



FlaLaw

University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law Newsletter • Vol. 7, No. 14 • November 17, 2003

Key Patriot Act Player To Give Dunwoody Lecture

Georgetown Law Professor and former U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Legal Policy Viet Dinh will be keynote speaker at the *Florida Law Review's* Dunwoody Lecture Feb. 27. A noted legal scholar, Dinh played a key role in implementing the controversial Patriot Act after the September 11 terrorist attacks.

"Viet Dinh's acceptance is a coup for *Law Review* and a tremendous honor for the entire law school. His visit is an indication of UF's rising prominence in the national scene," said Cheryl Priest, *Florida Law Review* assistant symposium editor. "Given the debate surrounding the Patriot Act, we hope students, faculty and the community will come with questions for Mr. Dinh."

Dinh also has served as deputy director of Asian law and policy studies and co-director of the joint program in law and business administration at Georgetown University.

He was U.S. assistant attorney general for legal policy 2001-03, where, as the official responsible for developing and coordinating federal legal policy, he contributed to numerous



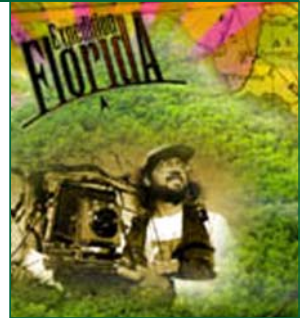
Viet Dinh

diverse policy initiatives, including drug demand reduction, ban on racial profiling, child protection, combating human trafficking, DNA testing, reduction of gun violence, and civil and criminal justice reforms.

After 9/11, Dinh conducted a comprehensive review and revision of Department of Justice priorities, policies and practices to ensure all available

resources are dedicated to protecting America against terrorist acts. He played a key role in implementing the USA Patriot Act and revising attorney general guidelines governing federal law enforcement activities and national security investigations.

Born in Saigon, Vietnam, Dinh came to America as a refugee in 1978 and grew up in California. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College and Harvard Law School, where he was a class marshal and Olin Research Fellow in Law and Economics. He clerked for Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. □



Award Winning Filmmaker Speaks Here Tuesday

All are invited to a presentation by Emmy Award winning environmental documentary filmmaker Steve Robitaille (above, on the cover of his video, "The Wild Heart of Florida") this Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6 p.m., in the Bailey Courtroom. The presentation is hosted by the Environmental and Land Use Law Society (ELULS). Robitaille is co-producer with his partner, Leslie Gaines, of the public television and radio series "Expedition Florida." The second film in the series, "The Wild Heart of Florida," received five Emmy Awards and the third and most recent, "Wild Alachua," has been nominated for two Emmy Awards. Robitaille will show clips from his films and speak about the use of film in environmental advocacy. Food and refreshments served. For information: ELULS Vice President Ryan Osborne (ryeosb@ufl.edu).



• ANNOUNCEMENTS •

Reception for Students Interested in Business Law

The Business Law Section of The Florida Bar will sponsor a reception for students interested in business law to "eat, drink and hobnob with business lawyers" this Thursday, Nov. 20, 5 p.m., in the Faculty Dining Room. Topics will include how students can attend committee meetings and participate in activities of the Business Section.

ETELS Elections Wednesday

The Estates Trusts and Elder Law Society (ETELS) will hold general elections and meet for the last time Wednesday, Nov. 19, 5 p.m., 350

Holland Hall. For information: ETELS Vice President Danielle Burns (dburns0@yahoo.com).

Volunteer with VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a pro bono organization that assists low income individuals and students in filing their income tax returns. Volunteers are always needed, and service offers a great way to do some good in your community while you gain practical experience. For information or to volunteer this spring, contact Carolyn Kershner at carolynk@ufl.edu by next Monday, Nov. 24.

(Announcements Continue Page 5)

• CAREER SERVICES •



Support Class Gift

Representatives of the Levin College of Law's Fall 2003 class have set their goal at \$25,000 — \$125 for each graduating student — to be presented to Dean Robert Jerry at December commencement.

Commemorative Class of 2003 mugs (above) will be given to students who pledge a minimum of \$125 over five years (\$25 a year) and make their first gift before graduation. Contributors also will receive a gold Gator lapel pin to wear at graduation and will be recognized in the law school's annual report and on signs after commencement.

Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law, and can be unrestricted or restricted to specific programs, organizations, or a generic student organization 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: Fall 2003 Class Chair Sarah Rumpf (sarahr@ufl.edu).

Exam Change Forms Due by Noon Today

Students who need to change their exam times or request accommodations must submit the appropriate form to Student Affairs by noon today. Contact Student Affairs (392-0421) for more information.

Pro Bono Hours Due for Dec. Grads

Students graduating this December who have completed pro bono hours while in law school **must** turn in their hours to Career Services by Wednesday, Nov. 26, to receive a pro bono certificate this semester. If you have turned in 35 hours or more, your name will be on the Pro Bono Certificate List posted outside the Career Services Office. Please come by to check.

Get Started on Your Job Search

Career Services has been meeting with first-semester students to assist them with their job search strategies, as instructed by the National Association of Law Placement. The following tips are targeted for 1L's, though they should be useful to all students.

PREPARING YOUR RESUME. Your legal resume is your personal marketing tool. It provides a snapshot of your career and sets you apart from other job searchers. Appearance is everything. Most employers spend about 30 seconds scanning a resume, so it must be error free, pleasing to the eye and concise. Carefully design your resume to weave your background into a positive advocacy document that showcases your accomplishments. Career Services' Resume Writing Workshop Nov. 10 emphasized the following important tips for writing a quality resume:

- Inventory your skills, experiences, accomplishments, education, personal strengths, weaknesses, likes and dislikes before writing your resume.
- Use action verbs like prepared, researched, drafted and organized.
- Focus on aspects of your background that demonstrate characteristics that will make you a successful lawyer.
- Avoid using personal information such as age and marital status, but do include interests and participation in organizations to individualize your resume.
- Make your resume visually attractive and try to make it fit neatly on one page.
- Make sure there are no spelling or grammatical errors. Have someone else proof it for you, preferably staff in the Center for Career Services.
- Use reverse chronological order for education and experience.
- Do not use the word "I."
- Be honest.
- Utilize the Center for Career Services, including



Attorney General Crist Reviews New Florida Honors Attorney Program

Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist (standing) spoke at the Levin College of Law Nov. 5 regarding the new Florida Attorney General Honors Attorneys Program for third-year law students and internships available for first- and second-year students.

Honors attorneys are placed with a mentor and work for approximately six months each in the Antitrust Division, Criminal Division (Appeals), Economic Crimes Unit and with the state's lead litigator, the solicitor general. The total commitment is two years. Contact the Center for Career Services for more information.

individual counseling, handouts, career resource library and our Web site.

For more tips on writing your resume, visit the career services Web site at www.law.ufl.edu/career/resources/ and make an appointment with one of our professional attorney counselors.

SUBMITTING A WRITING SAMPLE.

Many legal employers request writing samples from students they are interviewing. Although there are no set rules about what makes an ideal writing sample, there are guidelines:

- Submit a writing sample that is solely your own work, not heavily edited or co-authored. Keep your sample less than 10 pages if possible. It should be your best research and writing, completely error-free, neat, and preferably on an interesting topic. Submit work that is law-related, not a policy, technical or thought piece.
- Most students use something that was prepared for Legal Research & Writing or Appellate Advocacy. You can use work that was prepared for an employer, but first get permission from your employer and indicate that you have permission in a cover memo to the sample. If you choose to use something from

(Career Services Continues Page 3)

(Career Services, from Page 2)

your employer, make sure to redact relevant information by changing facts and names, not just blacking out words.

- If you choose to use your first-year memo from Legal Research & Writing, don't just print off a copy and distribute it to employers. Take a close look at the work and decide whether or not it represents your best research and writing skills. Once you have selected the writing you would like to submit to employers, read through it carefully to ensure you have clearly articulated the issue(s). Make sure each topic sentence is clear and concise and the paper follows a logical structure with no obvious gaps. Check to see that you do not use a passive voice and that you have no typos. Lastly, ensure you have done sufficient research and you have carefully checked all your cites.

DEVELOP YOUR NETWORKING

SKILLS. According to Random House Webster's *College Dictionary*, networking is the "informal sharing of information and services among individuals or groups linked by a common interest."

This activity is something everyone in the legal profession does as a regular part of the practice of law. Attorneys mingle with other attorneys, corporate and community leaders, and many others in order to generate business and meet potential clients. So why are law students so intimidated by the concept? Networking is really nothing more than getting involved with the legal community and learning about the profession.

- Start networking with people you know. Let everyone know you are in law school and beginning your legal career. Make copies of your resume and give them to everyone you and your family know. Don't limit this to lawyers. Remember, nonlawyers know lawyers and some work with them on a regular basis. By distributing your resume to people and informing everyone you know of your job search, you've started the process known as networking.



- Don't be afraid that you will offend people by asking them about the legal profession or handing them your resume. Imagine how you would feel if someone — even a complete stranger — who was interested in going to law school contacted you to ask about your experience and for your advice. Would you feel annoyed at discussing it? Would you behave rudely? Or, would you be friendly and offer advice and encouragement? Would you tell them about what it is you have enjoyed and disliked about law school? Chances are you'd be more than happy to share your experiences with a future lawyer. Attorneys feel the same way about students contacting them about the profession.
- By networking, you are developing contacts that will be helpful to you throughout your entire career, and you also are laying the groundwork to be the first to know if any jobs open up in the area. Since many attorneys only hire when they are inundated with work, and since they already get resumes in the mail every day, positioning yourself for future work is the most effective way to job hunt.
- Remember, no time spent on developing your career is wasted time. Learning about aspects of the legal profession, practice areas and employment settings will help you set your career goals, make informed career decisions, and communicate those decisions intelligently in job interviews. Getting to know members of the legal profession will help you to be aware of job openings and to be a better attorney after you pass the Bar.
- Some natural networking opportunities are facilitated by the Center for Career Services. Programs featuring attorneys as speakers provide an excellent opportunity to connect with potential future employers. Also, the Alumni Mentor program matches students with attorneys for long-term advisor relationships.
- One of the great things about networking is that you can start anytime, and it is never too early or too late to begin. Also, you can do as much networking as your time allows. If you can only contact a couple of attorneys at a time, that's fine. Set up your contact list and plan to work it as you have time, sending letters and scheduling calls based on your schedule. And remember, networking is a "no lose" proposition. Even if you don't find a job immediately, important connections will be made that will greatly enhance the development of your legal career. □



Construction on Schedule

The Levin College of Law's construction project is on schedule for completion by the beginning of classes in Fall 2005 (see below). Stay updated over winter break at www.law.ufl.edu/construction, where a webcam with real time views of the project will soon go live.

- Construction of steel structures for the new education towers is underway, and the courtyard will alter dramatically by spring.
- The third-floor library will close in December.
- In the spring, the cafeteria and bookstore will close and the library will move off-site.
- Holland Hall classrooms will be demolished and library renovations will begin in May. New classrooms will be completed for use in the fall.
- Beginning in March 2005, Holland Hall renovations will be completed and the library, bookstore and cafeteria will return.

For information:
Associate Dean for
Administrative Affairs
Patrick Shannon
(shannon@law.ufl.edu).

• MEET THE FACULTY •



Flu Shots Offered Again Thursday

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 again at the Levin College of Law Thursday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., on the con-course. The shots are free for students (with ID) and \$15 for staff and faculty (cash only).

Alumni Holiday Party Date Change

The date of the Alachua County Law Alumni Holiday Party has changed to Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6-8 p.m., at Bob and Lisa Jerry's home.

The Florida Bar Midyear Meeting Gator Law Alumni Reception is still scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 15, 6:30-8 p.m., Jasmine Room, Miami Hyatt.

For information: Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Affairs Kerrie L. Mitchell (392-9296).

Clarence J. TeSelle Professor of Law Marty McMahon teaches in the Graduate Tax Program, although no one there is actually willing to admit to hiring him. He used to be the Laramie Leatherman Professor of Law at the University of Kentucky College of Law, but the rumor is that the dean there got so tired of him rescheduling classes to go bass fishing that he told Marty to go someplace where the fishing was better and gave Florida a glowing, if imaginative, recommendation regarding Marty's teaching credentials.

He is a 1971 graduate of Rutgers College, where he majored in narcolepsy, and a 1974 graduate of Boston College Law School, where he minored in racquetball. While in private practice in New Hampshire from 1974 to 1979, he slept through evening classes as a part time student at Boston University Law School, from which he purchased an LL.M. in Taxation in 1979.

This paper credential fooled the University of Kentucky into thinking that he actually knew something about tax law and enabled him to retire from practice to the gentrified life of being a law professor. While he was at UK, many people — mostly his own colleagues — suggested that he leave and go elsewhere. On several occasions the dean and his faculty colleagues at Kentucky shipped him off elsewhere to teach for a while, and he has visited at the University of Virginia and at Florida. (Amazingly enough, Florida took him back again in 1997!)

To get revenge on his UK colleagues, in the mid-1980s he went to work as a professor-in-residence at the Office of Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, where he suggested that the entire UK faculty be audited. Because little revenue was raised from the audits of school teachers he suggested, however, he was relegated to tasks like helping to devise the interest tracing rules in Treas. Reg. §1.163-8T.

To satisfy the lust for money of the bursars of multiple universities, thereby keeping his one college-age son and post-college-age-but-perpetual-student other son mollified, if not cheerful, he moonlights as a book author. He has ridden on Boris Bittker's coattails by coauthoring three edi-



Martin J. McMahon, Jr., Clarence J. TeSelle Professor

Editor's Note: "Meet the Faculty" is intended to give a more personal introduction to Levin College of Law professors than a simple listing of accomplishments can provide. We could think of no better way to do this for Professor McMahon than to include this information from a handout on himself he provides to CLE audiences. For details on his scholarship and background, go to www.law.ufl.edu/faculty.

tions of a treatise, *Federal Income Taxation of Individuals*, with this Titan of Taxation. His law school mentors, Paul McDaniel and Hugh Ault, felt sorry for him and let him coauthor multiple editions of four casebooks on basic income tax, corporate tax, and partnership tax. Although he much prefers writing casebooks (because his students have to buy them, thereby generating royalty income to pay for college tuition and car insurance for those two sons), to get tenure and keep his job he has been forced to write several dozen law review articles about taxation, including one in 1981 that suggested the cockamamy idea of taxing kid's income at their parents' rates. (Who'd ever be crazy enough to agree with that notion!) It's rumored, however, that he really got tenure by jogging two paces behind the dean no matter how slow the pace.

All of those articles that nobody actually reads also appear to have gotten him elected to the ALI, but many people consider it to be a case of mistaken identity. At another conference quite a few years ago, he said something so long winded and confusing that it was mistaken for profundity, causing one of the prominent tax lawyers in attendance to nominate him for fellowship in the American College of Tax Counsel. Since his scant royalties are devoured by college tuition, food allowances for his sons, and car insurance, to see the country he's willing to go anywhere for a mini-vacation paid for by a CLE sponsor; and over the years he has found a surprising number of suckers to subsidize his thinly disguised vacation travel. (Hush now — don't tell the IRS.) □

• SCHOLARSHIP & ACTIVITIES •

• Legal Skills Professor and Costa Rica Program Director **Tom Ankersen** and University of Costa Rica Law School Dean **Rafael Gonzalez Ballar** traveled to Shanghai, China, at the invitation of the IUCN-World Conservation Union Commission on Environmental Law to participate in the inaugural meeting of the IUCN International Academy of Environmental Law. More than 70 law schools representing 30 countries participated in the meeting, which was intended to form “a new learned society in the field of environmental law.” Other invited U.S. law schools included Pace, Lewis & Clark, Vermont and University of Oregon. The meeting was organized by the Environmental Law Department of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, which also convened a concurrent colloquium on the law, energy and sustainable development. The IUCN Commission on Environmental Law used the occasion to designate the University of Costa Rica Environmental Law Program as an “IUCN Center of Environmental Law Excellence,” one of 10 such centers located in developing countries worldwide



Ankersen

Fenster

Hernandez

Lidsky

and the second in Latin America. The designation specifically recognized recent curricular developments at the University of Costa Rica Law School, including its joint program with the Levin College of Law.

- Assistant Professor **Mark Fenster** was quoted in an *Orlando Sentinel* article on eminent domain actions pending in Daytona Beach, and was interviewed by

German Radio in Cologne for a news story on conspiracy theories about the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

- Levin, Mabie and Levin Professor of Law **Berta Esperanza Hernandez-Truyol** published “Glocalizing Terror,” 81 *Oregon L. Rev.* 941 (2002).
- UF Research Foundation Professor **Lyrissa Lidsky** was interviewed by *Us* weekly magazine about the Rosie O’Donnell breach of contract trial, and by a Minnesota radio station about camera phones and invasion of privacy. She spoke on *Florida Law Review*’s Medical Malpractice Reform Panel Nov. 6. □



‘Beyond Brown: Children, Race and Education’

The conference “Beyond Brown: Children, Race and Education” is set for March 25-27 in Gainesville. The event is co-sponsored by the Center on Children & the Law and Center for the Study of Race & Race Relations, and marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, in which the Supreme Court held that segregated schools were unconstitutional. Invited speakers include Congressman John Lewis, civil rights attorney Elaine Jones, and many others from education, law and government. Speakers will explore the history and legacy of the decision and its implications for today’s children and educational policies. Topics will include multidisciplinary perspectives on the “Brown Children’s” heroic role in the struggle for civil rights; how children acquire racial and ethnic identity; roles of integration and separation in education; equality for children of different sexes, ethnic or language groups and children with disabilities; implications of school reform on equal opportunity for children; and how we can contribute as citizens and professionals to realizing the promise of *Brown*. Continuing education credits available.

For information, go to: <http://lic.law.ufl.edu/ccl/> or contact Program Assistant Debbie Kelley (Kelley@law.ufl.edu or 392-7576).

(Announcements, Continued)

‘Operation Christmas Child’

The law school’s Christian Legal Society is promoting “Operation Christmas Child,” a ministry of Samaritan’s purse, to fill shoeboxes with toys for children in 77 countries. The children — many of whom reside in war-torn or impoverished nations — also will receive a booklet explaining the meaning of Christmas. Boxes will be collected in the Student Affairs Office Nov. 17-21 and distributed to children in time for Christmas. Contributions are welcome from both individuals and groups. For information and/or brochures: Molly Metzler (MollyMetzler@aol.com).

Donate Coats & Boots for Needy

Today is the last day to donate coats and boots through the W. George Allen Chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) project for those in need at the St. Francis House. Drop off donations (used or new) in the BLSA Office. For information: Alero Afejuku (aolaw@ufl.edu).

Unlicensed Law Practice Issues

Director of The Florida Bar’s Unlicensed Practice of Law Division Lori Holcomb will speak
(Announcements Continue Page 6)

Apply for Fall Long Term Emergency Loans by This Thursday

Application forms for Fall Lewis Memorial Long Term Emergency Loans (\$500) are available in Student Affairs and will be accepted through Thursday, Nov. 20. (Note: Using this loan reduces Spring 2004 student loan awards.) Requirements are:

1. Must have at least a 2.00 GPA and be registered for 12 credit hours.
2. Must have “financially stable” co-signer (not a student or spouse, and not retired, semi-retired or unemployed).
3. Must be attending UF Spring 2004 semester at least half-time.

Within one week of submitting a completed request form, University Financial Services will mail a loan application to your local address (as listed on ISIS). Return applications to University Financial Services (S-108 Criser Hall). For information: Financial Aid Advisor Carol Huber (right) in the Office of Student Affairs (392-0421).



Student Efforts Ensured Success of UF Homecoming

UF law student Kelley Richards (2L) was general chair of UF's Homecoming 2003. His fellow Florida Blue Key members report that Kelley worked hard since last December on planning Homecoming events and activities, and his efforts were a major factor in the event's success.

"Managing law school studies and being Homecoming chairman is an amazing thing," said Carey Richards.

First-Semesters: Gather Bar Info. Over Break

First-semester students are urged to gather information needed to complete registration for The Florida Bar during winter break. The "180 day deadline" is Feb. 16.

In an open letter to students, UF College of Law graduate Janella K. Leibovitz wrote, "In looking back there is only one thing I would have done differently. I would have sent in my Bar application early. I could have paid \$50 for early registration, but since I waited I ended up paying \$500 for registration on top of the \$375 exam cost. My procrastination cost me \$450. And there is another reason to get your application in early. The Bar's background investigation takes 6-8 months. If you wait until your last semester, you risk passing the Bar but not being admitted because your investigation will not be completed in time. Learn from my mistake. Get your application in at a bargain price. It will save you money and anxiety."

CLA Prison Tour Brings Mixed Emotions

— By Edrene Johnson (2L)

"Why in the world would anyone want to visit a prison?" This was the most common question encountered as the Criminal Law Association planned its Nov. 6 tour of the Florida State Prison in Raiford, Florida. The decision to visit the prison that housed infamous "old sparky" inspired a sense of curiosity in individuals who have known since birth their purpose in life is to practice criminal law as well as in those who will never see criminal law as a career option.

The group visiting the prison had diverse personal reasons for doing so, but they shared mixed emotions of apprehension, sympathy and shock as they entered a "prisoner's reality" that day.

Murderers, rapists and drug dealers reside in Florida State Prison. Those sent to this prison either have been sentenced to death or deemed uncontrollable "troublemakers" and placed there because they were unable to behave in their original institutions (detention centers for offenders). While the thought of standing a few feet away from the most vicious criminals in the state of Florida may have been a little terrifying, there was never a safety issue during the visit, because inmates were confined to their cells or restrained at all times. Although safety was, of course, important, some visitors felt sympathy for the isolation these prisoners faced as a consequence of their actions. All prisoners are confined to their one-man cells for extended periods.

"I learned that inhumane does not always relate to physical abuse," said Christopher O'Neal, Criminal Law Association member and president of the Black Law Students Association. "It is amazing how much we take our ability to participate in human contact during daily interactions for granted."

(Announcements, Continued)

here Tuesday, Feb. 3, noon, in Holland Hall auditorium.

Holcomb provides practical advice on how students can avoid problems in areas such as business cards and titles on correspondence, and types of activities students can legally undertake without conducting the unauthorized practice of law. Her presentation is particularly valuable for part-time



Criminal Law Association President Edrene Johnson (third from left) led a group of law students on a tour of the state prison in Raiford. Participating were (from left) BLSA President Christopher O'Neal, CLA Vice President Denise White, Johnson, Michael Linn, CLA Secretary Joni Batie-McGrew, Cody Doran, Jim O'Hare, Carey High, Andrew Brajcich, Elizabeth Crowder and Jason Gordon. (Participant Kelli Herring, CLA treasurer, is not pictured.)

Others focused on the crime instead of the criminal.

"I am less sympathetic to the conditions these inmates experience when they are sent here because they are unable to behave in their original institutions," said Criminal Law Association member Mike Linn.

The need to isolate prisoners was better understood when tour members were shown various handmade weapons. One inmate was able to produce a gun using the residue from matchbooks as gunpowder, a testimony to the shocking level of skill and ingenuity prisoners possess.

Feelings continued to run high as the tour ended in the death chamber with a detailed account of how a death sentence is carried out.

Emotions and opinions varied, but all in the group agreed with their fellow visitor, Elizabeth Crowder, when she said, "This was definitely an activity I'm glad I experienced." □

Note: The Criminal Law Association Prison Tour was so successful that the organization plans to offer it again next semester. Watch *FlaLaw* for details.

law clerks, clinic or pro bono program participants, summer associates or certified legal interns.

Enter 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

(Announcements Continue Page 7)

(Announcements, Continued)

must be submitted to Associate Dean for Students, Professionalism and Community Relations 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. UF law student Kimberly Rothenburg (3L) won the contest last year.

For information: Student Affairs (392-0421).

Legal Affairs Writing Contest

Students are invited to enter the first annual Legal Affairs Writing Contest for Law Students sponsored by *Legal Affairs* magazine. Entries should be in the form of a 1,500 word argument about a significant legal topic, are due by Jan. 7, and will be judged on ingenuity, clarity, strength of support for the argument, and style. The winner will receive \$2,000 and have their article published in *Legal Affairs*. Visit www.legalaffairs.org for information and contest guidelines. □

Grant to UF Law Helps Establish New UCR Clinic

A grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to the UF Levin College of Law has provided funding for Center for Governmental Responsibility (CGR) Conservation Clinic/Costa Rica Program Director Tom Ankersen to help establish a new Environmental Law Clinic (Consultorio Ambiental Juridico) at the University of Costa Rica (UCR). The new clinic, modeled loosely after the UF Conservation Clinic, will operate throughout the year and provide UF Costa Rica Program Clinic students opportunities to participate in the Consultorio's activities. The new Consultorio office includes ample workspace for students and staff, two computers, telephone, ethernet access and a conference room on the newly remodeled sixth floor of the UCR law school.

UF College of Law Dean Emeritus/CGR Director Jon Mills and CGR Development Director JoAnn Klein visited Costa Rica in October to begin preparations for the college's annual Law in the Americas Conference — which will be hosted by UCR law school this year — and toured the new facilities during their visit. □

UF Law Student Heads to Africa

UF law student David Pittman (right) will spend Spring 2004 Semester in Arusha, Tanzania, as an intern on the United Nations Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. He will be assigned to the Office of the Prosecutor, the Judicial Chambers or The Registry.

"I am honored to be chosen to participate in this unique opportunity," said Pittman, who will earn academic credit for the internship. "I am grateful to the many people in Career Services and Student Affairs who assisted me, and to Professor Winston Nagan, who agreed to sponsor my internship."

The tribunal (www.ictt.org) was formed in 1994 by the Security Council to prosecute those responsible for the genocide in Rwanda during 1994. It has jurisdiction to prosecute those in the Hutu extremist government and private sector responsible for orchestrating the killing of as many as 800,000 Tutsis and Hutu moderates over a 100 day period in 1994.

Since WWII, there have only been two prominent criminal tribunals and both are currently in session: the International Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the one for Rwanda. The Rwandan Criminal Tribunal is an example of how nations, complying with the accepted norms of international law, can work through the United Nations to restore peace and punish those responsible for the most heinous crimes on the planet. □



Team Represents UF, University of Costa Rica at International Environmental Moot Court

The University of Florida and University of Costa Rica recently collaborated to participate in the 2003 International Environmental Moot Court Competition at Stetson University. The competition, held Oct. 31-Nov. 1 in St. Petersburg, featured 27 teams from the U.S., Costa Rica, India, Australia and New Zealand. The University of Florida/University of Costa Rica team was comprised of Coach Thomas Ruppert (3L), Paul Ghiotto (3L), Alex Figares (2L) and Maria Fernanda Esquivel (UCR), all of whom had participated in UF's 2003 summer program in international environmental law at the University of Costa Rica. The joint moot court team is another result of the active academic partnership between UF and UCR in the field of international environmental law.

For information on the Costa Rica program and other UF/UCR collaborative legal projects, visit the Conservation Clinic's Web site at: <http://conservation.law.ufl.edu/international.html>.



Daniel Aguillar (from left, standing), Jose Pablo Sanchez, UF Conservation Clinic Director Tom Ankersen, University of Costa Rica (UCR) Law Dean Rafael Gonzalez Ballar, UF Dean Emeritus and CGR Director Jon Mills and (seated) Maria Fernanda Esquivel, Program Co-Director Shirley Sanchez and Gladys Martinez met in Costa Rica last month. UCR students Aguillar, Sanchez, Esquivel and Martinez work at the new UCR Environmental Clinic.

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.

FlaLaw suspends publication after the Nov. 24 issue and resumes Jan. 12. Stay updated over break by subscribing to our e-mail newsletter, *UF Law E-News*, at www.law.ufl.edu/news/flalaw/.

Fredric G. Levin College of Law Administration

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



Are You Stressed?

— By Resource Counselor Ali Kane

Are you stressed? This "Stress Test" designed by Dr. Frank C. Richardson can help you decide.

Answer yes or no to the following:

- ___1. Do you worry about the future?
- ___2. Do you sometimes have trouble falling asleep?
- ___3. Do you often reach for a cigarette, drink or tranquilizer in order to reduce tension?
- ___4. Do you become irritated over basically insignificant matters?
- ___5. Do you have less energy than you seem to need or would like to have?
- ___6. Do you have too many things to do and not enough time to do them?
- ___7. Do you have headaches or stomach problems?
- ___8. Do you feel pressure to accomplish or to get things done?
- ___9. Are you very concerned about either being well-liked or successful?
- ___10. Do you perform well enough in life to satisfy yourself?
- ___11. Do you get satisfaction from the small joys or simple pleasures of life?
- ___12. Are you able to really relax and have fun?

Scoring: 1 point for a YES answer to 1-9 or NO answer to 10-12. A score of 4 or more suggests that you may be under significant stress.

Common misconceptions

- **We always know when we are under stress.** We can become so used to feeling stress that we are unaware of it. Stress can affect our relationships with others or even damage our bodies even in the absence of feelings of frustration or anxiety.
- **Stress only affects those who lead high-pressure lives.** Many ordinary individuals experience the constant stress of worry, leading unfulfilled lives, or of not being what they would like to be.
- **The only way to lower stress is to change your surround-**

ings or take medication.

Changing your outlook on life is the most reliable and effective way of reducing stress. Is the glass half empty or half full? The outlook you choose determines your stress.

- **Stress is caused by events that happen to us.** It is not events in themselves that cause our distress, but rather the views we take of events.
- **Emotions have a will of their own and cannot be controlled.** We can change our feeling by first changing our behavior or by changing our thinking. For example, getting some work done can keep us from worrying about it. Creating a new understanding of a situation can make it less threatening or stressful.

If you find yourself experiencing significant stress, you may find it useful to engage in balancing activities such as exercise, social or creative activities, meditation, yoga, religious practices or anything you consider fun and enriching. Getting enough sleep and eating right also are important factors. □

Resource Counselor Ali Kane (top) provides confidential, free counseling and stress reduction services — including yoga and meditation classes — to the law school community. Contact her at 392-0499 or alikane@ufl.edu for an appointment. Counseling also is available through the Counseling Center or Student Mental Health Services on campus. If an after-hours crisis occurs, contact the Alachua County Crisis Center at 334-0888.



Malpractice Reform Panel

Florida Law Review hosted a panel discussion at the law school Nov. 6 on "The Future of Med Mal: Is the Malpractice Insurance, Liability, and Litigation Reform Act the Right Prescription for Florida?" The panel brought together advocates from all sides of the debate to discuss the impact of the medical malpractice reform bill and critical challenges facing Florida's medical and insurance industries.

Florida Law Review Editor-in-Chief Ben Diamond (at podium) introduced the panelists, who included (from left) Senator Rod Smith; C. Rufus Pennington, III, Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers; Tallahassee Lawyer and Lobbyist Mark Delegal of Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell and Dunbar; Carl "Rick" Lentz, M.D., president of the Florida Medical Association; and UF College of Law Professor Lyrissa Lidsky. Dean Emeritus and former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Jon Mills moderated the discussion.

UF LAW CALENDAR

See Calendars Online at www.law.ufl.edu

November

- 17 • LCC General Board Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 296 HOL
- 18 • ELULS Speaker Steve Robitaille, 6 p.m., Bailey Courtroom
- 19 • Brown Bag Lunch, "Speak Out: Have We Grown Since Virgil Hawkins?" Noon, 297 HOL
- ETELS Elections & Meeting, 5 p.m., 350 HOL
- 20 • Flu Shots, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Concourse
- Business Law Student Reception, 5 p.m., Faculty Dining Room
- 21 • Faculty Enrichment, LIC Director Kathie Price, "Books, Bricks & Bytes: Legal Information Services for the Decade," Noon, Faculty Dining Room
- 25 • Swamp Caucus Meeting With Speaker Rep. Larry Cretul, 11 a.m.-Noon, Faculty Dining Room
- 26 • Classes End

December

- 1 • Exam/Reading Period Begins
- 9 • Alachua County Law Alumni Holiday Party, 6-8 p.m., Jerry Home
- 12 • Exam/Reading Period Ends
- 19 • Law School Graduation, 2 p.m., O'Connell Center. Reception follows at O'Dome.
- 25 • Christmas Holiday

January

- 5 • Intro to the Profession