

FlaLaw

University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law Newsletter • Vol. 8, No. 7 • October 4, 2004

Events & Opportunities

Opportunities in Estate Planning & Elder Law Program Wednesday

The Estates, Trusts and Elder Law Society and Center for Career Services will co-sponsor a program on "Estate Planning and Elder Law Opportunities" at noon Wednesday, Oct. 6, in 355B. Speakers will include Professor C. Douglas Miller, director of the UF law Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning; Jean Sperbeck, senior staff attorney for the Probate Division of the Eighth Judicial Circuit; and practicing attorney Carla DeLoach Bryant. Refreshments will be served. For information, e-mail ETELS President Johanna Dewberry at hannadew@yahoo.com.

Support Your Class & College

The Fall 2004 Class Gift Team will be at tables on the concourse Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 5-7. Stop by to learn how your graduating class gift can help support areas of your choice at the law school, while enabling you to "give back" in a

memorable and meaningful way. For information, e-mail Lauren Cury at LaurenCury@aol.com.

ABA-LSD Basketball Tournament

The American Bar Association-Law Student Division (ABA-LSD) basketball tournament is Nov. 7, and early registration begins this week. ABA officers will be at tables on the concourse this month to sign up student teams, or e-mail bufhouse@ufl.edu for information. If you join ABA-LSD online at www.abanet.org/join/lld_enroll/lld_enroll.cfm, you become eligible for prizes, and get discounted tournament registration.

Cariblaw Meeting Oct. 7

Cariblaw will meet 4:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, in 285D. For information, e-mail Keisha Aldrea Usher at kusher@ufl.edu.

Improve Skills at Toastmasters

Florida Law Toastmasters Public Speaking Organization will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, in 345. Observers and newcomers welcome. For information, e-mail Florida Law Toastmasters President Ray Dominick at r12345@ufl.edu. □

Florida Supreme Court Justices Here Friday for Moot Final Four

Justices of the Florida Supreme Court will be at the law school this Friday, Oct. 8, to judge the Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Team's Fall 2004 Final Four Competition. The event begins promptly at noon in the college's new Ceremonial Classroom (180A).

"For the first time in a long time, the entire Florida Supreme Court will be here to judge," said Team Publicity Chair Megan Cloninger Sladek.

All are invited to watch the competition in person — you are advised to come early to get a seat — or observe it via video broadcast in 285C.

The team, named in honor of the late Florida Supreme Court justice and devoted alumnus, participates in intramural, state and national appellate competitions.

Details are online at <http://ufmootcourt.org/>, or available from Faculty Team Advisors Henry T. Wihnyk, Legal Skills Professor & Director, Legal Research, Writing, & Appellate Advocacy, and/or Legal Skills Professor Leanne Pflaum, both at 392-2198.

Chief Judge Calls on UF Law Students to Defend Independent Judiciary

Eighth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Stan R. Morris (UF JD 71) called on an audience of 70-plus law students to defend the independence of the judiciary during a Sept. 20 presentation at the law school. The program, "Activist Judges: Who Are They?" was presented by Law Students for the Integrity of the Judicial System (LSIJS).

"You are a fundamental part of the judicial branch," Morris told the group. "When you walk out of this building with that diploma, and you go out and practice law, you're going to be part of the debate. You're going to have to make up your mind as to your role in encouraging society to have the kind of judiciary that you believe the Founders envisioned. You have to act in such a way, you have to pursue your profession in such a way, you have to encounter the public in such a way, that you will contribute to the respect that the rest of society has for this branch of government. We don't have any power as judges except that which the public is willing to recognize and give us."

Students also are invited to attend a roundtable discussion with Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead (UF JD 63) at 4 p.m. this Friday, Oct. 8, in 285A (reception following). The discussion will focus on "Partisan Pressure on Judicial Independence."

Excerpts from Morris' speech — which touched on Federalist Paper No. 78, judicial independence and law students, activist judging and "gag" orders, crime scene photographs, investigation of judicial rulings, federal sentencing guidelines, the Florida Legislature and rules-making power, and checks and balances — and information on LSIJS is online at www.lsijs.org. □



Judge Stan Morris (left) and LSIJS President Joshua Koehler



Date Set for 2005 Environmental Conference

The 2005 Public Interest Environmental Conference has been scheduled for Feb. 24-26 at UF's J. Wayne Reitz Union. The annual event is coordinated by the Environmental and Land Use Law Society, and last year drew 400-plus participants and featured best-selling novelist/columnist Carl Hiaasen as keynote banquet speaker. For details, e-mail Ashley Cross-Rappaport at cross711@ufl.edu or Adam Regar at aregar@ufl.edu. Also scheduled for 2005:

- Fourth Annual Richard E. Nelson Symposium, Feb. 10-11 (tentative), Hilton UF Conference Center. Organized by Professor Michael Allan Wolf.
- Fourth Annual Law & Technology Conference, Feb. 24-25, Sheraton World Resort, Orlando. Organized by Intellectual Property Law Program Director Thomas Cotter.
- Race and Law Curriculum Workshop, Feb. 24-26, Hilton UF Conference Center. Organized by Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations.
- Sixth Annual Conference on Legal and Policy Issues in the Americas, Gainesville. Spring 2005. Organized by Center for Governmental Responsibility.
- "Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration: What Does It Mean and How Does It Work?" Center on Children and Families fourth annual conference. 2005.

Look for information in future FlaLaws, or contact Director of Conference Planning Barbara DeVoe (devoe@law.ufl.edu or 392-9238).

Career Services, Resources & Opportunities

Register Now for Equal Justice Works Career Fair & Conference

Students interested in attending the Equal Justice Works Career Fair and Conference, Thursday-Friday, Oct. 28-29, at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C. **must** pre-register with Career Services as soon as possible.

Events will include individual and group interviews, career development, and substantive law sessions. Last year, nearly 200 employers and 1,200-plus students and graduates from across the country participated, and offered a unique opportunity to meet and interview in a single location.

Equal Justice Works (formerly The National Association for Public Interest Law) was founded in 1986 by law students dedicated to surmounting barriers to equal justice that affect millions of low-income individuals and families. Today, Equal Justice Works leads the country in organizing, training and supporting public service-minded law students, and in creating summer and postgraduate public interest jobs. Through annual donations totaling \$8 million-plus from law firms, corporations and foundations, Equal Justice Works funds law students and lawyers in programs that help millions of low-income individuals and families.

If you cannot attend, visit the Web site — www.equaljusticeworks.org — for information on employers attending, summer and permanent employment opportunities, and how to finance a public interest career.

Experience Counts

Grades are important, but they don't mean everything when it comes to employment. If you are interested in pursuing a career in public interest law, experience and motivation are more important than grades.

In addition, the public interest law community is tight-knit. Experience helps you get to know the people and organizations, and being in the right place at the right time is key to obtaining a public interest job.

One difference in the public interest job search process is that jobs cannot be predicted very far in advance. Being "in" with the organization — often as a volunteer — enables you to be known to the organization as someone who could fill the opening. Experience also helps you become more competent. Your resume may suggest competence, but working with particular organizations demonstrates it.

Finally, if you are passionate about a particular issue, having experience with related organizations can assist in your development of expertise in the area.

All in all, experience helps develop maturity, no matter what area of law you hope to pursue.

Public Interest vs. Pro Bono

All pro bono is public interest, but not all public interest is pro bono. Public interest law is the field encompassing service to the people through non-profit organizations, government work, direct legal services and even policy and legislative work. Pro bono is volunteer legal work done in the public interest. Volunteering for a law firm, while a valuable experience, is not pro bono in that it does not reach the larger goal of bringing services to an under-served or under-represented individual or group.

The UF Pro Bono Project offers local placements that provide valuable experience in assisting with children's issues, prisoners' rights, and general concerns of people with low incomes, including

(Career Services Continues Page 3)

Protocol for Judicial Offers

When a judge tenders an offer to you, you will be expected to accept immediately. (You can, however, request 24 hours for consideration.)

Once you accept an offer or decide you are no longer interested in clerking for a particular judge, all other judges to whom you applied expect immediate notification.

For example, "Please withdraw my application from further consideration for the position of judicial law clerk to begin in August 2005. I have accepted a position with the U.S. Department of Justice, Attorney General's Honors Program, to begin in May. Thank you for your consideration."

Nothing will tarnish your professional reputation faster than not withdrawing from consideration and putting a judge in the embarrassing position of calling you with an offer or interview request only to learn that you will be clerking for their colleague or are no longer interested.

When you accept an offer, write to your judge to formally accept the clerkship, even after accepting orally. This letter should be brief and succinct. Confirm the dates and state that you look forward to working with him or her in the coming year.

For guidance or assistance, contact either CCS Assistant Director Carol Kuczora or Assistant Dean Linda Calvert Hanson in the Center for Career Services at 392-0499. Also, please let CCS know if you get a clerkship, since this information must be reported to Dean Robert Jerry. □



(Career Services, Continued)

access to public benefits, landlord tenant issues and more. There also are many other opportunities to do pro bono work in your hometown or elsewhere during breaks from school. To participate or for more information, see Director Jessie Howell Wallace in Career Services.

Fellowships: Post-Grad & Law School

Historically, law fellowships were designed solely to provide law graduates with employment for a prescribed number of years following graduation. Today, fellowships also may be available to law students for summer or a year-long program.

These highly competitive paid fellowships are funded through various sources and match law students or graduates with public service organizations or with law school programs. Areas include civil and human rights, legal services to the disadvantaged, children and women's issues, immigrants and immigration, innocence projects, farm workers, environmental and wilderness issues and more.

Deadlines for many opportunities occur in the fall. To learn more, visit the PSLawNet "Fellowship Corner," top of the left sidebar menu at www.pslawnet.org/. This resource includes a calendar of fellowship application deadlines, a PDF version of Yale's *Fellowship Application Tips and Fellowship and Grant Resources*, as well as Georgetown University Law Center's *Post-Graduate International Fellowship Guide*.

Professionalism Vital During Callback & Offer Process

It is critical that students remain professional and respectful of legal employers and classmates during the callback and offer stage of the recruitment process. Don't be labeled as someone who wasted legal employers' time and resources without a legitimate reason. Hoarding callbacks and holding open multiple offers can damage your reputation in the legal community, since recruiters often share information. If you are holding one or more offers, it is to your professional benefit to:

- Make timely decisions.
- Promptly and graciously decline callbacks or offers from firms you are no longer seriously considering.
- Maintain contact with the firm to keep them apprised of your status and to re-affirm your continued interest.
- Schedule time with Director Jessie Howell Wallace or Assistant Dean Linda Calvert Hanson to talk through your options and concerns and/or receive answers to your recruiting questions.

Alternative Careers: Government Opportunities

If you are interested in a government career, 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 (Username radish, password red1).

Federal government jobs offer excellent benefits and a chance to gain substantial experience early in your career. Many agencies 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, make an appointment to see a counselor in Career Services.

Stay tuned for next week's article on small and medium sized firm opportunities.

New Information on CCS Web Site

Visit Career Services' Web site often to check for new and updated information. Many CCS handouts are now online — including information on resumes, cover letters, receptions and more — in the "Career Resources" section.

The "Employment Links" section offers links to career development and job listing Web sites, including sports and media agencies, child advocacy groups, and corporate agencies, and a comprehensive list of links to courts, prosecutors and defenders, and county attorneys in Florida was recently added.

As always, information on judicial clerkships, pro bono, and the fall program schedule is available under "Students."

Programs This Week

- **One Quick Question, Tuesday, Oct. 5, 9:30-11 a.m.** Ask Director Jessie Howell Wallace at the CCS table in the courtyard about pro bono, resumes, cover letters, deadlines, externships, OCI, job searches, interviews, receptions or other career-related topics.
- **Estate Planning and Elder Law Opportunities, Wednesday, Oct. 6, noon, in 355D.** Co-sponsored by the Estates, Trusts and Elder Law Society (ETELS). (Details in announcement on page 1.) Gain a better understanding about this practice area and learn how become competitive in this field.
- **Maximizing Your Career Possibilities, Learning to Work Your Contacts, Friday, Oct. 8, noon, in Bailey Courtroom.** Co-sponsored by LEXIS. Learn creative ways to make contacts or better utilize your current contacts, as well as "tricks of the trade" that have worked for many law students in the past. □

Study in London

UF law students now can study abroad in London if they apply by Oct. 15 for this year's program.

UF has joined the London Law Consortium, which is administered by the University of Iowa College of Law and offers a semester study program in London to students of its member schools.

Classes are held at FSU's London facilities during spring semester. Most courses are taught by visiting Consortium faculty members resident in London, with courses on the English Legal System and Law of the European Union taught by law lecturers from British universities.

Details on courses, instructors and more are available from Noemar Castro in Student Affairs (castro@law.ufl.edu or 392-0421).



Attend Writing Workshops

Writing Professor Lois Randolph will offer writing workshops Fridays at 11 a.m. in 285D on the following dates:

- Oct. 8 (Modification)
- Oct. 22 (Word Choice)
- Oct. 29 (Punctuation)

Submit News for FlaLaw

FlaLaw is published each week school is in session. Submit news of interest to the law school community by 10 a.m. Tuesday for the following Monday's issue to Editor Debra Amirin, amirin@law.ufl.edu, Levin College of Law Dean's Office, Phone 352-392-9238, Fax 352-392-8727.

Get FlaLaw — in full color — via e-mail each Friday before Monday's publication. Send your request to amirin@law.ufl.edu.

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- J. Michael Patrick, Assistant Dean for Admissions
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Faculty Scholarship & Activities



Gordon

■ Chesterfield Smith Professor Michael W. Gordon has been appointed by Canada and the United States to a bi-national panel organized under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The case involves allegations by U.S. durum wheat producers that Canadian durum wheat exported to the U.S. was produced with the support of subsidies provided by the Canadian government in violation of NAFTA. The panel includes two Canadians and two other Americans, and hearings will be held in Washington, D.C. This is Gordon's fourth appointment to a NAFTA panel, with previous cases dealing with Mexico and Canada.



Perea

■ Professor Juan Francisco Perea's book, *Race and Races: Cases and Resources for a Diverse America* (2nd edition, with Richard Delgado, Angela Harris, Jean Stefancic and Stephanie Wildman) is forthcoming in 2005. He participated this summer in the opening plenary session of the national conference of the Education Conference of the States, where he debated Stephen Thernstrom (Harvard), Abigail Thernstrom (Manhattan Institute) and Ron Ferguson (Harvard) on a reassessment of *Brown v. Board of Education*. He also participated in an interdisciplinary online dialogue with several leading scholars, later published as "Brown and Its Impact on Schools and American Life: A Dialogue," Vol. 19, No. 2 *Focus on Law Studies*, Spring 2004 (Division for Public Education of the American Bar Association). □

• UF LAW CALENDAR •

October

- 5 • Career Services, I Quick Question, 9:30-11 a.m., courtyard
- Class Gift Table, on concourse through Thursday
- 6 • Career Services & ETELS, Estate Planning & Elder Law Opportunities, noon, 355D
- Toastmasters, 5 p.m., 345
- "Meditation in the Fishbowl," 5:15-6 p.m., 355A
- 7 • Cariblaw Meeting, 4:30-5:30 p.m., 285D
- 8 • Writing Workshop, 11 a.m., 285D
- Moot Court Final Four, noon, Ceremonial Classroom (180A)
- Career Services & Lexis, Maximizing Career Possibilities: Working Your Contacts, noon, Bailey Courtroom
- Roundtable discussion on "Partisan Pressure on Judicial Independence" with Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead, 4 p.m., 285A
- 11 • Criminal Law Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Place TBA)
- 12 • Career Services, I Quick Question, 9:30-11 a.m., courtyard
- 13 • Career Services, Careers in International Law, noon, 355D
- Toastmasters, 5 p.m., 345
- "Meditation in the Fishbowl," 5:15-6 p.m., 355A
- 15 • Career Services, Maximizing your Professional Approach: Professionalism & Etiquette, noon, Bailey Courtroom
- JMBA Casino Night
- 19 • Career Services, I Quick Question, 9:30-11 a.m., courtyard
- 20 • Toastmasters, 5 p.m., 345
- "Meditation in the Fishbowl," 5:15-6 p.m., 103 Bruton-Geer
- Career Services, BLSA, PMBR, Preparing for the Final Mile: Bar Application & Exam Information, 5-7 p.m., cafeteria
- 22 • Writing Workshop, 11 a.m., 285D
- Career Services and CLA: Legal Careers in Criminal Law, noon, Bailey Courtroom
- 25 • Criminal Law Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Place TBA)
- Advanced registration for Spring 2005 Semester begins, ends Nov. 5
- 26 • Career Services, I Quick Question, 9:30-11 a.m., courtyard



December 2004 Graduating Students: Pictures This Week, Order Regalia

The Levin College of Law's Fall 2004 commencement ceremony will begin at 3 p.m., Friday, Dec. 17, at the Center for Performing Arts (pictured above). If you are graduating, note:

- If you have not completed a Graduation Check, make an appointment as soon as possible with Kim Thomas in Student Affairs to do so.
- Senior photographs will be taken this Tuesday & Wednesday, Oct. 5 & 6, 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m., 212 Bruton-Geer Hall. Please stop by Student Affairs to make your appointment, and be sure to wear court attire (at least on top). If you cannot make these days, make-up times will be posted later.
- Order your regalia by Oct. 15. The Cap & Gown order form was e-mailed to students, and also is available in Student Affairs. (Note that information sent from the main campus about ordering regalia does not apply to law students.) You may **not** order regalia over the phone. If you miss the deadline for ordering regalia, you will be charged a late fee.
- Stop by the Class Gift table on the concourse Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 5-7, to learn more about supporting your class and your school.

For more information about graduation, contact Kim Thomas (thomaskl@law.ufl.edu). □

An updated Fall 2004-05 Levin College of Law Faculty Enrichment Speaker Schedule, including Spring 2005 events, is now available online at www.law.ufl.edu/faculty/enrichment.shtml.