Dean's Report, 2013

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Each year, I welcome the opportunity to prepare this annual Dean’s Report as it allows me to reflect on the activities of the previous 12 months.

Having just completed my 10th year as the dean of the University of Georgia School of Law, I continue to find the loyalty and affection demonstrated by you, our alumni and friends, to be inspiring. Relying upon the talents of our dedicated faculty and staff as well as our intelligent and engaging students, the school has accomplished many goals and has seized many opportunities. It has also faced challenges; however, I want you to know that your law school is thriving, and our future is bright.

As you may be aware, one of our own now leads our university. On July 1, Jere W. Morehead (J.D.’80) assumed the helm of UGA, after being unanimously selected by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents earlier in the year. I am confident President Morehead will lead our state’s flagship institution of higher education to new heights, and I take great comfort in the fact that he understands and appreciates the value of our law school and the role it plays within the greater university. He has said one of the most important things he can do as president is to keep the university focused on being the strongest academic institution that it can possibly be. I know you join me in wishing him well and desiring nothing but the best for UGA and our law school.

This past summer, phase three of our multiyear, multimillion dollar renovation process was completed. This most recent construction involved updating the hallways on the second and third floors to aesthetically link with the work previously completed on the first floor, the Rotunda and the northern end of the law school’s primary building. If you have not been to campus recently, I encourage you to come and see this renovation for yourself. The law school’s main building is now simply stunning. It still has that familiar feel, but the look is brighter and more open.

Much of the work completed over the past three years was designed with our students in mind, and these changes have helped to repurpose underutilized areas and to address overcrowding. Approximately 4,000 square feet of building space was “captured,” the Sutherland Courtyard was transformed into a beautiful and useable space, and several study/interview rooms were created in addition to new student organization offices. Last fall, the second floor foyer, near the Alexander Campbell King Law Library main entrance, was named in honor of Kathelen Amos (J.D.’82).
was named in honor of Kathelen V. Amos (J.D.’82) in recognition of a leadership gift made to the law school to assist with these physical improvements. I want to thank Kathelen and her husband, Dan, for their support as well as the many others of you who helped make these renovations possible. Considering the fact that much of the school's primary building had not been updated since the late 1960s, this remodeling was well overdue. Again, I encourage you to come and see for yourself the remarkable physical transformation that has taken place at your law school.

On the faculty front, this fall we welcomed three new assistant professors who came to Athens after holding positions at three of our nation’s top law schools—Yale University, Stanford University and New York University.

Jason A. Cade, who is teaching Immigration Law and will lead the law school’s newest experiential learning program—the Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic—joins us from NYU, where he taught and assisted with the school’s Immigration Rights Clinic. Previously, he practiced in small firm and nonprofit settings as well as clerked for Magistrate Judge Steven M. Gold of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his law degree magna cum laude from Brooklyn Law School, where he was executive articles editor of the Brooklyn Law Review. Formerly the executive director of Stanford’s Constitutional Law Center, Nathan S. Chapman is teaching in the areas of law and ethics, law and religion, and Georgia practice. While at Stanford, Nathan was presented with the Knight Favorite Professor Award. Before entering academia, he was an associate at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr in Washington, D.C., and clerked for Judge Gerald B. Tjoflat of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. His bachelor’s degree is from Belmont University, while his master's and law degrees are from Duke University, where he was an articles editor for the Duke Law Journal. Christina Mulligan, who specializes in intellectual property and the relationship between law and technology, previously served as a postdoctoral associate and lecturer for the Information Society Project at Yale Law School. Additionally, she was a staff attorney at the Institute for Justice and served as a judicial clerk for Judge Charles F. Lettow of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. Christina earned her bachelor’s degree cum laude and her law degree cum laude from Harvard University, where she served as a production and an article editor for the Harvard Journal of Law & Technology. I am pleased to share with you that Lonnie T. Brown Jr. is now serving as the law school’s associate dean for academic affairs. (A post he assumed after the retirement of Associate Dean and Professor Emeritus Paul M. Kurtz on June 30.) Lonnie brings academic administrative experience to this role as he served as the inaugural Administrative Fellow in UGA’s Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost during the 2007-08 year. Specializing in civil procedure and legal ethics, he is also the current holder of the Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism. Very active in the broader legal community since joining the Georgia Law faculty in 2002, Lonnie presently serves on the Drafting Committee for the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam and is the principal substantive consultant for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia’s Local Rules Revision Project. Moreover, he is currently organizing the 14th Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Symposium that will focus on ethical and professionalism issues facing the bench and will be hosted by Georgia Law this coming February. In addition, Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge was named associate dean for faculty development, a
post that was held for the past two years by University Professor and Caldwell Chair in Constitutional Law Dan T. Coenen. In this role, Bo will work closely with members of the law school faculty, especially its untenured professors, to expand and promote scholarly activities. Bo, who also holds the law school’s Talmadge Chair, has teaching and research interests that include international dispute resolution, arbitration, international business transactions and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Other honors bestowed on our faculty in the past year include Woodruff Chair in International Law Diane Marie Amann’s appointment as the special adviser to the International Criminal Court on children in and affected by armed conflict. She was also given the American Society for International Law Prominent Woman in International Law Award, which honors the “work of outstanding women” in this field.

Lonnie Brown was presented with the Student Bar Association Professionalism Award in April.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Chamblee “Beth” Burch was elected to serve as a member of the American Law Institute, an organization that produces scholarly work to “clarify, modernize and improve the law.”

Associate Professor Harlan G. Cohen was nominated for, and is presently serving, a three-year term as a member of ASIL’s governing body. He co-edited the Proceedings of the 106th Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law. Additionally, he had the honor of serving as an observer delegate at the 14th United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea during June.

Hosch Professor Julian A. Cook III has been named a 2013-2014 SEC Administrative Fellow. He is one of only four UGA professors selected to participate in this program, which is part of a broader Academic Leadership Development Program of the Southeastern Conference that seeks to identify, prepare and advance academic leaders for roles within SEC institutions and beyond.

Assistant Professor Jaime L. Dodge has been selected for the Next Generation Program of the 2013 National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. She is the only scholar selected for inclusion in this group, which includes 40 bankruptcy attorneys who have demonstrated the potential to become highly respected members of the bankruptcy bar in the coming years.

Matthew I. “Matt” Hall was promoted to associate professor.

Elizabeth Weeks Leonard (J.D.’99) was promoted to the rank of full professor.

Associate Professor Hillel Y. Levin was granted tenure and was presented with the C. Ronald Ellington Award for Excellence in Teaching by our student body in the spring.

Assistant Professor Timothy Meyer was one of only approximately 20 academic and professional experts from around the world who served as a contributing author for the U.N. Industrial Development Organization’s report titled “Networks for Prosperity: Connecting Development Knowledge Beyond 2015,” which analyzed the nexus between the global connectedness of a country and its economic success, sustainability and government effectiveness.

Lisa Milot was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Sibley Professor in Corporate and Business Law Larry D. Thompson, who is currently on leave from Georgia Law and working as PepsiCo’s executive vice president, government affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary, was elected as a counsellor for ASIL’s executive council.

Christian Turner was promoted to associate professor with tenure, and he received the John C. O’Byrne Memorial Award for Significant Contributions to Furthering Faculty-Student Relations from our law students earlier this year.

Law Library Director Carol A. Watson (J.D.’87) was one of eight academic law librarians selected to serve on the Academic Law Library Advisory Board created by Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, one of the nation’s leading publishers of legal education content. She was also one of four individuals honored by bepress as a 2013 Institutional Repository All-Star for her demonstration of unique and replicable approaches to IR success.

And, recently retired Distinguished Research Professor and Rogers Chair of Law Alan Watson was presented with the American Society of Comparative Law’s Lifetime Achievement Award, which honors living senior comparatists whose writings have changed the shape or direction of American comparative or private international law.

As you can see, the faculty at Georgia Law strives to contribute meaningfully to the greater legal profession beyond the very important role of educating the next generation of legal leaders. Furthermore, they take great pride in advancing scholarly debate by
pursuing serious research agendas. Over the past 18 months, our faculty has published, or will soon publish, approximately 20 books, 30 book chapters and 100 articles.

In particular, Distinguished Research Professor and Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law Walter Hellerstein co-authored the book *Taxing Global Digital Commerce*, the preeminent text on the taxation of electronic transactions. Additionally, first edition books published, or forthcoming, by our faculty include: Smith Professor Peter A. Appel's *Wilderness Law and Policy: Cases and Materials* (forthcoming); Julian Cook's *Inside Investigative Criminal Procedure: What Matters and Why*; Hosch Professor Lori A. Ringhand's *Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change* (co-authored) and *Constitutional Law: A Context and Practice Casebook* (co-authored); and Bo Rutledge's *Arbitration and the Constitution*. These and additional books by the faculty have been published by, or are under contract with, prominent entities such as Cambridge University Press, Yale University Press, Aspen Publishers, Lexis/Nexis and West, among others.


Moreover, journals associated with the following universities have published, or will soon publish, articles by our professors: Columbia, Michigan, Stanford and Virginia.

Expanding the expertise of our faculty this fall is the former U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Poland, Lee A. Feinstein. He is serving as the school’s Sanders Political Leadership Scholar and is teaching Intervention and Sovereignty: Contemporary Issues in International and National Security Law. This position was created by former Georgia Gov. Carl E. Sanders (J.D.’48) so law students could learn from individuals who have distinguished themselves as leaders in politics or other forms of public service. Lee previously
served one U.S. secretary of defense and two U.S. secretaries of state, including as principal deputy director of the policy planning staff and as senior adviser in the Office of the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Also serving as visiting professors this fall are Southern Center for Human Rights President Stephen B. Bright, who is leading a class titled Equal Justice in the Criminal Courts, and Cooper & Kirk Managing Partner David H. Thompson, who is teaching Lawyering in Public as part of the law school’s Washington, D.C., Semester in Practice Program.

Visiting professors in the spring include Georgia Law 2000 alumnus Frank D. LoMonte, who will return to campus through an endowment created by the late Otis A. Brumby Jr. (LL.B.’65). This visiting position is shared between the law school and the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. Frank, who is presently the executive director of the Student Press Law Center, will teach the Law of Newsgathering to both law and journalism students.

Additionally, we will welcome Rod Smolla, former president of Furman University and former law school dean at Washington and Lee University and the University of Richmond, who will teach Higher Education Law and Constitutional Litigation.

Enriching the intellectual atmosphere at the law school each year are the numerous guest lecturers, keynote speakers and panelists who participate in conferences and programs covering a multitude of topics. Many of these guests are nationally and internationally recognized as experts in their fields and importantly offer varying viewpoints on current legal issues and societal matters. I am grateful our law school’s strong reputation allows us to attract scholars, practitioners and leaders of such high caliber. Some of those who came to Athens during the last 12 months include:

- U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel Patricia O’Brien delivered one of the keynote addresses at the ASIL Midyear Meeting and Research Forum hosted by Georgia Law late last year.
- U.N. World Food Programme Executive Director Ertharin Cousin (J.D.’82), who was recently named the 49th most powerful woman in the world by Forbes magazine, gave the keynote speech at a Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law conference in February. Additionally, she spoke to her fellow Georgia Law female graduates at the school’s annual alumnae event, which was hosted by Jennifer W. “Jenny” Fletcher (J.D.’81) and her law firm Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, during Ertharin’s same trip to the Peach State.
- The Chief of the Cuban Interests Section in Washington, D.C., José R. Cabañas delivered the primary address at the Dean Rusk Center for Law and Policy’s conference titled “The Cuban Embargo: Policy Outlook After Fifty Years” during March.
- Judge Edith Hollan Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit spoke about why the Constitution matters and why women should care at the spring’s Edith House Lecture, which celebrated its 30th anniversary earlier this year.
- Judge Beverly B. Martin (J.D.’81) of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit served as the 2013 graduation speaker in May.
- U.S. State Department Legal Adviser Harold Hongju Koh gave one of the keynote addresses at the ASIL Midyear Meeting and Research Forum hosted by the law school late last year.
- Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau Justice Ashby Pate shared his thoughts on career options in international law in February.
- Former Georgia Gov. Roy E. Barnes (J.D.’72) served as the keynote speaker at the Third Annual Georgia Association of Law and Politics Symposium earlier this fall.
Georgia Attorney General Sam Olens spoke to students in the spring about current initiatives and litigation overseen by his office.

Bryan Stevenson, the founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, gave the spring’s Sibley Lecture, which focused on social justice lawyering.

Georgetown University’s Robin L. West, who has written extensively on gender issues and feminist legal theory in addition to constitutional law and theory, delivered this fall’s Sibley Lecture.

University of California, Davis, Professor Karima Bennoune, who specializes in international law and human rights, spoke about Muslim fundamentalism last month.

Vik Kanwar, from the Centre on Public Law and Jurisprudence at Jindal Global Law School, addressed the globalization of legal education and institutional development in India late last year.

William A. Schabas, an internationally respected expert on human rights law, genocide and the death penalty, presented “Human Rights and Culture” in February.

Noted Russian historian Nikolay Koposov shared his thoughts on memory laws in Europe at the beginning of this year.

Moreover, we were delighted to host the Supreme Court of Georgia for a special session in January, when the court heard oral arguments on a criminal death penalty case and a civil medical malpractice case.

Justice Harold D. Melton (J.D.’91) returned to campus in February to take part in a thought-provoking panel, organized by our students, exploring diversity on the bench that also featured Georgia Court of Appeals Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes (J.D.’83), Athens-Clarke County Chief Magistrate Judge Patricia Barron and DeKalb County State Court Judge Dax Lopez.

Earlier this fall, Criminal Defense Clinic Director Russell C. Gabriel (J.D.’85) organized “Honoring Gideon’s Promise, Rallying Gideon’s Army: Georgia’s Public Defender System on the 50th Anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright.” This daylong examination of Georgia’s public defender system included a screening of the award-winning HBO film “Gideon’s Army,” which featured Georgia Law 2008 alumnus Travis A. Williams. Conference panelists were: the film’s director/producer Dawn Porter, the Southern Center for Human Rights’ Steve Bright, the Georgia Appleseed Center for Law & Justice’s Sharon N. Hill and longtime trainer with Gideon’s Promise Timothy Saviello, among others.

In partnership with UGA’s Grady College, the law school hosted some of the nation’s leading U.S. Supreme Court journalists and scholars in September to examine the rise of SCOTUSblog as the go-to source for Supreme Court news and to discuss insights into the Roberts Court and the current term.

Other timely topics addressed at programs over the past 12 months include: evidence reform in Georgia (a Georgia Law Review conference); gun control, homelessness, affirmative action and alternative courts as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights (the Working in the Public Interest Law Conference); music industry matters such as copyright and licensing, touring, how to run a record

At the “Honoring Gideon’s Promise, Rallying Gideon’s Army: Georgia’s Public Defender System on the 50th Anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright” conference were Georgia Public Defender for the Eastern Judicial Circuit Michael Edwards (J.D.’93) and Georgia Public Defender for the Dougherty Judicial Circuit Leisa Johnson.

Georgia Law hosted the Supreme Court of Georgia for a special session in January. Pictured are: (l. to r.) Presiding Justice Hugh Thompson, Chief Justice Carol Hunstein and Justice Robert Benham (J.D.’70).
label and merchandising (the Protect Athens Music Conference); and the environmental costs and benefits of sustainable business, government and energy in Georgia (the Red Clay Conference).

Class of 2016 Academic Credentials

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*Matches a school record

As stated earlier, we have a very intelligent and engaged student body. This year’s entering class possesses academic credentials that make it one of our school’s best. The Class of 2016, comprised of 201 students, has a median undergraduate grade point average of 3.69, which matches a school record, and a median Law School Admission Test score of 163, which represents the top 10 percent of test takers worldwide. Georgia residents comprise the overwhelming majority of this class, although these students represent 23 states and come from almost 90 different undergraduate universities and colleges. The most popular undergraduate majors for this class are: political science, history, economics, English and psychology. Additionally, 56 percent of the class is male, and approximately 21 percent indicated they are members of a minority group. Please note that all of these statistics were calculated on the first day of orientation, August 15.

This year’s Master of Laws class includes 17 lawyers and practitioners from the countries of Azerbaijan, Belgium, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, the Russian Federation and Trinidad. Interestingly, our Japanese student is a University of Tokyo faculty member who is here as part of a Fulbright Award.

Earlier this year, I made an adjustment to the law school’s admissions staff. Gregory L. “Greg” Roseboro (J.D.’87) was promoted to director of law admissions—while retaining his title of director of diversity programs—and Ramsey Henderson Bridges (J.D.’05) was named associate director of law admissions. These two, with a combined total of approximately 25 years of admissions experience, will continue to work with Associate Dean for Administration Paul B. Rollins in recruiting the best and brightest to study law at UGA.

Key factors that influence a prospective student’s decision to study at Georgia Law include: earning an outstanding legal education at an affordable price, our school’s collegial environment, our accomplished faculty, and our varied and challenging curriculum.

One area we have been working diligently to expand in recent years is our experiential learning offerings. I am proud to share that we will soon have 14 selections for our students. In the fall of 2014, we will begin offering the Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic. Our other most recent additions were the Business Law Clinic and the UGA Fanning Institute’s Community Economic Development Clinic, which both debuted this past spring. These complement our other offerings in the civil area—the Appellate Litigation Clinic, Civil Externships, the Corporate Counsel Externship, the Environmental Practicum, the Family Violence Clinic, the Mediation Practicum, the Public Interest Practicum and the Washington, D.C., Semester in Practice Program—and in the criminal arena—the Criminal Defense Clinic, the Prosecutorial Clinic and the Capital Assistance Project.

International exposure is another area of great emphasis for our students. This past summer, through our innovative Global Internship Program, 17 students traveled to 12 countries on five continents and worked for entities such as the Human Rights League in Slovakia, the Clorox Company in Argentina, King & Wood Mallesons in China and the National Centre for Research on Europe in New Zealand. These work experiences supplement our international academic offerings at the University of Oxford during the spring semester and our summer study programs in China.
(in the cities of Beijing and Shanghai), and Belgium and Switzerland (in the cities of Brussels and Geneva, respectively).

On a related front, the law school launched a new global learning initiative earlier this year when 13 law students from the University Mauricio de Nassau in Brazil came to Athens. As part of the new Transnational Law Program, they studied international law, human rights law and environmental law in Athens for one week. This program further demonstrates the law school’s commitment to international experiences and strengthens our reputation in this important area.

You may recall from your time in Athens, students who are members of the editorial staff of the school’s three journals—the Georgia Law Review, the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law and the Journal of Intellectual Property Law—enrich the intellectual atmosphere at the school by organizing conferences on timely subjects and advancing scholarly debate through the articles they publish. I am pleased to share that this spring the staff of the Georgia Law Review will release a digital companion journal—the Georgia Law Review Online—which will focus on current legal issues in the 11th Circuit.

Considered among the nation’s best, our school’s advocacy program has long been a source of pride. For the 2012-2013 academic year, two national championship trophies were added to the school’s collection. Our students won the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition and took home both the first and second place titles at the Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition, where third-year student Scott F. McAfee was named the tournament’s best oralist. Furthermore, we were finalists in both the National Moot Court Competition and the National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition, where third-year students Michael C. Gretchen and Emily A. Cook were selected best oralists, respectively. Our students prepared the best brief and finished in the top 16 at the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition. We swept the Intrastate Moot Court Competition taking home first and second places overall as well as first and second awards for the best brief, and second-year student Clayton O. “Clay” Knowles was named best oralist. This is the eighth consecutive year our students have won this statewide tournament. One last important victory for 2012-2013 includes besting the University of Florida in the return of the annual battle between our two schools in the renamed tournament—the Husley/Gambrell Moot Court Competition.

Georgia Law students also represented the school well in national negotiation competitions. Key highlights include a top four finish at the ABA National Negotiation Competition and capturing first and second place as well as best draft honors in the southeastern regional round of the Transactional LawMeet.

A few other noteworthy moments for our students include current third-year law student Kaitlin M. Ball being elected president of the International Law Students Association, which is a worldwide organization dedicated to educating students and lawyers across the globe on the importance of international law through academic conferences, publications, student chapters and the administration of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Additionally, the student organization Street Law has played an instrumental role in training and developing youth volunteers for a fairly new juvenile justice forum—the Athens Peer Court—which is overseen by 2010 alumna Emily R. Boness. This court, which is designed for youth who have been charged with first-time offenses, received the Western Circuit Bar Association Liberty Bell Award in May.

Identifying employment opportunities for our talented students and recent graduates continues to be a high priority. Our students seek openings around the country and in a variety of fields and settings. Being well acquainted with the quality of a Georgia Law education, if you are aware of an opportunity at your firm or company, please contact one of the law school’s legal career services staff members—Director David P. O’Brien, Associate Director Adam B. Land (J.D.’08) or Associate Director Kristin Strunk Lowry (J.D.’07).
In an effort to provide better service to the legal community in finding top candidates for open positions, our career services team is increasing the school’s employer outreach efforts with the goal of strengthening ties in relation to employment matters. I strongly encourage you to meet with our group and share your hiring objectives so that the career services staff can better assist you with your search.

One tremendously high point on the hiring front is our school’s record of success in preparing our graduates to perform in the most challenging and elite legal settings. Specifically, over the past five years, Georgia Law has averaged 26 federal judicial clerks per year. These students have clerked, or will clerk, for judges in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 9th, 11th and D.C. Circuits as well as the Federal Circuit. Moreover, they have served judges nationwide in districts such as the Southern District of New York; the District of the District of Columbia; the Eastern District of Virginia; and the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Georgia; among others.

This, of course, includes our alumni success in serving our nation’s highest court. Georgia Law 2011 alumnus Andrew A. Pinson is currently clerking for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. He is our sixth graduate to serve as a clerk at the U.S. Supreme Court in the last nine years. In addition to Justice Thomas, other justices recently hiring Georgia Law graduates include Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., Justice Stephen G. Breyer and Justice John Paul Stevens. Furthermore, Andrew’s service brings the total to 10 for Georgia Law alumni serving the U.S. Supreme Court.

Another significant alumni appointment I want to mention is Valerie Caproni’s recent confirmation as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York. This 1979 graduate formerly served as general counsel for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Closer to home, former U.S. Congressman George W. “Buddy” Darden III (J.D.’67) and U.S. District Court Judge Steve C. Jones (J.D.’87) were presented with the Law School Association’s highest honor—the Distinguished Service Scroll Award—in June. This accolade recognizes outstanding dedication and service to the legal profession as well as to the law school.

Buddy has a reputation of being a public policy leader who has helped to solve issues at various levels including the local, state and federal governments. He currently serves as senior counsel at McKenna Long & Aldridge in Atlanta, where his practice focuses on public policy and public finance. Previously, he was an adviser and lecturer on behalf of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and participated in programs concerning issues of national defense and ethics in Turkey, Senegal and Indonesia. He also served as a presidential appointee to the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, a government agency that assists U.S. businesses in emerging markets and developing nations worldwide. For six terms starting in 1983, Buddy was a U.S. Representative for Georgia’s 7th Congressional District, where he served on the House Armed Services Committee, the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (ethics). In 2010, the State Bar of Georgia honored him with its Tradition of Excellence Award. In addition, he has served as a firm agent for the law school since 2009 and was a member of its Board of Visitors from 1999 to 2002.

Steve has an exemplary record of service to the legal profession, the local community and the university. He was sworn in as a U.S. District Court judge for the Northern District of Georgia in March of 2011. Previously, he served for 16 years as a Superior Court judge for the Western Judicial Circuit of Georgia, where he presided over the Western Judicial Circuit Felony Drug Court, and he was an Athens-Clarke County Municipal Court judge from 1992 to 1995 and an assistant district attorney for the Western Judicial Circuit from 1987 to 1991. Steve just completed his presidency of the UGA Alumni Association and has been a member of the law school’s Board of Visitors, which he led in 2002-2003. He also has chaired the Georgia Judicial Qualifications Commission and the
Athens Area Community Foundation, and he served on the Supreme Court of Georgia’s Commission on Equality and on its Domestic Violence Committee. Presently, he is a managing trustee of the UGA Foundation. He has received the Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service, the Gate City Bar Association’s Outstanding Jurist Award and Leadership Georgia’s Threadgill Community Service Award, among others.

Other university-related notable honors bestowed on Georgia Law alumni in the past year include Norman S. Fletcher (J.D.’58) receiving the UGA Alumni Association’s 2013 Merit Award for his commitment to bettering the university.

Jessica Langston McClellan (J.D.’03) was recognized by UGA’s chapter of the Blue Key National Honor Society with its Young Alumnus Award for her professional leadership and civic contributions. Additionally, a campus resident hall was named in memory of the late Georgia Gov. George D. Busbee (LL.B.’52), who championed education during his time in office and established the statewide public kindergarten system.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the leaders of the law school’s two alumni groups—the Board of Visitors and the Law School Association Council—for their time and service. They provide me and my team with valuable counsel and assistance as we strive to provide the finest legal education in America. Kathelen Amos continues to serve as chair of the BOV, while Alan F. Rothschild Jr. (J.D.’85) recently assumed the presidency of the LSA from Santhia L. Curtis (J.D.’91).

Private donations from you, our alumni and friends, truly make a difference. With your support we are able to expand our academic and co-curricular programming—establish more experiential learning opportunities, add to our study and work abroad initiatives, fund our competition teams in the areas of advocacy and negotiation, support our journals as well as bring distinguished speakers and scholars to campus—improve our facilities, attract and retain professors who are leaders in their fields and, importantly, provide financial assistance to deserving students—approximately 50 percent of our student body currently receives merit scholarships.

I am grateful to be able to acknowledge those of you who have financially contributed to the law school during the last fiscal year. Your name can be found in the honor roll listing appearing later in this Annual Report. For those of you who did not donate this past year, I encourage you to join your fellow classmates in investing in the next generation of legal professionals. Very good things are happening at your law school; please be a part of them.

This past year, approximately $5.5 million in new gifts and pledges were made to the law school. Donations to the Law School Fund alone totaled more than $907,000, which represents an all-time record and roughly a 16 percent increase over last year. (The Law School Fund provides essential annual operating dollars that are primarily used to support student scholarships in addition to other student-related programming.) Notably, there were more than 400 Joseph Henry Lumpkin Society members this past year. (These donors contribute $1,000 or more annually to the law school.) And the graduating Class of 2013 made a legacy pledge of approximately $61,000 to the school.

Later this academic year, we will unveil the portraits of Charles H. Kirbo (LL.B.’39) and Bruce W. Kirbo (J.D.’51) and name the third floor on the northern end of the law school’s primary building the Kirbo Foundation Concourse, which acknowledges the Thomas M. and Irene B. Kirbo Charitable Foundation and the Kirbo family for gifts totaling approximately $3 million. Their support over the years has helped the law school to improve its academic programming on a variety of levels.

I am happy to share that Brennan & Wasden of Savannah (representing firms with up to 10 Georgia Law alumni) and Hulsey, Oliver & Mahar of Gainesville (representing firms with 11 or more
Georgia Law graduates were the winners of the 4th Annual Firm and Corporation Alumni Challenge, which seeks to achieve 100 percent giving participation from Georgia Law graduates within an organization.

For information on how your firm or corporation can compete in this year’s challenge, please contact the law school’s Director of Annual Giving Phyllis R. Cooke at cooke@uga.edu.

The percentage of Georgia Law alumni who financially supported the law school last year was 21.5 percent. This figure is the highest among UGA schools and colleges; however, it is our goal to increase this participation level as the university develops a stronger culture of philanthropy, recognizing the growing need for private dollars as public funding continues to diminish. Moreover, this increased support will provide the additional margin of excellence we are seeking to achieve here at Georgia Law.

I want to acknowledge Edward T.M. “Ed” Garland (LL.B.’65) and his wife, Judy, for opening their home and hosting the law school’s annual Joseph Henry Lumpkin Society Spring Twilight Affair in April. This event allows the law school to thank our annual leadership donors for their gifts and for their “vote of confidence” for the progress that is happening at Georgia Law.

We have had several changes to the law school’s development staff over the past 12 months. Senior Director of Law School Advancement Gregory C. “Greg” Sowell (J.D.’83) continues to lead our team. Existing members Phyllis Cooke (annual giving director), Anne S. Moser (principal gifts officer) and Lara Pulliam (stewardship manager) have been joined by Sarah S. Baines who is our new major gifts officer (replacing Trina Steele Olidge (J.D.’97)), Katherine L. “Kate” O’Reilly who is our new alumni relations and development coordinator (replacing Suzanne Griffeth) and Julia B. Douglas who is our annual giving officer. Sarah comes to the law school with more than 12 years of fundraising experience, most recently in UGA’s School of Public and International Affairs. Kate previously worked for seven years in development at the UGA College of Public Health. And Julia joined the university from the Darlington School in Rome, Ga., where she served in advancement and alumni roles.

Please open your doors to this great group of individuals who want nothing more than to share with you what is happening at your law school and to seek your involvement.

One other important aspect of my job as the dean of your law school is visiting you in the cities where you work and live. These trips over the past decade have enabled me to step outside of the law school and to learn more about the current needs of the legal profession. They also fill me with a tremendous sense of pride as I get to hear first-hand about all of the wonderful things you and your fellow alumni have been able to accomplish since leaving Athens. Furthermore, as previously referenced, I find your loyalty to and affection for Georgia Law inspiring.

Thank you for welcoming me into your lives. It is truly a privilege to serve as the dean of the University of Georgia School of Law.

Sincerely,

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