

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW
LAW CENTER ASSOCIATION (LCA)**

**WINTER BUSINESS MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020
LEVIN ADVOCACY CENTER COURTROOM**

Attendees In Person:

Carter Andersen, Judge Patty Barksdale, Jeffrey Boone, David Bowers, Rebecca Brock, Derek Bruce, Brian Burgoon, Dennis Calfee, Richard Comiter, James Cunningham, Barry Davidson, Ellen Bellet Gelberg, Lorie Gleim, Lee Gunn, Nancy Pond Halula, Andrea Hartley, Scott Hawkins, Bruce Hoffman, Marcia Howard, Elizabeth Krentzman, Theo Kypreos, Judge Philip Lammens, Stephanie Marchman, Judge Joseph Marx, Bill McCollum, Judge Christopher Nash, Matthew Posgay, Gary Printy, Oscar Sanchez, Jeff Scroggin, Judge Morris Silberman, Richard Smith, James Sowell, Jo Thacker, Glenn Waldman, Greg Weiss, Scott Westheimer, Guy Whitesman, Tad Yates

Attendees By Phone:

Dean Laura Rosenbury, Kelly-Ann Cartwright, Judge Charlene Honeywell, Christin Keane, Liz McCausland, Tracy Nichols, Lee Stapleton

Faculty Present:

Professor Dennis Calfee, Professor Seth Endo, Professor Andrew Winden

Staff Present:

Mike Farley, Dan Hoffman, Shannon Sumerlin, Debbie Menoher, Silvia Menendez, Liz Lear, Paul Rollins, Josh Alter

9:05 a.m. LCA Chair Jo Thacker welcomed members and called the meeting to order. She turned the meeting over to Dean Rosenbury via teleconference to provide a leadership update on the law school.

9:10 a.m. Dean Rosenbury, who was attending the memorial service for George Allen, recognized his legacy as the first African American graduate of UF. She then announced the completion of the third annual Culverhouse Challenge that provided \$1.6M in support for student scholarships including a \$1.1M gift from Hugh Culverhouse. The initiative encouraged many new donors and helped raise the participation rate closer to 15%.

The Dean shared that 1Ls began the semester with a new Professional Development Conference. She thanked all alumni speakers and Greenberg Traurig, Holland & Knight, and Quarles & Brady for sponsoring the event. Many 2Ls/3Ls took compressed courses prior to the term beginning, and she thanked LCA members Bill Perry and Bill McCollum for teaching. She invited members to teach or co-teach future courses. She also thanked Akerman's Miami office for hosting one of the courses.

The Dean announced that UF Law now ranks 15th in the nation for student selectivity among all law schools, public and private, which is our highest ranking ever. She thanked LCA members for contacting admitted students on behalf of the Admissions

Office. The law school's new rankings will be announced in mid-March 2020, and LCA members will receive an announcement memo with details as soon as it is feasible.

The Dean welcomed Kathryn Kimball Mizelle (JD 12) back to the law school to join Justice Clarence Thomas to teach a compressed course. She also thanked the LCA executive committee, in particular Brian Burgoon, for revising the bylaws in preparation for LCA's transition away from a formal DSO structure.

The Dean invited any questions or comments. Bill McCollum, who taught the "Role of the Attorney General" compressed course, encouraged others to teach a course. Gary Printy reported that the Heritage of Leadership Committee had nominated George Allen for induction and asked for a vote of the membership to approve his nomination so the Dean could share the news with the family. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote of the body without dissent.

9:25 a.m. Committee Updates

Bylaws (Brian Burgoon) – Brian referred members to the meeting packets for the Summary of Proposed LCA Board of Trustees Bylaws and the Draft Bylaws. The LCA Board of Trustees will become the Dean's Alumni Advisory Board but will keep the same structure and provisions by using existing LCA, Inc. bylaws as a starting point and modifying the provisions applicable to the new board. The history, purposes and objectives of the LCA will be included in the revised bylaws, as well as member expectations and term descriptions. All LCA active members and nominees will transition to a similar status in the new board and begin a five-year term at the May 2020 meeting. Please submit any proposed changes to the bylaws to Jo Thacker or Brian Burgoon at least thirty days prior to the May 15 meeting. Jo reiterated the benefits of being an advisory board including the fact that approval is no longer required from University officials and LCA board members will become closer to the Dean.

Audit (David Bowers) – Jo thanked David Bowers and Dennis Calfee for their commitment to the Audit Committee over the past several years. David reported that tax return requirements that were due November 13 have been extended until May. Purvis Gray was hired to prepare the annual audit. Another return is due July 1. David requested help with establishing a new bank account and securing some minimal capital. Jo reported that UF also completed a full audit, and she will share it with the LCA. The UF Foundation will hold LCA harmless as an organization and individually when funds are transferred. She also asked members to consider other volunteer activities as suggestions to add to the membership expectations in the bylaws, such as teaching and hometown events.

Heritage of Leadership (Gary Printy) – Gary Printy presented the slate of candidates for 2020 induction. They are: W. George Allen, Rachelle Bergeron, Andy Hall, and Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte. Rachelle's family and peers will attend the awards ceremony and a fund has been established in her honor. Gary requested approval of the entire slate. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote of the body without dissent.

Nominations (Scott Hawkins) – Scott thanked the executive board members for their

nominations. Nominee biographies were included in the packet. He asked that members share any relevant information on any of the candidates with executive committee members. The slate will be presented at the May 2020 meeting for a final vote once the nominees have been contacted. Scott reviewed the LCA membership duties and requirements. Barry Davidson thanked the committee, in particular Brian Burgoon, for work on the nominations. He also emphasized that meeting attendance by LCA members is an essential part of the experience.

FATAC (David Bowers) – David reported a 20% increase in Tax LLM student recruitment and how that positively impacts rankings. He shared that more than 200 UF Law graduates are teaching Tax, and he asked members to reach out to them.

Austin Peele Award – Jo announced that LCA would reinstitute the Austin Peele Award that was last given to Michael Bedke in 2016. Mike Farley displayed the award and wall plaque. Jo announced that Oscar Sanchez was selected to receive the 2019 Austin Peele Distinguished Trustee Award for his many contributions to the University, the Levin College of Law, and the LCA.

10:15 a.m. Break

10:40 a.m. Development Update (Mike Farley/Dan Hoffman/Shannon Sumerlin) – Mike presented the 2019 Fundraising Review, including data about alumni demographics and the unsubscribe/preferred school mail restrictions that reduces UF Law’s contact population. He is working with the UF Foundation to ensure more robust messaging ability. He reported total calendar year giving as the third highest in history, including six gifts or commitments of \$1M+ and twenty of \$100K+. The average gift was \$1,724 (not including the six biggest gifts). The Development Team will be working on an inventory of naming options that exist at the law school. Dan Hoffman presented his current projects including LAC initiatives, Law Firm Giving Challenge (May/June/July 2020), and HBCU pipeline scholarships inspired by Yolanda Cash Jackson. Shannon Sumerlin presented her current projects including Class Reunion Weekend (October 2020 - South Carolina/Homecoming) and Gator Giving Day which will take place on February 20.

11:25 a.m. Admissions Update (Assistant Dean Paul Rollins) – Paul reported a 20% acceptance rate, down from 50% indicating a trend toward more selectivity. The median LSAT for the incoming class is expected to be 165. There are more than 3,000 applications so far this year, an increase of 40%, making UF Law one of the highest increase in applications nationally. Admitted Students Days are scheduled for March and April, and the Admissions Office appreciates everyone's support.

11:30 a.m. Experiential Education Update (Associate Dean Silvia Menendez) – Silvia announced the establishment of two new additions to UF Law's clinics: the Immigration Clinic and the Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic. She gave an update on the Semester-In-Practice program and the new Legal Writing & Drafting Curriculum.

11:35 a.m. Career & Professional Development Update (Associate Dean Liz Lear) – Liz thanked all contributors and sponsors for the successful Professional Development Conference. She

thanked LCA members who have assisted students with their employment searches. The goal is to place at least 90% of recent graduates, and we still need to place 13 graduates to reach that goal. She also shared that while many of our students enroll in UF Law's outstanding LLM programs, continued education hurts our overall average by not being considered employed by U.S. News. The team is in the process of searching for a new assistant dean and a director of outreach/employer relations in the coming months as Liz prepares to take her sabbatical this Summer.

11:50 a.m. Announcements

Website Updates –James Cunningham introduced a Qualtrics survey for LCA members to help create an online directory of members with information such as employer, city/state, graduation year(s), and practice areas.

11:55 a.m. Jo reviewed the list of 2020 activities for members.

12:00 p.m. Mike Farley introduced UF Law guests in attendance - Professor Andrew Winden, Professor Seth Endo, and Director of Non-JD Programs Josh Alter. He then introduced Kathryn Kimball Mizelle (JD 12), UF Law's first graduate to serve as a United States Supreme Court clerk. Kathryn spoke about her experience and encouraged students and employers to participate in and support clerkship opportunities.

12:05 p.m. Jo adjourned the meeting to lunch and a Meet & Greet with Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, faculty members and staff guests.