

Congressman to Speak at Graduation

A veteran legislator and UF law alumnus will be the keynote speaker at graduation ceremonies for the Levin College of Law Dec. 16.

Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-Tarpon Springs) is a 1963 graduate of the law school and a senior member of the Florida delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives.

A member of the House since 1983, Bilirakis is vice-chairman of the Veterans Affairs and Energy and Commerce committees.

The *National Journal's Almanac of American Politics* has described Bilirakis as one of "the most legislatively productive" members of Congress.

Among other legislative accomplishments, he helped draft the House version of the 2003 Medicare bill, which created a prescription drug benefit for Medicare recipients; secured resources for Florida



Bilirakis



veterans, including \$44 million for a spinal cord injury unit in Tampa; and authored or sponsored a number of significant bills on health care, including the Nurse Reinvestment Act, the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act, and the Organ Donation Improvement Act.

"It's an honor to have so accomplished a legislator on campus to speak to our newest group of graduates," Dean Robert Jerry said. "Rep. Bilirakis serves as a good example of how much a person can accomplish with a law degree from UF."

About 150 law students are expected to graduate in the ceremony, which will be held at 3 p.m. at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Nominate a Speaker Today

Graduating seniors have until 6 p.m. today, Nov. 21, to nominate members of their class to speak at the law school's Dec. 16 graduation. Submit your nominations to johnsons@law.ufl.edu.

Support Your Class Gift

Members of the Fall 2005 graduating class have pledged approximately \$40,000 to this year's class gift so far.

Graduating seniors still have time to make a pledge – and help the Class Gift Committee raise the additional \$20,000 it needs to reach its fundraising goal.

All members of the class are invited to the committee's pizza party in the Marcia Schott Courtyard Tuesday, Nov. 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no obligation to give, but pledge forms will be available.

Justice Ginsburg to Visit in 2006

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is expected to visit the Levin College of Law next fall.

Justice Ginsburg is scheduled to speak at the official dedication ceremony for the Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom, one of a series of events to be held Sept. 21-22, 2006.



Ginsburg

For more information on the visit, check future issues of *FlaLaw*.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Career Services
- 4 Events and Opportunities
- 8 Calendar

Professors Discuss the 'Race Card'

5

Seeking Storm's Silver Lining

8



Get FlaLaw Via E-Mail

Have FlaLaw delivered to your computer every Friday – days before the rest of the world sees it. Send an e-mail to lockette@law.ufl.edu and ask to be added to the FlaLaw PDF list.

Graduating Seniors: Submit Information

If you're graduating in December and have not yet submitted information for the commencement program, please do so as soon as possible.

Even if you don't plan to walk at the ceremony, Student Affairs staff need to know about your honors, extracurricular activities and other information to make the commencement program accurate and complete.

To update your information, contact Sarah Carswell at carswell@law.ufl.edu or 273-0623.



CAREER SERVICES

Hints to help you in the legal profession

Career Services: Debunking the Myths

Still wondering what you will do with your law degree at the end of your three years? Thinking about pursuing an LL.M., choosing a smaller law firm, joining the state attorney's office or becoming a judicial law clerk? Whether you are a 1L, 2L, 3L or LL.M. candidate, there are steps you should be taking while in school to make the transition from law school to practice – and to a practice that fosters not only continual growth but also profound personal fulfillment.

The Center for Career Services can help you in laying this foundation. Surprised to hear that? You shouldn't be. Still, every semester, Career Services staff meet students who are just learning what the center can do for them – students who wish they had come by earlier in their law school careers. Here are some of the myths that have kept students from using this valuable resource properly.

Myth No. 1:

Finding work won't be a problem because Career Services will place me in a job.

This is a popular misconception. Career Services exists to teach students how to conduct a job search and find a satisfying job. This is a skill that will serve you throughout your career, not just immediately after graduation. Statistics show that, in most cases, a law graduate's first employer is rarely his or her last.

The search for satisfying work



On-campus interviews like this one can be a great way to meet employers from major firms and government agencies – but Career Services has more to offer than just OCI. Drop in and find out what the center can do for you.

requires a significant amount of time, energy and diligence. The first step is to ask yourself the right questions and develop an understanding of the type of work you're looking for. This kind of soul searching is something only you can do.

You've heard the saying: *If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day, but if you teach him to fish, you feed him forever.* Learning to "fish" for jobs may seem like a lot more trouble than having one handed to you, but it will be worth it in the long run.

Myth No. 2:

I can't go see a Career Services counselor because I don't know what type of law I want to practice and therefore don't know what questions to ask.

This is exactly why you *should* come in to speak with a professional career counselor. Every

counselor in Career Services has graduated from law school. They have all been in your shoes, and they understand how difficult it can be to identify a goal and not know how to obtain it, or to not know which direction to go once you are in law school. These counselors can guide you through the process and help you concentrate on determining which path or paths to pursue.

Myth No. 3:

Career Services is only useful to people at the top of their class, such as OCI participants or clerkship candidates.

Don't be fooled by this line of thinking. Both OCI and judicial clerkships are high-profile programs at the law campus. It's easy to get the impression that this is all Career Services does. While these are options for some students, the majority of law stu-

dents will not gain employment through OCI or become judicial law clerks. This means that there are lots of other options available to you. Many employers are much more interested in your moot court, trial team or legal experiences. All students should be building their resumes with legal experience while in law school. Think about pro bono work, externships, internships or clinics as options to pursue while you are in law school. Career Services can help you find opportunities in all these areas.

Myth No. 4:

There's plenty of time. I'll be sure to drop by the Career Services office right before I graduate and they'll help me then.

When you're just beginning law school, three years of high intensity study can seem like an eternity. While you're multi-tasking your way through this ordeal, however, you find that the deadlines whiz by with shocking speed. If you aren't careful, graduation can rush up to meet you before you're even remotely ready.

Maintaining a high academic standard is only one of the goals you should have in law school. It is in your best interest to build your legal credentials as soon as possible and to continue to expand on them as you finish your JD. The experience you obtain while in law school can lead to opportunities upon graduation and beyond. One legal experience tends to lead to the next, either directly or indirectly. It is very challenging to begin to build

employment momentum in your fifth or sixth semester. The earlier you begin, the better.

Myth No. 5:

Career Services keeps talking about "networking this" and "networking that." I don't really need to network to land a post-grad position.

Networking has become a tricky concept for some law students. It is, however, the backbone of any search for a legal position. Many of the positions available in the legal market will never show up in a publication or on a job bank. They are generally offered by word of mouth. This means that there are times in the legal field when it truly *is* who you know, or being in the right place at the right time, that lands you the job. Students who make the most of their contacts and then network off those contacts will be leaps and bounds ahead of a recent graduate who has no legal experience or is an unknown

in the legal community. If you want to learn more about informational interviews or networking, call for an appointment with a Career Services counselor.

The Center for Career Services is a resource available to all students after their first few months of law school. Like any resource, it serves you only as much as you use it. The center's mission is to teach, guide and facilitate your career planning. This process includes not only building your legal credentials, but also exploring different options both within and beyond the legal profession, as well as serving as a general resource base. Optimally, students should come in early during their law school career and continue with regular visits to expand and modify their individual approach to obtaining employment after graduation.

Start Your Career with the Attorney General

The Florida Attorney General's Office provides opportunities for aspiring law school graduates to begin their careers in an active and diverse practice environment.

Third-year students and recent law grads must apply by Dec. 31 for these positions, which offer a competitive salary. Selected attorneys will be placed with a mentor and work for approximately six months each with the Antitrust Division, the Criminal Division (Appeals), the Economic Crimes Unit and the state's lead litigator, the Solicitor General. The total commitment is two years.

For full details, go to [www. Myfloridalegal.com](http://www.Myfloridalegal.com) and look under "employment & internship."



Graduating in December?

Have yet to accept an offer? Have questions about employment options? Please schedule an appointment with a Career Services attorney counselor *now*. They can help you.

Summer Clerkship Job Fair

The Nashville Bar Association's Damali Booker 1L Minority Summer Clerkship Job Fair will be held Feb. 25, 2006, in Nashville, Tennessee. This job fair involves recruitment and screening of applicants for summer clerkships with firms and organizations. All interested candidates are encouraged to send a resume, writing sample and law school transcript no later than Jan. 25 to the Nashville Bar Association, 315 Union Street, Suite 800, Nashville, TN 37201, Attention: Traci Hollandsworth. For more information, go to www.nashbar.org.



Scholarship Available

Applications for the William L. Graddy Law School Scholarship are available at the front desk in the Student Affairs Office. Applicants for the \$1,000 scholarship must 1) have completed their first year of law school; 2) have a GPA of 2.8 or higher, or be in the top 25 percent of their class; 3) have been a resident of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry or Lee counties for at least three years; and 4) demonstrate financial need.

Civil Liberties Fellowship Available

Applications are now available for the Robert Masur Fellowship in Civil Liberties, a \$1,000 fellowship that is open to students who intend to carry out significant activities during the summer in the areas of civil rights and civil liberties. Proposed activities include writing or research projects, work with public interest organizations, or work on civil liberties cases under the supervision of a faculty member or lawyer. For more information, inquire at the front desk in Student Affairs.



EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Costa Rica Meeting Tuesday

Students interested in summer study in Costa Rica should attend an informational meeting on the UF/University of Costa Rica joint program, held Tuesday, Nov. 22, at noon in 285A.

Interested students also can contact Program Director Tom Ankersen at ankersen@law.ufl.edu or 273-0840.

Republicans Hold Final Meeting

The Law School Republicans will hold their last meeting of the semester Tuesday, Nov. 22, at noon in room 285D. The featured speaker will be UF law alumnus Travis Horn, a candidate for the District 14 seat in the State Senate. Free pizza will be served in the courtyard immediately following the meeting.

Pizza with the Dean

Students will be able to share concerns, questions and comments with Dean Robert Jerry during "Pizza with the Dean" at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, in the faculty dining room. To reserve a seat, RSVP to robinsons@law.ufl.edu.

Trial Team Welcomes New Members

The UF Trial Team welcomes its new executive board, which will take office next semester. Board members include President Carson Lange, Vice President of Intramurals Justin Mazzara, Vice President of Administration Cecily McLeod, Senior Vice President of Intramurals Schnell

Tongue, Junior Vice Presidents of Intramurals Sarah Stoddard and Brandy Grant, Vice Presidents of Education Rogers Walker and Hugh Rowe, Vice President of Alumni Affairs Jason Siegel, Vice Presidents of Publicity Thomas Allison and Oshia Gainer and Vice President of Communication Kelly Johnson.

Law Student Athlete Honored

Law student James "Jet" Theriac (1L) was recently honored as Student of the Week by the Gator Boosters.

In addition to his law school studies, Theriac is a member of UF's track team. He is also an active member of the Goodwill Gator program, a community service organization for student athletes; through the program, Theriac has spoken to elementary school children about the importance of literacy, visited patients at Shands Hospital, and coached several youth teams.

'Risky Business' Wins Softball Challenge

The Laughing Heirs (Associate Professor Lee-ford Tritt's Estates and Trusts class) challenged Risky Business, LLC (Associate Professor Michael Siebecker's Business Organizations class) to a test of "wills" on the softball field at the Southwest Recreation Center Nov. 11. The bleachers were packed to capacity with fans from both classes. Associate Dean Pat Shannon and Assistant Professor Andrea Matwyshyn made special guest appearances to heckle both teams. The Laughing Heirs got out to an early start under the leadership of co-captains Laura Post and Adam Spunberg; but after an action-packed seven innings of play, Risky Business co-captains Dina Finkel and Matt Klotshche led their classmates to a 21-18 victory.



This Thanksgiving, Feed 'Nessie'

Phi Delta Phi is conducting a Thanksgiving food drive in the west entrance to the law school. Bring non-perishable food to the organization's table, near the recently installed artwork (the sculpture with the "I'm Nessie" sign). The food drive, which will help replenish food banks depleted by recent natural disasters, continues through Tuesday, Nov. 22.



Panel Examines ‘Race Card’

BY REBECCA MARCI BROWN

What does it mean to “play the race card?” Are minorities the only ones who do it?

When is it “appropriate” to raise issues of race in a political debate?

Nearly 100 students and professors gathered Nov. 9 to engage in substantive dialogue about these and other important issues of race and race relations raised by a series of controversial cartoons published in *The Independent Florida Alligator*.

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans – and after rapper Kanye West publicly accused the Bush Administration of neglecting storm victims because of their race – *Alligator* cartoonist Andy Marlette penned a cartoon on the debate. The cartoon depicted West holding up a “race card” to a disbelieving Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who addressed West using the “n-word.”

The cartoon sparked controversy on campus. Professor Kathryn Russell-Brown, director of the law school’s Center on the Study of Race and Race Relations, saw the event as not just a scandal, but a teachable moment – a chance to talk about racial issues and assumptions that too often go unexamined.

Professor Kenneth Nunn, a member of the panel, said the controversy about the cartoon was generated not by the use



Faculty and students tackled thorny issues of race, politics and appropriate speech at a forum on ‘Playing the Race Card’ Nov. 9. The forum was sponsored by the Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations.

of the “n-word,” but by the context in which the word was used.

“I could say ‘honey’ to my wife,” he said. “But it would be disrespectful for someone else to call her that or for me to call my colleague that.”

The most objectionable thing about the cartoon, Nunn said, was not its use of a “forbidden” word, but its suggestion that West’s statement was inappropriate.

Professor Sharon Rush cautioned that a fear of being called a racist often chills speech about racial issues, and asked people to consider the reasons why the cartoon was considered offensive. Rush, who is white, confessed that she believed she understood racial issues until she adopted her daughter, who is black, and began to see the world through

her eyes. (Rush authored a book, *Loving Across the Color Line: a White Adoptive Mother Learns About Race*, describing some of the lessons she has learned.)

Professor Pedro Malavet noted that before the 1980s, the phrase “race card” had meaning only for people who bet on horses, though it is now used to silence debate on racial issues.

Dean Robert H. Jerry II emphasized the need for candid conversation about socially constructed categories, including race.

“Words matter,” he said. “Language is powerful and significant. As lawyers, we use words everyday and need to use them with precision and accuracy, or else we create stereotypes, half truths and misrepresentations.”

Kennedy to Speak at Environmental Conference

Timely environmental topics – global warming, children and the environment, beach re-nourishment, and rhetoric and the environment – will be debated by some heavy hitters at this year’s Public Interest Environmental Conference March 9-11, 2006.

Speakers include National Geographic explorer and renowned oceanographer Sylvia Earle, former EPA administrator Carol Browner (JD 79), University of Maryland Professor Rena Steinzor, Tulane University Professor Oliver Houck, University of Houston Professor Marcilynn Burke and University of Virginia Professor Jonathan Cannon.

Other invited speakers include Georgetown Law Professor Edith Brown Weiss and Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

The conference is organized by the Environmental and Land Use Law Society, which is joining forces this year with the National Association of Environmental Law Societies and the UF Center for Children’s Literature and Culture to create a more diverse schedule of panelists and speakers.

For more information, go to www.law.ufl.edu/elulp/index.htm.



PEOPLE SCHOLARSHIP & ACTIVITIES



FenSom



Fenster



Hernandez-Truyol



Hutchison



Mazur



McMahon



Nagan



Rowe

Scholarship & Activities

Law and Policy in the Americas Program Director **Meredith FenSom** participated in “Seminaro Interamericano: Claves Para Una Reforma a la Justicia Civil (Inter-American Seminar: Keys to Civil Justice Reform)” held Nov. 10- 11 in Santiago, Chile, where she presented her model and proposal for the establishment of small claims courts in Chile.

Associate Professor **Mark Fenster** delivered a talk entitled, “Making Sense of Federal Constitutional Takings After the 2004-05 U.S. Supreme Court Term,” to the Florida Association of Eminent Domain Professionals Oct. 27 in Tampa.

Levin, Mabie and Levin Professor **Berta Hernandez-Truyol** published her article, “Cuba and Good Governance,” in 14 *Transnational Law & Contemporary*

Problems 655.

Director of Admissions **Lewis Hutchison** published his article, “Give Us the Details: Understanding the Law School Resume,” in the Oct. 2005 issue of *The Advisor*.

Research Foundation Professor **Diane H. Mazur** spoke at Boston College Law School Nov. 11 as part of a panel on “*Rumsfeld v. FAIR* and the Limits of Expressive Association.” This full-day conference examined the pending Solomon Amendment litigation in the U.S. Supreme Court. Mazur also was quoted in a story on the conference in the Nov. 14 issue of *BC Heights*.

Clarence J. TeSelle Professor **Martin McMahon** spoke to the University of Virginia School of Law’s Tax Study Group Nov. 11 on the topic, “The President’s Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform Proposals to Fix America’s

Tax System.”

At the request of the UF International Center, Samuel T. Dell Research Scholar **Winston Nagan** was honored as one of the university’s outstanding international educators in a ceremony Nov. 15.

Assistant Professor **Elizabeth Rowe** was the invited speaker at the Florida Bar Association Computer Law Committee meeting in Orlando Nov. 9. She discussed how computers threaten employers’ trade secrets.

In the News

Legal Skills Professors **Iris Burke** and **Alison Gerencser** were mentioned in the “Law and Order” column in *The Gainesville Sun* Nov. 9. Burke and Gerencser made a presentation on problem solving to the 8th Judicial Circuit’s Family Law Advisory Group.

Affiliate Professor **Bill Chamberlin** was quoted in an Associated Press article on attempts to modernize New Hampshire’s open records laws for the Internet age. Chamberlin said such laws have worked best when they address specific technologies in detail. The article appeared in the Nov. 15 issue of the *Portsmouth (N.H.) Herald*.

Professors **Michelle Jacobs** and **Kenneth Nunn** were mentioned in *The Gainesville Guardian’s* Nov. 10 coverage of a recent panel on racial profiling and police brutality.

Affiliate Professor **James Nicholas** was quoted in a Nov. 14 *St. Petersburg Times* story about the growing number of Florida counties that have adopted school impact fees on new construc-

Nelson Symposium Inspires Book

With the Supreme Court in flux and the political winds shifting in other branches of government, the future of some of the most basic of America’s environmental laws is in question. A new book, inspired by a debate at UF last year, brings some of the brightest minds in environmental law to bear on the question of how to save 30 years of ecological progress.

In *Strategies for Environmental Success in an Uncertain Judicial Climate*, edited by Richard E. Nelson Professor Michael Allan Wolf, legal scholars propose innovative approaches to defending environmental law in an era when many regulations are vulnerable to attack on federalism, takings and separation-of-powers grounds. The volume features essays by a dozen environmental law scholars, including UF Professor Alyson Flournoy and Assistant Professor Mary Jane Angelo.

Wolf says the book was inspired by a lively debate that began at the November 2004 Nelson Symposium, which focused on problems in environmental law.



Continued on next page

Dealing With Change

BY NICOLE STERN

Of all the things we face in our lives, the one thing we can be sure of is change.

As the end of the semester nears, we may be experiencing change in our families, school, living environment, within our relationships, and within our selves. This change may be easier to accept under certain circumstances rather than others. Change is usually situational and is often paired with a combination of emotions ranging from sadness to excitement.

No matter what emotion a person experiences as a result of

change, it usually is a sign of an internal reaction to life circumstance, and should be given due attention in order to understand and acknowledge it.

Each individual processes the change he or she is experiencing in a unique way, depending on his or her experience of coming to terms with the new situation.

This process of coming to terms is made easier if the individual is able to let go of the past and start exploring his or her

choices and opportunities.

If the individual is able to take a positive, active approach and anticipate change in order to mentally prepare for the transitions, he or she has a better chance of accepting change and moving on.

If you are having a difficult time overcoming a life transition or change and would like help in working through it, please feel free to contact me, Nicole Nicolaisen Stern (Stern@law.ufl.edu), UF's law school resource counselor. You don't have to go through it alone.



Stern

In the News from page 6

tion. Nicholas said the problem of school capacity is becoming a crisis in fast-growing communities across Florida. The article also appeared in the Nov. 15 issue of *The Lakeland Ledger*.

Assistant Professor **Christopher Peterson** was quoted in a (Salt Lake City) *Deseret Morning News* series, published the week of Nov.

14, on payday lenders and their effect on Utah residents.

Professor **Alyson Flourney**, director of the Environmental and Land Use Law Program, and Richard E. Nelson Professor **Michael Allan Wolf** were quoted in a Nov. 16 *Independent Florida Alligator* story on a panel discussion of ways to rebuild in the wake

of Hurricane Katrina.

The Military Law Students Association's law clinic for veterans was mentioned in the Nov. 7 issue of the *Jacksonville Daily Record*. A photograph of MLSA member **David Oliver** (2L), now serving as a reservist in Afghanistan, appeared in the Nov. 10 issue of *The Gainesville Sun*.



Library Hours to Change

The Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center will close for Thanksgiving, and will operate on a modified schedule through the end of finals. Below are the library's operating hours for the rest of the semester:

Thanksgiving Week

Nov. 23 – 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Nov. 24 – Closed
Nov. 25 – 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
Nov. 26 – Closed

Pre-Finals Period

Nov. 27 – 1 p.m.-1 a.m.
Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 -- 7:30 a.m.-1 a.m.

Finals Period

Dec. 3 – 9 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 4 – 1 p.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 5 - Dec. 9– 7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 10 – 9 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 11 – 1 p.m. – 2 a.m.
Dec. 12 - Dec. 14 – 7:30 a.m. – 2 a.m.
Dec. 15 – 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.



UF LAW

University of Florida
Levin College of Law
Summer Study Abroad
Programs Begin in June

ABA-ACCREDITED STUDY ABROAD

- Environmental law in Costa Rica, including Conservation Clinic field work and field trips
- Business law in Paris and Montpellier, France, including tours of European Union and French legal institutions
- Human rights and cultural studies in Cape Town, South Africa, including tours of Robben Island and networking with local attorneys

Experience the study of law at top universities. One low tuition rate covers all course and administrative expenses. Apply by March 24, 2006. For details, go online to www.law.ufl.edu/students/abroad.

College of Law Administration

- Robert H. Jerry, II, Dean
- George L. Dawson, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- J. Patrick Shannon, Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs
- Lyrisa Barnett Lidsky, Associate Dean for Faculty Development
- Michael K. Friel, Associate Dean & Director, Graduate Tax Program
- Stuart R. Cohn, Associate Dean for International Studies
- M. Kathleen "Kathie" Price, Associate Dean for Library and Technology
- Gail E. Sasnett, Associate Dean for Students, Professionalism and Community Relations
- J. Michael Patrick, Assistant Dean for Admissions
- Linda Calvert Hanson, Assistant Dean for Career Services
- Adrian Jones, Assistant Dean for Diversity and Community Relations
- Jennifer Cope, Interim Assistant Dean for Students
- Debra D. Amirin, Director of Communications
- Donald J. Hale, Senior Director of Development and Alumni Affairs

Send Us Your News

FlaLaw is published each week school is in session by the Levin College of Law Communications Office. Submit news of interest to the law school community by 10 a.m. Tuesday for the following Monday's issue to lockette@law.ufl.edu or 273-0650.

- Tim Lockette, Editor, *FlaLaw*
- Kristen Hines, Photographer



Professors Seek Storm's 'Silver Lining'

BY JULIA KIM
AND DINA FINKEL

While Hurricane Katrina was a natural phenomenon, its destruction was aggravated by governmental policies and actions.

In "The Silver Lining of Hurricane Katrina: Rebuilding to Minimize the Effects of Race, Poverty and Environmental Degradation," a panel co-sponsored by APIL and BLSA, commentators discussed how to change policy to prevent a similar occurrence during the next natural disaster.

Speakers included State Rep. Ed Jennings (D-Gainesville), who spoke about the need to require counties to inventory their population and determine who has access to transportation and who would not be able to leave during an evacuation.

"If this were to happen in Florida, people would get left behind," Jennings said.

Law student Josh Walker (2L) spoke about his deployment with the Army National Guard to Waveland, Miss., for three weeks after the hurricane. He discussed the differing



Rep. Ed Jennings speaks to the audience at a panel discussion of Hurricane Katrina Nov. 15

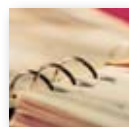
responses that occurred in three socio-economically distinct towns, and said the biggest issues were the breakdown of communication between relief agencies and failure to recognize where aid needed to be sent.

Professor Alyson Flournoy discussed the role of government in areas of health, safety and the environment. She reviewed some past policies that affected the responses to Katrina, including the intersection of poverty, race and

environment. She pointed to the flooding of the "Black Love Canal," a Superfund site where low-income housing was built. An inadequate clean up of this site due to insufficient funding, coupled with flooding, resulted in incredibly high arsenic levels in the impoverished neighborhood.

Professor Sharon Rush pointed out that the lingering effects of segregation were evident in the aftermath of the storm. "Plessey has been overruled, but there are some very long shadows that continue to hover over us, which Katrina brought into the light," she said.

Professor Michael Allan Wolf criticized the Gulf Opportunity Zone, which is part of the proposed rebuilding plan. Wolf explained this program consists mainly of tax relief – which will benefit only those who earn enough money to qualify for the relief. Overall, the panel was split as to whether there really is a "silver lining" to the disaster, but all urged continued dialogue about the social issues it revealed.



CALENDAR

November

22 **Class Gift Pizza Party,**
11 a.m.- 1 p.m., courtyard

**Costa Rica Program
Informational Meeting,**
noon, room 285A

Law School Republicans,
noon, room 285D

Pizza with the Dean,
4 p.m., faculty dining room

24 **Thanksgiving; classes
canceled**

25 **Holiday; classes canceled**

December

2 **Fall Classes End**

5 **Reading/Exam Period
Begins**

16 **Graduation**

More Dates Available Online

For more information on the dates and locations of upcoming meetings, check the calendar on the law school's website at: <http://www.law.ufl.edu/calendars/>.