke to Instructor Anna White Howard's (J.D.'10) Writing for Judicial Clerkships class.

Marshall Chair of Constitutional Law Randy Beck hosted several members of the judiciary during his State Constitutional Law course, including Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit Jeffrey S. Sutton, Supreme Court Chief Justice David E. Nahmias, Warren, Georgia Supreme Court Justice Nels S.D. Peterson and Georgia Court of Appeals Judge Andrew A. Pinson (J.D.'11).

LAW SCHOOL WELCOMES THREE



John B. Meixner Jr. joined the School of Law as an assistant professor leading the classes Evidence and Criminal Law.

His research focuses on criminal law (especially sentencing), evidence and the intersection of law and neuroscience. Meixner's scholarship has been published or is forthcoming in the *Northwestern University Law Review*, the *Wisconsin Law Review*, the *DePaul Law Review*, the *Albany Law Review*, the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* and the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*.

Before entering academia, Meixner served as an assistant United States attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan for almost six years, working in the major crimes unit and the appellate division. He was a general litigation associate in Schiff Hardin's Ann Arbor office. He also served as a judicial clerk for Judge Paul V. Niemeyer of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and Chief Judge Gerald E. Rosen of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Meixner's bachelor's degree is from the University of Michigan and his J.D. and Ph.D. are from Northwestern University, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Northwestern University Law Review* and inducted into the Order of the Coif.

Scott Lowry (J.D.'07) became a clinical assistant professor in early 2022. He now leads the school's Business Law and Ethics Program and its Corporate Counsel Externship, due to the retirement of Clinical Professor & Business Law and Ethics Program Director Carol Morgan (J.D.'79).

Lowry joined the law faculty with 15 years of experience as a transactional attorney in the areas of corporate, tax and real estate law. Previously, he was a partner at the law firm Fortson, Bentley & Griffin in Athens, where he represented clients on a wide variety of corporate matters, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, franchising, exempt securities offerings and commercial contract review. He also worked in the Atlanta office of Morris, Manning & Martin.

Active in the Athens start-up community, Lowry has led classes on legal issues on behalf of the UGA Small Business Development Center and presented on corporate law matters in conjunction with the university's Innovation Gateway and the FABricate Entrepreneurial Initiative.

Lowry earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and his law degree from UGA, where he served on the *Georgia Law Review* and was inducted into the Order of the Coif.



Nancy E. Rafuse (J.D.'91) joined the law school faculty as a counselor in residence during the 2021-22 academic year. She teaches the courses Employment Discrimination, and Wage and Hour Law and Litigation.

Rafuse — currently the managing partner of the Atlanta office of Sanford Heisler Sharp and the firmwide head of litigation — practiced employment law for approximately 30 years, most recently as an equity partner at Seyfarth Shaw in Atlanta where her national labor and employment practice included Fortune 100 clients and large private employers. She advised and counseled on employment law matters, including internal investigations and C-suite employment issues.

Previously she worked at the law firm Polsinelli from 2014 to 2019. She opened the firm's Atlanta office in 2014 and managed it for three years. After law school, Rafuse worked for 12 years at Paul Hastings, where she became a partner and served as vice chair of the firm's employment practice before serving as managing partner of Ashe Rafuse & Hill from 2003 to 2014.

She earned both her bachelor's and law degrees from UGA, where she was notes editor of the *Georgia Law Review*, a judicial intern for U.S. District Court Judge B. Avant Edenfield (J.D.'58) and inducted into the Order of the Coif.

NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS,

Rodrigues named UGA's interim vice provost



Earlier this year, University Professor & Kilpatrick Chair of Corporate Finance and Securities Law Usha Rodrigues was named UGA's interim vice provost for academic affairs. In this role, she assists with all matters of academic administration, policy and planning at the university level, while continuing to lead classes at the law school.

Rodrigues testified before a U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets last year. She also provided expert commentary for high profile media outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Forbes* and Bloomberg in addition to presenting her scholarship at the University of California, Berkeley; Cornell University; Fordham University; Vanderbilt University and Washington University in St. Louis.

She joined the faculty at UGA in 2005 and has taught Corporations, Contracts, Lifecycle of the Corporation and Business Ethics. Rodrigues was the associate dean for faculty development at the law school from 2015 to 2018 and has served as the University Council's parliamentarian since 2014. Three years ago, she was awarded the title of University Professor, which was then awarded to no more than one UGA faculty member per year.

Cade awarded full professor and presented with Engaged Scholar Award



Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and Experiential Learning Jason A. Cade has been promoted to the rank of full professor. In addition to leading the Community Health Law Partnership Clinic since 2013, he holds a Hosch Professorship and teaches immigration law.

Cade was also awarded UGA's Engaged Scholar Award in April, a university-level honor bestowed upon one tenured faculty member each year who has significantly advanced progress on issues of public concern through scholarship, service-learning activities with students, and campus leadership.

Among his recent scholarship is "Water is Life!" (and Speech!): Death, Dissent and Democracy in the Borderlands" in the *Indiana Law Journal* and the co-authored report "Escalating Jailhouse Immigration Enforcement," which reveals an increase in the issuance of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainers in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina from 2016 to 2018, among other findings.

Last year, the Community HeLP Clinic won the national Clinical Legal Education Association's Award for Excellence in a Public Interest Case or Project for its work with the law school's First Amendment Clinic and clinics from Harvard, Columbia, Texas A&M and Boston universities.



Bruner publishes Oxford book, *Yale Law Journal* feature

Specializing in corporate law, corporate governance, comparative law and sustainability, Stembler Family Distinguished Professor in Business Law Christopher M. Bruner had multiple significant publications this year.

He authored *The Corporation as Technology: Re-Calibrating Corporate Governance for a Sustainable Future*, which was published by the Oxford University Press. He also wrote "Corporate Governance Reform and the Sustainability Imperative," a feature published by the *Yale Law Journal*. He is currently co-editing *A Research Agenda for Corporate Law*, forthcoming from Edward Elgar Publishing.

Bruner's other books include: *The Cambridge Handbook of Corporate Law, Corporate Governance and Sustainability* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) (co-edited); *Re-Imagining Offshore Finance: Market-Dominant Small Jurisdictions in a Globalizing Financial World* (Oxford University Press, 2016); and *Corporate Governance in the Common-Law World: The Political Foundations of Shareholder Power* (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

Over the last year, he has delivered presentations to audiences at the University College Dublin, the University of Oslo and the University of Minnesota.

Bruner joined the School of Law faculty in 2017 and teaches a range of corporate and transactional subjects.

NEW TITLES & HONORS

Burch continues to build MDL and class action reputation

During the past year, Callaway Chair Elizabeth Chamblee Burch released the findings from her procedural justice study of plaintiffs in women's health multidistrict litigation (which are forthcoming in the *Cornell Law Review*) and published three articles – “Information for the Common Good in Mass Torts” in the *DePaul Law Review*, “MDL Revolution” in the *New York University Law Review* and “Diversity in MDL Leadership: A Field Guide” in the *University of Missouri Kansas City Law Review*.



An authority on multidistrict litigation and class actions, Burch continues to be one of the School of Law's most frequently quoted faculty members by high profile media outlets. She was interviewed by leading news agencies such as the Associated Press, Reuters and Bloomberg and was quoted in *The New York Times*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *The Washington Post*, *Law360* and *The Seattle Times* as well as on CNN.com.

Burch, a member of the School of Law's faculty since 2011, teaches the courses Complex Litigation; Mass Torts; Multidistrict Litigation: Law, Practice, and Strategy; Civil Procedure and Torts.

Miller elected to the American Law Institute

Joseph S. Miller, the holder of the Rogers Chair of Intellectual Property and Unfair Competition Law, has been elected to the American Law Institute. The ALI is “the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize and otherwise improve the law.”

His research has long focused on intellectual property law and the larger legal frameworks that structure competition in a market economy. In recent work, he has used the computational tools of network analysis to measure and map case citation patterns in Supreme Court case law, including all of the court's IP cases.



His work has appeared in the general law reviews of the universities of Akron, American, Cardozo, Catholic, Indiana, Kansas, Lewis & Clark and Pittsburgh as well as in the IP journals at Berkeley, Chicago-Kent, Stanford, Texas and UCLA. His most recent article, “A Judge Never Writes More Freely: A Separate-Opinions Citation-Network Approach to Assessing Judicial Ideology,” is forthcoming in the *Michigan State Law Review*. Miller is also the co-author of a nationally popular IP Survey casebook, now in its seventh edition.

Miller, who joined the School of Law faculty in 2011, teaches Intellectual Property Survey, Corporations, History & Theory of the Common Law and various jurisprudence seminars.



Cohen receives Jackson Prize

Wilner/UGA Foundation Professor in International Law Harlan G. Cohen was awarded the John H. Jackson Prize by the *Journal of International Economic Law* for his article “Nations and Markets.” Published in the journal in 2020, the article traces current conflicts between national security and international economics to their source and maps potential paths forward for both.

The Jackson Prize is awarded annually to the author of an article or other contribution in the *JIEL* that “most significantly breaks new ground and adds new insights to the study and understanding of international economic law, especially in fields beyond a self-contained analysis of WTO law.”

His other recent publications include “Culture Clash: The Sociology of WTO Precedent” in *Precedents as Rules and Practice* and “Are We (Americans) All International Realists Now?” in *Whither the West? Concepts on International Law in Europe and the United States*.

Cohen, who joined the School of Law faculty in 2007, serves as a faculty co-director of the Dean Rusk International Law Center. Cohen also holds a courtesy appointment with the UGA School of Public and International Affairs' Department of International Affairs.

Milot named full professor and received \$200k PetSmart grant

Practicum in Animal Welfare Skills Director Lisa Milot has been awarded the rank of full professor.

Milot also recently secured a \$200,000 grant from PetSmart Charities to establish the Community Interventions for Sustainable Access to Care program.

The initiative seeks to determine the assistance needed to make veterinary care accessible in two socially vulnerable communities in Athens. Community Interventions is designed to address barriers to veterinary care by providing services on location in the selected communities, paired with information about the legal requirements for pet ownership and best practices for the social and physical needs of companion animals. Milot will analyze data from Athens-Clarke County Animal Services to see if the program is successful in keeping more animals in their homes and improving the condition of animals impounded despite the program.

Milot, who joined the School of Law in 2007, was named the 2009 UGA Professor of the Year by the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers.



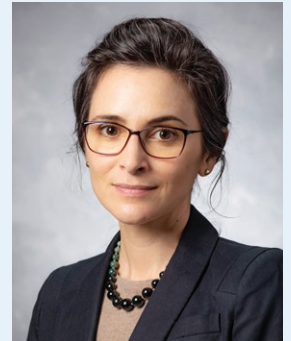
Phillips Sawyer awarded tenure

Associate Professor Laura Phillips Sawyer, who joined the School of Law faculty in 2020, has been granted tenure.

She teaches in the area of antitrust law at the law school and holds a courtesy appointment in UGA's Department of Economics. She also leads courses in UGA's Honors College and the Terry College of Business. In 2021, she received Terry College's Nourse Outstanding MBA Teacher Award for the MBA elective curriculum. More recently, she received a Stanton Foundation grant to support teaching an applied history course, "Antimonopoly and American Democracy: Case Studies in American Capitalism."

The author of *American Fair Trade: Proprietary Capitalism, Corporatism, and the 'New Competition,' 1890–1940* (Cambridge, 2018), Phillips Sawyer's work has appeared in the *Law and History Review*, the *Business History Review*, the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* and the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. She also has an article forthcoming in the *University of Chicago Law Review*.

Over the past 18 months, Phillips Sawyer has presented her work at the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division, the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, the University of Utah Eccles School of Business as well as at the annual meetings of the American Historical Association and the American Society for Legal History.



Simon earns promotion and publishes article in the *Yale Law Journal*

Lindsey Simon, who was promoted to associate professor, recently published "Bankruptcy Grifters" in the *Yale Law Journal* and "The Settlement Trap" in the *Indiana Law Journal*. Notably, the Yale article was selected by the Association of American Law Schools as an honorable mention in its 2021 Scholarly Papers Competition.

She teaches in the areas of bankruptcy and secured transactions, and her research focuses on the bankruptcy system, drawing concepts from bankruptcy structure and procedure to address broader institutional design challenges.

Simon, who joined the UGA faculty in 2018, has assisted academics, judges, members of Congress and other stakeholders on the subject of mass tort bankruptcies, and her commentary in connection with the Purdue Pharma, Boy Scouts of America and USA Gymnastics bankruptcies has appeared in various media outlets, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Forbes* and *The Economist* in addition to airing on National Public Radio.

She is an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, where she serves as a member of the ABI Diversity Working Group.

Grant promoted to associate professor



Elizabeth M. Grant (J.D.'94) has been promoted to clinical associate professor. She directs the School of Law's Civil Externship program and its Public Interest Practicum.

During the 2019–20 academic year, she was one of nine faculty members selected campus-wide to participate in UGA's Service-Learning Fellows program, which provides an opportunity for faculty members from a range of disciplines to integrate academic service-learning into their professional practice.

Her recent scholarship includes "Towards a jurisprudence (and pedagogy) of access: A reflection on 25 years of the Public Interest Practicum" in the *Georgia Law Review Online*.

Grant has worked at the School of Law in various capacities for several years. She has taught the Civil Externship course during the summer semesters since 2010, served as the interim director of the Family Violence Clinic (as it was called then) in 2015 and was an adjunct mock trial coach.

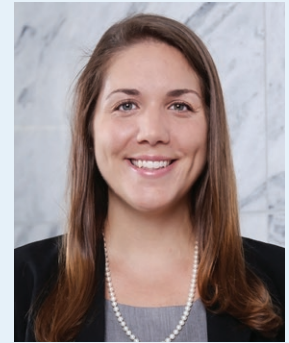
Hetherington gains promotion and wins three grants

Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic Director Emma M. Hetherington (J.D.'11) has been promoted to clinical associate professor.

Earlier this year she was awarded three grants – one from the UGA Teaming for Interdisciplinary Research Pre-Seed Program and another from the UGA Center on Human Trafficking Research and Outreach, while the third is a Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Grant from Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. All three will allow Hetherington and the clinic to further their important work related to assisting sexually abused and exploited children.

She presently serves on the 2022–23 Sexual Assault, Child Abuse, and Human Trafficking State Expert Committee, which develops best practice guidance, protocol development, training, technical assistance and other resources benefiting Georgia's 50 judicial circuits.

The Wilbanks CEASE Clinic – the first of its kind in the nation – is dedicated to legal representation and advocacy for survivors of child sexual abuse in civil litigation and juvenile court dependency proceedings. Under her direction, the clinic has served more than 200 survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation since opening in 2016.



Scartz named associate professor

Christine M. Scartz (J.D.'94), who joined the law school faculty in 2015, has been promoted to clinical associate professor. Currently, she directs the Jane W. Wilson Family Justice Clinic and teaches the courses Family Law and Law and Social Justice: Strategic Advocacy.

During the 2021–22 year, Scartz co-authored "Lessons from a Pandemic: Recommendations from the Georgia TPO Forum for Strengthening Protections Against Domestic Violence" in the *Family Law Quarterly*. She served as a Fellow with the Georgia Women's Policy Institute and an Advisory Board member with Marsy's Law for Georgia in addition to being admitted to the Amicable Divorce Network and selected as a member of the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence Faculty Facilitator Team.

Additionally, she has served on the Executive Board and Fatality Review Panel of the Western Judicial Circuit Domestic Violence Task Force since 2016, and Scartz currently chairs the Firearms Surrender Protocol Committee of the Task Force.

Previously, she was an adjunct instructor with the school's Public Interest Practicum and Civil Clinics. In 2020–21, Scartz was a UGA Service-Learning Fellow.

McNiff leads Mediation Practicum



Rob McNiff (J.D.'02), now a clinical assistant professor, leads the School of Law's Mediation Practicum. He joined the school's faculty in 2017, and he teaches classes in mediation and negotiation.

Over the past several years, McNiff has helped with the school's advocacy program. With his assistance, School of Law students have won numerous moot court and mock trial trophies.

McNiff is a registered neutral and approved trainer with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. He has successfully mediated hundreds of cases in many areas of law.

Previously, McNiff served as a public defender in judicial circuits in Northeast Georgia before opening a general practice of law in Winterville. He also started Resolve Mediation Solutions, which emphasized delivering mediation services to individuals and groups who sought to avoid litigation.



Howard joins legal writing faculty

Anna White Howard (J.D.'10), who joined the law school in 2019 as a counselor in residence, has become a legal writing instructor.

In addition to teaching Writing for Judicial Clerkships, she will now teach First-year Legal Writing and LL.M. Legal Writing and Research. She will continue to volunteer

with the Appellate Litigation Clinic and will serve as the law school's judicial liaison, working to bring judges to campus in various capacities and nurture the school's relationship with the judiciary.

Previously, Howard assisted with the school's advocacy program and the Appellate Litigation Clinic. She helped several advocacy law school teams capture national and international honors and aided clinic participants with cases before the federal circuit Courts of Appeals, the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Howard holds multiple leadership positions in the Federal Bar Association, the premier organization for federal practitioners.

Three librarians receive promotions

Jason Tubinis has been elevated to the rank of Librarian IV, while Savanna Nolan (J.D.'13) and Amy Taylor have been awarded Librarian II status.

As information technology librarian, **Tubinis** is responsible for researching and implementing new library and legal education technologies, troubleshooting software and hardware problems and maintaining the library's pages on the law school's website as well as helping with the administration of GAVEL – the law library's automated library system.

He also teaches the courses Legal Research and Research & Technology Skills for the Georgia Lawyer.

Tubinis, who joined the library faculty in 2010, recently presented at the 2021 American Association of Law Libraries conference and published articles in *Computers in Libraries* and the *AALL Spectrum*.

Nolan, who joined the library as its instruction and faculty services librarian in July 2020, promotes and coordinates research service for the faculty and also teaches legal research courses.

In 2021, she was selected to participate in UGA's Teaching Academy Early Career Fellows Program, which seeks to develop excellence in classroom instruction by mentoring early-career faculty.

She recently published "On the Ground: Real-World Solutions/ Writing Winning Personal Statements for Scholarship Applications" in the *AALL Spectrum* and "Inside Baseball: Justice Blackmun and the Summer of '72" in *The Green Bag Almanac*.

She is an active member of the AALL and its Southeastern Chapter.

Taylor serves as the clinical services and research librarian, working closely with the school's clinical programs.

Since joining the library faculty in 2018, she has taught the courses Legal Research and Advanced Legal Research.

In 2019, she received funding through an Affordable Course Materials Grant program to help students with the transition from costly textbooks to open educational resources.

Taylor is a member of the AALL and the Southeastern Chapter of the AALL, where she recently presented "Data Visualization: Tips & Tricks" at its annual meeting.

Farewells

BROWN BECOMES UT DEAN, MORGAN AND NESSET RETIRE



Lonnie T. Brown Jr., the holder of the Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism and a Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professorship, left UGA at the end of the spring semester to become dean of the University of Tennessee College of Law.

Brown, who specializes in legal ethics in the adversary system, taught Civil Procedure, The Law and Ethics of Lawyering, Georgia Practice and Procedure, and Ethics in Litigation during his two decades in Athens. He also served as the law school's associate dean for academic affairs from 2013 to 2015 and was an Administrative Fellow in the UGA Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost from 2007 to 2008.

A member of the American Law Institute, Brown is the author of *Defending the Public's Enemy: The Life and Legacy of Ramsey Clark*, which was published by the Stanford University Press and named the winner of the 2020 Silver Independent Publisher Book Award in the biography category.

In 2019, he was recognized with UGA's highest teaching honor – a Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professorship. Notably, Brown received the annual Student Bar Association Professionalism Award for the majority of his years on the UGA faculty, and he was chosen as a graduation faculty marshal on multiple occasions.

After 14 years of service – which included the establishment of the school's Business Law and Ethics Program – Clinical Professor **Carol Morgan** (J.D.'79) retired in June.

From chairing an exploratory committee and teaching the first mergers and acquisitions class in 2008 to a program that now includes an array of practice-based courses – the Corporate Counsel Externship, the Business Law Clinic and Negotiation Team – Morgan said her time at the law school has been the most rewarding part of her professional career.

In addition to providing opportunities for students interested in transactional law, other highlights she shared were “getting to know students and watching them grow exponentially in three years.”

She added that she loves graduation. “I especially like the Friday night reception, where I meet students' families and get to brag about their loved ones.”

Morgan's work at the School of Law was nationally recognized in 2021 when she was presented the Tina L. Stark Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Transactional Law and Skills.

In retirement Morgan plans to spend time with her children and grandchildren who live in the Northeast, visit other family and friends, hike in New Zealand, do pro bono work and catch up on the zillion home projects that she has “blissfully ignored while working for 40+ years.”

After teaching more than 80 consecutive semesters at the School of Law, **Curtis C. Nessel** retired in August 2022. He joined the UGA faculty in 1994 and taught legal writing, document drafting and capital punishment. He also directed the Capital Assistance Project.

One of his fondest memories is running into a former student who shared that while taking Nessel's writing class the student did not take it seriously as he believed he “already knew how to write.” Once out of law school the student wrote a memorandum in support of a motion on behalf of a client and after presenting oral argument on the motion to the trial court, the judge pulled the former student aside and said the memorandum “was one of the poorest pieces of writing he had seen in his judicial career.” The student said he was devastated but remembered he still had his notes and book from Nessel's class. After weeks reviewing those materials, the student said he “finally understood what [Nessel was] trying to teach.”

Nessel said he will miss working with students and the “sense of accomplishment” when “the light goes on” for them.

He has plans to move to Beaverton, Oregon, where will spend as much time as he can with his grandchildren, consult in the area of legal writing and write “an article or two” about the death penalty.

Faculty award winners

Faculty honored by the 2021–22 student body were: **Lonnie T. Brown Jr.** – holder of the Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism & Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor – Student Bar Association Professionalism Award and Graduation Faculty Marshal; **Jean Goetz Mangan** (J.D.'11) – Legal Writing Instructor – Watson Award for Outstanding Legal Research or Writing Instructor; **Carol Morgan** (J.D.'79) – Clinical Professor & Business Law and Ethics Program Director – Lanier Award for Excellence in Clinical Education; **Usha Rodrigues**

– Interim UGA Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University Professor & Kilpatrick Chair of Corporate Finance and Securities Law – Ellington Award for Excellence in Teaching and Graduation Faculty Marshal; and **David Shipley** – Georgia Athletic Association Professor in Law – O'Byrne Memorial Award for Significant Contributions Furthering Student-Faculty Relations.

Waller to become NALP President



Assistant Dean for Career Development Anthony E. “Tony” Waller (J.D.’93) was voted president-elect of NALP (the National Association for Law Placement), an international association of over 2,500 legal career professionals who advise law students, lawyers, law offices and law schools. Waller became the first individual from the state of Georgia to serve in this leadership capacity in more than two decades when he assumed the post in April. Waller has more than 18 years of legal career development experience, with 12 of them at UGA.

Nelson assumes helm of ICJE



Lynne Moore Nelson was named the executive director of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia after many years of legal experience in both the public and private sectors. ICJE, which has benefited from a collaborative relationship with the School of Law since the mid-1970s, is responsible for Georgia’s statewide educational system for judges and court staff. Nelson took over this leadership role after Douglas Ashworth (J.D.’87) left the institute at the end of 2021. He had been with ICJE since 2017.

Law School Life



McBee Lecture in Higher Education

In November, Joan Gabel, president of the University of Minnesota and a 1993 law school alumna, delivered the 31st Louise McBee Lecture in Higher Education, which is one of the few annual lecture series in the country focused solely on higher education. Gabel spoke on “Fulfilling Higher Education’s Social Contract and Value Proposition.” Photo by UGA Marketing and Communications.



Gold Benefactors Reception

Third-year students Elizabeth O’Roark and Davis Wright visited with Georgia Supreme Court Justice Carla Wong McMillian (J.D.’98) (right) during a reception at the School of Law in April.

UGA Law Black Alumni Reception

The 6th Annual UGA Law Black Alumni Reception – which gives law students and graduates an opportunity to network and spend time together – was held during Black History Month at the Loudermilk Center in Atlanta. Georgia Supreme Court Justice Verda Colvin (J.D.’90) (left) and Yvette Daniels (J.D.’89), the president of the UGA Alumni Association, were in attendance. Photo by Holland Reid Photography.





Roughly 6,000 students later, Roseboro retires

In 2018, Greg Roseboro (J.D.'87) (fourth from left), who was then the executive director of the law school's admissions and diversity programs, received the UGA President's Fulfilling the Dream Award. Celebrating the recognition with him were law school staff and graduates: (l. to r.) Xavier Brown (J.D.'17), Mehrsa Baradaran, Dean Bo Rutledge, Jenna Jackson (J.D.'14), Lonnie Brown and Dominique Holloman (J.D.'04). Photo by UGA Marketing and Communications.

For nearly 30 years, Gregory L. “Greg” Roseboro (J.D.'87) has been one of the most public-facing individuals representing the School of Law due to his role of recruiting the best and the brightest to study law in Athens. It is estimated that during his tenure he has recruited and mentored roughly 6,000 students while serving under four deans.

Roseboro, who excelled as a scholarship track athlete and earned both his bachelor's and law degrees from UGA, joined the law school staff in 1994. He said he viewed his assistant director position, which included an emphasis on minority students, as a great opportunity to work at his alma mater.

Noting he was one of the first Black professional staff members at the school, he said: “Everyone on the faculty and administration was open to me being here. I had a voice from the beginning. ... I was just hoping to be a part of a team working to make the law school a great place.”

Roseboro assumed the helm of the law school's admissions operation in 2015. Three years later diversity programs was formally added to his portfolio of responsibilities and in another two he was awarded the title of assistant dean for admissions, diversity and inclusion & strategic initiatives.

Over the years, the School of Law has benefitted from Roseboro's unique perspective as he has been a student, an alumnus, an administrator and a faculty member. His work has also spanned many of the school's most critical areas: admissions, career services, student affairs, community outreach and teaching.

Roseboro said he has made helping others – faculty, staff, fellow graduates and especially students – a priority.

He has been the advisor for the Davenport-Benham Black Law Students Association, the Asian Law Students Association, the Hispanic Law Students Association and the OUTLaw student organization. He said he actively encouraged student groups with different philosophies to find common ground and produce balanced viewpoints in their

individual and combined programming.

Roseboro added that he has met and worked with “some amazing people” during his time at the law school, recalling that he had counseled numerous former students to find ways to make a difference in society. A few examples include: Jason Carter (J.D.'04), Stacey Godfrey Evans (J.D.'03), Francys Johnson (J.D.'04), Carla Wong McMillian (J.D.'98), Ceasar Mitchell (J.D.'95) and Phaedra Parks (J.D.'98).

Commencement is among the law school's standout events for Roseboro. “To see students complete what has been a dream for years for so many of them is always special, and I remember my own.”

When asked about the changes he has witnessed during his time at the law school, Roseboro said they have been many. “The physical structure has changed. The credentials of our students have increased, although UGA has always attracted a high-quality student.” He noted the biggest change is perhaps to the school's facilities, saying “the buildings now reflect the rich history and diversity of the law school.”

Roseboro remembers Hirsch Hall being the very first building he entered on the UGA campus back in 1980, when he met with the late Professor Larry Blount to discuss coming to Athens to be a student athlete, earn his undergraduate degree and possibly attend law school. He said it is very fitting that Hirsch Hall will be his exiting point approximately four decades later.

In retirement, Roseboro plans to spend time with his family, join the senior bowling league, travel and “do a lot of fishing.”

Roseboro's commitment and dedication to the thousands he has recruited to the law school, the hundreds he has directly mentored and the dozens he has worked alongside are being recognized with the creation of a scholarship that will carry his name. To learn more, please contact the Office of Law School Advancement at (706) 542-7959 or email lawgifts@uga.edu.

Ronnie Mabra Jr.

SERVING AND HELPING OTHERS

The need to serve and help others is a common theme in the life of 2004 School of Law graduate Ronnie Mabra Jr.

The former Georgia Tech football player chose to study law in Athens with the intent of becoming a sports agent and helping athletes earn the most benefit from their physical abilities. After graduation, he found early success assisting a friend's younger brother in securing a spot with the Green Bay Packers during the season leading up to the team's 2011 Super Bowl win.

Seeking a more consistent paycheck and lifestyle, Mabra shifted to personal injury law at the urging of friends and family. They said they thought the work would suit his personality and his need to help others.

After landing a position at a small firm in his hometown of Fayetteville, he began making a name for himself by "working hard, trying cases and learning the business," he said. "It was home for me. It was a bunch of people I knew and would see around town and out in the community. It was a good way to serve and help other people."

Mabra decided to branch out on his own a few years later. He began operating his law firm from his kitchen table, then moved to a corner table at a Starbucks within a nearby Barnes & Noble. He said he and his wife, Dawn, were "walking by faith and not by sight. ... We believed in God and that He would bless us and allow us to expand our territory and continue to help and serve others. And it happened."

Friends and colleagues approached Mabra to run for the Georgia House of Representatives when new state house district lines were drawn in 2012 that covered the Fayetteville area. With his wife's encouragement, he ran and won the seat.

"I wanted to serve," he said. "I felt at home in the Capitol. I knew people there – friends from school and football. People knew me and they knew my father. I feel like I was able to reach across the aisle to get things done."

And, that is exactly what he did, sponsoring two bills that were signed into law during his two terms in the state legislature.

Mabra decided not to seek a third term about the time his first son, Remiii, was born. The break in public service also provided a good opportunity for his wife to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming a doctor.

With a renewed focus on his law practice, the Mabra Firm moved its operations to Midtown Atlanta. He said they purposely selected a location where there would be room to grow. In the meantime, the extra space was shared with other firms.

"It was a way to pay it forward and help other young or new attorneys just starting out," Mabra said. "I told them to come in and



not to worry about rent. We would help each other out and bounce ideas off each other. ... It was a great office atmosphere of people working together."

Mabra's reputation has continued to grow. Over the years he was named to several 40-under-40 lists as well as a Georgia Super Lawyer. His firm also has been recognized as one of UGA's fastest growing alumni/alumnae businesses.

In late 2021, the Mabra Firm opened what he calls a "premier, state-of-the-art law firm building." A former warehouse on Atlanta's west side was reconfigured to "mirror the firm's personality," he said. "It is outgoing and happy. It says we are lucky to be lawyers. We are in an honorable profession. We are proud to be able to serve and help others."

Mabra's greatest inspirations remain his mother – a retired public-school teacher – and his late father – a former NFL football player. "I want to make them proud and honor them," he said. "I work hard for them because they poured so much into me."

Modeling a strong work ethic, grounded in service, likewise sets a good example for Mabra's two sons. "It is important to have a good name for our kids and to set a good example, so they know being good and working hard does pay off and that it helps to change lives."

Mabra feels his service as a member of the Law School Association Council is another way to give back. He is also a longtime supporter of the law school's annual Black alumni/alumnae reception in Atlanta. "It is a good event to bring the Black community together to get different perspectives of the law school ... Ideas are bounced around in an inviting atmosphere where we all have a good time."

Regarding service, Mabra pointed to a favored quote by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: "Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve." Mabra added that for him it is all about "making our community and our state a better place."

When asked if he would consider a return to political service, Mabra said it is possible. His family life took center stage during the past few years as he and Dawn welcomed a second son, Riley, in early 2020. Following Dawn's graduation from the Morehouse School of Medicine earlier this year, however, he said he can see a run for office at some point with his wife's blessing.

He joked that he was undefeated in his previous races and that people should "watch out." Given that he is both a Yellow Jacket and Bulldog, it might be hard for him to lose.

Elizabeth & Kevin Murphy

GIVING BACK

A boy from Atlanta and a girl from Charlotte met at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and attended law school at the University of Georgia in Athens. Where are they now? Elizabeth A. and Kevin P. Murphy, both 2010 School of Law graduates, currently reside in Charlotte, where they are raising their son, Lincoln; practicing law and contributing to their communities.

Elizabeth has spent her entire legal career at Alston & Bird's Charlotte, North Carolina, office working in commercial real estate finance. "I represent lenders in making loans on commercial real estate – hotels, apartment complexes, shopping centers, mobile home parks, you name it."

The "coolest deal" she has helped close was the restructuring of the Atlantis Bahamas – a "\$3 billion workout." On the same day, she also closed a \$1 million loan on a self-storage facility in Texas. "There are big deals and small deals and what I love about my job and my experiences is that I have gotten to do all of that," she said.

Kevin, who practices labor and employment law, operates his own law practice after having worked on the employer-side of the business for several years. He said he has found greater satisfaction representing individuals.

One particular case that stands out for him involved a young woman who was sexually assaulted by her boss at a coffee shop he owned and where she worked. "The local DA's office dropped her case because they did not feel like they would get a conviction," Kevin said. Noting his law school experience in what is now called the Prosecutorial Justice Program, he added, "I certainly respect that [the DA has] the ethical obligation to bring only what can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt, but sometimes even though you might lose a case it needs to be brought. So that is what we did." Kevin and his client won the case but he said what was most important was that it was in the same location where the DA had dismissed her case. "It was in that same courthouse that 12 people stood up and said [the defendant] did this and he needs to be punished. I think that is helping my client on her path to moving forward."

Twelve years into their legal careers and 11 years into their marriage, the couple is grateful for their personal and professional successes. They also recognize that their good fortune comes with a responsibility to give back and support others.

Last year, Elizabeth was presented with the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy's Pro Bono Award. She said her philosophy when it comes to pro bono work is to "figure out a need in your community and learn how to do that one thing. ... Pick one thing you can do and get good at it and do



it over and over again. My thing is working with special immigrant juvenile children and helping them gain legal status in our country." She recognizes it is a "niche" need but, with each case taking roughly 20 hours, she can commit to several cases a year.

Kevin, who routinely logs service hours with Legal Aid of North Carolina's "Lawyer on the Line" program, also takes special immigrant juvenile cases.

He said one reason Elizabeth won the pro bono award is not just because of her own direct involvement in the courtroom helping her immigrant clients. He said she takes advantage of the skill that she has from her day-to-day work. "It's what I, with an outside

view, see is that she gets stuff done. She gets stuff done by leveraging other people and what she does for the special immigrant program is making sure that I am taking a case and that my partner is taking a case and that her associates are taking cases."

Kevin's brother, Brendan F. Murphy (J.D.'08) who serves as chief magistrate of Cobb County, has also been a big influence in the couple's plans to give something back. Brendan began his legal career as a prosecutor before serving on the bench.

By witnessing his service, the couple realized that it is important to make sure the best and the brightest lawyers are prosecutors, public defenders, government attorneys and nonprofit lawyers. "This was the impetus for us to find a way to try to help make that happen," they said.

Earlier this year, the couple established the law school's largest annual public interest fellowship that will support a top performing student with a full summer public interest/pro bono placement after completing his or her second year of law school. Named in honor of Elizabeth's grandmother, Annie Bool, and great aunt, Mary Simkins, the selection process for the fellowship will take place prior to the start of a student's second year of law school – when students are typically seeking future paid summer positions in law firms or other organizations.

Elizabeth said it will provide students with "money to make it through the summer and really follow that dream [of public service], if that is what they want to do. It is hard to make that choice. It is a choice we didn't make and one we are really in awe of for those who do."

Kevin added that by naming the fellowship after the two women – who have demonstrated a lifetime of hard work and commitment to family and who they both greatly admire – the couple is trying to inspire the next generation. "We are excited that it is an indefinite – forever – award and that the impact of those two women is just going to go on and on and on with students they never met," he said.

Harley Yancey

COMING HOME

Harley Yancey's relationships with his family and community are deeply important to him, and his life and career are proof.

After the Rome, Georgia, native graduated from UGA with an undergraduate degree in management information systems, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do.

"My dad didn't graduate from college. My grandfather didn't go to college," Yancey said. "So, graduating from college was an accomplishment."

Unsure whether to pursue a law degree or M.B.A., he decided to do both and enrolled in Samford University's joint J.D./M.B.A. program. After his first year he took a summer internship with the Rome-based law firm Brinson Askew Berry, and he said it was "such a meaningful and impactful experience that I fell in love with law and the practice of law and the impact it can have in a small town."

It was then he decided to transfer to UGA.

"I interned with BAB after my 1L year, and the partners were very instrumental in my decision to apply and transfer to Georgia," he said. "About 75% of the attorneys there graduated from Georgia Law, and it was just a great experience."

Coming back to Athens as a second-year law student was not without its challenges, though.

"A lot of the relationships and friendships are formed during that first year of law school so it was a little difficult for me, being a transfer student," he said. "Fortunately, I had some friends who were in school that I knew from undergrad that made it easy to transition and meet some classmates."

Yancey also had the advantage of having family in the Classic City – both his younger brother and sister were earning their undergraduate degrees while he was in law school.

"Being able to check in and see them on campus while I was still in school, I thought it was really special to have all three of us on campus at the same time," he said.

After graduating in 2015, Yancey moved back to Rome and rejoined Brinson Askew Berry, where he practiced general litigation with a focus on insurance defense work for three years.

"I learned a lot," he said. "You have a personal relationship with your clients and their issues, and the cases you work on are local businesses and local families. I really enjoyed that aspect of it."

In 2018 Yancey said he did a "pivot" in his career and went in-house with State Mutual Insurance Company. He has family ties to the company – his father is president and CEO of the firm and his grandfather previously held the position.

"I've got a lot of family history with this company," he said. "I've served on the board for a number of years and now serve as general counsel."



Yancey said he discovered how valuable his UGA law degree was while in his current role.

In law school he enrolled in Professor Carol Morgan's (J.D.'79) Business Negotiations class and said, "It has probably been the most beneficial class, for my line of work, in insurance. I can be a zealous advocate for my issues but understanding how to step back and picture the issue from someone else's shoes ... has been really beneficial to me," he said.

"I think a lot of insurance is about relationships ... relationships with policy holders, with agents and re-insurers. Since we're a relatively small mutual insurer, our business structure relies heavily on relationships and excellent partner and customer service," he continued. "Being able to understand what each party values and figuring out how to make it work in everyone's best interest – I took a lot from that class."

Yancey supports his alma mater so that other law students with a similar background can one day enjoy legal careers. The Yancey Family Scholarship and Harley Yancey Scholarship both assist first-generation college graduates who are from Northwest Georgia or a rural area.

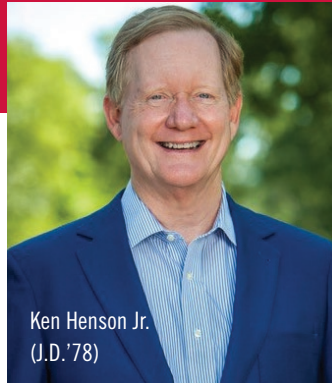
"I've really enjoyed giving back and contributing to my hometown, so I'm hoping that these first-gen law students will one day consider giving back to their hometowns or rural, small-town Georgia," he said.

Ultimately, Yancey hopes to one day run State Mutual Insurance Company and continue its tradition of supporting the community and its customers.

"I don't think many young kids dream of running insurance companies, but in my family, especially as the third generation, that's what we talk about at the dinner table. I want to be like my dad, and he wanted to be like his dad. I would love to have the opportunity to run this company and hopefully leave it in a better place than I found it," he said. "We're fortunate that State Mutual can have a big impact in this community by donating time and dollars to different organizations, so I'm working to best position myself to lead this company going forward and have a lasting impact in my community and state."



Hosch Professor
Emeritus Tom Eaton



Ken Henson Jr.
(J.D.'78)



Nyota Tucker
(J.D.'74)



Emily Ward
(J.D.'13)

Law school recognizes four individuals for their service

The School of Law honored four individuals for their service during its Awards Dinner held at the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia in the spring.

Thomas A. “Tom” Eaton, Kenneth “Ken” Henson Jr. and Sharon “Nyota” Tucker received the Law School Association’s highest honor – the Distinguished Service Scroll Award – for their outstanding dedication and service to the legal profession and the law school. Additionally, Emily Ward was presented with the Young Alumni/ Alumnae of Excellence Award.

Eaton, a J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law Emeritus, joined the School of Law faculty in 1979 and taught in the areas of torts, constitutional litigation, healthcare regulation and workers’ compensation. In 1993, he was named a Hosch Professor and one decade later he became the law school’s only professor to receive a UGA Creative Research Medal (for his systematic and in-depth study of tort litigation with the late Susette Talarico). He is the author of *Constitutional Torts*, *Constitutional Remedies: A Reference Guide to the United States Constitution* and *Cases and Materials on Workers’ Compensation*.

After retiring from the law school in 2015, he served on the law school’s Board of Visitors and was a part-time professor through 2018. Eaton’s award was presented by his children, Amanda Eaton Ferrelle (J.D.’04) and Andrew W. “Andy” Eaton (J.D.’07).

Henson is a 1978 graduate of the law school. A native of Columbus, Georgia, he is the son of the late Kenneth M. and Sue B. Henson, both UGA graduates. After graduating from the School of Law, Henson worked as an assistant solicitor in Muscogee County, Georgia, before joining his father, a fellow School of Law graduate, in his law firm. After his father’s retirement, Henson practiced law by himself for more than 30 years.

He is currently a real estate developer active in the revitalization of downtown Columbus, focusing on renovating historic properties and developing housing that will increase urban vitality. Henson is also involved in various community organizations, including the Columbus Area Habitat for Humanity (which he helped found), the

Chattahoochee Valley Land Trust and Dragonfly Trails. He has served on the School of Law’s Board of Visitors for more than one decade. Henson’s award was presented by former Senior Director of Law School Advancement Anne Moser.

A 1974 alumna, **Tucker** is the first African American female graduate of the School of Law. After law school, she served as a staff attorney in the Albany office of Georgia Legal Services, a legal intern with the Earl Warren Fellowship Program in the San Francisco office of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and an associate with the law firm Mary Young & Associates.

In 1980 she joined the faculty of Albany State University, where she became the pre-law advisor for students interested in attending law school – a position she held for more than 25 years. She also served on the ASU University Council and as the university’s chief of staff before retiring in 2016. She has been recognized numerous times for her leadership and work as an educator, and the School of Law named its admissions suite in her honor in 2019. Tucker’s award was presented by her sister, Juanita Tucker.

Ward, a 2013 graduate of the law school, is a partner with Smith, Gambrell & Russell, where her practice concentrates on white-collar defense and civil litigation. She has represented multiple potential defendants, each resulting in no indictments being filed or substantially reduced penalties being negotiated. She often defends medical professionals before state medical, dental, nursing and health insurance boards. Ward particularly enjoys representing students accused of academic, behavioral and other infractions and using those challenging situations to mentor students as they resolve their situations.

She is active in multiple bar associations including the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association. Ward currently serves as the treasurer and is a member of the executive committee of the Atlanta Bar Association, and is the chair of the Atlanta Bar Criminal Law Section Board. Ward’s award was presented by Dana Richens, who is a partner with Smith, Gambrell & Russell.

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