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News @ Georgia Law, May 2013

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News & Announcements

Sixth graduate in nine years selected to clerk for U.S. Supreme Court

Georgia Law 2011 graduate Andrew A. Pinson has been chosen to serve as a judicial clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas for the October 2013 term. His selection makes him the sixth Georgia Law graduate in nine years to be selected to clerk for our nation's highest court. (Learn more)

Advocacy teams finish the season with national win and other top honors

Georgia Law had an outstanding advocacy season, which included several notable victories during the final months of the year. The school swept the Intrastate Moot Court Competition by taking home both first and second place in several categories, was recognized for the best brief in the nation at the American Bar Association Law Student Division National Appellate Advocacy Competition, won first place at the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition and received a best oralist award at the South Texas Mock Trial Challenge.

U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Martin to deliver commencement address

Serving as the keynote speaker for this year’s graduating class is Judge Beverly B. Martin (J.D.’81) of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. Approximately 230 law students will receive their juris doctor during the commencement ceremony, while six master of laws candidates will be recognized for completing one year of graduate legal study. (Learn more)
November 8-9
Reunion Weekend

November 9
23rd Annual Law School BBQ

View more events

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Photo Gallery

Associate Dean Paul Kurtz celebrates his retirement with law school faculty and staff – 4/25/13

Georgia Law welcomes 13 law students from Brazil as part of the law school’s new Transnational Law Program – 4/24/13

Former Governor of Georgia Roy Barnes (J.D.’72) speaks to Georgia Law students about trial advocacy – 4/23/13

The presentation of the portrait of Chief Judge Julie E. Carnes (J.D.’75) of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia to Georgia Law – 4/19/13

Presentation by public defender Travis A. Williams (J.D.’08) to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Gideon v.

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Recent Events

Cuban embargo conference
During March, Cuban and American diplomats, academics and practitioners gathered in Athens to examine the current U.S. embargo against Cuba, including the impact it has had on both countries during the past 50 years and the possible ramifications of lifting or easing it in the near future. (Learn more) (Watch panel sessions/keynote)

Sibley Lecturer addresses social injustices
Bryan Stevenson, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative presented “Social Justice Lawyering: Confronting Power, Racial and Economic Injustice and Hopelessness Within the Law” as the school’s 109th Sibley Lecturer. Stevenson explored the dynamics of social justice lawyering, mass incarceration and racial and economic history, and discussed the tactics, strategies and tools for using the law to advance reform. (Learn more) (View photos)

U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Jones delivers House Lecture
Presenting the argument this spring for why the Constitution matters and why women should care was Judge Edith Hollan Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit. As this year’s Edith House Lecturer, Jones addressed recent criticisms of the Constitution and discussed the value the guiding document still holds in today’s society. (Learn more) (Watch lecture)

Judges discuss diversity on the bench
During February, a panel of judges convened at Georgia Law to discuss the issue of judicial diversity and to explore whether or not it is important for courts to be reflective of the local population in terms of race and gender. Participating in the session were: Georgia Court of Appeals Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes (J.D.’83), Athens-Clarke County Chief Magistrate Judge Patricia Barron, State Bar of Georgia President Robin Frazer Clark (moderator), DeKalb County State Court Judge Dax Lopez and

Portrait unveiling ceremony for U.S. District Court Chief Judge Carnes
Chief Judge Julie E. Carnes (J.D.’75) of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia was honored this spring with the unveiling of her portrait during a ceremony in the school’s Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom. The painting will be added to the school’s distinguished collection that includes famous Georgians and accomplished alumni as well as former deans and faculty members. (View photos)

View more news
Faculty Highlights

Kurtz to step down in June; Brown named successor

After nearly 40 years of service as a Georgia Law faculty member, including more than 20 years as associate dean for academic and student affairs, Paul M. Kurtz has announced his plans to retire as of June 30. The positive impact he has had on the law school, the university, Athens, the state of Georgia and the legal community at large is too great to measure. He has served as a mentor, a friend and a counselor to alumni, students, faculty and staff, and he will be truly missed. If you wish to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement, please feel free to contact him at pmkurtz@uga.edu.

Lonnie T. Brown Jr., who joined Georgia Law in 2002, has been named the school’s next associate dean of academic affairs. The current holder of the Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Brown is no stranger to the administrative side of academic life. For the 2007-08 year, he served as the inaugural Administrative Fellow in UGA’s Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. He is also very active in the broader legal community, serving on the Drafting Committee for the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam and on the State Bar of Georgia Formal Advisory Opinion Board.

Amann honored with international law award

Woodruff Chair in International Law Diane Marie Amann received the Prominent Woman in International Law Award during the American Society for International Law Annual Meeting in April. This 20-year-old award honors the "work of outstanding women" in this field.

Thompson named ASIL counsellor

Sibley Professor in Corporate and Business Law Larry D. Thompson was elected as a counsellor for the American Society of International Law’s executive council.

Burch selected to join ALI

Associate Professor Elizabeth Chamblee 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.”

Faculty members recognized for excellence

This year, the Georgia Law student body honored the following faculty members: Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics
Meet the Board of Visitors and Law School Association

Around the law school

Law school launches Transnational Law Program
Georgia Law has created a new initiative – the Transnational Law Program – which allows partnering foreign universities to bring their law students to Athens for one week of study focused on requested areas of international or domestic law. Last month, 13 law students from the University Mauricio de Nassau in Brazil visited campus and studied international law, human rights law and environmental law. (View photos)

Second-year law student elected president of ILSA
Kaitlin M. Ball, a second-year student at Georgia Law, was elected to serve as the 2013-14 president of the International Law Students Association. In this role, she will be the chief student officer of ILSA. Based in Chicago, this worldwide organization is dedicated to educating students and lawyers 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.

2013 Awards Day Ceremony
Awards Day provides the opportunity for the Georgia Law community to pause and recognize the achievements of its students and faculty. (View list of recipients)

Russell and Beaird competition winners
Congratulations to first-year law students Garrett S. Burrell and Whitney T. Judson for winning this year’s Richard B. Russell Moot Court Competition and J. Ralph Beaird 1L Closing Argument Mock Trial Tournament, respectively.

Alumni invited to participate in European summer study program for CLE credits
Georgia Law is offering its graduates the opportunity to earn up to 24 hours of CLE credits this July by participating in the school’s summer program in Brussels & Geneva. Alumni have the choice to study alongside current law students in either one or both cities. The Brussels program is designed to provide an overview of business law in the European Union, while the Geneva curriculum focuses...
Georgia Law welcomes Douglas; says farewell to Olidge

Julia B. Douglas joined the Georgia Law development staff this spring as an annual giving officer. She is responsible for managing prospects through donor identification, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship as well as for assisting with the Law School Fund. Other changes in the development office include the departure of Trina Steele Olidge (J.D.’97). After more than five years of service at Georgia Law, she decided to pursue a job opportunity closer to home with the Morehouse School of Medicine.

LL.M. Alumni Association welcomes its newest members

Christof Siefarth (LL.M.’86), past-president of the law school’s LL.M. Alumni Association, came to campus during April to greet LL.M. Class of 2013 candidates and to present them with travel grants that will help offset the costs they incurred while coming to Athens from their home countries. (Learn more)

Justice Blackwell inducted into Georgia Law Phi Alpha Delta chapter

Supreme Court of Georgia Justice Keith R. Blackwell (J.D.’99) was initiated during March as an honorary member of the professional law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta. Having the honor of recognizing Blackwell with this membership, which is reserved for those who have attained “unusual distinction in the legal profession or in the field of law,” was the Georgia Law chapter of the organization.

Follow the law school on Twitter

Georgia Law now has an official presence on Twitter – @UGASchoolofLaw. This is a great way for alumni, students and faculty to keep up-to-date on the latest law school news. (Follow us)
Please forward any comments or questions to lawcomm@uga.edu.

Class Notes & In Memoriam

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