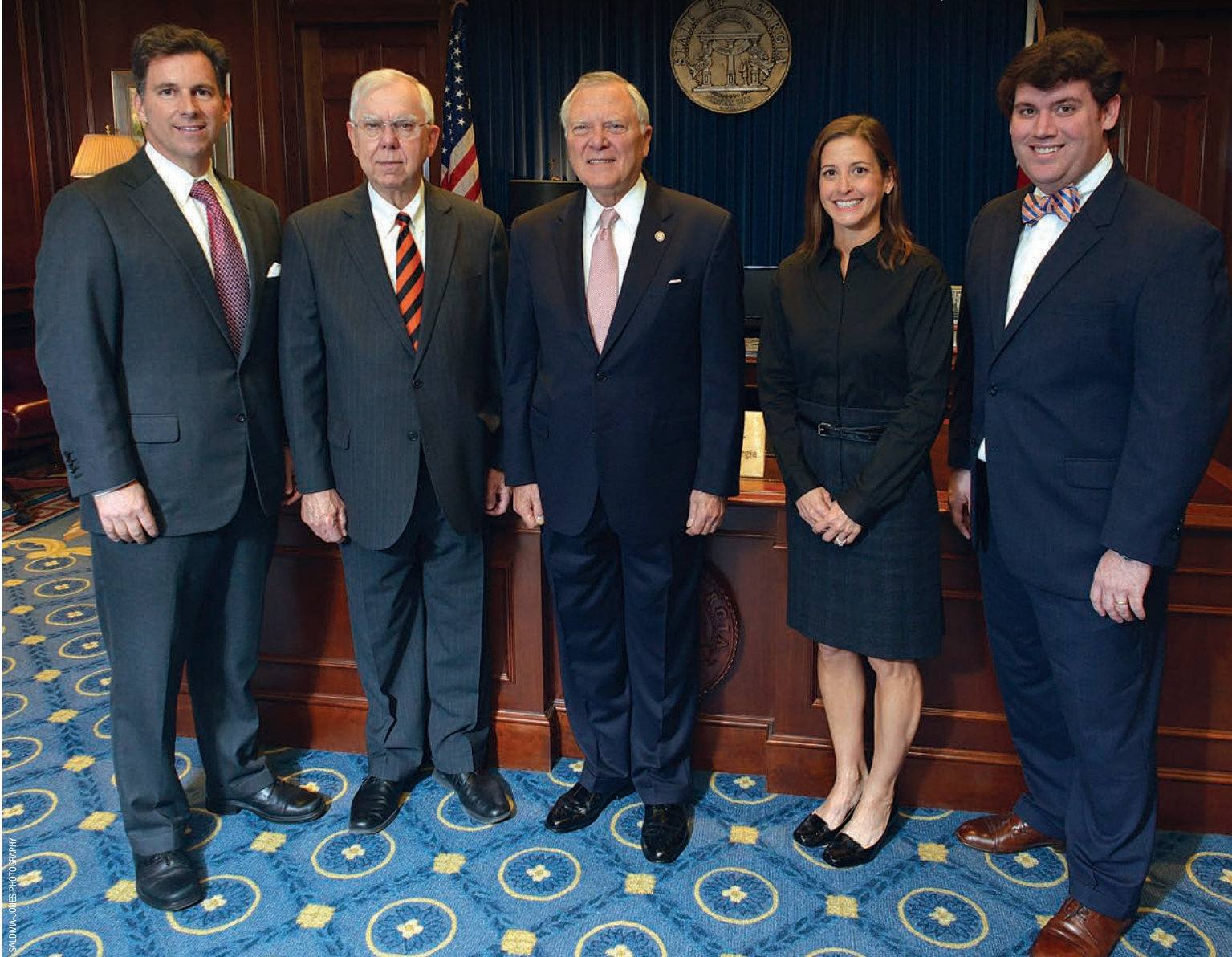


# MERCER LAWYER

## A Legacy of Service

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## Scene from Macon

For the first time in 80 years water flows from a fountain in Tattnall Square Park. The peace fountain was inspired by the original park fountain that stopped working during the Depression and was dismantled in the 1960s. A circular plaza divided into four sections labeled with the concepts "love, justice, trust and hope" surrounds the fountain.



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For nearly a century and a half, Mercer Law School has trained young men and women to be lawyers by giving them the skills they need to serve the state, country, and world with professionalism and integrity. To ensure this legacy of excellence will continue for years to come, Mercer Law School has launched a fundraising campaign to positively impact the School's future by strengthening existing programs and developing new areas of distinction.



### 31 Mercer Law School Giving Report

The financial commitment provided by the Law School's donors enables us to offer an exceptional education to our students and to continue to be a national leader in legal education. Individuals, foundations, corporations, and others who give so generously make a profound difference in the Law School's life and future.



First-year student Jena Lombard (center) won the Hugh Lawson Moot Court Competition in April and will have her name engraved on the King & Spalding cup. Judges for the competition were (photographed from left to right) Doc Schneider, '81; Dwight Davis, '82; Patrise Perkins-Hooker, presiding; Professor Jessica Feinberg; and Tyler Bishop, third-year student and the 2014 winner of the competition.

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# MERCER LAWYER

MERCER LAWYER | Spring 2016

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

This year represents a moment in time in which Mercer lawyers are leading the State of Georgia in five high profile positions. As our cover photograph illustrates, the Governor of Georgia, the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals, and the Presidents of both the State Bar of Georgia and the Younger Lawyers Division of the State Bar are all Mercer Law alumni. I've frequently used this fact in presentations about Mercer Law School this year; when I do so, I usually have someone remind me of additional leadership positions — in Georgia and throughout the country — held by Mercer Law alumni. There is much evidence that our alumni live out the motto that Mercer Law School graduates lawyers who are "prepared to practice and committed to serve."

In this issue, you will read about the five graduates who occupy these offices and the ways in which their Mercer Law School educations prepared them for the roles they now occupy. But, it is not only alumni who live up to this promise. You will also read about service activities by our faculty, staff and students. As just one example, we learned shortly before this issue went to press that Mercer Law School was again the champion in the Attorney General's Legal Food Frenzy, marking the third time that Mercer has won the competition to support Georgia's food banks in the five-year history of the effort. We are indeed a small law school with a large impact.

This issue also highlights the Law School's capital campaign, launched in January, and profiles L. Lin Wood, who has made a generous leadership commitment to support the campaign. The theme for the campaign, "Advancing the Legacy: Service, Innovation and Excellence," captures the long history of Mercer Law School's commitment to a rigorous legal education; innovative curriculum and pedagogy; and service. As you read about the campaign and the ways in which it will support the Law School, I hope that you will take a few minutes to reflect upon the ways in which Mercer's distinctive approach to education has benefited your life and how you can help ensure that the legacy continues for the next generation of Mercer lawyers.

It is an exciting time to be a part of Mercer Law School. Please take advantage of opportunities to visit the Law School, to attend alumni events, to serve as a mentor to a law student, to make a difference through your financial gift, or to otherwise become involved. We value — and need — your experience, your perspective, and your involvement.

With best wishes,



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



LISA HODGKING PHOTOGRAPHY



## Law School Renovations

**R**enovations to Mercer Law School's first and second floors were completed during the summer of 2015. Renovations on the second floor included an upgraded space within the existing law library; a lobby and study area outside the library; and relocation of the Registrar's Office. Renovations to the first floor included relocation of the Deans' Suite to the space that had previously been the Eberhardt Room; and relocation of new Admissions and Financial Aid offices in the space previously occupied by the Registrar's Office and Classroom D. The new Deans' Suite area has retained the Eberhardt name. The former Dean's Office on the second floor did not undergo any construction or renovation, but its use has changed: it is now available for event and meeting space.



AMY MADDOX PHOTOGRAPHY



COURTESY OF MOLLIE DAVIS

## J-Term in Puerto Rico

**T**his year, Mercer Law offered a new program allowing students to take a two-week long class in Puerto Rico between the fall and spring semesters. Students could not only spend part of January in the Caribbean, learning about the island's Spanish heritage, but the two credit-hour class, Client Counseling II taught by Professor Sarah Gerwig-Moore, also fulfilled an advanced writing requirement.

Second-year student Mollie Davis enjoyed her experience saying, "I really enjoyed my time studying Client Counseling in San Juan. Our small class size made for great in-class discussions, and these conversations about client interactions often continued at the pool or by the beach adjacent to our hotel. Overall, I couldn't ask for a better combination: a thought-provoking class, two hours of credit and a super-relaxing getaway before starting a new semester."

## Cocktails & Conversations

Mercer Law School's Cocktails and Conversations event was held on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, at the Law Offices of Burr & Forman LLP. Featuring hor d'oeuvres and complimentary beverages, the event was a great success, offering current students, alumni, faculty and staff the opportunity to meet and greet. The Office of Career Services, the Student Bar Association and the offices of Burr & Forman sponsored the event.



SALDIVA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

# Law Review Symposium, “Justice in the Deep South: Learning from History, Charting Our Future”

**T**he Mercer Law Review Symposium on Oct. 16, 2015, focused on “Justice in the Deep South: Learning from History, Charting our Future.” The symposium featured representatives from academia, the Judiciary and public interest groups. Stephen Bright, president and senior counsel of the Southern Center for Human Rights (SCHR) and professor at Yale Law School, gave the keynote address. You can view all sessions presented during the symposium at [youtube.com/mercerlawschool](http://youtube.com/mercerlawschool).

Bright served as director of SCHR from 1982-2005 and has been in his present position since 2006. Subjects of his litigation, teaching and writing include capital punishment, legal representation for people accused of

crimes, conditions and practices in prisons and jails, racial discrimination in the criminal justice system, judicial independence and sentencing.

## Speakers Included:

- **Angela Allen Bell**, *Associate Professor of Legal Analysis and Writing*, Southern University Law Center
- **Stephen Bright**, *Director and Senior Counsel*, Southern Center for Human Rights
- **David Davis**, *Associate Professor of English and Director of Fellowships and Scholarships*, Mercer University's College of Liberal Arts
- **Daisy Hurst Floyd**, *Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation*, Mercer Law School
- **Sarah Gerwig-Moore**, *Associate Professor of Law*, Mercer Law School
- **Timothy Floyd**, *Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy and Director of Experiential Education*, Mercer Law School
- **Sia Sanneh**, *Senior Attorney*, Equal Justice Initiative
- **Sherod Thaxton**, *Assistant Professor*, UCLA School of Law
- **Teri McMurtry-Chubb**, *Associate Professor of Law*, Mercer Law School
- **Russell Gabriel**, *Director*, Criminal Defense Clinic at the University of Georgia School of Law
- **Hon. Daniel Craig**, '79, *Judge*, Superior Court of Richmond County
- **Teddy Reese**, *Director of Community Operations and Affairs*, Georgia Appleseed Center for Law and Justice



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

## Sixth Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition

**M**ercer Advocacy Council hosted the 6th Annual Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition Nov. 12-14, 2015. The competition comprised 19 teams from 13 law schools around the nation. In the final round, Baylor prevailed against the University of Florida. Judges for the final round included Senior U.S. District Judge Louis Sands, '74, of the Middle District of Georgia; Paula Frederick, General Counsel for the State Bar of Georgia; and Patrick Logan, William Augustus Bootle Chair in Professionalism and Ethics at Mercer Law.

The subject of the problem was an attorney whose bar license was revoked as discipline for violation of ethical rules. The questions addressed in the competition focused on whether to affirm the lifetime suspension of the lawyer's bar license, or to reinstate the license and allow the lawyer to continue practicing law.



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO



## Mercer Law School Homecoming Tailgate



ROGER DEBEN PHOTO

Mercer Law School alumni, faculty, students and friends gathered for food, drinks, and networking for Mercer's Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015. Hosted by Mercer Law School, the tailgate was graciously sponsored by the Macon Bar Association, Ronald Daniels, '12, of Daniels Law LLC, the Mercer Law Trial Lawyers Association and the Mercer Law Student Bar Association.

## BLSA Honored as the 2016 Regional Small Chapter of the Year

On Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016, at the Southern Region Black Law Student Association Convention in Durham, North Carolina, Mercer's BLSA chapter was honored as the 2016 Regional Small Chapter of the Year. Mercer BLSA was recognized for the outstanding community service initiatives, academic achievement, and professional and social events held during the 2015-2016 academic year.

This year's BLSA initiatives included creating a 1L academic workshop; participating in a national day of service to raise awareness for a social issue; organizing an event during Martin Luther King Day; creating events targeted at building relationships with alumni and legal professionals; and donating gifts, supplies, and other items to needy families.



AMY MADDOX PHOTOGRAPHY



ROGER DEBEN PHOTO

## Mercer Team Places in Top 10 at ABA National Client Counseling Competition

Mercer Law third-year students Ebony Brown, photographed left, and Diego Cardenas, right, advanced to the semifinals and placed sixth in the American Bar Association's National Client Counseling Competition in Waco, Texas. The pair qualified for the national competition by winning first place at the regional competition in February. The team was coached by Mercer Law graduate Zandra Hall, '15, center.

Mercer Law students Mandisa Styles, Roland Weekly, Amber Robinson and Ian McIntyre were also members of the 2015-2016 client counseling team. In addition to competing in prior competitions, they helped prepare the team for nationals and traveled to Waco for additional preparation and support.



# ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER

On Friday, Feb. 19, 2016, Mercer Law School hosted the Second Annual Alumni Dinner in Atlanta. The event featured a cocktail reception and dinner attended by more than 400 alumni and friends. The dinner celebrated Mercer's Legacy of Service by recognizing the multitude of public service alumni throughout the state.



Alumni Board President Deron Hicks, '93, presents Virgil Adams, '80, with the Outstanding Alumnus Award for Service to humanity and dedication to the legal profession.



BLSA leaders and alumni gathered the following morning for breakfast and their organizational meeting.



Pictured left to right, Mercer University President William D. Underwood, Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd, Lesli Underwood, Thomas Malone, '66, and Professor Timothy Floyd.



Pictured left to right, Hugh P. Thompson, '69, Jane Thompson, Margaret Mertens and Anton Mertens, '87, incoming Alumni Board president.



Deron Hicks, '93, presents Hugh P. Thompson, '69, with the Alumni Meritorious Service Award for his numerous contributions to the Law School. Thompson serves as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.



Pictured left to right, Chad NeSmith, Ashley Vandevender, '14, Michael Kaufman, '15, and Lauren Miller, '14.



Pictured left to right, Laura Turner Seydel, Rutherford Seydel, '89, Chris Clark, '89, and Lizzie Clark.

## AWLS Auction Raises Over \$12,000 for Local Charities

The Association of Women Law Students hosted the 18th Annual Charity Auction and Ball at the Cox Capital Theatre in downtown Macon on March 4, 2016. They raised over \$12,000 to benefit Rebuilding Macon and the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia. In the past five years, they have raised over \$72,000 to support local charities.



AMY MADDOX PHOTOGRAPHY



## Students Raise Most Donations Among Law Schools in Annual Georgia Lawyers' Food Drive

Mercer University School of Law successfully reclaimed its title as the champion of the Attorney General's Cup in the Fifth Annual Legal Food Frenzy — a competition to help feed the hungry in Georgia. In a friendly competition against the state's other law schools to see which could gather the most food for Georgia's food banks, Mercer Law School gathered more than any other school: 13,270 pounds of food, or 34.2 pounds per student, to help support the Middle Georgia Community Food Bank. This effort is part of a statewide food drive organized by the Georgia Attorney General's Office and the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, which will help provide food for the state's eight regional food banks.

"The Legal Food Frenzy is a wonderful opportunity to come together and engage so many people to help feed Georgians in need, especially the children," said Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Mary Donovan. "We want to thank the Attorney General for the initiative, the Student Bar and student organizations for their hard work, and every individual who contributed towards this worthy cause."

In all, the five law schools across the state of Georgia raised the equivalent of 42,485 pounds of food for Georgia's eight regional food banks, a 10% increase over the 2015 results. "I am proud of our future lawyers for coming together for such a great cause," said Attorney General Sam Olens.

## Professor Scott Titshaw Appointed Associate Dean

Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd is pleased to announce that Professor Scott Titshaw will be appointed as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs beginning July 1, 2016. Titshaw has taught at Mercer Law School for the past ten years and his scholarship generally focuses on immigration, comparative law and issues concerning sexual minorities. He spent last academic year on a Fulbright-Schuman fellowship, conducting research at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and The Hague, The Netherlands (*read more about his fellowship on page 24.*)



STEVE SCHNEIDER PHOTO



# Mercer Law School Wins Second Place in Vale Moot Court Competition

In the 28th Annual Ruby R. Vale Interscholastic Corporate Moot Court Competition, Mercer Law's 3L team of David Anderson, Laura DiBiase, and Micah Dickie reached the competition's final round, placing second in the overall competition. The team defeated Georgetown in the semifinals and was narrowly defeated by Ohio State in the final round. The 2L team also performed exceptionally well, as Adelyn Barger, Jenny Suggs, and Nathan DeLoatch made it to the elite eight. Associate Dean Chris Wells and student coach Barret Kirbo, '15, coached the teams.

"Year after year, Mercer Law students shine in this demanding competition that tackles sophisticated, cutting-edge issues in the capital of corporation law. Mercer's two teams this year, one 2L and one 3L students, as the Mercer teams before them, outworked, out wrote, and out thought

their competition," said Wells. "Our Vale teams made all Mercerians proud. And arguing the final round before Justices of the Delaware Supreme Court will be a memory Micah and Laura will treasure the rest of their lives."

The Vale Moot Court Competition is an interscholastic appellate moot court competition sponsored by the Moot Court Honor Society of Delaware Law School. The competition focuses on the area of corporate law. Each

round of the competition is judged by attorneys and judges from the bench and bar of Delaware and nearby Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Each year, a distinguished scholar in the field of corporate law joins the competition's final bench. The problems argued contain corporate issues of current legal relevance. The competition was held March 10-13, 2016, in Wilmington, Delaware.



D.C. WELLS PHOTO

## 2016 Law Day Celebration

On Friday, April 15, 2016, Mercer Law School celebrated Law Day with keynote speaker Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Fulton County attorney and immediate past-president of the State Bar of Georgia. Perkins-Hooker spoke on *Miranda: More than Words* — exploring the procedural protections afforded to all of us by the U.S. Constitution, how these rights are safeguarded by the courts and why the preservation of these principles is essential to our liberty.



ROGER GIBSEN PHOTO

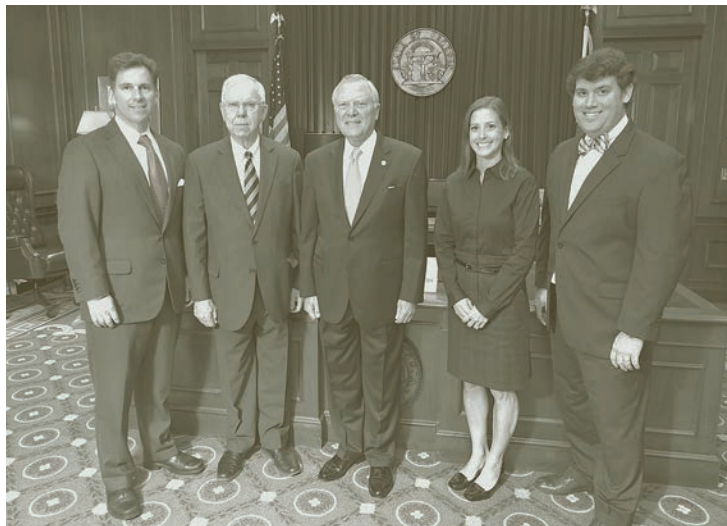


Additionally, Allen F. Wallace, '74, presented the Class of 1974 Scholarship to second-year student Jennifer Essex during the celebration.

## Master's Program

Mercer Law will begin to offer a Master's in Comparative Jurisprudence (MCJ) in International Business and Trade Law. The one-year program will include study on Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses and will be the only one of its kind in the Southeast. The program will provide foreign lawyers academic and practical training with an emphasis on international business and trade law. In addition to traditional classes, the program will offer externship course options for experiential learning. Externship placements in commercial businesses, law firms and government agencies will allow students excellent opportunities to understand the realities of international business and trade practices in the United States.

For more information on the program, contact David Ritchie, Professor of Law and Philosophy and Director of International Initiatives, at [ritchie\\_d@law.mercer.edu](mailto:ritchie_d@law.mercer.edu).



# A LEGACY *of* SERVICE

Mercer Law Alumni Lead Georgia's Top Public Service Positions

**F**IVE PEOPLE GATHER IN A ROOM FOR A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH. THEIR AGES RANGE ACROSS A HAND'S SPAN OF DECADES. Four are men and one is a woman.

But they share at least two things in common: They hold five of the high-profile public service positions in the state of Georgia. And all five are Mercer Law School graduates:

- Governor Nathan Deal, CLA '64, LAW '66;
- Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson, '69;
- Georgia Court of Appeals Chief Judge Sara L. Doyle, '94;
- State Bar of Georgia President Robert J. "Bob" Kauffman, '88;
- State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division President John "Jack" R.B. Long, '06.

As they pose together for the photographer, this is more than just a collective portrait. It's a snapshot that captures the latest — but by no means unusual — representation of Mercer graduates among the state's most prominent legal leaders.

"We have this moment in history that completely exemplifies the contribution that Mercer makes to the legal profession and to the state of Georgia," says Dean Daisy Floyd. "For those five significant offices to be filled by Mercer alumni all at the same time, it shows what we have meant and what we continue to mean to the state and to the profession."

As Justice Thompson puts it, "All the stars lined up, with YLD, the Big Bar, Court of Appeals, Supreme Court and the Governor. I don't know that it's ever happened before. But right now, it's lined up well for Mercer."



“We have this moment in history that completely exemplifies the contribution that Mercer makes to the legal profession and to the state of Georgia. For those five significant offices to be filled by Mercer alumni all at the same time, it shows what we have meant and what we continue to mean to the state and to the profession.”

Maybe these top five offices have not simultaneously been filled by Mercer alumni in the past. But the Law School’s prominence has been consistent in Georgia since the institution opened its doors in 1873. It’s a legacy of service spanning nearly a century and a half.

Though it may not be explicitly stated on any syllabus, Mercer’s approach to the law is one that instills an imperative for leadership in many of its graduates.



Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson, '69

“There was always a theme of its not just being about *us* as individuals,” State Bar president Kauffman recalls of his days in the classroom. “The education was about the value you can have as a lawyer for the entire judicial system, which helps the public in the end. Intertwined in that theme was the importance of public service, whether it was pro bono work or what I call low-bono cases. It was all about being a professional and acting as a professional.”



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL

Governor Nathan Deal, CLA '64, LAW '66

Justice Thompson also suspects the impetus to public service has its roots in the Mercer Law curriculum.

“It has to be in large measure due to the approach that the school has to educate very serviceable members to go out into the public and do good works,” he says.

“I’m not really sure what it is about the Mercer culture, because I didn’t go to any other law school so I can’t tell you what makes it different from any others,” says Kauffman. “But a number of the State Bar leadership has come out of Mercer.”

While the Law School doesn’t offer classes in “Leadership,” per se, the drive seems to be instilled in many of its alumni.

“So many people who go to Mercer end up, wherever they practice law, sort of gravitating toward leadership positions,” Judge Doyle says. “A lot of people I knew from my law school class have done so. I think that’s something that’s just inherent in how they taught us.”

A strong influence at the Law School was her exposure as a student to legal experts, invited to Mercer as examples of how to conduct their professional lives in the real world.

“There was a woman named Rachel Iverson,” Doyle recalls. “She was the president of the YLD State Bar and was on a panel of people at the Law School. We went in and listened to them talk about things they did outside of the practice of law. That impressed me greatly, that there was much more going on than just, ‘What’s my next case going to be?’”

Flash forward a few years. At her first State Bar meeting, Doyle ran into Iverson. “I eventually became friends with her and sort of followed in her footsteps.” In fact, in 2012-13, Doyle served as

“The education was about the value you can have as a lawyer for the entire judicial system, which helps the public in the end. Intertwined in that theme was the importance of public service, whether it was pro bono work or what I call low-bono cases. It was all about being a professional and acting as a professional.”

president of the Lawyers Club of Atlanta, a post earlier filled by Iverson herself.

As in many professions, being a successful lawyer and public servant isn't just about what you know, but who you know. Mercer graduates are lucky in that regard.

Justice Thompson says, “I know from my own personal experience that even back when I was a counselor at Ben Hawkins Camp, the Boy Scout camp down below Macon, it seemed like every lawyer I knew and every judge I knew had gone to Mercer.”

“One thing that's good about Mercer is that most Mercer



JOHN DISNEY/DAILY REPORT

Georgia Court of Appeals Chief Judge Sara L. Doyle, '94

graduates stay in Georgia, and they're pretty collegial,” says YLD president Long. “I know when I'm dealing with another Mercer graduate, I can count on what they say. There's a certain level of trust.”

Judge Doyle says her Mercer connections had a direct impact on her campaign for election to the Court of Appeals.

“In a judicial election, obviously, raising money is almost impossible, and trying to penetrate into the voters is very difficult. So you have to rely on word of mouth in the local communities,” she says. “What I found is that everywhere I went, there were Mercer folks.

“Whether I knew them or not beforehand, they were willing to help out by virtue of that connection. I had people reach out to me and say, ‘Hey, do you want to come to town? We've got a local bar meeting and we'd love to have you come. I'll introduce you to people and walk you around to different law firms.’ That helped me be successful, frankly.”

Of course, success in the public service arena can also come with sacrifice. But sacrifice is part of the profession's sacred duties.

“We are entrusted as lawyers with a profession that's thousands of years old,” Long says. “It's our duty to give back not only to our public but to our profession.”

But sometimes, that's at a tangible cost.

Formerly an equity partner at Holland and Knight, “I was on the trajectory to start making a lot of money,” Judge Doyle says. “I had made good pay for a considerable amount of time and had made quite a bit more than what I made as a judge in my first year. But at the end of the day, the giving up of the financial is actually nothing for the satisfaction I get from doing my job. So it was well worth it.

“You never know till you get there,” she cautions. “I loved my job as a lawyer. I loved what I was doing every day and it was still exciting to me. But going from being an advocate to now making the decisions and affecting a larger group of people than just the individual clients that I was representing — it's fulfilling in a different way.”



COURTESY OF BOB KAUFFMAN

State Bar of Georgia President Robert J. “Bob” Kauffman, '88



"I think once people get involved [in service], they realize the personal satisfaction you get out of helping the profession — a profession that's been pretty darn good to me," Kauffman says. "There's a real satisfaction one gains from that experience once somebody gets involved. They learn to enjoy it, and if you really enjoy it you make time to do it."

Plus, a little sacrifice doesn't mean you have to give up everything. He adds, "I've still found a way to survive in my practice."

"Certainly I think Mercer would rank with anyone as far as putting people out in public service," says Justice Thompson. "Whether or not they were remunerated in terms of worldly good, I can't say. But I think that those people who have graduated from Mercer Law have been rewarded in ways other than money as well."

Along with their commitment to public service, these stellar Mercer graduates share memories of the close associations with fellow students made during their time at the Law School — relationships that, in many cases, continue to this day, professionally and personally. (Like quite a few Mercer alums, Doyle married one of her classmates; in her case, attorney Jay Doyle.)

If you speak to them for a while, these alumni will also offer up names of some of the professors that made a strong impression back at Mercer. Reynold Kosek, John Cole, Mike Sabbath, Dick Creswell, David Oedel, Mary Donovan. "There were a lot of people that encouraged me to take one, two, three, four different steps along the way," says Justice Thompson, recalling the influence of former Harvard Law Dean William Edward McCurdy, a visiting professor during Thompson's time at Mercer. "Many people obviously saw in me things I didn't really understand about myself. So I can't really take any credit for being the author of my life. All I can do is say that I was lucky, and had the full support of so many good people."

These days, he's showing his appreciation by serving as a member of Mercer University's Board of Trustees.

"It's absolutely essential that a lot of us give back to the university all that we can," he says. "While I may not be able to give great riches to the university, maybe I can give something to help the institution itself and help in any way that I possibly can to further the interests that Mercer is pursuing not only in middle Georgia but in the state and in the nation. I feel very privileged to call it my alma mater."

So does Judge Doyle, also a member of the Board of Trustees after having served on the Law School's Board of Visitors previously.

"Mercer gave my husband and me a great education, which led to us having good careers in the law," she says. "They have been there every step of the way when I was running for office and throughout our careers. I have always felt a connection. So I was excited when

I was invited to be on the Board of Visitors for the Law School then the Board of Trustees for the whole school. You know, it was just a no-brainer."

While the plaintiffs and defendants at the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals probably don't care, and it probably never occurs

to many of the Georgia lawyers where the State Bar's leaders hail from, it's no big secret to the rest of us. And it's not exactly a new development. Mercer Law School has been training the best, the brightest and the most generous of Georgia lawyers for 15 decades.

Maybe we should let Nathan Deal, the state's governor, have the last word here:

"Mercer provided me with a great education and the opportunity to grow and develop the skills necessary to be successful in positions of leadership to which I have been elected," he says. Now, at age 73, he adds, "My six years in undergraduate and law school at Mercer were some of the most important years of my life."

“We are entrusted as lawyers with a profession that’s thousands of years old. It’s our duty to give back not only to our public but to our profession.”



ZACH PORTER PHOTOGRAPHY

State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division President John "Jack" R.B. Long, '06





*The Campaign for Mercer Law School*

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# ADVANCING *the* LEGACY

SERVICE, INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

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One of the nation's oldest legal education institutions, Mercer Law School has trained young men and women to be lawyers for 143 years, giving them the skills to serve the state, the country and the world with professionalism and integrity.

To ensure that this legacy of excellence will continue as a commitment to future students for years to come, Mercer Law School has launched a \$10 million fundraising campaign. Throughout the campaign, the Law School hopes to increase Annual Fund giving to \$500,000 or more, increase the Law School's endowment and increase the percentage of alumni who contribute to the School at any level.

The theme of the School's campaign is "Advancing the Legacy."

"When we talk about legacy," Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd says, "we're keying in on three essential parts of the Law School's identity: service, excellence and innovation."

"Advancing the Legacy" funds will support Mercer Law's continuing tradition of leadership in legal education by strengthening existing programs and developing new areas of distinction.

One alumnus who has stepped up to the challenge is Atlanta attorney L. Lin Wood, CLA '74 and LAW '77. His commitment of \$1 million has resulted in the creation of the L. Lin Wood Fund for the Enhancement of Mercer Law School. The Law School's third-floor trial courtroom was renamed in Wood's honor on Feb. 26. (*Read more about Wood on page 18.*)

"Lin Wood is a loyal alum who never forgot the role Mercer played in helping him lay a foundation for his future success as a lawyer," says Mercer President William D. Underwood. "I am grateful for his investment in the Law School and in the students who will benefit from a Mercer legal education."

"Mercer Law School provided me with an excellent foundation for the exercise of the privilege of engaging in the practice of law to zealously pursue justice. As a result, I have been privileged to represent many unique and worthwhile clients for more than 38 years," says Wood. "It is

now my privilege to give back to Mercer Law School as an expression of my appreciation and more importantly, to support the School in its ongoing efforts to educate and train the next generation of lawyers essential to the continued viability of our system of justice."

"Mercer Law School matters," says Paul Quiros, '82, a partner at King & Spalding and chairman of the Law School's Board of Visitors. "From the benefit that I received as a law student and relationships in the legal profession over the years, to the quality of the legal instruction today, it's an important element of the profession in this region. It has had a national influence over the years."

Dean Floyd concurs. "One of my favorite things about being dean is the privilege of hearing from alumni about their Mercer Law experiences and what they have been able to give to others as a result of the education they've received," she says.

"Gifts from alumni and friends have made a difference in the Law School's past development, and gifts raised from the campaign will impact the Law School's future," she adds. "I am proud that Mercer Law School has a legacy of innovation and excellence and is building upon that legacy to meet current challenges faced by the legal profession. Mercer Law is leading the way in developing curriculum, pedagogy and research that moves the profession forward while staying true to our historical identity as an environment that values personal interaction, skills training and ethics and professionalism."

In adopting the Woodruff Curriculum in 1990, Mercer Law

School distinguished itself with a dedication to small classes; an emphasis on practical skills, ethics and professionalism; a cutting-edge legal writing program that is recognized as one of the nation's strongest; and the introduction of the Woodruff Scholarship to attract the best young legal minds.

Those small classes, in particular, continue to be significant in Quiros's memories of Mercer Law School.

"Professors still call me by name," he says. "My classmates, we still call each other and refer matters. There were special relationships that were built during our time there, and I understand from talking with colleagues it became a great base of relationships that has helped all of us in our professional lives and in our



"Gifts from alumni and friends have made a difference in the Law School's past development, and gifts raised from the campaign will impact the Law School's future. I am proud that Mercer Law School has a legacy of innovation and excellence and is building upon that legacy to meet current challenges faced by the legal profession."

personal lives. Our lives are woven together in a way that's very unique."

"Mercer Law School has made deliberate choices about the type of legal education we offer. We do so many things well including three areas where we are nationally known," Dean Floyd says. "One is the legal writing program, two is our experiential education program, and the third is our approach to ethics and professionalism."

"This type of legal education is expensive because it's very labor-intensive. You have a small student-faculty ratio. So if we're going to continue to live out our values, we need the help of our alumni and friends. That's what the campaign is really about."

"We are one of the older law schools in the country, and that long history has included being innovative in ways that are now preparing us well to face the challenges of the future."

These innovations — and those yet to come — require resources. They can't be funded on tuition dollars alone. Mercer Law School's commitment to a distinctive legal education depends on alumni support.

### **Funds raised will support a number of the Law School's needs:**

#### **STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Increasing the number of scholarship funds will make attending Mercer possible for worthy students who otherwise couldn't afford to enroll, will reduce their future debt, and increase the Law School's national standing. While Mercer was Georgia's first ABA accredited



LISHA HOCKING PHOTOGRAPHY

law school, the state now boasts two public law schools, Georgia State University and University of Georgia.

"We're in a state with two very strong publicly funded law schools that create competition. We can't compete with them over price, but we certainly don't want any student to have to forego a Mercer legal education when this is their first choice just because tuition is less somewhere else. That's why raising money for scholarships is important," Dean Floyd says.

#### **INNOVATIVE AND EXCELLENT ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

Mercer's distinctive legal education gives students the knowledge, values and skills to meet the demands of a changing world and a changing legal profession. The Law School's programs in legal writing, legal ethics and professionalism and experiential education have become national models emulated by other law schools. "Since the mid-nineties the Mercer Law School name has become linked with quality legal writing instruction and innovation in the field," says Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb,

"This campaign is an opportunity to really ask the last three generations of Mercer lawyers to think about why Mercer matters to them, and to respond to the needs of their alma mater. Many of us have gotten a huge benefit in our career because of the instruction and the relationships that we made while we were there. And we need to pay that back."



LISHA HOCKING PHOTOGRAPHY



who is also president of the Association of Legal Writing Professors. “In addition to our required writing offerings, students have a choice of electives to help them prepare for careers as transactional attorneys, litigators and law clerks. Additionally, the Legal Writing Institute, which along with the Association of Legal Writing Professors, constitute the major national legal writing professional organizations, is housed at Mercer Law.”

### SUPPORT FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A legal education does not take place only in the classroom. It also happens during co-curricular activities, including *Law Review*; moot court, mock trial, negotiation, and client counseling competitions; and student organization activities.

“My Mercer Law experience has been shaped not only by the classroom, but also by the several co-curricular activities I have had the privilege of being involved with,” says James Banter, Class of 2016 and SBA president. “These activities exposed me to new experiences and lessons that the classroom could not offer. Specifically, my time involved with the Student Bar Association has given me ample opportunities to practice practical leadership skills with my classmates, but also opportunities in being an advocate on behalf of my classmates before the faculty and staff.”

### SUPPORT FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

The Mercer Law faculty and staff actively engage in research, speaking, and professional leadership activities that address the world’s problems and effect needed change. Gifts to the campaign will help ensure that they can continue this important work and allows Mercer Law to recruit and retain the most talented faculty and staff.

### FIRST-CLASS PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND UP-TO-DATE TECHNOLOGY

A Mercer legal education requires physical facilities and technology that support learning and reflect the values of the Mercer Law community. As legal education changes, so do the requirements of our physical space. The campaign will allow Mercer Law the flexibility to respond to the changing needs of law practice and legal education.

“Both expendable gifts and endowment help the Law School fulfill its educational mission,” Dean Floyd says. “Whether one chooses to support our Annual Fund, endow a scholarship, or support another area, each gift will make a tremendous impact on the school and allow us to continue Mercer Law School’s legacy of service, innovation and excellence.”

“This campaign is an opportunity to really ask the last three generations of Mercer lawyers to think about why Mercer matters to them, and to respond to the needs of their alma mater,” says Quiros. “Many of us have gotten a huge benefit in our career because of the instruction and the relationships that we made while we were there. And we need to pay that back.”

# WAYS TO SUPPORT MERCER LAW SCHOOL



USHA HODGKING PHOTOGRAPHY

## The Law School Annual Fund

Gifts to the Law School Annual Fund are unrestricted, providing flexibility to meet the Law School’s most pressing needs. While Annual Fund gifts are usually committed to critical areas such as student scholarships, support of student activities, and faculty and staff support, they also provide the dean with the ability to undertake new initiatives and to meet unanticipated needs throughout the year.

## Restricted Expendable Gifts

As an alternative to Annual Fund giving, a restricted expendable gift is given for a specific purpose. The entire gift is used in any way the donor desires. For example, such gifts have funded summer stipends for students engaged in public service, technology or facilities upgrades, conferences and speakers, and advocacy competitions.

## Restricted Endowed Gifts

Restricted endowed gifts establish a fund for a specific purpose, while unrestricted endowments provide the flexibility to meet the Law School’s changing needs. The corpus of the fund is not spent. Rather, the interest from the endowment is available each year to be spent for the purpose for which the gift was made. Scholarships, professorships, and chairs are often funded by endowed gifts. Best-practices investment and spending policies are used to manage the Law School’s endowments and to determine the annual amount available for use.

# L. LIN WOOD ('77)

## The Church's Loss Was the Legal Profession's Gain

At age 12, Lin Wood delivered the evening sermon as a Youth Day minister in Macon. "I had a lot of people, in the Baptist style, rededicating their lives at the end," he says. "When I was standing at the doorway and the members of the congregation were leaving, they kept telling me I'd been called by the Lord to be a preacher.

"And I said, 'No. I'm gonna be a *lawyer*.'"

That was even before a life-changing tragedy. At age 16, after years of domestic turmoil, Wood came home to find his mother dead at the hands of his father.

"The circumstances of my childhood and the domestic violence that I experienced and witnessed along with my sisters clearly had a significant impact, I'm sure, on my life," Wood says. But he clarifies: "It was *not* the motivation behind my decision to practice law." He'd already made up his mind.

His young experience with his father's defense attorneys (and Mercer Law graduates) Hank O'Neal and Manley Brown "reinforced my feelings that the practice of law was a noble profession, and confirmed that's what I wanted to do."

Wood's career has focused on civil litigation. In 2015 he settled a Medicare fraud case against DaVita Healthcare Partners, the second-largest owner and operator of dialysis clinics in the country, for \$495 million. The year before, he negotiated a \$96 million settlement in a Medicare whistleblower case against Halifax Hospital in Florida. "It was the largest settlement in a Stark [law] violation case in the history of the country at the time," Wood says.

After focusing on medical malpractice cases, the focus of his practice changed considerably in 1996, when he was approached by Richard Jewell to represent him in defamation suits against the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and other media outlets that implied Jewell was the Centennial Olympic Park bomber. Later, Wood represented John and Patsy Ramsey, parents of murdered JonBenét, in their own media defamation suits. Libel and defamation cases still account for about 50 percent of Wood's caseload.

Among his big-name clients (Herman Cain, Dr. Phil, former Congressman Gary Condit, Natalee Holloway's mother), he takes special pride in the case of the young woman who accused Kobe Bryant of sexual assault. Wood managed to move her case from criminal to civil court, reach a confidential settlement, and, most importantly, keep the unnamed young woman out of the media glare that shone relentlessly on Jewell and the Ramseys.

"I always regretted that I didn't have the opportunity to get one of those clients in front of a jury, so that the jury would really see the type of person that they were and how dramatically different they were than how they'd been portrayed," Wood says.

He's had many successes in his field, and loves what he does. But it's hard work.

“Being a trial lawyer is an art, it's not a science. You can study it and become competent, but some people are just born with the genes to be a trial lawyer.”

"There are not a lot of lawyers around the country who represent plaintiffs in defamation cases," he says. "It's probably because there aren't enough lawyers dumb enough to do that. They're tough cases. Usually, if it is of sufficient magnitude to merit litigation, you generally are dealing with a public figure plaintiff, which I have always contended Richard was not." And when public figures are involved, the opposing attorney inevitably invokes the sanctity of the First Amendment.

"Defense lawyers seem to think that just because somebody wins a defamation case, the First Amendment as we know it will no longer exist, the skies will fall and civilization will collapse," Wood says. "But I've never found that to be the case."



Following his mother's death, Wood was largely on his own at age 16. He followed his sister, a year his senior, to Mercer University. (He also has a half sister, the eldest of the three siblings.) Mercer became his new home while he earned a bachelor's degree in political science before deciding on a law school.

"I briefly considered the University of Georgia, but Mercer had been very good to me in terms of assisting me with scholarships," he says. He was even allowed to stay in his dorm room during holidays, since he had no other place to go. "It was a small school, it was a warm environment and I knew the Law School likewise was a small class. I just loved the school and never really thought seriously about going anywhere other than Mercer."

Following graduation, Wood practiced with Jones, Cork & Miller in Macon, then set up private practice when he moved to Atlanta. Being on his own at 16 "probably set the standard for my practice over the 38 years, which has generally been independent. I have spent my career running my own law firm, charting my own course."

"Being a trial lawyer is an art, it's not a science," Wood says. "You can study it and become competent, but some people are just born with the genes to be a trial lawyer. That's the art. I just have always felt that I had that gene. I always enjoyed the thought of and actually engaging in the art of advocacy with courts, with juries. I refer to it as the art of conversation."

An avid sportsman in his spare time, he managed and played in a men's senior baseball team for 15 years, until he was 55. "I'd put a uniform on Sundays and felt like I was 16 years old again," Wood says. "Then when I got up on Monday, I knew I was not." Now he's trying to get serious about his golf game. For years, he was a hunter-jumper on the horse circuit, but his youngest daughter, Chandler, was the real equestrian. She's currently studying at UGA's veterinary school.

Son Charlie is a UGA business school grad and now works in



SALVIA JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

Wood's office. Son Matt, a graduate of University of Texas, is a litigator in Austin. And daughter Ashley, a '12 Mercer Law graduate, works in the Savannah public defender's office.

When Ashley was still a student, Wood visited his old alma mater and spoke to a class. "I found that it still had that same feeling it had when I was there in the smaller building in a class of 90 students," he says. "From my perspective, that environment is more conducive to developing relationships and more conducive to the study of law than the larger student bodies you find in many of the law schools around the country."

He would say to students today, or anyone thinking about going to law school, what Mercer taught him: "I said I wasn't going to be a preacher, but I try to preach to the young lawyers-to-be the idea that this is a *profession* first, and a business second."

# VICTORIA S. DARRISAW ('93)

## The Honorable Victoria S. Darrisaw Has a Confession to Make

Nearing the end of her undergrad years at Spelman College, when she began shopping for law schools, “I will tell you quite honestly that I did not know Mercer even existed,” she says. “It wasn’t on my radar screen at all.” But she pinged onto the Law School’s radar when that year’s LSAT scores were published.

“Mercer invited me down,” she says — though, frankly, she was hoping to attend a law school somewhere outside of Georgia. Her mother joined her for an overnight stay in Macon, where she met a series of welcoming law professors, including Mike Sabbath. “That exposure — that changed everything. They really wanted me.

“The other thing is that they were able to offer me a scholarship,” she adds. “My mother reminded me, if I thought about other places, she would say, ‘You’re going to go where the money is.’”

Darrisaw’s mother and father met and married in South Carolina when



ROBERT EDWARDS PHOTO



both were Marines. Victoria, the oldest of three, was born there. Following her parents' military service, the family moved to her father's home state, Georgia, and she grew up in Atlanta. Dad was the disciplinarian. "He had high expectations, and you had no choice but to meet those expectations or exceed them."

She continued to meet or exceed at Mercer Law School, where she felt embraced and acknowledged in a new way.

"At Spelman, even though it was a relatively small school, you still sometimes felt like a number," she says. But at the Law School, "You got to know everyone in your class, and you had the opportunity to build direct relationships with your professors. They had an open-door policy. You could go and talk to anyone if you had a concern. I knew my professors by name, they knew me by name."

One she recalls in particular is professor emerita Deryl Dantzler.

When taking Dantzler's trial practice course, Darrisaw (proving to be her father's daughter) showed up one day overprepared. She'd already finished the task Dantzler assigned the rest of her class.

While the other students were finishing up, the professor said to Darrisaw, "'Do you want to go out and have a smoke with me?' That blew my mind," the judge recalls with a fond laugh. "I don't smoke, but we did talk, and I really appreciated that experience. She always kept it real."

After law school, Darrisaw clerked for Judges Tommy Day Wilcox and W. Louis Sands, '74. In 1996 she became an assistant D.A. in the South Georgia Judicial Circuit until 2000, when she moved to the Dougherty County D.A.'s office. In 2012, she was elected to the State Court bench, filling the unexpired term of John F. Salter, who three years previously had appointed her a magistrate judge.

Presiding over misdemeanor and civil cases, Darrisaw observes lawyers practicing at various skill levels. She tries to be as nice to the neophytes as she is to older pros. "You know, I was a new lawyer once myself," she says. "I had some very patient judges, but then I had some very impatient judges. So I try to be the type of

judge that I would like to have if I were practicing before me."

Though if her goal is to be fair and impartial, in one sphere of her job, she's prone to favoritism.

"When I look for a law clerk, I do give Mercer preference," she says. "I know firsthand the experience they have. I know those professors and their commitment to giving a solid foundation to lawyers — not just to say what the law is but to understand how it works, how to think, and what that process is. I want that value working for me."

In short, "Mercer has been good to me," Darrisaw says.

That relationship extends beyond the classroom and the courtroom. Some years ago, during her superior court clerkship with Sands and Wilcox, she spent a weekend with Sands's wife Karla and daughter Billie in Karla's hometown, Brunswick. During her visit, they attended Sunday services together — at the church pastored by the father of one George Darrisaw, Jr.

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George was yet another Mercer alumnus, who attended the College of Liberal Arts while Victoria was across town at the Law School. Their paths never crossed in their academic days, but they met via the Sands. And married.

Her husband teaches music education in the Dougherty County school system. Their son George III is 15 and keeps busy with cross country, while daughter Helen, 11, is a Girl Scout. On Friday nights, they all play Catchphrase, which Darrisaw fell for while watching "The Tonight Show." ("Jimmy Fallon is one of my favorites," she says.)

The judge doesn't take her good fortune for granted. "I have a conscious acknowledgment at all times that I didn't get here alone," she says. "Several people played important roles in any measure of success that I have attained, so I'm consciously aware of that, and I try to keep that in the forefront of my mind."



# When Johnny Came Marching Home

By Joseph E. Claxton, *Professor Emeritus*

In this final segment of *When Johnny Came Marching Home: The Law School in the Years Following World War II*, a young man named Robert Edward “Bob” Hicks serves as symbolic representative of all the veterans of World War II who were the core of a special era at Mercer University School of Law. Bob is too modest to claim that role, but no person could fill it more honorably. The text below relies on an outstanding oral-history interview in volume 15 of *The Journal of Southern Legal History* (2007).

Bob Hicks is both respected and beloved within the Georgia Bar, and he provides clear proof that 90 actually is the new 50. Born in Rome, Ga., in 1926 and raised in Dublin at a time when the primary sources of support for just about everyone were (in his words) “a big garden, a hog and a cow,” Bob began his life in a world very different from that of today. Almost all the streets in Dublin were dirt. The horse-and-buggy and livery stables played significant roles in daily life. By 1943, he had

graduated from high school (the eleventh grade was the final one at that time), found a job in Macon that would help pay expenses at Mercer University, and hitchhiked his way to the “big city.”

Before much time passed, however, Bob was on his way to a far bigger city than Macon — to New York to join the United States Merchant Marines. It was not until January of 1944 that he was even old enough to be required to register for the draft, an obligation which this small-town young fellow from Georgia satisfied in Brooklyn, of all places.

Bob did not wait to be drafted, however. Instead, he joined the Navy and soon was serving in far-flung locations in the Pacific Theater, including an extended period stationed on a repair ship anchored in a Chinese harbor. When Bob returned stateside in 1946 and was discharged, he was a far different person than the one who had hitchhiked to Macon three years earlier. Still only 20 years old, he had gone through experiences that men three times his age would never have. In other words, he was like the other

veterans who returned to pursue a college or law school education at Mercer University — or, as in Bob’s case, both.

Bob Hicks officially graduated with the Law School’s Class of 1951, but he actually completed his course work by the end of 1950 and had become a member of the Georgia Bar even before he graduated, as did many of his contemporaries. He had become the third editor-in-chief of the fledgling *Mercer Law Review* and worked with some of Macon’s finest attorneys. He even had gotten



Morris Abram (who introduced Micheline to Bob), Micheline Hicks, Bob Hicks and Bruna Abram.





Mercer Law School had a huge impact on the life of Bob Hicks, taking him from the old dirt streets of a small Georgia town to the top of the legal profession in the modern era. In turn, it is clear that he and many others among the World War II veterans who obtained a legal education at Mercer had a tremendous influence on the Law School.

married to a Mercer college professor, Brooksie Poppins — a very happy marriage that ended years later with Brooksie's premature death from leukemia.

Following graduation, Bob and his wife moved to Atlanta, where he found a job with Eugene Cook, the Georgia attorney general. Cook had no funds available, but scrounged a salary for Bob by locating a place for him on the payroll of the Georgia Department of Agriculture. It was not long, however, before Bob was back in the attorney general's office full-time, working with (among others) Lamar Sizemore, Sr., a member of the Class of 1948.

From that launching pad, Bob Hicks embarked on a career that brought him into association with many of the greatest Georgia lawyers of the 20th century: Hardeman Backshear, the deputy attorney general; E. Smythe Gambrell, whose firm Bob eventually joined; Charles Moye; Walton Nall; Paul Cadenhead; Ben Wienberg; Thomas Long; Hamilton Lokey; Morris Abram (who many years later introduced Bob to his current wife, Bob's beloved Micheline); Ted Maloof; Newell Edenfield; and Hughes Spalding. Smythe Gambrell gave Bob the opportunity to go to New York to work directly with one of America's most legendary aviators, Eddie Rickenbacker, the head of the Gambrell firm's biggest client, Eastern Airlines.

One of Bob's most memorable experiences was a direct outgrowth of his work with Rickenbacker. It also demonstrates how much life in the United States has changed since the middle of the 20th century. Bob described what happened in these words in an email:

*It must have been in the early Fall of 1952. I was in Washington staying at the Carlton Hotel, the regular hangout for airline lawyers back then. The hotel is located near Lafayette Park and it was about 6:30 a.m., and I, being an early riser, had gone for a morning stroll. I*

*looked down a long path and saw what looked just like President Truman approaching me. But since I saw no one who looked like a secret service person near him I did not think it could be so. We approached each other and he said "Good morning, Citizen. Do you have anything you would like to talk to your President about?" I was so startled that I think I must have said something like "No Sir, but thanks for the opportunity and to you for doing a good job." He responded with a pleasant sounding acknowledgment and we both walked along. I cannot account for the magnitude of my — I suppose it was fright — at actually being invited to address the President of the United States. The main feature of the encounter for me is the strong feeling that I was in the presence of a worthy man — a man of character and humility who seemed to be quite genuine and willing to listen. I also liked being called "Citizen."*

Bob eventually moved into a partnership in another firm and then into the role of senior partner of Hicks, Maloof and Campbell, which he led for 25 years. In 1998, facing the realities of the evolving business aspects of law practice, he led the merger of his firm into the larger one of Long, Aldridge & Norman.

Mercer Law School had a huge impact on the life of Bob Hicks, taking him from the old dirt streets of a small Georgia town to the top of the legal profession in the modern era. In turn, it is clear that he and many others among the World War II veterans who obtained a legal education at Mercer had a tremendous influence on the Law School. After graduation they supported the institution for decades with their time, talent, and treasure, and created a professional legacy that will endure long after all the World War II veterans have left us. They were the Law School's Greatest Generation.

# SCOTT TITSHAW

## *Fulbright-Schuman Fellow Spends Sabbatical in Europe*

**I**n Italy, he strolled daily past works of Renaissance art and tossed back espresso shots all through the day. In the Netherlands, he walked alongside canals and discovered that, well, Dutch cuisine can't exactly compete with Italian. And he talked to lawyers and scholars from all over the European Union about Mercer Law School.

For his sabbatical year of 2014-15, Professor Scott Titshaw conducted research at Florence's European University Institute (E.U.I.) and at Leiden Law School's campus in The Hague, The Netherlands, in fulfillment of his Fulbright-Schuman fellowship.

Some of the highlights of his 10 months in Europe? "The ability to walk around Florence and live in a building that was 600 years old, the chance to see sculptures by Michelangelo, Donatello, Cellini and other great figures of the Renaissance," he says. "And in The Hague, I had the chance to visit the International Court of Justice and learn about the history of the Netherlands. There was great beer everywhere, and the canals were lovely."

Another highlight was the ease of travel, especially by train, among member nations of the EU. During his fellowship, Titshaw spoke at universities and research institutes not only in Italy and the Netherlands, but in Spain, France, Belgium and Scotland.

At Leiden University, he worked with Kees Waaldijk, Professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law, and at the E.U.I. with

Philippe de Bruycker, a leading scholar on European migration and immigration. In his travels, he got to know Robert Wintemute, professor of Human Rights Law at King's College, London, and other European experts in his field.

As a Fulbright scholar, Titshaw represented both the U.S. and Mercer Law School to the fellow academics he met. "They were very interested in the way law schools work in the United States, and the practice-centered focus that I described about Mercer," he says. "They found that really interesting."

For the bulk of his sabbatical work, Titshaw researched comparisons of two-tiered regulation of family and immigration in Europe and in the U.S.

"On both sides of the Atlantic, family law is state law. Immigration law in the U.S. is entirely federal law, and in the

EU it's a mix of federal and member state law," he says. "The focus of my research was on same-sex couples, in particular same-sex married couples, and also about children conceived through assisted reproductive technology, whether by same-sex or different-sex couples, and how they are treated for migration purposes."

Away for a year from the classroom, Titshaw found himself in a very different work environment. "In particular, the programs there both at the E.U.I. in Italy and at the Grotius Centre for International Studies in The Hague were multilingual, they were multidisciplinary — which is unusual in the U.S. — and they were also international," he says. "The offices where I was working tended to focus more on research and writing than on teaching. There tended to be

"The focus of my research was on same-sex couples, in particular same-sex married couples, and also about children conceived through assisted reproductive technology, whether by same-sex or different-sex couples, and how they are treated for migration purposes."





STEVE MURRAY PHOTO

economists and philosophers and political scientists working together with lawyers, and those people tended to be from a number of different countries, and to have different first languages as well.

“That certainly opened a lot of questions and created an environment where you’re approaching issues from a very different perspective from when you’re coming solely from a legal perspective, particularly from one country’s legal perspective.”

Titshaw’s scholarship generally focuses on immigration, comparative law and issues concerning sexual minorities, and at the Law School he teaches Property, Immigration Practice, International Business Transactions and Sexuality and the Law.

Before joining the Mercer Law faculty, Titshaw practiced immigration and transactional law for 12 years with Atlanta’s Arnall Golden Gregory LLP. He also served as past chair of the

Georgia-Alabama chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and is past president of the Stonewall Bar Association of Georgia.

After earning his JD at the University of Georgia in 1990, he earned an LL.M. from the Universität Hamburg in Germany. While living there, he served as a legal translator with Germany’s Federal Constitutional Court (Bundesverfassungsgericht) in Karlsruhe, Germany, and worked as a visiting foreign attorney with Roedl & Partner GbR in Nuremberg. (He speaks the language fluently.)

After his months overseas, Titshaw admits returning to the classroom required a shift in gears. “It was a little strange going back after the break, but it was totally pleasant,” he says. “I really enjoyed getting back in front of the students and working with them again, and working in a more concrete, practice-oriented environment.”

# OREN GRIFFIN



STEVE SCHROEDER PHOTO

## *Responding to Challenges with the New Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives*

It's not news that the legal world is constantly changing and evolving. As a leader in legal education for over 150 years, Mercer has always been ahead of the curve and innovative in our educational philosophy. Given the current environment, today is no different. Recently, the Law School has taken even more steps to make sure we are strategically prepared for the future.

"As we respond to challenges for new growth confronting legal education, we are trying to be strategic about using our assets wisely and capitalizing on our strengths," says Dean Daisy Floyd, who has named Associate Professor Oren Griffin the Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives. "Oren's position is a new one that will take primary responsibility for identifying and assessing new opportunities."

Some of those opportunities may



include certificate programs and LL.M. programs or a master's degree. And some may be situated 85 miles north of Macon, on the university's Atlanta campus. The idea is to find programs that appeal both to JD students looking for practical experience in the city, and to others who may not be seeking a law degree but want the sort of expertise Mercer Law School provides.

"We're thinking about what we can do in Atlanta to exploit the economic juggernaut that the city is," says Griffin, who previously served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. "It is a hub for economic and business activity, so it makes sense for the Law School to give careful thought to how our programs and degree initiatives might be able to fit well there.

"Certainly the Law School has already taken steps to do more things in Atlanta with the Semester-in-Atlanta and externship programs," he adds. "Now we are beginning to think about certificate programs that might be consistent with our mission and our strengths, but also take advantage of what we see the market to be for legal education throughout Georgia."

The city's professional bounty includes healthcare, international businesses and the booming industries of music, film and TV production — fields that all come with the need for legal knowhow.

Griffin says of the entertainment industry, "Behind all of those works you have a ton of legal concerns — contract drafting, negotiations, patent and copyright issues — that people may need training for and that might be attractive to lawyers and even to those who may not be interested in a full-blown law degree but in a program that provides them some training."

In defining new opportunities, he intends to draw on some strong, close-by resources: his Law School colleagues whom he hopes will help in group-thinking goals for the new initiative.

Like Griffin himself (who holds both a JD from Washington

and Lee University School of Law and a Ph.D. in educational policy from the University of Iowa), many faculty members have both law and advanced degrees in fields ranging from economics to philosophy to bioethics: "The intellectual breadth of the faculty has really grown in recent years and leaned toward a more interdisciplinary focus, which is great. It means that our folks can reach out in a lot of different areas and bring that back to the classroom."

In addition to his new role, Griffin continues to teach, with a focus on employment law, education law, civil procedure and alternative dispute resolution, and education law. He's working on a book under contract with Johns Hopkins, focusing on the legal challenges regarding internal investigations in higher education. Legal issues surrounding allegations of student misconduct and assault are topics he often speaks about at national conferences, filling out much of the rest of his professional life.

A Louisiana native, Griffin met his wife Theresa while he was a lawyer at a firm in her home state, Michigan. After practicing labor and employment law in Atlanta as a partner at Elarbee, Thompson, Sapp & Wilson LLP,

starting in 2000, he began teaching at Mercer Law School 10 years ago and moved his family to Warner Robins. The Griffins' sons Andrew and Matthew attend Perdue Elementary.

"When I'm not at the Law School, you can usually find me watching one of them on the soccer field or tennis court, or listening to one of them play at their musical recital," Griffin says. "They've both been playing piano for a few years."

Griffin and his wife, whose background is in business and banking, enjoy the quiet pulse of Middle Georgia. "Living in Atlanta was fun when we were there," he says, "but we like this kind of quiet, non-traffic-infested community. From my house, I can look out the window and almost see my boys' school."

"The intellectual breadth of the faculty has really grown in recent years and leaned toward a more interdisciplinary focus, which is great. It means that our folks can reach out in a lot of different areas and bring that back to the classroom."



## Professor Anthony Baldwin

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Appointed as returning chair of the Hospitality Committee for the board of the Southeastern Conference of Law Schools.

Selected as member of the National BLSA Frederick Douglass Moot Court Advisory Board.



## Professor Ted Blumoff

### Recent Publications

*On Executing Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenics: Identity and the Construction of 'Synthetic' Competency*, 52 Criminal L. Bull. (forthcoming 2016).



## Assistant Professor Zack Buck

### Recent Publications

*Furthering the Fiduciary Metaphor: Doctors, Dollars, and Deterring Overtreatment*, Cal. L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

*Overtreatment and Informed Consent: A Fraud-Based Solution to Unwanted and Unnecessary Care*, 43 Fla. St. U. L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Furthering the Fiduciary Metaphor*, Georgia State University College of Law, Faculty Colloquium Series, Atlanta.

*The Fractured Fiduciary*, 2015 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference (SEALS), New Scholars Works-In-Progress Workshop, Boca Raton, Florida.

*Overtreatment and Informed Consent*, 2015 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference (SEALS), Boca Raton, Florida.

*New Constructs for Regulating Overtreatment*, 2015 ASLME Health Law Professors Conference, Saint Louis University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri.

*Overtreatment and Informed Consent*, 2015 Law and Society Conference, Law and Society Association, Seattle, Washington.

*'Reverse' False Claims and Attorney Ethics: The Duty of Confidentiality in the Era of Kane v. Continuum Partners*, Georgia Hospital Association and Georgia Academy of Healthcare Attorneys Annual Meeting, Pine Mountain.

*Overtreatment and Informed Consent*, University of Georgia School of Law, Faculty Colloquium Series, Athens.



## Associate Professor Jessica Feinberg

### Recent Publications

*Consideration of Genetic Connections in Child Custody Disputes Between Same-Sex Parents: Fair or Foul?*, 81 Missouri L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

*Gradual Marriage*, 19 Lewis & Clark L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Relationship Pluralism*, Association of American Law Schools Workshop on "Shifting Foundations in Family Law: Family Law's Responses to Changing Families", Orlando, Florida.

*Gradual Marriage*, Association of American Law Schools Workshop on "Shifting Foundations in Family Law: Family Law's Responses to Changing

Families", Association of American Law Schools Midyear Meeting, Orlando, Florida.

*Gradual Marriage*, Feminist Legal Theory Program, Law and Society Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington.



## Dean Daisy Hurst Floyd

*Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation*

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*The Team Approach: Working Together to Develop Professionalism Programs that Engage Students*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New York.

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Elected to the Executive Committee of the Deans Section of the Association of American Law Schools.



## Professor Timothy Floyd

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

### Recent Publications

*The Relationship Between Christian Theology and Legal Ethics in the Thought of Jack Sammons*, 66 Mercer L. Rev. 313 (2015).

*Thirty Years of Jack Sammons: An Appreciation*, 66 Mercer L. Rev. 265 (2015).

*Monroe Freedman: Prophet of Biblical Justice*, forthcoming in Hofstra L. Rev. (2016).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*The Role of Clinicians in Counseling Students*, Association of American Law

Schools Clinical Conference.

*Ethics in Criminal Practice – The Hardest Questions Today: A Conversation in Honor of Monroe Freedman*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting.

*Introducing Professional Identity Development into the Law School Curriculum*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting.

*The Importance of Legal Services Attorneys for Social Change and Justice*, Georgia Legal Services Advocacy Summit of Managing and Supervising Attorneys.

*Developing Professional Identity*, Georgia Association of Legal Externships – Pathways to the Profession III: Helping Students Chart Their Paths.



## Associate Professor Oren Griffin

### Recent Publications

*A View of Campus Safety Law in Higher Education and the Merits of Enterprise Risk Management*, 61.2 Wayne L. Rev. (2015-16).

*Campus Safety, Policy and Risk Management*, Chapter in Emerging Issues in College and University Campus Security (Thompson Reuters/Aspatore, 2015).

*Student Misconduct Investigations: Navigating the Internal Investigation Process in Higher Education* (Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming 2016).



## Professor David Hricik

### Recent Publications

*Patent Ethics: Prosecution* (LexisNexis, 3rd edition, 2015).



*Seeing Adversity in Patent Practice: I'll Be Your Eyes*, ABA Landslide Magazine, Vol. 7 No. 6 (2015).



## Professor Linda Jellum

Ellison C. Palmer, Jr. Professor of Tax Law

### Recent Publications

*Dodging the Taxman: Why Treasury's Anti-Abuse Regulation is Unconstitutional*, 70 Miami L. Rev. 152 (2015).

*Questions & Answers: Administrative Law* (LexisNexis, 3rd edition, 2015) (Co-authored with Karen A. Jordan).

### Computer Assisted Learning Instruction Lessons:

- *Chevron Deference*, (2015) (co-authored).
- *Administrative Inspections*, (2015) (co-authored).

### Judicial Citations:

- "Which Is to Be Master," *The Judiciary or the Legislature? When Statutory Directives Violate Separation of Powers*, 56 U.C.L.A. L. Rev. 837 (2009). Cited by *De Niz Robles v. Lynch*, 803 F.3d 1165, 1171 n.5 (10th Cir. 2015).
- "Heads I Win, Tails You Lose: Reconciling *Brown v. Gardner's* Presumption that Interpretive Doubt Be Resolved in Veterans' Favor with *Chevron's* Second Step," 61 Am. U.L. Rev. 59 (2011). Cited by *Johnson v. McDonald*, 762 F.3d 1362, 1367 (Fed. Cir. 2015) (O'Malley, C.J., concurring).
- *The Impact of the Rise and Fall of Chevron on the Executive's Power to Make and Interpret Law*, 44 Loy. U. Chi. L.J. 141 (2012). Cited by *DeCambre v. Brookline Housing Authority*, 95 F. Supp. 3d 35, 44 (D. Mass. 2015).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Developments in Administrative Law*, 2015 ABA Administrative Law Section's Annual Fall Conference.

*After King v. Burwell, What Is Chevron's Domain?*, 2015 ABA Administrative Law Section's Annual Fall Conference.

*Becoming a Productive and Fulfilled Scholar*, 2015 Southeastern Association of Law Schools' Annual Conference.

*Law, Society, and Taxation: Topics in the Theory and Practice of Tax Law*, 2015 Law and Society's Annual Conference.

*Not Your Parents' Administrative Law Class*, 2015 Association of American Law Schools' Annual Meeting.

### Radio Appearances

*How Transparent Will Death Row Clemency Be?*, Georgia Public Radio, May 4, 2015.

*Looking for Clarity in Death Row Clemency*, Georgia Public Radio, March 23, 2015.

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Appointed incoming deputy executive director and a returning member of the Beginning and Newer Teachers Workshop Committee for the board of the Southeastern Conference of Law Schools.

Reappointed secretary of the American Bar Association's Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Section.

Appointed to the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools' Administrative Law Section.



## Professor Steve Johnson

Walter F. George Professor of Law

### Recent Publications

*The Course Source: The Casebook Evolved*, 44 Cap. U. L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Re-appointed to another term on the Board of Directors of CALI.



## Professor Mark Jones

### Recent Publications

*Fisherman Jack: Living in 'Juropolis' – The Fishing Village of the Law*, 66 Mercer L. Rev. 485-512 (2015).

*Beyond Punks in Empty Chairs: An Imaginary Conversation with Clint Eastwood's Dirty Harry – Toward Peace Through Spiritual Justice*, 11 U. Mass L. Rev. (forthcoming 2016).

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Co-Chair and Organizer of Mercer's third annual Conference on Current Trends in International Trade, Atlanta.



## Associate Professor Jeremy Kidd

### Recent Publications

*Neither Savior Nor Bogeyman: What Waits Behind the Door of Third-Party Litigation Financing?*, 47 Loy. U. Chi. L.J. (forthcoming 2016).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Neither Savior Nor Bogeyman: What Waits Behind the Door of Litigation Financing?*, Young Legal Scholars Competition, Federalist Society Annual Faculty Conference.

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Appointed an incoming member of the Inclusiveness Committee for the board of the Southeastern Conference of Law Schools.



## Professor Patrick Longan

### Recent Publications

*Teachers Manual for A Day in the Life of a Lawyer: Torts*, Aspen Publishing (forthcoming 2016) (with Sue Chesler and Professor Karen Sneddon).

*Legal Ethics*, Annual Survey of Georgia Law, 67 Mercer L. Rev. 107 (2015).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*The Foundations of Practice Project of Educating Tomorrow's Lawyers*, Association for Continuing Legal Education Plenary Session, Savannah.

*The Scrivener's Error: A Demonstration of Teaching Practical Wisdom*, St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Texas.

*Teaching Professional Formation in the First Year of Law School*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (with Dean Daisy Floyd, Professor Tim Floyd, Patti Alleva and Michael McGinnis).

*Prosecution Ethics and the Discipline of Doctors*, Federation of State Medical Boards Attorney Workshop, Savannah (with Professor Zack Buck).



## Associate Professor Teri McMurtry-Chubb

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*#SayHerName #BlackWomensLives-Matter: State Violence in Policing the Black Female Body*, Mercer Law Review Symposium.

Panelist, *Advocates Without Arguments: Equipping Law Students with a Social Justice Skill Set*, Next Generation Civil Rights Strategies, Duke Law Symposium – The Present and Future of Civil Rights

Movements: Race and Reform in 21st Century America.

Plenary Panelist/Speaker, *So, What Is a Feminist Scholar and Feminist Scholarship Anyway?*, Joint Scholars and Scholarship Workshop on Feminist Jurisprudence, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting.

Panelist, *DIVERGENT: Finding My Voice as a Writer – As Something Distinct from an Academic and a Scholar*, Finding Your Voice in the Legal Academy, Section on Balance in Legal Education, Co-Sponsored by Academic Support, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting.



## Professor David Ritchie

Director of International Initiatives,  
Professor of Law and Philosophy

### Recent Publications

*Chinese-Lusophone Relations: China and Brazil*, Social Sciences Academic Press, China (Co-Editor).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*The Satyagrahi and Globalization: 'A Clash of Clans' or 'A Partnership of Peoples'*, Global Ethics Fellows retreat at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, New York.

*Evaluation of the Urban Pacification Policies of the Brazilian Police in Rio de Janeiro*, International Committee of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Workshop on "Policing the Police and Military", Boca Raton, Florida.

*Shine on You Crazy Diamond*, SEALS Workshop on "The Legal and Political Implications of the Edward Snowden Revelations", Boca Raton, Florida.

*Towards an Institutional Structure for the BRICS*, BRICS International Conference, Macau, China.

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Appointed incoming chair of the International Committee for the board of

the Southeastern Conference of Law Schools.



## Professor Michael Sabbath

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

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Bankruptcy and the Elderly*, Middle District of Georgia Bankruptcy Law Institute, Macon.



## Associate Professor Jennifer Sheppard

### Recent Publications

*Once Upon a Time, Happily Ever After, and In a Galaxy Far, Far Away: Using Narrative to Fill the Cognitive Gap Left by Overreliance on Pure Logic in Appellate Briefs and Motion Memoranda*, 46 Willamette L. Rev. 255 (2009), accepted for reprinting in *Legal Writing Institute Monograph Series*, Vol. 4 (forthcoming 2015).



## Professor Karen Sneddon

### Recent Publications

*Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, 98 Marq. L. Rev. 1535 (2015).

*Once Upon a Transaction: Narrative Techniques in Drafting*, 68 Okla. L. Rev. (forthcoming) (Co-author).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*From Form Book to Story Book: Tales of Transactional Drafting*, Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington.

*Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, Sex and Death: Gender and Sexuality Matters in Trusts and Estates, Joint Program of Trusts and Estates Section and Women in Legal Education Section, 2016 AALS Annual Meeting, New York, New York.

*You Call that Persuasive?: Providing Pointed Feedback on Persuasive Writing*, Georgia Legal Services Program for Senior Advocates, Macon.

### Honors, Awards and Activities

Appointed a returning member of the New Scholars Committee for the board of the Southeastern Conference of Law Schools.

Selected as Assistant Editor in Chief for Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute.



## Associate Professor Scott Titshaw

### Recent Publications

*Same-Sex Spouses Lost in Translation? How to Interpret 'Spouse' in the EU Family Migration Directives*, B.U. Int'l L.J. 45 (2016).

*Family Matters: Modernise, Don't Abandon, lus Sanguinis*, in European Union Democracy Observatory on Citizenship (EUDO) Debate on "Bloodlines and Belonging: Time to Abandon lus Sanguinis?" (2015).

### Select Speeches and Presentations

*Judging the Competition Among State Powers, Federal Powers and Individual Rights in U.S. Immigration Law and LGBT Family Law*, Congress on the Tyranny of Sovereignty, Université de Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France.

*Necessary Harmonization of Migration and Immigration Law in a Union Without Borders: One American's Opinion*, International Colloquium: Existe-t-il une 'identité démocratique' européenne?, Université de Picardie Jules Verne, Centre Universitaire de Recherches sur l'Action Publique et le Politique, Epistémologie et Sciences Sociales, Amiens, France.

*Fam-migration Law for LGBT Families in the U.S. and the EU*, University of Strathclyde Law School, Glasgow, Scotland.

*Comparing EU and U.S. Migration Law: The Case of Same-Sex Spouses*, Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands.

*New Frontiers in LGBT Rights in the U.S. and Europe*, Meeting with Representatives from NGOs and the European Commission and European Parliament, U.S. Mission to the EU, Brussels, Belgium.

*Promoting LGBTI Rights – A Shift in Rights-Based Foreign Policy* (panelist), YFPF at the U.S. Mission to the EU, Brussels, Belgium.

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

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





SCHOOL OF LAW

# GIVING REPORT

2014 – 2015

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**Acknowledged in this report are donors who made gifts to the Law School from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015.** Beyond the facts and figures shown here, Mercer Law's alumni and friends are among its greatest assets. From attending alumni receptions to recruiting future students and hiring our graduates, your steadfast support is greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who are giving of their time and financial resources to Mercer Law School.

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Vera Sharon Edenfield '03  
Charles P. Efstration '08  
Peter J. Esposito '71  
Daniel F. Finch '73  
Jean B. Finch  
Janne C. Foster '81  
Dana Haas Freeman  
Billie Rampley Frys †  
Law Office of John T. Garcia  
John T. Garcia '84  
Anne F. Gardner  
Everett W. Gee, III '89  
John H. Geilmann '84  
Sarah L. Gerwig-Moore †  
Fay C. Gillham '79  
James E. Graham '77  
Michael G. Gray '78  
Jule B. Greene '50

Phillip C. Griffith '93  
Shellie L. Hammock '04  
Cassandra L. Harris-Starks '94  
Render M. Heard, Jr. '97  
Edward L. Hill '66  
John B. Hindman '75  
Stephen J. Hodges '04  
David S. Hollingsworth '82  
Mitchel P. House, Jr. '59  
John W. Humes, Jr. '72  
Christina L. Hunt '85  
Vicki J. Hyche '87  
David B. Irwin '82  
Linda D. Jellum †  
Andrew W. Jenkins '12  
Katherine M. Kalish '79  
Jerome L. Kaplan '61  
Mary M. Katz '79  
Roy R. Kelly, III '73  
Crawley M. Kemp '94  
Traci D. Kemp '94  
Nathan C. Lee '83  
Edith W. Lewis '97  
Preston B. Lewis, III '79  
George R. Lilly, II '83  
Evelyn P. Luton '89  
Jeffrey P. Lutz '02  
Sarah Beth Mabery '01  
Malcolm Mackenzie, III '84  
Quentin Marlin '07  
Gloria O. Marshall  
James I. Marshall  
Edward S. McCallum, III '92  
Paul J. McCollum '63  
Max R. McGlamry '52  
McRee and Associates,  
Attorney at Law  
J. David McRee '81

Gloria H. McSwain  
Kipling L. McVay-Stubbs '76  
C. Robert Melton '74  
Carol Bacon Miller '91  
J. Thomas Minor, IV '81  
W. Ben Mitcham, Jr. '74  
H. Clay Mitchell, Jr. '65  
S.E. 'Trey' Moody, III '92  
Anita S. Momand  
Henry C. Momand, Jr.  
Thomas J. Morgan '76  
William D. NeSmith, III '97  
William J. Neville '49  
Charles D. Newberry '74  
C. Talbot Nunnally, III '85  
David G. Oedel †  
Erica Hickey Opitz '10  
Osterndorf and Associates, P.A.  
MaryEllen P. Osterndorf '90  
Prashant P. Patel '12  
John A. Patterson  
A. Stanyan Peck '74  
Bryan B. Persons '79  
J. William Pierce, Jr. '82  
Jeffrey N. Powers '95  
D. Tom Pye, III '70  
Franklin E. Remick '64  
Pamela A. Robertson '82  
John D. Robinson '82  
Stephen C. Rogers '11  
Walter P. Rowe '76  
Rex R. Ruff '66  
Lisa Sabbath  
Michael D. Sabbath †  
Natalie Diamond Sacha '07  
Dennis C. Sanders '72  
Jacquelyn H. Saylor '83  
Otis L. Scarbary '77

Christopher G. Scholz '87  
C. Cullen Sheppard '01  
Joel V. Sherlock '99  
F. Sinclair Shingler, III '63  
Darcee S. Siegel '85  
John T. Simpson '85  
Thomas O. Sippel '96  
William L. Slaughter '50  
E. Byron Smith '67  
Gregory K. Smith '01  
David L. Stephens '75  
Carter L. Stout '85  
Marilyn E. Sutton '92 †  
Thomas P. Swift, Jr. '03  
Frank M. Talbot, II '94  
Gregory T. Talley '95  
Anita Wallace Thomas '89  
J. Curt Thomas '05  
Lauren Pierce Thomas '04  
Richard S. Thompson '82  
Wallace F. Tillman '68  
Thomas S. Topping '84  
Patrice S. Underkofler '90  
Thomas H. Vann, Jr. '69  
Joseph J. Vonnegut '89  
Wendy C. Vonnegut '89  
Ida Ruth C. Wall '67  
K. Glynn Watson '63  
C. Hansell Watt, IV '04  
Andrew J. Welch, Jr. '69  
Peter F. Welch '73  
Nathan A. White '05  
Jason M. Wilbanks '11  
Tommy Day Wilcox, Jr. '73  
David C. Will '79  
Virginia F. Williams †  
Thomas H. Wilson '87

## ASSOCIATES — Up to \$99

Bentley C. Adams, III '79	Catherine D. Davis	Foss G. Hodges '13	Charles S. Moore '09	David F. Sipple '72
Leah Morton Aiken '11 †	D. Scott Davis	David Hricik †	Doyle E. Mullis, III '97	W. Thomas Slownen, Jr. '72
T. Greer Aiken, Jr. '10	James M. Davis '65	Matthew C. Hulbert '07	National Business Institute	Amanda Kent Smith '07
Justyn D. Alioto '08	Michael S. Dean †	Charles S. Hunter '74	Catherine H. Newton	Claude D. Smith, Jr. '82
Thomas D. Applewhite '94	Sarah H. Dismuke	Lindsay Leigh Hurt '13	Robert F. Ness '76	Connie C. Smith '89
Alvin W. Arnold '66	Douglas L. Dreyer '88	N. Tyrus Ivey	Daniel J. O'Connor '12	J. Stanley Smith, Jr. '77
Lance F. Avera '89	Kenneth S. Dunning '80	Stephen M. Johnson †	Rizza Palmares O'Connor '10	Kenneth Ronald Smith '07
B. Carlton Bailey, Jr. '66	Richard A. Epps '74	Amanda Salter Jones '09	Jeffery N. Osteen '98	Michael M. Smith '89
Christopher A. Ballar '00	Elizabeth R. Francisco '76	Cheri L. Jones '90	Kevin Charles Patrick '08	Smith & Garner, LLC
Sarah Ann Bartholomew '89	John R. Francisco '81	Sylvia R. Jones '95	Sherrod G. Patterson '82	Pamela M. Spencer '87
Patricia W. Bass '83	Amanda T. Freeman '10	William W. Jones '12	Evan Robert Paulson	Thomas P. Swaim '80
Thomas L. Bass	James M. Freeman '99	E. Craig Kendrick '84	Irven B. Penn '85	T. Michael Taff '75
Thomas L. Bass, Jr. '93	Spencer G. Freeman '10	John F. Kennedy '90	Joseph W. Popper, Jr. '59	William E. Tanner '81
Beverly B. Bates '61	Danielle M. French	Susan E. Kennedy	Robert H. Preston '66	Erica T. Taylor '14
Lisa Neill Beckmann '92	Jonathan S. Futrell '12	Cheryll King †	Cherie H. Price	Gregory D. Taylor '13
John H. Bedford '55	James A. Garland '02	Campbell W. Kirbo '12	Donna P. Price '79	John R. Taylor '63
Brian D. Bellamy '94	Searcy S. Garrison, Jr. '66	M. Charlene Lane '82	William D. Price '82	Cater C. Thompson '83
Lauren L. Benedict '97	Michael E. George '12	Ruth W. Laney	Dennis P. Quarles '81	William L. Thompson '93
Andrew Benbow '09	Jacqueline S. Gess '12	H. Owen Lee, Jr. '94	Thomas J. Ratcliffe, Jr. '68	William R. Waldrop '76
Timothy J. Bennett '13	Cade Carter Gibson '06	Wesley T. Leonard '87	Kathryn E. Ray '07	Larry Walker
Kristin K. Bloodworth '09	Sue Ballard Gilliam '82	Jason D. Lewis '06	Jennifer C. Reddington '10	Russell K. Walker '03
Thomas C. Bobbitt, III '78	A. Sidney Goss, III	Cheryl Lienhop-Price	Jeanne Rehberg	Jason W. Ward '04
Nathanael D. Brantley '13	George S. Greer '02	Rita J. Llop '84	David T. Ritchie †	Susan Joan Warren '01
Barbara A. Brown '84	Christine Ann Guard †	Lillian H. Lockary '81	Allison Jackson Roberts '04	Anne Henneberg Watson '84
Lizanne F. Carlson '13	Frank L. Hadden, III	Darryl W. Lunon, II '08	William J. Roberts, Jr. '65	D. Christopher Wells †
Carlyle Place	H. Pope Hamrick, Jr. '67	James W. Malys '77	John W. Routh '83	Kimberly L. Whiddon '05
Ashley E. Carroll '08	Sarah McPherson Harriman '95	Jane S. McElreath '80	Joseph W. Rowland '52*	David H. White, Jr.
Joshua A. Carroll '07	Joan W. Harris '78	James B. McLaughlin, Jr. '73	Daniel P. San Miguel '12	Kimberly S. White '88
William E. Cetti '68	Peter J. Harrison '09	Leah Fiorenza McNeill '09	Michael Kinnebrew Scruggs '11	Pamela Y. White-Colbert '87
Joseph H. Chambless '61	Steven M. Harrison '82	William Taylor McNeill '10	Gregory A. Sebastian '95	Eva M. Wilbanks
Margaret C. Chambless	Justin D. Heideman '00	Sydney W. McRee '14	Mark A. Segal '85	Joseph L. Williams '67*
David G. Cheng '12	David R. Helmick '03	Alexander S. Merrill '14	Bernard F. Shearon, Jr. '87	John W. Wingate, III '98
Laurel R. Clapp '69	David E. Henderson '73	H. Lee Merritt, Jr. '77	E. Bowen Shoemaker '11	Marshall A. Winslow, Jr. '89
Edward B. Claxton, III '82	Darren K. Hensley '85	Garna Denise Miller '01	Robert M. Shoemaker '12	Jessica Fielding Yelverton '06
J. Daniel Cole '12	Carolyn Camille Hernandez	Lauren J. Miller '14	Emily McLarty Shuman '09	Arthur R. York '09
Jerry E. Conner '52	J. Rush Hicks, Jr. '81	Benjamin W. Mitchell '11	Ashley T. Sillay '13	
Charles O. Cornelison '71	Martha C. Hill	Catherine Elizabeth	John W. Sillay '13	
Theresa L. Critchfield '05	Andrew M. Hirsch '85	Bell-Mitchell '11	Donald W. Singleton, Jr. '90	

\* Deceased

† Current and former Law faculty/staff

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

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# CLASSNotes

## 1966

**Tommy Malone** received a Verdicts Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award from *The Fulton County Daily Report*. Malone also received a \$16.5 million verdict for his client in March 2015.

## 1968

**J. Daniel Falligant** was recognized as a member of the "Top One Percent" of attorneys in the nation by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel, an organization dedicated to promoting the highest standards of legal excellence. Falligant, a partner at Bouhan Falligant, has been named 2015 "Super Lawyer" and 2015 "Legal Elite" by *Georgia Trend*, and 2015 "Best Lawyer in America" by *U.S. News and World Report*.

## 1972

**Andre Delgalvis** has written and published a book, *The Lost Tracks*, released on Nov. 1, 2015.

## 1975

**The Honorable Randall A. Meincke** was appointed an Associate Juvenile Court Judge in Forsyth County on Aug. 1, 2014.

## 1979

**Class Correspondent:**  
**Danny Craig**, [drcraig@augustaga.gov](mailto:drcraig@augustaga.gov)  
**Mary Katz**, [mkat@chrkglaw.com](mailto:mkat@chrkglaw.com)

**Jeannette Lewis Little** was appointed to the State Commission on Family Violence by **Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal**, '66, on May 28, 2015. Little is a Troup County State Court judge.

## 1980

**Dr. Jay A. Sekulow** was the keynote speaker at Regent University's Commencement ceremony on May 9, 2015.

## 1981

**Linda Finley** was elected to the Board of Directors of Baker Donelson's Atlanta office.

**Kathy A. Bradley** published *Wondering Toward Center* through Mercer University Press.

## 1982

**D.R. Jones** received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at the University of Memphis School of Law. Jones also serves as Associate Dean for Information Resources and Law Library Director. She teaches Copyright Law and recently served as Chair of the Copyright Committee for the American Association of Law Libraries.

**Raymond C. Mayer** retired from Coweta Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office after 20 years of prosecuting felonies.

**Eve L. Simmons** was featured in the cover story of the *ABA Journal* March 2016 issue focusing on the decline in the number of African-American women in BigLaw. Currently the only female shareholder of color at Greenspoon Marder, Simmons shared her vision for a climate of inclusiveness for women and minorities and the

difficulties in changing the paradigm.

## 1983

**George R. Christian** was appointed District Attorney for the Mountain Judicial Circuit by **Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal**, '66.

## 1984

**Richard S. Bergholtz** was appointed to a one-year term on the Mount Dora (Florida) Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

## 1985

**Thomas P. Bishop** has been named senior vice president, chief compliance officer and deputy general counsel for Southern Company Services, effective Jan. 1. Bishop previously served as senior vice president, chief compliance officer, corporate secretary and general counsel for Southern Company Services subsidiary Georgia Power, providing legal counsel to the utility's management team and overseeing corporate security, ethics and compliance, legal services, risk management and the corporate secretary's office.

## 1986

**Philip D. Irwin** was named chief manager of the Nashville, Tennessee, law firm Neal & Harwell. Irwin joined the firm in 1986. His primary practice focus is civil litigation.

## 1987

**Brian T. Wilson**, partner at Dellecker Wilson King McKenna Ruffier & Sos, has rejoined the Board of Directors of the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida. Wilson previously served on the board for nine years beginning in 2004. He was chairman in 2007 and 2009.

## 1988

**Robert J. "Bob" Kauffman** was installed as the president of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

**Chas Reynolds** was a speaker at the national meeting of the Defense Research Institute (DRI) in Washington, D.C., in October 2015. His topic was "Green Building Products and Resulting Litigation." DRI is the world's largest organization of litigation attorneys.

## 1989

**Michael Hurd** was re-elected to a third term as commonwealth's attorney of Middlesex County, Virginia.

**John D. Mills** has published his sixth novel, *The Hooker, the Dancer and the Nun*. It is a courtroom thriller and is available for purchase online. He practices at the Law Office of John D. Mills, P.A. in Fort Myers, Florida.

## 1990

**J. Jeffrey Deery** was selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation and litigation - banking and finance. Deery is a shareholder

with the law firm of Winderweede, Haines, Ward and Woodman, practicing in the firm's Orlando, Florida, office.

**Todd Sanders** was appointed director of the workers' compensation unit for the Florida First District Court of Appeal, which has jurisdiction over workers' compensation appeals statewide.

**Jarome E. Gautreaux** and **Richard L. Sizemore**, '00, announced the opening of their new firm, Gautreaux & Sizemore, LLC, on Dec. 1, 2014.

## 1991

**Jonathan W. Hedgepeth** was selected for Georgia's 2015 Super Lawyers list by *Atlanta Magazine*.

**Christopher N. Smith**, a Macon attorney, was knighted in the Order of Danneborg by The Queen Margrethe II of the Kingdom of Denmark in recognition of his valuable services as Consul of Denmark in Georgia.

## 1993

**Kenneth D. McArthur, Jr.**, was named to *Virginia Business* magazine's "2015 Legal Elite" Health Law List as selected by his peers. He is an attorney at Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP in Richmond, Virginia.

## 1994

**Dean C. Copelan** joined Spivey, Pope, Green & Greer in August 2015. Copelan practices in the areas of wealth management and probate and estate administration. Previously, he has served as assistant general counsel at Bank of America and as vice president and senior trust advisor at Wachovia Bank.

**Rick Waller** was appointed chief public defender for the Macon Judicial Circuit, serving Bibb, Crawford and Peach counties, to represent indigent

people accused of crimes. Waller was previously interim chief and has been chief assistant public defender since 2005.

## 1995

**Patrick J. Poff** was elected as one of four attorneys nationwide to the 12 person Governing Committee of the ABA Forum on Construction Law on April 16, 2015. He will serve a three-year term.

## 1996

**The Honorable Katherine Lumsden** was appointed to the State Commission on Family Violence by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal on May 28, 2015. Lumsden is a Houston Superior Court judge.

## 1997

**Class Correspondent:**  
**Auden Grumet**, [auden@atlantallawyer.com](mailto:auden@atlantallawyer.com)

**Lauren Benedict** was appointed Administrative Law Judge with the Social Security Administration.

**William D. Nesmith, III**, became the Deputy General Counsel for the State Bar of Georgia in October 2014.

**The Honorable Render M. Heard** was appointed by Georgia Speaker of the House David Ralston to serve on the state's Child Advocate Advisory Committee on Oct. 22, 2015. He is the judge of the Juvenile Courts of the Tifton Judicial Circuit, serving on the executive committee of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges.

## 1998

**Robert W. Smith, Jr.**, joined the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia as a State Resource Prosecutor specializing in RICO and Appeals.

**Jonathan J. Tuggle** was named to *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2015 Legal Elite." Tuggle, who works for Boyd Collar Nolen & Tuggle in Atlanta, was also

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### State Bar of Georgia Annual Meeting & Alumni Reception

Friday, June 17, 2016

Omni Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island, Florida

### Class of 2011 Reunion

Saturday, September 17, 2016

Mercer Bears v. Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles

### Homecoming Tailgate

Saturday, November 5, 2016

Mercer Bears v. East Tennessee State Buccaneers

### Annual Alumni Dinner

February 2017, Atlanta

Visit [law.mercer.edu/alumni](http://law.mercer.edu/alumni) for more information.

Mercer University School of Law and its Alumni Association are looking for businesses and individuals to help sponsor our alumni events, including Homecoming and the Annual Alumni Dinner. For more details, please contact Director of Development, Leslie Cadle, at (478) 301-2232.

## CLASSNotes

recognized as a 2016 Super Lawyer for family law.

### 1999

**Margaret W. S. Puccini** was recently installed as the secretary of the Savannah Bar Association.

### 2001

#### Class Correspondent:

**William Noland**, [wnoland@jamesbatesllp.com](mailto:wnoland@jamesbatesllp.com)

**John G. Breakfield** was appointed by Governor Nathan Deal to the Georgia Judicial Nominating Commission.

**Gina Ginn Greenwood** was elected as one of 14 new shareholders across Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC.

**Amy Reeder Worley** joined Merz Pharmaceutical

in Raleigh, North Carolina, as Senior Corporate Counsel. She was most recently a principal at Jackson Lewis, leading the Privacy e-Communications and Data Security practice group.

### 2002

**Tomieka R. Daniel** was awarded the Bensonetta Tipton Lane Award for Commitment to the Family by the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys. She received her award at GABWA's 2015 Glitter Gala & Auction on July 25, 2015.

**Bradley M. Harmon** was elected Managing Partner at HunterMaclean, a business law firm in Savannah and Brunswick. Harmon will lead the management committee, which guides firm strategy, sets long-term vision, and directs firm operations. He was also recognized by *Georgia Trend* magazine in its 2015 "40 Under 40." He is a partner at HunterMaclean in Savannah.

## In Memory

### 1940's

**Marion Roscoe Lowery**, '48, of Avondale Estates, April 13, 2016.

**The Honorable Percival C. Andrews, Jr.**, '49, of Thomasville, May 21, 2015.

### 1950's

**William Leon Slaughter**, '50, of Columbus, May 2, 2016.

**Richard F. Scholz, Jr.**, '51, of Quincy, Illinois, April 20, 2016.

**The Honorable William T. Whatley**, '51, of Vidalia, Sept. 24, 2014.

**Clyde L. Armour, Jr.**, '52, of Rome, July 8, 2015.

**James Sewell Elliott, Sr.**, '52, of Macon, May 19, 2015.

**The Honorable Joseph W. Rowland**, '52, of Wrightsville, Sept. 23, 2015.

**Herman DuPree Baker**, '52, of Tucker, Nov. 2, 2015.

### 1960's

**Carlos A. Pesquera**, '62, of Hialeah, Florida, Aug. 15, 2004.

**The Honorable Emmette Harvey Albea**, '63, of Anniston, Alabama, April 27, 2015.

**Samuel Paul Anderson, Jr.**, '63, of Macon, March 29, 2016.

**John Wendel Howell**, '63, of Macon, Feb. 9, 2016.

**Rudolph N. Patterson**, '63, of Macon, Feb. 27, 2016.

**Franklin Sinclair Shingler, III**, '63, of Donalsonville, February 28, 2016.

**Remer Crum Daniel**, '65, of Macon, Jan. 16, 2016.

**The Honorable Curtis G. Shaw**, '65, of

Greenwood, South Carolina, June 18, 2015.

**Charles R. Yielding**, '67, of Fayetteville, Aug. 19, 2014.

### 1970's

**Alfred Harris Adams**, '71, of Marietta, Aug. 3, 2015.

**Charles O. Cornelison**, '71, of Fort Myers, Florida, Oct. 23, 2015.

**The Honorable Jerry L. Lifsey**, '71, of Chatsworth, Dec. 9, 2014.

**Charles Edward Clark**, '72, of Marietta, Jan. 19, 2016.

**Reginald Claus Wisenbaker, Sr.**, '72, of Valdosta, Nov. 16, 2015.

**Richard H. Metz**, '74, of Bowie, Maryland, Feb. 14, 2016.

**Robert Russell Gunn, II**, '77, of Macon, Aug. 10, 2015.

### 1980's

**Edward R. Gay**, '81, of Orlando, Florida, Nov. 11, 2013.

**Claudia J. Gordon**, '82, of Alexandria, Virginia, Feb. 18, 2016.

**Joel E. Williams, Jr.**, '83, of Duluth, April 17, 2016.

**Tanya Comparetto Friel**, '85, of Lakeland, Florida, Nov. 19, 2015.

**W. Lee Robinson**, '85, of Macon, Nov. 4, 2015.

**Shirley Pharr Raynor**, '87, of Alpharetta, Oct. 24, 2015.

**William L. Mullen, Jr.**, '89, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, June 8, 2015.

### 1990's

**The Honorable James W. Matoney, Jr.**, '91, of Alpharetta, Dec. 19, 2015.

### 2003

**V. Sharon "Sharri" Edenfield** completed her term as the 68th president of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

**Stephanie D. Powell** received the Friend of the YLD Award from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015 for working with the YLD to establish the Succession Planning Pilot Program.

**Joseph C. Sumner, Jr.**, was appointed to serve on the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June. Sumner will serve in the Dublin Judicial Circuit post on the board.

**Darrell Sutton** was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. Sutton is the founding partner of Sutton Law Group, where his practice includes insurance defense, workers compensation defense, and general business litigation.

**Thomas P. Swift** was recognized as a distinguished member of the "5 Under 40" in *Macon Magazine's* August/September 2015 issue. Swift is the President and Chief Operating Officer of America's Swimming Pool Company.

### 2004

#### Class Correspondent:

**Lauren Pierce Thomas**, [lauren3003@gmail.com](mailto:lauren3003@gmail.com)  
**Lauren Shurling Finley**, [laurenshurling@hotmail.com](mailto:laurenshurling@hotmail.com)

**Michael Bender** was appointed to the Board of Directors at Gas Natural Inc.

**Shannon M. Sheppard** was appointed Managing Shareholder of Smolker, Bartlett Loeb Hinds & Sheppard, PA, of Tampa, Florida.

**Keagan Waystack**, of Bushway and Waystack Attorneys at Law in Macon, has been selected for inclusion into its Top 100 Criminal Defense Trial Lawyers in Georgia by The National Trial Lawyers.

### 2005

**Brian P. Adams** celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Adams Law Firm. In its first year, the firm obtained a \$1.6 million verdict for one of its clients and a \$1.25 million settlement in a serious personal injury claim.

**Andrew Boyd Bowman** and Sarah Marks Bowman announced the birth of their son, Paul, in May 2014.

**Heather Calhoun** was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. She is division lead counsel at Aaron's Inc. in Atlanta.

**Kathleen B. Connell** and Leigh Faulk Cummings announced the opening of their new law firm, Connell Cummings, LLC, located in Atlanta's Cumberland/Galleria area.

**Brandon C. Jones** announced the birth of his son, Wes, on Nov. 22, 2014.

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

**Nicholas J. Laybourn**, of HunterMaclean in Savannah, was named one of the 2016 Georgia Rising Stars.

### 2006

**Kristin S. Gray** was selected as a Rising Star in the area of Employment and Labor Law by *South Carolina Super Lawyers Magazine*. She also announced the birth of her daughter, Lenora, on Oct. 30, 2013.

**John Ryd Bush "Jack" Long** was installed as the 69th president of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

**Zachary McEntyre** was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. He is a litigation partner at King & Spalding in Atlanta.

**Charlotte Redo** was elected to the Board of Directors of the Evansdale Education Foundation. She has also been appointed Chair of the Labor and Employment Law Section for the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA). Prior to her appointment to this position, she served two consecutive years as the Co-Chair of GABWA's Community Service Committee spearheading various community service projects in the metro Atlanta area. She also served on the Board of Directors of GABWA.

**Brian R. Smith** was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. He is a partner in the real estate practice group at Arnall Golden Gregory in Atlanta.

**Jason E. Touns** joined McAngus Goudelock & Courie in Wilmington, North Carolina, as a workers' compensation partner in July 2015.

### 2007

**Jason Blanchard** was elected President of the Young Professionals of Augusta for 2015.

**Ivy Cadle** was elected as one of 14 new shareholders across Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, in 2015. Additionally, he will assume the role of New Litigator Advisor for the Georgia offices.

**Leslie Cadle** was appointed to serve as the Macon Bar Association's representative on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Legal Services Program.

**Brett Steger** helped form the law firm Davis, Broussard, Martin, Bernard and Steger in November 2014. It is the largest law firm serving Nassau County, Florida. He maintains a practice in Georgia and Florida, primarily handling civil litigation and criminal defense.

**Matthew T. Wilson** was one of 16 attorneys selected for the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association 2015-2016 Leadership Education and Advanced Direction (LEAD) Program.

**John M. Wanalista** joined David Pattillo & Associates, a construction consulting firm, as senior vice president.

### 2008

#### Class Correspondent:

**Bryan Babcock**, [babcock.bryan.o@gmail.com](mailto:babcock.bryan.o@gmail.com)

**Christopher James Arnold** was named a partner at Jones, Cork and Miller, LLP.

**Megan E. Boyd** joined Georgia State Law faculty as a full-time professor in the fall of 2015.

**Rhett G. Fraser** was selected as a Rising Star for



2016 in Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice by Super Lawyers for the state of Oregon.

**Thomas Howell** was named one of the 2015 recipients of the American Legal and Financial Network's "JPEG: Picture the Future," an annual publication profiling 12 standout young professionals making a significant impact on the mortgage servicing industry. Howell works at McCalla Raymer in Roswell, as managing partner of the litigation and trial practice group in Georgia.

**Kristin Pollard Kiel** graduated from the distinguished National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) FIRST Leadership Program on Dec. 10, 2015, and was recognized by NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden. The FIRST Program is a highly competitive, yearlong, agency-wide leadership development program comprising only 38 participants from across all NASA centers.

**Matthew Matson** and **Jenna S. Matson** announced the birth of their daughter, Martha Irwin, on July 7, 2015.

**Patrick M. Mincey**, Co-Chair of the Criminal Defense Practice Group at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog, LLP, was named to The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 in October 2014.

**Kevin C. Patrick** was installed as co-editor of The YLD Review, the newsletter of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

## 2009

### Class Correspondent:

Cayce Myers, [mcmymyers@vt.edu](mailto:mcmymyers@vt.edu)

**Lara Thomas Carswell** and husband, Robert, announced the birth of twin girls, Charlotte Victoria and Elizabeth Adeline, on Dec. 22, 2014.

**Peter Harrison** and his wife announced the birth of their first child, Simon Whitcomb Harrison, on Jan. 28, 2015.

**Brent Savage, Jr.**, was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. He is an attorney at Savage, Tucker & Pinckney in Savannah.

## 2010

### Class Correspondent:

Rizza Palmares O'Connor, [rizzapalmares@gmail.com](mailto:rizzapalmares@gmail.com)

**Greer Aiken** and **Leah M. Aiken, '11**, announced the birth of their son, Bowman Ward (Bo), on Oct. 2, 2015.

**Meredith Williams Chilausky** married Matt Chilausky on Nov. 22, 2014.

**John M. Franklin** and Susan Bailey announced the birth of their son, George Hollis, on Sept. 2, 2015.

**Richard Flournoy** was named Chief of Staff at the United States Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency. Also, Flournoy married Michelle Carney on May 16, 2015.

**Emily E. Macheski-Preston** was appointed as Deputy Solicitor of the City of Brookhaven Municipal Court in April 2015. She practices regularly in local government, constitutional and zoning law and has represented clients across Georgia, including the cities of Valdosta and Brookhaven. She was also named a 2016

"Young Gamechanger" by Georgia Forward, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the improvement of Georgia.

**Joan M. McCallum** joined Chamberlain Hrdlicka in Atlanta as an associate in the labor and employment group.

**Rizza O'Connor** was installed as the secretary of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

**Mary Beth Tolle** joined the Adams Law Firm in Macon as an associate attorney.

**Katherine N. Willet** was appointed managing partner of Burroughs Elijah Law Firm's Greenville, South Carolina, offices. She was named to *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2015 Legal Elite."

## 2011

### Class Correspondent:

Brian M. Jasper, [bjasper@wilkesmchugh.com](mailto:bjasper@wilkesmchugh.com)

Bowen Reichert Shoemaker,

[bowen.shoemaker@alston.com](mailto:bowen.shoemaker@alston.com)

Jonathan L. Simpson,

[jonathan.simpson.1@us.af.mil](mailto:jonathan.simpson.1@us.af.mil)

**Lindsay A. Daniel** was hired as East Tennessee State University's compliance officer in the Office of University Counsel on May 4, 2015.

**Dustin Davies** was named a 2015 "On The Rise Attorney" by *The Fulton County Daily Report*. He is an attorney of counsel at Hasty Pope in Gainesville.

**Margaret Heinen** was elected vice chair of the Appellate Practice Section of the State Bar of Georgia for 2015-2016.

**Garon Muller** completed the 2015 Young Lawyers Leadership Academy for the State Bar of Georgia and is an affiliate outreach chair on the Executive Council of the Young Lawyers Division (YLD) as well as vice president of the Augusta Affiliate of the YLD. He is also vice president of Turn Back the Block, a charity organization focused on rehabilitation of a historic neighborhood in Augusta.

**Ashley Muller** joined her husband, **Garon Muller**, at the District Attorney's Office of the Augusta Judicial Circuit as an assistant district attorney.

**Elizabeth Pool O'Neal** married John O'Neal on Oct. 24, 2015, in Griffin.

**Stephen C. Rogers** completed a clerkship for The Hon. Hugh Lawson of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia and joined the Huntsville, Alabama, office of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., where he practices in the general litigation, complex litigation and construction industry groups. He is licensed to practice in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.

**Mark Shaefer** and his wife, Alexis, announced the birth of their son, Allan McNair, on June 21, 2015.

**Linton "Blade" Thompson** was one of 16 attorneys selected for the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association 2015-2016 Leadership Education and Advanced Direction (LEAD) Program.

**L. Rachel Wilson** received the Award of Achievement for Outstanding Service to the Profession from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

# Class of 2015 — Final Honors Reported

*Because spring semester grades were not due until several weeks after graduation, honors were conferred in mid-June. They were as follows:*

## Summa Cum Laude

Irving William Drought, III,  
*salutatorian*

Patrick Nicholas Silloway,  
*valedictorian*

## Magna Cum Laude

Brittany Marie Dant  
Chelsea Morgan Lamb  
Elizabeth Eugenia Lambert

Chloe E. Radford  
Dannah Griffith Rodriguez

Lesley Marie Rowe

Mary Katherine Silloway

Tiffany Nicole Watkins

David Michael Wolfe

## Cum Laude

William Philip Badcock

Erin Lynsey Bittick

Dale Curtis Brantley

Melody Lauren Chapman

Andrew Lane Davidson

Amber Brianna DeBrule

Andrew Michael Feagan

Jonathan Randall Fordham

Nicholas Joseph Garcia

Mattie Lee Hardin

Brittany Camille Hart

Kaitlin D.P. Hinson

Kristine Shayda Kayhani

Stephanie Alexa Kemp

Jacob Paul Kitchen

Tomiya Sada Lewis

Abbey Elizabeth Mateer

Karissa Marie O'Keefe-Young

Marlene Otero

Steven Chambless Ouzts

Megan Latrice Patterson

Elizabeth Margaret Phrampus

Brittany Marie Sammons

Cameron Henry Alexander

Saunders

Albert Scott

Stephen Gerard Swinson

Rachel Rozier Turnbull

Trenton Dailey Turner

Betsy Kate Woodrum

Yumei Wu

## 2012

### Class Correspondent:

Justin Purvis, [justinpurvis10@gmail.com](mailto:justinpurvis10@gmail.com)

**Terri K. Benton** now serves as the Vice President of the Macon Regional Chapter of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys. In her role, she makes sure Macon GABWA members stay connected to each other, Mercer Law GABWA members, and GABWA members across the state.

**Janene Browder** joined the law firm of LaMalva Geoffroy & Oeland, P.C., as an associate. She was also elected to serve a two year term as a Northern District representative for the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division.

**Will Mann** married **Hadley Hayes Mann** on April 25, 2015.

## 2013

**Ashley A. Akins** received the Award of Achievement for Outstanding Service to the Public from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia during the organization's annual meeting in June 2015.

**Ryan W. English** joined the law firm of Walker, Hulbert, Gray, & Moore in Perry, where he will handle domestic and family law as well as criminal defense and general litigation.

**Shania King** opened The Law Office of Shania King, a boutique law firm offering criminal defense and intellectual property protection, in Atlanta.

**Bryson McCollum Smith** joined Martenson, Hasbrouck & Simon LLP as an associate in the domestic relations, insurance defense and commercial litigation practice groups at the firm's Buckhead Atlanta office. She was previously a law clerk at the Alcovy Circuit Superior Court.

## 2014

**Robert E. Cabe, III**, joined Spivey, Pope, Green & Greer as an associate. His practice areas include

business and corporate law, business litigation, employment law and estate planning. Robert and his wife, Becky, announced the birth of their son, Robert Eugene Cabe IV ("Bobby"), in May 2015.

**Robert W. Johnson** and **D. Jordan Quinley**, were married on March 19, 2016, at The Foundry at Puritan Mill in Atlanta. Johnson represents insurance companies in automobile accidents at Gower Wooten & Darneille, LLC in Atlanta and is licensed in Georgia and Alabama. Quinley Johnson, licensed in Georgia, practices commercial real estate and commercial lending at Burr & Forman, LLP, in Atlanta.

**Christopher B. McDaniel** joined the law firm of Butler Wooten Cheeley & Peak LLP as an associate in the Columbus office. McDaniel's practice areas include personal injury, car and trucking cases, wrongful death, auto defects and business torts.

**Christopher J. Perniciaro** joined Martenson, Hasbrouck & Simon LLP as an associate in the domestic relations, insurance defense and commercial litigation practice groups at the firm's Buckhead Atlanta office. He was previously a law clerk for the Alcovy Circuit Superior Court.

**Michael S. Weldon** joined Martenson, Hasbrouck & Simon LLP as an associate in the domestic relations, insurance defense and commercial litigation practice groups at the firm's Buckhead Atlanta office. He was previously an assistant district attorney in Newton County.

## 2015

### Class Correspondent:

Elizabeth Lambert,  
[lambert.elizabeth.e@gmail.com](mailto:lambert.elizabeth.e@gmail.com)

**Nigel Phiri** joined Elarbee Thompson as a staff attorney, working closely with the firm's partners and associates in the representation of public and private employers in the areas of complex litigation and labor and employment law.

# INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

## *Whitney Edwards ('17)*

As a mother to three-year old twins and working as an Assistant Professor of English, Whitney Edwards knew the only way to pursue her dreams of becoming a lawyer was with the help of a scholarship. By applying for and receiving a Woodruff Scholarship, she was able to make her dreams a reality. "Receiving the scholarship convinced me that I was making the right decision to attend law school at the right time."

As a member of *Mercer Law Review*, vice president of Black Law Students Association, and a member of the Negotiations Team, Edwards has made sure to make the most of her Mercer Law experience. "I am very appreciative of the investment that Mercer Law has made in me, and I hope to have a legal career that will make Mercer Law proud of its decision to name me as a Woodruff Scholar."

Gifts to Mercer Law make a difference in the lives of students and the quality of legal training they receive. You can give specifically to a number of scholarship funds that will invest in future generations of Mercer Lawyers.

For more information on ways to support the Law School and Law School Scholarships, contact the Office of University Advancement at (478) 301-2232 or visit [law.mercer.edu/campaign](http://law.mercer.edu/campaign).