



# FlaLaw

University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law Newsletter • Vol. 7, No. 7 • September 29, 2003

## • ANNOUNCEMENTS •

### 'Final Exams in the Age of Construction' Forum Tuesday

The Office of Student Affairs will hold a student discussion session Tuesday (Sept. 30) at 11 a.m. in Holland Hall auditorium on "Final Exams in the Age of Construction." Students will be encouraged to offer comments and suggestions regarding proposals to have final exams on main campus in the evening. Those unable to attend may send their comments to discussion leader Richard Ludwick, assistant dean for student and academic affairs ([ludwick@law.ufl.edu](mailto:ludwick@law.ufl.edu), 392-0421).

### Volunteers Needed for Career Development Conference

The UF College of Law Career Development Conference Committee needs student volunteers to assist in preparations for the 2004 event.

"The conference has been growing and improving for the past three years, and we want that trend to continue," said Nick Dancaescu. "The conference gives students an opportunity to learn about various fields of the law through panel discussions by practitioners from across the state, and speak with them at a networking reception. Last year, the conference featured more than 50 attorneys, and attendance by 200-plus students. This is an excellent opportunity to take a leadership position in a student organization, benefit yourself and your fellow students, and network with employers."

The committee will meet at noon Thursday (Oct. 2) in 190B Holland Hall. Interested students who cannot attend should contact the committee at [UF\\_Law\\_CDC@yahoo.com](mailto:UF_Law_CDC@yahoo.com).

### JTLP Write-On Meeting

Third-, fourth-, and fifth-semester students interested in intellectual property law, cyberspace law, privacy issues, antitrust, or entertainment law should attend a *Journal of Technology Law & Policy* Fall Write-On Competition information



PAD members Jamie Kinberg and Sara Tobias are heading a drive to collect used cell phones for use as emergency phones by local abuse victims.

### Donate Cell Phones for Abuse Victims

Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) is collecting used cell phones today (Sept. 29) through Oct. 10 for donation to the University of Florida (UPD) Office of Victim Services. UPD will reprogram the phones and distribute them to local victims of abuse and domestic violence for use as emergency "panic" phones.

"This is an easy way to do some good. This way old cell phones can help someone rather than sitting in a drawer," said PAD member Sara Tobias, who is leading the drive along with fellow member Jamie Kinberg.

Bring your used phone and any working accessories (spare battery, charger, etc.) and drop it in the PAD box in the Office of Student Affairs (164 Holland Hall). (Please bag phone and accessories to keep them together.) The phones will be reprogrammed, but UPD suggests that you erase stored phone numbers and personal information.

session Thursday (Oct. 2) at 1 p.m. or Friday (Oct. 3) at 4 p.m., both in 190B Holland Hall.

### APALSA Meets Thursday

An APALSA (Asian and Pacific American Law Student Association) meeting for new, current and interested members will be held Thursday (Oct. 2) at 5 p.m. in the Bruton-Geer Hall cafeteria. The informal meeting will focus on APALSA's plans for the year, and dinner will be served. For information or to RSVP for the meeting, contact APALSA President Mitesh Patel ([mitesh@ufl.edu](mailto:mitesh@ufl.edu)).

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### Support Community Campaign

The University of Florida Community Campaign channels private support for numerous charitable and public interest organizations. Law school personnel can contribute in a variety of ways, including payroll deduction. For information, visit the UFCC Web site ([www.ufcc.ufl.edu](http://www.ufcc.ufl.edu)) or contact Professor Joseph Little ([little@law.ufl.edu](mailto:little@law.ufl.edu)).



UNIVERSITY OF  
**FLORIDA**  
Fredric G. Levin College of Law

## Apply for Spring Supreme Court Externships

Apply by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, for Spring 2004 externships at the Florida Supreme Court. The externships (20 hours weekly, 5 credits) run Jan. 7-April 23, 2004.

Information packets are available in the Center for Governmental Responsibility (CGR) and Center for Career Services, both in Bruton-Geer Hall. For information: CGR Staff Attorney Tim McLendon (392-2237).



## Where Recent Law Graduates Work

According to the recent *Jobs & J.D.'s: Employment and Salaries of New Law Graduates, Class of 2002* (available in Career Services):

- More than half (58.1%) of employed graduates were working in private firms, and 27% in public service positions, including government and public interest jobs, and judicial clerkships.
- Florida ranked fifth in the nation (85.9%) in graduates employed in the same state in which they attended law school. (Median rate nationwide was 69%.)
- Florida led the nation in state government jobs, with over 57% of 211 graduates employed by state government. It was eighth both for federal and local government jobs.
- Nationwide, nearly half of state prosecutor, public defender, public interest or small law firm jobs were obtained after graduation. Most students were extended offers prior to graduation by large to very large firms of 51-plus attorneys.

## • CAREER SERVICES •

### Call Back Interview Tips Oct. 1

A "call back" interview following an initial meeting with a potential employer often takes the form of a marathon interview at the firm where you meet with a number of associates and partners. You also may be invited to have lunch, dinner or both with firm members, where you will continue to be interviewed. Learn how to make the most of this opportunity at a "Call Back Interview" workshop presented by experts from Carlton Fields this Wednesday (Oct. 1) at noon in the Bailey Courtroom.

### Spring Externship Opportunities

Apply for the following Spring 2004 externships — except as noted — by noon Oct. 10:

- **U.S. Attorney's Office**, various locations. Apply by noon today (Sept. 29).
- **Alachua County Attorney's Office** (legal drafting). Apply now for spring and summer.
- **Judge McNeal** (family law judge), Ocala
- **Eighth Judicial Circuit**, Family Law Division, Gainesville
- **Eighth Judicial Circuit**, Probate Law Division, Gainesville
- **City of Gainesville**
- **City of Gainesville**, Community Redevelopment Agency
- **City of Jacksonville**, Office of General Counsel
- **Florida Supreme Court**. Apply by Oct. 7.
- **Fifth Judicial Circuit**, Staff Attorney's Office, Ocala
- **State Attorney's Office** (Domestic Violence), Gainesville
- **Three Rivers Legal Services** (Domestic Violence), Gainesville
- **Southern Legal Counsel**, Gainesville
- **Santa Fe Community College**, Gainesville
- **Shands Hospital**, Gainesville
- **Judge Paul**, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville
- **Judge Mickle**, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville
- **U.S. Department of Justice**, Wildlife Law Externship, Washington, D.C. Apply by Oct. 17.

Students may apply for an externship if they will have successfully completed one academic year by the time it begins. The maximum number of credits available for a Spring 2004 externship is five. For information about application and hiring criteria, go to [www.law.ufl.edu/career/externships](http://www.law.ufl.edu/career/externships).

### Act Now for Government Jobs

If you are interested in government career opportunities, most agencies have early deadlines for summer or permanent positions. Departments and deadlines are listed outside Career Services and online at [www.law.arizona.edu/career/honorshandbook.cfm](http://www.law.arizona.edu/career/honorshandbook.cfm) (Username eggplant, password purple2). Federal government jobs offer excellent benefits and the chance to gain substantial experience early in your career. Many agen-



Fall On-Campus Interviewing brought hundreds of potential employers and students together to fill a variety of summer or permanent positions, many of them in large law firms. Among those participating in late September were UF law student Joy Abrisch (left), Ashley Rosenthal and Michael Crosbie of Foley & Lardner, and students Jennifer Stamen and Trystan Forrest.

cies offer Honors Programs (entry level programs for 3Ls, graduating LL.M.s and judicial law clerks) as well as compensated or volunteer summer internships for 2Ls and some 1Ls. For more information, call Career Services (392-0499) to make an appointment to see a counselor.

### 'JAG' Presentation Today

The U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps — the Army's legal liaison — will host an information session today (Sept. 29), at 5 p.m. in 190A Holland Hall. JAG Corps attorney Captain Austin Goodrich (UF JD '00) will provide an overview of the JAG Corps and its benefits and speak about his recent experience in Iraq.

**Note:** The UF Levin College of Law, as an equal opportunity institution of higher education, conforms to all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination, and is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, social condition, sex, sexual orientation, age and handicap in its programs and activities. In compliance with this policy, the law school's Center for Career Services is committed to supporting an equal and fair evaluation of its law student and graduate job applicants on the basis of his or her own individual merits. Therefore, the center is available only to employers whose employment practices are in compliance with the law and the school's nondiscrimination policy. The one exception to this nondiscrimination policy is that while the center does not condone the practice, the military may, pursuant to its regulations, discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Federal law provides that law schools that deny access to military recruiters may lose certain types of financial aid for students. Accordingly, the UF Levin College of Law will permit on-campus military recruitment. To ameliorate the potentially discriminatory impact on its students, measures have been implemented, including: 1) Posting of the center's position statement that the military discriminates in a manner not permitted by the law school's nondiscrimination policy; 2) Publication of an explanation of the center's policy on all military career postings or announcements; 3) Making available a collection of newsletters and materials related to gay and lesbian practitioners; and/or 4) Holding a forum/ panel discussion on various forms of discrimination and how they affect the legal profession.

(Announcements, Continued)

## JMBA News & Events

The John Marshall Bar Association encourages students to participate in:

- **JMBA's second open forum meeting**, Thursday (Oct. 2), noon, 190A Holland Hall. Come share your thoughts on what JMBA is doing right and how it can better serve students. Free pizza for all.
- **Champagne & Jazz**, next Friday, Oct. 10. Tickets go on sale today (Sept. 29) in the JMBA Office for \$15 a person. Act now, since tickets to this popular annual event are limited.

For information, visit the JMBA Office (147 Bruton-Geer Hall) or contact JMBA President Frank Garcia ([garciafr013@yahoo.com](mailto:garciafr013@yahoo.com)).

## 'Empowerment' Workshop Wednesday

Students are encouraged to attend the following Leadership Resource Management Program

workshops, all held noon-1 p.m.:

- **Empowerment: Taking Responsibility for Your Emotions**, Wednesday (Oct. 1), 190C Holland Hall
- **What is Eating You Inside: Dealing with Eating Disorders**, Thursday, Oct. 9, 190B Holland Hall
- **The Art of Developing and Maintaining a Positive Attitude**, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 190C Holland Hall
- **Going Over the Edge: Dealing with Substance Abuse and Dependency**, Thursday, Oct. 23, 190B Holland Hall
- **Stress Management: Keeping it in Perspective**, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 190C Holland Hall

Workshops are presented by the Law College Council and Student Affairs to teach key resource management skills for use in academic, personal or work situations. Those attending three or more

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## Take Notes & Help Others

Taking notes for students whose disabilities hamper their ability to take their own is an important public service. Note takers also get a voucher for bookstore merchandise from the Office of Disability Resources. Notes are urgently needed for Professional Responsibility, Property, International Law, Business Organizations and Health Care Finance. To apply, send your phone number and e-mail address to Assistant Dean for Student and Academic Affairs Richard Ludwick, who is developing a pool of capable note takers and may contact you if there is a student in one of your classes who needs them. For information or to apply, contact him at [ludwick@law.ufl.edu](mailto:ludwick@law.ufl.edu), 392-0421, Student Affairs.

## Book Award Ceremony Friday

Dean Robert Jerry and Alumni Affairs encourage Spring/Summer 2003 Book Award recipients to attend the Book Award Presentation Ceremony this Friday (Oct. 3), 4-5 p.m., Bruton-Geer Cafeteria (business-casual attire). Sponsors attending include Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, Judge Fred Hazouri, and former UF President Marshall Criser. RSVP to Julie Barnes ([barnes@law.ufl.edu](mailto:barnes@law.ufl.edu)) in the Dean's Suite by Tuesday (Sept. 30). Students who cannot attend may pick up awards in Student Affairs after Oct. 3.

## • MEET THE FACULTY •



**Pedro A. Malavet**

Associate Professor

Teaching is extremely fulfilling for me, which is why I spend so much time preparing my classes and class-related materials. Being a full-time professor also lets me publish, which allows me to research and discuss areas of interest beyond the classroom. For example, my forthcoming book, *America's Colony: The Political and Cultural Conflict Between the U.S. and Puerto Rico* (NYU Press, forthcoming 2004), is an extensive exploration of the history, law, politics and cultural tropes of the U.S.-Puerto Rico relationship."

### Education

B.B.A., Emory University; J.D. (Magna Cum Laude), LL.M., Georgetown University. Order of the Coif.

### Expertise/Background

Comparative Law, Civil Law, Civil Procedure, Critical Race Theory, European Union, Evidence. Tenured in 2001.

### What You May Not Know

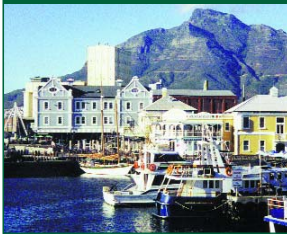
"I was a runner on the Emory University Varsity Track Team in my college days twenty years ago (things went downhill from there). I like to sit around a table with friends enjoying good conversation, food and wine, and, according to Professor Hernandez, am a 'rocking' cook."

Go to [www.law.ufl.edu/faculty/](http://www.law.ufl.edu/faculty/) for a complete resume and list of publications.

## View on the Profession

"I am by nature a cynic, as any of my students and friends will attest, but I am also proud to be a lawyer. Our profession is good, honorable and worthy of our dedication and commitment. It also has the capacity to be enormously fulfilling and socially productive. It is up to each of us to secure and promote that positive potential.

After clerking for a federal judge and a few years of trial practice, I have chosen full-time law teaching. My mother is a trained teacher and my father is a lawyer and law professor. I read (anonymous) answers to bar exams starting around the time I was twelve, because dad was on the bar examination committee. I always thought of law teaching as 'the family business.'



## Summer Study in Cape Town

Students interested in expanding their legal education through a well-established and respected foreign study program should consider studying abroad next summer in South Africa — a leading political and economic force, with opportunities for business, trade and cultural exchanges.

Outstanding scholars from the Levin College of Law and University of Cape Town are on the summer faculty. Class work is supplemented by visits to government and judicial offices and meetings with prominent attorneys and business executives.

Cape Town is a cosmopolitan, diverse, historical community recognized as a center of learning. The University of Cape Town's main campus is nestled on the slopes of Table Mountain in the Cape Peninsula, one of South Africa's most outstanding international destinations. For information contact Program Director/Professor Winston Nagan ([nagan@law.ufl.edu](mailto:nagan@law.ufl.edu)) or his assistant, Betty Donaldson, in Faculty Support Services (392-2211).

## Students Excel in Florida Bar Environmental Writing Competition

Two UF law students were winners in the 2003 Dean Frank E. Maloney Memorial Writing Contest sponsored by the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of The Florida Bar. John F. Kasbar, who graduated last spring, won first place with his article, "Competing Applications: Promoting Water Use Efficiency Through Ambiguity," to be published in an upcoming edition of the *Florida Bar Journal*. Kevin E. Regan (3L), who won first place in the 2002 competition, took third place with his article, "Balancing Public Water Supply and Adverse Environmental Impacts Under Florida Water Law: From Water Wars Towards Adaptive Management," to be published in the *Journal of Environmental and Land Use Law* this fall. Both students wrote their articles as part of Center for Governmental Responsibility Research Associate Richard Hamann's Water Law Seminar last spring.



Kevin Regan (3L, left), Environmental and Land Use Law Section Chair George Gramling, Jr. & John Kasbar (UF JD '03).

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sessions receive a certificate of completion.

For information: Student Affairs Coordinator Noemar Castro ([castro@law.ufl.edu](mailto:castro@law.ufl.edu)) or Resource Counselor Ali Kane ([alikane@ufl.edu](mailto:alikane@ufl.edu)).

### Writing Skills Workshop Oct. 1

Student Affairs' Academic Success Program — free and open to law students — continues. Writing Specialist Lois Randolph will present workshops at noon in the auditorium Wednesday (Oct. 1) and Oct. 8, 15 & 22. She also will assist students by appointment — call 392-2198 — with assignments and writing skills. Her office hours in 105L Bruton-Geer Hall are Wednesdays and Fridays, beginning at 8:15 a.m.



### 'Meet the Masters' Another Success

The recent "Meet the Masters" Dispute Resolution Conference at the UF Hilton Conference Center drew attendees from across the state. Kathleen M. Scanlon, Esq. (above), Sr. Vice President, CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution New York, NY, was keynote speaker, with UF law Director for Dispute Resolution Don Peters, and Darryl B. Deaktor, Esq., Retired Partner, White & Case LLP Boulder, Colorado, also making presentations.

The following one hour skills workshops will be held at 2 p.m. in Holland Hall auditorium:

- **Reverse Engineering Exams**, Oct. 6
- **Exam Preparation: Writing to Succeed**, Oct. 20
- **No Time for Stress!**, Nov. 3

For information, contact the Office of Student Affairs (392-0421).

### MLSA Parent Support Picnic Oct. 11

The Military Law Students Association (MLSA) is forming a support group for law students with young children. MLSA will host a picnic primarily for law students with infant through pre-K children Saturday, Oct. 11, at 10 a.m. at San Felasco Park (off NW 43rd St., behind WCJB).

MLSA also is supporting Toys For Tots and the Alachua County Veterans Day ceremony, and will be sending comfort boxes to deployed UF law students. For information: MLSA President Steve Berlin ([berlinsd@yahoo.com](mailto:berlinsd@yahoo.com)).

### Explore UF Law Environmental & Land Use Law Opportunities

The Environmental and Land Use Law Program offers a rich curriculum, the Conservation Clinic, summer study abroad in Costa Rica, summer externships, the environmental moot court competition, the Environmental and Land Use Law Society, the annual Public Interest Environmental Conference, and many other ways to become involved and gain experience and contacts. These and other topics will be discussed at a meeting Thursday (Oct. 2) at 11:30 in 283 Holland Hall. All are welcome to attend.

The College of Law has a diverse array of courses, extra-curricular opportunities and

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## Grading Curve, Honors Changes Discussed

By Megan Sladek (2L)

Nearly seventy students attended a forum last week on the College of Law's new grading curve and honors requirements. The forum was presented by Academic Standards Committee Chair/ Professor Marty McMahon, Associate Dean Michael Friel, Associate Dean for Students, Professionalism and Community Relations Gail Sasnett, Assistant Dean for Students and Academic Affairs Richard Ludwick and Registrar Kim Thomas to explain the new requirements and address student concerns.

Forum participants learned that law school faculty have considered making the changes since an initial discussion more than four years ago, when concerns were raised that first-year UF law student grades were making UF law students less competitive in the job market than students at comparable law schools, such as Vanderbilt, University of North Carolina and Emory.

The faculty then conducted an extensive study of the grading system at other law schools and discovered that, in comparison, UF's grading system produced unusually low first-year student grades and high second- and third-year grades.

The new curve was developed to address this issue, result in more consistent grades for all three years of law school, and eliminate grade-based course selection. It raises the range for first-year grades from 2.80-2.85 to 3.15-3.25. Due in part to this increase and a number of other complex factors, the faculty voted to impose a mandatory grade curve in all classes, regardless of level or class size. The only exceptions are in classes where students, on average, have higher or lower GPAs than the mandatory mean. In those cases, professors may raise or lower — plus or minus .05 points — the curve to the class average. (For example, in a seminar with 10 students with an average GPA of 3.7, the professor does not have to assign grades averaging 3.15-3.25, but can instead

assign higher grades that average up to 3.75 for the class.) This safeguard enables students with high GPAs to not be penalized for selecting courses where it is likely that other students with high GPAs may enroll.

Chief among student concerns raised and addressed at the forum were the following:

- Some fourth, fifth- and sixth-semester students felt penalized since they were subject to the lower grading curve during their initial semesters and now cannot improve their grades before graduation. (Under the old curve, clinics and seminars could enhance GPAs in the last two years of law school.)
- A number of students felt new honors requirements prevented them from earning honors designations they were entitled to under the former system.

The Academic Standards Committee is currently considering recommending to the faculty an amendment to the transition rules. Under the proposed amendment, honors and high honors for each graduating class before Fall 2005 would be based on percentage cut-offs that would assure that the percentage of students graduating with honors and high honors from Fall 2003 through Spring 2004 would be the same as the percentage of students who graduated with honors and high honors in the five semesters before the new grading curve took effect.

Contact Richard Ludwick ([ludwick@law.ufl.edu](mailto:ludwick@law.ufl.edu)) or Gail Sasnett ([sasnett@law.ufl.edu](mailto:sasnett@law.ufl.edu)) with questions or concerns. For specifics on the grade curve or honors requirements, refer to the *2003-04 Student Handbook*, available in Student Affairs or online at [www.law.ufl.edu/publications](http://www.law.ufl.edu/publications).

Professor Marty McMahon and Associate Dean Gail Sasnett were among faculty explaining the new changes to forum participants.



## Follow Honor Code

The Honor Committee reminds students of the importance of adhering to the high standards of academic integrity set forth in the Honor Code.

Any student who suspects a fellow student of not abiding by the Code should report the incident to one of the following Honor Committee members: Jarrett Hoffman (chair), Dyonnda Thurston (vice chair), Lori Thompson (secretary), Brian Arthur, Erin Gray, Allison Lane, Marissa Maland, Stephanie Mickel, Brian Monk, Mitesh Patel or Darin Patton.

Each report is carefully considered. In 2002-03, the Probable Cause Subcommittee investigated an accusation of plagiarism in a Legal Research and Writing class, but the Honor Committee decided during the hearing that the incident was not a violation of the Code.

For information: Chair Jarrett R. Hoffman ([prznoble@ufl.edu](mailto:prznoble@ufl.edu)).

## Law Students Help

Generous donations from the law school community last week through the UF Areion Foundation allowed the organization to raise nearly \$150 to help Vanessa, a very ill local child. Those wishing to contribute can leave donations in Student Affairs or e-mail [AreionFoundation@aol.com](mailto:AreionFoundation@aol.com). "Leftover" gift certificates or credits for local restaurants or stores also are welcome for use by the family. Those interested in participating should contact the foundation at the e-mail above.

## Civility Matters

Two offensive — one racist and one sexist — advertisements were recently posted at the law school. It appears they may have been generated by a law student in potential violation of the UF Student Code of Conduct, so the matter has been referred to UF's Office of Student Judicial Affairs. Under the Buckley Amendment, the administration is unable to further comment on the status of the referral. The administration, however, is concerned about the offensiveness of the posters, which do not promote a collegial atmosphere or represent the principles or values of the UF Levin College of Law. While we acknowledge the right to expression within the scope of the First Amendment, we also recognize the need to build a community based on respect and human dignity. This institution values and welcomes our entire community, and remains committed to building and sustaining a collegial and healthy learning environment.

## Build It and They Will Come: Increasing Campus Diversity

— By Desta Meghoo-Peddie, Director of Diversity and Community Development

*Field of Dreams* is a movie starring Kevin Costner, in which haunting whispers from the cornfields repeat "build it and they will come." The repetition of this phrase, which no one else heard, nearly got him divorced and institutionalized. Eventually, Costner builds a baseball field over the cornfield and an all-star line up of deceased baseball players appear to play ball.

While I do not wish to resurrect the dead and hope to never face the aforementioned, I do hear a similar voice. Like Costner's character, others have seen and share the vision of "build it and they will come" as it relates to higher education.

Upon considering the diversity dilemma, the phrase was an accurate and creative way to address the decades old debate argued everywhere, from classrooms to courtrooms. How do we legally and ethically diversify educational institutions? While many held their breath waiting for the courts to decide and dictate what we should do; others were discussing what we could do. For instance, the University of California Office of the President circulated the following simple suggestions in 2001:

1. Conduct campus climate surveys and exit interviews.
2. Focus hiring at the junior level where the pool is more diverse.
3. Emphasize the economic rewards of addressing diversity, and provide rewards for exemplary efforts.
4. Make academic administration accountable at all levels for affirmative action.

This office also has given some consideration to this matter and suggests implementing programs that are attractive to — but not exclusively for — minorities, including:

1. Create externships and study abroad opportunities in the Caribbean or places where students of color have historical or familial ties;
2. Initiate certification programs in areas of critical studies, e.g., Gender, Latin, Race etc.
3. Encourage minority alumni to mentor and provide internships for students.
4. Provide a resource board consisting of students, faculty and alumni to provide information and mentor students in various areas of practice or study.

The list is long, but the point is short. Let us take the initiative to produce programs and a place that diversifies its offerings, and we may just begin to attract and retain a diverse law school community without having to exclude anyone.

A list of 70-plus courses available to law students interested in critical, interdisciplinary, and multi-cultural studies is available through the Office of Diversity and Community Development. (Graduate courses must be approved by the Office of Student Affairs.)

Please contact me if you have a concern or comment at [meghoo@law.ufl.edu](mailto:meghoo@law.ufl.edu).



More than 30 students attended a spirited discussion on "The Michigan Decision" last Wednesday led by Diversity and Community Development Director Desta Meghoo-Peddie (right). Views on affirmative action and diversity and their impact on the Levin College of Law included endorsements of affirmative action and a general consensus that diversity is essential, though methods for achieving it are disputed. Students commented on the effectiveness of the forum and benefits of open discussions that encourage diverse opinions. Future meetings are scheduled every Wednesday at noon. Contact Meghoo-Peddie for information or to submit a topic.

## Graduating Class Gift Campaign Underway

Graduating class gifts are a tradition at the best law schools across the nation. UF law's Spring 2003 class raised over \$24,000, and representatives of the Fall 2003 class have set their goal at \$25,000 — \$125 for each graduating student. (Gifts may be paid over five years at \$25 per year.) Contributors can get a gold Gator lapel pin to wear at commencement from a committee table on the concourse this semester and will be recognized in the law school's annual report and at a reception after December commencement. Students pledging at least \$125 receive a com-

memorative coffee mug with the college logo and "Class of 2003." The gift will be presented to Dean Robert Jerry at commencement.

Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law (less the \$5 mug value on \$125 pledges), and can be unrestricted or restricted to specific programs, organizations, or a generic student organizations fund.

To participate, bring your check payable to "Law Center Association" and marked "Fall 2003 Class Gift" to Tena Canter in the Dean's Office. For information: Class Chair Sarah Rumpf ([sarahr@ufl.edu](mailto:sarahr@ufl.edu)).

## • SCHOLARSHIP & ACTIVITIES •

- Chesterfield Smith Professor **Michael W. Gordon** will lecture at a faculty luncheon and to the student body at both the University of Connecticut School of Law and Roger Williams School of Law (Bristol, RI) in October. He also has been invited by the Organization of American States to speak in Lima, Peru, in November at a "Law in Latin America" workshop.
- Professor **Martin McMahon** made two CLE presentations this month: "Recent Developments in Federal Income Taxation" (with Professor Ira Shepard) at the 38th Annual Southern Federal Tax Institute Sept. 15 in Atlanta; and "Recent Income Tax Developments" (with Professor Daniel Simmons) at the fall meeting of the American Bar Association, Tax Section's Individual Income Tax Committee in San Chicago, Illinois, Sept. 13.
- Center on Children and the Law Director/David H. Levin Chair in Family Law **Barbara Bennett Woodhouse** will speak to the Children's



Roundtable, a Bi-Partisan Congressional Group, in Washington, D.C., this Wednesday (Oct. 1) on proposed legislation regarding children's right to an attorney in abuse, neglect and dependency cases.

- Professor **Walter O. Weyrauch** was in Germany this summer on a research grant, where he participated in a moderated roundtable discussion on Gypsy Law with

the dean and faculty at the University of Frankfurt. He also discussed with his German publisher the pending publication of his book, *Das Recht der Roma und Sinti: Ein Beispiel autonomer Rechtsschöpfung* (The Law of Roma and Sinti: An Example of Autonomous Lawmaking). In late summer, he served as an expert for the Romani plaintiff in litigation in Pasadena involving a complex question of Gypsy Law. His essay, "The Romani People: A Long Surviving and Distinguished Culture at Risk," 51 *Am. J. Comp. L.* 101 (2003), is forthcoming.

(Announcements, Continued)

resources available to students interested in environmental and land use law, including a certificate program for J.D. students. Program faculty can help you plan a course of study that will best prepare you for a career in these fields, including guidance on cross-registration opportunities in other UF colleges.

**The fall deadline to apply for the ELULP Certificate Program is Oct. 17.** Information and applications are available from Program Assistant Marla Wolfe (319 Holland Hall).

Also contact Wolfe ([elulp@law.ufl.edu](mailto:elulp@law.ufl.edu)) to receive an e-mail notice of future events, or for information on any ELULP program or event.

### Play in UF Law Soccer Team

The law school participated in the University of Florida's first co-ed intramural indoor soccer game last Wednesday at the Southwest Recreation Center.

All UF faculty, staff, students and spouses can participate. For information or to play, contact Alison Rumley (271-6365 or [larumley@hotmail.com](mailto:larumley@hotmail.com)).



### Parrish Family Receive 'Bridge Plaque'

UF College of Law Dean Robert Jerry (right) presented a piece of the Parrish Bridge — the recently demolished second floor connection between Holland and Bruton-Geer Halls — to Jay and Tricia Parrish Sept. 12.

A generous contribution from Jay's father helped build the bridge many years ago, and the presented piece bears an inscription honoring the gift. The bridge, which was a frequently photographed college landmark, was removed to make way for the school's new classroom towers.



### Intro to Law & Ambassadors Coordinator Position Open

Law school ambassadors like those shown above working with new students play an important role at the college. Applications for an Intro to Law and Ambassadors' coordinator position are available in Student Affairs and due by Friday (Oct. 3). The coordinator will organize social events for the program and perform other duties as required.

Applicants must be ready to interview the following week, and have strong leadership, organizational and solicitation skills, a high energy attitude, be able to help with selection of new ambassadors, and be on campus by Jan. 4. Previous experience as a small group advisor or ambassador a must. For information on the work and time commitment, contact Noemar Castro ([castro@law.ufl.edu](mailto:castro@law.ufl.edu)).

### 'State of the College' Luncheon

College of Law support staff (Custodial, OPS, Teams and USPS) are invited to a "CLASS ACT" luncheon presentation on the "State of the Law School" by Dean Robert Jerry on Monday, Oct. 6, noon-1 p.m., Faculty Dining Room. RSVP to Julie Barnes in the Dean's Office at [barnes@law.ufl.edu](mailto:barnes@law.ufl.edu) or 392-9238 by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 30).

## Submit News for FlaLaw

*FlaLaw* is published each week school is in session. All are encouraged to submit news of interest to the law school community by 10 a.m. Tuesday for the following Monday's newsletter to: Debra Amirin  
Director of Institutional Information & Publications  
amirin@law.ufl.edu  
Dean's Office (264 HOL)  
392-9238, Fax 392-8727

Get *FlaLaw* — in full color — via e-mail each Friday before Monday's publication. Just send your request to [amirin@law.ufl.edu](mailto:amirin@law.ufl.edu).

## Fredric G. Levin College of Law Administration

- Robert Jerry, Dean
- Stuart Cohn, Associate Dean for International Studies
- Michael Friel, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- William Page, Associate Dean for Faculty Development
- Kathleen "Kathie" Price, Associate Dean for Library and Technology
- Gail Sasnett, Associate Dean for Students, Professionalism and Community Relations
- Patrick Shannon, Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs
- Donald Hale, Senior Development Director
- Linda Calvert Hanson, Assistant Dean for Career Services
- Richard Ludwick, Assistant Dean for Students
- Michael Patrick, Assistant Dean for Admissions



## Getting the Sleep You Need

By Resource Counselor Ali Kane

Many people do not get the sleep they need, and there are numerous reasons why. In our culture, sleeping is often perceived as lazy or expendable. If we're busy, it's usually one of the first corners we cut. Yet, without enough sleep, our health, happiness and effectiveness dwindle dramatically. Being well-rested lays the foundation for positive emotional, physical and mental functioning.

Even if we do allow ourselves time to sleep, many of us have the difficulty — and frustration — of not being able to fall asleep. Our hectic pace and the stressful pressures most of us experience play a large role in this. The following suggestions can help:

- **Avoid alcohol and tobacco.** Both initially seem to be calming, but alcohol disrupts deep sleep cycles and tobacco is actually a neurostimulant.
- **Exercise regularly in the late afternoon or early evening, but not right before bed.** Exercise relaxes the body and helps to release excess tension or stress, but can be stimulating if performed too close to bedtime.
- **Relax.** Do something relaxing to quiet the mind, such as meditation, yoga, listening to soothing music or taking a hot bath (not shower).
- **Beware of pharmaceutical aids.** Many have harmful side effects, such as agitation, confusion, depression, dry mouth, sluggishness and dependency. (A natural alternative is Valerian root for occasional — **not** daily — use.)
- **Get proper nutrition.** Calcium and magnesium are calming and relax the muscles. If you aren't getting enough in your diet, consider supplementation.
- **Consider counseling.** If you follow these suggestions and still have trouble sleeping, there may be deeper roots to what's keeping you from relaxing. Counseling can help you resolve issues of concern.



Resource Counselor Ali Kane (left) provides confidential, free counseling and stress reduction services — including yoga and meditation classes — to the law school community. See her in the Center for Career Services Mondays (noon-4 p.m.), Wednesdays (noon-5 p.m.) and Thursdays (4:30-6 p.m.), or contact her at 392-0499 or [alokane@ufl.edu](mailto:alokane@ufl.edu) for an appointment. Yoga classes are Mondays (6-7 p.m.) in the Faculty Dining Room. Meditation classes are Thursdays (6:30-7:45 p.m.) off-campus. (Contact her for locations.)

## LSR Members 'GEAR UP' to Help Teens

The Law School Republicans (LSR) will hold a "GEAR UP" Volunteer Orientation Meeting Tuesday (Sept. 30) at 5:30 p.m. in 190 Holland Hall. County coordinators will be on hand to answer questions and set up volunteer time and days. GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a federally sponsored program run by the Alachua County School Board.

LSR has had a table on the concourse (above, manned by members Adria Toledo [2L] and Bob Reid [1L]) to provide information and sign up volunteers for the project, which matches law school volunteers to middle school students in need of guidance and mentoring. Specifically, the program aims to reach students who are unlikely or less inclined to seek out higher education after high school. If you cannot make a weekly commitment, you can help set up special events, such as career days, campus field trips and other activities.

For information: LSR Vice President Adria Toledo ([atoly@ufl.edu](mailto:atoly@ufl.edu)).



## • UF LAW CALENDAR •

### September

- 29 • JAG Presentation, 5 p.m., 190A Holland Hall (HOL)
- Criminal Law Assoc. Meeting, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 190 HOL
- 30 • "Final Exams in the Age of Construction," 11 a.m., Auditorium

### October

- 1 • LCC Executive Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 296 HOL
- Career Services Presentation, Carlton Fields on the Callback Interview Process, Noon-1 p.m., Bailey Courtroom
- 2 • Career Development Conference Meeting, Noon, 190B HOL
- JTLP Write-On Meeting, 1 p.m., 190B HOL
- APALSA Meeting, 5 p.m., Cafeteria
- 3 • 3rd Richard E. Nelson Sym. From Penn Central to Pensacola: New Perspectives on Historic Preservation, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Gainesville Paramount Resort & conference Center
- Book Awards Presentation, 4-5 p.m., Cafeteria
- JTLP Write-On Meeting, 4 p.m., 190B HOL
- Moot Court Final Four, Noon, Auditorium
- 6 • LCC General Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 296 HOL