she is stepping down

International work and study abroad programs were created and expanded. The semester-long study abroad program at the University of Oxford was established. The Summer Program in China with study opportunities in Beijing and Shanghai debuted. The long-running summer study abroad initiative in Brussels, focusing on the European Union, became accredited by the ABA and was expanded to include time in Geneva and an emphasis on the World Trade Organization. The Global Internship Program has grown to include work opportunities with one of more than 70 organizations in more than 35 countries spanning the globe.

The size of the faculty has increased with the hiring of more than 30 new faculty members since 2003. The law school now has a student:faculty ratio of 11.48:1 versus 22.18:1, the ratio in 2003.

Student academic credentials have risen over the years. The most recent entering class, the Class of 2016, boasts a median LSAT score of 163 and a median undergraduate GPA of 3.69.

No fewer than 500 outside speakers – including national and foreign high-ranking officials – and approximately 220 professors have visited campus since 2003, greatly enhancing scholarly debate and dialogue at Georgia Law.

A few notables are current and former U.S. Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas, Stephen G. Breyer and John Paul Stevens as well as the participants in “The Report of the Secretaries of State: Bipartisan Advice to the Next Administration” featuring Henry Kissinger, James Baker III, Warren Christopher, Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell.

During her deanship, approximately 40 new endowed funds supporting student scholarships and faculty have been created, along with private funding for renovations, and the annual fund has more than doubled, now raising over $900,000 each year.

Six Georgia law graduates have served as U.S. Supreme Court judicial clerks in the last nine years. And, on average, 26 Georgia Law alumni have served the federal courts as judicial clerks for each of the last five years.

Among the study abroad offerings established under White’s leadership is the Georgia Law at Oxford Program. This is one of the few ABA-approved, semester-long study abroad opportunities offered by an American law school.

Search committee named

UGA Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Pamela Whitten has appointed a committee to lead a national search to fill White’s position.

The search and screening committee will be chaired by College of Pharmacy Dean Svein Ole.

Other members of the committee are:
- Kathleen V. Amos (J.D. ’82), chair of the school’s Board of Visitors and president of the Aflac Foundation
- Kent H. Barnett, assistant professor
- Elizabeth Chamblee Burch, associate professor
- Julie E. Carnes (J.D. ’75), chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia
- Kellie Casey (J.D. ’90), director of advocacy
- Dan T. Coenen, University Professor & Caldwell Chair in Constitutional Law
- Andrea L. Dennis, associate professor
- Evelyn A. French, rising third-year law student
- Erica J. Hashimoto, associate professor
- Timothy Meyer, assistant professor
- David E. Shipley, Georgia Athletic Association Professor in Law
- Gregory C. “Greg” Sowell (J.D. ’83), senior director of law school advancement

Whitten said she appreciates White’s willingness to serve as dean while the national search for her successor is underway.

“Under Dean White’s outstanding leadership, the School of Law has seen its stature as one of the nation’s top public law schools rise dramatically,” Whitten said.