

MERCER LAWYER

Students Celebrate

AS THEY BECOME ALUMNI
AND THE NEXT LEADERS IN LAW

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Scene from Macon

On the second Sunday of every month, from April through October, College Hill Corridor holds its signature event, Second Sunday. The event is free and features live music in beautiful Washington Park, just two blocks from the Law School.

More information and a full schedule of events can be found at www.CollegeHillMacon.com.

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In Memory

MERCER LAWYER

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MERCER
UNIVERSITY

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FROM THE DEAN



Dear Alumni,

The start of the school year is always an exciting time at the Law School, but this year there is an air of special excitement because it is also the start of the Law School's first LL.M. program – one in federal criminal practice and procedure that is the only one of its kind in the nation. It was no mean feat to move that program from the planning stages, through the several required levels of approval, to completion in only a year's time. The program's co-directors, Jim Fleissner and Peg McCann, would be the first to tell you that this never could have happened without the efforts of various other faculty and staff. Truth be told, however, the efforts of others pale alongside those of the co-directors, which were nothing less than herculean.

This school year also marks the opening of what is essentially a new wing on the Law School's third floor. One of the many positive aspects of our launching the new LL.M. program is that the space needs that it created prompted the university to return to our use a sizable portion of the third floor that for many years had been blocked off and dedicated to Medical School use. Many, including myself, have been pleasantly surprised to find how much could be done in the mysterious space that for so long lay behind locked doors and a "Medical School Laboratory – Keep Out" sign. When you are next in the Law School, be sure to take a look for yourself at the wonderful new courtroom, conference room, faculty offices, and reception area that now adorn the third floor.

Lastly, I would like to call attention to another new development at the school – one of a scholarly nature – that is reflected in the two faculty essays in this issue of *Mercer Lawyer*. Those essays are abbreviated versions of much longer pieces that recently appeared in the *Mercer Law Review* in a collection of articles by Mercer law faculty on curricular reform and instructional innovation. As I wrote in my introduction to the collection, I believe that it is both "a valuable contribution to legal education and a very appropriate demonstration to lawyers, judges, and law faculty across the country of what makes a Mercer law school education so special." I encourage you, after sampling the two essays in this issue, to turn to the Spring 2012 *Mercer Law Review* to enjoy the collection in full.

Best wishes,

Gary J. Simson, *Dean and Macon Chair in Law*

JANUARY 2012

U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Delivers Lecture

Judge William H. Pryor Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit spoke on "The Unbearable Rightness of *Marbury v. Madison*: Its Real Lessons and Irrepressible Myths." The event was hosted by The Federalist Society. It was especially timely because it came when first-year students were studying *Marbury v. Madison* in Constitutional Law.



ROGER DENDEN PHOTO

FEBRUARY 2012

New York Times Best-Selling Author Gives Career and Writing Tips

New York Times best-selling author Steve Berry '80 spoke about his career and his craft, including how his time at Mercer helped prepare him for his future both as a trial lawyer and as a novelist. Berry is the author of nine international suspense thrillers, the most recent being *The Columbus Affair*. Berry encouraged students never to give up: he got 85 rejection letters from publishers before finally getting an offer of publication.



ROGER DENDEN PHOTOS



MARCH 2012

Hugh Lawson Moot Court Award

Christiane Cochran won the Hugh Lawson First-Year Moot Court competition held in March on Law Day. The judges named her best oralist, for which she received the King & Spalding Cup and \$500. The judges were Hugh Thompson '69, justice, Supreme Court of Georgia; Dwight Davis '82, senior partner at King & Spalding and Best Oralist in 1980 in the same competition; Douglas Kysar, deputy dean and Field Professor of Law at Yale and the Law Day speaker; Jessica Feinberg, assistant professor at Mercer Law; and 3L Ashley Pruitt, the Lawson winner as a 1L. The problem for the competition was loosely based on various cases stemming from the 2011 "Occupy Wall Street" movement.



MARYANN BATES PHOTO

Third-year student Michael McNeill, Lawson Editor, presents 1L Christine Cochran with the King & Spalding Cup.

MARCH 2012

AWLS Auction Raises \$13,000 for Local Charities

The Association of Women Law Students hosted the 14th Annual Charity Auction and Ball at Macon's Armory Ballroom in March. AWLS raised more than \$13,000 to benefit two local charities — Jay's Hope and the Ronald McDonald House. Over the past three years, AWLS has raised more than \$40,000 to support local charities. Jay's Hope helps improve the quality of life of children with cancer and their families. The local Ronald McDonald House gives families of hospitalized children a place to live near their children.

The event included live and silent auctions, as well as musical interludes. The Law School's faculty band, featuring Professors Sarah Gerwig-Moore on vocals, Chris Wells on lead guitar, and Dick Creswell on vocals and rhythm guitar, dazzled with pop and country favorites. Dean Gary Simson, solo with guitar and harmonica, brought Dylan down South. Items offered in the live auction included trips to North Carolina and Vermont, singing telegrams, home-cooked meals provided by professors, dinner at local restaurants, the opportunity to reserve the Lawyer's Reading Room for 10 days during finals and much more. The silent auction included more than 30 gift certificates.



ROGER DEBEN PHOTO

MARCH 2012

Panel Discusses Social Justice and the Quest for Equitable Public Policy

To celebrate Black History Month, the Black Law Students Association sponsored a panel discussion titled "Social Justice and the Quest for Equitable Public Policy." The panel addressed issues pertaining to economic empowerment, education and the role of the modern-day lawyer. The panelists were: Mercer Law alumnus and Macon attorney Virgil Adams; Stephen Chu, Equal Justice Initiative; Isaiah Hugley, city manager of Columbus; Jerry Boykin, Macon attorney and the first African-American graduate of Mercer Law in 1972; and Mercer Law Professor Jessica Feinberg.



SUMMER 2012

26 Mercer Law Students Receive Stipends for Summer Internships

Twenty-six Mercer Law students received stipends to work in governmental or nonprofit law offices this summer. The stipends, which total \$102,000, are funded by a combination of endowment income, expendable gifts made for this purpose, and a grant from the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council. The Law School's Public Interest Committee selected the recipients out of dozens of applicants.

"This is an extraordinary show of support for investing in students interested in careers that serve the public good," said Timothy Floyd, director of the Law and Public Service Program. "These 26 students will receive enormous benefits from these summer internships in attaining practical legal skills, in assisting legal offices that serve the public, and in determining whether they wish to pursue long-term careers in areas of public service."

SUMMER 2012

Mercer Students Prevail in First Georgia Lawyers' Food Drive

Mercer Law students showed their public-spiritedness in a statewide contest to help feed the hungry in Georgia. In a friendly competition against Georgia's other law schools for the Attorney General's Cup, Mercer Law gathered the most food — 4,421 pounds,

which the students donated to the Middle Georgia Community Food Bank. The food drive, which also included a competition among law firms, raised a total of 612,000 pounds of food for the state's seven regional food banks.

"Our students' first-place finish speaks volumes about the philanthropic spirit that is such a wonderful characteristic of Mercer students," said Dean Gary Simson.

"I am proud of the Georgia legal community for their overwhelming generosity to Georgia's less fortunate families," said Attorney General Sam Olens. "These donations will assist our food banks with providing meals to families, especially children who rely on free or reduced lunches during school."





SUMMER 2012

2L Named to ABA Student Leadership Position

Second-year student Danielle Early has been appointed to serve as Georgia's Lt. Governor in the ABA's Law Student Division, Fifth Circuit. Early was appointed based on her academic credentials, leadership skills and desire to serve the law students within the circuit. The Fifth Circuit includes 27 law schools in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico and Tennessee.

MOOT COURT ROUNDUP

Mercer Places 2nd in National Criminal Procedure Competition

Mercer's team of 2Ls, Ashley Akins, Jacquelyn Smith and Tom Allmond (photo right), captured second place in the John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition in March. The team also was runner-up for best petitioner's brief.

"Ashley, Jacque and Tom did a splendid job representing the law school and the Mercer Advocacy Council," said Professor Jim Fleissner, who coached the team. "To me, more important than the hardware they brought home is the team's sense that they performed their best under the pressure of competition and improved their advocacy skills. That sense of accomplishment and learning is always the bigger victory."



Client Counseling Team Places 7th in the Nation

In February, Mercer's team of 3Ls, Craig Cooper and Emilie Leech (photo left), finished second in the 11th Circuit region

of the ABA Law Student Division Client Counseling Competition. The competition was held at Mercer and included 24 competitors from law schools throughout the region. At the national finals in March, Cooper and Leech finished 7th.

Professor David Oedel noted, "Emilie and Craig have learned plenty about the art of good counsel in the process of participating in the ABA competition. That bodes well for their futures in practice because, as Shakespeare wrote, 'Good counselors lack no clients.' Along the way, Emilie and Craig have helped to continue to distinguish Mercer as a place that takes this elusive subject seriously."

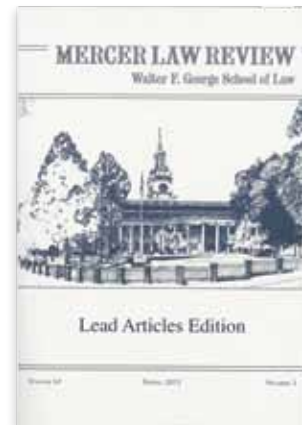
The ABA Law Student Division Client Counseling Competition simulates a law office consultation in which law students, acting as attorneys, are presented with a client matter. They conduct an interview with a person playing the role of the client and then explain how they would proceed further in the hypothetical situation.



LAW REVIEW UPDATE

Expanded *Law Review* Issue

The Spring 2012 Lead Articles Edition of *Mercer Law Review* departed from past practice and included a special Mercer faculty essay section along with the annual law review symposium. The law review symposium for 2012, "Citizenship and Civility in a Divided Democracy: Political, Religious and Legal Concerns," included contributions by leading legal scholars, philosophers, theologians and political scientists from Berkeley, Boston University, Mercer, NYU and elsewhere. The second half of the issue, "Faculty Essays on Curricular Reform and Instructional Innovation," consisted of essays by Dean Gary Simson, Professors John Cole, Daisy Floyd, Tim Floyd, Sarah Gerwig-Moore, Mark Jones and Karen Sneddon. This issue is available by contacting Cherie Jump at (478) 301-2337 or jump_cs@law.mercer.edu. Professors Mark Jones and Daisy Floyd provide overviews of their essays on pp. 24-27 of this issue of *Mercer Lawyer*.



Renovations Under Way

Several projects and renovations have transformed the 58-year-old Law School building this past year as part of a long-term plan to enhance its facilities. "The condition of the space in which we learn and work can communicate a great deal about the Law School's commitment to the success of its students, faculty and staff," said Associate Dean and Chief Operating Officer Michael Dean. "I think the most recent renovations,

and those forthcoming, are a reflection of our priority at the Law School to continuously improve our learning and working environment."

- The front lawn now has new brick and mortar signage matching the architecture of the building. The sign includes a bronze plaque in memory of Lauren Giddings '11. The plaque and sign were funded through donations from her classmates, faculty and staff.



New brick signage

SALDINA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY



New 40-seat courtroom

AMY MADDOX PHOTO

STAFF UPDATE

Greer Aiken '10 Named New Director of Development

The Law School welcomed Greer Aiken in July as the newest member of its senior staff as director of development. A 2010 *cum laude* graduate of the Law School, he comes to his new position after two years of wide-ranging practice in Macon. In announcing the appointment, Dean Simson praised Aiken as "an exceptionally able and personable individual, who has compiled an enviable record of success in college, law school and practice." Dean Simson added that "with Greer and our still relatively new Director of Alumni Affairs and Associate Director of Development Leslie Cadle '07, we have an advancement team that will prove a major asset for the Law School and enable us to reach new heights."



- 5,000 square feet on the third floor, previously occupied by a Medical School laboratory, has become a small conference or seminar room, a 40-seat courtroom flexibly designed to double as a classroom, storage space, nine additional faculty offices, and a lobby and seating area.
- The new trophy case outside the first-floor courtroom holds more than 140 awards. The case is 10.5 feet high and 18 feet long, with

crown molding and mirrored glass to reflect the "green" halogen lights, using less electricity and producing less heat.

- State-of-the-art, touch-free Brita Hydration Stations have replaced water fountains on all three floors of the south wing of the building.
- The south wing restrooms on all three floors have been entirely redone to reflect a more modern design.



New law trophy case

ADVANCING FACULTY

Leading Scholars Visit in Faculty Workshop Series

In February, Janet Dolgin spoke to faculty on "Looking Sick in America: Attitudes Toward Healthcare Reform." Dolgin is the Dicker Distinguished Professor of Health Care Law and director of the Institute for Health Law and Policy at Hofstra Law School. Her presentation focused on Americans' longstanding reluctance to construct a healthcare system comparable to those in place in Europe and elsewhere.

In March, Wendy Wagner, the Worsham Centennial Professor at the University of Texas School of Law, discussed "Revisiting the Impact of Judicial Review on Agency Rulemaking: An Empirical Investigation." Professor Wagner is a leading authority on the use of science in environmental policy-making.

RECOGNITION

Law School Recognized by *University Business* Magazine as 'Model of Efficiency'

Mercer Law School was one of 16 institutions recognized by *University Business* for innovation in streamlining higher education operations. The school replaced countless file boxes of copied invoices with an electronic storage system, which freed space, saved time and improved efficiency. According to the magazine, "Mercer University School of Law stands out for developing a very effective solution to a challenging situation."



CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATIONAL CALENDAR

MERCER LAW SCHOOL FALL 2012 – SPRING 2013

OCTOBER

5
Law Review Symposium –
Ethics and Professionalism

12
Basic Fiduciary Practice

NOVEMBER

8
Real Property Foreclosure

15
Trial Advocacy

29
Recent Developments

DECEMBER

13
Professionalism, Ethics
and Malpractice

JANUARY

24
Jury Trial

31
Recent Developments –
Replay

FEBRUARY

7
Defense of a Personal
Injury Case

14
Residential Real Estate

28
Banking Law

MARCH

7
Theory to Verdict

8
Professionalism and Ethics
Update

15
Trial and Error

22
Jury Trial – Replay

29
Main Street Lawyers

APRIL

5
Law Day

Dates are subject to change.
For more information, contact
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Education Coordinator, at
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www.law.mercer.edu/alumni/cle

FIRST IMPRESSIONS FROM PRE-LAW ADVISORS

Annual conference at the Law School brings pre-law advisors from colleges across the country to get a first-hand look at a Mercer legal education and the charms of Macon

For the second spring in a row, timed to coincide with Law Day, the Pre-Law Advisor Conference brought representatives from undergraduate programs around the country to Mercer to get acquainted with the Law School – and, in turn, to share with their students back home what Mercer has to offer.

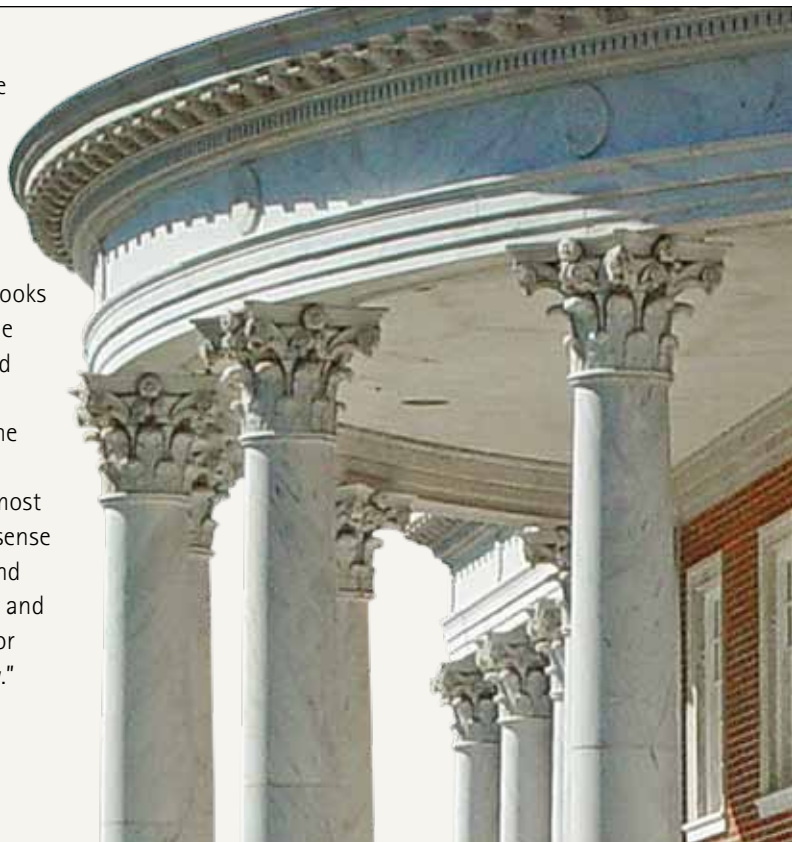
Instituted in 2011 by Dean Gary Simson, the Conference is

designed to raise the Law School's national profile, showing pre-law advisors throughout the U.S. how very much Mercer and Macon have to offer in terms of academics, environment, manageable class sizes and a supportive hands-on relationship among students and professors.

"This is part of an effort to diversify the incoming student body in terms of geography and undergraduate experience,"

"Mercer Law's Pre-law Advisor Conference is an invaluable resource upon which attendees may draw whenever they counsel students planning to apply to law schools in the Southeast. It is too often the case that pre-law advisors only know as much about law schools their advisees are considering as the advisees do themselves, since we both usually glean our information solely from websites, viewbooks and the occasional visit by a law school representative. The opportunity to visit Mercer's School of Law itself expanded greatly my knowledge of the institution and its resources. More important, my ability to interact with members of the faculty and staff brought me new insight into all that the people of Mercer Law offer to their students. One of the most important things I took away from the conference was a sense of the faculty and administration's pride in their school and their enthusiasm for its mission. I can now convey all this and more to any student who might be considering training for the legal profession at the Walter F. George School of Law."

— **Scott Lucas**, Pre-Law Advisor
The Citadel, Charleston, S.C.





Simson explains. “The more diversity you have in background, including where they grew up and went to college, the richer the classroom discussion.”

The day’s agenda includes a meet-and-greet with Admissions Dean Marilyn Sutton and Financial Aid Director Leah Aiken and presentations by members of the Law School faculty that underscore Mercer’s many strengths.

For instance, professors and their topics have included Sarah Gerwig-Moore on public service, Jennifer Sheppard on the legal writing program, Oren Griffin on the curriculum, Tim Floyd on the advocacy program, Linda Jellum and Richard Creswell on the faculty’s commitment to teaching, David Ritchie on Mercer University’s interdisciplinary opportunities and Dean Simson on the uniqueness of a Mercer legal education.

“I have been the pre-law advisor at Hobart and William Smith for quite a long time, and in that capacity have attended a number of conferences for pre-law advisors held at law schools around the country. I do not remember one as intellectually engaging, informative and just plain fun as the one hosted by Mercer Law School. The conference was my introduction to a very fine law school that I will now recommend to my students. The lively and interesting faculty with whom I had the opportunity to chat during my visit, their enthusiasm about teaching, and the close relationship so many professors have with law students, with whom I also had the chance to speak, will be very appealing to many of my students, who come from a small- to medium-sized, selective liberal arts college in the northeast. I expect many more will be applying to Mercer in the near future. It was a great idea to pair the pre-law advisors’ visit with Law Day. It provided an invaluable window into the intellectual life and culture of the place and allowed us to chat informally with alumni about how their Mercer Law educations have had a lasting impact on their lives. I also was struck by the beautiful and intimate setting of the campus and the charm of Macon. Pictures do not do justice to the beauty of the surroundings.”

— **Scott Brophy**, Pre-Law Advisor
Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, N.Y.

Following the faculty presentations, pre-law advisors learn about the admissions process from Dean Sutton and the faculty admissions committee's chair, hear about the student experience from a panel of student organization leaders, take a tour of the Law School, the Mercer campus and Macon, and have the chance to enjoy the Law Day luncheon and the guest speaker's presentation.

"Also, that's the day we have the Lawson Moot Court competition," Dean Simson says. "The pre-law advisors get to see a lot, and they recognize what a great educational environment Mercer is."

The Conference is only one way that the Law School is reaching out. In 2011 and again this year, three recent graduates from the Law School were hired to serve as admissions recruiters from September through November. Their directive: to spread word about

Mercer Law far beyond the Southeast, the region that traditionally has been by far the primary focus of the school's recruiting efforts.

Simson says, "There is a disproportionately low number of small colleges in Georgia, but if you look at a lot of other states – for instance, New York and Pennsylvania – there are a lot of small colleges, and their students are especially likely to appreciate what the Law School, with its small student body size, many small classes, and close faculty-student relations, has to offer." Many of the pre-law advisors who attended the conference in fact came from well-known small colleges in New York and Pennsylvania, among many states.

"It may take time to really get the word out," Simson adds, "but my view is, once people come down and see the place, our job is really done. When they see it, they're very impressed."

"During my visit to Mercer University School of Law, I was impressed to learn what Mercer offers its students. Clearly, the quality of teaching at the Law School is excellent, including first-rate legal education and the development of strong practice skills – research, writing, professionalism and clinics, such as those offered through the Law and Public Service Program. Mercer faculty are congenial and highly accessible to students, which along with a relatively small student body results in an unusually collegial community. The numerous student activities available help students build professional relationships as well as enhance their leadership abilities. The School's facilities are exceptional, and its location in the historic and incredibly beautiful town of Macon is a real plus. In short, I welcomed the opportunity to visit a law school and part of the country with which I had been unfamiliar, and I came away very pleased to have learned about such a wonderful law school, one that Cornell students and alumni should consider as they apply to law school."

— **Jane E. Levy**, Pre-Law Advisor
Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

"I found the pre-law conference at Mercer very beneficial. In addition to providing the opportunity to learn more about the significant trends in the legal profession, it gave us an opportunity to tour and learn about the law school at Mercer University and all the opportunities this law school provides to its graduates."

— **Dianne McDonald**, Pre-Law Advisor
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa.

"Visiting the law schools which my students are interested in attending is one of the most invaluable efforts I can make in enhancing the Pre-Law program here at the University of Georgia. As I tell my students – repeatedly – ensuring a good fit with their prospective choice of law school is crucial to their success in law school and, eventually, in the practice of law. Thus, for me to provide the most accurate information and assessment of a law school requires that I know more about the school than can be gleaned from a website or magazine rankings. That is why pre-law advisor programs like that instituted by Dean Simson will benefit prospective law students in a manner that cannot be replicated through other "old" methods.... Attending pre-law advisor conferences at other schools enables me to better single out the unique strengths and opportunities that these schools offer their students. Meeting with Dean Simson made the personal attention and individualized professional development approach offered by Mercer Law that much clearer to me, and, by extension, to my pre-law students."

— **Catherine N. Clutter**, Pre-Law Advisor
University of Georgia, Athens

Commencement 2012

ON MAY 12, 143 OF MERCER LAW'S
FINEST MADE THE TRANSITION
FROM STUDENTS TO ALUMNI

OF THE 143 GRADUATING students, 54 received a Legal Writing, Research and Drafting Certificate, three received a Business Certificate in Corporate Finance and five students received both a Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration. Billie Barker Pritchard received the George Waldo Woodruff Award of Excellence and is the first female *summa cum laude* graduate since 2002. Professor Jim Fleissner received his 11th teaching award, presented annually during commencement to a member of the faculty by a vote of the graduating class. As a tradition at Mercer Law School, alumni are allowed to hood a family member who is graduating. This year, 11 pairs of alumni and graduating students participated in the special tradition.



ROGER IDEHEN PHOTOS



Hawkins Arena at Mercer University brimmed with love and support from hundreds of friends and family members gathered for commencement.



Commencement speaker Jim Petro exhorts the graduates to welcome new challenges throughout their careers.

ALUMNI OPEN FLORIDA PIPELINE FOR NEW STUDENTS

Two Florida alumni are helping pave the path to Mercer Law School for prospective students by sharing their experiences and how Mercer shaped their careers

How do students find their way to Mercer Law School? In many ways, from many places. But recently, a small but growing wave of 1L class members is coming to Macon from central Florida. It's the handiwork of two Law School alumni: Gina Naccarato Fromang '92 and David Parrish '71.

They graduated from Mercer a generation apart, but now, as instructors at University of Central Florida (UCF), they work side-by-side to point young people toward the place that nourished their own careers.

"For David and me, it's a conscious decision to let students know how Mercer made us, we hope, fine lawyers, which then led us into teaching and giving back," Fromang says. "That was a significant part of what we learned at Mercer: the importance of giving back to your community."

"I'm a walking Chamber of Commerce for Mercer University," says Parrish, in short.

After graduating from Mercer Law, Fromang moved to central Florida and first met her fellow attorney and husband-to-be, Mark, at the Orange County Courthouse; they married in 1999 and set up a family and criminal law practice. Fromang also rekindled her friendship with a Mercer Law student who was two classes ahead of her: Deanna Parrish, who'd joined the Florida practice of her father David. David Parrish, in turn, became a mentor to Gina.

Fromang recently had the opportunity to return the favor.

Three years ago, she began teaching in the undergraduate Legal Studies Program at UCF, the second-largest university in the nation by enrollment. "We teach students who are seriously considering a career in the law," says Fromang, who now teaches full time.

In January, on Fromang's recommendation and her department's invitation, Parrish came aboard as an adjunct ... and as a fellow advocate for Mercer Law. "David was in the early stages of retirement, and he was looking for a little something extra to do," she says.

"We started tag-teaming, if you will, talking to our classes about Mercer Law School in the course of whatever area of

law we were discussing," she says. "We told stories about our days in law school, and how being a Mercer graduate affected positively our experiences as a lawyer. We found that the students were interested in that. We have actually had some great young people going on and attending Mercer."

But Florida these days has an abundance of its own law schools. "We actually have too many here," Fromang says.

"There's one on every corner," says Parrish.

So why should a Florida student consider Mercer Law? Well, there are at least three reasons.

"First of all," Fromang says, "Mercer has the No. 1 legal writing program in the nation. The legal writing aspect of our job as a practitioner is so integral to what we do every day. Mercer made me a good lawyer in that I became a person who could analyze law and then put that into writing."

A second reason: "There is a feeling among not only the students at Mercer but the faculty that we are a family, and that we are imparting more than just the basics of legal knowledge," Fromang says.

Parrish agrees: "Mercer is one of the few places where you can see a professor almost 24/7."

On a recent visit to Mercer for its Pre-Law Advisor Conference (see page 11), Fromang got a personal reminder of its family-like ties when Professor Tony Baldwin pulled her aside to discuss a big case she'd won several years ago.

"I said, 'Professor Baldwin, you know about that case? You

**"THAT WAS A
SIGNIFICANT
PART OF WHAT
WE LEARNED
AT MERCER: THE
IMPORTANCE
OF GIVING
BACK TO YOUR
COMMUNITY."**



A generation apart, Gina Naccarato Fromang and David Parrish work side-by-side to bring young people to the University that nourished their own careers.

remember *me?*” The professor seemed surprised by *her* surprise. “He said, ‘But you were one of my students!’ These professors really do care. You’re not just a number.”

A third strength of Mercer Law School: “There’s a huge problem today with the amount of lawyers that are being turned out,” Fromang says. In their degree-mill mentality, some schools don’t emphasize ethical issues. “It’s important that students understand that being a lawyer means more than having a degree and getting a job. Schools are skipping over the importance of the ethics related to your practice and the importance of your reputation.

“I don’t see the lawyers coming out of Mercer falling into that category. We’re talking about people who have a sense of honor, in the old-school, Atticus Finch style. That’s not just nostalgia or being corny. Sometimes people’s lives are in your hands, not just their money. This is a higher calling.”

No argument there from David Parrish, nor even as much as a single bad word to say about Mercer. “I felt like one of the fortunate, select few,” he says of his three years there. His

daughter Deanna began elementary school in Macon; he recalls walking her to her first grade class in the mornings, then heading to the Law School.

Parrish was an editor of the *Law Review*, and in his post-graduate life he served as chairman of Mercer Law’s Board of Visitors and president of the Law Alumni Association before being named to the Mercer University Board of Trustees.

And, working alongside Gina Fromang, he’s not done yet. Recently he arranged for an outstanding UCF student to travel to Mercer with her mother, meet the Dean, tour the campus and sit in on some classes.

“I told her, ‘You’re just gonna fall in love with that place. It’s just the best law school. I’ve seen the ones down here, and they don’t compare to Mercer today.’” The student apparently agreed; she is in the 1L class entering this fall, one of five students from UCF.

“I am not halfway about Mercer University,” Parrish says, as if it needs clarification. “The reason I am able to live a good retirement is Mercer. I refer to it as the Harvard of the South.”

MERCER LAW FREE PRESS

MORE THAN A STUDENT BLOG

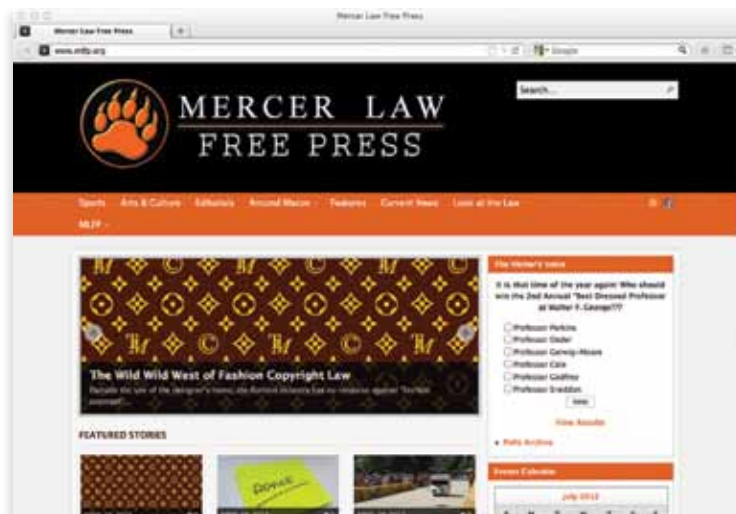
By: Krisi Hartig, 3L

As enterprising 2Ls, Barton Goode and Ross Hutchison sought to create a student-run online publication where students could comment on current events, noteworthy changes in the law, and life in Macon and at Mercer Law School. In 2011, Mercer Law Free Press (MLFP) was born. The site showcases student interest in an eclectic array of topics, ranging from online piracy and jury selection to the annual soapbox derby at Washington Park and the Mercer Law talent show. MLFP's mission has been to foster a diverse forum where students can demonstrate originality of thought and quality writing skills. Accordingly, student staff writers enjoy a great deal of autonomy and responsibility in their work.

Aptly named "Free Press," MLFP allows the student authors to create their own press, shaping how the community, other students and potential employers see them. Having articles show up as Internet search results can be a great advantage for MLFP staff-writers and contributors – especially when the person searching is a potential employer. Several student writers have reported having engaging conversations about their MLFP submissions in interviews.

MLFP serves another important function as a "Free Press," in that it provides a unique, student-generated perspective of law school life to potential students considering Mercer Law. Instead of being limited to the information on the Law School's website, potential students can read articles on www.mlfp.org about campus life, written by those who live it. MLFP also offers a good source of information, apart from the Mercer Law official website, to anyone searching for information about the school.

True to its purpose as a publication by and for Mercer Law students, MLFP encourages all students, not just regular staff writers, to submit articles for consideration. The site organizes the selected articles into one of several categories: Sports, Arts & Culture, Editorials, Around Macon, Features, Current News and Look at the Law. Each of these categories publishes new material by editors and staff on a regular basis, keeping the site fresh



and updated. To ensure conformity with quality standards, every article is subjected to a strict editing process.

When MLFP's co-creators graduated in May 2012, they passed the torch to a new editorial board full of fresh ideas and inspiration. Importantly, the new board shares the founders' commitment to making MLFP a vehicle for well-crafted student expression. In the upcoming year, MLFP's goals include fostering closer connections with Mercer Advocacy Council and other student-run organizations. In so doing, MLFP hopes to enhance its role as a source of information for members of the current student body.

The MLFP board invites readers of this story to go to www.mlfp.org and check out MLFP for themselves. Questions and comments are very welcome and should be sent to Minerva Steele at msteele13@law.mercer.edu.



Scan the QR Code to visit MLFP
on your smartphone.

Q&A YUMEI WU

CHINESE INTERPRETER AIMS TO HELP COMMUNITY

Tell us a little about your background – where you grew up, your family life, and what interested you the most as a student prior to law school.

I was born in Shanghai, China, and arrived in San Francisco as a high school senior on student visa. I am the first and only person in my family to come to the States. When I was a college student, I was very fond of mathematics and literature.

You've acted as a Mandarin Chinese interpreter for Professional Linguistics, working with Georgia's court system and Department of Labor, among other offices. What has that been like, and how did the work influence your decision to pursue a law degree?

I joined Professional Linguistics in 2003. The company provided training for interpretation at different legal and government

settings. While working with PL, I had opportunities to work at different levels of courts and do legal depositions and Labor Department interviews. Although this job only offers periodical assignments, it gave me opportunities to encounter some big cases, including several federal cases and one civil suit for over \$64 million. I always felt excited when I worked at court. This is my initial motivation to pursue a law degree.

You've had to do more than just interpret for clients. Tell us about some of your more interesting experiences.

With Professional Linguistics, I work merely as an interpreter. However, there are not enough job assignments to support my livelihood, so I started my own office in 2004 to serve the Atlanta Chinese community. I am also a liability insurance agent. Besides interpretation, I sold insurance policies and worked on claims. I also worked for some Chinese businesses for their communication needs. I have learned a lot because of my clients. For example, recently, I helped a Chinese bus company to work with the Department of Transportation, and I learned DOT compliance requirements. If not for this case, I probably would never talk to anyone at DOT in my lifetime.

How do you hope to use your law degree?

I hope to become smarter. I also hope to educate my fellow Chinese immigrants to prevent them from ending up in court because of misunderstandings about U.S. law.

You're a little older than some of the students. Do you see that as a plus or a minus?

There are many disadvantages to being older. I definitely don't have as much energy and passion as 15 years ago, but this is exactly why I want to go back to school.

How did you learn about Mercer Law School, and what made it seem like the right place for you?

I wanted to stay in Georgia, so I applied to Mercer. I enjoyed my first visit when I attended a class and talked with faculty. The close relationship between faculty and students is the crucial factor for my decision.



Wu helps translate a business interaction with her client, Fan Bin Meng, at the Department of Transportation in Atlanta.

BRIAN MAGEE

MARINE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR ENROLLS IN LL.M. TO ADVANCE CAREER

For Marine Captain Brian Magee, enrolling in the inaugural class for the Master of Laws Degree in Federal Criminal Practice and Procedure was, well, something of a no-brainer. For him, the LL.M. is a custom fit.

“One of my professors from [the University of] Georgia who ran the prosecutorial clinic there sent me the flyer on Mercer’s criminal LL.M. program,” Magee says. “I saw that and thought, ‘Perfect.’ Whether I stay in the military or go out into practice, what I want to do is prosecution.”

He isn’t exactly a novice at it. A judge advocate and military justice officer, he’s been on active duty in South Carolina since 2008 as senior prosecutor for Parris Island and the Marine Corps’ Eastern Recruiting Region.

“We’re in charge of all the recruiters east of the Mississippi

River,” he explains. Overseeing four prosecutors, he has handled cases of misconduct involving recruiters from Florida to Maine.

“I’d say 95 percent of my caseload has involved some sort of sexual misconduct,” Magee says. A high point of his work came in May 2011. His solo prosecution of a contested, high-profile child pornography case resulted in a sentence of 20 years’ confinement. “To date,” he says, “that’s the largest or most severe sentence for that kind of case in the military.”

Magee’s enrollment in Mercer Law School’s first-ever LL.M. program came about as a result of a Marine initiative that sends select members of the Corps to civilian or military schools to earn additional degrees. This particular degree will amplify Magee’s skills as a prosecutor.

That interest was first sparked by a mock trial team during high school. “For those mock trial cases it was always fun to be the government,” he says. “It was always interesting to be the one wearing the white hat, at least from my perspective – the fighter, the pursuer of justice.”

Magee, 31, comes from South Carolina to Macon with his family. His wife, Kelli, will have plenty to keep her busy too, caring for a three-year-old daughter and a son just shy of two, and expecting their third baby in December. Luckily, the relocation comes with some built-in help.

“We’ve got family close to Macon,” Magee says with a laugh, “so that’s definitely a positive. Plus, I’ll be home with family more than I am now.”



AMY MAUDOX PHOTO

Teri McMurtry-Chubb

Joins Mercer Law Legal Writing Faculty

Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb first came to Mercer Law School in 2011 as a panelist at the Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference.

"It just felt like I fit here," the New Jersey native says. "One thing that really struck me, and made me want to join this legal writing faculty, is that the people here are all serious scholars."

A personal connection occurred as well. An African-American female student sought out McMurtry-Chubb after the panel, which focused on gender and equality viewed from a racial perspective. The student told McMurtry-Chubb that this was the first time she had ever felt that someone was speaking to her about what was important and articulating it in terms that she understood. The student then asked if the professor would mentor her.

McMurtry-Chubb's academic focus is the intersection of history, hegemony and inequality.

"I was always fascinated with discrimination and injustice, whether it be gender discrimination, race discrimination or discrimination based on sexuality," she says. "The more I researched, I began to see patterns. And so I thought, 'This is not about a particular group, this is about power.' Hegemony is the study of power relationships, and so it allows me to encompass all of those other issues."

Part of her "research" included a stint as a practicing attorney in Des Moines. (She earned her J.D. from the University of Iowa.) She litigated discrimination cases "representing, well, The Man," she says wryly, meaning the insurance companies that had hired the insurance defense firm where she worked. "I learned how the power structure functions, how it's built and maintained.

"Then I turned around and started suing them, because I learned how they operated."

That was a while ago. Among many academic positions, she most recently taught at La Verne College of Law in Southern California.

While there, she finished her book, *Legal Writing in the Disciplines: A Guide to Legal Writing Mastery for Undergraduates and New Law Students*, published this June by Carolina Academic Press. A classroom tool for other professors, and the

text she uses in her own legal writing class, it's designed to help first-year students understand the analytical framework required in legal writing, whether their undergraduate degree is in the sciences or the arts and humanities.

"We don't talk to students in the language of their discipline, so there's a lot of frustration involved at the start," McMurtry-Chubb says. "Any student who comes into law school has spent four more years in the classroom of their major than they have in your classroom." Her book puts students and professors literally on the same page.

McMurtry-Chubb comes to Macon with her husband, Mark Chubb, a music professor and composer for film and TV. They met as undergraduates in Atlanta, she at Spelman, he at Morehouse. They married in 1996 on the day after opening ceremonies of the Atlanta Olympics in the small, old church near Rome (Mark's hometown) on property his great-great-great-grandfather purchased after he'd bought himself out of slavery.

"Now we're returning to the South during the latest summer Olympics," McMurtry-Chubb says. "It's like coming full circle."



AMY MADDOX PHOTO

Erudite Eloquence

INCISIVE SCHOLAR, sensitive student advisor and keeper of one of the Law School's messier offices, Hal Lewis retires this fall after joining Mercer 35 years ago.

"He's devoted to scholarship, but most of all to his students," says Rebecca McKelvey '06, a Nashville-based attorney who was lead articles editor for the *Law Review*, with Lewis as the *Review's* faculty advisor, a post he's held for the past 10 years. "He's a great professor and an amazing person who is always genuinely interested in students – while we are there, and after we graduate."

The Walter F. George Professor of Law since 1991, Lewis came to Mercer in 1977. The White Plains, N.Y., native was an undergraduate at Columbia, earned his J.D. at Stanford University and practiced law for five years at a Wall Street firm.

For his first three years in practice he was in a labor and employment discrimination group, representing management clients intent on warding off union labor campaigns. (One stark memory: After a day consulting a client battling the Teamsters, his car was raised on a lift to make sure a bomb wasn't stuck to its underside.)

"After those three years I moved into commercial litigation and was involved in what was then the world's largest contract dispute involving uranium contract litigation," Lewis says. That took him to New Mexico, where a lawyer named Harry, representing the other side, came to court with boots, a string tie, a cowboy hat and a spittoon.

"We suddenly realized that a New York frame of mind was not really going to play too well in Santa Fe," says Lewis, whose team wound up switching sides and joining Harry to battle "some bad multinational oil companies."

During those years on the case, as his colleagues rotated, he found himself bringing new members of the team up to speed: "It was, in effect, an informal kind of teaching." And he liked it very much, which led him to Macon and Mercer.

Over those 35 years, Lewis has also taught at the University of Georgia, Fordham, Washington University and George Mason.

"But I always considered Mercer my academic home."

Among his most satisfying projects at Mercer, Lewis cites being one of the three self-dubbed "Woodies" – along with professors Dick Creswell and Jack Sammons – enlisted by then-dean Phil Shelton to create the Woodruff Curriculum in the late 1980s. Among its innovations was a reduction in class size.

"The process was at times a bit like lawmaking – not something you want to look at too carefully," Lewis says. "But it was obvious within about three years that the new, smaller student body was doing terrifically. Their performance was immeasurably stronger than the much larger classes we had been required to admit in the 1980s."

As alumna McKelvey testifies, Lewis has always been interested in his students not only during law school, but also afterwards when they enter the profession.

"Over the years, the faculty have consistently, genuinely been interested in teaching students who really want to make the most of themselves," he says. "This becomes really evident when those students graduate. We get regular reports from practicing lawyers that our students, upon graduation, hit the ground running."

"What I'm most proud about, when it comes to reflecting on 35 years, is how well our students have done, and how dedicated our faculty has been to assisting them in maximizing their potential."

Lewis's favorite classroom subject is employment discrimination. "It's been a particular pleasure to watch students who, going in, weren't sure what the course was about and what their interest would be, then to watch a fair number of them decide this was going to become their life's work."

Dodson Strawbridge, a 2012 graduate, says, "Not only did Professor Lewis teach the subject incredibly thoroughly, he sparked my passion for the field. I am working in labor and employment law after graduation, thanks in no small part to Professor Lewis'

devotion to this area of law and each of his students.”

And to think that he’s done it all while working from an office whose genteel disorderliness requires two desks to uphold the towers of papers....

Fellow “Woody” Creswell says, “One of many things about Hal Lewis that mystifies his colleagues is how he has managed to deliver the steady stream of well-organized and carefully written books and articles ... from an office that reflects none of those characteristics.”

Creswell recalls when a security guard, peering through the typically open door of Lewis’s office, called Lewis at home after midnight to report a case of vandalism.

No. The office always looked that way.

As he eases into retirement, Lewis anticipates some quiet time at the Highlands, N.C., home he shares with his wife, Leslie, a registered nurse. He’s also looking forward to more frequent visits with

his 8- and 10-year-old grandchildren in Arlington, Va. “It will be lovely to run up there, both unexpectedly for fun and as needed.”

Before retirement, he’ll be involved with an Augusta-based literacy and mentoring project created by former student Tanya Jeffords ’01, and he hopes to do the same sort of volunteer work in North Carolina. He also intends to continue consulting in employment and commercial litigation cases.

One hopes he will, as well, maintain his famously expansive vocabulary.

“Hal keeps a mental storehouse of obscure words and expressions and sprinkles them sparingly into his conversations,” Creswell says. “I feel sure he will be one of the few who understand me when I say that I am sad to find that Hal’s talk of retirement is more than a velleity. His ready friendship, excellent teaching and diligent scholarship will be sorely missed.”



Perspectives On (and In) Legal Education

✕ By MARK JONES



The primary goal of legal education is to prepare students to be good lawyers. A secondary goal is to prepare them to be good citizen leaders, since they have access to leadership positions largely because they become lawyers. It is important in achieving these goals that students explore law and lawyering in a broader context, that they acquire “perspective.”

Examples of the broader context I have in mind range from using international and foreign law to challenge (or support) the constitutionality of the death penalty to using psychology in jury selection. But what exactly is going on here (and in countless other examples I could give)?

Good lawyers are practically wise lawyers. They display a distinctive practical wisdom enabling them to do the right thing in the right way at the right time. The good lawyer possesses an ensemble of deeply ingrained professional attributes that are seamlessly integrated within the lawyer. These attributes are fundamental dimensions of the lawyer’s professional identity and actually or potentially influence the lawyer’s actions. They are the lawyer’s internal reality. These attributes include substantive knowledge, practical skills and professional character. The good lawyer draws upon these professional attributes to respond appropriately, with practical wisdom, to the context of the legal situations the lawyer encounters.

Obviously, the way in which we understand this context is key. Several fundamental dimensions of law (and of lawyering) are seamlessly integrated within the context of different legal situations. They are fundamental dimensions of those situations and actually or potentially influence their outcome. They are sources of law, or causal factors, that determine the reality of the situation. Some concern the substantive legal norms governing legal relationships and operation of the law machine (legal institutions, legal actors and legal processes). Others concern the professional attributes of lawyers mentioned above. Yet others concern broader aspects of the law – social realities and the entire social order,

history, moral philosophy and jurisprudential theory, foreign and comparative law, and the legal aspects of globalization.

Courses addressing these various dimensions help ensure that the lawyer’s internal reality matches the reality of the legal situation. Importantly, this includes courses that develop specialized knowledge and skills related to the broader aspects of law. To see why, we need to consider substantive knowledge and practical skills separately from professional character, while remembering their inseparability in practice.

The lawyer may confront various types of decision-making situations – for example, litigation and adjudication; legislative law reform or administrative agency rulemaking; applying the norms of professional responsibility; and counseling clients or representing them in dispute settlement or transactional negotiations.

To respond to these situations appropriately, the good lawyer needs technical expertise, which combines substantive knowledge with practical skills. Exercising the relevant practical skills in these situations (litigation skills, problem solving, counseling, negotiation, ethical decision-making, etc.) requires the lawyer to make persuasive arguments to the relevant decision-makers – judges, juries, legislators, administrative officials, other parties, other lawyers, the client and the lawyer himself or herself. These arguments address the fundamental dimensions of law defining the context of the legal situation in question.

Some of these fundamental dimensions concern binding sources of law – for example, formal sources such as constitutional norms, statutes, or judicial precedent, rules of professional ethics, or a governing contract or will. Some of these binding sources may themselves require that broader aspects of law be addressed. Thus, certain constitutional norms explicitly incorporate concepts of political morality such as due process, freedom of religion, or free speech; and international law can also be a binding source of law, as can foreign law when conflict of laws rules so direct.

Moreover, fundamental dimensions that concern broader aspects of law such as historical law, international law, foreign



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law, principles of morality, jurisprudential analysis, economic or business or sociological or scientific theory and empirical data, and psychological insights may, depending on the situation, furnish “good reasons” for decision or otherwise help in persuading relevant decision-makers. This is true, for example, when a statute or precedent governing litigation is unclear, in law reform efforts, or in drafting or revising a contract or will.

Exposure to the broader aspects of law also contributes to formation of the good lawyer’s professional character and sense of calling, which also shape the lawyer’s response to these legal situations. The exploration of diverse worldviews, ideologies and cultural narratives through studying legal history, jurisprudence, comparative law, international law and even law and economics encourages students to see matters through the eyes of those who are different. This further aids development of the central character quality of sympathetic detachment, which is even more important in an increasingly diverse and pluralistic world.

In addition, reading powerful accounts of justice, narratives describing struggles for justice, philosophical accounts of moral reasoning or of the great virtues, or biographies of historical heroes who have embodied these virtues, powerfully contribute to reinforcing and further developing qualities of professionalism. The qualities of professionalism that are reinforced and developed include the dedication to justice and the public good, the ability to engage in good moral reasoning with oneself and others, and other necessary virtues such as courage, temperance, and appropriate humility.

Students who are inspired and transformed in these ways will also develop a stronger sense of professional calling, purpose and professional identity as they situate themselves within the larger human story of law and lawyering and forge a connection to the animating purposes of the law and the legal profession.

Furthermore, preparing students to be good lawyers in this manner necessarily also helps prepare them to be practically wise and civic-minded citizen leaders.

Law schools should require students to take two or three foundational courses surveying the range of fundamental dimensions that concern these important broader aspects of law, and also integrate relevant subject matter into other courses. This is the only way to ensure the necessary exposure for those many students who would otherwise elect against courses that seem not to concern “real law.”

The visionary Woodruff Curriculum, adopted in 1989, seeks to develop the professional attributes of the practically wise lawyer by introducing students to much of the multidimensional context of lawyering. In various required courses, it addresses substantive legal norms, practical skills, qualities of character and professional values. As adopted, it required students to take at least one course from a Perspectives Block addressing the broader aspects of law. However, in 2011, the Mercer law faculty voted to replace the Woodruff Curriculum perspectives requirement with a strong recommendation. Some faculty, including this author, agreed that the perspectives requirement had not worked out entirely as hoped at the outset, but disagreed with changing the requirement to a strong recommendation. We would have preferred to improve and even expand the perspectives requirement.

Indeed, requiring each student to take two or three courses addressing broader aspects of law before graduation would represent a final repudiation of the “Langdellian prejudice.” Born in the 1870s, the Langdellian prejudice drastically narrowed the mainstream-required core curriculum to what, under Langedll’s impoverished notion of legal science, came to be regarded as “real law.” A requirement of two or three such courses would return to the better traditions of U.S. legal education established during legal education’s first phase (from the time of the Revolution until the 1860s), when those who received a formal legal education were adequately exposed to *both* the more technical *and* the broader aspects of law. These lawyer-statesmen could then serve their clients and the Republic in a properly broad-minded way.

— Mark Jones, *Professor of Law*

Teaching for Practical Wisdom



By DAISY HURST FLOYD



For a number of years, I have been researching how higher education affects the ethical development of students, with a particular focus on professional education. I am interested in how we help students develop the multiple capacities that lawyers use in their decision-making and actions. I have learned from various disciplines, including moral, social and educational psychology, philosophy, and cognitive science, but I keep returning to an ancient concept: practical wisdom.

Aristotle considered practical wisdom the master virtue. Practical wisdom encompasses within it all of the other virtues, including loyalty, self-control, courage, fairness, generosity, gentleness, friendliness and truthfulness. Aristotle believed that a person who knows how to use the virtues “practically,” that is, to apply them in concrete situations, is wise. A recent popular book offers this definition: practical wisdom is the “right way to do the right thing in a particular circumstance, with a particular person, at a particular time.” Practical wisdom is nuanced and contextual. It requires one to move back and forth between the general and the particular and to adapt understandings of general concepts and norms to particular, sometimes unexpected, situations.

Practical wisdom is a desired trait for everyone, but it is particularly important for lawyers, who offer their clients both professional expertise and judgment informed by wisdom. Indeed, wisdom is arguably the distinctive value that a lawyer offers a client. The client needs more than expertise in general rules; he seeks the lawyer’s judgment about what the rule means

for his situation, given his particular needs and goals at a particular moment.

I believe that the best lawyers possess practical wisdom and that a purpose of legal education is to develop capacities for practical wisdom in our students. How do we fulfill that purpose? How do we prepare future lawyers to act out of the sum of their experiences, knowledge and values so that they make the best professional decisions in actual situations?

I was fortunate to be part of a project that addressed this question. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching gathered educators to determine how to develop students’ capacities for practical wisdom. We concluded that doing so requires going beyond higher education’s traditional emphasis on subject matter knowledge and critical thinking skills; we recommend that every course also include concepts of identity, community and responsibility. Teaching that helps develop practical wisdom asks students to understand and use a *body of knowledge* (subject matter content), and also to be informed by their developing *identities* (who they are and who they are becoming), by *community* (how others use this knowledge and why), and by awareness of *responsibility* to others (recognizing that they use their knowledge on behalf of or in service to someone else and that there will be consequences to others).

These areas expand the stated purpose of legal education, whose curriculum is organized primarily around subject matter and which has long defined its goal as teaching students to think

like a lawyer. Research shows that law school's dominant emphasis on cognitive ability devalues practical skills and normative values and that law students' ethical identities are underdeveloped. We also know that many students have difficulty applying subject matter knowledge in real situations, even when they have performed well on an examination in the area.

The Carnegie project suggests that integrating the development of subject matter expertise with other concepts may remedy these deficiencies. Asking students to incorporate *identity* helps them integrate their new professional roles with their understandings of themselves, including incorporating their values and their concerns from their pre-law school days with the ones they are now developing. *Community* brings in the norms and habits of the legal profession and asks students to reflect upon how other lawyers have acted or would act in a particular situation; it provides concrete models of lawyers. *Responsibility* includes both the fiduciary obligation to the client and broader obligations for responsible deliberate action in the world at large and consideration of the consequences of one's actions for others.

This approach presents a new model for legal education. For example, in my first-year civil procedure course, I will be challenged to teach the fundamentals of subject matter and personal jurisdiction while also placing that understanding within the context of who students are becoming as lawyers, what their ethical obligations are, and how to use the rules as responsible fiduciaries for a wide range of clients. I must move beyond a



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focus on the casebook and Socratic questioning to design reflective exercises and create occasions for dialogue and feedback on such matters as the emotional demands of representing clients who have suffered extreme losses or of the inherent conflict in representing multiple clients in a joint action.

Adapting legal education to meet new conceptions of our purpose won't be easy. It will require law faculty to draw upon our expertise in law and legal education, understand our identities as lawyers and educators, rise to the norms and expectations of our multiple professional communities, and fulfill our fiduciary responsibilities. It will require us to exercise practical wisdom.

— Daisy Hurst Floyd, University Professor
of Law and Ethical Formation



Professor Ted Blumoff

Recent Publications

The Move Toward Law and Neuroscience, MERCER LAWYER 22 (Spring 2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Some Limits of Accountability: The Role of the Brain Sciences, Annual Scholarship Conference of the Society for the Evolutionary Analysis of Law (SEAL) sponsored by Mercer Law School and Emory Law School.



Professor Emeritus Joseph Claxton

Select Speeches & Presentations

Estate Planning for Families with a Person with a Mental Disability, Developmental Disabilities Ministries, Inc., Norcross, Ga.



Professor Jim Fleissner

Select Speeches & Presentations

The New Georgia Evidence Code, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia, Jekyll Island, GA.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Received 2012 Reynold J. Kosok Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award, presented annually to member of faculty by vote of graduating class.



Professor Daisy Hurst Floyd University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation

Recent Publications

Learning From Clergy Education: Externships Through the Lens of Formation, JOURNAL OF CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION (with Timothy W. Floyd and Sarah Gerwig-Moore) (forthcoming).

Pedagogy and Purpose: Teaching for Practical Wisdom, 63 MERCER L. REV. 943 (2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Cultivating Self-Reflection and Lawyer Integrity, The Development of Professional Identity and Legal Education: Rethinking Learning and Assessment, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colo.

The Wise Practitioner: Learning from Professionals Who Act Ethically, Empirical Professional Ethics, sponsored by the Holloran Center on Ethical Leadership in the Professions and The University of St. Thomas Law Journal, Minneapolis, Minn.

Legal Education and the Formation of Professional Identity: Past and Future, American Bar Association 38th National Conference on Professional Responsibility, Boston, Mass.

The Role of Field Placements in Legal Education Today: Purpose and Pedagogy, opening plenary session of the Externships 6 Conference, Northeastern University School of Law and Harvard Law School, Boston, Mass.

The Role of Externships in Lawyer Formation: Learning from Clergy Education (with Tim Floyd and Sarah Gerwig-Moore) Externships 6 Conference, Northeastern University School of Law and Harvard Law School, Boston, Mass.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Elected to Board of Directors, Georgia Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

Site Team Chair, American Bar Association Accreditation Inspection of University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law.



Professor Timothy W. Floyd Professor and Director of Law and Public Service Program

Recent Publications

Peace with Justice: Ending the Death Penalty, in A NEW EVANGELICAL MANIFESTO: A KINGDOM VISION FOR THE COMMON GOOD (Chalice Press 2012).

The Lawyer Meets the Therapist, the Minister, and the Psychiatrist, 63 MERCER L. REV. 959 (2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Professional Duties and Personal Morality, Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association Spring Conference.

Religion and Legal Ethics, The Place of Religion in the Law School, the University, and the Practice of Law, sponsored by Association of Religiously Affiliated Law Schools, Touro Law Center, Islip, N.Y.



Professor Sarah Gerwig-Moore

Recent Publications

Last Suppers, MERCER LAWYER 24 (Spring 2012).

Fresh Ears, Fresh Eyes: Final Editing Through Reading Aloud, 63 MERCER L. REV. 971 (2012).

Gideon's Vuvuzela: Reconciling the Sixth Amendment's Promises with the Doctrines of Forfeiture and Implicit Waiver of Counsel, 81 MISS. L.J. 439 (2011).

Saving Their Own Souls: How RLU-IPA Failed to Deliver on its Promises, 4 LEGISLATION AND POLICY BRIEF (Issue 1 2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

The Habeas Project, Council of Superior Court Judges Semi-Annual Meeting and Conference.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Cases in which the Law School's Habeas Project secured full or partial relief for its clients:

Fullwood v. State, __Ga. __, S11A1725 (January 9, 2012).*

Collier v. State, __Ga. __, S11A1306 (February 6, 2012).*



Professor Patrick Longan William Augustus Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics

Recent Publications

Legal Ethics, Annual Survey of Georgia Law, 64 MERCER L. REV. (forthcoming 2012)

Select Speeches & Presentations

Program co-chair and panel moderator, *Beginning Lawyers Program*, ICLE, Atlanta, Ga.

Update on Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association CLE, Macon, Ga.

Ethics and Elder Law, Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Amelia Island, Fla.



Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb

Recent Publications

LEGAL WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINES: A GUIDE TO LEGAL WRITING MASTERY (Carolina Academic Press 2012).

TEACHERS MANUAL TO LEGAL WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINES: A GUIDE TO LEGAL WRITING MASTERY (Carolina Academic Press 2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Don't Sweat the Technique: Toward a Disciplinary Pedagogy for Legal Education, 15th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Desert Springs, Calif.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Elected for a three-year term to the Association of Legal Writing Directors Board of Directors.



Professor David Oedel

Recent Publications

Two Views: Affirmative Action, ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION (Aug. 9, 2012).



Professor David Ritchie Professor of Law and Philosophy

Select Speeches & Presentations

Elements of the Pacifist Conscience, 12th International Law and Ethics Conference — Pacifism: Still the Issue, Belgrade, Serbia.

The Kill Lists, War Workshop, Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict at Merton College, Oxford.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Served as Visiting Fellow in Department of Politics at Oxford University, April-June 2012.

Named Research Associate at Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict at Oxford.

Member of international jury of PLURAL+, a joint initiative between United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and International Organization for Migration.



Professor Jack L. Sammons Griffin B. Bell Professor of Law

Recent Publications

Recovering the Political: The Problem with Our Political Conversations, 63 MERCER L. REV. 899 (2012).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Professional Ethics: An Intellectual Journey, Mercer Philosophy Department.



Professor Karen Sneddon

Recent Publications

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LAWYER: CONTRACTS MODULE (with Professors Susan M. Chesler and Patrick E. Longan) (Aspen Publishers 2012).

The Wills as Personal Narrative, ELDER L.J. (forthcoming).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Do Now's: 25 Invigorating Classroom Warm Up Exercises, Fifteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Desert Springs, Calif.

Honors, Awards & Activities

Appointed Co-Chair of Legal Writing Institute Scholarship Development and Outreach Committee (2012-2014).

Elected Member of Editorial Board of LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE (2012-2016).

Appointed Member of New Scholars' Committee of Southeastern Association of Law Schools (2012-2013).



Professor Scott C. Titshaw

Recent Publications

The Reactionary Road to Free Love: How DOMA, State Marriage Amendments and Social Conservatives are Destroying Traditional Marriage, W. VA. L. REV. (forthcoming).

A Future without the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)? And Navigating a Present in Which DOMA

Unfortunately Still Exists, in IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW HANDBOOK (2012-13 ed.) (co-authored).

Select Speeches & Presentations

Crossing the Border to Marriage Equality, AILA Rome (Europe & Middle East) Chapter Fall Conference, London, U.K.

LGBT Families and US Immigration and Citizenship Laws, National LGBT Bar Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

The Discord between Assisted Reproductive Technology and Immigration, American Immigration Lawyers Association National Audio Seminar.

A Future Without the Defense of Marriage Act, AILA Annual Conference, Nashville, Tenn.

The Legal and Immigration Issues When Going Abroad for Egg Donation or Surrogacy, nationally syndicated radio/podcast *Creating a Family*.

A Comparative Introduction to the German Legal System: Impressions of German Law, Legal Education and Practice from an American Perspective, University of Georgia School of Law, Athens, Ga.

Immigration and Individual Rights, Symposium on *Border Patrols: The Legal, Racial, Social and Economic Implications of U.S. Immigration Policy*, St. John's University School of Law Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development, New York, N.Y.

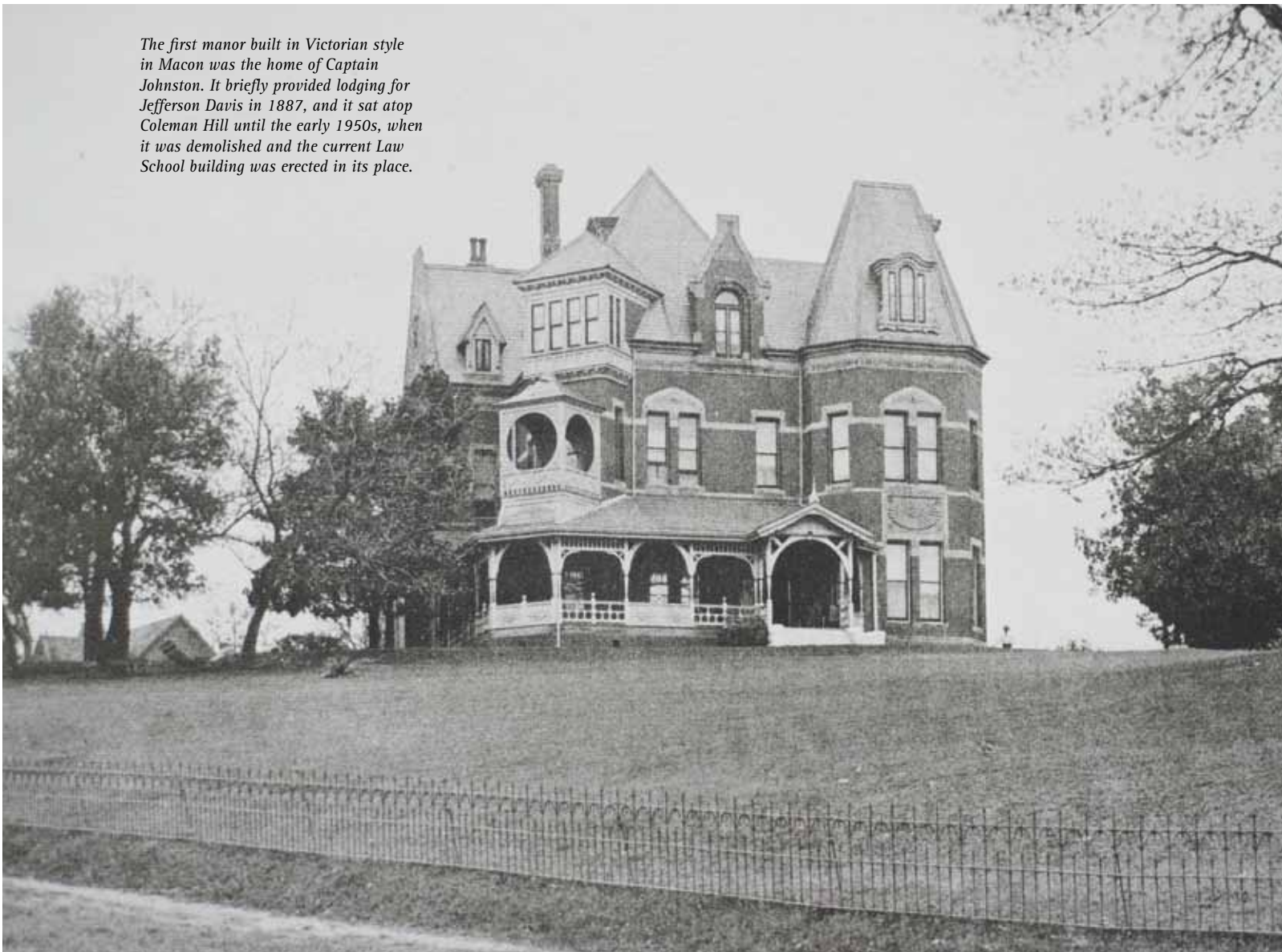
International Human Rights Law and Human Rights Enforcement in U.S. Immigration Law, John Marshall Law Journal Annual Symposium, Atlanta, Ga.

Legal Issues Affecting LGBT Refugees and Asylees, Heartland Alliance's Rainbow Welcome Initiative *LGBT Refugees and Asylees: Responding to the Needs of a Hidden Population*, Atlanta, Ga.

The Gray Ghosts of Coleman Hill

By Joseph E. Claxton, *Professor Emeritus*

The first manor built in Victorian style in Macon was the home of Captain Johnston. It briefly provided lodging for Jefferson Davis in 1887, and it sat atop Coleman Hill until the early 1950s, when it was demolished and the current Law School building was erected in its place.



THE YEAR WAS 1887. Like many cities that had been a part of the Confederate States of America, Macon was beginning to emerge from the crushing economic devastation of the Civil War. Then as now, Coleman Hill rose above the northern end of Macon's business district. Two great mansions dominated the peak. Overlook (now known as the Woodruff House) still survives, a classic example of antebellum architecture. The other stood nearer Georgia Avenue and represented "modern" architecture at its best – the first structure built in the genuine Victorian style in Macon.

The home of Captain and Mrs. Joseph Marshall Johnston, it provided temporary lodging in October 1887 for a very high-profile visitor: Jefferson Davis, the only man to serve as president of the Confederate States of America. With him were his wife, Varina Howell Davis, and his two daughters.

Davis had been invited to Macon to participate in an agricultural fair, an event that would focus on a huge reunion of Confederate veterans. Davis had been very ill during much of 1887 and initially resisted the invitation when it was presented to him at his Mississippi home. But the opportunity to greet the veterans overcame his reluctance.

Davis had not been a popular leader of the Confederacy during the latter stages of the Civil War. Biographer William C. Davis (no relation) described him as a man who could seem cold and aloof when the image he really wanted to present was quiet dignity; who was absolutely loyal to his most gifted subordinates (General Robert E. Lee), but unfortunately equally loyal to some of the least gifted (General Braxton Bragg); and whose personal strengths were all too easily obscured by "the unifying and overriding influence of one single paramount force – insecurity." Davis was not a man to forget or forgive slights.

His standing in the South had actually improved somewhat after the war. The harsh imprisonment that he endured in Virginia's Fortress Monroe at the hands of the United States War Department made him a martyr in the eyes of many Southerners, particularly because he was in very poor health by the time he was set free. Ironically, his last visit to Macon prior to 1887 had been during a stop while being escorted by the Union cavalymen who had captured him near Irwinville.

The organizers of Davis's 1887 visit had planned for him to go to the fairgrounds (now Central City Park) to meet with the Confederate veterans, but a continuing cold rain caused officials to decide he should not be exposed to the elements. The veterans, therefore, marched to Coleman Hill. Davis awaited them, seated on the porch of the Johnston mansion. With him were U.S. Senator Alfred H. Colquitt and Georgia Governor John B. Gordon, who, as a very young man, had risen to major general in the Confederate army.

The scene that followed the arrival of the Confederate veterans on Coleman Hill was extraordinary. Davis, a man not given to public displays of emotion, wept. The veterans and others who accompanied them (5,000 people according to the accounts of that day) surged across the sweeping lawn, with each person seeking to come as close as possible to the old Confederate leader. Emotions ran high as Confederate battle flags flew over the hill, and Davis supposedly kissed one flag that was offered to him.

Today the only trace of the Johnston mansion is a photograph that hangs in the reception area of the deans' suite in the Law School. The house was demolished in the early 1950s when the Insurance Company of North America built the structure that has housed the Law School since 1977. The only remembrance of the visit of Jefferson Davis to be found on Coleman Hill is a plaque at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Bond Street, put in place by the Sidney Lanier Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1939.

Davis died in 1889, still committed to the proposition that secession was a matter of constitutional right. The veterans who massed on Coleman Hill lie in old cemeteries across Georgia, the memories of their often courageous efforts to move forward after the Civil War obscured by the dark stain of slavery.

Today, young men and women from all backgrounds attend classes and study law where the Johnston house once stood and where the Confederate veterans assembled to pay homage to Jefferson Davis. If ghosts dressed in gray roam Coleman Hill, they are no doubt somewhat puzzled – but perhaps, upon reflection, in many ways pleased – by a world far different from the one they knew and sought in vain to maintain.

** This installment of The History Corner draws on several sources that other Civil War history buffs may wish to consult: William C. Davis, Jefferson Davis: The Man and His Hour (1991); Jefferson Davis, The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government (1881); and E. Merton Coulter, Jefferson Davis and the Northeast Georgia Fair, 50 Ga. Hist. Q. 257 (1966).*



Judge Richard Mills '57

REPAYING LASTING VALUE WITH A LEGACY OF GRATITUDE

When he first came to Macon “from Mr. Lincoln’s prairie” (as he likes to say), Judge Richard H. Mills was looking for a small law school about the size of his undergrad *alma mater*, Illinois College. One of the half dozen or so letters he sent to law schools led to a response by Mercer’s then-Dean F. Hodge O’Neal, who said he’d be delighted to personally show Mills around.

“I was impressed with that kind of reception, and that’s how I ended up down there,” Mills says from his office in Springfield, Ill. He was appointed federal district judge for the Central District of Illinois in 1985. He assumed senior status in 1997, but has continued to sit and maintain a busy docket.

At Mercer Law School, Mills became lifelong friends with many classmates, including a contingent of students from Puerto Rico, which had no law schools of its own back then. Highlights of his years here included his moot court experiences.

“The local circuit and superior court judges presided,” he says. “They gave some marvelous hands-on experience to the law students. I enjoyed that thoroughly.”

He was also on the *Law Review*’s board of editors. “My *Law Review* experience was just simply great. Everybody on the board and all the officers got along superbly, and it was great fun in the process.”

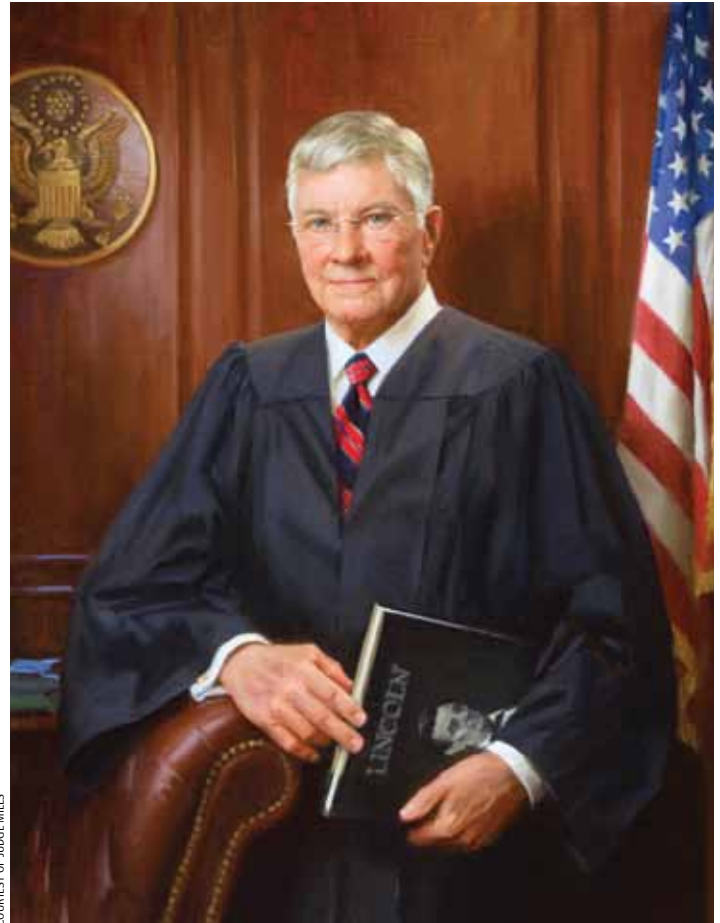
A lawyer in private practice and then a state court trial and appellate judge in Illinois in the years before his federal appointment, Mills also served 14 months in the Army in Korea, with 33 years total of active and reserve service; his more than a dozen medals and citations include the Bronze Star.

In civilian life, he’s been a Kiwanis Club president, served on a hospital’s board of trustees and a library’s, and stayed involved with the Boy Scouts. (He and both of his sons are Eagle Scouts.) He’s also served on the Law School’s board of visitors and has participated in the school’s moot court competition several times.

Trust us: That’s a severely pared-down sample of Judge Mills’s interests and accomplishments, which raises the question: When did he sleep?

“I’ve asked myself a number of times in the last few years, how the hell did I ever do it?” he says with an infectious laugh that recurs often. “I just wonder how I got up and did so much of that stuff. But you go on adrenalin. It’s just part of the game, it’s the way its played, and you’ve got to play by the rules.”

Happily, however, he managed to find time this summer to tour the British Isles and France with wife Rachel for their 50th



COURTESY OF JUDGE MILLS

anniversary, returning to Monet’s garden in Giverny. (They’d viewed the famous pond and lilies two times previously, in springtime and fall.)

Judge Mills will be back at the Law School this November to bench the final round of the Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition, along with Chief Judge Lisa Wood of the United States District Court, Southern District of Georgia, and Judge Michael Boggs ’90 of the Georgia Court of Appeals. Starting in 2013, a monetary prize in his name will be awarded annually to an outstanding member of the *Law Review*’s board — someone who is not the editor in chief. As Mills puts it, “He or she already has the top prize!”

He explains, “I had given thought over the last few years to making some contribution that would be of lasting value to the school as a demonstration of my continued interest in Mercer and my gratitude for the fine education I received there.”

He partly attributes the quality of that education to the Law School’s manageable, intimate size.

“Frankly, my view is that smaller law schools turn out simply superb practicing lawyers. And that’s what we need, badly.”

Elizabeth Sorrells '78

REDEFINING 'MARRIED STUDENT HOUSING'

When Atlanta-area native Elizabeth Sorrells entered Mercer Law School in 1975, it felt like a homecoming. She'd been an undergraduate student at Wesleyan College, but several things had happened in the five years since: marriage, divorce and the birth of her son, Seth.

So, in addition to her studies, she had to care for Seth — only a year old when she started law school — and support the two of them with freelance secretarial work, typing late into the night for fellow law students and local attorneys.

"I was a lot younger then," she says. "I didn't know I *couldn't* do it, so I just did it." Without much sleep, though. Sometimes, on weekends, classmates would play with Seth outside the law library while his mom worked. "They'd go out on the lawn and throw a ball around and give me an hour to study or research."

Another challenge arose early on when Sorrells applied to live in Mercer's "married student housing." She was told that, as a divorcee, she didn't qualify.

Writing to the University's president, "I put my case forward that a family wasn't always a perfect married couple with 2.4 children," Sorrells says. In reply, he referred her to one of his deputies.

Their meeting didn't go well: "He told me that I was a divorced woman, and they didn't want 'my kind' — his words — in married housing and that I should get a red D and wear it around my neck."

She left in dismay — which soon spread to fellow classmates, her professors and, after the University newspaper wrote about the situation, many on the main Mercer campus.

Sorrells refuses to be seen as some sort of firebrand. But after two years of meetings ("I got to know the university attorneys quite well," she says dryly), Mercer amended its policy. "I challenged the university's definition of family housing and was able to get that changed," she says. "We were able to help other people. That's the important thing — that other single parents, be they male or female, could have that as a viable option."

Sorrells was witness to other big changes. At the beginning of her senior year, classes were held for the first time in the Law School's current building on Coleman Hill.

She was also among the vanguard of women entering law school. The graduating class of '78 included only 10 female students, or 12 percent. "We were right on that cusp of women breaking in," says Sorrells, who remembers being addressed as "honey" by an elderly judge during her first appearance in an Atlanta courtroom. At Mercer, Sorrells says professors Joe Claxton, Leah Chanin and the late Jim



DARKROOM PHOTOGRAPHY

Rehberg were notable for their open-door policy and support of the female student minority.

After working in management roles for investment firms in Philadelphia, Boston and New York, Sorrells moved to St. Simons Island in 2002 as a financial planner. In 2011, the financial planning practice that she has built in St. Simons Island became part of Atlanta Capital Group and she became managing partner of Atlanta Capital's St. Simons Island office.

An active volunteer, she was board president for six years of Brunswick's Glynn Community Crisis Center, sheltering victims of domestic violence and their children. She also has served on the board of CASA and is currently on the board of Goodwill Industries for Southeast Georgia.

Looking back, Sorrells says, "That's been a real passion of mine — anything that has to do with helping women and children."

Dwight Davis '82

RETIRING FROM K&S FOR TEACHING, PECAN FARMING

Following four years of active duty as a U.S. Army Airborne Ranger – with some of that time spent in the demilitarized zone in Korea – Dwight Davis fell in love with law school.

“There was another guy in my class who was a former Marine officer,” recalls the 1975 Citadel graduate. “He and I were at the library one night, and we were chuckling about these other kids, who had come directly from undergraduate, complaining about how tough law school was.

“For us, just the fact that we were in this nice, dry building with nobody shooting at us seemed like a great treat!”

Paul Quiros '82 recalls that when Davis won best oralist in a moot court competition, he spent all of his \$300 prize money (a tidy sum then) on drinks at the Rookery for his student competitors and judges.

“This was a foreshadowing for Dwight’s career,” Quiros says. “Dwight normally bested his opponents in his legal career, but he is characteristically generous to those he ‘defeats’ and works with.”

Since graduating from Mercer in 1982, Davis has worked at King & Spalding. He is now a senior partner in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group, specializing in consumer class actions with an emphasis on the auto, pharmaceutical and health care industries. In his time at the firm, he’s handled cases in 28 states, with more than a billion dollars in total at stake. In one case, the jury awarded the plaintiff whom he was representing \$41 million. Now, at the end of 2012, he’s retiring from the firm.

“This is the only place I’ve ever practiced law, and there is nowhere else I would rather practice,” he says, noting that when he first joined the firm it had two offices and he was its 115th attorney. Those numbers now, respectively, are 17 and 1,200-plus.

He’s proud to have been part of the firm’s expansion, but says, “I really have done this hard for 30 years, and I would like to have some different experiences.”

Those experiences will include being practitioner in residence at Mercer Law School for 2013. He has been involved as an adjunct with Emory Law School’s trial practice program and taught in Stanford University’s program this past summer. But he wants to give back to the school that set him on his path with a full scholarship.

“Mercer is very dear to me,” Davis says. His King & Spalding partners include law school classmate and fellow scholarship graduate Richard “Doc” Schneider '81. Together they vowed to pay back the school for its investment in them. Davis says, “I’ve thoroughly enjoyed practicing law and never regretted the decision I made, lo



those many years ago, to go into this field in general, and to go to Mercer in particular.”

Though plans are still being refined, as practitioner in residence Davis hopes to work directly with the trial practice program and teach at least one substantive course. “And I want to be a resource to any Law School professor who wants input from somebody who’s had the experience that I’ve had.”

Davis and his wife, Brenda, a diabetes educator and school nurse, have two children with Mercer Law School ties. Daughter Cameron is married to Robert Glass '07 and son Edens works on transportation issues for Gov. Nathan Deal '66.

As he leaves King & Spalding, Davis looks forward to his involvement with the academic world. But he and Quiros – another King & Spalding partner – are working together on a whole new venture. They’re starting a pecan orchard near Hawkinsville – not far from Macon. “It’s a fascinating new endeavor, and I’m really enjoying it,” he says.

The idea came up over lunch some years ago, even before the economic crash of 2008. Both men were looking for a tangible investment that wouldn’t be so susceptible to the unpredictable, speculative swings of the stock market. “So,” Davis says, “we decided to put our money where our mouths were.”

J. Christopher Smith '96

CRIMINAL DEFENSE FOR HOLLYWOOD CLIENTS

In recent years, he's been seen on-camera defending the late Anna Nicole Smith's attorney Howard K. Stern as well as Giovanni Ramirez, the Dodgers fan falsely accused of the brutal parking-lot beating of a Giants fan. He also was a TV commentator when Conrad Murray was tried for the death of Michael Jackson. But defense attorney J. Christopher Smith says he has generally served the sort of people who don't make it into the headlines.

"Most of my cases, they're the nameless and faceless folks," Smith says from his home in Los Angeles, where for many years he was a trial attorney with the Public Defender's Office.

"Folks sometimes would ask me, 'How can you represent somebody accused of a very serious crime?'" Smith says. "At the end of the day, it's about making sure that our system functions properly. Even if a person committed an offense, we still have to make sure that the process works. Otherwise, it undermines our whole system."

As Smith explained when speaking in April at Mercer's Black Law Students Association Empowerment Dinner, his life took a very unexpected turn several years ago.

"I thought I had a plan when I was coming out of Mercer, but your career can take you into all sorts of different paths," he says. "I thought I was going to be a lifelong public defender, until this crazy opportunity came up and I ended up being on a reality show for lawyers."

That was 2005's "The Law Firm," focusing on real attorneys and real cases. It was created by David E. Kelley, better known for fictional series including "Ally McBeal," "Boston Legal" and "Harry's Law."

Let's just say this reality show didn't become the next "Survivor." It only aired a few episodes on NBC, "then eventually died a quiet death on cable," Smith says. But it gave him a platform for his own practice.

Raised in Southern California, Smith had parents from the Memphis area, but, before enrolling at Mercer Law School, he hadn't been to the South since he was 10.

"It was a bit of a culture shock to be in Macon, because it has that small-town feel," he says, then laughs: "I remember rolling into town and seeing people waving, and wondering, 'Why are they waving?'"

He ultimately found the town's friendly rhythms, slower than Southern California's, to be very conducive to study.

"The things I remember most about my time there were the relationships I developed," he says. "I worked with the National Criminal Defense College with Deryl Dantzler, who runs the program. It was amazing to see all these fantastic criminal defense attorneys



*J. Christopher Smith,
center*

from around the country, putting on their seminars about trial work. And I had a good relationship with Professor Baldwin."

Smith first learned about Mercer at the LA Law School Forum, where on occasion he'll return to man the Mercer table — encouraging potential students not to be wary about a law school on the other side of the country.

"I tell folks, 'Hey, you can come from the west coast, go to the school in the South, and still come back and practice law,'" he says. "At the time, when I was looking for a law school, that was definitely a concern for me. But I didn't find any disadvantage with going to school out of state."

"You just have to get in there, do the work — and then, things happen."

Get Involved!

Alumni volunteers play a vital role in the success of the Law School and your support makes a difference. Wherever you live or whatever your time constraints, there is a volunteer opportunity that matches your interest.

CONNECT WITH YOUR CLASSMATES

There are many ways to help keep your classmates in touch with each other and the Law School. By volunteering to serve as a class correspondent you can ensure that your class has a full column in *Class Notes of Mercer Lawyer*. Alumni can also help plan a reunion or sponsor an alumni event. For more information, contact Leslie Cadle, Director of Alumni Affairs, at cadle_l@mercer.edu or (478) 301-2180.

BE A GUEST SPEAKER

There are numerous opportunities to share your area of expertise with students at special Mercer Law events. Alumni guest speakers provide students with firsthand knowledge about how to acclimate to law school, how to prepare for legal careers and offer insight into their specific area of practice. If you are interested in being a guest speaker, contact Stephanie Powell, Assistant Dean of Career Services, at (478) 301-2015 or careerservices@law.mercer.edu.

CONDUCT MOCK INTERVIEWS

Alumni interested in sharing their interviewing expertise are invited to join Career Services in this program. Alumni conduct mock interview with students and offer advice on student responses, resumes and personal presentation. For more information, contact Stephanie Powell, Assistant Dean of Career Services, at (478) 301-2015 or careerservices@law.mercer.edu.

LUNCH WITH A LAW STUDENT

Students can benefit greatly from guidance and advice offered to them by alumni who understand from firsthand experience the issues and concerns students face in beginning their legal careers. To share your experiences and advice with a law student over lunch, coffee or even over the phone, please contact Stephanie Powell, Assistant Dean for Career Services at (478) 301-2615 or careerservices@law.mercer.edu.

BE A MOOT COURT JUDGE

Mercer is proud to host teams from more than 20 different law schools at the 3rd annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition on Friday, Nov. 16, and Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012. Alumni are invited to volunteer to serve as judges for one or more hour-long rounds of oral argument. For more information, contact Sheri Bagheri at (678) 938-6580 or sbagheri13@lawmail.mercer.edu.

SUPPORT THE MERCER ADVOCACY COUNCIL

The Mercer Advocacy Council sponsors teams of students who participate in various oral and written advocacy competitions, including: moot court, mock trial, client counseling, negotiation and arbitration. Share your expertise and volunteer to judge one of Mercer's many advocacy teams as they prepare for national competitions. For more information,

contact Lindsay Bozicevich, Advocacy Competitions Coordinator, at (586) 215-7054 or bozicevich_l@law.mercer.edu.

RECRUIT POTENTIAL STUDENTS

If you are interested in assisting the Admissions Office with student recruitment by contacting admitted students, assisting with on-campus recruitment events or hosting a special event in your area, contact Marilyn Sutton, Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, at (478) 301-2605 or sutton_me@law.mercer.edu.

For more details and additional ways to get involved, please visit us online at www.law.mercer.edu/alumni.

For the latest updates and alumni events, look for us via social media:



Class Notes

1976

J. Milton Martin Jr. joined the firm of Hull Barrett PC in Evans.

1980

The Rev. Thomas Healy celebrated his 45th anniversary as a Roman Catholic priest in June.

The Honorable M. Yvette Miller spoke at the annual celebration of Mercer University's Founders' Day on Feb. 8, 2012.

1981

Kathy A. Bradley published *Breathing and Walking Around: Meditations on a Life*. Bradley is the inaugural winner of the 2010 Will D. Campbell Award for Creative Nonfiction and currently serves as an assistant district attorney for the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit.

1982

James J. McGinnis joined the Atlanta family law firm of Warner, Bates, McGough & McGinnis PC as a partner in May.

Evett Simmons, attorney with Greenspoon Marder, hosted the Evett L. Simmons Mock Trial Competition held in Washington, D.C., during the National Bar Association Crump Law Camp. The two-week summer camp is hosted at Howard University and designed to provide high school students with an enjoyable and comprehensive introduction to the challenges of a legal education.

1983

Ronald W. Farley, attorney in the Birmingham, Ala., office of Burr & Forman LLP, has been recognized as a 2012 Alabama Super Lawyer in the practice area of Environmental Law.

1984

Trent S. Kerns was elected to the executive committee of Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen in Chesterfield, Va.

1985

Mark Anthony Gager, under his professional name "Mark Anthony," published the best-selling and award-nominated book *Never Letting Go*.

1986

Sarah S. Harris became the first female Probate Court judge in Bibb County when she won an uncontested primary election July 31. Prior to her election, Harris practiced at the Macon law firm of Harris & James LLP.

Henry Walker was named Managing Partner of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in June.

1987

Pat Huddleston joined the Atlanta-based law firm Page Perry LLC as a partner in November 2011. Huddleston was formerly an SEC Enforcement Branch Chief, a court-appointed receiver and a Chapter 11 Examiner.

James N. Sadd was elected as the new president of the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association in May.

1988

Robert J. Kauffman of Hartley, Rowe & Fowler PC in Douglasville was named secretary of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June.

1989

Gary Martin Hays, Atlanta personal injury lawyer and founder of Keeping Georgia Safe, has been inducted as a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates, one of the most prestigious groups of trial lawyers in the United States. To become a member, a lawyer must have won for at least one client a verdict or settlement of \$2 million or more.

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS NEEDED:

MERCER LAW IS LOOKING FOR ALUMNI TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE AS THE CORRESPONDENT FOR THEIR GRADUATING CLASS. CLASS CORRESPONDENTS WILL REACH OUT TO CLASSMATES TO GATHER PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE MERCER LAWYER TWICE A YEAR.

To see if your class already has a correspondent, just check your class year in Class Notes.

To volunteer as a class correspondent, contact the Director of Alumni Affairs, Leslie Cadle at cadle_l@law.mercer.edu or (478) 301-2180.

Six Mercer Law graduates

completed the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia this year. The program is designed for young lawyers who are interested in developing their leadership skills as well as learning more about their profession, their communities and their state. Participants are selected through a competitive application process. More than 100 applications were received this year and only 46 participants were selected for the program. The following graduates completed the program on June 1 at the State Bar's Annual Meeting in Savannah.

William P. Miles Jr. '01

Elizabeth D. Adler '07

David Hamilton McCain '07

Cory Paul Debord '09

Michael A. Coots '10

Matthew Q. Wetherington '10

Class Notes

1990

Adam L. Appel joined the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance of Carlock Copeland & Stair LLP.

David W. Long-Daniels was recently selected as Global Co-Chair for the Labor & Employment Department and Co-Chair for the Global Human Capital Practice Group for Greenberg Traurig.

1991

Denise Dell-Powell, attorney with Burr & Forman LLP, has been ranked as a leading practitioner in the 2012 edition of *Chambers USA*.

D. Jay Stewart, Atlantic Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge, has released an album titled *Enjoy the Ride*.

1993

Mark K. Delegal was selected as a 2012 Florida Super Lawyer in the area of governmental and legislative representation. Delegal is the president of Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell and Dunbar PA in Tallahassee, Fla.

Deron Hicks published his first novel, *Secrets of Shakespeare's Grave*. This is the first of several books that he plans to write about 12-year-old Colophon Letterford and the ancient treasure left to her literary publishing family. Hicks is the current Inspector General for the State of Georgia.

1994

Rebecca L. Grist became the first female solicitor general of Bibb County when she

won an uncontested primary election July 31. She previously served as an assistant district attorney.

S. Mujeeb Shah-Khan was named the new city attorney for Greensboro (N.C.) City Council in July.

1995

Joel A. Howe has been named a partner at the law firm of Martin Snow LLP. Howe practices in the litigation section.

Jeffrey H. Knight was appointed to be a Superior Court judge in the Waycross Judicial Circuit by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal in March.

T. Shawn Lanier joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough as a partner. He was also named to Thomson Reuters' Super Lawyers list.

Luna Phillips has been named a "Leader in Their Field" by Chambers USA.

1996

Class Correspondent:

Elise Redmond, elise.redmond@gmail.com

1997

Class Correspondent:

Auden Grumet, auden@atlantallawyer.org

Alwyn R. Fredericks and associate **James A. Robson '07** secured a \$3.8 million verdict in March 2012 for a Fulton county woman injured in a 2008 automobile collision.

G. William (Bill) Norris Jr. was appointed to the Capital Region Workforce Investment Board. Norris is a director with the law firm of DurretteCrump PLC.



Justice Hugh P. Thompson '69 was unanimously elected by his colleagues to serve as the next presiding justice of the Georgia Supreme Court in July. Thompson is also next in line to serve as the court's chief justice and will succeed Carol Hunstein when her term as chief ends in 2013. Thompson, a native of Milledgeville, is a former trial judge and was appointed to the state Supreme Court in 1994

by then-Gov. Zell Miller. In 1994, Justice Thompson received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Mercer Law School.



U.S. Rep. Jim Marshall, professor at Mercer Law from 1979-2002, was appointed president of the United States Institute of Peace in July. As president, Marshall will oversee the next phase of development in the Institute's conflict management work and its professional training programs.

Created by Congress in 1984 as an independent federal agency, the Institute is now the leader in training, educating and implementing programs that help manage conflict through nonviolent means and that create structures to maintain peace

in post-conflict situations. The Institute has expanded from a small educational and analytical organization into an operational agency with offices in Kabul, Afghanistan, and Baghdad, Iraq, as well as a presence in Pakistan and Libya.

Ivy N. Cadle '07 received the Young Lawyers Division's Eighth Annual Young Lawyers Ethics and Professionalism Award at the State Bar of Georgia's Annual Meeting on June 1. The award is given annually to a member of the State Bar of Georgia under the age of 36 or with less than five years of practice who embodies the Lawyer's Creed adopted by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. Such criteria include fairness, integrity, diligence, good judgment and professionalism. Cadle is an associate attorney at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz PC in Macon and serves as an adjunct professor at Mercer Law.



JOHN DISNEY/DAILY REPORT

John R. Weech of Roseville, Calif., has been appointed assistant general counsel of the California State Teachers Retirement System. It is the second largest public pension fund in the U.S.

1999

Justin Cabral was appointed by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal to be the Solicitor General of Lowndes County in March. Cabral was formerly with the Southern Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office.

Patrick B. Webb joined the Atlanta office of Burr & Forman LLP as Counsel in the firm's Banking and Real Estate practice group.

2000

Class Correspondent:
William Noland, william@childsandnoland.com

Taylor B. Drake, of the law firm Glover & Davis in Newnan, has been selected as a 2012 Georgia Rising Star. Drake specializes in family law, construction law and personal injury/wrongful death.

Matthew R. Hall and **Aimee J. Hall '02** announce the birth of their daughter, Matilda "Tilley" Jane, born June 27.

2001

Nathan T. Lee, of the law firm Glover & Davis in Newnan, has been selected as a Georgia Rising Star. Lee specializes in general civil litigation.

Jun Li joined the faculty for the Corporate Compliance and Ethics Forum 2012.

Amy Landers May joined the South Carolina Bar Foundation board of directors in July 2012. May is a shareholder at Rogers Townsend & Thomas PC in the Estate

Planning, Probate and Elder Law Practice Group.

2002

Michon Walker Lunsford married James Arthur Lunsford Jr. in Augusta on May 19.

Kathleen L. Wright partner at Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore LLP in Roanoke, Va., has been named a 2012 Virginia Super Lawyer Rising Star in Business Litigation.

2003

Kelly O. Wallace and his wife, Kristy, announce the birth of their son, Jack, born Jan. 25, 2011.

2004

Lauren Shurling Finley was promoted to chief assistant district attorney in the Oconee Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office.

Amanda M. Morris has been named a partner in the law firm Hall, Bloch, Garland & Meyer LLP.

April Lee Ramirez married Francisco Ramirez on April 28, 2012.

2005

Brian Burkhalter, of the MJ Patel Law Group in Atlanta, has been named a 2012 Super Lawyer.

Theresa Critchfield joined the law firm of Husch Blackwell LLP as an associate in their Chattanooga, Tenn., office where she will focus her practice in the area of insolvency.

Anne Kaufold-Wiggins and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Elizabeth, born Jan. 3.

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal '66 appointed **Judge Michael P. Boggs '90** to the Georgia Court of Appeals in December 2011. A former Georgia state representative, Boggs has been on the Waycross Judicial Circuit bench for over six years. He is the founding director of the Waycross Judicial Circuit Drug Court program.



ALANA JOYNER PHOTO

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal '66 appointed Macon attorney **Philip T. Raymond III '79** as Macon Judicial Circuit Judge in February. Raymond had been a partner at Macon's Shaffer, Raymond and Dalton law firm. Raymond was appointed to fill a Superior Court judgeship vacated in 2011 by **Chief Judge Martha Christian's '80** retirement.



ALANA JOYNER PHOTO

Class Notes

Floyd S. "Trey" Mills III was selected as a 2012 South Carolina Rising Star through Super Lawyers and was elected president of the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division for 2012-2013.

2007

Joshua A. Carroll and **Ashley E. Carroll** '08 announce the birth of their daughter, Emily Grace, born Feb. 1.

Darl H. Champion Jr. and his wife, Julia Loaiza Champion, announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Helen, born June 7.

Brett Steger and **Amanda Steger** announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Blue, born June 17.

2009

Sunny A. Sandos announces the birth of her daughter, Jacey Ashton, born April 4.

2010

Class Correspondent:

Rizza Palmeres, rizzapalmares@gmail.com

Emily E. Macheski-Preston was named the 2012 Young Professional of the Year by the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce. Macheski-Preston practices in employment law, local government law and civil litigation.

J. Chase Wilson joined the Atlanta law firm of Davis, Matthews & Quigley PC in June.

2012

Class Correspondent:

Justin Purvis, justinpurvis10@gmail.com

In Memory

1930s

George F. Dukes Jr. '35 of Tampa, Fla., died April 16, 2012.

1940s

Thomas Hoyt Davis Jr. '40 of Vienna died April 29, 2012.

Roy M. Lilly '40 of Thomasville died June 29, 2012.

Albert Phillips Reichert Sr. '48 of Macon died Feb. 16, 2012.

1950s

James B. Cantrell '50 of Fairhope, Ala., died Oct. 3, 2007.

Richard Carlisle Minter '50 of Eastman died Feb. 4, 2012.

Carl Elliott Westmoreland '50 of Macon died July 27, 2012.

Patricia Beauchamp O'Neal '51 of Macon died March 22, 2012.

Jack E. Senter '52 of Fuquay-Varina, N.C., died May 20, 2012.

John Taylor Phillips '55 of Macon died June 15, 2012.

Frank Meath McKenney '59 of Macon died May 22, 2012.

1960s

Tommy C. Mann '60 of Macon died July 27, 2012.

William Clarence Moore '66 of Cusseta died Jan. 8, 2012.

Paul Lemoine Galis '68 of Claudville, Va., died Jan. 24, 2012.

Denver Lee Rampey Jr. '68 of Elberton died April 2, 2012.

Lewington A. Merryday Jr. '69 of Palatka, Fla., died May 9, 2012.

1970s

Edward E. Boshears '72 of St. Simons Island died July 4, 2012.

William L. Kirby II '74 of Columbus died March 6, 2012.

1980s

Marynan Cain Walker '81 of Rock Hill, S.C. died Feb. 17, 2012.

Henry Worthington Lewis '82 of Atlanta died April 11, 2012.

Robert Ernest Little '83 of Macon died March 15, 2012.



An Old Friend's Tribute to Pat O'Neal 1928 - 2012

By Charles R. Adams III

Pat O'Neal was one of the original members and the first female editor of *Mercer Law Review*. In 1998, I was privileged to write the *Review's* 50th anniversary history. In that article, I said the following: "Patricia Beauchamp 'Pat' O'Neal was a fixture at the Mercer Law Library for many years. Pat established a high standard of courteous, professional assistance ... coupled with unfailing good cheer ... [teaching] a whole generation ... not only how to do research like real lawyers, but also how to act like real ladies and gentlemen." — *Lest We Forget: The History of Mercer Law Review*, 50 *MERCER L. REV.* 7, 9 n.11 (1998).

As those who knew her across more than six decades of association with Mercer Law School will attest, Pat was one of the best-known and most beloved figures ever to grace these halls. Pat was quite simply one of the most pleasant and gracious people I ever had the privilege of knowing.

I last talked with Pat just a few weeks before she died about coming to Reynold Kosek's memorial service. She was looking forward to seeing all her old friends there. However, Pat didn't make it back for that one final trip to the Law School, where she had meant so much to so many for so long. Instead, the Lord she loved had a greater journey in store for her.

Pat, we look forward to seeing you one day in Hallelujah Square!

To read the full tribute by Professor Adams visit www.law.mercer.edu.



A Model of Consistency

MARY KATZ '79, a steadfast supporter of Mercer Law for nearly 25 years, made her first gift to the Law School Annual Fund just two years after graduating and has continued to give ever since. Not only has Katz maintained a generous and consistent history of giving, but she also has established an enviable record of service to the school.

During the 1980s, Katz helped to solicit gifts from recent graduates for the Annual Fund and was president of the Alumni Board for 1985-86. In addition, she volunteered as a member of the team responsible for planning Law Day festivities. Katz is currently serving her second consecutive term on the Law School's Board of Visitors and holds the office of secretary.

"I didn't see or feel my experience at Mercer as being a grind or something I had to get through or as a bad three years at all," Katz said. If anything, it was the opposite. I really felt nurtured, and I just really loved it. This is a wonderful law school."

Now a partner at the Macon law firm of Chambless, Higdon, Richardson, Katz & Griggs, she responded candidly when asked about the importance of giving to Mercer Law.

"The better question is why would a graduate, even with limited financial resources, not give some amount? The need is evident, and building up Mercer helps not only those who follow but enhances the credentials of our alumni."

Gifts to Mercer 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 (800) 837-2911, ext. 2180.



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SAVE THE DATE LAW DAY LUNCHEON 2013



April 5, 2013

12:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Georgia Attorney General

Sam Olens

Hawkins Arena

Mercer University Center

www.law.mercer.edu