



FlaLaw

University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law Newsletter • Vol. 7, No. 11 • October 27, 2003

'Cans for Canines and Cats' Animal Food Drive

Phi Delta Phi and the Animal Law Association (ALA) are partnering to ensure animals are not forgotten this fall. The "Cans for Canines and Cats" animal food drive kicks off on Halloween and continues the following week, Nov. 3-7.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to donate canned dog and cat food to benefit the Alachua County Humane Society. Just "follow the paws" and drop off your donations from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. each day at the food drive table on the Holland Hall concourse. Contributors will be entered into a drawing for event prizes.

The Animal Law Association is a new student organization dedicated to educating the community about forms of animal abuse. It provides opportunities for members to learn about the emerging field of animal law and to work on litigation and community projects aimed at advancing the interests and lives of animals. All are welcome at the association's Oct. 30 and Nov. 13 meetings (both at 5 p.m., rooms TBA).

Phi Delta Phi Membership, Events

Phi Delta Phi is an International Legal Fraternity dedicated to the ideals of professionalism and ethics. Through community involvement, its members — including five of the nine Supreme Court Justices — act as ambassadors of the law school and legal profession.

The fraternity has strengthened its presence at the Levin College of Law by recruiting a large class of new members, and plans to initiate more than 20 members this semester and to coordinate a variety of philanthropic activities, including:

- **Pumpkin carving** with children from the Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County Oct. 30. According to Phi Delta Phi President Darren Chiappetta, "We feel an obligation to show our community the positive things law students can do, and helping kids have an extra-special Halloween is one way we can do that."



BLSA Board members (front row, from left) Pennie Mays, Secretary; Sherry Watson, LCC Representative; Christopher O'Neal, President; Jadawnya C. Butler, Second-Year Student Representative; Erika Williams, Historian; and Edrene A. Johnson, Vice President, are leading the organization's members in a variety of philanthropic and professional activities this semester. (Not pictured are Alphonso Y. Craig, Treasurer; Daria C. Dawson, Third-Year Representative; and Brandy Grant, First-Year Representative.)

BLSA Events Benefit You and Others

The W. George Allen Chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) has organized the following events to assist law students and their community this semester:

- **"What the Heck is the Bar?" Seminar**, Nov. 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Co-hosted with Career Services and PMBR to educate law students on fundamentals of the Bar exam. General questions about subject areas on the Bar and passing qualifications will be answered. Food provided. All are welcome.
- **"Coat and Boot Drive,"** Oct. 27-Nov. 17. BLSA will collect donated coats and boots to benefit those in need at the St. Francis House. Drop off donations (used or new) in a box in the BLSA Office, or at a table on the Holland Hall concourse each Wednesday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For information: Alero Afejuku at aolaw@ufl.edu.

- Phi Delta Phi will join the Animal Law Association in its first annual "Cans for Canines and Cats" food drive. (Details in preceding article.)

Membership applications are accepted each semester. Acceptance is based on factors such as scholarship, school/community involvement and character. For information: Darren Chiappetta at dschiappetta@yahoo.com or Christin Decker at cdecker11@yahoo.com.

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Nov. 9 Medical Malpractice Reform Panel

Florida Law Review will host a panel discussion on "The Future of Med Mal in Florida: Is the Malpractice Insurance, Liability, and Litigation Reform Act the Right Prescription?" Thursday, Nov. 6, 9 a.m., Holland Hall auditorium.

This will be the first time advocates from both sides will publicly discuss Governor Jeb Bush's controversial medical malpractice reform legislation passed by the Florida Legislature in special session this summer.

The focus will be on critical issues and challenges facing Florida's medical and insurance industries, including efficacy of mandatory non-economic damage caps and failure to regulate malpractice insurance rates. Dean Emeritus Jon Mills, Director of UF's Center for Governmental Responsibility and former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, will moderate. Panelists will be members of the Florida Legislature (including Gainesville Senator Rod Smith), representatives from the Florida Medical Association and Florida Academy of Trial Lawyers, and UF law professors.

A question and answer session will follow. To submit questions early, e-mail them to medmalquestions@floridalawreview.com. For information: Editor-in-Chief Ben Diamond or Senior Symposium Editor Bonnie Daboll in the Florida Law Review Office (392-2148).



UNIVERSITY OF
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Fredric G. Levin College of Law



Softball Game Benefits Kennedy Homes Residents

Levin College of Law students and faculty played a charity softball game Oct. 18 at Westwood Middle School. The "price" of admission for players and spectators to the event was one item of canned food or clothing for distribution to the 61 residents of Kennedy Homes who recently lost their apartments to fire.

The faculty team triumphed 11-10 in the bottom of the seventh inning on a game-winning single by Professor Teresa Rambo. In the end, however, everyone won, since the event collected almost 100 items of clothing and over 15 lbs. of food.

The John Marshall Bar Association (JMBA) and American Bar Association thank all participants, especially Professors Fenster, Peterson, Rambo and Noah, who according to sources "kept the faculty team in contention."

The Alachua County Chapter of the American Red Cross is still collecting donations for Kennedy Homes residents. To donate, contact them at 376-4669.

• CAREER SERVICES •

'Guerrilla Tactics' Speaker Nov. 13

Kimm Walton will speak again at the Levin College of Law Thursday, Nov. 13, 5 p.m., in Holland Hall auditorium. This seminar is a "must" for law students looking for a summer job or first permanent job after graduation.

Walton is the nationally acclaimed author of *Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams*; *What Law School Doesn't Teach You: But You Really Need to Know*; *America's Greatest Places to Work with a Law Degree & How to Make the Most of Any Job, No Matter Where It Is*; and *The Best of the Job Goddess: Phenomenal Job Search Advice from the Country's Most Popular Legal Job Search Columnist*.

Alternative Career Search Tips

In an effective alternative career search, 99 percent happens before the first resume goes out. Searches are more effective and efficient if time is taken at the beginning for the following:

- **Give yourself permission to be happy.** Many law graduates succumb to the notion that it is a "waste" of one's law degree to not practice law. Students should remember they went to law school to prepare for a fulfilling career. The next step is finding the career that meets that goal.
- **Assess what you want from a job and what you bring to the job.** Think about environment, activities and duties you enjoy. Then, itemize your skills and qualifications and perform your own personal inventory. After reviewing a variety of career options, choose those that look like a good fit to investigate further.
- **Explore.** Talk to lawyers working in the particular positions you've identified. What do they like? What skills do they utilize? Find out how they found their job.

Source: Gina Sauer, William Mitchell College of Law.

Finding Alternative Careers: What You Need To Know

- It takes time, patience and a spirit of adventure.
- Begin with self-assessment. You'll get the information you need to market yourself to employers.
- Research, research, research.
- Know your transferable skills cold. Be able to give specific examples in action.
- Prepare a brief "sound bite" to describe your skills, what you offer and what you want.



More than 180 employers participated in Fall On-Campus Interviews (OCI). Career Services also offers a wide range of alternate routes to your perfect job.

Upcoming Programs

- "Small and Medium Sized Firms," Oct. 29, Noon, Faculty Dining Room. Bring your lunch.
- Fall 2003 Entrants - "Introduction to Career Services," Nov. 3, 2 p.m., Auditorium.
- "Running the Final Mile: From Application to Exam," Nov. 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Faculty Dining Room. Co-sponsored by BLSA, Career Services & PMBR. Program will include "Surviving the Bar Application Process" by Assistant Dean Linda Calvert Hanson (5:30 p.m.) and "Understand the Florida Bar Exam" by Brian Griepfer, Florida Regional Director PMBR (6:30 p.m.). Pizza provided courtesy of PMBR.
- Fall 2003 Entrants - Resume Writing Workshop, Nov. 7, Noon, Bailey Courtroom.
- "Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams," Nov. 13, 5 p.m., Auditorium. Featuring nationally acclaimed speaker Kimm Walton.
- Walk-In Resume Review, Nov. 13-14, Career Services.

Also check for Career Services events online at www.law.ufl.edu/calendar/.

- Conduct informational interviews. They can be the key to getting "inside."
- Become an expert networker. This is even more important when looking for an alternative career.
- Law graduates should be prepared to address employer resistance to hiring a J.D. Anticipate concerns and be prepared to address them.
- Have compelling reasons for seeking a non-traditional career. Learn buzzwords of the field to capture their interest.
- Demonstrate your enthusiasm for your chosen field through community involvement, volunteer activities or writing an article.

Source: Lisa L. Abrams, *The Official Guide to Legal Specialties*.

(Career Services Continues Page 3)

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The Web and Nontraditional Jobs

Don't overlook the power of the Internet, which puts a wealth of information at your fingertips. You can search:

- **Job boards** with listings in your area of interest. Look now to learn who's hiring, what types of jobs are available, and what skills are required.
- **Trade newspapers and magazines.** These sites often include job listings. You can learn about the field as well as the major players.
- **Professional associations.** These sites often offer resources of interest and links to other helpful sites.
- **Books and resources.** Browse professional sites and online bookstores, as well as the NALP

Bookstore at www.nalp.org for books on alternative careers for law graduates.

- **General searches.** Web search engines can help find specific information and resources in your field of interest.

Source: National Association of Law Placement, *Searching for an Alternative*.

Programs for Fall 2003 Entrants

- **1L Welcome to Career Services**, Monday, Nov. 3, 2 p.m., Holland Hall Auditorium.
- **Resume Writing Workshop, "How to Put Your Best Foot Forward,"** Friday, Nov. 7, noon, Bailey Courtroom.

(See page 2 for more Career Services programs to be held this fall.)



Enter Bar Essay Contest by Jan. 30

Students are encouraged to enter The Florida Bar's Law Student Professionalism Essay Contest. Essays will be judged on caliber (relating to professionalism issues/topics), creativity, organization, writing style, and technical expertise. They must be submitted to Associate Dean Gail Sasnett in Student Affairs by Jan. 30.

The Bar's Law School Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Professionalism reviews entries and selects the winner, who receives \$1,000 and expenses paid to the award ceremony at the Florida Supreme Court. The winning essay is published in the *Florida Bar Journal* and *News* and on the Bar Web site.

The winner's law school receives a trophy designed by Hugh Nicholson, "The Lion of Justice," which is housed at the law school and passed on each year.

Winning the contest last year was Kimberly Rothenburg (3L, above, left, with Sasnett and the trophy, now on display in the Student Affairs lobby). For information: Student Affairs (392-0412).

• MEET THE FACULTY •



Jeffrey L. Harrison

Stephen C. O'Connell
Professor

University of Florida; J.D. (high honors), University of North Carolina. *Law Review*, Order of the Coif, Judge Walter Clark Award, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Epsilon.

Professor Harrison is a nationally and internationally known scholar in the fields of antitrust, law and economics, faculty and decanal self-promotion, and copyright. His books, articles, presentations, and general musings number in the hundreds, maybe thousands. (Several attempts to count them have failed.) He has taught on every continent except Australia, South America, Africa and Antarctica, but he hopes to visit them soon. He is a founder and director of the Center for Teaching and Research, a privately funded institution. He was 1997 chair of the AALS Section on Socioeconomics and the Law. He likes sewing, bicycling and modern dance and design.

What You May Not Know

"Connect these four dots and know all there is to know about me:

1. My 12th grade aptitude test said I should be a florist.
2. I was in the Orange Bowl when Joe Auer ran back the opening kick-off in the first-ever Miami Dolphins game.
3. The writings of John Rawls have had a profound effect on me.
4. I've never met a man (or woman) I did not like, except Will Rogers."

Go to www.law.ufl.edu/faculty for a complete resume and list of publications.

View on the Profession

"In some ways the two professions that concern me — teaching law and practicing law — are not as different as they seem. It is true that teaching means a great deal of student interaction, which is my favorite part of the job. Other than that, the best part of teaching is having time to research and reason through difficult issues without knowing in advance what my conclusions will be. It is here that the overlap comes in. I do not know a single successful attorney who does not have to do what I do as a professor — research and evaluate complex ideas and issues. And the successful ones are uniformly open-minded. Sometimes I am concerned that students are not given the opportunity or challenged to develop analytical skills that permit consideration of the full range of possibilities."

Education/Background

B.S. (high honors), M.B.A., Ph.D.
(Economics and Business Administration),



Graduating Next May?

If you plan to graduate in May 2004, please schedule an appointment for a graduation check with Registrar Kim Thomas in the Student Affairs Office (392-0421, 164 Holland Hall).

Graduation checks are brief appointments to review students' total credit hours and requirements for graduation and submit necessary forms for graduation.

Law Alumni Receptions

The following receptions for Levin College of Law alumni are scheduled:

- **Alachua County Law Alumni Holiday Party**, Wednesday, Dec. 17, Dean Robert and Mrs. Lisa Jerry's home, 6-8 p.m.
- **Florida Bar Midyear Meeting Gator Law Alumni Reception**, Thursday, Jan. 15, 6:30-8 p.m., Jasmine Room, Miami Hyatt.

(Announcements, Continued)

Stress Workshop Nov. 12

Feeling stressed? Find out how to cope at the Leadership Resource Management Program Workshop "Stress Management: Keeping it in Perspective," Wednesday, Nov. 12, noon-1 p.m., 190C Holland Hall. Presented by the Law College Council and Student Affairs.

For information: Student Affairs (392-0421).

Indulge Yourself & Help Others

Satisfy your sweet tooth and support public interest law by eating ice cream this Wednesday, Oct. 29, 6-7 p.m., at Cold Stone Creamery (3822 Newberry Rd., by Royal Park movie theater).

Part of the profits from sales during that time will be donated to the Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) to help fund campus projects, including summer public interest fellowships for UF law students and the "Know Your Rights" community outreach campaign. APIL also is working with law students and administrators, government officials, and attorneys across Florida to create a Loan Repayment Assistance Program for law school graduates.

Update JMBA Directory Info

JMBA is compiling information for its phone and e-mail directory for 2003-04. Check your listing in the UF directory, then e-mail updates or changes to jmba@jackabid.com with your preferred name, phone number and e-mail address.

ETELS Reception Wednesday

An "Estates and Trusts Third Semester Reception" sponsored by the Estates, Trusts and Elder Law Society (ETELS) Wednesday, Oct. 29, noon, 283 Holland Hall, is open to all students, but geared toward informing those interested in estate planning, elder law, probate and guardianship issues about opportunities available at UF. These include ETELS, the Estates and Trusts Practice Certificate, the Estate Planning and Elder Law Center, probate externship and LL.M. in Taxation at UF. Guest speakers will include Professor Doug Miller, Carla Bryant (LL.M. in Taxation 02), Rebekah Kurdziel (LL.M. in Taxation 01), and LL.M. in Taxation student Denise Shaffer McBride. For information, contact ETELS Vice President Danielle Burns (dburns0@yahoo.com).

Toastmasters Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend a Toastmasters meeting this Tuesday (Oct. 28), 5-6 p.m., 190A

Holland Hall. Toastmasters can help you develop and improve vital speaking and presentation skills.

Gator Growl & FSU Tickets

- **Gator Growl.** The law school will not have a bloc for Gator Growl, and students are responsible for picking up their own tickets at Gate 13. Purchase tickets — \$12 for students and spouses, \$16 for general admission — by calling 384-3262 or go online to www.ticketmaster.com. Gator Growl will be held Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. Sugar Ray and comedians Christopher Titus and Arnez J will perform. For information, visit www.gatorgrowl.org.
- **FSU ticket pickup.** Tickets for FSU will be available for pick-up in the JMBA office Tuesday, Nov. 25, noon-4 p.m., and Wednesday, Nov. 26, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Unclaimed tickets will be raffled Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 1 p.m. Each person may pick up a maximum of five tickets with IDs.

New Course Description:

Election & Campaign Finance Law

Professor Clifford Jones will offer the following new course in Spring 2004:

Election and Campaign Finance Law, Law 6930, Section 2484, Professor Clifford Jones

This course examines federal and state law regulating conduct of elections and financing of campaigns, two separable subjects with connecting principles and problems. Included are aspects of federal and state constitutional law on speech, association, and equal protection; state law on who gets to vote and who gets voted for; and particularly problems of apportionment, gerrymandering, race-conscious districting under the Voting Rights Act, and party governance. With respect to campaign finance, we consider how much and what kinds of legal regulation are appropriate regarding parties, candidates, independents, political action committees, corporations, unions and individuals; the appropriate role of the courts; and the myriad of current, lively proposals to revise campaign finance law. We also look at the increasing federal regulation of state election procedures and voting equipment following the Florida 2000 experience in "chadology," in the form of the Help America Vote Act of 2002. Finally, we put these in international and global perspective.

For information: Clifford A. Jones, Center for Governmental Responsibility, 230 Bruton-Geer Hall, 392-2237, jonesca@law.ufl.edu.



• SCHOLARSHIP & ACTIVITIES •

- Professor **Michelle Jacobs** was the featured speaker at the Brennan Center Conversation Series sponsored by the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law Oct. 20. The title of her talk was "Making the Invisible Visible: Bringing the Female Offender to the Attention of the Criminal Justice System."
- Professor/Samuel T. Dell Research Scholar/Affiliate Professor of Anthropology **Winston Nagan** presented his paper,



"The Kashmir Dispute as a World Order Problem," at the Institute for the Policy Sciences at Yale Law School Oct. 16.

- Cone Wagner Nugent Johnson Hazouri & Roth Professor **Juan Perea** presented some of his current research on Brown v. Board of Education and the assimilative norm of equal protection at the International Studies Association, Southern Region, 2003 Annual Conference Oct. 17.



Law & Technology Conference Feb. 20

The Intellectual Property Law Program will present its Third Annual Law & Technology Conference Feb. 20 in Orlando. Topics will include corporate and transactional issues, internal protection, "music wars," litigation, and international issues.

Scheduled to participate are Cathryn Mitchell (Miller Mitchell, Princeton, N.J.), Michael Walsh (Jenner & Block, Chicago, IL.), Barbara Wingo (Associate General Counsel, University of Florida), Randi Dulaney (Motorola), Virginia Quijada (Oracle), James Gale (Feldman Gale & Weber, Miami), Bill Hamilton (Holland & Knight), Richard Vermut (Roger, Towers), Darrell Payne (Shook, Hardy & Bacon), and Jose Gutman (Fleit Kane). More details to come, or contact Director of Conference Planning and Special Projects Barbara DeVoe (devoe@law.ufl.edu or 392-8070).

Spring 2004 Pre-Registration

Spring 2004 pre-registration is Oct. 27-Nov. 20, and appointment times are now available on ISIS (www.isis.ufl.edu). To access ISIS from the law school home page:

1. Click on "Student Affairs."
2. Click on "ISIS" (from the Quick Links list).
3. Find "Registration Preparation Information" under "Dates" on the main ISIS home page.
4. IMPORTANT: You must have your Gatorlink user name and password to access the system. If you don't know your Gatorlink user name and password, contact the CIRCA help desk at 392-help. You may set up a gatorlink account or check your account at www.gatorlink.ufl.edu.

Planning is essential to using ISIS. Please check the schedule of classes posted on the law school Web site prior to registering for classes, as well as the College of Law Handbook for any pre-requisites. Important points:

1. If you have a "hold" on your records, you must clear it to pre-register. (Check holds prior to pre-registration on ISIS under "Registration Preparation Information.")
2. Your pre-registration appointment times are when you may go to ISIS to pre-register for Spring 2004. You may not register before your time. However, you may call any time after your appointment time. Times are determined by total number of hours earned by end of Summer 2003. The person with most hours has the earliest time. Students with the same amount will be randomly assigned at intervals to avoid system overload. Transfer students should check accuracy of their appointment times with Registrar Kim Thomas in Student Affairs.



If you experience any problems with pre-registration, contact Registrar Kim Thomas (above) in the Office of Student Affairs (392-0412, 164 Holland Hall).

3. Access to registration on ISIS. Your Gatorlink user ID and password are used to access ISIS. The social security number and pin are no longer used. If you have questions or problems regarding your Gatorlink account, contact the CIRCA help desk at 392-help.
4. Prerequisites. Use your catalog and directories in Student Affairs when planning your schedule(s) to be sure you have completed the appropriate pre-requisite courses. ISIS MAY OR MAY NOT CHECK FOR PREREQUISITES. It is especially important to check the Seminar Directory in Student Affairs. Students without proper course work will be administratively dropped from the course.
5. If there is a conflict between ISIS and the Levin College of Law's version of the schedule, use the updated law school version.

Note: Fall 2003 Entering Class members are automatically registered for Spring 2004 required classes.

College Surpasses Community Campaign Goal

According to University of Florida Community Campaign College of Law Chair Professor Joseph Little, the law school community has surpassed last year's level of giving and more than met its goal in the effort.

Faculty, staff and students are commended for their generosity and public spirit.



Get Flu Shots Here Wednesday

An annual flu shot can prevent illness from type A and B influenza viruses, which strike 10 to 20 percent of the population of the United States every winter. The University of Florida Student Health Care Center offers annual preventive shots, and will give them at the Levin College of Law this Wednesday, Oct. 29, and Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., on the concourse. The shots are free for students (with ID) and \$15 for staff and faculty (cash only).

Lexis News

- Lexis Halloween Table Day, Wednesday, Oct. 29, featuring candy and prizes, plus short quizzes to enhance your research skills while you earn Ultimate Rewards Points.
- Every student who conducts five searches during October at www.lexisnexis.com/lawschool wins 25 sweepstakes entries for a chance to win a trip around the world, Lexus SUV, or full law school tuition reimbursement.
- LexisNexis has now has tutorials on-line. Refresh and expand your legal research skills at www.lexisnexis.com/lawschool/resource/tutorials/. Sign on using your Lexis ID and get 250 LexisNexis Ultimate Rewards points for each tutorial you complete in October.
- Students seen using Lexis on campus by Lexis reps can win 25-100 Ultimate Rewards Points toward textbooks and study aids to help prepare for finals. Visit www.lexisultimate-rewards.com and click on "Redeem Your Points for Study Aids."
- Lexis will have a table day every other Wednesday for the rest of the semester. Take a Lexis quiz and return it to a Lexis rep, lab, or table in the library to receive 200 Ultimate Rewards Points.

Clinic Students Learn "Practical Lawyering"

UF Levin College of Law students don't have to wait until they pass the Bar to get hands-on experience working with clients. Beginning their fourth semester of law school (or after earning 48 credit hours), students can apply to any of the school's eight clinics to learn "practical lawyering." Clinics take students from campus to courthouses to medical facilities and even to beaches, putting their theoretical legal knowledge to the test in real-life situations.

Following clinic registration, each student's completed credit hours are certified by the dean and their applications sent to the Florida Supreme Court for certification. Status as a "Certified Legal Intern" means they may practice law and appear in court under supervision of a Florida Bar member. Past participants note that certification is an asset both during law school and after graduation, because they can work with clients while waiting for their Bar exam results.

But status as a Certified Legal Intern is only one benefit of being involved in a clinic.

"Working in the clinic gives you a glimpse of how you can change people's lives with your law degree," said fifth-semester student Doug Klarberg. "It's rewarding to help people who can't afford representation and to do legal work while you're still in school."

Fellow student Debbie Braslow feels the same way, "The clients we work with are so very grateful for the help we offer. They don't have a lot of money, and most have never dealt with the court before, so our meetings with them really do make a difference in their lives."

Clinic students also learn about balancing case-loads, keeping case files and interviewing and counseling clients.

The Virgil Hawkins Civil Clinics include Pro Se, Mediation, Full Representation and Juvenile (aka Gator TeamChild). The law school also offers Criminal Clinics (State Attorney and Public Defender), Child Welfare Clinic (Family Law) and Conservation Clinic (Center for Governmental Responsibility).

Students in criminal clinics meet their clients off campus at either the State Attorney's or Public Defender's office (downtown Gainesville). Civil clinic interns meet mainly on campus in the clinic office in Bruton-Geer Hall next to the Bailey Courtroom. Students usually have four hours of classroom instruction per week and 10 "office hours" they use to work on their cases and meet with clients in teams of two. Students in the Child Welfare Clinic meet their clients at the CMS (Child Medical Services) building, and the clinic requires a similar time commitment.

The descriptions below are by no means complete. Contact the clinic directors or supervising attorneys listed on page 7 for details.

Pro Se Clinic

Supervising Attorneys Iris Burke and Peggy Schrieber recommend approaching this clinic as a part-time job of about 20 hours per week. Students assist clients by researching legal issues and explaining court



Clinic students like (from left) Brian, Anna and Anna combine class time with hands on work with real clients in a variety of off-campus locations. Monique Haughten Worrell, at board, is director of the college's newest offering, the Child Welfare Clinic, which already has drawn rave reviews.

processes and forms to individuals who go on to represent themselves in family court on such issues as custody, visitation, paternity, child support, the marital home and domestic violence. It is an "unbundling" clinic, which means it contracts with clients for discreet legal services such as advice and counsel, drafting of pleadings, and attendance at mediation and/or court hearings. Interns work in teams of two.

"What we do in the Pro Se Clinic is a service to both our clients and the court, because educated litigants can better represent themselves and present their claims in a way the court can adjudicate more efficiently," said Legal Skills Professor Peggy Schrieber.

The Pro Se Clinic is a nine-credit/two-semester sequence that involves a semester-long prep-course (three credits) followed by the clinic itself (six credits).

Full Representation Clinic

Students handle cases from the initial interview though a non-jury trial and everything in between, including legal research, drafting pleadings, providing legal counsel and representing clients in hearings, trials, and mediations. This is a semester-long clinic (nine credits), and students often continue their involvement after the semester ends.

"We work with real people who have real problems. Just because we're going home for winter break doesn't mean that our client's problems go away. We have to see our projects through to completion," explained clinic intern Frank Garcia.

Interns work in pairs and serve as "first chair" counsel on some cases and "second chair" on others. Supervising Attorney Jeffrey Grater, who was voted 2001 Professor of the Year by JMBA, encourages his students to work with their colleagues to solve problems and not to expect him to spoon-feed the answers to them.

"This is not a passive class," he said. "We deal with complex issues, and you have to work hard to come up with good solutions."

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County Court Mediation Clinic

Students who aren't interested in working toward a trial may find their niche in the Mediation Clinic. Here, students volunteer as mediators in the Small Claims Division of the Alachua County Court, where they observe four mediations, and then conduct four sessions under supervision. Students must keep Friday mornings open, since the Small Claims docket occurs at the Alachua County Courthouse in downtown Gainesville 9 a.m.-noon. After completing this clinic, interns qualify for certification as "County Court Mediators." (This certification, also granted by the Florida Supreme Court, allows individuals who are not yet members of the Bar to conduct mediations when properly supervised). Students earn six credits.

Gator TeamChild/Juvenile Clinic

Gator TeamChild trains students to be advocates for children. The mission of this clinic is to help adults work together to create an environment in which children can succeed. Participants work in pairs and collaborate with graduate students in social work to advise children and their families on how best to approach legal challenges. Issues range from keeping suspended kids in school, to helping them become emancipated from their parents, to guardianship issues.

Students must first apply for a three-hour pre-course, which is taught the semester before students work with clients in the clinic. This class ensures that students are familiar with some of the more common legal and practical issues they will encounter during the following semester. By the end of this class, students are Certified Legal Interns under the Florida Student Practice Rule.

One important aspect of this clinic is that Gator TeamChild represents only minor children, not the adults who are responsible for them. In addition to working with their clients, interns in this clinic interact with judges, lawyers, caseworkers, medical professionals, mediators, guardians ad litem and other workers dedicated to helping children. Participants may also sign up for a judicial clerkship with a juvenile court judge concurrent with their clinic work.

Criminal Clinics

Interns in Prosecutor and Defender clinics typically meet clients in downtown Gainesville at the State Attorney's Office (Prosecutor Clinic) or Public Defender's Office (Defender Clinic). Students also may

work in Miami, Ocala, Bronson, Jacksonville or other locations, working 20 hours a week on location and two hours a week in class. The semester begins with two to three full days of intensive seminars to prepare students to meet with clients on a variety of cases.

Child Welfare Clinic (Civil)

The Child Welfare Clinic opened its doors just this semester (Fall 2003) and has already received rave reviews from students and those they work with. Participants work in conjunction with the University of Florida General Counsel's Office to help members of the Child Protective Team (CPT), who work with severely abused children. The interns' main tasks involve advising CPT members and preparing them to testify in court about the child's condition.

The CPT, which is affiliated with UF's Department of Pediatrics, evaluates children who are referred to them through the abuse hotline (1-800-96-ABUSE) and prepares findings for various state agencies. CPT members often are called upon as witnesses in hearings regarding termination of parental rights and the like.

The Child Welfare Clinic is open to all students with 48 credit hours, but preference is given to those who have taken Child, Parent, and State and are enrolled in the Family Law Certificate Program. Interns spend four hours in class and 10 hours at the CMS (Children's Medical Services) building near Shands, where they meet with their clients.

Conservation Clinic

The Conservation Clinic is housed in the Center for Governmental Responsibility, and allows students to work with clients around the world on issues ranging from air quality to shoreline conservation. Although students in this clinic don't litigate claims, they have ample opportunity to interact with clients (many are organizations) and to make presentations before government bodies. In the past, projects have included drafting a petition to the United Nations (UNESCO) to declare a National Park in Costa Rica a World Heritage Site and drafting a Land Development Code for the city of Marineland. It is designed to span two semesters with students taking three hours per semester (rather than six in one semester). (Students earn two credits in Costa Rica.) Preference is given to students working on an Environmental and Land Use Law Certificate, though all students with 48 hours of credit may apply.

— By Megan Sladek (2L)



Media Law Seminar Offered

Affiliate College of Law Professor Bill F. Chamberlin, the Joseph L. Brechner Eminent Scholar for Mass Communications, will offer a cross-listed seminar this spring, "Government Control of Information Since 9/11: Reminders of George Orwell's '1984' and 'Animal Farm.'" The class will explore laws restricting access to information and permitting government use of personal information. It will be taught 1:55-3:50 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday, starting Jan. 6. Several positions in the class are saved for a two-credit law seminar, LAW 6936. (All classes for two-credit students will be in January and March, four hours a week.) Students taking the four-credit MMC 6667 course must register with Jody Hedge, College of Journalism and Communications' graduate division, after getting Professor Chamberlin's permission.

Students will have an opportunity to learn about advanced techniques in legal interpretation and other skills that will assist them in writing for publication.

For information: Professor Chamberlin (bchamberlin@law.ufl.edu), who has experience in helping law students match law school schedules with those on main campus.



For information:
Virgil Hawkins Clinics
(392-0412)

- Pro Se Clinic: Legal Skills Professors Iris Burke or Peggy Schrieber
- Full Representation Clinic: Legal Skills Professor Jeffrey Grater
- Mediation Clinic: Professor Don Peters or Legal Skills Professor Alison Gerencser



• Gator TeamChild/Juvenile Law Clinic: Legal Skills Professor Claudia Wright or go online to www.law.ufl.edu/academics/clinics/juvenile.



Criminal Clinics (392-0412)
• Prosecutor Clinic
• Defender Clinic: Professor Michelle Jacobs



Child Welfare Clinic (392-7576)
Legal Skills Professor Monique Haughton-Worrell



Conservation Clinic (392-2237)
Director Tom Ankersen or <http://conservation.law.ufl.edu>.



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: Editor 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.

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Working From a Solid Foundation

— By Resource Counselor Ali Kane

Often, in the midst of stress and packed schedules, we forget to tend the foundation that supports us. We may attempt to accomplish long lists of tasks and work long hours without taking care of our basic physiological needs, which are usually the first to go when time is short. Ironically, taking care of these things actually plays the most important role in efficiently dealing with challenges. Here are some tips to consider.

- **Sleep and rest.** Everyone has a different amount of sleep and rest that they need. Usually, we have a range, including the minimum we need to function, the ideal amount for us, and an excessive amount. What is your ideal amount of sleep and rest? Where are you now on this continuum?
- **Eating.** Eating healthy meals three times a day is important in keeping energy and blood sugar levels up, as well as ensuring that you get the nutrients, vitamins and minerals you need to stay healthy. Take note the next time you feel grouchy, angry, depressed or stressed out, and ask yourself when was the last time you ate a healthy, satisfying meal. You may be amazed at the correlation.

- **Drinking water.** This is an often neglected, yet crucial aspect to health. Everything we do, including mental and physical exertion, requires hydration. Most Americans are chronically dehydrated. This affects overall health, ability to concentrate and ability to deal with stress.

These are indeed the basics. They were some of the first skills we learned as a child. Let's not forget those early lessons, but use them to build on a solid foundation of good habits and health.



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 alikane@ufl.edu for an appointment. She offers Yoga classes Mondays (6-7 p.m.) in the Faculty Dining Room, and Meditation classes Thursdays (6:30-7:45 p.m.) off-campus. (Contact her for locations.)



UF law students (left) gathered inside a sukkah (below) last week at the college.



Students Enjoy Sukkot on East Lawn

Students had a new — though temporary — place to gather last week thanks to the Jewish Law Students' Association (JLSA). JLSA erected a sukkah on the south lawn in celebration of Sukkot, a Hebrew word for "Feast of Booths." More than 50 students are JLSA members, according to President Michael Eatroff. JLSA member Melanie Golden initiated the idea for the sukkah, asked the Law College Council for approval, and helped build it.

Sukkot lasts eight days, and commemorates the harvest season and 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert and lived in portable shelters. A sign on a nearby tree urged all students to enter the sukkah and relax, and many — of all faiths — spent time with friends around the hospitably decorated table inside. Members of the Jewish faith are to spend as much time as possible in the sukkah, weather permitting, and the devout eat all meals inside the shelter. For information on Sukkot, visit www.jewfaq.org/holiday5.htm.

— By Megan Sladek (2L)

• UF LAW CALENDAR •

Academic & Event Calendars Online at www.law.ufl.edu

October

- 27 • Advanced Registration Begins for Spring 2004
- Criminal Law Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m., 190 HOL
- LCC Executive Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m.
- 28 • Toastmasters Meeting, 5-6 p.m., 190A HOL
- 29 • Small & Medium Sized Firm Job Search, Noon-1 p.m., Faculty Dining Room
- APIL/Cold Stone Creamery Benefit, 6-7 p.m., 3822 Newberry Road
- 30 • CLSA Meeting, 5-6 p.m. 190B HOL
- Phi Delta Phi Pumpkin Carving
- Animal Law Association Meeting, 5 p.m., Location TBA
- 31 • Fla-Ga Moot Court Competition

November

- 1 • Criminal Law Association, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 283 HOL
- LCC General Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 296 HOL
- 3 • Introduction to Career Services, 2 p.m., Auditorium
- 5 • BLSA, Career Services & PMBR present: Applying & Preparing for the Bar Exam, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Faculty Dining Room
- 7 • Career Services Resume and Cover Letter Workshop, Noon-1 p.m., Bailey Courtroom
- 10 • Academic Success Program - No Time for Stress!, 2-3 p.m., Auditorium