Morehead and Knox honored with DSS Award

UGA President Jere W. Morehead (J.D.’80) and Augusta attorney Wyckliffe “Wyck” A. Knox Jr. (LL.B.’64) are this year’s Distinguished Service Scroll Award recipients.

This accolade is the highest honor given by the Law School Association and recognizes outstanding dedication and service to the legal profession and law school.

Morehead became UGA’s 22nd president in 2013, having previously served as the senior vice president for academic affairs and provost since 2010. Prior to 2010, he served UGA in various administrative capacities, including vice president for instruction, vice provost for academic affairs, associate provost and director of the Honors Program, and acting executive director of legal affairs. Morehead is the first UGA alumnus to be named president since Fred Davison in 1967.

Morehead remains as the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies in the Terry College of Business, where he has held a faculty appointment since 1986. He is the co-author of several books and book chapters, and he has published scholarly legal articles on topics ranging from export controls to jury selection. He has served as editor-in-chief and in other editorial board positions for the American Business Law Journal.

He directed the law school’s Advocacy Program from 1986 to 1995, during which time the moot court teams he coached won international, national, regional and state championships, including the National Moot Court Competition and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The school’s overall record during his leadership of the program was 288–103.

He has received several university-wide teaching awards, including the Josiah Meigs Award — UGA’s highest honor for teaching excellence, the Richard B. Russell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Teacher of the Year Award in the Terry College of Business and the Lothar Tresp Outstanding Honors Professor Award.

After graduating from Georgia Law, Morehead served as an assistant U.S. attorney with the Department of Justice from 1980 to 1986.

A strong advocate for Georgia Law, Knox served as a member of the school’s Board of Visitors from 1974 to 1976. He also has served as vice president of UGA’s Alumni Association as well as director of the UGA Athletic Association and as a trustee of the UGA Foundation, where he served as chairman of the finance committee and treasurer for eight years.

He has endowed scholarship funds at both the School of Law and the Terry College of Business.

Knox, who presently serves as of counsel at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, was listed in 2008’s The Best Lawyers in America under two listings — business litigation and health care law. He has been recognized in the “Most Influential Georgians” listings appearing in Georgia Trend magazine and, in 2013, Junior Achievement induct him into its Central Savannah River Area Business Hall of Fame for his pursuits in business and philanthropy.

After graduating from law school, Knox practiced law in Augusta, and then in 1976 he co-established the firm Knox & Zacks. In 1994, Knox & Zacks merged with the firm Kilpatrick & Cody, which three years later merged with Petree Stockton to become Kilpatrick Stockton. Knox was elected to the executive committee of the firm and became chairman. Under his tenure, from 1998 to 2001, billing increased 74 percent and the number of lawyers in the firm increased from 361 to 501.

Outside of the legal profession, Knox has served as CEO of Knox Rivers Construction Company, as a member of the Metropolitan Atlanta Olympic Games Authority, as a founding director of the Georgia Lottery Corporation and as a member of the Commission for a New Georgia in addition to holding many other civic and community leadership positions.