

MERCER LAWYER

SP
15

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

Trial Practice Program

PREPARING STUDENTS
FOR THE COURTROOM, P. 10

STEPHEN SALDIVIA JONES PHOTO

MERCER LAW RECEIVES
ABA GAMBRELL
PROFESSIONALISM
AWARD, P. 4

PROFESSOR DAVID
RITCHIE LEADS NEW
INTERNATIONAL
INITIATIVES, P. 16

ANNUAL LAW SCHOOL
GIVING REPORT, P. 33

FIRST ANNUAL ALUMNI
DINNER RECOGNIZES
RICHARD GERAKITIS
AND PHIL BOND, P. 38

INSIDE



Scene from Macon

During Homecoming, Mercer University dedicated the M. Diane Owens Garden in honor of Mercer Law alumna Djane Owens ('80), the first woman to serve as chair of Mercer's Board of Trustees and a generous supporter of the University.

CONTENTS

MERCER LAWYER | Spring 2015



COVER STORY

10 Trial Practice Program

Mercer Law has produced some of the greats when it comes to trial attorneys, and Dwight Davis ('82) is determined to help continue that streak of excellence. Practice makes perfect, and that is what the new trial practice curriculum revolves around. Bringing in fellow Mercer Law alumni who are successfully practicing as trial attorneys gives students the opportunity to receive valuable feedback and the real experiences that allow them to practice professionally upon graduating.

Features



14 Service to the Bar

Mercer Law students are known for their commitment to volunteering and giving back, and that passion to help others doesn't change after they leave Law School. With four Mercer Law graduates serving on the leadership board of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, the group is focused on giving back to reach those in need.



16 International Initiatives

More and more international opportunities are arising not only for educational purposes but also for practicing lawyers. Mercer Law is meeting this increasing international focus by offering study abroad sessions in countries such as Spain and Germany and expanding international ties. Behind this initiative are a number of professors with worldwide connections.

SP
15

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

STEPHEN SALDIVA-JONES PHOTO; PHOTO COURTESY OF STATE BAR OF GEORGIA; JIM ASTMAN PHOTO
OPPOSITE: STEPHEN SALDIVA-JONES PHOTO



First-year student Jasmin N. Severino (center, holding the King & Spalding Cup) won the Hugh Lawson First-Year Moot Court Competition in April after a competitive second-round argument against Thomas Church (right of Severino). They are pictured with the judges from the competition, from left to right: Third-year student Caitlin Colley, who won Lawson during her 1L year, Professor Monica Armstrong Roudil, Judge Louis Sands ('74), Dwight Davis ('82) and Doc Schneider ('81).

Departments

- 4 On the Docket
- 20 Faculty Essays
- 24 History Corner
- 26 Alumni Profiles
- 30 Faculty News and Scholarships
- 34 Giving Report
- 37 Class Notes

Stay Connected



law.mercer.edu

MERCER LAWYER

MERCER LAWYER | Spring 2015

President

William D. Underwood

Dean

Daisy Hurst Floyd

Editors

Billie Frys, Steve Murray

Faculty Editor

Steve Johnson

Director of Development

Leslie Cadle

Director of Alumni Programs and Engagement

Cheryll King

Design

Ginger Harper

Photography

Jim Astman

Maryann Bates

Sarah I. Coole

Janet Crocker

David Greenberg

Roger Idenden

Stephen Saldiva-Jones

Steve Schroeder

Sean Sime

Chris Wells

Damon Yancy

Contributing Writers

Professor Emeritus Joe Claxton

Professor Patrick Longan

Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb

Drew Bloodworth

Editorial Assistant

Janet Crocker

Mercer Lawyer is published for alumni and friends of the Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law. News submissions, including Class Notes, are welcome and should be addressed to the editor, *Mercer Lawyer*, 1021 Georgia Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31207 or e-mail: news@law.mercer.edu.

Send change of address to:
updates@law.mercer.edu

MERCER
UNIVERSITY

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW
law.mercer.edu

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Alumni and Friends,

It is a truism that we are in a time of change in legal education and the legal profession. In this issue of *Mercer Lawyer*, you will find stories about some of the ways in which the law school is responding to changes that affect its educational mission. As always, Mercer Law is an institution that both embraces innovation and is true to a sense of identity and mission. An innovative approach to cultivating ethics — recently recognized with our receiving the ABA's Gambrell Award for the second time — builds upon a history of recognizing that legal education should help students become the kinds of lawyers they aspire to be and that the world needs. Changes to our trial practice program — involving a number of experienced trial attorneys who are Mercer Law alumni — build upon a strong tradition of graduating practice-ready lawyers. The ethic of service displayed by our graduates who give back to the profession through State Bar work and the charitable fundraising by our students are consistent with the long history of Mercer lawyers serving our state. Additionally, a new emphasis on preparing our students for the global demands of 21st-century law practice reflects the law school's commitment to responding to a changing world.



Other changes that affect the law school include ongoing renovations to the Law School Building that will allow us to better support our students. We are undergoing an external facelift this summer, including repainting all of the trim on the exterior of the building. Likewise, we continue to upgrade the interior to accommodate student needs. This summer will bring many changes: expanded and more attractive study space in the law library; a new second-floor lobby adjacent to the library; relocation of the dean's suite to the first floor so that it is more accessible and central; and expansion of the Admissions and Financial Aid offices. These changes build upon recent renovations to the first and third floors that have seen the addition of a modern trial courtroom and new office and classroom space.

Even amidst many changes, however, there is a constant. The heart of the law school remains the people who pass through its doors. We are a community of students, staff, faculty, and alumni who are bound by the tradition of innovation and excellence that defines Mercer Law School.

I invite you to be a part of the exciting changes happening here by taking advantage of the opportunities to visit the law school, to attend alumni events, to serve as a mentor to a law student, to make a difference with your financial gift, or to otherwise become involved. We value — and need — your experience, your perspective, and your involvement.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daisy Hurst Floyd". The script is elegant and cursive.

Daisy Hurst Floyd, *Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation*

Mercer Law School Receives Prestigious ABA Gambrell Professionalism Award

The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism has named Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law a recipient of this year's E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award. The Gambrell Award honors excellence and innovation in professionalism programs.

Mercer Law School was one of two recipients this year and was selected based on a component of its first-year required professionalism course, taught and developed by Professor Patrick Longan, William Augustus Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics. That component, "Inside the Legal Profession," is modeled loosely on the Bravo television channel's program "Inside the Actor's Studio." It consists of a series of interviews with lawyers and judges in front of the entire first-year class. Each interview lasts about 45 minutes, followed by time for students to ask questions. The interviews are designed to introduce students to different careers in the law and to showcase legal practitioners who live, practice and thrive while they act in accordance with professionalism. Many of the interviews are available at youtube.com/mercerlawschool.

"I am very proud that Mercer Law School's leadership in innovative legal education has once again been recognized by this important group. For a law school to receive this prestigious award once is a high honor. To receive it twice is even better. Once again being a recipient of the Gambrell Award reflects Mercer Law's longstanding and continuing commitment to thoughtful preparation of our students for the realities



of law practice," said Daisy Hurst Floyd, dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation. "I am grateful to the ABA Standing Committee, to Professor Longan for his leadership, and to the many members of the law school community who contribute every day to our educational excellence."

"Being able to listen to established attorneys discuss their experiences and their practices has helped me understand that despite the many different types of legal careers available, the concept of professionalism is truly universal. The interviews helped me see that being an attorney is truly a vocation and requires commitment to your current and future clients, to your values, to the society that supports you and to the profession in general," said first-year student Elizabeth Lambert.



BILLIE RYAN PHOTO

Court of Appeals Holds Annual Special Session at Mercer Law School

The Georgia Court of Appeals heard oral arguments in the moot courtroom on Oct. 6, 2014. The annual visit provided an opportunity for students and the local community to observe the Court in action. The panel that heard cases at the Law School included Presiding Judge Sara L. Doyle ('94), Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard and Judge M. Yvette Miller ('80). The cases heard as part of the Fourth Division of the Court included Southern States — *Bartow County, Inc. v. Riverwood Farm Property Owners Association*; *Strickland v. Strickland*; and *Perez v. Georgia*.

Leslie L. Cadle ('07), Appointed as Director of Development

Leslie L. Cadle ('07) has been appointed as Director of Development for Mercer Law School. Since 2012 she has served as the Director of Alumni Affairs and Associate Director of Development. Prior to joining the Law School's staff in January 2012, Cadle served as a judicial clerk in the Superior Courts of the Macon Judicial Circuit, and practiced law with the Macon-based Law Firm of Kathy McArthur.

In announcing the appointment, Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd said, "Leslie's talent, commitment, and skills have enhanced the Law School's alumni outreach and supported positive development results, and she will build upon that foundation in her new role." In addition to her position on the Law School's senior staff, Cadle has also served as an adjunct instructor in the legal writing certificate program and as a coach for moot court and client counseling teams.



ROGER IDEN PHOTO

Cheryll King Appointed as Alumni Programs and Engagement Director

Cheryll King has been appointed as the Director of Alumni Programs and Engagement, effective June 1, 2015. In announcing the appointment, Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd said, "We are thrilled to have Cheryll join us in this position. Her background, skills and enthusiasm for alumni relations are certain to help us reach our goals of increased involvement of our alumni with the Law School." In this position, King is responsible for planning and executing alumni events, including class reunions and alumni receptions. Additionally, she will work to increase alumni outreach and involvement.

King was previously the Assistant Director of External and Alumni Services at Charlotte Law School from 2006 to 2013. She has a bachelor's degree from the Philippine Normal University and is a licensed Project Management Professional.



STEVE SCHREIER PHOTO



STEPHEN SALDIVA, JONES PHOTO

Law Students Now Taking Classes on the Atlanta Campus

Mercer Law initiated a Semester-In-Atlanta program in January for third-year students. The program allows students to take part or all of their credit hours for the spring semester on Mercer's Atlanta campus while engaging in experiential learning through externships in metro Atlanta.

Third-year student Abbey Mateer explains the value of the Atlanta-based classes. "I wanted to take classes on the Atlanta Campus so that I could enjoy more opportunities to network and work in the city that I would like to call home after graduation," she says. "It is incredibly helpful to be in Atlanta full-time. I have more flexibility as I begin the job search and am able to get settled before I have to study for the Bar."

The Atlanta program expands on the already robust experiential education offerings provided by Mercer. Last year alone, 191 students participated in externships and clinics, providing over 31,000 hours of legal services. Mateer is working in multiple placements, gaining a wide variety of experience, saying, "The externship provides an incredibly enriching and interesting experience. Because of my placements I am able to get a glimpse into practice from multiple perspectives, allowing me to be able to determine what practice areas at what type of firms I may enjoy best post-graduation."

Students earn between four and 12 credit hours from work in field placements, and take elective classes such as Contract Drafting and Pretrial Litigation. Over 70 offices agreed to consider Mercer students for field placements, and all students received placements after a competitive application and interview process.

Mercer Law Review Symposium in Honor of Jack Sammons

The 2014 Mercer Law Review Symposium on Friday, Oct. 3, focused on the scholarship and teaching of Jack Sammons. Sammons taught at Mercer Law School for more than 30 years and retired in 2013. The symposium featured speakers from across the U.S. who came together to discuss Sammons's scholarly contributions to law and legal education and how it influenced their own work.

"Jack Sammons has contributed broadly to the legal profession, legal education, and Mercer Law School. This is an exciting opportunity to celebrate one of our own whose work will continue to affect the lives of lawyers for years to come," said Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation Daisy Hurst Floyd.

As a professor, Jack Sammons held the Griffin B. Bell Chair of Law, and was the former director of clinical education and the former associate dean at Mercer Law School. A prolific scholar, his academic work spans the fields of clinical education, legal discourse, ethics, professionalism, religion, and rhetoric. His teaching in these fields has had an impact on three generations of Mercer Law students. The Symposium allowed mentors, peers and devotees of Sammons to discuss and celebrate the breadth and depth of his scholarship.

Speakers Included:

- **Richard Dawson**, an interdisciplinary and independent scholar in New Zealand
- **Linda Edwards**, E.L. Cord Foundation Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada at Las Vegas
- **Daisy Hurst Floyd**, Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation, Mercer Law School
- **Timothy Floyd**, Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy and Director of Experiential Education, Mercer Law School
- **Eugene Garver**, Professor of Philosophy, St. John's University
- **Sarah Gerwig-Moore**, Associate Professor of Law, Mercer Law School
- **Harold Lewis**, Professor Emeritus, Mercer Law School
- **Mark Jones**, Professor of Law, Mercer Law School
- **Patrick Longan**, William August Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics, Mercer Law School
- **David Ritchie**, Professor of Law & Philosophy and Director of International Initiatives, Mercer Law School
- **Gary Simson**, Senior Vice Provost for Scholarship and Macon Chair in Law, Mercer University
- **Joseph Vining**, Harry Burns Hutchins Collegiate Professor of Law Emeritus, University of Michigan School of Law
- **James Boyd White**, L. Hart Wright Collegiate Professor of Law Emeritus, University of Michigan School of Law



ROGER IDEMIEN PHOTO



STEPHEN SALDIVA-JONES PHOTOS



Cocktails and Conversations

Atlanta area alums joined current students, faculty and staff at a networking event in the Offices of Burr Forman LLP in October 2014. Pictured left: Allison Strazzella Brantley ('97), Professor Tony Baldwin, and Michelle Robinson Tyde ('96); right, Anton Mertens ('87), president-elect of the Law School Alumni Association, and third-year student Adriana Ibarra Vazquez.

Fifth Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition

Mercer Advocacy Council hosted the 5th Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition Nov. 20-22, 2014. The competition comprised 16 teams from 12 law schools from around the nation. In the final round, Faulkner prevailed against the University of Georgia.

Judges for the final round included Chief Justice Hugh Thompson ('69) of the Supreme Court of Georgia; The Honorable Stephen Dillard, The Honorable Christopher McFadden, both of the Georgia Court of Appeals; Paula Frederick, General Counsel for the State Bar of Georgia; and Patrick Longan, William Augustus Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics at Mercer Law.



ROGER DENEN PHOTO

The subject addressed in the competition focused on whether attorneys should be required to conduct Internet searches of prospective jurors during the voir dire process, or whether social media notifications resulting from such searches constituted ex parte communications.

Students Recognized During the National BLSA Conference

Natasha Banks, a second-year student, has been elected as the southern region's Vice-Chair of the National Black Law Students Association. The board provides NBLSA chapters with programmatic direction, supports chapter activities, and functions as a conduit between chapters and the national organization. Banks will co-manage its Executive Board alongside the Regional Chair.

Tiffany Watkins, a third-year student, was chosen as the Southern Region Black Law Students Association Outstanding Chapter President of the Year during the organization's 2015 Regional Convention in Columbia, South Carolina.

The Southern Region is composed of law school chapters in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Puerto Rico.



ROGER DENEN PHOTO

Natasha Banks



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIFFANY WATKINS

Tiffany Watkins

Student Organizations Support Local Charities

On Friday, March 6, more than 50 students participated in an afternoon Dodgeball for Dreams Tournament held at Central City Park to help raise funds for the Methodist Children's Home. The event raised over \$1,500 to support the local charity that offers many services, including a residential program, emergency placement services for children, and several community-based and educational services. The tournament was sponsored by the Business and Tax Law Society, Real Estate Law Society and Sports and Entertainment Law Society.

On Friday, March 13, the Association of Women Law Students hosted the 17th Annual Charity Auction and Ball at the Cox Capital Theatre in downtown Macon. They raised over \$10,000 to benefit Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, a local charity. In the past four years, this event has raised over \$60,000 to support local charities.



DAVID GREENBERG PHOTO

Mercer Advocacy Council Round Up

Students Place in Top 10 at ABA National Negotiation Competition

Mercer Law students TaMisha Cooke and Donita Morris advanced to the semifinal round and placed ninth in the American Bar Association's National Negotiation Competition on Feb. 6-7 in Houston, Texas. The pair qualified for the national competition by winning first place at regionals last November. The competition included 199 teams from 104 different law schools.

Third-year students Mary Kate Silloway and Stephen Swinson and second-year students Jessica Canedo and Patricia DeJaynes also competed

in the regional competition and helped Cooke and Morris prepare for the nationals. The team was coached by Mercer Law School alumni Christopher Steele ('11) and Bryant Culpepper ('72).

"The entire team represented the school admirably," said Steele. "Despite the great competition, Donita and TaMisha advanced to the semifinals where the team won its round and gave one of the best performances I have ever seen at this competition. During the self-analysis, they had the judges hanging on their every word."

Mercer Law Quarterfinalist in National Appellate Advocacy Competition

Ashley Vandevender ('14), Chris Perniciaro ('14), and Warren Tillery ('14) competed in the National Appellate Advocacy Competition on April 10-11, 2014 in Chicago, Illinois. The team competed with more than 200 teams from law schools across the country advancing all the way to the national quarterfinals, placing them among the top eight teams in the entire country. They narrowly missed advancing to the national semifinals following a close round against Texas Tech. Mercer Law students also received fifth place for Best Brief.

In February 2014, the team competed and won the regional competition, where they competed against 34 other teams. Mercer Law School was one of only four teams in the regional competition to advance to the national competition.

The National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC), which is sponsored



ROGER IDEMUN PHOTO

Second-year students TaMisha Cooke and Donita Morris place first in Regionals and ninth in National Negotiation Competition.

Mercer Law School Homecoming Tailgate

Mercer Law hosted a football tailgate for Law alums, students, faculty and staff as the Mercer Bears played the Citadel Bulldogs on Nov. 1. Fans joined in the celebrations and enjoyed the game as the Bears (barely) lost to the Bulldogs in a final score of 28-26. The Student Bar Association, Mercer Law Trial Lawyers Association and the Law Firm of Reynolds, Horne & Survant sponsored the tailgate.



ROGER IDEMUN PHOTO

by the ABA's Law Student Division, is one of the most prestigious moot court competitions in the United States.



SEAN SIMS PHOTO

Mercer Places Second in the John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition

Mercer's team of students Brittany Schwanitz ('14), Adam Gadberry ('14), pictured above, and Robert Cabe ('14) captured second place in the John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition in Newark, New Jersey, on March 21-22, 2014. The team also won second place for

best respondent's brief. Professor Jim Fleissner and students Catherine Vollertsen and Ashley Vandevender coached the team.

"Brittany, Adam and Robert did a wonderful job representing the Law School and the Mercer Advocacy Council," said Professor Fleissner. "It is satisfying for the students to achieve competitive success, but the more important outcome achieved by Mercer's moot court advocates is the learning from the experience of engaging in advocacy at a high level. Through their hard work, the members of the team clearly achieved that ultimate objective."

Mercer Teams Place in ABA Client Counseling Competitions

Two Mercer Law client counseling teams — consisting of students Lauren Miller ('14) and Catherine Vollertsen ('14), and Zandra Hall and Layne Johnson — placed in the American Bar Association Client Counseling Regionals in February 2014. Hall and Johnson placed second in the regional competition, and Miller and Vollertsen placed first, over 11 other teams.

Miller and Vollertsen went on to compete in the ABA National Competition in Durham, North Carolina, where they won the fifth place national title.

The competition mimics a law office consultation, where students act as attorneys by interviewing a client and explaining how they would proceed in the hypothetical situation presented. The topic concerned legal issues in K-12 education environments and prompted students to counsel clients facing employment, contract, and discrimination problems.

Mercer Law 2L, Fabiani Duarte, Named Chairman of American Bar Association's Law Student Division

Fabiani Duarte, second-year law student, was elected 2015-2016 national chairman of the American Bar Association's Law Student Division at the division's board of governors spring meeting in Las Vegas, March 12-15. Duarte will serve as chair-elect until he is sworn into office at this summer's ABA annual meeting in Chicago. As chairman he will represent the Law Student Division and speak on its behalf to help execute the division's mission and goals.

The ABA Law Student Division represents the interests of the nation's 115,000 law students by developing and advocating for policies that help define the standards of legal education in the 205 ABA-accredited law schools in the U.S. Duarte was elected by the Law Student Division board of governors, which consists of five officers, three delegates to the ABA House of Delegates and 15 regional circuit governors.

"I am humbled, grateful and energized to serve as chair for the Law Student Division," said Duarte. "Having the opportunity to lead 22 of our nation's most talented, diverse and passionate student advocates focused on serving our national law student community is an honor and privilege that I am eager to transform into proactive policies, tangible benefits and meaningful results for my fellow students at Mercer Law and law schools across the country."



BILLIE FINN PHOTO

TRIAL PRACTICE PROGRAM

In its 142-year history, Mercer University School of Law has produced great trial attorneys — William Augustus Bootle, Griffin Bell and Frank Jones among many more. Their legacy of excellence continues into the 21st century. But in January, an update in the methods by which the Law School prepares students for the courtroom began under the guidance of Dwight Davis ('82).



Bibb County Superior Court Judge Verda Colvin serves as an adjunct professor in the Trial Practice program, providing valuable feedback to students in her class.

STEPHEN SALDIVA-JONES PHOTO

“Dwight has been serving at Mercer as a practitioner-in-residence,” says Law School Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd. “Last spring, after he taught the trial practice class, he had suggestions for ways to enhance our trial practice curriculum, including bringing in more members of the bench and bar.”

A star litigator and senior partner at King & Spalding for three decades before retiring in 2012, Davis represents only one of many Mercer graduates who have distinguished themselves nationally as trial lawyers. Speaking with pride not about himself but for his alma mater, he says, “I’m a walking tribute to the great history of trial practice at Mercer.” He’s among a number of alumni who have returned to share their experiences and skills with the Law School. That number includes wrongful death and catastrophic injury attorney — and generous Mercer supporter — Tommy Malone.

“If you look at Dwight Davis and Tommy Malone — with Dwight on the defense side and Tommy on the plaintiffs’ side — you have two nationally prominent trial lawyers who wear the Mercer label in a way that says something about our program,” says Dean Floyd. “Trial practice is part of our history, our identity and our ongoing response to the call for legal education to make our students practice ready.

“The new changes,” she adds, “build upon a strong foundation of teaching trial practice.”

History gives us two good examples. During their distinguished careers, Griffin Bell (’48) and Frank Jones (’50) were appointed president of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers.

“A relatively large number of Mercer graduates are or have been fellows of the American College, the preeminent organization for outstanding trial lawyers,” says Judge Marc T. Treadwell (’81), United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia. “But for Griffin Bell and Frank Jones to both be presidents says something about the quality of trial lawyers coming out of Mercer.”

Treadwell is among many trial attorneys whose work reflects proudly on Mercer. Their number includes people like Virgil Adams, Althea Bufo, Susi P. McWilliams, Richard “Doc” Schneider, L. Lin Wood and Manley Brown.

Both Treadwell and Davis cite Brown as a lawyer who continues to give back to Mercer as an adjunct

“Trial practice is part of our history, our identity and our ongoing response to the call for legal education to make our students practice ready.”



MARVIN BATES PHOTO

Second-year student Fabiani Duarte prepares to cross-examine a witness during the class’s final mock jury trial.

at Mercer Law School.) “Through 30 years of practice, I was still applying the techniques he taught me,” Davis says.

Treadwell says, simply, “There’s no better trial lawyer than Manley Brown.”

Some more recent graduates now distinguishing themselves include Atlanta attorneys Kate Cook, Matthew Cook, Robert F. Glass, Brandon L. Peake, Kathryn Powers and Brent

Savage Jr., among others who are furthering Mercer Law’s legacy.

To help ensure that Mercer Law School continues to nurture and train the generations of young attorneys coming after them, Davis is building upon the work put in place



MARVIN BATES PHOTO

Davis visits each small section of the program to provide individual feedback to students.

by retired professor Deryl Dantzer, who still directs the National Criminal Defense College and its Trial Practice Institute twice each summer.

"She had a great program, and it has been very successful over the years," Davis says. Working with Tim Floyd, Director of Experiential Education and the Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy, Davis adds, "I saw a way to capitalize on the strengths of the program, and the great alumni."

Davis's modifications make the coursework more uniformed and provide broader opportunities for individual feedback. Changes in the Mercer curriculum are geared to make the law school's graduates even better equipped to practice professionally right out of the starting gate.

Drawing on the model of Stanford Law School's International Association of Defense Counsel and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's standards for performance and feedback, each semester includes the participation

"There are fewer and fewer opportunities for lawyers to get the experience they need to sharpen their skills. Law schools need to look for even better ways to train students."

of 10 to 20 noted trial attorneys from diverse backgrounds, making presentations to students and demonstrating specific techniques developed in their practices.

"I want to capitalize on the strength of Mercer alumni and bring as many of them in to give demonstrations for the class, then have small groups work with an adjunct alumni instructor on actual standup trial skills," Davis says. "We have centralized instruction and demonstrations from practitioners of the various skills we're working on."

Each week, students break into smaller groups and perform specific skills in front of their classmates, who are then critiqued by those practitioners.

"At the end, the cumulative effect is that you walk through every phase of a jury trial, and the students are on their feet, doing it themselves and seeing their classmates do it," Davis says. "In the grand finale, we'll have a complete jury trial."

This hands-on, practical approach fills a crucial gap. In the past, young attorneys and law students were able to acquire real-world skills in ways that they no longer can. "When I was a young lawyer, you were expected to carry a senior trial lawyer's bag and assist him in the trial," Davis says. "You would go and

sit in the back of a courtroom and see how the trial before you was conducted." The legal world has changed, though; such "cattle calls" are no longer a part of young attorneys' on-the-job education.

Already an alumnus who is teaching as an adjunct at his alma mater, Judge Treadwell for one is enthusiastic about the changes to the Mercer curriculum.

"As good a job as Mercer has done in years past at training trial lawyers, that's getting more and more difficult," he says. "There are fewer and fewer opportunities for



STEPHEN SALDIVA-JONES PHOTO

Second-year student Tal Wollschlaeger addresses a jury made up of students during the final mock trial of the course.

lawyers to get the experience they need to sharpen their skills. Law schools need to look for even better ways to train students. Dwight has put together a very systematic approach to ensuring that lawyers can get that experience.”

Mercer Law School has been grounding students for decades in ways that reach beyond the classroom walls. The law school’s extracurricular advocacy program offers students practice with moot court, mock trials, counseling, negotiation and mediation.

Clayton County Executive Assistant District Attorney, Kathryn Powers (’09) was on the moot court team that beat Harvard and the University of Houston her graduating year at the National Criminal Justice Competition. She was named best Advocate and Best Cross Examiner, so she knows first-hand the practical power of Mercer’s commitment to out-of-classroom experience for students.

“A Mercer lawyer is unlike any other lawyer you come across,” she says. “Mercer best prepares you for the real-life practice of representing clients. Where other schools prepare their students for theory, we prepare for practice.”

As for Davis’s revamping of the trial practice curriculum, she says, “It’s the next level for what is already an exceedingly strong base.” A strong base that remains crucial to her on a daily level: “I have a Supreme Court argument on Tuesday, and I’m going back through some of my notes from moot court days.”

“Mercer was founded with a mission to serve the state,” says Tommy Malone, whose generous gift to Mercer Law School has funded the Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Practice and supports such valuable opportunities for students as the moot court competitions at which Powers excelled.

“People that went to Mercer were people who knew that part of their responsibilities would be to stand up in a courtroom and represent people,” Malone says. He recalls being commended, barely out of law school, by a south Georgia judge. “He told me that he had never seen a young lawyer hit the ground running



STEPHEN SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTO

Third-year student Natalie Schiess took both the trial practice and advanced trial practice class to further enhance her skills as a trial lawyer.

“Mercer best prepares you for the real-life practice of representing clients. Where other schools prepare their students for theory, we prepare for practice.”

like I did,” he says. “And I credit Mercer with that — and the strength not to be intimidated.”

That sort of hands-on experience, which Mercer Law School has always given students, continues in even more tangible ways in 2015. Its success depends in part on another element of Mercer tradition: the input of those who have come before.

So attention, trial attorneys: If your phone rings or your inbox dings, and you see that it’s coming from a certain D. Davis? Accept it. You could be part of the next wave of trial practice at Mercer, honoring the Law School’s past while taking today’s students into the future.

SERVICE *to the* BAR



© DAMON YANCY / DREAMSTIME.COM

For practicing attorneys, service to the State Bar of Georgia demands time away from their families and personal careers. Involvement with the Bar can constitute a virtual second fulltime job. Nevertheless, that doesn't keep Mercer Law School graduates from showing up and serving in significant numbers, reflecting the values instilled during their years in Macon.

"Mercer is incredibly well-represented in State Bar and State Bar YLD leadership roles," says Sharri Edenfield ('03), 2014-2015 outgoing president of the Young Lawyers Division (YLD). Her father and law partner, Gerald Edenfield, served as the State Bar's President in 2007-08. Meanwhile, the Bar's current President-Elect, Robert Kauffman ('88), the YLD immediate past President, President Elect and one of the YLD newsletter editors

are all Mercer Law alumni.

"The fact that four out of seven statewide YLD officers are Mercer Law grads is incredibly significant and really speaks to the good things going on at Mercer," Edenfield says. "I also think that Mercerians are just generally community-oriented and service-minded lawyers. If service isn't a priority for someone when they begin law school at Mercer, I think it



becomes a priority for them once they are a student and it stays a priority for the rest of their career.”

The YLD is known for its service to the public at large. Edenfield offers a quick overview: In 1971 (while

still known as the Young Lawyers Section or YLS) the group incorporated Georgia Legal Services Program, offering advocacy for low-income and indigent people throughout the state. In the 1980s the YLD created the statewide High School Mock Trial Program, which it continues to coordinate, introducing high school students to the legal process.

Since 2007, the YLD has been holding its Signature Fundraiser, raising money for different charities, with the amount attained growing in each successive year, for a total of more than \$341,000 since the event’s creation. This year, under the leadership of Mercer graduate and 2013-2014 YLD president Darrell Sutton ('03), the fundraiser garnered more than \$64,000 to endow the YLD’s four-year-old Public Interest Internship Program, funding internships for young lawyers and law students to work in participating public interest law organizations.

During her year as President, Edenfield has focused on three initiatives for the YLD membership: offering pro bono services to the substantial population of veterans and active military in the state; exploring options to create a legislative loan forgiveness program for any Georgia lawyer who moves to a rural area underserved by legal professionals and opens a law practice there; and nurturing the professional development of young attorneys just starting out in their careers.

While the YLD acts as a service arm for the community, the executive officers of the State Bar of Georgia focus on serving the legal profession itself. “I have to admit, I do enjoy working

with other lawyers in our efforts to hopefully make the profession a little better,” says Kauffman in anticipation of his term as President.

After serving on numerous Bar committees over the years, Robert Kauffman’s decision to run for Executive offices — first Secretary, then Treasurer and now President — came only after he weighed the time commitments that would take him away from his family and practice: “It was a slow, deliberate and cautious swim over to the deep end of the pool.”

Each President has a chance during his or her term to set a particular agenda. In addition to working with colleagues on a strategic plan for the Bar, Kauffman hopes to pull Georgia’s legal profession more firmly into the 21st century.

“I am sure this will be developed in the plan, but our utilization of new technologies and communication methods in the courts and as attorneys are going to be major issues

over the next few years,” he says. “Compared to other industries, and understanding the speed of recent innovations (apps, remote access to clients via technology, etc.) I feel the legal profession is playing catch-up, so I anticipate working on some of these issues in the next year.”

Kauffman thinks Mercer alumni’s predilection for service to the Bar is definitely a legacy of a Mercer Law School education. “From my own personal experience at Mercer, I would suggest it was the quality of the professors and the values they exhibited during my three years there,” Kauffman says.

He also remembers a visit during his student

days from Mercer alumnus, Attorney General Griffin Bell.

“He challenged the students to give back once we are in our careers,” Kauffman recalls. “I think he understood, and what I now understand, is that attorneys, by virtue of their training, have unique skills that are helpful to any organization they participate in, whether church, social groups or charitable organizations.”

“The fact that four out of seven statewide YLD officers are Mercer Law grads is incredibly significant and really speaks to the good things going on at Mercer.”



SARAH L. COOLE PHOTO

Left to right: 2014-2015 State Bar of Georgia YLD Immediate President Darrell Sutton ('03); President-Elect John Ryd Bush “Jack” Long ('06); Immediate Past President Sharri Edenfield ('03); Newsletter Editor Rizza O’Conner ('10); 2015-2016 State Bar President Robert J. Kauffman ('88).

International INITIATIVES



Students come from around the country and world to receive their legal education at Mercer Law School. Photographed above are just some of our international students that bring a unique perspective to the classroom daily.

The top of Coleman Hill offers a sweeping overview of downtown Macon. The best vantage point may be from one of those white rocking chairs on the porch of Mercer Law School — but inside the building itself, the view is very much an international one.

“The world is shrinking, and law practice is becoming more global,” says Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd. “Whether our graduates find themselves working in Atlanta, working in London or working in Vidalia, they are going to be in a world that’s very different than it was 30 years ago. We want to be pro-active in making sure that our students are prepared for operating in that global environment.”

For attorneys already practicing as well as for incoming law students preparing to be 1L’s, facility with international and comparative law is no longer an exotic skill but a daily part of legal life.

“It’s not just for lawyers practicing in firms who now have offices in seven cities of the world,” Floyd says. Law doesn’t recognize borders and time zones any longer. Attorneys working for small firms in Middle Georgia regularly represent clients from around the world. The State of Georgia has itself become a center for international trade and travel. “Many of our students come to us already with a lot of international experience under their belts,” Floyd says. And they’re looking for more.

Mercer Law School is answering that expectation. To meet the broad-horizon expectations of incoming students and to assure global readiness for young attorneys after graduation, Dean

Floyd this fall named Professor David Ritchie to be the Law School’s Director of International Initiatives.

“We already do a lot of international things at the Law School that many people don’t know about,” Ritchie says. One of his immediate imperatives is to work directly with the Dean’s office to increase awareness of what the school has to offer, then to expand Mercer’s global focus in the coming years.

Along with increasing visibility of the Law School’s current international academic and extracurricular programs, his goals include coordinating with current faculty to ensure

cohesion in the international law curriculum and identify ways to increase course offerings; collaborate with the offices of Admissions and Career Services to maximize students’ career development goals in international arenas; explore and increase new possibilities for faculty and students in summer study abroad programs and exchanges with foreign universities, and more.

Ritchie knows his territory, literally. He has taught extensively at schools in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Macau, one of China’s two Special Administrative Regions. For three years he has hosted delegations of Brazilian judges to the Mercer campus, promoting an intercultural exchange between Brazilian jurists and U.S. legal scholars, students, judges and practitioners. The program, which will occur a fourth time in October, is aimed at expanding understanding about the different legal systems around the world.

Professor Ritchie has served for four years as a Global Ethics Fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs. During this time, he has organized three Brazilian programs sponsored by the Council. During his 2012 sabbatical year, he was a fellow at the Institute for Ethics, Law, and Armed Conflict at Oxford University, where he helped develop a human rights workshop for U.S. students.

International connections already abound at Mercer. The Law School includes four faculty whose work focuses on international law. Several of them — Professors Mark Jones, Scott Titshaw, and Shand Watson — are graduates

“Whether our graduates find themselves working in Atlanta, working in London or working in Vidalia, they are going to be in a world that’s very different than it was 30 years ago. We want to be more pro-active in making sure that our students are prepared for operating in that global environment.”

of international education themselves. Other professors regularly teach overseas in Summer Abroad programs co-sponsored by Mercer Law. Countries include Argentina, Germany, the Netherlands, China and Spain. Every year Mercer students likewise expand their legal understanding with jobs and internships outside of the States.

Even outside the regular school-year parameters, some Law School professors are expanding their international connections. Professor Linda Jellum has taught statutory interpretation four times to judges in Tbilisi, Georgia. And Professor Titshaw spent the academic year on an



STUDENTS WORKING ABROAD

Margaret McCoy and Natelie Schiess are two law students who spent summer of 2014 in overseas internships, enriching their Mercer education with international experience.

Schiess, a 3L, worked at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Geneva Switzerland in the Division International Protection/Pillar International Policy and Law.

“My internship focused mainly on conducting legal research into Refugee status, status determination and treatment as it relates to the UNHCR mandate,” she says.

During her 12 weeks, she had access to the United Nations Headquarters and attended several meetings. Topics included women’s rights in Iraq, displacement in Nigeria, gender-based violence and same-sex issues related to refugees.



ROGER DENDEN PHOTO

Natelie Schiess



JIM ASTMAN PHOTO

Professor David Ritchie (back row, center) with the faculty for the 2015 Oxford Consortium for Human Rights program at Merton College, Oxford.

international Fulbright Scholarship at the European University Institute in Fiesole, Italy, and Leiden University in The Hague, researching comparative European laws on immigration and internal migration among European same-sex families and their children.

Ritchie intends to build on connections like these among faculty, students and other law schools around the world. Though Mercer Law School already includes students from backgrounds abroad (10 this year come from other countries), “I really want to see us to have a cadre of international students within three to five years,” says Ritchie, who has opened conversations with law school colleagues in China, Brazil and other countries.

“Diversifying the student body is good for everybody,” he adds. “All of our students will get to see firsthand how the world is global. They’ll be having classes with students from Russia or Macau and see why it’s important to have an understanding of international relations and how law practice intersects with what’s going on in the world. We also need to bring in some of our alumni who are now in practice, or have been in practice for 20 or 30 years and let them explain their international contacts, the work they do and the range of clients they have.”

These international initiatives are the next phase of the Law School’s expansion into an international way of thinking. Last year’s Mercer Law Review Symposium focused on “Current Trends in International Trade and Their Impact on Multinational Businesses.” A Mercer student team competes each year in Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the world’s largest, where they argue a case between fictional countries before the International Court of Justice.

Last fall, Mercer launched a new Visiting Scholars program. Richard Dawson, an independent scholar from New Zealand with Ph.D.s in economics and law, came to Mercer Law School as its

first Visiting Scholar, interacting with students and conducting research in Macon in October and November.

“One of the most visible — and perhaps easiest — ways to increase the visibility of the law school abroad is to allow foreign academics, judges and practitioners to visit the law school to give lectures, do research, and perhaps even teach,” Ritchie says. “Many law schools have these programs, which serve as a crucial component of their international initiatives.”

Professor Dawson’s stint as Visiting Scholar coincided with a symposium honoring the teachings and scholarship of retired Mercer Law School professor Jack Sammons. “I jumped at the chance, for I had learned a great deal from Jack since an initial encounter with his writing in 2010,” says Dawson, whose article for the symposium dealt with the 1840 treaty of Waitangi, the initial constitutional transaction between a representative of Queen Victoria and New Zealand’s Maori people.

The subject sparked interesting conversations that reflect the cross-cultural advantages of international exchange. “It was really valuable for me to be asked questions by people who were unfamiliar with the treaty, for that which was familiar to me became less familiar in the questioning process,” says Dawson, who hopes to make a return visit to Mercer Law some day.

“Diversifying the student body is good for everybody. All of our students will get to see firsthand how the world is global. They’ll be having classes with students from Russia or Macau and see why it’s important to have an understanding of international relations and how law practice intersects with what’s going on in the world.”

“The de-familiarization reminded me that one reason we have ‘visiting scholars’ is to collectively experience a productive disorientation.” Ritchie has several International Initiative goals in mind for Mercer.

“I’m working on arrangements with law schools from around the world,” he says. “We’re working on a program right now with a law school I work with in Brazil. If we come out of this school year with three or four strong institutional partnerships in different parts of the world — Latin America, Europe and Asia as a start for our focus — we can start to build on those partnerships, exchange students and faculty, and create programs together.”



Margaret McCoy

Schiess says, “This internship opened my eyes not only to the many global issues facing populations of innocent people who are in dire need of our help, but particularly to the avenues and tools that I can use to help these populations and influence states and agencies to assist those most in need.”

Second-year student Margaret McCoy, Ph.D., spent her summer as a legal intern in the United Kingdom at the University of Oxford Legal Services Office: “It has been an incredible opportunity to gain invaluable experience from an international legal perspective on a wide variety of matters.”

Dr. McCoy worked on several Memoranda of Understanding with the Burmese government, the European Space Agency and the Ministry of Defence. Her work also included addressing consultancy agreements for the Said Business School as well as contracts for the Ashmolean and between the University and various companies dealing with copyright, IP and trademark laws.

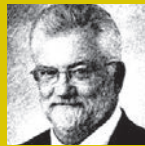
In March, she returned to Oxford for a week to attend the Annual Levan Institute-Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict Spring Workshop. She studied human rights in and after conflict, humanitarian action, conflict trends, human rights law and peacemaking with a focus on recent armed conflicts. Dr. McCoy was the only law school student from the United States invited to attend the workshop, and hopes to use and expand her skills in this area as she moves into the fields of policy and legislation.

Inside the Legal Profession

Teaching Ethics and Professionalism to First-Year Students



BY PATRICK LONGAN



Fifteen years ago, I applied to join the Mercer faculty and interviewed with Professors Jack Sammons and Linda Edwards. Jack asked me whether I would be interested in creating a first-year course to give Mercer students perspective on what it means to be a part of a profession and why lawyers need to internalize the values of the legal profession. I said that I would, mostly because I sincerely believed that such a course was necessary, and only partly because I wanted the job.

Once I came to Mercer and the faculty approved the course, which we named “Legal Profession,” my colleagues and I spent more than a year designing it. It was a given that the course would not replace the traditional course on the rules of conduct and other aspects of the law of lawyering but rather would be an addition to the curriculum. No law school had attempted what we were trying to do. I first taught the course in 2004, and we struggled to find the right way to teach it. We thought that we needed to make it look like a conventional course, lest the students resist it for being “different.”

The course received early recognition with the 2005 National Award for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching Professionalism, which was awarded by the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism, the Conference of Chief Justices, and the Burge Endowment for Legal Ethics. Yet now, with the perspective of time, I can see that our initial approach of trying to make it look like traditional courses was wrong. Professionalism is a different kind of subject, and teaching it has required us to develop new and innovative methods. We have now chosen to embrace the differences, and that decision has led us to where we are today.

Students in the Legal Profession course begin by learning what professionalism means for lawyers and why it matters. The

students also learn, often to their surprise and dismay, how they will encounter challenges to their professionalism once they leave the Law School. Traditional teaching methods, such as readings and lectures, support this goal.

Imparting this information is not the hard part, and certainly we would not need an entire semester if that were our only goal. We are also trying to inspire the students to make a commitment to trying to live and practice in accordance with the values of professionalism. A crucial part of this process is to help the students to understand that much of their own happiness and success as lawyers will be tied to such a commitment.

We have found an innovative way to get that message across. A central part of the course is a series of interviews that I conduct with lawyers in various practice areas. We call this series “Inside the Legal Profession.” The students hear from and meet lawyers who confirm that the practice of law will challenge their resolve to act with professionalism. However, by their words and example our guests demonstrate that it can be done and that a life in the law, conducted in the right way, can be a deeply rewarding way to live. The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism recently honored the Law School for this part of the course with the prestigious E. Smythe Gambrell Award for Professionalism.

But even the knowledge of what professionalism is and why it matters, coupled with the resolve to try to observe the values of the profession, is not enough. Professionalism issues do not arise for lawyers in the abstract. Complex, real-life situations often involve conflicting values and uncertainty. The students need to begin to learn how to make and implement difficult decisions under such conditions. The course seeks to begin the process of enabling them to do so through the exercise of judgment, also

known as practical wisdom.

A fair question is whether such judgment or wisdom can be taught. My answer would be: no, it cannot be taught, but it can be learned, and we can help that learning occur. This is another part of the course where we have had to be innovative.

The first-year class is divided into sections of about 25 students each. As part of the Legal Profession course, each section meets once a week. Most of those meetings require the students to confront, in role, a complex professionalism problem. For example, one requires the students to decide whether to produce a damaging document in a civil case when there is a colorable argument that opposing counsel did not request it.

The students meet in groups of three and decide what to do. The groups present their solutions to their section, and the students are often amazed to discover that other groups made different judgments. The professor guides the discussion and helps the students think about why they made the judgments they did and reflect on whether their initial judgments were correct. Students learn judgment in the course by exercising it, having it questioned, reflecting upon it, and doing it again.

The Legal Profession course is serving as a model for other law schools that are beginning to realize that first-year students need the knowledge, values and skills that our course imparts. The University of North Dakota has introduced its own first-year course, and Regent University will begin its course next year. We have shared our materials in response to inquiries from law schools at Vanderbilt, Northern Kentucky, Ole Miss, Western New



ROGER IDEN/PHOTO

Students listen intently as alum and noted trial lawyer Tommy Malone ('66) discusses his legal career and what professionalism means to him.

England, Montana, and Florida A&M, among others. In this way, as in so many others, Mercer has been a leader in innovative legal education.

It has been, and continues to be, a distinct honor for me to teach this course. Its creation would not have been possible without the vision of Jack Sammons and the rest of the faculty. Its development, especially through some rough early stages, required the faculty to have the courage to try something new and see it through even when not everything succeeded. The course has required the particular support and indispensable participation of Dean Floyd and Professors Tim Floyd, Mark Jones, and Jack Sammons, as well as the generosity of all the lawyers and judges who have allowed me to interview them for the class.

Finally, the course would not be what it is today without the participation of every Law School class since the class of 2006. To all of you — especially those of you who were part of the course in its early stages as we experimented and all too often failed — thank you for your efforts, patience and support. I hope that you appreciate what you helped to create and that, for this reason and so many others, you are as proud as I am to be a part of Mercer nation.

Legal Writing as a Social Justice Imperative



BY TERI A.
MCMURTRY-CHUBB



If you ask a random pre-law student why they want to enroll in law school, many of them will tell you that they want to make a difference. If pressed further, some of them may talk about *Brown v. Board of Education* or the recent cases securing same-sex marriage equality. However, none of them will discuss rapturously how the lawyers in those cases researched the issues, made a plan to craftily deal with adverse precedent, communicated that plan in the form of briefs to the court, and advocated orally for their clients. Our students miss the connection between social change and effective legal research, writing, and advocacy.

Professors of legal analysis, writing, and communication have the ability to give our students a tremendous gift. That gift is to help our students use the tools that we teach to make their corner of the world a better place. Charles Hamilton Houston's example is instructive. Before taking the helm as the Dean of Howard University School of Law in 1929, Houston began teaching at Howard in 1924 as a new member of the law faculty. A true interdisciplinary, Houston constructed a plan of legal education that encouraged students to make connections over a wide range of disciplines (sociology, philosophy, literature, etc.) to cure societal ills. This plan would later guide the formation of Howard's law curriculum under Houston's deanship and solidify his legal strategy of social engineering that informed the legal strategies of the Civil Rights Era.

Unfortunately, social engineering as part and parcel of social justice and public interest curricula at law schools has been largely neglected. It has fallen by the wayside nationally, as law schools mistakenly jettison courses that do not deal with bar exam subjects. Houston understood that law schools exist to educate their students to become lawyers, not to train them to pass the bar exam. Law schools exist so that lawyers can make

connections across disciplines and employ that thinking creatively in a manner that allows them to provide zealous representation to their clients.

With societal divides around race, class, gender, and sexuality growing into chasms in our country, the need for social engineering is great. The Federal Bureau of Investigation Annual Uniform Crime Report confirms that 461 felony suspects were shot dead by the police in 2013, which is the highest in the last 20 years. These suspects were disproportionately African American. In the previous seven years (2007-2012), an average of 96 African Americans were shot by a white police officer each year. What is most shocking is that the total number of African Americans shot by police each year is greater than or equal to the amount of African Americans lynched each year in 1882-1890; 1896, 1899, and 1902-1964.

“Professors of legal analysis, writing, and communication have the ability to give our students a tremendous gift. That gift is to help our students use the tools that we teach to make their corner of the world a better place.”

The class divide in the U.S. is rapidly growing. The 2013 edition of the Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook revealed that 75.4% of U.S. wealth is owned by only 10% of all people in the U.S., making it #1 in unequal wealth distribution in developed/advanced countries. According to a Kaiser Family Foundation Study, 41 million Americans were uninsured in 2013, prior to Affordable Care Act implementation. In the same year, the U.S. Census Bureau confirmed that 45.3 million people live in poverty. The Census Bureau sets the poverty level at \$28,498 for a family.



Lastly, Civil Rights organizations and their affiliates are re-litigating issues seemingly “settled” during the classic Civil Rights Era (1955-1965), such as school segregation and voting rights. In 2014, schools are growing increasingly more segregated. The U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1* makes it challenging, if not impossible, for school districts to design and implement desegregation plans in districts where schools are disproportionately white and wealthy. Likewise, the Supreme Court’s decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* set back the clock on voting rights by striking down the pre-clearance requirements in section 4(b) of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, namely the formula to determine which states were subject to the requirements, as unconstitutional. The requirements placed the burden on states with a history of racially discriminatory voting practices to prove that their plans to change voting practices would not negatively impact voting rights for minority communities.

Charles Hamilton Houston’s goal as a law professor and dean was a simple one. He encouraged his students to not only think deeply about and understand what the law was, but also dream about and bring to fruition what they wanted the law to be. As Houston and his protégé Thurgood Marshall knew, a key to that dream is mastery of legal writing in all of its forms. At Mercer Law, our commitment to developing our writing curriculum makes Houston’s goal possible for our law students. Our offerings include everything from basic legal writing courses to my course on Social Justice Lawyering, where students learn how to litigate the broad social justice issues of today. Through legal writing we hope to encourage our students to dream, to fight, and to write, because legal writing is a social justice imperative.

Parts of this essay appeared as a Letter from the Editors in The Second Draft: The Official Magazine of the Legal Writing Institute (Fall 2011). Reprinted by permission of the author.

When Johnny Came Marching Home

The Law School in the Years Following World War II | Part Two 1949 – 1951

By Joseph E. Claxton, *Professor Emeritus*

The Class of 1948 occupies a special place in the history of Mercer Law School, but in a sense it was only a precursor for the three classes that would follow.

In 1949, men such as Charles F. (Charlie) Adams, a man for whom the adjective “brilliant” was routinely used during his active years; Buckner F. (Buck) Melton, who became one of Georgia’s finest lawyers and the mayor of Macon; William J. Neville, Sr., of Statesboro, who became a Superior Court Judge; John Kopp of Folkston; and the first of the Scholz brothers of

Illinois (Charles, who was followed by Richard in 1950) graduated from the Law School. The Class of 1950 produced some extraordinary members of the legal profession, including Frank Jones, Hank O’Neal (a true warrior in the Navy and later in the courtroom), William Tyson, and Carl Westmoreland.

The class also included Lanelle Rimes (later Lanelle Rimes Eaves),



Lanelle Rimes Eaves, 1949

one of the two women to graduate from the Law School during the immediate post-World War II period. She became the first woman to practice law in Brunswick, Georgia. Dean O’Neal and Professor Quarles took the lead in establishing *The Mercer Law Review*, and members of the Class of 1950 served as its initial student leaders. Bill Tyson was the first editor-in-chief, followed by Frank Jones, who

became one of the truly great Georgia lawyers of his generation. The Class of 1950 was the largest of the classes that graduated in the aftermath of World War II as men who had been too young for military service in World War II began to study law in more significant numbers alongside the veterans.

The Class of 1951 included Patricia Beauchamp O’Neal, the second woman to graduate from the Law School during the post-war era. Pat Beauchamp married Hank O’Neal, who had graduated one class ahead of her, and for years she was not active in the legal profession. Following the couple’s divorce, however, she joined the Law Library staff and quickly established herself as one of the most treasured members of the



Robert Edward Hicks, 1951



In 1949, the Student Editorial Board began the first ever publication of a legal journal, the *Mercer Law Review*, which has since published 66 volumes.

“They came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America — men and women whose everyday lives of duty, honor, achievement, and courage gave us the world we have today.” — Tom Brokaw, *The Greatest Generation*

Law School community. Also in the class: Peter Zack Geer, who eventually served a term as the lieutenant governor of Georgia and was an excellent trial lawyer; and Juan L. Cruz-Rosario, the first in a series of Puerto Rican graduates of the Law School and the patriarch of the family that provided the lead gift for the beautiful Cruz Plaza on Mercer’s Macon campus.

Perhaps no Law School alumnus who graduated during the post-war era more perfectly epitomizes the veterans who attended the Law School at that time than Robert Edward

Hicks, better known as Bob to three generations of Georgia attorneys. Bob’s years as a student and as a young lawyer provide an example of what it could mean to be a post-World War II graduate of the Mercer Law School. In Part Three of *When Johnny Came Marching Home*, Bob Hicks will serve as the symbolic representative of the young veterans of World War II who were the core of a special era at the Mercer University School of Law — and who made a huge and lasting impact on the legal profession.

HUGH P. THOMPSON ('69)

Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Keeps Mercer in Mind

There's a bear of a secret stitched inside Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson's robes. It's the work of Therese "Tee" Barnes, who clerks for Thompson at the Supreme Court of Georgia and who, like him, is a Mercer Law School graduate.

"She secured the Mercer 'M' with the bear logo and had it emblazoned inside the back collar of my robe," says longtime Milledgeville resident Thompson, appointed to the Court by Gov. Zell Miller in 1994. "It's a fixture of my official robe. It's not obvious, but it helps me to always remember."

In 20 years on the Superior Court bench, he calculates he tried around 70 jury cases. "I firmly believe that we were able to achieve justice in almost all of those cases," he says. "That's a great sense of accomplishment. There were a couple of times, only four out of all those times, that I disagreed with a jury ... But I am a great believer in the jury system."

"It is amazing that jurors come in and out of court, day in and day out, and they get it right. It is a cumbersome process, in terms of time and money, but it is a very efficient and effective way to render the truth."

The past couple of years on the bench, he's noticed an increasing burden of cases built on troubled emotional

foundations. "I have handled a lot of felony or divorce cases, domestic cases," he says. "There are things about human nature that lend themselves to commissions of crime, especially during difficult times when people try to dissolve their marriage by divorce or otherwise."

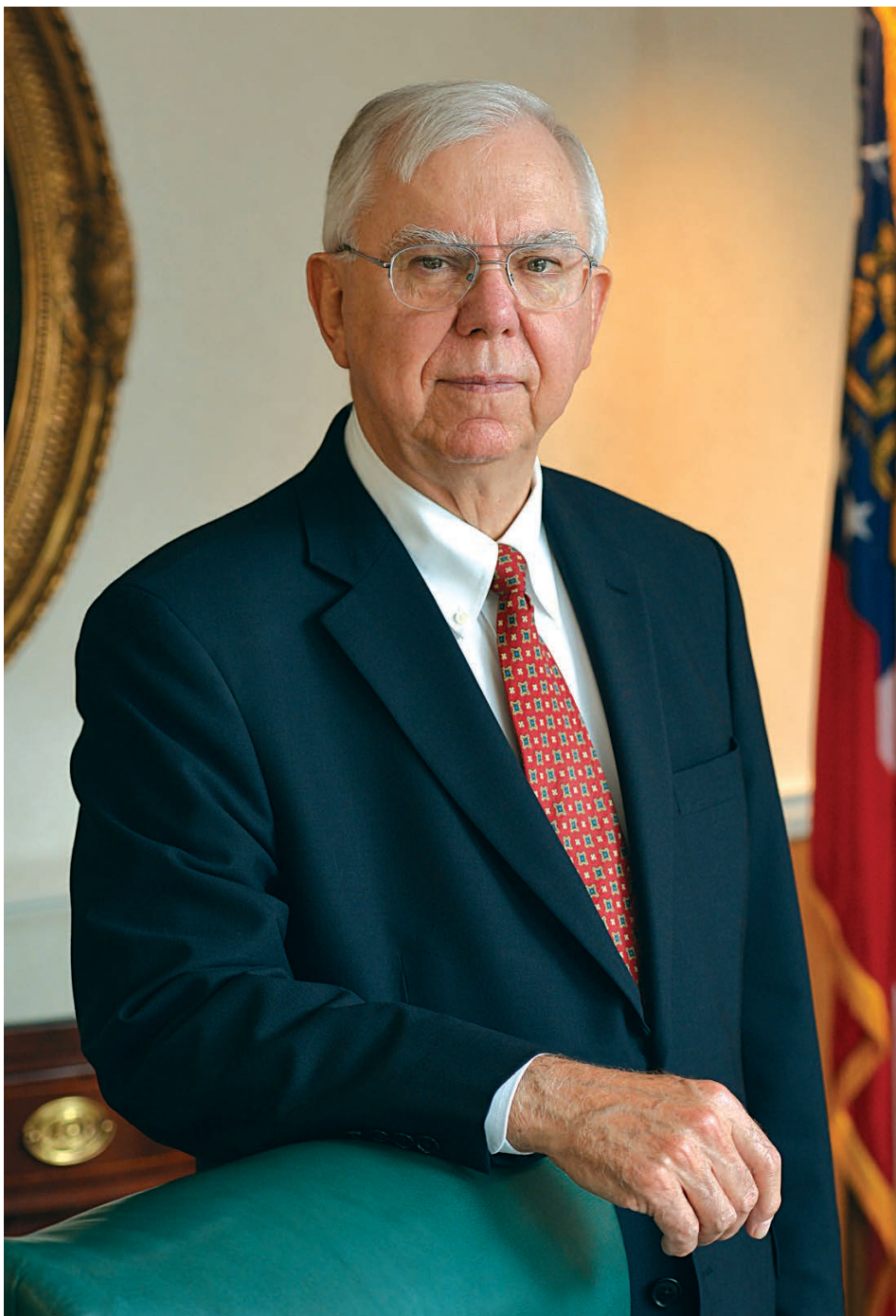
By comparison, Thompson has been married to his wife, Jane, for more than 40 years. While at Mercer, they socialized with fellow students, many of whom were also married. They'd have community suppers, evenings of bridge, cookouts and occasional afternoons at the old River North golf course: "They would let students play for \$2 on Saturdays."

Not that the Class of '69 ever lacked for time together. His 1L class of 75 students shared one large classroom in the Law School building on the main Mercer campus. "We had a lot of opportunities to become close. And they did become our friends, truly," Thompson says.

One of his professors, "a remarkable man," sticks in his mind. William Edward McCurdy, a former Harvard law professor, taught part of the year at Mercer. "He would give a long talk about some aspect of the law, then have a long question about it and say, 'Thompson: yes or no?'" the Chief Justice recalls. "And no matter what I said, he would take the other side. He was so smart — there was no way to win."

Prior to joining Georgia's Supreme Court, Thompson served

"It is amazing that jurors come in and out of court, day in and day out, and they get it right. It is a cumbersome process, in terms of time and money, but it is a very efficient and effective way to render the truth."



as superior court judge in the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit starting in 1979. The same year he joined the Supreme Court, Thompson was named Outstanding Alumnus by his fellow Mercer Law alumni. (His undergraduate years were spent at Emory and Oglethorpe.)

He has two sons, of them, one is a banker in Georgia, the other a physician in Charleston, South Carolina, where Thompson and his wife visit their two granddaughters. In the rest of his (limited) free time, Chief Justice Thompson takes in Mercer and UGA football games, and shoots game of another sort: doves and pheasants in the fall, quail in the winter. "And, if the opportunity presents itself, I like to turkey hunt in the spring."

But most of his time he still spends on the bench, with that "M" insignia reminding him of his law school days. "Mercer was the only place I really wanted to go," he says. His grandparents lived close to the Mercer campus, and he remembers childhood hours in Tattnell Square Park. When he worked as a leader at Camp Benjamin Hawkins in his Boy Scout days (he's an Eagle Scout himself), some of the other troops' fathers were Mercer faculty, "and almost every lawyer and judge I ever knew had gone to Mercer."

"I'm just very proud of the way Mercer is progressing," Thompson says. "It is something to be proud of for anyone who has ever been affiliated or attended there. It's a great school."

BROOKE OBIE ('09)

From Lawyer to Blogger: Writing an Unexpected Career Path

A (not so) funny thing happened on the way to Brooke Obie's post-J.D. career: Just as she graduated in 2009, the economy bottomed out, and entry-level law jobs dried up. "I was able to sit down and say, 'OK, if this law thing is not going to work out for me right now, what do I want to do?'" she says from her home in New York. Far from being a detour, however, her Law School education served as the foundation she needed to become an award-winning blogger, journalist and creative writer.

Obie's blog DistrictDiva.com has twice won a Black Weblog Award and was named one of *Essence Magazine's* "Best Online Sites." She credits her writing career to her years in Macon. "It all started when I was able to get into the legal writing program at Mercer," she says. "I really enjoyed writing all through high school, but I had kind of given it up. In college, I steered all my energy on getting into law school."

The legal writing program at Mercer "awakened something," she explains. "There is so much about legal writing that is so creative — how to be precise, how to get your point across in a persuasive manner."

A self-described "military brat" with a father in the Air Force, Obie grew up mainly 45 minutes outside of D.C. in Gainesville, Virginia, with a few back-and-forth relocations to Omaha, Nebraska. She studied sociology at Hampton University, which had a

pipeline program with Mercer. That's how she met Professor Tony Baldwin.

"He interviewed me to see what my interests were, and said, 'I really think there are so many similarities between Mercer and Hampton.'" In particular, a small, familial environment conducive to scholarship. Flying down for recruitment weekend, she found everything he'd said to be true. The support she felt from Baldwin was reflected by other faculty and students during her years at Mercer. "It was an awesome time, just to feel you have people in your corner who actually believe in you," she says. "I think that's a very rare thing."

During her years at the Law School she served as Eleventh Circuit Survey Editor for the Law Review, was a summer associate at Powell Goldstein LLP and at Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP, and was a legal research assistant at the Law Offices of Dwight L. Thomas in Atlanta.

Since graduating from Mercer, Obie briefly worked on the entertainment side of CNN, and more recently has been an online contributor and digital editor-at-large for *Ebony Magazine*. The work has allowed her to interview a range of boldface names: the late Dr. Maya Angelou, Aretha Franklin, Patti LaBelle, the Rev. Al Sharpton, celebrities from the



"I was able to sit down and say, 'OK, if this law thing is not going to work out for me right now, what do I want to do?'"



music, acting and sports worlds, as well as White House officials and national politicians, including Sen. Cory Booker.

And, of course, she is her own boss as the owner-blogger of DistrictDiva.com, a faith-based blog with an overriding theme:

“How to live life as a Christian, using this ancient book in a world that doesn’t necessarily respect that or allow for you to do what being a Christian means,” Obie says. In particular, she’s concerned about the misuse of religion for personal agendas.

“There is so much miscommunication about what the Bible really says, and it leads to people acting in ways that are ridiculous and not Christian at all,” she says. “As a Christian community, we have to stop and reflect, and figure out what it is

“There is so much about legal writing that is so creative — how to be precise, how to get your point across in a persuasive manner.”

to love people. We have to examine ourselves and see if what we are doing is actually love. What does that look like?”

In addition to the columns she writes and advice for readers that she solicits from pastors on her blog, for *Ebony* she posts

and collects stories on health and wellness. Oh, and if that’s not enough, she’s flexing a whole other set of literary muscles. Her proposal for a novel was a finalist last year for the Fulbright Fellowship in Creative Writing.

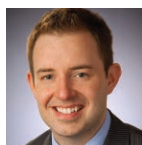
The online demands from her various jobs can sometimes make for 24-hour days. But the skills she built through Mercer Law School’s legal writing program keeps her work on track. “It just comes out in a way that’s exactly as it should,” Obie says. “I get so much fulfillment.”



Professor Ted Blumoff

Select Speeches & Presentations

On Executing Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenics: Identity and the Construction of "Synthetic" Competency, Neuro-Interventions and the Law, sponsored by the Atlanta Neuroethics Consortium.



Assistant Professor Zack Buck

Recent Publications

Breaking the Fever: A New Construct for Regulating Overtreatment, 48 U.C. Davis L. Rev. (forthcoming).

Enforcement Overdose: Health Care Fraud Regulation in an Era of Overcriminalization and Overtreatment, 74 Md. L. Rev. 259 (2015).

The Indefinite Quarantine: A Public Health Review of Chronic Inconsistencies in Sexually Violent Predator Statutes, 87 St. John's L. Rev. 847 (2014).

Side Effects: State Anti-Fraud Statutes, Off-Label Marketing, and the Solvable Challenge of Causation, 36 Cardozo L. Rev. (forthcoming).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Breaking the Fever: Reconstructing Health Care Fraud Enforcement, 2014 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, New Scholars Works-In-Progress Workshop, Amelia Island, Florida.

Breaking the Fever: Reconstructing Health Care Fraud Enforcement, 2014 Emerging Ideas Conference, University of Kentucky School of Law, Lexington.

Federation of State Medical Boards, Savannah (with **Professor Patrick Longan**).

Side Effects, AALS Section of Law, Medicine & Health Care Works-In-Progress for New Law School Teachers, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Enforcement Disorder: Health Care Fraud Regulation in an Era of Overcriminalization and Overtreatment, 2014 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, Amelia Island, Florida.

Civil Rights of Mental Health Patients Under EMTALA and HIPAA, Mental Health, Civil Rights, and Involuntary Treatment and Commitment, Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon.

Enforcement Disorder: Health Care Fraud Regulation in an Era of Overcriminalization and Overtreatment, 2014 ASLME Health Law Professors Conference, University of California, Hastings College of Law, San Francisco.



Professor Jim Fleissner

Select Speeches & Presentations

Senator Walter F. George, FDR, and the Purge Campaign of 1938, Symposium on the Life and Career of Walter F. George, Augusta.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Keynote Speaker at the opening convocation of the Barkley Forum for High Schools, a national speech and debate tournament hosted by Emory University.



Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd

Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation

Select Speeches & Presentations

Teaching Professional Formation in the First Year of Law School, Association of

American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (Co-presenter with **Professors Timothy Floyd and Patrick Longan**).

Professional Identity and the Practice-Ready Lawyer, Legal Writing Institute Workshop, Macon (with **Professor Patrick Longan**).

Honors, Awards & Activities

Appointed to the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism.



Professor Timothy Floyd

Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy, Director of Experiential Education

Recent Publications

"Professional Formation," in *Learning from Practice: A Professional Development Text for Externs*, (with **Daisy Floyd**) (West Academic Press: Scherr, et al, editors) 2015.

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *Teaching Methods to Help Students Develop a Professional Identity*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools.

Law School as a Moral Apprenticeship, Regent University Law Review Symposium on Teaching Professional Identity.



Associate Professor Jessica Feinberg

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *Non-Marital Families, Feminist Legal Theory Program*, Law and Society Annual Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Survival of Non-Marital Relationship Statutes in the Same-Sex Marriage Era: A Proposal, Association of American Law Schools Workshop on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues, Association of American Law Schools Midyear Meeting, Washington, D.C.



Associate Professor Sarah Gerwig-Moore

Recent Publications

Cold Comfort Food: A Systematic Examination of the Rituals and Rights of the Last Meal, 2 Brit. J. Am. Legal Stud. 411 (2014) (co-authored).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Post-Conviction Remedies, Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' Fall Conference.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Habeas Project had a unanimous win in the Georgia Supreme Court in *Levin v. Morales*, 295 Ga. 781 (2014). Mercer Law graduates Dianna Lee, Christopher Collado, Bethany Veasey and Belle Anne Bowen assisted with the briefing and argument.



Professor David Hrick

Recent Publications

Ethical Issues in Patent Prosecution (3rd ed. 2014).

Your Dream Come True? Using Section 285 to Impose Fees on Opposing Counsel, 7 Landslide Mag. 15 (2015).

Bringing a World of Light to Technology and Judicial Ethics, 27 Regent L. Rev. 1 (2014).

Is Litigation Counsel Who Also Engages in Competitive Decision-making Wrong

for the Part?, 4 St. Mary's J. Ethics & Malpractice 150 (2014).

Dear Lawyer: If You Decide It's Not Economical to Represent Me, You Can Fire Me As Your Contingent Fee Client, But I Agree I Will Still Owe You a Fee, 64 Mercer L. Rev. 363 (2013).

The Same Thing Twice: Copying Text from One Client's Patent into Another Client's Application, 5 *Landslide* 13 (2013).

Combining Prosecution with Other Forms of Representation, in *Drafting Patents for Litigation and Licensing* (ABA/BNA updated 2014).

Rader's Resignation Cited in *Ethics Dispute Before U.S. Supreme Court*, *National Law Journal* (January 2015).

Quoted in *Alito's Slap at Federal Circuit Provokes Patent Bar*, *National Law Journal* (July 2014).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Professor Hricik gave more than 20 presentations throughout the country, including presenting in Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New York, Texas, Virginia and Washington D.C.



Professor Linda Jellum

Ellison C. Palmer Professor of Tax Law

Recent Publications

The Theories of Statutory Construction in American Jurisprudence, in *Logic and Legislation* (Springer, 2015) (Book Chapter).

Codifying the Judicially Crafted Economic Substance Doctrine, in *Recent Developments in Administrative Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution* (Carolina Academic Press Global Papers Series Vol. 1, Russell L. Weaver & Steven I. Friedland eds., 2015).

Codifying and 'Miscodifying' Judicial Anti-Abuse Tax Doctrines, 33 *Va. Tax Rev.* 579 (2014).

Salarization's Impact on Governmental Legitimacy: Against the Profit Motive:

The Salary Revolution in American Government, 1780-1940 (2013), Jotwell: *Journal of Things We Like (Lots)* (2013) (Book Review).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *Not Your Parents' Administrative Law Class*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Panelist, *ALJ Finality and the Development of Administrative Courts: A Doctrinal and Empirical Reassessment*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools' Annual Conference, Amelia Island, Florida.

Discussant, *Student Evaluation through Essay Questions: Good Practice and New Ideas*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools' Annual Conference, Amelia Island, Florida.

Discussant, *Administrative Law Issues in Teaching Climate Change*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools' Annual Conference, Amelia Island, Florida.

Making Effective Written Statutory Interpretation Arguments, Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association Veterans Law Conference, Washington, D.C.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Trainer Consultant, for USAID funded Judicial Independence and Legal Empowerment Project in Tbilisi, Georgia, May 2014.



Professor Steve Johnson

Walter F. George Professor of Law

Recent Publications

Sue and Settle: Demonizing the Environmental Citizen Suit, 37 *Seattle U. L. Rev.* 891 (2014).



Professor Mark Jones

Recent Publications

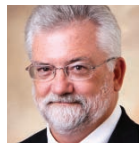
Brave New World: Where Angels Fear to Trade, 65 Mercer L. Rev. 599 (2014).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *Clinical Skills, Professionalism, Practical Wisdom, and Vocation*, Mercer Law Review Symposium, Macon.

Panel Co-Chairman, *Legal Ethics at the Intersection of Immigration and Business Law*, 15th Annual Symposium on Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Atlanta. (Co-Chaired with Anton Mertens, LAW '87).

Panelist, *Practical Applications of Virtue Education*, Virtue and Its Development: An Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Notre Dame, Indiana.



Professor Patrick Longan

William Augustus Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics

Recent Publications

Further Reflections on Teaching Professionalism: A Thank You Note to Jack Sammons, 66 Mercer Law Review (forthcoming 2015).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *Examination of the Impact on Professionalism Arising from the Various Proposals for Change in Legal Education*, New York State Judicial Institute on Professionalism Convocation on The Coming Changes to Legal Education: Ensuring Professional Values, White Plains, New York.

Issues in Dealing with an Entity Client, Institute for City and County Attorneys, Institute for Continuing Legal Education of Georgia, Athens.

Professionalism Applied, Henry County Bar Association, Oconee.

Reflections on Teaching Professionalism: A Thank You Note to Professor Jack Sammons, Mercer Law Review Symposium, Macon.

Update on Ethics and Professionalism, Henry County Bar Association, Oconee.

Panelist, *Work of Professor Jack Sammons: Clinical, Skills, Professionalism, Practical Wisdom, and Vocation*, Mercer Law Review Symposium, Macon.



Associate Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb

Recent Publications

Tress-passing: A Hair-raising Tale of Surviving by Migrating to the Un(Classified) Mind, *Rhizomes*, Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge – Special Issue, *Working Class Academics: Theories, Mythologies, Realities* available at <http://rhizomes.net/issue27/mcmurtrychubb.html>.

Select Speeches & Presentations

Keynote Address, The Audacious Lawyer of Purpose and Potential, Advocacy Luncheon for the Southern Regional Black Law Student Association's 44th Annual Regional Convention, Columbia, South Carolina.

When Students Resist Becoming Practice Ready, Faculty Development Exchange, Georgia State Law School, Atlanta.

Associate Professor Sue Painter-Thorne

Recent Publications

A Strange Kind of Identity Theft: How Competing Definitions of 'Indian' Deny Individual Identity, *Conn. Pub. Int. L. J.* (forthcoming).

Moot Court Handbook, AspenPress (forthcoming, 2016) (Co-authored with Professor Karen Sneedon).



Professor David Ritchie

Director of International Initiatives,
Professor of Law and Philosophy

Recent Publications

Constitutionalism Ownership,
Contemporary Constitutional Readings.

*Constitutions, Economics, and the
Creation of Social Realities in Brazil and
China*, Papers on Sino-Brazilian Relations
(forthcoming).

*Judicial Indifference: The U.S. Federal
Courts Refuse to Oversee the Use
of Drones Against U.S. Citizens
Abroad*, Courts in the U.S. and Brazil
(forthcoming).

Select Speeches & Presentations

*A Better Contribution of Universities to
Global Ethics*, Centennial Celebration
for the Carnegie Council for Ethics in
International Affairs, New York.

*Constitutionalism as a Mechanism
to Promote Pluralism*, Centennial
Celebration for the Carnegie Council for
Ethics in International Affairs, New York.

The Rule of Law, Inc., Southeast
Association of Law Schools Annual
Conference, International Workshop on
the Rule of Law, Amelia Island, Florida.

*Look into Your Heart: Professional
Responsibility and the Global Fight
Against Corrupt Practices and Bribery*,
Southeast Association of Law Schools
Annual Conference, International
Workshop on the Rule of Law, Amelia
Island, Florida.

*Constitutions, Economics, and the
Creation of Social Realities in Brazil
and China*, Symposium on Sino-
Brazilian Relations, Macau University of
Science and Technology, Macau, SAR
(Symposium Organizer).

Honors, Awards & Activities

Selected as jury member of Peace
Projects, an initiative of the Journalists
and Writers Foundation, in association
with the United Nations Economic and
Social Council.



Professor Michael Sabbath

*Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute
and W. Homer Drake Jr. Endowed
Chair in Bankruptcy Law*

Honors, Awards & Activities

Co-recorded an oral history of the
Honorable W. Homer Drake, Jr. A
transcript of the oral history appears in
21 J. S. Legal Hist. 1 (2013).



Professor Jack Sammons

Professor Emeritus

Select Speeches & Presentations

Can Art Be Law?, Mercer Law Review
Symposium, Macon.

Law and Art, Association for the Study
of Law, Culture, and Humanities, Annual
Conference, Georgetown University
School of Law.



Associate Professor Jennifer Sheppard

Select Speeches & Presentations

*Maximizing Experiential Learning
throughout Law School*, Legal Writing
Institute Workshop, Macon.



Professor Gary J. Simson

Senior University Vice Provost for
Scholarship and Macon Chair in Law

Recent Publications

Issues and Perspective in Conflict of
Laws: Cases and Materials (5th ed.
Carolina Academic Press 2015).

Teacher's Manual to Issues and
Perspectives in Conflict of Laws (revised
ed. 2015).

*Religious Arguments by Citizens to
Influence Public Policy: The Lessons of
the Establishment Clause*, 66 Mercer L.
Rev. (2015).



Professor Karen Sneddon

Select Speeches & Presentations

*Once Upon a Transaction: Narrative
and Transactional Drafting*, Biennial
Conference of the Legal Writing Institute,
Philadelphia.

*Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language,
and Wills*, Emory Law School Summer
Colloquium Series, Atlanta.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Managing Editor of Volume 19 of Legal
Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing
Institute (forthcoming spring 2015).



Associate Professor Scott Titshaw

Recent Publications

AILA's Guide to U.S. Citizenship

and Naturalization Law (American
Immigration Lawyers Association 2014)
(Associate Editor).

*A Transatlantic Rainbow Comparison:
"Federalism" and Family-Based
Immigration for Rainbow Families in
the U.S. and the E.U.*, RIGHTS ON THE
MOVE – RAINBOW FAMILIES IN EUROPE
(Università degli studi di Trento, 2014),
available online at eprints.biblio.unitn.it/
(forthcoming).

*Revisiting the Meaning of Marriage:
Immigration for Same-Sex Spouses in
a Post-Windsor World*, 66 Vand. L. Rev.
en banc 167 (2013), reprinted in Mary
Crock, ed., International Library of Essays
on Rights: Migrants and Rights (Ashgate,
2015) (forthcoming).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Panelist, *After Windsor*, American
Association of Law Schools Workshop on
Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
Issues, Washington, D.C.

*Fam-migration Law for LGBT families in
the US and the EU*, Fulbright Seminar
on the European Union and NATO,
Brussels, Belgium.

*Freedom of Movement: A Transatlantic
Rainbow Comparison*, International
Conference on Rights on the Move:
Rainbow Families in Europe, University
of Trento, Trento, Italy.

*Has the US Overtaken the EU in
Recognizing Same-Sex Families
for Immigration Purposes?*, Second
Annual Consortium Meeting of the
European Union's Families and Societies
Project, Centro de Ciencias Humanas
y Sociales of the Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid, Spain.

Panelist, *Marriages Between Same-Sex
Couples Cases*, American Immigration
Lawyers Association Annual Conference,
Boston.

Permanent Residence by Prescription,
Biennial Immigration Professors
Conference, Irvine, California.

*A Snapshot of US Immigration Law:
Overview and Reform*, Migration
Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre
for Advanced Studies and the Law
Department of the European University
Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy.



WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

GIVING REPORT

2013 – 2014

MERCER LAW SCHOOL HAS ONCE AGAIN BENEFITED FROM THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ITS ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS. The financial commitment provided by the Law School's donors enables us to offer an exceptional education to our students and to continue to be a national leader in legal education. Individuals, foundations, corporations, and others who give so generously make a profound difference in the Law School's life and future. Each gift truly is important to Mercer Law's success and allows us to do things that we otherwise could not.

Acknowledged in this report are donors who made gifts to the Law School from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. Gifts by all alumni to other University funds are greatly appreciated and are recognized in the President's Giving Report 2014 published this spring in *The Mercerian*.

Beyond the facts and figures shown here, Mercer Law's alumni and friends are among its greatest assets. From attending alumni receptions to recruiting future students and hiring our graduates, your steadfast support is greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who are giving of their time and financial resources to Mercer Law School.

THE LEADERS' CIRCLE — \$10,000+

Anonymous

Antoinette "Toni" Gregory
Hardy Gregory, Jr. '67

Buckner v. Resource
Remainder Fund Committee

Dorothy V. and N. Logan Lewis Foundation

The DeVille Foundation, Inc.

Committee to Re-elect Hugh P. Thompson

Roman A. DeVille '69

Frances Wood Wilson Foundation, Inc.

THE FOUNDERS' CIRCLE — \$5,000 – \$9,999

Anonymous

M. Diane Owens '80

Darla C. Bishop
Thomas P. Bishop '85

Carol L. Power
Warren R. Power '88

Brenda E. Davis
Dwight J. Davis '82 †

Candace Rogers
Romney Campbell Rogers '78

Ruth B. Drake*
W. Homer Drake, Jr. '56

Charles M. Stapleton '65
Jerry M. Vanderhoef '62

Georgia Power Foundation

John H. Irby '88
Sarah Abbott Corn Irby

Nancy Williams
Sidney B. Williams '61





THE BARRISTERS' CIRCLE — \$2,500 – \$4,999

Anonymous	Nancy K. Bell	Gus H. Small, Jr. '69
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.	Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.	Patricia Small
Brett C. Bartlett '99	Dimple F. Cauthorn	Nancy F. Terrill '78 †
	Thomas E. Cauthorn, III '72	F. Camp Bacon, Jr.

THE DEAN'S CIRCLE — \$1,000 – \$2,499

Anonymous	Donna J. Culpepper '90	Edward J. Harrell '69	M. Yvette Miller '80	Emily S. Robinson
Anne Aderhold	G. Bryant Culpepper, IV '72	Hunter Harrell	Rachel Mills	Pete Robinson '80
H. Randolph Aderhold '74	L. J. Darter, III '65	John S. Harrison '55	Richard H. Mills '57	Debra L. Rocke
Mary Elizabeth Archer '94	Nancy M. Darter	Loretta Harrison	Cindy Morris '84	Robert L. Rocke '87
T. Joshua R. Archer '94	Connie Downey	Miriam M. Holland	Chris Patterson	Helen S. Schneider
Margaret M. Barron	Jason E. Downey '03	Tommy T. Holland '62	Cheryl Lee Murphy	Richard A. Schneider '81
Thomas W. Barron '74	Lori Drake	Wei Hu '94	Frederick B. Murphy	Lynn Shearer
The Beltran Firm	Taylor B. Drake '00	Benjamin G. Hudson, Jr. '62	Gina Naccarato-Fromang '92	William B. Shearer, Jr. '67
Carol F. Beltran	Hylton B. Dupree, Jr. '69	Ruth E. Hudson	Mark Fromang	David A. Siegel '86
Frank J. Beltran '76	Patsy S. Dupree	Glenda P. Jones	Kayo Nason	Gary J. Simson †
Frederick S. Bergen '86	Kathleen D. Farrell	John C. Jones '76	G. Frank Nason, IV '86	Rosalind Simson
Malinda B. Bergen	Patrick J. Farrell, Jr. '78	Frank J. Jordan, Jr. '72	Benjamin F. Parrish, Jr. '82	Naomi W. Smith '85
James G. Blanchard, Jr.	Carol H. Fennell	Pamela I. Jordan	Elizabeth D. Parrish	Scott C. Smith '85
C. Dent Bostick '58	Linda S. Finley '81	Alison Kaufman	J. David Parrish '71	Darrell L. Sutton '03
Susan Bostick	Angela Finn	C. Jeffrey Kaufman '77	Esta Parrish	Meredith Wilson Sutton
Jean C. Brown	Thomas M. Finn '73	John T. Laney, III '66	Anne Peagler	James P. Terry '73 *
Manley F. Brown '65	Mary Ann Fiorentino	Louise P. Laney	George M. Peagler, Jr. '75	Michelle L. Terry
Ivy N. Cadle '07	T. Martin Fiorentino, Jr. '83	Beverly Langdale	F. Scott Pendley '81	Brett D. Thompson '06
Leslie L. Cadle '07 †	Daisy Hurst Floyd †	William P. Langdale, Jr. '71	Tina Pendley	Hugh P. Thompson '69
Cauthorn Nohr and Owen	Timothy W. Floyd †	Dena W. Luxenberg	William W. Price '80	Jane D. Thompson
Leah F. Chanin '54	Deborah M. Fuschetti	Jerry S. Luxenberg '70	J. David Putnal, Jr. '88	Wimberly D. Treadwell
Michael L. Chapman '89	Mary Gerakitis	John P. Manton '67	Tamara T. Putnal	Marc T. Treadwell '81
Yvette M. Chapman '89	Richard W. Gerakitis '81	LaRose P. Manton	Paul A. Quiros '82	Laine Spears Walker '86
Walker L. Chandler '75	Willene J. Grant	Harold F. McCart, Jr. '63	Stacy S. Quiros	J. Henry Walker, IV '86
CLC Foundation, Inc.	William F. Grant '57 *	Patricia Louise McCart	Barbara G. Ramsay	Valerie M. Watkins
Jane P. Claxton	H. Terrell Griffin '68	Katherine F. McMaster '90	Ernest C. Ramsay '63	Howell L. Watkins, II '82
Joseph E. Claxton †	Jean H. Griffin	Lynn M. McNatt	Carey O. Randall	Robert J. Wilder '86
Community Foundation	W. Andrew Haggard '67	Hugh B. McNatt '72	Donald A. Randall '55	M'Liss G. Williams
of Central Georgia	Laura Hall	David A. Mikkelson	The Otis Redding Foundation	Joel C. Williams, Jr. '67
Cynthia S. Cotter	Timothy K. Hall '94	Kathleen Robin Mikkleson '01	Thomas J. Reiman '74	
Stephen L. Cotter '74		Committee to Re-elect	Wendy W. Reiman	
		Judge M. Yvette Miller		

PARTNERS — \$500 – \$999

Amanda F. Allen '06	Lovett Bennett, Jr. '83	J. Christopher Clark '89	Hulane E. George '78	Traci D. Kemp '94
Jason T. Allen '06	Ann B. Bishop '76	Kate Sievert Cook '02	Richard G. Gordon '64	John S. Lewis '68
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	Cynthia A. Brazell '89	Matthew E. Cook '99	Thomas M. Green '81	Georgianna T. Malchow
C. Dan Bailey, Jr. '71	B. Carl Buice '57	Cathy Cox '86	Theresa H. Hammond '01	Leland M. Malchow '85
Nancy S. Bailey	R. William Buzzell, II '77	Daniel J. Craig '79	Amy M. Hollis '00	Debbie Malone
Esther Deal Baker	Jefferson C. Callier '87	Alice W. Culpepper	Lance Hollis	Thomas W. Malone '66
Herman D. Baker '52	Linda H. Callier '87	George B. Culpepper, III '43 *	David M. Kalish, Jr.	The Chip & Leigh Manning
Beil Law Firm, P.C.	Bess Chambliss	Sal J. Dellacona	Katherine M. Kalish '79	Foundation
Jacob Beil '70	Bo Chambliss '02	Tracey L. Dellacona '94	William W. Keith, III '69	Johann R. Manning, Jr. '85
Steven K. Bender '82	Elizabeth B. Clark	Nathan I. Finkelstein '72	Crawley M. Kemp '94	Leigh Manning



Janis Mason
William Paul Mason '89
Cheryl P. Matthews
Walter J. Matthews '74
James N. Osteen, Jr. '94
Alexander G. Paderewski '75
Margaret Patterson

Rudolph N. Patterson '63
S. Catherine Phelps '91
Benagh B. Philips '74
Loretta L. Pinkston '87
J. Richard Porter, III '63
Sonya P. Porter
Jeffrey N. Powers

Katie H. Powers
Karla Heath-Sands
W. Louis Sands '74
Charles S. Sexton '78
Evelt L. Simmons '82
E. Lee Southwell, III '75
Robert G. Swain '76

Thomas W. Talbot '68
Richard D. Terrana '87
Edward D. Tolley
Andrew J. Welch, Jr. '69
Kit Welch
Stephen M. Welsh '94
Susan T. Welsh

Kristin H. West '86
Mary Jane Whisnant
E. Mullins Whisnant '50

ADVOCATES — \$250 – \$499

Leah Morton Aiken '11 †
T. Greer Aiken '10
Denise Anderson '94
Reagan N. Ashe '03
Candace H. Bell
Jeffrey W. Bell '76
D. Barton Black '07
Jonathan L. Bledsoe '02
W. Wheeler Bryan '65
Rebecca R. Burgess '01
M. Tyus Butler '74
David M. Calhoun '88
Peter A. Cantrell '85
Kevin J. Carden '84
Suzanne L. Cassidy '81 †
Frances L. Clay '01

John O. Cole †
James R. Doyle '94
Sara L. Doyle '94
Bradshaw N. Ford
Wilhelmina H. Ford '95
Newton M. Galloway '81
Robert G. Gardner *
Anne F. Gardner
Shirley C. Greenway
Rebecca L. Grist '94
Dennis L. Guthrie '69
Jennifer R. Harbaugh '03
Allen F. Harris '85
Robert L. Harris '83
David S. Hollingsworth '82
Christina L. Hunt '85

Randolph B. Jones, Jr. '79
Mary M. Katz '79
Alexandra E. Landis '11
LeGrand Law Firm LLC
Charles D. LeGrand '87
Michael A. McKenzie '77
Anton F. Mertens '87
Fred B. Monroe '96
Rebecca C. Moody '88
Guerry R. Moore '69
Michael J. Moore '93
Henry S. Morgan '98
Amanda M. Morris '04
Robert L. O'Brien, Jr. '73
Brian P. O'Grady '13
David M. Owen '83

John W. Peach '65
Brandon L. Peak '04
Brooke Cottingham Peak '04
W. Warren Plowden, Jr. '68
William Paul Rodgers, Jr. '57 *
Robert T. Ross '82
Laurie H. Ross '82
Carolyn Lee Rountree '83
Walter P. Rowe '76
Lisa Sabbath
Michael D. Sabbath †
Carmel W. Sanders '83
Margaret Cammon Sanders '03
Timothy C. Sanders '03
William C. Sanders '75
Mark A. Skibiel '91

James C. Smith, Jr. '85
Scott M. Smith '89
Glenn P. Stephens '87
Evan J. Stitt
Susan L. Stitt
Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers, LLP
Philip R. Taylor '57
J. Edward Trice, Jr. '75
Robert J. Trimble '91
K. Glynn Watson '63
Mary K. Weeks '07
Adria Holwell Wilkes
Andrew M. Wilkes '02
Frank C. Winn '78
William O. Woodall '91

COUNSELORS — \$100 – \$249

A. Harris Adams '71
Claudia H. Adams
William P. Adams '77
Kent H. Albright '67
Pamela R. Allen '92
Carl H. Anderson, Jr. '87
Paul C. Armitage '61
W. Kendrick Askew '50
Lance F. Avera '89
L. Perry Avery, Jr. '03
Henry G. Bachara, Jr. '86
A. Quillian Baldwin, Jr. '69
Banner Life Insurance Company
Robert L. Barlow, II '80
Charles W. Barrow '76
Walter R. Beales, III '69
Virginia I. Bell '79
Reginald L. Bellury '74
Julie Marica Bennett '92
Helen Berenthien '70
James F. Biles, Jr. '61
Theodore Y. Blumoff †
Thomas C. Bobbitt, III '78
Chris A. Bombardo
J. Phillip Bond '83
Dianne Brannen '93
John G. Breakfield '01
Jerry W. Brimberry, Sr. '63
William F. Brogdon '82
William A. Buchanan '07
Nancy S. Burgin '82
James N. Butterworth '68
Calcutt Law Firm

Steven M. Calcutt '89
Harold H. Catlin '76
William E. Cetti '68
Joseph H. Chambless '61
Margaret C. Chambless
Christy Crowe Childers '05
George K. Church, Jr. '73
Laurel R. Clapp '69
James L. Cline, Jr. '77 *
T. Milburn Clyburn, Jr. '60
Susan S. Cole '77
Pamela L. Coleman '03
John P. Collins, Jr. '91
George L. Colson, Sr. '63
David R. Cook, Jr. '05
Samuel B. Cooper '97
Claire Cornwell-Williams '83
J. Virgil Costley, Jr. '68
William A. Crawford, Jr. '49
Theresa L. Critchfield '05
D. Scott Cummins '85
Robert M. Cunningham '78
E. Alton Curtis, Jr. '66
Martha W. Curtis
Jacob E. Daly '00
Douglas A. Datt '81
James M. Davis '65
Joseph H. Davis '51
Brown W. Dennis, Jr. '90
James R. Dirmann '70
O. Harris Doss, Jr. '69
Betty H. Dubberly
B. Daniel Dubberly, Jr. '55

Julia C. Dudley '85
Roger W. Dunaway, Jr. '71
M. Katherine Durant '87
Randy J. Ebersbach '84
Susan M. Ebersbach '86
Edenfield, Cox, Bruce and
Classens, P.C.
Gerald M. Edenfield '70
Shiel G. Edlin '79
John C. Edwards '72
Richard A. Epps '74
Peter J. Esposito '71
Jonathan Kaz Espy '05
A. Curtis Farrar, Jr. '69
Janne C. Foster '81
Donna J. Fox
Dana Haas Freeman
Billie Rampley Frys †
Benjamin M. Garland '69
Carol A. Garland
J. Byrd Garland '73
John H. Geilmann '84
Kathryn M. Gerhardt '81
Sue Ballard Gilliam '82
James E. Graham '77
Neal B. Graham '86
Michael G. Gray '78
Kristin S. Gray '06
Jule B. Greene '50
David E. Greer '69
Phillip C. Griffith '93
Robert R. Gunn, II '77
Joshua T. Hale '13

J. Scott Hale '96
Edwin L. Hamilton '88
Cassandra L. Harris-Starks '94
Sarah E. Harris '86
Dewey N. Hayes, Jr. '79
Angela M. Hicks '93
Deron R. Hicks '93
J. Rush Hicks, Jr. '81
Edward L. Hill '66
John B. Hindman '75
April R. Holloway '09
Frederick L. Hooper, III '88
Mitchel P. House, Jr. '59
Robert J. Hulsey '80
Eric K. Hunt '05
Horne and Hunt LLC
David B. Irwin '82
Linda D. Jellum †
William R. Jerles, Jr. '90
Jerome L. Kaplan '61
Lise S. Kaplan '91
M. Anne Kaufold-Wiggins '05
R. Keith Kelly '87
Roy R. Kelly, III '73
A. Martin Kent '66
Knott Ebelini Hart
George H. Knott '82
Nathan C. Lee '83
Edith W. Lewis '97
Harold S. Lewis, Jr. †
Leslie M. Lewis
Preston B. Lewis, III '79
George R. Lilly, II '83

Evelyn P. Luton '89
Sarah Beth Mabery '01
Malcolm Mackenzie, III '84
Kenneth L. Mann '73
Gloria O. Marshall
James I. Marshall
Marshall Lumber Company
Alton L. Martin, Jr. '91
Laura E. Martin '91
Amy S. May '01
Edward T. McAfee '02
David Hamilton McCain '07
Rick H. McClure '83
Ann-Marie M. McGaughey '93
Max R. McGlamry '52
D. Ray McKenzie, Jr. '78
J. David McRee '81
Kipling L. McVay-Stubbs '76
Anne R. Melton
C. Robert Melton '74
James E. Messer '93
Michael S. Meyer von Bremen '83
Peggy Meyer von Bremen
David L. Mincey, III '03
John T. Minor, III '51 *
J. Thomas Minor, IV '81
H. Clay Mitchell, Jr. '65
Anita S. Momand
Henry C. Momand, Jr. '58
Monsanto Matching Gift Program
Sarah L. Gerwig-Moore †

Continued —

COUNSELORS

— Continued

David C. Morgan '81
Thomas J. Morgan '76
Charles D. Newberry '74
Amber L. Nickell '01
Norcom, Inc.
David G. Oedel †
Erica Hickey Opitz '10
Russell Osgood
Trummie Lee Patrick, III '02
Bryan B. Persons '79
John R. Phillips '72

J. William Pierce, Jr. '82
Stephanie D. Powell '03 †
D. Tom Pye, III '70
Krishna G. Ramaraju '03
Winship E. Rees '76
Patricia L. Rhodes '94
Louise J. Roach
Thomas A. Roach '50
Pamela A. Robertson '82
John D. Robinson '82
James A. Robson '07
Charles P. Rose, Jr. '80
Rex R. Ruff '66
Natalie Diamond Sacha '07

Otis L. Scarbary '77
Stephen D. Scofield '78
Stephanie Godsey Shepherd '02
C. Cullen Sheppard '01
F. Sinclair Shingler, III '63
Walter B. Shurden, Jr. '98
John T. Simpson '85
Lamar W. Sizemore, Jr. '74
Sandra O. Sizemore
G. Neil Skene, Jr. '77
William L. Slaughter '50
Charles E. Sloane '75
Connie C. Smith '89
Hugh D. Sosebee, Jr. '83

Carter L. Stout '85
Ben W. Studdard, III '84
Carl J. Surrent '68
William L. Swank '85
Frank M. Talbot, II '94
F. Michael Taylor '88
Anita W. Thomas '89
J. Curt Thomas '05
Lauren Pierce Thomas '04
James R. Thompson '85
Richard S. Thompson '82
Wallace F. Tillman '68
Thomas S. Topping '84
Anne Tunnessen '98

Thomas H. Vann, Jr. '69
Michael Vetro '93
Joseph J. Vonnegut '89
Wendy C. Vonnegut '89
Robert L. Wadkins '83
Ida Ruth C. Wall '67
C. Hansell Watt, IV '04
Nathan A. White '05
Cynthia G. Wilcox
Tommy Day Wilcox, Jr. '73
Virginia F. Williams
Thomas H. Wilson '87
Jamie P. Woodard '03

ASSOCIATES — Up to \$99

Akzo Nobel, Inc.
Justyn D. Alioto '08
Andrew K. Antrim '88
Thomas D. Applewhite '94
B. Carlton Bailey, Jr. '66
Diana S. Barber '85
Sarah Ann Bartholomew '89
Patricia W. Bass '83
Thomas L. Bass, Jr. '93
Beverly B. Bates '61
Lisa D. Beckmann '92
LaToya S. Bell '13
Sonia R. Bell-Nichols '08
Thomas C. Bobbitt, III '78
Barbara A. Brown '84
W. Brad Bryant '79
K. Todd Butler '99
Douglas W. Butler '09
Stacey McSwine Cameron '05
Capital One Services, Inc.
Jennifer C. Chapman '10
Kenneth G. Charron '90
David G. Cheng '12
Donald D. Clark '85
Edward B. Claxton, III '82
Darryl B. Cohen '70
Charles M. Cork, III '82
Victoria B. Cork
Charles O. Cornelison '71
Matthew P. Cutchen '05
John C. Daniel, III '86
Deryl D. Dantzler '70 †
John N. Davis '85
Michael S. Dean †

Michael A. Deep '50
Douglas L. Dreyer '88
Dennis L. Duncan '91
Samuel T. Dunn '96
Kenneth S. Dunning '80
Kathy J. Erickson '86
Daniel F. Finch '73
Jean B. Finch
John R. Francisco '81
Danielle M. French '72
James H. Fulghum, Jr. '59
Jonathan S. Futrell '12
James A. Garland '02
Searcy S. Garrison, Jr. '66
Cade Carter Gibson '06
Ann Marie Giordano Gilden '85
George S. Greer '02
Robert W. Guy, Jr. '02
Frank L. Hadden, III '84
Aimee J. Hall '02
Matthew R. Hall '00
Marie B. Hannon '97
Joan W. Harris '78
Justin D. Heideman '00
David E. Henderson '73
Darren K. Hensley '85
Frankie W. Hicks, III '02
Martha C. Hill '53
Peter B. Hoffman '87
Kim B. Hoffman '87
Barbara A. Holmes '84
Charles S. Hunter '74
Brian M. Jasper '11
Robert D. Jenkins '90

Brian Scott Johnson '00
Cheri L. Jones '90
Walter E. Jones '05
Susan E. Kennedy
John F. Kennedy '90
M. Charlene Lane '82
Ruth W. Laney
Jason D. Lewis '06
Cheryl Lienhop-Price
Kramer A. Litvak '92
Lillian H. Lockary '81
Kevin Richard Majeska '07
James W. Malys '77
Margaret McCann †
Dan D. McClain '82
Sheila M. Merchant '90
Kenneth Milani
Barbara C. Miller '81
Caitlin Grace Miller '10
Carol Bacon Miller '91
Charles S. Moore '09
Angelia Morie Nystrom '53
James R. O'Neill '00
Kevin Charles Patrick '08
Sherrod G. Patterson '82
Evan Robert Paulson
Robert H. Preston '66
Donna P. Price '79
Adrienne Radulovic '81
Michael J. Ragozzine '11
Thomas J. Ratcliffe, Jr. '68
Jeanne Rehberg '76
Franklin E. Remick '64
Joe T. Roberts '65

M. Madison Roberts '07
John W. Routh '83
Barbara S. Rowe '92
Joseph W. Rowland '52
Seth Sabbath '04
Michelle L. Schieber '92
Christopher G. Scholz '87
Gregory A. Sebastian '95
Mark A. Segal '85
Bernard F. Shearon, Jr. '87
Max D. Shemtob '63
B. Robert Shipp '64
Sandra B. Shipp
E. Bowen Shoemaker '11
Robert M. Shoemaker '12
Singleton Law Firm
Donald W. Singleton, Jr. '90
Sinnreich and Francisco
William R. Slaughter '73
W. Thomas Slowen, Jr. '72
Claude D. Smith, Jr. '82
E. Byron Smith '67
William D. Smith, Jr. '50
Rebecca G. Snowdall '07
Melissa M. Spearman '10
Pamela M. Spencer '87
State Farm Companies Foundation
Marilyn E. Sutton '92 †
Thomas P. Swaim '80
Rosanna M. Szabo '87
T. Michael Taff '75
Judy B. Tanner
William E. Tanner '81
John R. Taylor '63

Cater C. Thompson '83
William L. Thompson '93
La'Ashley D. Tinsley '12
Jason Edward Toups '06
Dinh Tran '12
Jennifer E. Tyler '07
Richard A. Wagner '71
William R. Waldrop '76
Susan Joan Warren '01
Anne Hennenberg Watson '84
Joy R. Webster '85
Patrick G. Wells '10
Cynthia Y. Welsh '98
David H. White, Jr.
Kimberley S. White '88
Pamela Y. White-Colbert '87
Sarah R. Whitmarsh '01
Eva M. Wilbanks
Jason M. Wilbanks '11
Joseph L. Williams '67
Kelly R. Williamson '12
Marie Wilson-Lindsay '79 *
John W. Wingate, III '98
Marshall A. Winslow, Jr. '89
Arthur R. York '09
Anna K. Young
Donald E. Young

* Deceased

† Current and Former
Law faculty and staff

Gifts to Mercer University School of Law make a difference in the lives of students and the quality of legal training they receive. For more information about giving to the Law School, please contact the Office of University Advancement at (478) 301-2232 or visit law.mercer.edu/alumni/giving.

PRODUCTION NOTE — The Mercer University School of Law Giving Report 2013 - 2014 was published by the Office of University Advancement, the Office of Marketing Communications, and the School of Law. Every effort has been made to publish an accurate report. If, however, you feel any information contained in this publication is incorrect, contact Linda Deal at 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207, or call (478) 301-2725.

ClassNotes

1952

Cubbedge Snow III was honored by Georgia Legal Services at its Champions for Justice event in October 2014.

1957

Richard Mills delivered a speech at a Ceremony of Appreciation commemorating the 64th Anniversary of the Korean War on June 14, 2014, in Wheeling, Illinois.

1967

Hardy Gregory was honored by Georgia Legal Services at its Champions for Justice event in October 2014 for his support of GLSP.

1973

Ken L. Mann, Scottsdale attorney of the law firm ADR Office of Kenneth L. Mann, has been inducted into the invitation-only National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

1977

J. William Boone has been recognized by the National Academy for Bankruptcy Attorneys to receive this year's prestigious Top 10 Attorney Award for his hard work and dedication in the field of bankruptcy law.

A.J. 'Joe' Hopkins III was elected by The Board of Directors of the GA Ports Authority in June 2014 to serve as the Board's Secretary and Treasurer.

1978

Nancy F. Terrill received the Lawyer of the Year Award from the Macon Bar Association on May 16, 2014. This award is given annually to an attorney who has demonstrated outstanding and unselfish public service.

1980

Newton Galloway and his firm, Galloway & Lyndall, received GreenLaw's Ogden Doremus Award for Excellence in Environmental Law in July 2014. The award is given annually to attorneys who have used the law in an ethical and professional manner to protect Georgia's natural resources and inspire others to do so.

1981

Nelly Withers was elected Secretary of the Executive Board of the Georgia Council of Municipal Court Judges in June 2014. Withers serves as Chief Judge of the DeKalb County Recorders Court.

1982

D.R. Jones received the 2014 American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award. This national award is given for outstanding achievement in research and writing. The award is for Jones' article entitled *Locked Collections: Copyright and the Future of Research Support*, 105 *Law*

Library Journal 425 (2013). Jones currently serves as the Director of the Law Library and Associate Dean for Information Resources at the University of Memphis Law Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

James J. McGinnis was named a 2014 and 2015 Super Lawyer by *Super Lawyers* magazine. He is a partner at the Atlanta-based family law firm of Warner, Bates, McGough, McGinnis & Portnoy.

Evet Simmons has been appointed to the American Bar Association's Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession.

1983

Jay Michael Barber joined Taylor English Duma LLP as a member of the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice group.

Lovett Bennett, Jr. received one of the 15th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service on Feb. 25, 2014.

Sherlyn B. Bailey published a novel on race relations in the Deep South, *Protect the Butterflies*, in July 2014.

The Honorable James E. Hardin, Jr. was selected as the Chief Trial Judge of the United States Army Reserve. He also serves the State of North Carolina as a Superior Court Judge.

1986

Chip Bachara (Henry G. Bachara, Jr.) was recently reappointed by Florida Gov. Rick Scott to the Fourth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. He was also selected for inclusion in the 2015 edition of Best Lawyers in America for Construction Litigation.

C. Michael Johnson was appointed as Superior Court Judge of the Oconee Judicial Circuit by Governor Nathan Deal on Jan. 14, 2014.

Scott M. Stevens was admitted to practice law in Tennessee and sworn into the State Bar on Oct. 16, 2014. In 2013, he received an AV Preeminent Peer Review status from Martindale-Hubbell attorney ratings. He currently practices at the Howe Law Firm.

1987

Anton F. Mertens served as a contributing author for the recently published book, *Inside the Minds: Employing International Workers*. Mertens authored a chapter on overcoming immigration challenges when hiring international workers, outlining obstacles and best practices for employers seeking to hire international talent.

Brian T. Wilson was named a 2014 and 2015 Florida Super Lawyer.

1988

Charles E. Reynolds, II has been named a Department Chair at Butler Pappas in Tampa,

Florida. He was also invited to teach a trial advocacy course this past summer at Stanford Law School through the International Association of Defense Counsel.

F. Michael Taylor joined the Augusta office of Brennan, Wasden, and Painter, LLC. Taylor is a partner in the firm and focuses his practice in the area of general civil litigation with an emphasis in medical malpractice, trucking litigation defense and general tort cases.

1991

Jon Hedgepeth, founding partner at Hedgepeth, Heredia, Crumrine & Morrison in Atlanta, was named a 2014 and 2015 Georgia Super Lawyer and Legal Elite by *Georgia Trend*.

Laura Hogue was presented with the Judge William Augustus Bootle Professionalism Award at The Macon Bar Association's May 2014 meeting. The award is given annually to a lawyer whose conduct and interactions with clients, adversaries, courts and the public demonstrate a commitment to integrity, ethics and to promoting respect and collegiality in the profession.

1993

Kenneth MacArthur, Jr. joined Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspani, LLP, to run the Richmond, Virginia office.

Angelia Morie Nystrom received the Tennessee

Bar Association's President's Award for her work in the development of the "Legal Handbook for Tennessee Seniors" and corresponding CLE and general presentation for the public.

1994

Gregory M. Alford, together with **Mitchell J. Thoreson ('08)**, formed the law firm of Alford & Thoreson, LLC, in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

1995

Brian F. Duckworth was elected to the County Court Bench in Orange County, Florida, in August 2014.

Larae A. Dixon Moore joined the litigation firm of Hatcher Stubbs after serving 14 years as Senior Assistant D.A. in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit.

Luna Phillips was elected to the board of the Florida Chapter of the Water Resources Association.

1996

G. Scott Baity was recently appointed to The Florida Bar's Board of Legal Specialization and Education.

Ashley Wright was appointed by Governor Nathan Deal to the Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel.



CHARLES MASSENGILL/NOVER VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

Unveiling of the plaque signifying the W. Homer Drake Jr. Georgia Bankruptcy Inn of Court.

Bankruptcy Inn of Court Named in Honor of Mercer Alumnus and Life Trustee Homer Drake

The newly established W. Homer Drake Jr. Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Court has been named in honor of Mercer alumnus Homer Drake, CLA '54, LAW '56, a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Northern District of Georgia since 1964. In a ceremony at the U.S. District Courthouse in Newnan, Drake was presented with a plaque of the national Charter of the Inn. Speakers at the ceremony included Ray Mullins, Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Georgia; Emmet J. Bondurant, 11th Circuit Advisory Committee of the American Inns of Court Foundation; Timothy C. Batten Sr., U.S. District Court Judge; and finally, Drake, who gave remarks in response to this honor. The Drake Bankruptcy Inn is a bankruptcy specialty inn with statewide membership consisting of bankruptcy and insolvency practitioners, judges, law professors and students.

ClassNotes

1997

Class Correspondent:

Auden Grumet, auden@atlantalawyer.com

Joel Harms left Atlanta in 2011 and moved to Provincetown, Massachusetts, where he is a realtor with William Raveis Real Estate.

1998

Meng Lim won election for a seat on the bench of the Superior Courts in the Tallapoosa Circuit. He is the first Asian American elected Superior Court Judge in Georgia. Additionally, the *Georgia Asian Times* named Lim to its 2014 list of 25 Most Influential Asian Americans in Georgia.

Jonathan J. Tuggle was named a Georgia Super Lawyer for 2014.

2000

Class Correspondent:

William Noland, William@childsandnoland.com

Matthew Hall was named a partner in the law firm of Spivey, Pope, Green & Greer in Macon. He was also appointed Chairman of the Salvation Army Central Georgia Area Command Advisory Board.

Linda Nguyen was named a Top Forty Under 40 in *Georgia Trend* magazine.

William Noland, of law firm Childs & Noland, was elected President of the Macon Bar Association for 2014-15.

Jewel Hanson Scott is Jamaica's new honorary consul to Atlanta. As honorary consul, Scott will provide consular services to Jamaicans and persons wishing to visit Jamaica, and to promote the development of social, cultural and commercial relationships between Jamaica and Atlanta.

Clanitra L. Stewart joined the library faculty at Northern Illinois University College of Law as a Reference and Instructional Services Librarian and Assistant Professor. In addition, she teaches a legal research class at the school.

2001

Class Correspondents:

Chad C. Hastings, chastings@lesserlawfirm.com

Michelle Pinto, michelle.pinto@harris.com

Laura L. Voght, lvoght@wwhgd.com

Susan Warren, susanwarren@yahoo.com

John Breakfield was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to serve as a member of the Georgia Judicial Nominating Commission.

Kelly Davison graduated from Mercer University School of Medicine on May 3, 2014. He started his residency in Orthopedic Surgery with the U.S. Army in June 2014 in Augusta.

2002

Elizabeth Berenguer Megale has been granted tenure by The Board of Directors of Savannah Law School, a branch of Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Megale teaches advanced appellate advocacy, pretrial advocacy, and transactional drafting and the art of advocacy.

2003

V. Sharon Edenfield was installed as the 68th president of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 6, 2014. She was sworn in by her uncle, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia Judge B. Avant Edenfield.

Amanda (Parker) Baggett was appointed to the Construction Law Certification Committee of the Florida Bar for a three-year term.

2004

Class Correspondents:

Lauren Pierce Thomas, lauren3003@gmail.com

Lauren Shurling Finley, laurenshurling@hotmail.com

Jennifer Blackburn received the Award of Achievement for Service to the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 6, 2014.

Kelli P. Hill was named a 2014 Georgia Super Lawyer.

Brandon L. Peak became a name partner in the law firm of Butler Wooten Cheeley and Peak LLP with offices in both Atlanta and Columbus. He was also named one of 40 lawyers under the age of 40 "On the Rise" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*.

April Lee Ramirez announces the birth of her first child, Maddie Wenselada, born on Feb. 7, 2014.

Shannon Sheppard was promoted to equity shareholder at the law firm of Smolker,

Bartlett, Schlosser, Loeb and Hinds, P.A., in Tampa, Florida.

2005

Brian Wayne Burkhalter was promoted to partner at the Patel Burkhalter Law Group.

Heather A. Calhoun accepted a position in-house June 2014 with Aaron's, Inc.'s Corporate Legal Department as Division Lead Counsel.

Caroline Whitehead Herrington was recently named shareholder with the firm Adams & Jordan, PC. She was also recently named one of 40 lawyers under the age of 40 "On the Rise" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*.

Darcy L. Jones was promoted to partner at Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP.

2006

Rebecca McKelvey Castañeda was selected by The Tennessee Bar Association as the recipient of the Harris Gilbert Pro Bono Volunteer Award. This annual award is given to a private sector attorney who demonstrates dedication to legal services for the poor and provides significant pro bono work. Castañeda was also selected for the TBA's 2015 Leadership Law Class.

Kristin S. Grey and her husband, William, announce the birth of their daughter, Lenora Charlotte, on Oct. 30, 2013.

Matthew T. Harris was elected as a Partner of Arnall Golden Gregory LLP in the Corporate and Securities and Real Estate practice groups effective Jan. 1, 2014.

First Annual Mercer Law Alumni Dinner

On Friday, March 6, 2015, Mercer Law School hosted the First Annual Alumni dinner in Atlanta. The event featured a cocktail reception and dinner attended by approximately 250 alumni and friends.

1. Dean Daisy Hurst and Alumni Board President Deron Hicks ('82) present James Phillip "Phil" Bond ('83) with the Outstanding Alumnus Award for service to humanity and dedication to the legal profession. Bond is a Senior Attorney at Georgia Legal Services Program in Macon.



2. The Class of 1981 came out to support award recipient Richard Gerakitis.
3. The Class of 2010 was well represented during the dinner.
4. Dean Floyd and Hicks present Richard Gerakitis ('81) the Alumni Meritorious Service Award for his numerous contributions to Mercer Law School. Gerakitis is a partner in the Labor & Employment practice at Troutman Sanders in Atlanta.

Class of 2014 – Final Honors Reported

Summa Cum Laude

Jacob Axel Johnson

Magna Cum Laude

Steven Jacob Carroll
Luke M. Caselman
Christiane Leigh Dawn Cochran
Keely Nicole Knight
Dianna J. Lee
Olivia Grace Mann
Christopher Brian McDaniel
Lauren Jill Miller
Christina Marie Nosari
Frances Mashburn Parker
Christopher Joel Perniciaro
Danielle Jordan Quinley

Brett Joseph Schwartz

Ashley Brooke Vandevender

Cum Laude

Geoffrey Scott Bard
Mark Andrew Barnes
Edward Perry Bertram
Samantha Rae Butler
Wesley Ennis Childs
Sarah Elizabeth Coulter
Robert Lee Discher
Jennifer Rose Findley
Adam Price Gadberry
Matthew Joseph Hurst
Patrick L. Knowles
Steve Knowles
Christen Jean Lawhorn

Meredith Bree Kellett Lowry

Anthony James Marelle

Thomas Michael Mawn, IV

Molly C. Newsome

Juliana Ogechi Nwafor

Gracie Katherine Paulson

Frederic Maurice Rushing

Timothy Blake Skipper

Canon Graham Snow

Morrison Waite Thomas

Warren Michael Tillery

Courtney Maree Tuggle

Christine Emery VanFossen

Jonathan Graham Wilson

Michael Scott Weldon, Jr.

John Ryd Bush Long and his wife, Paige, announce the birth of their daughter, Julia Reynolds, born July 17, 2014. Additionally, he was installed as the president elect of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 6, 2014.

John C. Morrison III was made partner in the law firm of Butler Wooten Cheeley and Peak, LLP, with offices in both Atlanta and Columbus.

2007

Kavita K. Batra married Shanti Nagrani, a criminal defense attorney practicing in the Atlanta area, on Jan. 18, 2014.

Barton Black and his wife Brin welcomed their second daughter, Jessie Elizabeth, on Dec. 17, 2013.

Jason Blanchard was named as one of Augusta's Top 10 in 10 Young Professionals to Watch in 2014 by The Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with *Augusta Magazine*. He was also selected by Super Lawyers as "Rising Star" for 2014.

Ivy N. Cadle was selected as a Super Lawyers Rising Star in eminent domain and condemnation for 2014. Cadle also received the Award of Achievement for Service to the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 6, 2014.

Douglas J. Miller announces the birth of his daughter, Katelyn Jennings, born on Oct. 12, 2013.

D'Andrea J. Morning joined Grady Health System as Senior Associate General Counsel. She was also recently selected by Xavier University of Louisiana as one of the recipients of its Inaugural 40 Under 40 Young Alumni Awards.

Edward M. Wynn and wife, Nhien, welcomed their first child, Gabriella, on Dec. 21, 2013. Wynn practices personal injury law at Slappey & Sadd, LLC, in Sandy Springs.

M. Madison Roberts is pleased to announce the birth of a baby girl, Carolyn Stanton, on Oct. 29, 2013.

Michael W. Scaljon and wife, Jennifer, welcomed their daughter on Aug. 18, 2013.

2008

Class Correspondent:

Bryan Babcock, babcock.bryan.o@gmail.com

Tyler Brand Kaspers married Ruby Peters on Sept. 14, 2013.

Kristin Pollard Kiel and her husband, Demetrius Kiel, announce the birth of their daughter, Genesis Lilian, on June 15, 2014.

Michael Eric Memberg is now licensed to practice law in Florida. He currently practices in the Atlanta office of Hall Booth Smith PC.

Patrick Mincey, Co-Chair of the Criminal Defense Practice Group at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP, was recently named to The National Trial Lawyers: Top 100, an invitation-only organization comprised of the premier trial lawyers from each state in the nation.

Fred Taylor became a partner in the firm Bush & Taylor, PC, in Suffolk, Virginia in February 2014.

2009

Class Correspondent:

Cayce Myers, mcmymyers@vt.edu

Rebekah S. Betsill married Charles Twilley on Oct. 14, 2014.

Kristin Bloodworth and her husband, Jeremy, announce the birth of their son, Jeremy Kole, on April 15, 2014.

William B. Bryant was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal as a member of the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia. He currently serves as Assistant General Counsel, Financial Services for InComm.

Lee Ann Feeley married Currey Hitchens on April 26, 2014. She also adopted her son,

Dominic Jason, on Aug. 12, 2014.

Jamie A. Flowers was sworn in as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Louisiana.

April R. Holloway joined the law firm of Constangy, Brooks & Smith, LLP, in Macon.

Jennifer Bartow Horne and her husband, Traye, announce the birth of their daughter, Margaret Louise, on May 28, 2013.

Nicole W. Hull and her husband opened The Hull Firm, LLC, in July 2013, which is a full service law and mediation practice. Hull also works as an adjunct professor at Brenau University for the Conflict Resolution and Legal Studies Program.

Bryan Thomas Johnson and his wife, Emily Allgood Johnson, announce the birth of their daughter, Natalee Catherine, on March 14, 2014.

Joshua Kenneth Martin and his wife announce the birth of their son, Brady Rand, on March 19, 2014. Martin is a partner at Davis Broussard Mart Bernard & Steger, PA, in Fernandina Beach, Florida.

Ian M. McCullen and his wife, Ruth, announce the birth of their son, Jon Oliver "Jack," on Aug. 25, 2014.

Dr. M. Cayce and Anne Carol Myers were married in Savannah on June 14, 2014. They reside in Roanoke, Virginia, where Anne works as an Attorney Advisor for the Social Security Administration, and Cayce as an Assistant Professor at Virginia Tech. He received his Ph.D. in May 2014 from the University of Georgia's College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Billy J. Nelson, Jr. and his wife, Kathryn, announce the birth of their daughter, Jennings Louise, on Sept. 21, 2014.

Christopher Porter and wife, Jade, announce the birth of their daughter, Layton, in 2010. Porter has been admitted to the Tennessee and Georgia bar and is currently on active duty as a Judge Advocate General for the U.S. Air Force, serving as the Chief of Criminal Litigation at JBSA-Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas, where he prosecutes court-martialed military members in U.S. federal court. He also recently returned from a tour in Afghanistan where he earned the Bronze Star.

Sunny A. Sandros and her husband announce the birth of their daughter on April 4, 2014. Sandros is currently employed with West & Rose in Kingsport, Tennessee.

Megan McGrath Teeple and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their daughter, Kyleigh Ann, on July 2, 2014.

Wendell F. Wright, Jr. became the Legislative Assistant for Congressman Henry Cuellar at the beginning of 2014.

James M. Wright became Vice President of Corporate Services where he is in charge of Human Resources and Information Systems.

Class of 1979 Updates

Class Correspondents:

Danny Craig, dcraig@augustaga.gov
Mary Katz, mkat@chrkglaw.com

Life is good for the Akin Family. Tori is getting her Doctorate in Math at the University of Chicago. Jo is working at the CDC and is about to get married. Jonathan is running a bar in Marietta (Darwin's Burgers and Blues) check it out. Chris and I are rushing headlong toward retirement as is "Aunt Lynn" (Chris's sister). I am old and stiff in the knees but I still enjoy a stiff Scotch. May all of you enjoy the day as I will.

— Danny L. Akin

Just returned from a Tanzanian Safari which was the trip of a lifetime and our 35th wedding anniversary trip. Two sons, oldest just graduated from Wharton Business School in May (after two years on Wall Street and three in finance in Atlanta), youngest is in 2nd year at UVA Darden School of Business (after two years of Teach For America teaching 8th grade math in Gwinnett County). Husband Mike still in commercial real estate. We both enjoy sailing in the Bahamas. Wishing all my classmates all the best.

— Suzanne Graham

Donna Paula Price (formerly **David Paul Price**) transitioned in July 2014 to life as a woman. Previously, she retired as a Captain after 25 years on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps, with assignments including editor-in-chief of the Naval Law Review, responsibility for all Personnel and Medical issues before Congress for the Department of the Navy, Commanding Officer of the largest Legal Office in the Department of the Navy, and as a Trial Judge. Since her retirement she has served as Senior Vice President, Privacy and Compliance, and Chief Compliance Officer for a health care contractor. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors of the Military Law Section of the State Bar of Virginia. Married for over 36 years, with four children, she is active in her Episcopal Church Parish and is working with a number of organizations to eliminate LGBT discrimination.

ClassNotes

Arthur York joined Swift Currie McGhee & Hiers in Atlanta where he specializes in litigation defense.

2010

Class Correspondent:

Rizza Palmares O'Connor, rizzapalmares@gmail.com

Michael A. Coots married Jennifer Miele on Aug. 23, 2014.

Ashley L. Deadwyler married Nick Heuman on April 5, 2014.

Charles W. Grimsley was an Honor Graduate of the Army's Judge Advocate Officer Basic Course. He graduated third in his class. He is currently serving as a JAG Officer in the Georgia Army National Guard.

Lauren Nicole Harris is currently working with Macon's Lisenby & Associates, LLC.

Anna C. Hines, who practices primarily in the area of personal injury litigation, joined auto accident law firm O'Connor, Acciani & Levy as an associate attorney. She is a member of the Central Ohio Association for Justice, the Ohio Women's Bar Association and the Women Lawyers of Franklin County.

Emily Macheski-Preston joined Coleman Talley LLP's Atlanta office in Buckhead, where she practices primarily in local government, constitutional and zoning litigation.

Matthew Massey and wife, Amy, announce the birth of their daughter, Caroline McQueen, on Sept. 24, 2014.

Taylor McNeill was named the Vice-Chair of the Government Defense Committee of the Georgia Defense Lawyers Association.

Erica Hickey Opitz was chosen to be on the Advisory Committee of Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta.

David Ozburn is now a partner at Alexander Royston in Covington.

Nicholas Pavlov and his wife, Samanatha, announce the birth of their second son, Ezra Henry, on April 24, 2014.

M. Chase Swanson received the Cobb County Bar Association's 2014 Ross Adams Younger Lawyer Award on May 1, 2014.

Barclay R. Taylor married **Danielle Lehman** ('12) in spring 2013. They reside in Atlanta.

Mary Beth Tolle and her husband, Brandon, announce the birth of their son, Elijah Lewis, on March 7, 2014.

Matt Wetherington was selected as a 2014 40 Under 40 GA Legal Rising Star to Watch by the *Fulton County Daily Report*.

Michele B. Wetherington was awarded a Bronze Medal for Commendable Service from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of General Counsel for "exceptional legal counseling related to water quality standards."

Katie Willett received the Award of

Achievement for Service to the Public from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 6, 2014.

2011

Class Correspondent:

Brian M. Jasper, bjasper@wilkesmchugh.com
Bowen Reichert Shoemaker, bowen.shoemaker@alston.com
Jonathan L. Simpson, jonathan.simpson.1@us.af.mil

Thomas Edison Branch III and his wife, Sarah, announce the birth of their first child, Asa Thomas, on Sept. 12, 2014. He was also appointed by the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Savannah to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and is a member of the 2013-2014 class of Leadership Savannah.

Jacqueline Bretell is currently an Associate Attorney with Morris Anderson of Las Vegas, Nevada. She was also selected for the 2014 Top 40 Under 40 Trial Lawyers in Nevada.

Rachel F. Cosme was promoted to Senior Manager of Member Relations at the Air Force Association.

Terry J. Evans married Jennifer Keesey on July 12, 2014. They live in Massillon, Ohio.

Johnathan T. Greenway graduated from the University of South Carolina with an International Masters in Business Administration. He is now a business analyst for Peak Completion Technologies, Inc. in Midland, Texas. Greenway also completed the Augusta Half Ironman last year and is set to compete in his first full Ironman in Copenhagen this year.

Tyler K. Hurst was named Assistant District Attorney in the 8th Judicial District of Tennessee where his practice focuses mainly on Union County.

2012

Class Correspondent:

Justin Purvis, justinpurvis10@gmail.com

Terri K. Benton is currently employed as General Counsel for The Reunion Group, LLC, in Macon.

Courtney L. Bodie was selected as one of Augusta's 2014 Top 10 in 10 Young Professionals to Watch by the Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce and *Augusta Magazine*. She was also admitted to the District of Columbia Bar in September 2014.

Janene Browder married Hussene Youssouf on June 22, 2014. Additionally, she was selected for the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division 2014 Leadership Academy.

J. Daniel Cole married Autumn Turner on April 5, 2014. He is currently employed with the Marietta-based Moore, Ingram, Johnson & Steele.

David D. Cheng was appointed to the Georgia Bar Journal Editorial Board for a three-year term.

John Herbert Cranford, Jr. is currently working as an Assistant District Attorney in Coweta County.

Ronald Daniels received the W. Fred Orr II Memorial Scholarship from the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association (GTLA). Daniels was a member of the 2013-2014 Leadership Education and Advanced Direction program class. Daniels also joined the GTLA Editorial Board.

David Dorer is currently the head attorney in the General Litigation division of the Dozier Law Firm in Macon.

Ryan English has been employed by Walker, Hulbert, Gray & Moore in Perry.

Negin Kalantarian joined Lee Durham, LLC, in Albany in December 2013.

Michael J. McNeill and his wife, Mandy, announce the birth of their daughter, Ruby Patricia.

Daniel O'Connor and **Rizza Palmares** ('10) announce the birth of their son, Judson Palmer, on March 28, 2014.

Daniel San Miguel currently works at the

Office of the Solicitor General in Augusta-Richmond County.

Sallianne Prothro began working at the law firm of Johnston, Owen & Bullard in her hometown of Griffin in January 2013.

W. Justin Purvis and his wife Lindsey, announce the birth of a son, Luke William, on April 1, 2014.

Brandon Veasey and his wife, Shauna, announce the birth of their second child, Jack.

Abby Ammons Vinyard married Chris Vinyard in the fall of 2013 and currently resides in Smyrna.

2013

Shahrazad Bagheri joined the law firm of Waldon Adelman Castilla Hiestand & Prout in Atlanta.

Joshua T. Hale joined Martin Snow, LLP, as an associate and will practice in the firm's real estate section.

Lauren N. Schultz has been hired as an associate by Childs & Nolan in Macon.

In Memory

1920s

Richard H. Armstrong '24 of Portland, Maine, Oct. 9, 2005.

Oliver C. Custer '29 of Reno, Nevada, Feb. 19, 1997.

1940s

The Honorable Hugh D. Sosebee, Sr. '40 of Forsyth, March 18.

The Honorable George B. Culpepper '43 of Macon, Nov. 29, 2014.

John B. Miller '48 of Savannah, Nov. 7, 2014.

1950s

The Honorable Willard Henry Chason '50 of Cairo, July 16, 2014.

William Dewey Smith, Jr. '50 of Fitzgerald, Nov. 24, 2014.

William R. Dorminy '51 of Maitland, Florida, March 3.

John Thomas Minor, III '51 of Dalton, Jan. 24.

1960s

Roy Newton Cowart '61 of Warner Robins, Aug. 3, 2014.

Charles L. Dunlap '67 of Orlando, Florida, April 16, 2014.

Marcus Glenn Howell '69 of Fayetteville, Sept. 23, 2014.

John E. James '64 of Macon, April 5.

George N. Sparrow, Jr. '69 of Fayetteville, Nov. 15, 2014.

Joseph L. Williams '67 of Nokesville, Virginia, March 2.

1970s

Bill A. Corbin '71 of Panama City, Florida, Nov. 15, 2014.

James Phillips Terry '73 of Annandale, Virginia, Dec. 12, 2014.

Charles Anderson Aultman '74 of Warner Robins, Feb. 8.

The Honorable James L. Cline, Jr. '77 of Eatonton, Aug. 21, 2014.

Mary Skene '77 of Roswell, March 3.

James Isaac Warren, III '78 of Macon, Jan. 7.

E. Marie Wilson-Lindsey '79 of Washington, D.C., Aug. 9, 2014.

1980s

Julia Michelle Byrd '81 of Macon, Feb. 2.

Elise Ossen Roberts '81 of Savannah, May 4, 2014.

William J. Mason '84 of Columbus, Aug. 2, 2014.

Charles E. McDaniel, Jr. '85 of Columbus, Nov. 3, 2014.

Kathryn Murray Sarzen '86 of Atlanta, Nov. 21, 2014.

Joseph David Little '88 of Calhoun, Aug. 9, 2014.

Ricky Jay Morris '88 of Atlanta, June 25, 2014.

1990s

W. Alan Griner '90 of Tallahassee, Florida, July 26, 2014.

How Can I Support Mercer Law?



Mercer Law alumni often ask how they can best support the institution that prepared them for a successful career with a quality legal education. Many opportunities are available to give to Mercer Law, including gifts to support the endowment, scholarships and other needs.

- **Annual Fund/Annual Gifts** — The Mercer Law Annual Fund provides the vital stream of annual resources that make an immediate impact on our students, faculty and programs. Uses include strengthening academic programs, supporting student organizations, and providing additional unrestricted scholarship dollars for our students.
- **Scholarships** — As many alumni and current students can attest, scholarships are a critical component of making the cost of a quality legal education affordable, and Mercer Law is committed to providing aid to students. Gifts can be designated to the scholarship(s) of your choice.
- **Other Endowment Gifts** — Endowment gifts are pooled with the Law School's other investments to generate additional resources for the Law School. Giving to the endowment ensures a strong fund that will produce earnings to benefit current and future law students. Possible uses could include faculty development resources, scholarship aid, student travel/conference resources, endowed academic positions, and other initiatives.
- **Planned Gifts** — These charitable gifts include annuities, trusts, life insurance, and other opportunities that often provide tax benefits to the donor as well as a steady stream of income. Planned gifts can be used to support any of the areas previously noted.

For more information on how to give to Mercer Law, to endow a scholarship, or to make a planned gift, please contact the Office of University Advancement at (478) 301-2232 or visit law.mercer.edu/alumni/giving.

MERCER
UNIVERSITY

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW
law.mercer.edu

2015 MERCER Oct. 23-25

HOMECOMING



Homecoming 2015 is for all Mercerians! Dozens of events will draw thousands of alumni, friends and community members to the Macon campus for another exciting homecoming weekend. Make plans to come and see

Mercer's growth and progress, to reconnect with friends and faculty, and to cheer on the Bears when they face VMI on the football field. Events will include 5K run, pep rally, fireworks, light parade, tailgating and family fun activities. Online registration begins in late summer!

homecoming.mercer.edu

