



E-Newsletter

April 18, 2006

Judge John L. Carroll, Dean

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RUSHTON DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

*“Promoting Democracy in the Middle East?
Iraq and Beyond”*

Monday, April 24, 2006

Cumberland School of Law

Moot Courtroom

7:30 PM

Cumberland School of Law’s Rushton Lecture Series is sponsoring an address by **Stanford Professor Larry Diamond**, a prominent figure in academic and policy circles. Diamond has been known for decades as a leading authority on the topic of democratization.

More recently, he was a high-profile addition to the Bush administration’s efforts to craft a constitution for Iraq. His experiences are described in the recently published *“Squandered Victory: The American Occupation and the Bungled Effort to Bring Democracy to Iraq”* (Times Books). He is currently one of the plaintiffs in the ACLU’s case against the Bush administration’s allegedly illegal wiretapping.

In 1997, Wyatt R. Haskell established the *Rushton Distinguished Lecture Series* in honor of his grandfather, Ray Rushton. Mr. Rushton was a native of Montgomery and a graduate of Howard College, now Samford University. The lecture series explores many areas related to law and society. The Cumberland School of Law acknowledges Mr. Haskell’s generosity in making this program possible.

PINSTripES & PEARLS

April 20, 2006

5:00 PM

Judge Privett's Courtroom

Jefferson County Courthouse

Wine and Cheese Reception
(Immediately following at the Firm of Gathings Law)

2001 Park Place Tower, Suite 500
(Located across Lynn Park from the Courthouse)

ALL FEMALE STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

A panel discussion sponsored by the Women's Section of the Birmingham Bar will highlight the Pinstripes & Pearls program. Panel members will be comprised of female judges and attorneys from the private, government and corporate sectors. Panel members will discuss areas of concern of female law students and answer questions. The reception will provide an opportunity to meet female judges and attorneys and get to know them in an informal setting.

Questions for the panel may be submitted prior to April 20 to Honora Gathings at hgathings@gathingslaw.com or 322.1201.

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM

Professor William Ross will speak to the Cumberland faculty, Friday, **April 21** at **NOON** in the Dean's Conference Room. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP no later than Thursday morning, April 20 to Rhenae Kennedy at 726.2411 if you plan to attend.

The title of Professor Ross' presentation is "*The Religious and Cultural Dynamics of Opposition to Roosevelt's Court-Packing Plan.*"

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

From April 21 – 23, **Judge John Carroll** will be in Detroit, Michigan attending the initial meeting of the Electronic Discovery Project of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL). He is the reporter to this project which is seeking to develop model rules of procedure for state courts to use in cases involving the discovery of materials in electronic form.

FACULTY PUBLICATION

Professor Alyssa DiRusso recently had an article, entitled "*Beginner's Mind: Thoughts from a New Law Professor*" published in *The Law Teacher* (2006 Institute of Law School Teaching – Gonzaga University School of Law). The article appears in Vol. 13, No. 2, p. 11 of *The Law Teacher*.

2006 – 2007 WOMEN IN LAW OFFICERS

Congratulations to the new officers for Women in Law!

Vera Waller
President

Nicole Leet
Co-Vice President

Molly Taylor
Co-Vice President

Neeli Gandhi
Treasurer

Morgan McCue
Secretary

Kate Horn
2L Representative

SPIRIT OF SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to the following students, faculty and staff here at Cumberland who have completed 30 hours or more of public interest legal work, community service or public service during this school year!

Haley D. Adams

Gian Carlos Barnett

Emily West Bynum

Janese Michelle Caruthers

Jill Marie Downey

Bob Goss

Lindsay Kay Haynes

John T. Howard

LaTara D. Johnson

Eddie L. Koen, Jr.

David J. Langum, Sr.

Nicole C. Leet

Sasha Renay Moore

Pamela J. Nelson

Susan Sheffield Nettles

LaMonica V. Orr

LaTonia M. Williams

Certificates will be presented to recipients of the Spirit of Service Award at an appreciation luncheon on April 19.

ROBINSON HALL ~ FOUNTAIN AREA

The construction of a plaza around the fountain area in front of Robinson Hall began last week. Four trees will be planted in the bricked plaza area (two elms and two Japanese maples) and park-style benches will border the fountain. The plan also includes improvements to the fountain and additional lighting for the area - four sidewalk lamp posts and landscape lighting in the trees. Completion of the landscape / hardscape project is planned to take place just prior to Commencement.

BIOTECH FELLOW AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATE APPLICATIONS

The Center for Biotechnology, Law, and Ethics is inviting student applications for two kinds of positions: Biotech Fellow and Biotech Research Associate.

Both positions involve assisting the Center and Center Director (Professor David Smolin) with the work of the center. This work includes research and writing related to biotechnology and bioethics issues; planning and execution of the annual conference; organization of the Center Offices, and ongoing work on a web site.

Biotech Fellows receive a \$5,000 fellowship. Brian Mooney and Jakarra Jones have served as this year's Biotech Fellows; Brian is graduating but Jakarra will be continuing for a second year of service. We will primarily be recruiting rising second year students (current first year students) for the one open Biotech Fellow position, in order to ensure that this class has the opportunity to compete for this position. The Fellow selected would begin their work during the summer; however, it is not necessary for the Fellow to be present in Birmingham this summer, as e-mail and other means of communication can be used. This position is designed to be compatible with the student's involvement in other responsibilities, including classes, clerkships, student organizations, etc. At the same time, it is best if students have an interest in this area, because there will be some commitment of time.

The position of Biotech Research Associate is based on the desire to make the educational and training opportunities of the

Biotech Center available to a broader group of interested students. This position does not presently have any financial component. Only students willing to work for the Center on a volunteer basis should apply for this position. These positions will be filled depending on the level of interest and applications are welcome from rising second and third year students. Biotech Research Associates are equal partners in the work of the Center; it is only a lack of funding that prevents us from providing a financial component for the excellent work performed by our Research Associates.

Both Biotech Fellows and Research Associates should be capable of working in a team environment. In order to reduce the stress on any one person, the Biotech Center stresses cooperation and a team approach.

Applicants should submit a resume and a short statement of interest to the Dean's secretary, **Kathy Walton**, by Friday, **April 21**. The short statement should describe any relevant background, and the reason for the student's interest. Please indicate in the application whether you wish to apply for one of the positions (Biotech Fellow or Biotech Research Associate), or both. Please be honest — students competing for the Biotech Fellowship will not be penalized for any lack of interest in being a Biotech Research Associate. A selection committee will review the applications and choose the successful candidate(s) for each position.

If you have any questions, please contact **Professor Smolin** at dmsmolin@samford.edu, or 726-2418.
