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News & Announcements

Law school launches the Georgia Law Challenge
The Georgia Law Challenge will match, dollar for dollar, all new and increased gifts to the Law School Fund received between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016. With the challenge, the school’s goal is to double the Law School Fund this fiscal year – reaching the $2 million mark – and to award more in scholarship aid than ever before.

Georgia Law welcomes a record-setting J.D. class and its 2015-16 LL.M. Class
The School of Law welcomed a record-setting J.D. class. Composed of 189 students, these individuals boast the highest undergraduate median grade point average in the law school's recorded history – 3.71. All statistics as of the first day of orientation – Aug. 13, 2015
The law school’s 2015-16 LL.M. class includes 14 foreign-trained lawyers from nine countries and five continents. Their work backgrounds include service in a global technology company based in China and in the Bangladesh Supreme Court, State Ministries of Justice in Nigeria, the Federal Court of Taxation Law and Administrative Justice in Mexico and the Supreme People’s Court of China.

Former U.S. Sen. Chambliss provides semester of political, legal insights as Sanders Scholar
Students taking the course Political Leadership and the Law at Georgia Law this semester are receiving firsthand insights into public service from former U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss. He is co-
teaching with Camila Knowles, the commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Special invited classroom guests include: U.S. Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates (J.D.’86) and Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal. Learn more

Georgia Law launches full-time semester of work/study in Atlanta

The School of Law will expand its footprint with an Atlanta campus that will open for the 2016 spring semester. The first program to be launched at the new facility will be the Atlanta Semester in Practice, which will offer second- and third-year students the opportunity to receive full-time, practical experience through placements in judicial, governmental, corporate and nonprofit settings. Learn more

Georgia state representative makes $500,000 gift

Georgia Law has received a $500,000 contribution to create the Stacey Godfrey Evans Scholarship for first-generation college graduates attending law school in Athens. The gift is the first of its kind, and it was made by Georgia Law alumnus and state Rep. Stacey Godfrey Evans (J.D.’03). Learn more

Sanders’ legacy strengthened as Deans’ Suite is named and student scholars are selected

The impact of the late Carl E. Sanders continues to be felt at the law school. This fall, the deans’ office area was named the Governor Carl E. Sanders Deans’ Suite in memory of the 1948 law school graduate. Additionally, 20 law students are currently benefiting from scholarships funded by the estate of the former governor. The Carl E. Sanders Law Scholarship Fund, created in late 2014, has become one of the most significant sources of scholarship dollars available to support Georgia Law’s talented students.

Professor honored by scholarship donation and another professor completes pledge to establish chair

A Georgia Law alumnus has decided to honor one of his former law school professors by providing a $500,000 contribution to a scholarship fund bearing the teacher’s name. The R. Perry Sentell, Jr. Scholarship Fund, named in honor of the 1958 law school graduate, is now one of the most impactful scholarship funds at Georgia Law. Additionally, Verner F. Chaffin, a 1942 Georgia Law graduate and longtime law professor, recently completed his pledge to establish a professorial chair bearing his name and emphasizing his area of specialty. The Verner F. Chaffin Chair in Fiduciary Law will support a nationally recognized scholar in this important area of the law.

Sohn Library to be rededicated in renovated Dean Rusk International Law Center
Fall Newsletter

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In the Spotlight
Brief profiles of members of the Georgia Law community.

Hashimoto testifies before U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
Associate Dean and Post Professor Erica J. Hashimoto was invited to testify at the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee hearing titled “Protecting the Constitutional Right to Counsel for Indigents Charged with Misdemeanors.”

Baradaran publishes book on the U.S. Postal Service providing banking services
Associate Professor Mehrsa Baradaran has published How the Other Half Banks: Exclusion, Exploitation, and the Threat to Democracy (Harvard University Press, 2015).

Lori A. Ringhand named new law school associate dean for academic affairs
Christine M. Scartz (J.D.'94) joins faculty as Family Violence Clinic managing attorney

Faculty Highlights

Two professors cited by U.S. Supreme Court
Distinguished Research Professor & Francis Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law Emeritus Walter Hellerstein’s treatise State Taxation was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in the majority opinion in the Supreme Court case of Comptroller v. Wynne, for the proposition that the near-universal state practice is to provide credits against personal income taxes for such taxes paid to other states.

Assistant Professor Nathan S. Chapman’s article, “Due Process as Separation of Powers” (121 Yale Law Review 1672 (with M. McConnell) (2012)) was cited by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas in his concurring opinion in Johnson v. United States, 576 U.S. ___, slip op. at 18 (2015), in which the court held that the provision that authorizes "enhanced sentencing" for conduct that "presents a serious potential risk of physical injury to another" is unconstitutionally vague, in violation of the Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause.

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Four Georgia Law professors gain promotions: Elizabeth Chamblee Burch was promoted to the rank of full professor.
Associate Professors Mehrsa Baradaran, Timothy Meyer and Logan E. Sawyer III were granted tenure.

The law school will celebrate the 38th birthday of its Dean Rusk International Law Center by rededicating the Louis B. Sohn Library on International Relations in its new home in the center's newly renovated unit. At the Oct. 26 event, the keynote address will be given by Kannan Rajaratihnam (LL.M.'88), who serves as head of office for the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq. Learn more.
Graduates gain victory in U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Congratulations to former Appellate Litigation Clinic students Corey J. Goerdt (J.D.’15) and Nicola M. Rossi (J.D.’15), who earned a victory for their client in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in the case of Brooks v. Warden, et al. Learn more.

Community HELP Clinic caps successful year with win

Congratulations to Georgia Law’s Community Health Law Partnership for finishing its first year with a win in a contested SNAP (food stamps) case. Earlier this year, third-year students Ricardo A. “Richie” Lopez and Carrie A. Moss advocated on the behalf of a disabled clinic client and achieved an almost $200 monthly increase in benefits. Additionally, three days after graduating from Georgia Law, Lopez returned to the clinic to represent the client in an administrative hearing, where the agency agreed to reimburse the client for back benefits totaling almost $1,600. Learn more.

Gainesville firms win Firm and Corporation Alumni/Alumnae Challenge

Congratulations to the law firms Hulsey, Oliver & Mahar (category A) and Smith Gilliam Williams & Miles (category B) for winning the 2014-15 Firm and Corporation Alumni/Alumnae Challenge. The efforts were headed by Jason A. Dean (J.D.’99) and M. Tyler Smith (J.D.’93), respectively. Learn more about the Firm and Corporation Alumni/Alumnae Challenge.

Anne S. Moser named permanent senior director of law school advancement

Meet some of the law school’s newest employees: Major Gifts Officer Carlton Bain, Annual Giving Officer Brittany Bullock, Assistant Director of Recruitment Jenna Jackson, Research and Instructional Services Law Librarian Zanada Joyner and Associate Director of Student Affairs Alex D. Sklut (J.D.’11).

Downs’ loan repayment program deadline approaching; other debt relief assistance available to graduates

Georgia Law administers the Downs’ Loan Repayment Assistance Program, which honors the mother of former Adjunct Professor Bertis E. Downs IV (J.D.’81). This program provides annual grants to graduates working in qualifying public service positions. Applications are due Dec. 31. Learn more.

There are also a number of other debt relief programs generally available to those with student loans, including income-driven repayment plans and assistance for graduates in public and private...
practice as well as for those in specific types of jobs such as public defenders or prosecutors. An excellent starting point for information is the Equal Justice Works website. Learn more

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The Alexander Campbell King Law Library is now offering free alumni/alumnae access to the HeinOnline Law Journal Library. This image-based database contains more than 1,800 law and law-related journals in 90 subject areas published in 29 countries as well as in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Access the HeinOnline Law Journal Library through the law school’s alumni/alumnae portal.