

UF LAW

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW • SUMMER 2007



ALUMNI
WHO TEACH

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA



KRISTEN HINES

How Law Professors Make Their Mark

DEAN ROBERT JERRY

I have spent almost 30 years of my life on law school campuses, first as a law student and later as a law professor and dean. During that time, I have been privileged to work with a distinctive group of people who are, without a doubt, the nucleus of any law school.

I refer, of course, to my faculty colleagues.

The law professors I have known through the years, including my outstanding colleagues at our own law school, are fascinating individuals who are as different as they are alike. Yet I have observed some common characteristics as they engage in their vocation of teaching, research and service. My personal experience is that most of these men and women are determined, hard-working, intellectually gifted and passionately committed to educating the quick minds that scrutinize them in the classroom. They study, debate, inspire and lead in the hope of building a more equitable world.

The purposes of the modern university, of which law schools are a part, are to transmit and discover knowledge. For law professors, discovering knowledge equates to generating ideas that promote

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law reform and improvements in the system of justice. Thus, legal scholarship, as measured by the quality and quantity of scholarly publications, is a vital part of any professor's activities and usually complements and enhances the teaching function. Yet, I think for many it is the role of teacher that provides profound satisfaction and constant opportunities to tangibly shape the lives of students. In this regard, I agree

with my colleague Kent Syverud, now the law dean at Washington University-St. Louis, who made this point in an article he wrote about teaching. With the exception of a very few of us, most of us will change the world more through our students than through what we write.

Several articles in this issue demonstrate the significant ways our alumni are making their marks on the world, including serving as distinguished judges, lawyers and public servants. But what this issue also highlights is how some of our alumni are changing the world by teaching in universities across the nation. As a law professor, I find it particularly gratifying to see our graduates answering the calling to train the next generations of lawyers. This is another reason I am both privileged and proud to be a member of the faculty and the dean at the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida. ■



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NEWS BRIEFS



Partnerships Forged to Find Solutions for Sustainability

Finding realistic and equitable legal solutions to a wide range of important growth management issues—especially those that affect agriculture, green space, water resources and energy—is easier thanks to a new partnership between UF’s Extension Service and the Levin College of Law.

The Extension Service is now working closely with the Conservation Clinic, housed in the law college’s Center for Governmental Responsibility, to promote smart growth and sustainability solutions throughout the state.

Dean Robert Jerry said smart growth and sustainability are key issues in Florida, and have long been a focus of the college’s Environmental and Land Use Law Program as well as a number of units in UF’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

“An interdisciplinary approach is vital to successfully managing these

areas, and this partnership with the Extension Service will greatly amplify available intellectual and physical resources,” Jerry said. “Conservation Clinic projects also leverage taxpayer dollars by utilizing the time and talents of law students under faculty guidance. The students benefit, too, by gaining hands-on, real world experience.”

“With Florida’s population expected to double in 50 years, growth management will continue to be one of the most urgent, difficult and potentially contentious issues facing the state,” said Larry Arrington, dean for extension.

The Conservation Clinic provides environmental and land use law services to Florida communities and non-government organizations and university programs such as the Extension Service and Florida Sea Grant College Program, said Tom Ankersen, director of the clinic. Among other projects, the clinic has consulted with local government on ordinances and comprehensive plan policies, state statutes and conservation easements.

“Demand for clinic legal services has been growing, and much of this has

come through requests generated by our expanding relationship with UF’s Extension Service, which has offices in every county,” Ankersen said.

In the next 50 years, more than 11 million new homes—along with millions of square feet of commercial space and thousands of miles of new roadways—will be needed to accommodate the influx of residents, according to Pierce Jones, director of the Extension Service’s Program for Resource Efficient Communities.

“To achieve the kind of resource-efficient growth we need, our community planning efforts require cross disciplinary collaboration with building professionals, local governments, water management districts and other agencies,” Jones said. The Program for Resource Efficient Communities works with these and other collaborators to promote the adoption of best design, construction and management practices in new residential community developments that measurably reduce energy and water consumption and environmental degradation, he said.

—Chuck Woods

MARTHA BARNETT Honored by UF

For her commitment to the University of Florida and accomplishment in her chosen field, Martha Barnett (JD 73) was honored as a UF Distinguished Alumnus at the Levin College of Law's commencement ceremony in May. Barnett, former president of the American Bar Association and a partner in the law firm of Holland & Knight, also delivered the commencement address to the Spring 2007 graduates.

After graduating from law school, Barnett became Holland & Knight's first female attorney and now serves as chair of the firm's Directors Committee, the firm's highest policy-making body. As a member of the ABA, she held numerous key roles, including chairing the House of Delegates, a task force that studied women in the legal profession, and one of its most significant sections, Individual Rights and Responsibilities.

Florida Gov. Charlie Crist recently appointed her to serve on the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission.



Tell Your Story

Just about every alumnus has at least one or two great stories to tell about their time in law school. Now you can share your experiences with classmates and read about almost 100 years of historical events at UF Law on a new section of the college's website. To post your story, just complete an easy-to-use form at www.law.ufl.edu/history.

CLE Courses

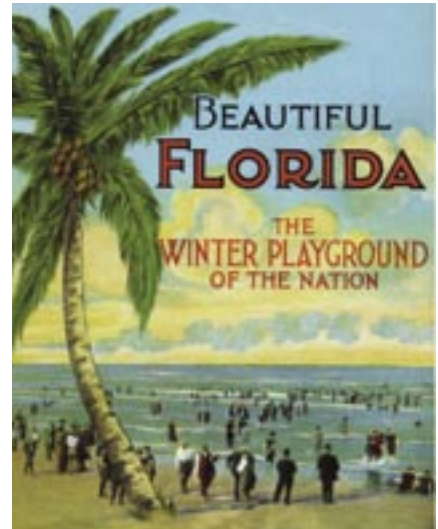
UF Law offers several online CLE courses and course materials (developed by Professor Steve Willis), including "Family Law Tax Issues" and "Financial Calculations for Lawyers." Learn all the details at www.uflcle.com.

Historic Preservation Benefits Florida

Historic preservation enhances the quality of life of Floridians through economic and cultural contributions to an improved sense of place, according to a new study from the Center for Governmental Responsibility at the Levin College of Law and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, both at the University of Florida.

"Determining a specific dollar value for quality of life is a challenging undertaking," said project co-director Timothy McLendon (JD 94), staff attorney at the Center for Governmental Responsibility. "Therefore, we offered local decision makers a number of options for protecting historically valuable assets that contribute to the community."

The report includes models and tools available to further historic preservation in Florida and to measure the impact of historical structures, events and related activities on the enhancement of the quality of life in Florida.



"We're excited to have this wonderful study to confirm that along with the economic impacts that result from historic preservation, the quality of life is indeed improved as well," said Caroline Tharpe Weiss, executive director of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, which provided key support for the study.

Moot Court Takes

First Place In Competition



The Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court team at UF Law sent two winning teams to the Henry G. Manne Moot Court Competition for Law & Economics at the George Mason University School of Law in Washington, D.C. in February.

The team of Jacqueline Antonious and Joe Licandro took first place overall, and the team of Dina Finkel and Elizabeth Frock won Best Brief.

One of the foremost national moot court teams, the Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Team competes each year at more than a dozen tournaments throughout the country to promote excellence in appellate advocacy.



KRISTEN HINES

Gators Bring Home National Title in Trial Team Tourney

Yet another UF team has brought home a national title. The Levin College of Law Black Law Students Association (BLSA) Trial Team took top honors at the National BLSA Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition in Atlanta, defeating Georgetown in the semifinals and Georgia State in the final round. Team members were (clockwise from lower left) Jessica Anderson, Camille Warren, Alicia Phillip and Ronisha Beasley. “After months of hard work and frustration, this has turned out to be an amazing experience that we as a team are very proud of,” Anderson said. “The women I competed with are phenomenal litigators and I’m humbled to share this honor with them.”

CALENDAR 2007 Alumni Events

June 28

UF Law Alumni Reception

The Levin College of Law will hold a UF Law Alumni Reception at The Florida Bar annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 28, at the Orlando World Center Marriott. This reception, open to all UF Law alumni, will provide graduates with the opportunity to network and reconnect with friends and colleagues from around the state. They will also hear from Dean Robert Jerry, who will provide an update with the latest news from the college.

September 28

CLE Program, BBQ & Gala

“Florida Tomorrow: The Campaign

for the University of Florida” will have its official kickoff Friday, Sept. 28, when the entire university will be “Showcasing The Possibilities” with various events across campus from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Law alumni can attend a CLE program at the Levin College of Law and enjoy the Gene & Elaine Glasser barbecue lunch, which will enable them to interact with students, faculty and staff.

There will also be a private donor gala event that evening at the O’Connell Center. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kelley Frohlich, senior director of Development, at 352-273-0640 or frohlich@law.ufl.edu.



KRISTEN HINES

Speakers Visiting Experts Share Knowledge

Guest speakers continue to bring different perspectives to the college throughout the year. One speaker during the spring semester was Michael Herman (above), who taught a Global Security and Intelligence course for three weeks. Herman served as an intelligence officer at Government Communication Headquarters, the United Kingdom equivalent of the National Security Agency, for more than 30 years. He also served at the Joint Services Staff College and in the Cabinet Office and Defence Intelligence Staff as well as the Secretary of the Joint Intelligence Committee. Since retirement, he has been a research fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford. He is the author of *Intelligence Power in Peace and War*, *Intelligence Services in the Information Age* and numerous articles.



Connecting Cultures

Graduate helps UF Law students gain Latin American experiences

BY KAYLA HARRIS

People always say they love their job. Chris Markussen (JD 72) *loves* her job. She enjoys it so much she underwrote a study tour in Chile for 10 UF Law and graduate students, hoping they would discover the enthusiasm she has for international business and law.

As the chief counsel of international business for MetLife, Markussen said she felt “The Legal Institutions of the Americas Study Tour: Chile” program was an opportunity for the students to view the interrelatedness between countries and better understand our global economy. UF Law student Peter Lynch agrees.

“I return from Chile convinced more than ever that a commitment to vibrant international trade is the key to America’s long-term national security, world order and peace,” said Lynch. Trade can focus nations on their similarities rather than their

UF law students (left) in Chile; Markussen and her husband, James, on a trip to China.

differences, maintaining dialogue and an inclination to work things out as partners, rather than leaving heads of state to focus

on differences and interact through brinksmanship, sanctions, and threats of force, he said.

“Competent attorneys to support the needs of these businesses, and to operate dispute resolution mechanisms for international trading partners are essential,” Lynch added.

The program provided practical exposure to Latin American legal systems while promoting ties with law schools and political figures in the region. The students spent their spring break traveling throughout Chile visiting major legal institutions, from Chile’s new Justice Center to the Justice Studies Center of the Americas, from a Chilean law school to leading law firms.

“It’s a wonderful chance for people to see how another culture does business, thinks and approaches the law,” Markussen said. “I wanted to participate in giving an opportunity to law and graduate students to become as enamored with international work as I am.”

In addition, the students spent time exploring Chile’s history. The students’ itinerary followed the development of Chile’s legal system. Their trip began with a discussion of

the progression of the system at Diego Portales University School of Law followed by a tour of the Villa Grimaldi Torture Center in Santiago. This complex was used to torture political prisoners during Augusto Pinochet's rule. The students spent the rest of their trip learning about reforms to the system that have led to Chile's stability and free trade agreements.

Markussen, who frequently starts her day with a 5 a.m. conference call with Hong Kong and ends her day at 10 p.m. talking to colleagues in Australia, expected the wide variety of activities to provide the students with a better understanding of their world.

SEEING THE SIMILARITIES

"I hope the students feel a sense of connectedness with people in other parts of the world. They saw another culture. They met people that they see similarities with that they can learn from," she said. "I think it's important for the future of the world, generally, for people to understand each other and figure out how they can work together and support each other and have empathy and sympathy for each other and for how each other lives."

Markussen has spent the majority of her career building her global view of business and law. Having practiced business in Europe for years, Markussen first became interested in Chile after negotiating with joint venture partners in the Latin American country for MetLife. She said she was impressed by the law firms there, and she found the businesspeople to be very sophisticated.

"There's no other part of the company or no other type of law I'd rather practice because of all the variations and the challenges of working in all these cultures," Markussen said. ■

Business Top Attorneys Teach Drafting

Law students at the Levin College of Law are getting a taste of the life that awaits them at corporate law offices thanks to a new business document drafting course taught by top attorneys who travel to Gainesville to teach the innovative class.

The course was developed by Professor Stuart Cohn and Miami attorney Daniel H. Aronson, co-chair of the Corporate & Securities Group at Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod in Miami.

With support from UF Law Dean Robert Jerry, Cohn and Aronson enlisted three prominent business lawyers as adjunct professors: Lou Conti, a partner with Holland & Knight who splits his time between Orlando and Tampa; Gardner Davis, a partner in the Jacksonville office of Foley & Lardner; and Gregory C. Yadley, a partner in the Tampa office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick and co-chair of the firm's Corporate Practice Group.

UNIQUE PROGRAM

"There are very few law schools that offer anything like this," Aronson explained. "There was no real precedent for what we wanted to do. We knew Georgetown and NYU offered skills-focused courses, but no other law schools offered anything close. While I applaud the administration and our adjunct professors, the heroes here are the 20 students who went through a brand new course, four different professors, and a ton of work to understand and draft corporate and transactional documents that corporate, securities and M&A attorneys deal with every day."

The two-credit course went well beyond issues of how best to draft a document, Cohn said. The course addressed negotiation and transaction skills, and writing assignments included drafting letters of intent, employment agreements and representations and warranties in a merger agreement, among other documents.

"The students very much appreciated seeing top attorneys come in and talk about their practice experiences," Cohn said. "This wasn't a class with a lot of war stories. It was an opportunity to hear highly experienced attorneys talk about real-

life drafting issues, practical solutions to those issues and real-life situations in terms of dealing with clients, finding out exactly what clients have in mind, and negotiating differences between competing interests."

Most of the students were in their third year and plan to pursue a corporate and/or transactional practice.

"Most of the classes are microcosms of the experiences, skills and tools that corporate law partners and supervisors endeavor—often on an ad hoc basis—to transmit to junior associates and attorneys early in their careers," Aronson said.

Feedback from the course has been very positive, and plans are underway for development of additional skills-based offerings in the business law curriculum, including in the areas of mergers & acquisitions and advanced corporate finance. Aronson said the course should allow students to "hit the ground running" after graduation and thus should make them more attractive at both law firms and corporate law departments.

Conti, who knew Cohn through their work on a number of legislative drafting projects for The Florida Bar, said the students displayed surprisingly good drafting skills throughout the course.

SOLID EXPERIENCE

"Most of the young associates in our office keep saying they wish they had something like this when they were in law school, because when you come into practice you literally do not know where to start in many cases, particularly in a transactional practice," said Conti, who previously taught as an adjunct at Widener University and Temple University.

It's easy to look at form documents and see what somebody else has done before, Conti explained, but it takes experience to understand why provisions are there or not there, and how to negotiate the relative tweaking of those provisions. Without a senior lawyer to mentor them and take the time to sit down and explain a lot of the drafting and language issues, he said, young associates typically have to learn business document drafting on "a catch-as-catch-can basis."

—By James Hellegaard

A Right to Privacy

Autopsy photos. Court records. Open mail.
How far is too far in the public's need to know?

BY JAMES HELLEGAARD



If they were two boxers slugging it out in the ring, the notion of privacy would appear to be on weak legs, up against the ropes and fighting in vain against the formidable and persistent opponent that is the public's desire for access to information.

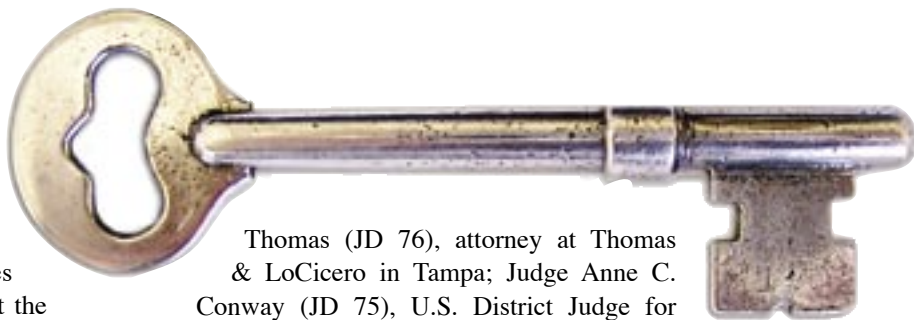
Around the world, people are consuming information like never before, gobbling up all they can and asking for more as everyone from media outlets to courts of law try to keep up with the voracious and insatiable demand.

All of which begs questions that have been tossed around for centuries: Do we really need to know all of this? Do we have a right to know? Is anybody being hurt by this information being out there, and if so, does anybody really care?

Judge Jacqueline Griffin (JD 75) of the Fifth District Court of Appeals of Florida has spent the last few years serving on the Florida Supreme Court Committee on Privacy and Court Records, at the end of which, over her "continuous and strenuous objection," the majority of that commission made the recommendation that court records should henceforth be put on the Internet to allow public access to electronic court records.

"At the end of the day I think that I've concluded that privacy is something that is highly subjective," Griffin said. "What is one person's privacy is another person's stock-in-trade—information that they want, and they want to sell it or use it for whatever purpose they have. It's everybody else's entertainment."

Griffin spoke these words at the first annual Center for Governmental Responsibility Symposium (CGR) on "Privacy Law: Perspectives of National Security, the First Amendment, the Media, and the Individual," held earlier this year at the Levin College of Law. Other speakers included Mike Foley, Hugh Cunningham Professor in Journalism Excellence at UF's College of Journalism & Communications; Gregg D.



Thomas (JD 76), attorney at Thomas & LoCicero in Tampa; Judge Anne C. Conway (JD 75), U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Florida; and Fletcher N. Baldwin, Jr., Chesterfield Smith Professor of Law and director of the Centre for International Financial Crime Studies. Jon Mills, UF Law dean emeritus and CGR's founding director, moderated the discussion.

"Privacy as a concept is probably vestigial," Griffin said. "There's so much information out there about every single human being that there's probably going to be an avenue to find this information if anybody just looked for it."

Conway agreed. In federal courts, everything is required to be electronically filed and placed on the Internet. "One of our big issues is redacting personal information and whose responsibility it is," Conway explained. "The lawyers don't want to do it. The court doesn't want to do it. The court reporters don't want to do it. And somebody's got to do it."

COMPLEX ISSUES TO CONSIDER

While perhaps timeless, these conflicting issues have lost none of their urgency. More recently, two more fighters have entered the ring—security and the Internet—ganging up on privacy and making for an apparent mismatch.

"Security is at the top of everybody's agenda," said Mills, who has studied privacy issues and been involved with legal cases in this area throughout his career as well as chaired the Florida Supreme Court Committee on Privacy and Court Records. "There are a number of reasons that we invade privacy. Security is top of the list. In some cases we intrude on privacy to protect our sense of morality. We have a whole series of reasons why we authorize invasions."

To launch the symposium discussion, Mills presented several real-life scenarios, including cases that touched on issues of privacy:

- A case in which an expectation of privacy in the seclusion of one's own bedroom was not considered reasonable when the individual was involved in a lesbian relationship and in a child custody fight with her husband.
- A medical examiner who allowed a cable network film crew to follow him to a hotel room where a woman had been thrown to her death from the balcony by her husband, who then died when he fell or jumped. The film crew recorded the crime scene, including the woman's dead body, and the next morning shot photos of the nude bodies.
- President George W. Bush, who late last year issued a "presidential signing statement" related to a Postal Service bill, which said a subsection of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act "provides for opening an item of a class of mail otherwise sealed against inspection."

Baldwin sees the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act as "the final nail in the coffin"—the latest in a series of invasive steps taken in the wake of 9/11 by the Bush Administration to trample on individual privacy rights in the name of national security and the ongoing war on terrorism. Baldwin called Bush "the poster child for mission creep," a term used to describe the expansion of a project or mission beyond its original goals.

"It goes on and on," Baldwin said. "It's so embarrassing that if you wrote this as a law exam they would throw you out of the room. Police states don't even go this far. The principle in each of these acts and beginning with the Patriot Act is to ignore the third branch of government. They're trying to keep out the judges. The attorney general in speaking to this act and the Military Commissions Act, in effect, said the federal judges ought to take note that they're secondary in this war against terrorism."

EARNHARDT FAMILY SPEAKS UP

Those concerned with privacy have scored the occasional victory, however, perhaps most notably in 2001 when the Florida Legislature passed a law known as the Earnhardt Family Protection Act. The bill, named for NASCAR legend Dale Earnhardt, who died when his car crashed into the wall of the final lap of the 2001 Daytona 500, made autopsy photographs, video and audio recordings confidential. Violators could be charged with a third-degree felony that could be punishable by jail time and up to a \$5,000 fine. Mills, one of the lawyers who represented the Earnhardt family, said they were concerned that photos from Earnhardt's autopsy would be published in newspapers or websites.

"They don't care whether *The New York Times* doesn't publish it but the *National Enquirer* does," Mills explained. "The damage to the family is the same."

Still, some have problems with the law, including Thomas, a media lawyer whose clients must struggle to abide by it.

Thomas noted that the push for the law came about after the *Orlando Sentinel* wanted to review the photos of Earnhardt's autopsy specifically to examine the damage to his neck in an effort to determine whether Earnhardt may have survived had he been wearing a Head And Neck Support (HANS) device, which was used by only six drivers in the 43-car field in the Daytona 500 that day.

"So the purpose for looking at the photograph or looking at Dale Earnhardt's dead body was totally legitimate," Thomas said. "And for 50 years in Florida, as long as we've had a photographer, the press has had access to autopsy photographs, and never once, not one abused situation."

Griffin, who sat on the case, said the Earnhardt family was unique in its ability to get the Florida Legislature, which has control over public records, to enact a statute that retroactively forbade the publication of the photographs.

"What the media accomplished was to make far more confidential that which historically had not been confidential," she said. "My position has always been that the media runs the risk—through its

enthusiastic support of Internet access to court records and all of this—that the Legislature, as these things come to their attention, will enact more legislation that will make these things completely confidential."

In the race for profits, compassion still has a fighting chance.

STANDARDS QUESTIONED

Still, the game has changed, or rather, come full circle. The days of Ben Franklin and the "citizen journalist," Thomas pointed out, eventually gave way to huge media conglomerates. Now, with the proliferation of personal Internet sites and the blogosphere, we're in some ways back where we started. But does that necessarily mean the rules of journalism are also changing?

"Media ethics is not an oxymoron," Foley said. "I believe that in responsible newsrooms—and maybe there are a dwindling number there, I don't know—but every bit of information is weighed on its own. Do we publish this? Does this meet our standards? There are no standards on the Internet ... and that's a very grave danger."

While many may assume the media will publish just about anything to draw readers or viewers or clicks to their websites, Foley believes otherwise. Many more photos and stories come to the attention of editors that are never published. In the race for profits, compassion still has a fighting chance.

"These are debated and debated, and one editor will argue one thing and another editor will argue another thing," Foley said. "And finally it gets down to the executive editor and then he lies awake all night with his stomach hurting. Does the public need to know this? It's all public record. But does the public *have* to know this? Do I ruin all these people's lives?" ■



A Pioneer in the Field

Baseball player, Boynton Beach mayor, and Ted Williams' attorney. What a life.

BY JAMES HELLEGAARD

When Gene Moore arrived in Boynton Beach in 1957, it was a small town of a few thousand residents on the southeast coast of Florida. He was 28 years old, a young lawyer just two years out of law school, in a place where there weren't a whole lot of lawyers.

"They had nothing down here," says Moore, who would go on to serve as attorney and mayor for the city. When he arrived, there was no municipal water treatment or a municipal tennis court. There was, however, plenty of opportunity.

"That was good because we could address those problems with the need being there," says Moore (JD 53), now 78. "We just had to come up with the answers. We would run for office, get into city government and solve those problems. Because they were there. Down here everything was open for us to do it and take the responsibility and pride in doing it. You were a pioneer because the need was there."

In retrospect, he would not have done anything differently. His choice to start a real estate practice proved to be a good one as South Florida experienced unprecedented growth. Moore enjoyed having the type of practice over which he could have total control with little of his time spent in litigation or in the

courtroom. Hard work led to more business, and his practice steadily broadened well beyond the city limits.

"It's a good network and a good, clean business to be in," he says. "You deal with people. Over the years I've dealt with a lot of people, and it's been very rewarding and very productive."

Born in Arkansas, Moore moved with his family at an early age to West Virginia, relocating to South Florida at age 11 in 1939 when his father, Gene Moore, Jr., took an advertising job with *The Palm Beach Post*, a newspaper young Gene "Buddy" Moore would spend much of his childhood delivering on his bicycle.

When he graduated from Palm Beach High School, Moore won the newspaper boy scholarship. His baseball coach, the legendary Red Whittington who coached several future college and pro stars at Pam Beach High, directed Moore toward his alma mater, The Citadel in Charleston.

"He talked me into going. I didn't know what the hell it was," recalls Moore. "I didn't even know it was a military school until I got up there."

Moore arrived in 1946 and found himself competing for a spot on the sports teams with a lot of veterans who had recently returned from fighting in World War II. "I made the

Moore at the Citadel in 1950.



Gene Moore

basketball team and the baseball team my first year,” says Moore, who received six varsity letters at the school. After surviving his first year, when he would write letters home imploring his parents to get him out, Moore began to enjoy the camaraderie and saw the advantages of the discipline life in the school was instilling in him.

TURNING DOWN PRO BALL

A baseball team captain in college, Moore flirted with an opportunity to pursue the dream of so many young men when he received a contract offer to play professionally with the Philadelphia Phillies. The club was led by future Hall of Famers Richie Ashburn in center field and hard-throwing pitcher Robin Roberts—part of a team of young stars that would earn the nickname “The Whiz Kids.”

The year was 1950. That fall, the Phillies won their first National League pennant in 35 years before being swept in the World Series by the New York Yankees. Moore meanwhile was in Gainesville, where he’d enrolled for law classes at the University of Florida. He had passed on his childhood dream of playing baseball to pursue a career in law.

“I lost the opportunity to play professional baseball, which in retrospect was a break,” he says. “It worked out good for me. I might have never made AAA or AA in baseball. Who knows?”

In law school, Moore made lasting friendships with a few of his classmates, some of whom he still sees on

occasion. Last year, on behalf of the class of 1953, Moore honored the memory of one of his former classmates when he made a bequest creating the Leo Wotitzky (JD 53) Dean’s Discretionary Fund, which will help provide the college with the means to sustain high standards of learning. One of Moore’s former law professors, Clarence John TeSelle, stands out in his memory for the effect he had on his students. A few years ago, with the support and approval of his classmates, Moore funded and presented to the law school a bust sculpture of TeSelle, who taught at UF 1928-1958 in areas such as legal ethics, trial procedure and techniques, evidence, military law and federal rules. Moore recalls the unsettling feeling he got when called on by the professor. Even military school didn’t quite prepare him for Professor TeSelle’s command of the classroom.

“Moore, stand up!’ You remember it, I tell ya, 50 years later. You remember what he taught you, too.”

Shortly after graduating from UF Law in 1953, Moore was called into the service, gaining good experience trying courts-martial as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General’s Department for two years in Sampson, New York. He returned to Florida in 1955, taking a job with a big law firm in West Palm Beach for three years before moving to Boynton Beach to form a partnership with local attorney Bob Griffith.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY

Moore began handling real estate deals in his practice and soon became involved in the community, helping to form the local Jaycees and serving as president of the Chamber of Commerce. Moore ran for the Florida Legislature in 1963 and lost. Over a quarter century later, he sought and won election as mayor of Boynton Beach.

Proud of what he was able to accomplish in two years in office, from 1989 to 1991, Moore nonetheless acknowledges he was not the most well-liked guy in town. *The Palm Beach Post* described him as “brash but dedicated” and “probably the fastest lip in politics.” Never backing down from a good political fight, Moore is proud of the nickname he earned while in office, “The Kamikaze Mayor.” Seeing how the city has grown to more than 50,000 residents, Moore realizes the pioneering role he and others leaders at the time had on the area’s development.

“There are a lot of things that we were able to accomplish here,” he says. “There was basically nothing here when we first came down. A bunch of guys got active through starting the Jaycees chapter down here. Then we got active and took over the city. A couple of guys were elected to the city commission and I was appointed the city attorney. We got a lot done.”

CONTINUING TO GIVE BACK

His political life behind him, Moore continues to give to his community as best he can. Several years ago he stepped to the plate with the first \$5,000 and raised the remaining \$20,000 to affiliate the local youth sports league with the national Police Athletic League, which targets at-risk youth and includes football, baseball, basketball and track teams, as well as cheerleading squads.

Moore recently took on the task of helping to form a new booster club to support Boynton Beach High School, which opened in 2001.

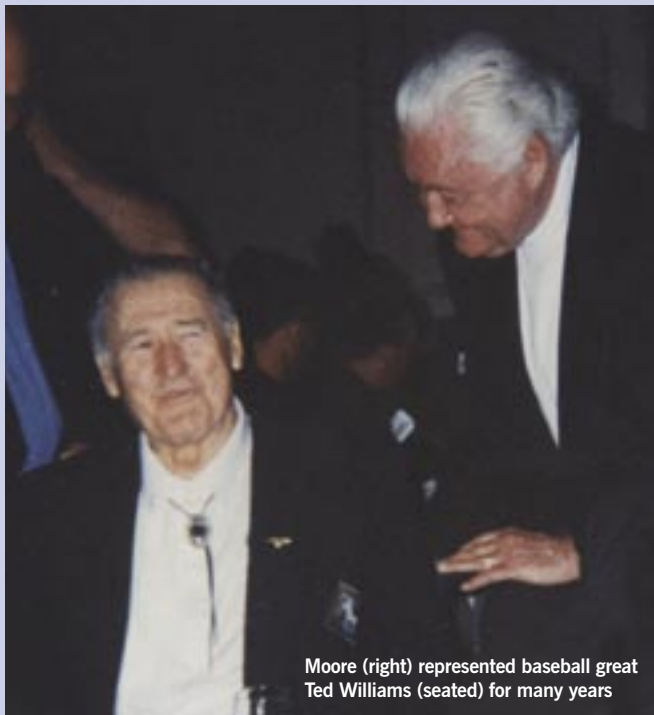
“We fought like hell to get this high school here, and then there was this big vacuum of not having an amalgamation of alumni,” he says. We want to have mentor services for the kids and do whatever we can to help.”

Moore recently was honored by the Southern Conference with a Distinguished Service Award. Les Robinson, the athletics director at The Citadel who has known Moore for several years, said he has given generously to the school and successfully challenged others to do the same.

“Gene Moore is one of the more fierce competitors I have been associated with,” Robinson says, “and I can see why he has had so much success as a lawyer, mayor and businessman.”

TED WILLIAMS' FRIEND

For all his success, even Moore's heart raced a little bit when a friend asked him many years ago if he would like to



Moore (right) represented baseball great Ted Williams (seated) for many years

Never backing down from a good political fight, Moore is proud of the nickname he earned while in office, “The Kamikaze Mayor.”

meet baseball legend Ted Williams at his home in Islamorada in the Florida Keys. Moore responded with the enthusiasm you would expect from a man who grew up during the era when “The Splendid Splinter” earned his reputation as the greatest hitter who ever played the game. It was the start of a friendship that would last many years until Williams' death in July 2002.

Moore became a Boston Red Sox fan almost as a matter of course, hanging out with Williams, representing him in real estate deals and fishing with him in at his fishing camp in Canada and elsewhere. While Williams' reputation for being a bit irascible at times was well-deserved, Moore remembers how his old friend kept his sense of humor even in the wake of two strokes. Moore is knocking away at a piece of fiction in which Williams, and particularly the fate of his famed remains, play a central role. It will be titled *The Curse of The Splendid Splinter*.

“He was a real good friend,” Moore says. “There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for you.”

These days, Moore puts in a half day at the office four days a week. He spends much of the rest of his time reading books at a clip of five every week, enjoying the company of his friends, and talking up the exploits of his grandchildren, who live in Atlantic Beach, Fla. and Oakland, Calif. While he has a difficult time distinguishing any one of his many accomplishment as being his greatest, he says, Moore's relationship with his grandchildren is his most treasured. One grandson, he's proud to report, is in the starting five for Jacksonville's Fletcher High School basketball team.

Today, Moore looks back and sees how fortunate he's been. More often than not, the breaks have gone his way, like a ground ball taking a room-service hop right into his baseball glove.

“Everywhere there was a turn in the road,” he says, “I got lucky.” ■



"What an incredible game!
Never had a doubt! It's great
to be a Florida Gator!"
-Tony Fineman (JD '94)

in Phoenix

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS



Fred Mills (JD '84)

UF Law alumni celebrated all over the world in January and again in April when the Gators took on Ohio State to bring home both a national football AND basketball championship. Many in the Gator Nation also traveled to the games—one in Phoenix and one in Atlanta—to support their teams. What a year.



in Iraq

Captain Peter J. Jennison (JD 04), left, with Major Charlie VanZant, a UF alum.



Lawyers on the GRIDIRON

It seems everyone has Gator fever these days, but there was plenty of gridiron greatness taking place back in the mid-1960s to early 1970s when four Jacksonville UF Law graduates played under famed UF Head Coach Ray Graves.

The four attorneys—as featured in the cover story in *Jacksonville Lawyer Magazine* last fall—are (from left) David Peek (JD 78) of Peek, Cobb & Edwards, Bill Dorsey (JD 73), Gene Peek (JD 72) of Peek, Cobb & Edwards; and Fred Catfish Abbott (JD 78) of Abbott & Wiesenfeld.

During that timeframe Steve Spurrier won the Heisman, Larry Smith made the longest run in Orange Bowl history, and John Reeves broke the NCAA record for total passing yards.

The four remain close friends today and are founding members of the Silver 60s Association, an organization made up of former Gator players who played under Graves—UF's winningest football coach, second only to his own former player, Steve Spurrier—between 1960 and 1969.

Abbott, who played at UF from 1968 through 1972, went on to play professionally for the Minnesota Vikings, Miami Dolphins and Philadelphia Eagles.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKSONVILLE LAWYER MAGAZINE AND BILLY CATLIN)



in Atlanta

Steve Chamberlain (JD 77, LLMT 78)



Stumpy Harris (JD 65)



in Phoenix

"After the game, still inside the stadium, my boyfriend proposed! It was really a special time for all of us.

Go Gators!"

—Susan Bexley (JD 99)

PARTNERS



Tribute Gift To Former UF President Creates Lecture Series At Law School

In a tribute to former University of Florida President Marshall Criser (JD 51), fellow Levin College of Law alumnus Lewis Schott (LLB 46) of Palm Beach has given \$600,000 to the university to create a permanent lecture series.



Criser



Schott

The gift will be used to establish an endowment fund for the series, to be named the Marshall M. Criser Distinguished Lecture Series at UF's Levin College of Law.

"The goal of the speaker series is to host two prestigious national and international speakers annually on topics of particular interest to law students," said Robert Jerry, dean of the law school.

Criser served as president of UF from 1984 to 1989 and was appointed by then-governor Jeb Bush to be a founding

member of the newly formed UF Board of Trustees in 2001. He served as chairman of that board until he stepped down in 2003 to become chairman of Scripps Florida Funding Corp., where he served until Dec. 21, 2006.

During his legal career, Criser spent 31 years as an attorney in the Palm Beach law firm of Gunster, Yoakley, Criser & Stewart before coming to UF. After his presidency at UF he practiced law in Jacksonville until he retired as a partner of the national firm McGuireWoods. Criser now resides in Gainesville.

"Marshall Criser has devoted a major part of his life to the University of Florida," said Schott. "As president, trustee, healthcare advocate, legal counsel, state regent and student, he has played many roles. It is an honor to be able to continue his influence at UF by establishing this lecture series in his name."

Criser earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from UF in 1949 and his law degree in 1951. He also has served as a trustee for the UF Law Center Association and as president of The Florida Bar.

"The outstanding leadership Marshall Criser has shown throughout his career provides an example for the aspirations we want our students to hold," said Dean Jerry. "In honoring Marshall with the named lecture series, Lewis Schott has also again enhanced the law school in a way that will enrich the academic experience of our students."

Bequest Supports Book Collection in LIC

Forty years ago William B. "Bill" Conner (JD 67) made a name for himself at the UF College of Law, where he excelled in academics and extracurricular activities. Shortly after graduating, cancer cut his bright future short. His brother, James F. "Jim" Conner II, made sure the memory of Bill and their parents, Dr. Fred and Mrs. Jo Conner, who originally created the fund in 1968, were honored by permanently endowing the William B. Conner Browsing Collection Fund through his estate plans. The bequest supports a collection of nonacademic legal interest books in the Chiles Legal Information Center.



Alumni and friends continue to provide much needed gifts that strengthen all areas of the college. Recent significant commitments included:

- \$300,000 gift from Betty Poucher to support the Allan L. Poucher (JD 42) Legal Education Series, a new lecture series for the *Florida Law Review*.
- \$184,678 gift from the estate of Robert B. Cole (JD 35). Cole was a partner in the now dissolved Miami law firm of Mershon, Sawyer, Johnston, Dunwody & Cole. The gift will create an endowment to fund faculty support, research and adjunct faculty in the area of health law.
- \$104,552 from Edward Downey (JD 74), of Downey & Downey in Palm Beach, to create an endowment to support education, teaching and research in the areas of estates, trusts and fiduciary administration.

Two Grads Win Outstanding Young Alumni Awards



Andersen



Chaves-Taylor

Two tireless members of the Law Alumni Council Executive Committee—Carter Andersen (JD 98) with the Tampa firm of Bush Ross, and Misty Chaves-Taylor (JD 95), a partner of the West Palm Beach office of Wadsworth, King & Huott—have been presented with Outstanding Young Alumni Awards at the University of Florida.

Both alumni actively support the college through programs such as Law Firm Giving and Call 10 and have an extensive array of leadership, philanthropic and professional or community-related activities.

Andersen has extensive experience handling complex civil litigation matters in both state and federal courts and in alternative dispute resolution settings, including arbitration and mediation, as well as bond counsel, underwriter's counsel and disclosure counsel in complex public financings. Taylor's practice areas are insurance defense and medical malpractice defense.

"Volunteers are a key component of a successful annual fund program, and these two individuals exemplify the impact volunteers can have," said UF Law Dean Robert Jerry. "And beyond their fund-raising skills, they are just great people and great Gators."

Alumni Affairs Welcomes New Staff Members

Two new staff members have joined the Office of Development & Alumni Affairs to assist with fund raising and alumni activities for the Levin College of Law. They are Vince PremDas, director of development, and Victoria Rudd, assistant director of development.

PremDas moves over from the UF College of Medicine, where he was director of Alumni Affairs. At the law school, he will be responsible for major gifts fund raising and working with the LCA Board. He earned a bachelor's degree from UF in exercise and sport science.

Rudd comes to UF from the development operation at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington D.C. She earned her B.S. from York College of Pennsylvania and her graduate degree from Seton Hall University. Victoria will be raising money to build the annual fund



KRISTEN HINES

Alumni Affairs staff includes (from left), Kristina Bullard, Jennifer Koepfinger, Andrea Shirey, Kelley Frohlich, Vince PremDas and Victoria Rudd.

and work with the Law Alumni Council.

In other staff changes, Andrea Shirey was promoted to director of Annual Fund & Stewardship Programs, Jennifer Koepfinger was promoted to program assistant and Kristina Bullard is the new senior secretary.

Preparing for Vienna Moot Competition



KRISTEN HINES

More than 150 oral competition teams from around the world, including a team of five UF Law students, took on a breach of contract problem in the recent William Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna, Austria. The students—from left, Christian Waugh, Jesus Suarez, Sasha Vasquez, Renee Meenach, David Lane—were judged by international lawyers, judges and commercial arbitrators served as arbitrators. Traveling with the group was attorney Eddie Palmer (JD 85) with Rivero, Palmer & Mestre in Miami, who has supported the team financially for several years and serves as an adviser.



Law School Myths

Surprising facts about who gives and why
sheds light on law school realities.

BY KATHY FLEMING

1 Law school tuition takes care of all of the college's financial needs.

Reality:

Revenue from tuition covers less than half the cost of running a law school. In fact, of all state law schools, only eight other public law schools had lower tuition in 2005-06 than the University of Florida. As a result, very few other law schools spend less per student than Florida. Even with state support (see Myth #2), we are having difficulty catching up with what our peers can invest in the instructional program. Private money is needed to provide our margin of excellence in areas such as:

- scholarships and stipends to attract diverse, top-flight students
- resources to recruit, develop and retain talented teachers and scholars (such as student research assistants and funds for research, travel to conferences, and professional development)
- public interest fellowships for students
- library resources
- moot court, trial team, and other co-curricular support
- career service workshops and conferences
- a technologically advanced learning environment.

2 The state has full responsibility for supporting our law school.

Reality:

The state of Florida supports higher education in general, and the law school specifically, but with the other responsibilities facing our Legislature, it is not realistic to expect this support to increase over time. In fact, the percentage of funding provided by the state has decreased over the years, and we do not expect a reversal in that trend. When

the responsibility is shared between the state and the law school's stakeholders—faculty, students, and alumni—the results are tangible:

- a superior curriculum and educational opportunities
- well-prepared graduates who will be leaders in their workplace settings, their communities, the state and the nation
- public service on a local, state, national and international level
- an enhanced reputation for the UF Levin College of Law, which reflects positively on *all* graduates.

3 The college has a large enough endowment to cover its costs.

Reality:

Although private gifts allowed the college to weather reductions in state funding that occurred earlier this decade, as grateful stewards of these private gifts, we spend only a small portion—less than four percent—of the market value of the college's endowment each year. The endowment is akin to the college's "savings" account, and we need more endowments to produce income that will help fund the college's "checking" account for ongoing programs.

4 Only highly successful lawyers have an obligation to support the college.

Reality:

Our society tends to equate how much someone earns with success. The law school is founded on ideals that nurture champions in all types of practice settings. We encourage alumni to give back based on their means, whether they practice in the courtroom, in the boardroom, or in public service. This will allow the college to prepare another generation of lawyers to embrace the full spectrum of opportunities that await them after graduation.

5 Only older alumni should give back to the college.

Reality:

The law school belongs to every alumnus. Recent graduates received a tremendous financial benefit from graduating from a law school that is supported by the state and those donating alumni who came before them. Did you know that several private law schools, including some in Florida, charge more than \$1,000 a credit hour? So where some law graduates are paying close to \$90,000 just for tuition at law school, our students pay closer to \$27,000. The college, obviously, does not seek equal gifts from our alumni, but does ask for equal support—because the college belongs to all of us. Alumni could consider giving annually an amount equal to one billable hour, as suggested by Dean Robert Jerry. Or, one might consider donating the cost of one credit hour of private law school tuition.

6 Undergraduate days overshadow your graduate experience.

Reality:

The undergraduate years usually summon fond memories of growing up and experiencing new friendships, an active social life and newfound independence. Law school, on the other hand, can evoke recollections of long study hours and intense examinations. The reality is that your law school was responsible for drafting the blueprint for the rest of your professional life and providing you with comprehensive legal training and experience that led, we hope, to a fulfilling career. The law school would like you to be counted among its supporters. ■

The Federal Bench

UF is Fourth Among Public Law Schools to Fill Federal Judiciary

BY DEBORAH CUPPLES (JD 05)

Privacy rights. Free speech rights. Property rights. Civil rights.

The list is long and the work profound for the federal judges who hear and decide cases involving the fundamental rights and protections of the American people.

Thirty-four of the men and women now holding these crucial appointments are UF Law graduates. UF Law is fourth among public law schools in the country—ninth among private and public universities—to send graduates to fill the federal bench. In total, 39 have served. In February, U.S. Magistrate Judge Marcia Morales Howard (90) became No. 34 as she moved up to become a U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Appointed by the president and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, federal judges exercise wide authority and discretion in the cases over which they preside in the U.S. District Courts, U.S. Circuit Courts and U.S. Courts of Appeals.

Many federal judges devote time to public service and educational activities through writing, speaking and teaching. Most, if not all, as evidenced by the three UF Law graduates profiled here, realize the tremendous impact their decisions have on American lives and in upholding of the Constitution.



KRISTEN HINES

Judge Susan Harrell Black (JD 67)

11th Circuit Court Of Appeals

She broke much ground and opened many doors.

When George H.W. Bush appointed Susan Harrell Black to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in 1992, Black became the first Florida woman to sit on the 11th circuit.

When Jimmy Carter appointed her to the federal bench in 1979, Black became the first woman to sit on a federal district court in Florida. In 1990, she was the first woman in the 11th Circuit to become chief judge of a district court.

Black was one of two women in her UF Law graduating class of 100—and one of five women enrolled at UF Law at that time.

“It was the norm for women to get through college early and get married shortly after they graduated,” Black said. “I was so anxious to get through law school, I even went through the summer. At 23, I actually felt old to be in school.”

Though her heart was set on doing trial work, Black started her career practicing commercial law in the late '60s.

“At that time, the belief was that women wouldn’t be good litigators,” Black said. “So it was difficult to join a litigation practice.”

After practicing commercial law for a few years, Black managed to find work with a newly elected state attorney, Ed Austin. That was 1969, and Black was the first woman to become an assistant state attorney in Florida’s 4th judicial circuit.

“Trial work didn’t seem strange to me,” Black said. “I’d debated all through college. I was used to arguing in front of people.”

The 1970s had a few more firsts in store for Black. She became the first woman county judge in Duval County. In 1975, she became the first woman circuit judge in Florida.

Though it was outside the norm in the '60s for women to become lawyers, Black’s father, William H. Harrell, a lawyer and later a judge, was supportive of her desire to go to law school. His views were traditional and reflected the times, but he also believed in education. His son, William H. Harrell Jr. (JD 74), also went to UF Law.

“During World War II my father was a B17 pilot. His plane was shot down and he was captured by the Germans,” Black said. “If he hadn’t made it home, my mother would have had to raise me alone. I think that experience enabled my father to see the benefits of a woman’s self-sufficiency.”

Black still remembers some of her UF law professors. “I didn’t like Tax, but Jack Freeland was a great teacher and made it interesting,” Black said. “And I had Constitutional Law with Fletcher Baldwin. He was so enthusiastic and made the subject fascinating.”

Beyond the education she received, Black sees her law school experience as crucial to her professional accomplishments.

“Almost every job I got was because a UF lawyer helped me get it,” she said. “I met a lot of people, fine people, in law school.”

After more than three decades, Black still enjoys being a judge.

“A friend of mine calls being a federal judge the best job in law land, and I agree,” said Black. “It’s everything great about being a lawyer. It’s intellectually challenging and fun. Also, I get to be a generalist. As a judge, I see many lawyers who are great specialists, and they teach me about their fields.”

Black has been married for 40 years. Her daughter, age 20, is not presently interested in a legal career, but that door will be open to her—as it is to so many women—partly because of the paths taken by Judge Susan Harrell Black.



Judge Bruce Kasold (JD 79) U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

“Duty, honor, country”—it is the famous motto of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. This motto still guides Judge Bruce Kasold of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims more than 30 years after his West Point graduation in 1973.

“Judges have a duty to their country,” Kasold said. “A duty to apply the law.”

Kasold was a public servant from the beginning and retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel after more than 20 years of service. Before the Army sent him to law school, Kasold was an air defense artillery officer. After graduating from UF Law, Kasold served in the JAG corps.

In 1994, he joined Holland & Knight law firm and worked in commercial and government contracts litigation.

A few years into private practice, Kasold again heard the call of public service, which led him to the position of chief counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. In that position, during the 1990s, Kasold marshaled the Senate’s largest

series of campaign finance hearings in a decade and conducted an investigation into allegations of election fraud for a Senate seat. It was the first time since the 1950s the U.S. Senate conducted a full investigation into an election.

“The election-fraud investigation created major turmoil in the Senate,” Kasold said. “But the chairman of the committee, Sen. John Warner, treated all cordially and fairly throughout the investigation, and I held frequent staff meetings to ensure all parties understood the scope, complications and progress of the investigation. After it was over, both sides were still talking to me because, I believe, people perceived my handling of the investigation as fair. That’s when I began thinking about becoming a judge.”

In 1998 Kasold became chief counsel for the secretary of the Senate and sergeant at arms. In that non-partisan position, he advised Senate leaders on general legal matters and political issues. He held that position until 2003, when President George W. Bush appointed him to the federal bench.

In part, it was encouragement from Chesterfield Smith (JD 48) a few years earlier that compelled Kasold to take steps toward the judicial appointment process. Smith was overseeing the expansion of the Washington, D.C., branch of Holland & Knight when Kasold was leaving

“In that non-partisan position, he advised Senate leaders on general legal matters and political issues.”

service and seeking to join the firm. Smith conducted Kasold’s interview and became a friend and mentor, and eventually encouraged him to look toward the judiciary.

Hearing roughly 3,000 cases each year, the Veterans Appeals Court is different from other U.S. appellate courts, in that most cases are decided

by individual judges instead of panels. Individually, Kasold hears roughly 275 cases annually.

“I enjoy serving on this court,” Kasold said. “I appreciate our veterans. Our court provides the procedural due process they deserve.”

Not having practiced in the area of veterans’ benefits before joining the court, Kasold’s adjustment to the bench involved a few months of intensely studying applicable law.

“The APA doesn’t apply, but the concepts are similar,” he said. “And lessons from my old Constitutional Law class at UF were also helpful—actually, those lessons have been helpful throughout my career.”

Another adjustment involved the robe itself. “When I first sat down, it was tight around my back and body, causing me to rise and lift the robe,” Kasold said. “It was obvious from the bench and beyond, which compelled some laughter in the court.”

Kasold finds nothing negative about being a judge. He enjoys preparing for cases and finds oral arguments stimulating.

“Judges are very well prepared to hear oral argument, but each judge in a panel may view the issues from a different angle,” he said. “It is quite interesting to listen to the questions other judges have and the answers provided by counsel.”

Like many judges, one thing troubles Kasold: unprepared lawyers.

“It happens more than you might think,” Kasold said. “It’s a waste of the court’s time. What do you do with a 1,000-page record that has no references, for example? Whether your client is pro bono or paying a million dollars, a lawyer’s service should be professional. Period.”

Judge S. Jay Plager (JD 58)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Some remember him as a young professor at UF, where he began teaching fresh out of law school in 1958. That was a few years after Sheldon Jay Plager took part in the Korean conflict as a Navy ensign—and a few decades before his 1989 appointment to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

“Essentially, I had three careers before becoming a judge,” Plager said. “Originally, I wanted to be a Navy admiral, but that’s not a family-friendly job, so I went landside to become a trial lawyer. UF prepared me well to practice and then preempted my plans.”

Plager embarked on a 30-year career as a legal scholar, focusing on property and environmental law, with teaching stints first at UF, the University of Illinois, and then a deanship at Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington. His numerous publications include a book about Florida water law that he co-authored with UF Law Professor Fletcher Baldwin and then-UF Dean Frank Maloney.

Along the way he spent time at Columbia University, the University of Wisconsin, Stanford University, and Cambridge University in England. Somehow, Plager managed to stay active in the U.S. Navy Reserves, from which he was honorably discharged as a commander in 1971.

“I never could keep the same job very long, so I had to get used to new challenges. Of all the careers I thought about, becoming a judge, particularly on a federal court of appeals, was not one of them,” Plager said. “It was purely serendipitous—being at the right place at the right time.”

The “right place” was the Executive Office of the President of the United States, through positions at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under

presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. In one of two positions he held at OMB, Plager’s office oversaw about half a trillion dollars a year in federal spending.

“For someone who struggles to balance his checkbook, that was a real challenge,” said Plager.

“Typically, there are two routes to a federal court appointment,” Plager

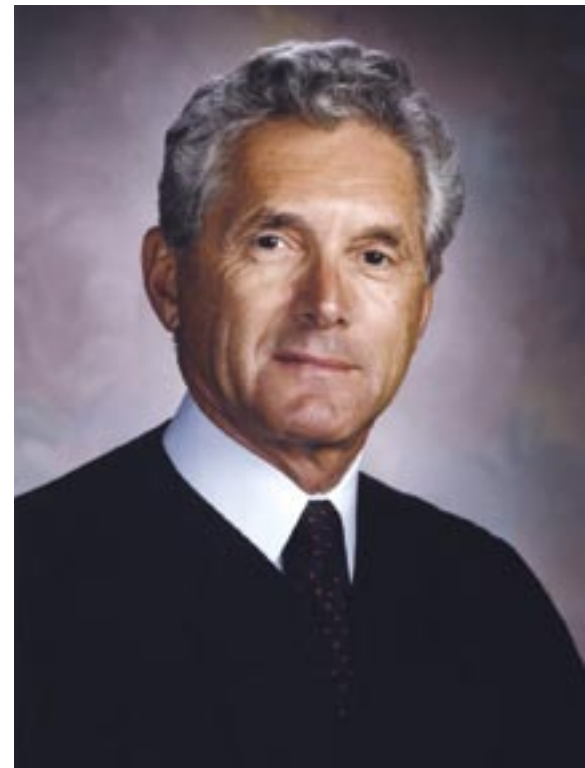
older than most of them, which seemed to give me an advantage. During the Reagan era, White House staff were not always enamored of HHS’s social programs, but I was pretty relentless and had some success pushing the HHS secretary’s program. After awhile, the OMB guys said, ‘Hey, why don’t you come work for us.’ That sounded like fun, so I did.”

“I still refer back to basics I learned in my first year of law school, and I can still hear my first year law professors.”

said. “One is to be politically active. The other is to come to the attention of the president in some other way. In my case, during the time I worked at OMB I worked closely with the president’s legal staff, and in addition assisted then-Vice President Bush in his regulatory review role. When he became president, I was asked to stay on to help get through the transition, and then I guess they had to find something else for me to do. A federal court appointment is one of those offers you can’t refuse.”

Even his stints at the OMB came about serendipitously. President Reagan chose Indiana’s former governor, Otis “Doc” Bowen, as secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). Bowen needed staff that understood Washington. Plager was just retiring after seven years as dean of the Indiana Law School. Having worked in the regulatory field for years, and having served as an adviser to the U.S. Environment Protection Agency, Plager fit the bill to become counselor to the under-secretary of HHS.

“At HHS, I regularly negotiated with the White House staff on behalf of the secretary,” Plager said. “I was



During his years on the bench, Plager has seen considerable change, not only in the cases, but in the way judges work.

“The technology is amazing,” he said. “I can work at home and still have access to my office files, and work by computer

and fax and phone with my law clerk and administrative assistant. It wasn't that easy when I first took the bench.

"Another change is that law is more of a business than it used to be. Because of that, not all lawyers who enter the practice these days choose to stay with it. That has a side advantage for us judges—we can attract some top notch young lawyers as law clerks. Of course, the fact that they can leave clerking and command salaries that are higher than their judges doesn't hurt either ... at least it doesn't hurt the law clerks."

Plager took senior judge status in 2000, which allows him to have a part-time hearing schedule. His enjoyment of the job prevents him from fully retiring.

"Being on the bench is a constant learning experience. Much of our

work involves the application of federal legislation, including some pretty convoluted statutory programs. Statutory drafting and interpretation are not always given the emphasis they deserve in law school. Other cases we hear are often fascinating insights into

“Another change is that law is more of a business than it used to be.”

the latest cutting-edge technology,” he said.

Two things that Plager encounters as a judge particularly frustrate him: poorly prepared lawyers and badly drafted legislation.

“We get our share of each. When they combine in the same case, finding the right answer to a dispute can be harder than it should be,” he said.

Though he doesn't teach classes regularly any more, the quality of legal education is a subject that still concerns Plager.

“I graduated from law school nearly 50 years ago, but I still refer back to basics I learned in my first year of law school, and I can still hear my first year law professors, like Professor Day, talking to me. Sometimes I worry about the education that law students are getting these days. It's crucial for lawyers to get the foundation in basics, like the big three—Property, Contract, Torts—that I was fortunate enough to get at UF.” ■

UF Alumni Serving as Federal Judges

Rosemary Barkett (JD 70)
 Susan Harrell Black (JD 67)
 William John (Sr. Status) Castagna (JD 49)
 Anne C. Conway (JD 75)
 Miles Davis (Magistrate Judge) (JD 73)
 William P. Dimitrouleas (JD 75)
 Patricia C. Fawsett (JD 73)
 Peter Fay (JD 56)
 Steven H. Friedman (JD 77)
 Jose Alejandro Gonzalez Jr. (Sr. Judge) (JD 57)
 William Terrell Hodges (JD 67)
 Marcia Morales Howard (JD 90)
 Paul C. Huck (JD 65)
 Elizabeth Jenkins (Magistrate Judge) (JD 76)
 Bruce E. Kasold (JD 79)
 James Lawrence King (JD 53)
 Richard A. Lazzara (JD 70)
 Howell Webster Melton Sr. (JD 48)
 Steven Douglas Merryday (JD 75)
 Stephan P. Mickle (JD 70)
 Donald M. Middlebrooks (JD 72)
 James S. Jr. Moody (JD 72)
 John Henry II Moore (Sr. Status) (JD 61)
 Hugh Morgan (Magistrate Judge) (JD 68)
 Thomas Morris (Magistrate Judge) (JD 71)
 Maurice Mitchell Paul (JD 60)
 Sheldon Jay Plager (JD 58)
 Gregory A. Presnell (JD 66)
 George Proctor (JD 49)
 Raymond Ray (JD 71)
 William C. Sherrill Jr (Magistrate Judge) (JD 68)
 John Richard Smoak (JD 72)
 Ursula Mancusi Ungaro-Benages (JD 75)
 George Cressler Young (Sr. Status) (JD 40)

U.S. Court of Appeals 11th Circuit, Miami
 U.S. Court of Appeals 11th Circuit, Jacksonville
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Orlando
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Pensacola
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Ft. Lauderdale
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Orlando
 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, Miami
 U.S. Bankruptcy Court, SD Florida, West Palm Beach
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Ft. Lauderdale
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Ocala
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. Court of Appeals: Veterans Claims, Washington, D.C
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, West Palm Beach
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Tampa
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Key West
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
 U.S. Court of Appeals Federal Circuit
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Orlando
 U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida
 U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Florida, Ft. Lauderdale
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Pensacola
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, Panama City
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami
 U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Orlando

Federal Appellate
 Federal Appellate
 Federal District
 Federal District
 Federal Magistrate
 Federal District
 Federal District
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 Federal Bankruptcy
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A Mutual Respect

Judges maintain 35-year friendship at home and around the world

BY SUSAN VERGNANI

Anne Conway (JD 75) and Jacqueline Griffin (JD 75) have had season seats together for Gator football for 20 years. That’s not all they have in common. But it’s a telling example of how the two judges’ personal and professional lives have intersected over the course of their 35 year friendship.

It all began when they chanced to sit next to each other at their UF Law school orientation. They immediately sensed they were kindred spirits, despite their different personalities, which are best reflected in the judgeships they hold, according to Griffin.

“Anne’s a federal trial judge,” Griffin said of Conway, who was appointed a U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Florida by President George H.W. Bush in 1991. “She is more social than I am and enjoys interacting with

Above: Judge Jacqueline Griffin (left) and Judge Anne Conway on a conference panel at UF Law

lots of different people. I’m more of an introvert.

“I like being behind the scenes reading briefs,” said Griffin, who was

appointed an appellate court judge in the 5th District Court of Appeal of Florida, Daytona Beach, in 1990.

Conway concurs with her friend’s assessment.

“We have the same love of the law and of judging as part of the law, but different approaches,” Conway said. “I like the variety in my work. I recently tried a drug case, followed by a patent case, and then a contract dispute. I also enjoy the action of the courtroom. I grew up watching Perry Mason and always wanted to be a trial judge.”

Despite their contrasting social styles and differing political persuasions, Conway and Griffin’s friendship has flourished over the decades because of their similar value systems.

LAW SCHOOL FRIENDS

After graduating from UF Law in 1975 with honors, the two young attorneys, both *Florida Law Review* editors, gravitated to the Orlando area and eventually ended up working together for about three years at the law firm of Wells, Gattis & Hallows, primarily as commercial litigators.

But even as their professional paths diverged and they moved on to other law firms, Conway and Griffin remained close, each still finding time to pursue volunteer activities.

Both judges have long had an abiding interest in the welfare and education of children. Griffin, a former school teacher in Seminole County named Young Teacher of the Year in 1972, said she always tried to teach young people in her community about our legal system and how it works through the state and local bar association during her tenure as an attorney. She also volunteered in the guardian ad litem program in Orange County, which she said has excellent programs for the disadvantaged. Conway donated time to the Orange County Bar Association doing pro bono work and sat on the board of the Orlando Legal Services Corps for many years.

TRAVELING TOGETHER

In recent years Conway and Griffin have made trips to Lima, Peru, to spend time at Hogar San Francisco de Asis, a residential facility for critically ill children from impoverished backgrounds, run by the brother of one of Conway's colleagues. Helping to support the residence with both her time and financial contributions has been an important project

Both judges have long had an abiding interest in the welfare and education of children.



Conway (left) with her daughter Carolyn Robinson (center), and Judge Jacqueline Griffin on a trip to La Paz, Bolivia

for Conway, whose two daughters joined her on the month long visits to the facility. Griffin, who lived in Spain and is fluent in Spanish, was eager to participate, though she was only able to stay at the facility for a few days.

"I've been there twice with Anne," Griffin said. "I love the children, and my Spanish came in handy. I read to them and brought jigsaw puzzles for them to play with."

Griffin, who never married, dubs herself "fairy godmother" to Conway's two daughters, Nell and Carolyn, to whom she has always been "Aunt Jackie." And having homes 10 minutes apart in Winter Park, near Orlando, has made it easy for the two to stay connected amid their busy careers.

"Jackie is like a member of the family to us," Conway said.

Anyone visiting Griffin's office in Daytona Beach will more than likely meet Cupcake, the resident feline. But those familiar with Griffin's love for animals know that Cupcake is only one of many lucky animals who have crossed Griffin's path. Animal welfare and rescue has long held a special place in her heart.

"A large amount of my spare time is spent in animal rescue activities in Volusia County," said Griffin, who was mum as to the number of feline friends she lives with. "Our main activities are bringing cats and dogs to PetSmart on weekends for adoption, as well as animal rescue."

Conway, who is not a cat person, volunteers in her community as a tutor.

"My interest is more with kids," Conway said. "I go to an elementary school twice a week and read to the kindergartners and first graders."

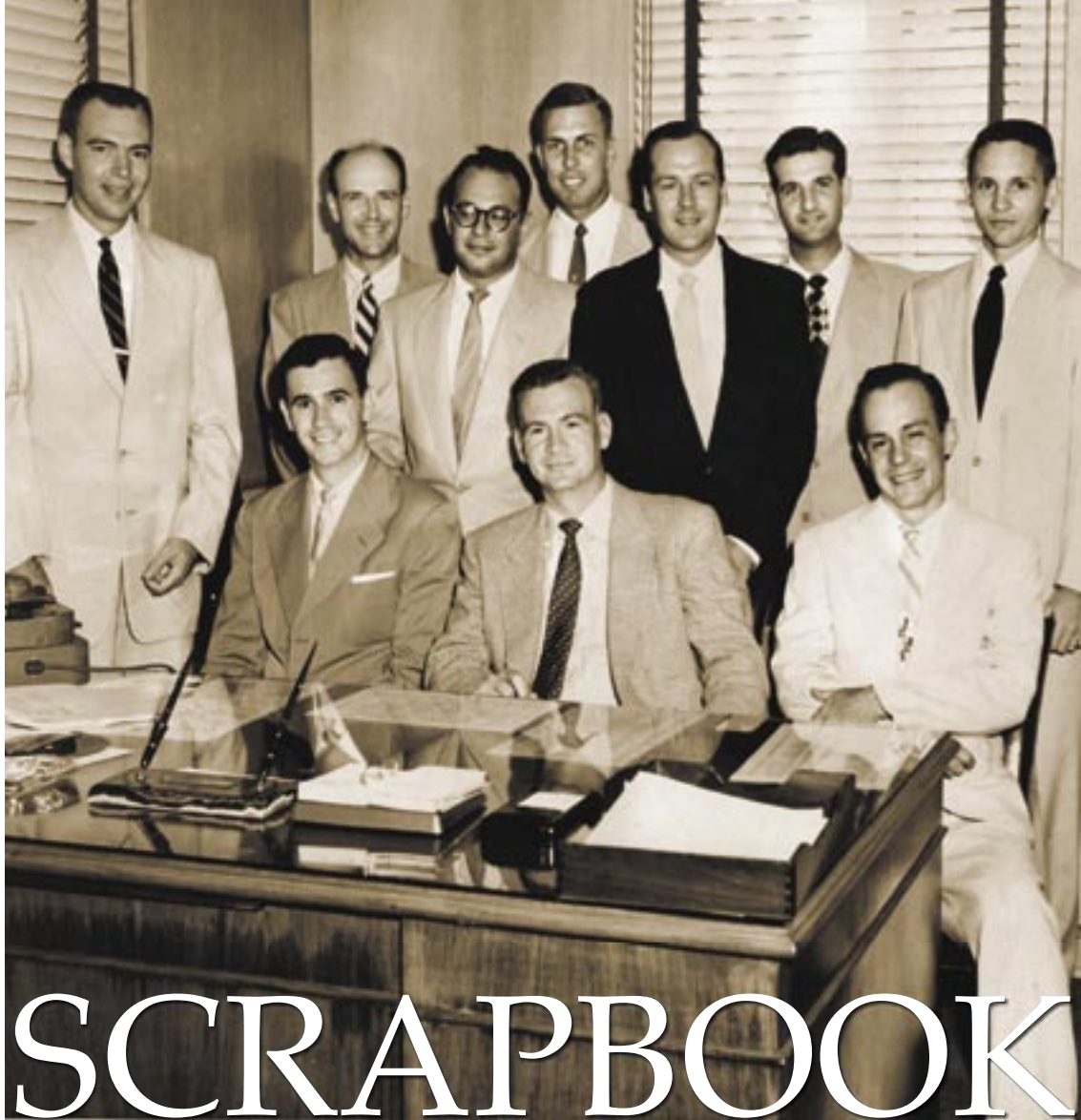
GIVING BACK

Another facet of the judges' public service work has been their participation in the Levin College of Law's Center for Governmental Responsibility since their law school days. Both are on the center's advisory board and were panel members at the January symposium about privacy law.

Both judges also attended the annual Legal and Policy Issues Conference in Lima, Peru, last May, co-sponsored by the Center for Governmental Responsibility and the college's Law & Policy in the Americas Program, where Conway participated in a symposium about legal education and professionalism. Conway's younger daughter, Nell, who will begin law school at UF this fall, also attended the conference.

Conway also has made a five-year financial commitment to the Center for Governmental Responsibility, said Jon Mills, the center's director and dean emeritus of the law college. He has known both judges since they were his research assistants during their law school days.

"They were both extremely smart and very idealistic," Mills said. "They energized each other." ■



◀ The staff of the Summer 1955 issue of *Florida Law Review* pose for their publication: (left to right, sitting) Reubin O. Askew, notes editor; D.L. Middlebrooks, editor-in-chief; James E. Travelstead, comments editor; (standing) Rollin D. Davis, Jr., business manager; Robert B. Mautz, faculty advisor; Edward A. Stern, articles and book review editor; Peter T. Fay, symposium editor; Eugene L. Roberts, member of the board; Mandell Glicksberg, faculty advisor; and John W. Sheppard, member of board.

Tell Your Story

Happy, touching or humorous, we want your law school memories. Send to Editor Kathy Fleming (352) 273-0650 or fleming@law.ufl.edu.

House Hunting

I arrived at the law school in the fall of 1953, three days after classes had started. I had come straight from the Korean War and military uniforms were the only clothes I had.

As I was walking around trying to figure out where I was going to live, I spotted another guy walking across campus in uniform. His name was Reubin Askew and he, too, was looking for a place to live. The dorms were full, apartments were rented and prospects for housing were looking bleak.

We decided to join forces and began to literally knock on every door in the neighborhoods nearby. Finally, in a little house off 13th Street, two little ladies agreed to let us live in their spare room if we promised to behave.

It worked out great, and Reubin and I became lifelong friends. Many

in our class went on to become leaders in the state, and Reubin (JD 56) went on to serve as Florida's governor.

Peter T. Fay (JD 56)
Judge, U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, Miami

Fake Fighting

One of my fondest and most useful recollections is the day a very well-liked and well-known criminal law professor chose me to illustrate a point. He asked me and a fellow law student to act out a fake fight and burst into his classroom still punching. Well, of course we did just that.

Afterwards, the professor asked each of the students to describe what they'd witnessed and to provide a description of the two assailants. At the time, surprisingly, the students' recall varied widely.

For the most part their memories were inaccurate and truly not very useful.

That day I learned a valuable lesson: Things are rarely what they seem. Even when witnessed by the most astute observer.

Over three decades as a lawyer I've never forgotten the sage advice of that criminal law professor. When dealing with the human factor much is left to chance. That reality presents many opportunities for the skilled lawyer. No matter the odds of success or failure and no matter how clear cut any case seems from the outset, I dig deeper to find out what's really going on.

In my estimation the lesson of that day wasn't the law. It was how to practice law!

Gerald A. Rosenthal (JD 73)
Senior Partner,
Rosenthal & Levy



The Last of a Vanishing Breed

Dexter Douglass leaves an indelible mark on Florida Law

BY JAMES HELLEGAARD



There is a good lunch crowd early on a Monday afternoon at the Seineyard Restaurant south of Tallahassee. As the hostess leads the group to their table, heads turn up and one man nudges his wife, motioning her attention toward the four gentlemen, all of whom have been key players in Florida's rich political history and fixtures in this area for more than a half century. Among them are retired appellate court Judge Tom Barkdull (JD 49), former Florida Sen. William Dean "Wig" Barrow (JD 53), former Senate President and Speaker of the House Mallory Horne (JD 50), and prominent local attorney Dexter Douglass (JD 55).

As everyone tears into a delicious lunch of broiled and fried seafood, the men continue a discussion that began 20 minutes earlier when Barkdull stopped to pick up Douglass outside his office on Call Street. The talk skips easily from plans to go fishing to wild camping trips long past, and, of course, politics. Douglass, legendary for his intensely competitive nature both in the courtroom and in the political arena, spends much of his time listening to the stories being passed around, interjecting a comment here and there, and smiling and laughing often with the men he has known for much of his life.

Barrow goes back the longest, meeting Douglass 65 years ago when they were young boys growing up in Panhandle town of Crestview. He recalls the time when they were 11 or 12 years old and challenged two local teenage girls to a game of strip poker. The boys lost badly, giving up as they were down to their underwear. The girls hadn't shed a stitch. "I believe they were cheatin,'" Barrow says.

Douglass entered law school in 1950 when Florida graduates were admitted to the Bar upon graduation, the "diploma privilege." He interrupted his education to serve in the Korean War, returning to graduate in 1955. Douglass came to Tallahassee, launching his law practice literally one day after graduating from UF Law.

He represented his first criminal defendant client for free. Fred Wallace was a black janitor who stood accused of stealing \$400 by his employer, the Tallahassee Elks Lodge. Douglass won an acquittal.

"For a number of years in my practice I might be in the Supreme Court today, in the small claims court tomorrow, and federal court next week," he says. "So in the course of my practice, I guess I've handled just about everything you could handle."

"I heard about him ... They said there's this freshman boy who's going somewhere."

Though he now counts Douglass among his closest friends, Horne had the misfortune many years ago of getting to know his courtroom style as an adversary. Douglass, he says, is not a lawyer you want to see on the opposing side.

"He's very intense and focused to the point where he just makes everyone around him go crazy, especially if you're the opponent," says Horne, who has known Douglass for more than 55 years. "He really develops a dislike for you during that experience. And, in disliking you, he takes pleasure in making your life miserable."

Horne calls Douglass a brilliant man with a retentive memory, as well as an avid reader with immense knowledge of Florida political history and legal history. "He's just maddening."

Barrow says Douglass is "a man who was raised on the land and the soil," recalling how the two of them made money in their younger days cutting paper wood with a crosscut saw.

Douglass' intelligence and integrity allow him to stand out, he says.

"Dexter Douglass from childhood on had the ability of total recall," Barrow says. "He's absolutely brilliant. The other thing

that set Dexter apart was, he always told it like it is. He told you exactly like it is whether you liked it or not. He's very good at expressing himself, and he's absolutely fearless. He is the last of a vanishing breed."

REPRESENTING LEADERS

At 77, Douglass can look back on a career that has left an indelible imprint on Florida, particularly on government. He served as general counsel to his old friend, the late Gov. Lawton Chiles, and represented U.S. Vice President Al Gore in his challenge to the 2000 presidential election in Florida.

Perhaps his greatest legacy will be his service on the two Florida constitution-revision commissions, including being chairman in 1998 when the 37-member commission crafted 13 revisions to Florida's governing document—12 of which were approved by voters.

The results of that effort included restructuring the Florida Cabinet, merging several agencies into the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, ensuring voters could continue electing circuit judges until changed by the voters, and affirming Florida's commitment to high-quality public schools. Douglass said the bi-partisan spirit and make-up of the commission—19 Democrats and 18 Republicans—had a significant impact on the commission's success.

"That turned into a great job, a lot of fun," Douglass says. "We had a good group of people and got a lot done."



Douglass at 6th birthday party with dog Bullger

GETTING NOTICED

Barkdull, the only person who served on all three Florida Constitution Revision Commissions in the 20th Century, remembers hearing about Douglass before they even met as undergrads at UF.

“His reputation preceded him,” says Barkdull, who was a few years ahead of Douglass in school. “I heard about him from some people from West Florida. They said there’s this freshman boy that’s going somewhere. He’s a good orator, they said, so I went over and heard him make a campaign speech and he was pretty good.”

He had a chance to see Douglass in action years later when he appeared before the Judicial Qualifications Commission on which Barkdull sat as a judge.

“I think he’s one of the best lawyers that I know,” Barkdull says. “He’s the kind of lawyer that would try most any case. He studies them hard and he’s good. I don’t think there’s anybody in North Florida that’s any better in front of a jury than he is.”

Douglass’s affiliation with the Democratic Party is an integral part of who he is. His father was W. D. “Cooter” Douglass, a newspaper publisher in Okaloosa County and a popular radio newscaster whose staunch Democrat views were broadcast throughout the Panhandle. His mother, Marie Folmar Douglass, owned and operated two restaurants in Crestview.

Douglass was born in Pensacola on December 6, 1929, just weeks after Black Monday and the onset of the Great Depression. “My dad used to say I was conceived in prosperity and born in depression,” he says. “And it was depression alright.” Like just about every other business, his father’s newspaper business went broke, and he landed a job selling snuff all over West Florida. “He sold two carloads a week of snuff, if you can believe it,” Douglass says. “Apparently everybody used snuff in those days, all the old women, everybody.”

COUNTRY LIVING

After landing work with the U.S. forest service, his father moved the family to West Florida, to the Blackwater Forest in Munson, coincidentally near to Walton County where the Douglass family had originally settled as a pioneer family in the 1820s and his mother’s family had arrived in the late

1890s from Alabama. Coming from Tallahassee, Munson was “in the boonies,” he recalls. For a young boy, it turned out to be heaven on earth.

“It was a great deal for me,” Douglass says. “I didn’t think so at the time. It was a hell of a culture shock to go from here to Munson. I got to Munson and we had the only electricity and running water within 15 to 20 miles of where we lived.”

When he first arrived at the elementary school, Douglass stood out, but not in a good way. “I wore short pants, the only kid in 20 miles with short pants going to school in the fifth grade,” says Douglass, his eyes lighting up at the memory. “And I wanted some dungarees like these old ragged things everybody was wearing. So I got ‘em.”

Douglass soon learned just how fortunate he and his family really were. Most other kids at his school literally didn’t have anything to eat. He and his sister would give them their sandwiches. When they came home and ate their dinners like they were starving, their mother asked why.

“And I said, ‘Well, the other children didn’t have anything to eat,’” says Douglass, who says it was at his sister’s urging that he joined her act of kindness. “I really was impressed by how poor these people were. But they were all my friends, or became so.”

Munson was not a big place, to be sure, but growing up there would leave a huge impression on Douglass.

“We went all over that great forest, and I learned a lot about the woods and about snakes and farming and fighting fires and everything else, I guess,” he says. “I just had a real wonderful experience there.”

In 1940 the Douglass family moved to Crestview, population 970. His father bought the newspaper, and Dexter worked there and in his mom’s restaurant and did whatever else he could to make a buck, from selling wood to raising and dressing chickens. “I always had something going. My mother made darn sure I was always working.”

Though Munson and Crestview were not big places, politicians campaigning in the area, including U.S. Sen. Spessard Holland (JD 16), always stopped at the Douglass house on their way through.

“I went to all the political rallies with my dad,” Douglass says. “Everybody that came to Munson came to our house. I got to meet them all. I was very impressed. When we went to Crestview it was the same thing. We were right in the middle of it. So I just had a great upbringing.”

BECOMING A LAWYER

After graduating from high school, Douglass came to Gainesville, where he worked at the radio station and earned his bachelor’s degree in journalism from UF. He knew from a young age that he wanted to be a lawyer.

“I always loved to go down to the courthouse and watch the trials when I was in Crestview,” he explains. “I remember going down and watching even coroner’s juries, anything. So I had a real good background in the law, from the bottom. I guess I was raised with a feeling for the poor, the underdogs, because my dad had it.”

Douglass began practicing law with Caldwell, Parker, Foster & Wigginton, the biggest law firm in Tallahassee. Douglass developed a strong following, eventually deciding to form his own firm, which would grow to as many nine lawyers.

Many of the friendships he'd made while at UF would impact his career, most notably with the late Lawton Chiles (JD 55). The two met while undergraduate students at UF and got to know each other through their service in ROTC, student politics and as leaders in their fraternities. Douglass also knew the woman who would become his friend's wife, Rhea Chiles—both were on the staffs of the *Alligator* newspaper and the *Seminole* yearbook.

Douglass and Chiles both served in Korea and graduated from UF Law just months apart in 1955. When Chiles first ran for the U.S. Senate in 1971, Douglass had little hesitation in deciding to cut back on his own practice to work on his friend's campaign. While Chiles served 18 years in the Senate, Douglass continued to make his mark as a lawyer.

REPRESENTING EVERYONE

The cases he took on earned him selections in three categories in the book *Best Lawyers in America*—personal injury plaintiff, commercial litigation and criminal defense. Douglass developed a reputation as a lawyer who would fight successfully for clients of all walks of life and all races. He won verdicts to improve the minority hiring practices of companies and schools and represented numerous indigent clients pro bono in criminal cases. In 1989 Douglass and his partner Thomas Powell won the acquittal of a rural black family accused of killing three white attackers.

He also won numerous multimillion-dollar settlements for individuals in personal injury cases, including a 1981 settlement for \$5.5 million—from an all-white jury—that was then the nation's largest amount ever awarded to a black plaintiff. The man, who had been crushed between his truck and a trailer while loading in a limestone mine near Perry, Fla., wasn't killed, but his life, and that of his wife, had been ruined. For Douglass, the victory was particularly satisfying because he thought the defendants were trying to take advantage of the man because he was black. The verdict included \$1.05 million for the man's wife for loss of consortium.

"For black people that was just totally unheard of. They were good people and they were badly damaged," Douglass explains. "I've enjoyed representing the underdog from time to time. And I've enjoyed representing the upper dog occasionally because they pay well. My philosophy's more attuned to being a Democrat."

Those Democratic ties would come up again in 1995, when Chiles called on his good friend as the state took on tobacco companies. Though Douglass declined the invitation to get involved on the trial team for Florida's lawsuit against tobacco companies in the 1990s, he did take on the supervisory power

for the governor over the litigation challenging the statute. When Publix, Associated Industries and other special interest groups brought suit to declare that statute unconstitutional, Douglass argued successfully for the constitutionality of the statute in circuit court, eventually winning a 4-3 decision by the Florida Supreme Court.

When Chiles died during his final month in office in 1998, Douglass immediately went to the Governor's Mansion to try to help, answering questions from the press and shedding tears with old friends.

Shortly afterward, Douglass went back into full-time practice, trying a case on behalf of a woman who was suing her insurance company, which had refused to settle within the limits of the her \$300,000 underinsured motorist policy. Convinced the woman was faking her injuries, the insurance

company put her under surveillance, a move that backfired when the jury saw the tapes. The insurance company offered the woman \$50,000. The jury's verdict was \$1.3 million. It was settled with the insurer for a figure much higher than her policy

limits because of the company's bad faith in refusing to settle before trial.

"So I felt like it was time for me to sort of slack off for a little bit," Douglass said.

THE HONORS COME

His "duty and service to the public" was honored last year when The Florida Bar Foundation recognized Douglass with its annual Medal of Honor. Considered the state's most prestigious award for attorneys, the Medal of Honor has been bestowed in the past to former Gov. Reubin Askew (JD 56), former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, ABA Presidents Chesterfield Smith (JD 48) and Martha Barnett (JD 73), Attorney General Richard Ervin (JD 28), Robert M. Ervin (JD 47), and other luminaries of the Bar.

Today, Douglass spends much of his time mediating cases, along with working some appeals related to constitutional law; and occasionally consulting with lawyers on trials.

He and his wife Terese live on a farm northeast of Tallahassee, where Douglass still gets up at 5 a.m. every day and looks after a few cows. After open-heart surgery a while back, he began walking every morning and now works out at the gym in an effort, he says, to "stay in shape for an old man."

Every Monday, as the noon hour approaches, on a day like the one that brings these buddies to the Seineyard Restaurant, you can find Douglass waiting for his old friend Tom Barkdull to pick him up for lunch.

"I get along pretty good," he says. "I'm doing what most old lawyers do. Still coming to the office everyday and having a practice of sorts and keeping active in what I love to do." ■

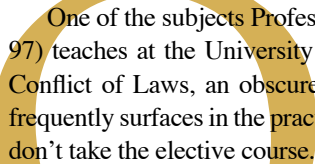
"I got to Munson and we had the only electricity and running water within 15 to 20 miles of where we lived."



Behind the **LECTERN**

BY KATHY FLEMING

Alumni Provide a Glimpse into Their Classrooms



One of the subjects Professor Christina Bohannon (JD 97) teaches at the University of Iowa College of Law is Conflict of Laws, an obscure and undervalued area that frequently surfaces in the practice of law. Most UI students don't take the elective course.

Early one fall semester a second-year student hurried over to Bohannon to relay how a conflict of law issue had become a frustrating obstacle in a case at being handled by a large litigation firm where he was interning over the summer. No one in the firm was knowledgeable about the subject, so the intern—who had just taken Bohannon's class the previous semester—gave a short presentation to the entire office, including senior partners.

"He felt like a hero for helping them, and I felt like a hero for helping him," Bohannon said. "I simply love teaching law."

She discovered she loved law during her first days as a student at the UF Law school in 1994, when she realized the substance of the information and the intensity of the environment sparked a passion—for the first time—for the actual process of learning.

"I would watch how my teachers taught and how much they enjoyed their jobs. I liked them as teachers and as people, and I felt inspired," she said.

She was so inspired that she finished first in her class, served as editor-in-chief of *Florida Law Review*, began publishing, and clerked in a federal appellate court. She began as an adjunct professor and became an associate professor at Iowa in 2002, the same year she was nominated for a teaching award.

UF SCHOLARS

About 125 UF Law graduates stand behind the lectern at law schools across the country. About a quarter of them are LL.M. graduates of UF's top-ranked graduate tax program. Countless others serve as adjunct faculty, bringing their practice expertise into the classroom.

Still others—such as Henry Mallue, Jr. (JD 69), who is on business faculty at the College of William and Mary, and Sandra Chance (JD 90), who is on the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications faculty and directs the Brechner Center for Freedom of Information—teach within other university colleges.

To have a career in the hierarchical and highly competitive academic profession, the golden path usually requires a law degree from a top law school. Paths similar to Bohannon's also are helpful: outstanding academic

performance in law school, senior level work on the law review, a prestigious judicial clerkship and earning a LL.M. or S.J.D. degree.

"Our law school is an excellent training ground because it provides the kind of in-depth learning experience necessary for teaching, especially in the subject areas in which we have particular depth such as taxation, environmental law and family law," said Michael Seigel, a UF Law professor and former associate dean for academic affairs who—like many of the UF Law faculty—followed the traditional path into teaching. His credentials include graduating magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, serving as an editor of its *Law Review*, clerking for a U.S. Court of Appeals judge and working as a federal litigator.

"We also have faculty anxious to be mentors to aspiring academics, doing such things as advising them on post-JD work and even helping them to get published—which is almost a prerequisite to being hired as a law professor these days," Seigel said. "So many of us love to teach that we surely communicate by our passion for the job that teaching is a wonderful profession."

THREE HATS

Once ensconced, the life of a law professor consists of three pursuits that are both stimulating and stressful: teaching, service and research. Whether carrying a teaching load of several classes, serving on university and professional organization committees, doing pro bono work, or performing crucial scholarship, the hours are long and the commitment to better the world is real.

Scholarship, in particular, allows law professors to examine legal issues in depth to question or improve the legal system and influence social policy.

"I think that any law school that aspires to be a great law school has an obligation to society to produce scholars who do good for society," said UF Law Professor Marty McMahon.

For the UF law graduates that went on to teach across the nation, and those who provide a glimpse into their daily lives here, there is little doubt that being a law professor requires a considerable amount of talent, skill and dedication.

Professor Donald Hall (JD 68), a Vanderbilt University Law School professor retiring next May after 37 years of teaching, said teaching law is a "tremendous" experience.

Said Hall, "I could not imagine a more energizing, challenging and rewarding career."



Thomas E. Baker (JD 77)

Visiting Professor of Law, William & Mary University
Professor of Law, Florida International University

Every good teacher begins—and truly remains—a student of his subject.

My teaching vocation traces back to the first day of Professor Fletcher Baldwin’s storied course in constitutional law. His reputation as a teacher, scholar and appellate advocate preceded him, and we were intimidated just sitting there. He began to call on student after student, but each in turn struggled with his Socratic questioning.

Then, I heard those fateful words every nervous 1L dreads, no matter how prepared he may be: “Mr. Baker, can you tell me about *Marbury v. Madison*?” For the rest of the class period, he and I went back and forth about that famous case—he did not call on anyone else.

After class, some classmates even came up to congratulate me, probably partly out of a sense of relief. At the end of the semester, I got up the nerve to climb the stairs to his office. A little out of breath to be alone with “the Professor,” I volunteered to work on his cases—one of which went all the way to the Supreme Court.

Fletcher Baldwin became my mentor and friend. Observing his dedication to teaching and the fulfillment it brought him, I decided to become a law professor. Some 30 years and five law schools later, after teaching thousands of students, I still get excited when it is my turn to call on a student to recite on *Marbury v. Madison*.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Teaching awards at every law school where he has taught, including the University of Athens in Greece
- Eleven books, including two casebooks and more than 100 scholarly articles
- Judicial Fellow for Supreme Court of the U.S. Chief Justice Burger and as the acting administrative assistant to Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Leslie Yalof Garfield (JD 85)

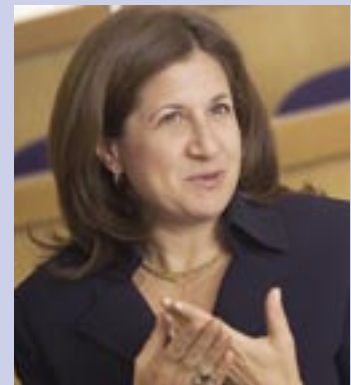
Professor of Law, Pace University

When I was at UF in the mid-1980s the school had a wonderful tradition of presenting first year law professors with gifts at the end of the semester.

Choosing a class gift was a source of some stress as we wanted to personalize the offering. I clearly remember, for example, that we ordered a case of Washington State apples for Professor Dawson, to remind him of his home state.

What I found so wonderful about this tradition was that it only worked because our professors each shared a little of their own personality with us. The humanization of our law professors was particularly appealing since it came during a time when the dreaded Professor Kingsfield of “The Paper Chase” television show was the embodiment of those who taught law. Most importantly, it gave us a true connection with our professors beyond the text books or subject matters.

I try to share enough of myself with my students so that they get a sense of who I am outside the classroom. This personal connection, which I so fondly remember from my days as a law student, helps teach my students about the humanity of the law and that personality and personal experience are as important to the law as is precedent.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Ottinger Award for Outstanding Teaching, Scholarship and Service, Pace Law School
- Co-Founded and chaired the American Association of Law Schools Section on Academic Support
- Former staff attorney, Council of the City of New York (where she drafted the NYC window guard law and contributed to the NYC no-smoking law)

“ The humanization of our law professors was particularly appealing since it came during a time when the dreaded ‘Professor Kingsfield’ of ‘The Paper Chase’ television show was the embodiment of those who taught law. ”

Robin Paul Malloy (JD 80)

E.I. White Chair and Distinguished Professor of Law
Vice Dean, Syracuse University

Back in the mid-1990s I was working in China on property-related issues in the transition to a market economy. One of the other people working on the project was a partner from a big New York City law firm.

While in China we had many conversations and he asked me if anyone ever actually read anything I wrote. This was asked in a tone of clear and obvious doubt.

About six months after we finished our project I received a call from the partner and he was all excited. He said he had just spent a day interviewing students at Georgetown Law School for a position with his firm. By chance he asked one of the interviewees if they had ever read anything authored by me.

To his surprise the student said “yes,” and she informed him that one of my books was a required text for her course. Then she pulled the book out of her briefcase, saying that she brought the book along to read while waiting for the interview.

That was a fun moment for me.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Nine books, including a successful casebook on *Real Estate Transactions* and two scholarly books with Cambridge University Press; two translated into Japanese, Chinese and Spanish
- Series editor of a book series with Cambridge University Press, and another series with Ashgate Publishing
- Founder and director of the Center on Property, Citizenship, and Social Entrepreneurism



Alison Barnes (JD 85)

Professor of Law, Marquette University

Old things always held a fascination for me, from researching my family's arrival in 1734 Philadelphia as indigent religious refugees, to reading Sumerian cuneiform from black market tablets for my UF degree in history, to my favorite times playing cards with my grandparents, who lived to ages 94 and 96. The durability of the knowledge calls for respect.

My calling in the law came by chance when I worked with elderly people in Alachua County and found their unsolvable problems to be legal in nature. A body of law and policy termed "elder law" was at the brink of recognition by policy makers and the bar, and I needed to know all about it—and tell the story to legislatures, communities and students.

Writing up Florida law on aging issues for the Center for Governmental Responsibility and teaching elder law for the first time to a dozen law and graduate students became the segue to the first casebook in the field.

My students, whether in Gainesville, Milwaukee, Maine or Miami, are the path to better lives for elders, and ultimately to a better history of our culture as one that values depth of knowledge and durable ideas.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Senior Policy Analyst for the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging
- *Elder Law: Cases and Materials* (Lexis Publ. with Lawrence A. Frolik, U. Pitt.), first published 1992, 4th ed. 2007, used in 80 U.S. law schools (Lexis estimate)
- Founder, *Elder's Advisor*, an elder law review, now in its 8th volume

David Schmudde (JD 72)

Professor of Law, Fordham University

I was mesmerized by Professor Baldwin in my first-year Constitutional Law class. As I watched how he handled the class, I realized this is what I wished I could do. He was challenging us to look at life and the world from a new perspective. All my previous educational experiences had been in math and science. His class opened my mind to what to me was unexplored territory.

It began my dream of becoming a professor of law.

Jack Freeland showed me that a seemingly dry subject like tax could be not only interesting but exciting. After my first year in Income Tax, I constantly pursued a goal of teaching law. I greatly admired the ability to generate enthusiasm for a subject in students who had never been exposed to the subject before.

Ultimately, I believe that that is my job, passing on the enthusiasm that I have for a subject to a whole new generation of lawyers.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Founded Fordham's low income taxpayer litigation clinic
- Three books, including *Federal Tax Liens*, which is used as a training guide by the IRS.
- Mediator for the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- Keefe Award by Fordham law students for contributions to the law school

“ Jack Freeland showed me that a seemingly dry subject like tax could be not only interesting but exciting. After my first year in Income Tax, I constantly pursued a goal of teaching law. ”

Robert F. Williams (JD 69)

Distinguished Professor of Law
Associate Director, Center for State Constitutional Studies
Rutgers University, Camden

I remember taking Florida Constitutional Law from Professor L. Harold Levinson (who later taught at Vanderbilt) at UF Law in 1969. He had put together his own materials for the course, and was kind enough to include my 1969 *Law Review* Note in Volume 21 on the property tax provisions of the new Florida Constitution of 1968. (The Florida Supreme Court cited this as controlling authority in 2006!)

I was aware of the new state constitution because, as a legislative aide for then-Florida Rep. Bob Graham during the summer of 1967 before coming to law school, I had participated in the Legislature's successful efforts to revise the 1885 Constitution.

In that class, Professor Levinson had us read several out-of-state decisions, which indicated to me for the first time that state constitutional law could be studied from a comparative perspective, with one state's interpretations of a similar provision of its constitution providing useful guidance for another state facing the same question. This insight has influenced my work on state constitutional law in teaching, lecturing and writing during my 27 years at Rutgers Law School.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- As a Legal Services lawyer, served as the reporter for the Florida Law Revision Council in 1972-73 to draft the Florida Residential Landlord and Tenant Act, Chapter 83, Part II, Florida Statutes, and won *Grissom v. Dade County*, 293 So. 2d 59 (Fla. 1974) to provide for free publication of notice or courthouse posting in a wide range of litigation by indigent plaintiffs
- Legal adviser to the Minister of Justice of Afghanistan, in Kabul, 1974-1976
- *State Constitutional Law: Cases and Materials*, 4th Ed. 2006, used at a number of law schools and is only casebook on state constitutional law with a national perspective

“ I have had students enroll in Income Tax reluctantly, believing that tax could not be appealing, and that they were unlikely to do well—only to discover, to their surprise, that they enjoyed the study of tax law. ”



Judson Temple (LLMT 76)

Professor of Law
Oklahoma City University

In 1981 I accepted an offer to join the faculty of Oklahoma City University School of Law. I knew in my first year of teaching that I had found what I really wanted to do. I have been teaching tax at Oklahoma City University ever since.

I have had students enroll in Income Tax reluctantly, believing that tax could not be appealing, and that they were unlikely to do well—only to discover, to their surprise, that they enjoyed the study of tax law, and that they did very well indeed. I have had students enroll in graduate tax programs offered at NYU or Florida, perform very well, and report to me that my Income Tax course had given them exactly the preparation they needed to succeed. Just last Thursday I heard that a former student had said, “It wasn’t until I took Professor Temple’s class that I really understood what it meant to ‘think like a lawyer.’”

Experiences like these have told me that perhaps I am doing something right. One of my most gratifying experiences, however, came from a student at the University of Maine.

At the time I had written a set of materials I titled Basic Tax Concepts. Basic Tax Concepts was intended to give students a balanced introduction to both theoretical concepts and the nitty-gritty of black letter law. I had made Basic Tax Concepts available to my students online using the educational interface from Lexis. I did not know that, at the time, Basic Tax Concepts was available not just to my enrolled students but to anyone who had access to the internet. On Feb. 21, 2001, I received the following e-mail:

“Hi Professor,

I found your [Basic Tax Concepts] course materials on the web, as I was casting about for a quick review of Tax I concepts that are not fresh in my mind. I’m a third-year law student at the University of Maine School of Law, taking both Corporate Tax and Business Planning, and am always looking for resources to supplement the texts and my professors. I hope you don’t mind if I pass along your website links to others in my school—it seems clear to me that your class is well-taught, thorough and clear. Thanks so much for putting the materials on the Web. Your own students are lucky, and to the extent that you share your course materials online, those of us who can benefit from your summaries and organization of tax materials are also lucky.

Best, [Name of student]”

I probably won’t be teaching for more than another five or six years. However, teaching has been a rewarding profession, and I am very grateful to have had this opportunity.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Lecturer on tax topics for local continuing legal education programs
- Faculty mentor for OCU law student participants in the Stetson National Tax Moot Court Competition, Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, and the ABA Representation in Mediation Competition.
- Licensed mediator serving in Oklahoma County district and small claims courts.

“ I began law school at the age of 34 as a single mother of three small children. Survival and a subsequent job ... were my primary concerns. I found myself, however, completely seduced by the intellectual excitement ... ”

Penelope Bryan (JD 81)

Professor of Law
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
University of Denver

My professional path has remained unconventional and, in some senses, miraculous. I received my undergraduate degree from an extension program that Rollins College offered at Patrick Air Force Base, an inauspicious beginning for an academic.

I also began law school at the age of 34 as a single mother of three small children. Survival and a subsequent job that could support me and my children were my primary concerns. I found myself, however, completely seduced by the intellectual excitement involved in the study of law. After final exams (do I dare admit this?), I would sit quietly in the library and read constitutional law cases in their unedited glory.

After graduation I worked as a civil litigator for several years in Gainesville. I loved litigation (still do), but I craved more intellectual depth. After much agony I decided to become a law professor, a nearly impossible task at the age of 40. Many counseled me against this improvident decision, and my lawyer friends had great difficulty accepting my decision to close my practice. Some never did.

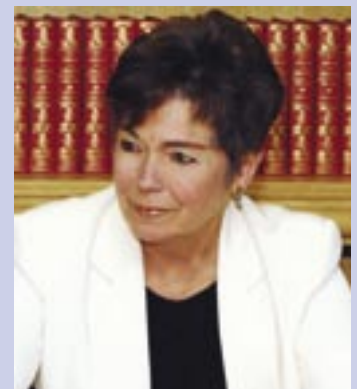
Due to life experiences and professional exposure, I decided that I wanted to teach family law from an interdisciplinary perspective. I spent the next three years in graduate school and earned a masters degree in family sociology.

The year after I earned that degree, I received an offer to teach at the University of Denver College of Law—a slightly miraculous turn of events for a 43-year-old graduate of an extension program. To complete the miracle, I always had wanted to live in Colorado, and the law school actually wanted me to teach family law and civil procedure!

Over the years as an academic, I have maintained my love of law practice as well as theory. I have served as an expert consultant on numerous Colorado divorce cases, set several precedents in Colorado, and supervised students in family law and child advocacy clinics.

I bring to my scholarship practical as well as interdisciplinary and feminist insights. In 2006 I published my first book titled, *Constructive Divorce: Procedural Justice and Sociolegal Reform*. I currently am writing a second book that tells the life and legal stories of mothers who lost custody of their children when they made allegations of child sexual abuse against the fathers. Recently I became the associate dean for Academic Affairs at my law school, where I continue to teach and write.

The moral of this story: Choose and live your path in law with passion—the rewards are many.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Helped set several precedents in the Colorado Court of Appeals and the Colorado Supreme Court
- Book *Constructive Divorce: Procedural Justice and Sociolegal Reform* in 2006
- Presented the Provost's Lecture about my scholarship to the University of Denver academic community in 2007



Joy Mullane (JD 99, LLMT 03)

Assistant Professor of Law, Villanova University

I was bitten by the teaching bug during my second year of law school when I worked as a teaching assistant for two of my professors. I thoroughly enjoyed working with other students, helping them comprehend legal concepts as well as improve their analytical and writing skills.

Several years after graduation, however, I continued to work in private practice at a Washington, D.C., boutique tax firm. I was fortunate to be working with a phenomenal group of attorneys on both technical tax matters and more policy-oriented matters related to employee benefits. While I enjoyed my practice tremendously, I knew I ultimately wanted to take the time to fully explore issues of interest to me and use my own voice rather than a client-directed voice.

When the opportunity arose in 2005 to return to the Levin College of Law as a visiting assistant professor, I knew the time was right to pursue my academic interests. I am now thrilled to be a member of the Villanova faculty, teaching in both the J.D. and Graduate Tax programs.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Senior research editor on *Florida Law Review*
- Clerked for the Honorable Susan H. Black on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit
- Associate specializing in employee benefits and financial products tax at Davis & Harman, Washington, D.C., 2003-2005

Richard Mombrun (LLMT 89)

Assistant Professor of Law, Florida A&M University

I started teaching Tax in the fall of 2004. One or two weeks into the class, a student asked me when they were going to go through a 1040 form. I responded to her: not in this class. That was the last time I saw her.

I lost a few more students who were not willing to go through the challenges of the class. Although most students appeared interested, I was not sure whether I had gotten anybody excited about tax as my first tax teacher, Walter Nunnallee, had me.

The following semester, I heard a timid knock on my door. It was the quietest student in the class. She proceeded to tell me how exciting the class was to her and how she loved the challenges I put the class through by forcing them to back their answers with applicable code sections. I was floored!

This is when I decided that I had made the right move after all (the student, along with a classmate, is currently pursuing an advanced taxation degree at the University of Florida).



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Accepted in the Graduate Tax Program at the University of Florida
- Published regulations while at the IRS
- Book, *A Complete Introduction To Corporate Taxation*, with Gail Levin Richmond (Nova Southeastern University School of Law)

“ The following semester, I heard a timid knock on my door. It was the quietest student in the class. She proceeded to tell me how exciting the class was to her and how she loved the challenges ...”

Samuel A. Donaldson (LLMT 94)

Associate Professor of Law
Director, Graduate Program in Taxation
University of Washington, Seattle



The most rewarding moments in the classroom are often the most difficult. As one who teaches a number of tax and commercial law courses, complex statutes are a given. I am a big proponent of the problem method for class discussions, for that is when statutes come to life. Discussion problems force students to make headway through the jungle of the Internal Revenue Code or the less dense foliage of the Uniform Commercial Code.

Very often, the class will get stuck—the language in the statute is too dense, impossible to decipher. In those situations, it is tempting to come to the students’ rescue and give them the answers, showing them how to navigate through the rough terrain. It certainly saves time if I simply do the work in front of them. But that robs the class of their chance to learn.

My challenge is not to steer but to suggest possibilities for getting back on the correct path from the back seat. If I let them do the work, even at the expense of precious class time, they eventually see that the impenetrable can be conquered.

The best feeling a teacher can have is to see the sense of satisfaction when a critical mass of the students finally gets it, whatever the “it” may be that given day. ■

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Four books on taxation and estate planning
- Three-time recipient of Philip A. Trautman Professor of the Year award as selected by students at the University of Washington School of Law
- Harry R. Horrow Visiting Professor of International Law at Northwestern University School of Law

Remembering Law School Torments

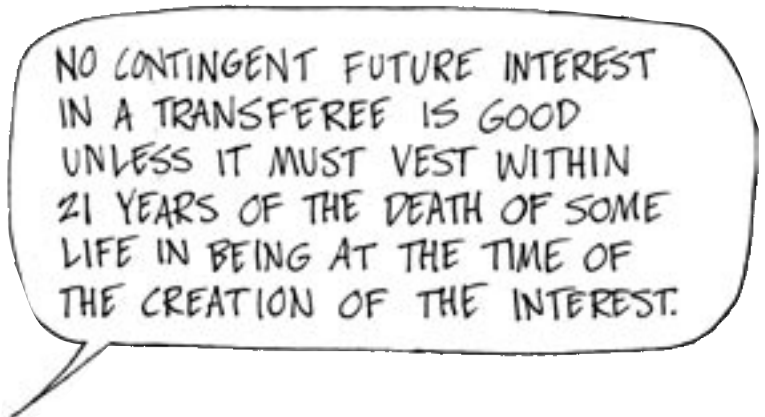
BY ANDREW J. MCCLURG (JD 80)



The first year of law school. Nothing resembles it. Like boot camp and other trials by ordeal, it can be appreciated only by those who share it. Indoctrinated by and incubated in the weird and wonderful traditions of U.S. legal education, being a 1L leaves an imprint as deep as the life-altering experience it is.

Not much has changed in that regard since I graduated from the

University of Florida College of Law in 1980. As a longtime law professor, I've had the privilege of teaching thousands of students at six law schools. Year after year, throughout the country, it's déjà vu all over again: law school's rites of passage such as



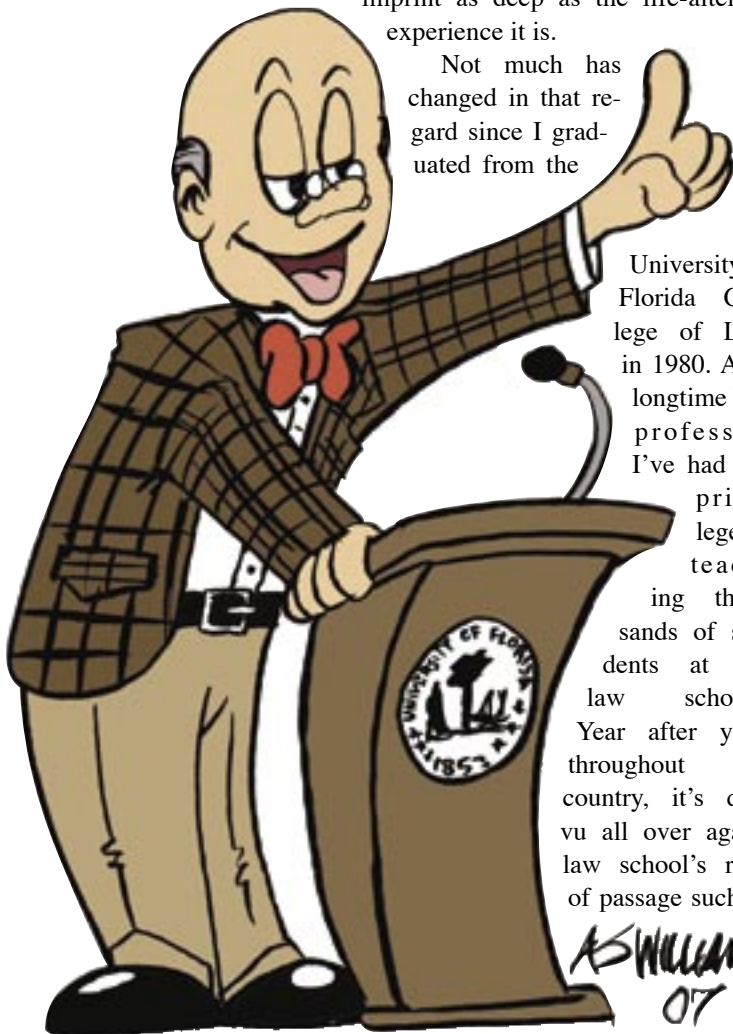
the Socratic and case methods continue to evoke the same excitement, confusion, fear, frustrations, bonding under fire, and utter exhaustion among 1Ls that we all experienced in our first year at UF.

Contemplating those traditions for this article brought back a flood of memories, so many that I began experiencing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder-type flashbacks in nightly dreams.

The first night I was in Criminal Law when the professor called on me. Orating like Socrates on speed, he posed a classic law school hypothetical:

"Mr. McClurg, A shoots at B, but misses and hits C, who loses control of her car and crashes into D, driving a school bus full of children—H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O and P—down a winding mountain road. The school bus careens into a gas pump at the same instant lightning hits the pump. In the explosion, a piece of glass, E, hits F, walking his dog, G, nearby. G gets loose, tries briefly to mate with Q, then attacks R as he carries an armload of law books up a staircase. The books fall on T, causing massive head injuries. T is rushed to the ER by EMTs, gets CPR from an RN and an IV from an MD, but he's DOA. What color is the school bus? Mr. McClurg? Mr. McClurg?"

I had blanked in a panic attack at the first utterance of my name. Like all students, I hated the Socratic method back in law school. As a professor, I've come to appreciate the great usefulness of dialectical questioning as a tool for unearthing new knowledge. Plus, it's fun scaring the hell out of people.



AS WILLIAMS
07



The next night it was Property. The professor was explaining the Rule Against Perpetuities. You have to respect the Rule Against Perpetuities. For one thing, no other legal rule has doctrines that sound like old blues tunes. The “Bad as to One, Bad as to All” and “Unborn Widow” rules could have been classic hits for Muddy Waters.

But the main reason to admire the Rule Against Perpetuities is that it has managed to remain a quintessential law school rule even though it is hardly ever used and even less often understood. Studies show that almost all lawyers know about the Rule Against Perpetuities is that, for reasons never fully developed, “21 years” is important to property law.

In the dream—nightmare, as it turned out—I was in Property class scribbling furiously to keep up with the professor’s illumination of the rule. Here’s a side-by-side match-up of what the professor said and what I wrote down in my notes:

Prof: No contingent future interest in a transferee is good unless it must vest or fail to vest within 21 years of the death of some life in being at the time of the creation of the interest.

My notes: No astringent foosball interest?? ... must vest OR FAIL TO VEST ... 21 years ... death ... life in bean??? ... creation? interest???????

Prof: The rationale for the rule is straightforward. It’s designed to limit efforts by grantors to restrict the free alienation of property by burdening it with contingent future interests.

My notes: Rationale for rule straightforward—designed to limit grantees ORS . . . something, something, something—SLOW THE **** DOWN!—Alien Nation of Property? ... BUY GILBERT’S!!!

Prof: The simple way to understand the rule is to remember that it all has to do with the vesting or failure to vest of a contingent future interest within the lifetime of a measuring life or 21 years after that person’s death.

My notes: Simple way to understand rule is to remember that it has to do with ... 21 YEARS, 21 YEARS, 21 YEARS ...

My Civil Procedure dream was the most alarming. Our professor spent a long time talking about *Pennoyer v. Neff*, but I never understood it. The more he talked, the more confusing everything became. Mostly what I remembered about *Pennoyer v. Neff* was the name.

“A Torts student once reported a grisly dream in which I had him tied to a stake while peppering him with questions about battery.”

This phenomenon is common among lawyers I meet. Everyone well remembers “*Pennoyer v. Neff*,” but beyond the name they have only a dim recollection that the case had something to do with personal jurisdiction.

In my dream, it was the night before the Civ Pro exam. My knowledge and understanding of *Pennoyer* were trying to gain access to my memory, but encountered a gland in my brain claiming to be the Keeper of the Memory.

This gland explained it was his job to check the credentials of every fragment of thinking that came along. According to the gland, law students frequently experience vague, stupefied thoughts masquerading as knowledge, and it’s the gland’s job to send them packing. Here’s what happened:

Bouncer Gland: Hold it. Identify yourself.

My Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

Memory: And what, pray tell, is a *Pennoyer v. Neff*?

Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

Gland: Circumstances of memory?

Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

Gland: Witnesses to the alleged memory?

Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

Gland: Emotions experienced when memory incurred?

Memory: Pennoyerism, neffistration.

Gland: Comprehension level?

Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

Gland: I’m sorry. You don’t qualify as a memory. You can’t come in here. But have a nice day.

Memory: *Pennoyer v. Neff*.

A quarter-century later, 1Ls are still forced to endure the same anxiety-ridden rituals. Some even have real nightmares. A Torts student once reported a grisly dream in which I had him tied to a stake while peppering him with questions about battery. Each time he answered, I shouted, “Wrong!” and lopped off a limb with an axe, saying “Is that a battery? Is that a battery?” (Obviously, the dream was ridiculously far-fetched. I never would have asked such an easy question.)

Is it time to change the way we do things? Should law schools continue to torment students with the Socratic method and make them master arcane rules that most of them will never use? Absolutely!

The trend in legal education is out with the old, in with the new. Traditions are condemned as out of step with the times, justifiably so in some areas. Change is essential to any institution. Much needed diversity among students and faculty is increasing. More emphasis is placed on practical lawyering skills. More schools are incorporating international and comparative law offerings in response to globalization.

But tradition is also important, including the use of rigorous classroom method to teach critical thinking skills. Some condemn as a meaningless platitude the adage that law school teaches one to “think like a lawyer,” but if learning to think like a lawyer means learning to reason well, the U.S. legal education system—including the infamous Socratic method that is its hallmark—works.

Think back. Can any of us deny that we started law school, to quote John Housman’s Oscar-winning Professor Kingsfield in “The Paper Chase,” with “skulls full of mush?” And yet, although we didn’t appreciate it at the time, the Socratic arena trained us to be facile, analytical thinkers and astute legal problem solvers. Sure we were emotionally scarred, but in most cases, actual physical injuries were minor.

The great successes of my colleagues from the Class of 1980 (including fellow law profs Robin Malloy (JD 80) at Syracuse and Al Garcia (JD 81) at St. Thomas) and all the other distinguished UF law graduates show the system has long functioned well in Gator Country.

I’m grateful to UF and to my law professors for demanding my best. In their honor, I’ve accepted with solemnity, and some awe, the duty of carrying the torch of law school traditions forward. So excuse me while I get back to scaring the hell out of people. ■

Andrew J. McClurg holds the Herbert Herff Chair of Excellence in Law at the University of Memphis. He was a member of the founding faculty at Florida International University College of Law and previously taught at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Nadine Baum Distinguished Professor of Law), Wake Forest University, University of Colorado and Golden Gate University. McClurg is the author/editor of several books and numerous law review articles that have been cited in more than 175 different journals. He is the recipient of five teaching awards. From 1997-2001, he wrote a monthly humor column for the American Bar Association Journal.

*Portions of this article were adapted from *The Law School Trip (The Insider’s Guide to Law School)*. Copyright 2001 Andrew J. McClurg.

Model Professors

What makes a law professor a memorable mentor?

BY MICHAEL ALLAN WOLF

The accounts found in the pages of this issue of the many talented University of Florida law graduates who have pursued productive careers as law professors make for very interesting reading. I have had several productive encounters with UF-trained law professors during my own career. For example, Judson Temple (LLMT 76, Oklahoma City University) and David Brennen (JD 91, LLMT 94, University of Richmond, now University of Georgia) were valuable colleagues at former law schools, Mary Jane Angelo (JD 87) is my office neighbor at UF, Robin Paul Malloy (JD 80, Syracuse) has included one of my essays in a new book he is editing on eminent domain, and I have relied on the authoritative state constitutional law scholarship of Robert F. Williams (JD 69, Rutgers).

I admit feeling a bit envious that so many UF law graduates look back fondly on professors who served as inspirations and mentors. By contrast, many of the teaching, testing, and advising practices that I have employed over the past 25 years of law teaching, and my decision to become a law professor, were shaped more as a reaction *against* what I had experienced as a law student in the mid-1970s.

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

There was but one faculty member with whom I had the opportunity to form a personal relationship in law school, a task made especially difficult by the barriers, physical and otherwise, that separated professors from their students. Professor Richard Alan Gordon, known as the “Kingsfield of Georgetown” in those post-“Paper Chase” years—was the exception to the rule.

Dick was a gifted teacher in the demanding and sometimes humiliating Socratic mold—students were required to stand and were often on the spot for a half-hour at a time as we all learned that there was no right answer, no matter how hard we tried. I was one of only a few students each year who had the opportunity to get to know Dick outside the classroom, and I learned that he gave up much by assuming that untouchable, Kingsfieldian persona. Most of my classmates were afraid to approach him during class breaks, as they passed him in the hall, or in any other informal setting. When I chose to be a legal academic, I consciously refused to assume Dick’s in-class persona and the unrelenting pedagogy that, in my view, created unnecessary distance between teacher and student.

I would be less than honest if I represented that I had no mentors as a law professor, although that would certainly help explain my shortcomings. Upon graduation from law school, I began interdisciplinary graduate work in American studies, where I had the very good fortune to come within the zone of influence of two outstanding legal scholars, Charles Haar and Morton Horwitz. From Charles I found a legal discipline—land-use planning—that captured my imagination and passion and, more importantly, a good friend and collaborator on a wide range of fascinating projects



KRISTEN HINES

Michael Allan Wolf joined the Levin College of Law faculty in 2003 as the first occupant of the Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law.



to this day. From Mort, I learned that by choosing to be a teacher-scholar in a law school, one need not sacrifice one's empathy or intellectual curiosity, or feel confined within unbreachable disciplinary walls.

When I began my career as a law teacher at Oklahoma City University, I encountered Marjorie Downing, a tenured colleague to whom I still refer as "my property teacher." (Several years later at a law professors' meeting, I introduced myself to my actual property instructor, who had apparently been assigned to that first-year course by an administrator who failed then to recognize the new professor's very strong talents in other legal disciplines. Upon learning that I had been in the class, my former professor apologized to me.) Marge was patient with my questions about future interests and the peculiarities of Oklahoma property law, and I was impressed by the deep respect that this independent thinker garnered from faculty, alumni and the community.

KINDRED SPIRIT

I was doubly blessed when, upon taking my next teaching position, at the University of Richmond, I again found a kindred and supportive spirit in property professor Wade Berryhill. Wade was, and still is, the master of

Virginia property and real estate law, and he never made me feel like I was the junior member of our collaborative partnership. From my close friend Wade I learned the value of maintaining relationships with former students as they make their way through the complex challenges and rewards of law practice. In this way, the former student, who is constantly in touch with the real-world implications of legal doctrines, often becomes the old prof's teacher, which is certainly a win-win result.

"I learned the value of maintaining relationships with former students as they make their way through the complex challenges and rewards of law practice."

When I joined the Levin College of Law faculty in 2003, I did so as a chaired professor with more than two decades of experience. At this stage of my career, I faced the new and important task of being a valuable resource for my colleagues who were less, how should I say it, seasoned. Being an untenured law professor can be as exhilarating as it is challenging, given the need to impress several important constituencies—students, senior colleagues, administrators and law review editors at other schools.

As those familiar with the Levin College of Law know very well, we have a highly talented group of teacher-scholars who are at the early stages of what promises to be very impressive careers. As a member of the faculty appointments committee, I have the pleasure of getting to know some of these faculty members even before they make their way to Gainesville, and I can assure my readers that our law faculty takes its recruitment obligations very seriously.

Tenured professors are also encouraged to serve as mentors, and I can only hope that, when my younger colleagues look back on the formative years of their careers, they will be able to recall members of Levin's excellent "senior corps" with the same fondness that I have expressed in this essay for those who taught me by example. Certainly that is a valuable goal worthy of serious pursuit. ■

FACULTY NEWS



Leonard Riskin Brings Mindfulness to Teaching Alternative Dispute Resolution

After more than 20 years at the University of Missouri School of Law, where he worked as director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution (CSDR), Leonard L. Riskin has joined the Levin College of Law faculty.

“This is a terrific law school,” Riskin replied when asked why he came to UF Law. “There are lots of great people on the faculty, and in the student body.”

A noted authority in alternative dispute resolution, Riskin began teaching

his first classes at UF Law in January. He teaches the course “Negotiation, Mediation, and Other Dispute Resolution Processes,” and a one-credit pass/fail lab course attached to that course on “mindfulness.”

Under his direction, the CSDR distinguished itself as the premier law school dispute resolution center in the nation. Riskin has written several books and numerous articles on alternative dispute resolution, articles on law and medicine and torts, and essays for popular magazines. In recent years, he has written about the benefits of mindfulness meditation for lawyers and mediators. He also has been chair of the sections on Law and Medicine and Dispute Resolution of the Association of American Law Schools.

Riskin has been teaching mindfulness meditation to law students, lawyers and mediators since 1999. He describes mindfulness as “a particular way of paying attention—moment

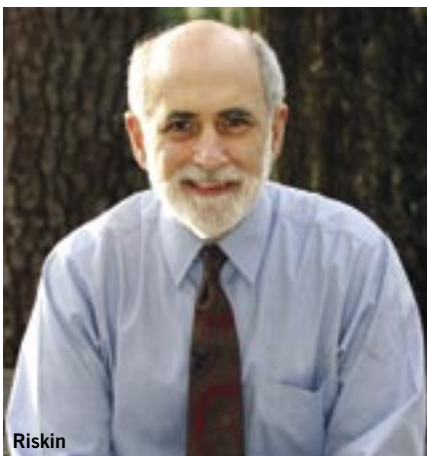
to moment without judgment—to whatever passes through the mind or through any of the senses.”

It is of particular value to lawyers and law students, he said, to help them deal better with stress and to help them perform better. Riskin noted there’s a great deal of anxiety and depression in the legal profession, from law students to lawyers and judges.

“It also can help people perform better by increasing their ability to be calm and to focus moment-to-moment while they’re doing any of the activities that a lawyer does like listening or negotiating or advocating,” he explained.

Riskin has taught mindfulness meditation to law students, law faculties, and lawyers throughout the United States and abroad. While he acknowledges meditation is not for everybody, greater awareness of meditation across society as a whole has led to a growth in its use in many more areas in recent years, including medicine and athletics, as well as in large corporations and law firms.

“I was interested in trying to address a lot of the unhappiness and suffering that I saw in the legal profession—in law



school and in practice. And I thought that some of the suffering was attributable to the adversary process, and to the fact that the adversary process for law school education bred a lot of misery,” he said. “Education in alternative dispute resolution and mindfulness can help address this problem.”

The prevalence of alternative dispute resolution in Florida was a factor that attracted Riskin to UF. Alternative dispute resolution has been utilized by the Florida Court System to resolve disputes for over 30 years, starting with the creation of the first citizen dispute settlement center in Dade County in 1975. Since then, the uses of mediation and arbitration have grown as the Florida Legislature and judiciary have created one of the most comprehensive court-connected mediation programs in the country.

“Florida is a terrific laboratory for studying dispute resolution,” he said.

Uphoff Serves As Visiting Professor



KRISTEN HINES
Uphoff

Rodney J. Uphoff has joined the faculty as a visiting professor and interim director of clinical and skills programs. He comes to UF from the University of Missouri School of Law, where he was Elwood Thomas Missouri Endowed Professor of Law and director of the University of Missouri South Africa Educational Program.

Before joining the Missouri faculty in 2001, Uphoff taught for 11 years at the University of Oklahoma, where he served as their director of clinical education for three years. Uphoff also was one of the lawyers appointed to defend Terry Nichols in the Oklahoma bombing case.

Fulbright Scholars

Gordon and Jones Among Faculty Awarded Grants

Levin College of Law Professor Michael W. Gordon and Clifford Jones, associate in law research and lecturer in the school’s Center for Governmental Responsibility, are among seven University of Florida faculty members who have been awarded Fulbright Scholar grants to lecture or conduct research in other countries during the 2006-07 academic year.

Gordon, the John H. and Mary Lou Dasburg Professor, will be going to the Portuguese Catholic University in Portugal, while Jones heads off to Germany to conduct research at the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Law. They are among about 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad as part of the program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State to build mutual understanding between residents of the United States and the rest of the world. UF also is hosting five Fulbright Visiting Scholars during the current academic year.



KRISTEN HINES

Jones (left) and Gordon

“The Fulbright program is highly competitive and selects talented faculty from all over the world,” UF Provost Janie Fouke said. “The University of Florida is proud both to be the home for these recipients and to be the home of faculty who attract awardees from other countries. Our students are the ultimate winners, though, because they have the opportunity to interact with folks who are among the most accomplished in the world.”

Harrison’s Work Cited by Highest Court

Two different works co-authored by Professor Jeffery L. Harrison, who holds the Stephen C. O’Connell Chair, have been cited three times in U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas’ opinion for a unanimous court in *Weyerhaeuser Co. v. Ross-Simmons Hardwood Lumber Company, Inc.* The antitrust case (WL 505794, U.S. 2/20/07) concerned a practice by buyers who purchase raw materials to keep those raw materials away from competing firms. This is known as “predatory buying.”

“The court adopted an approach Professor Roger Blair of the UF Department of Economics and I wrote about in an article (published by the *Cornell Law Review*) and a book (published by *Princeton University Press*),” said Harrison.



Huck Finn

Professor Says Icon is Causing Harm

BY SUSAN VERGNANI

The *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the iconic American classic, should be removed from mandatory reading lists in public secondary schools because of its racist content, according to a new book by civil rights lawyer and Irving Cypen Professor Sharon Rush.

In “*Huck Finn’s “Hidden” Lessons*,” Rush, who co-founded the Center for Race Relations at the law college and is an associate director of the school’s Center on Children and Families, brings a new perspective to the long-running controversy in the United States over whether Mark Twain’s 19th century tale of friendship between a boy and a runaway slave is racist.

Secondary school students are not emotionally and intellectually mature enough to properly understand the novel, according to Rush. This results in the isolation of black children in mixed race classrooms where the novel is taught, a phenomenon that Rush describes as emotional segregation. It is her key premise for wanting the book taken off of mandatory school reading lists.

Inspired to write *Huck Finn’s “Hidden” Lessons* due to her experiences as the white adoptive mother of a black child (which also prompted her to write *Loving Across the Color Line* in 2000), Rush painstakingly examines what she views as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn’s* racist content, including Twain’s use of a derogatory racial epithet no less than 200 times. She also is concerned that Huck and Jim’s relationship is presented as “loving,” even though Huck treats Jim with tremendous disrespect. Her book also explains why Rush thinks the classic’s continued presence on schools’ required reading lists is a prime example of the systemic racism that still exists in contemporary society.

“I think ‘*Hidden Lessons*’ provides a wonderful tool for understanding racism better than we do, and I hope that it helps us heal,” Rush said. “With better understanding we can move towards achieving equality in education and in general. If I achieve my goal, a teacher who reads my book and understands it would not feel good about teaching *Huckleberry Finn* in middle

school or high school as part of a mandatory curricula.”

Internationally renowned scholar Joe Feagin, a sociology professor at Texas A&M University who has written extensively on race relations and racism, thinks the book is both a compelling and substantive argument for removing it from secondary school required reading lists.

“Though the holistic portrait of Twain has some positive points, he’s also infected with the systemic racism of his day,” Feagin said. For example, why didn’t Twain have Huck speaking in dialect as much as Jim, and why aren’t there more white caricatures in the first edition? Further, why is Huck treated in such a half-deified way? He offers a very white man’s perspective of the day.”

Another misperception of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* from Rush’s perspective, that she hopes her book will debunk, is the widely held view that the canonized classic is actually antiracist.

“It perpetuates racism under the guise of undoing it, because it often is taught as if it were an anti-racist classic,” Rush said. “This is even more pernicious. There is no other book out there with Huck Finn’s stature—it has been translated into hundreds of languages, which for me means there is widespread harm associated with it.”

Katheryn Russell-Brown, a black faculty member and director of the Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations at UF Law, hopes skeptics will acquaint themselves with Rush’s assessment before dismissing it outright.

“I think what Professor Rush has managed to do is have us take a second look at Huck Finn and ask whether the book deserves the reverence it currently has, considering what it says,” Russell-Brown said. “Her book challenges the dominant paradigm of what’s acceptable, and a lot of people will be hesitant about pulling it from required reading lists. But it should be considered because of the message of inequality it sends about race to all students, black and white.” ■



KRISTEN HINES

Rush

FACULTY

Scholarship

Since November 2006

Mary Jane Angelo

Assistant Professor

- Presented “Rapanos, Carabell and Beyond” (an analysis of recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions addressing jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act at the Florida Wetlands Conference).

Thomas T. Ankersen

Legal Skills Professor; Director, Conservation Clinic

- Published “Anchoring Away: Government Regulation and the Rights of Navigation in Florida, *Technical Publication*

- Published *Costanera Sur: Gateway to the Osa. A Scenic and Conservation and Development Corridor in Costa Rica*, proceedings of the “Sustainable Tourism 2006” Conference, Verona, Italy (with M. Gurucharri).

- Appointed to serve as UF provost’s ex officio representative on UF sustainability committee and to assist in the development of proposals to advance sustainability in the curriculum.

- Funded to develop a “Program of Land Use Law Extension and Service

- Published article, “Exposure of Financial Institutions to Criminal Liability,” 13 *J. of Financial Crime* 387 (2006).

- Co-authored article, “Down to the Wire: Assessing the Constitutionality of the National Security Agency’s Warrantless Wiretapping Program: Exit The Rule of Law,” (with Robert Shaw), 17 *University of Florida Journal of Law and Public Policy* 430 (2006).

Jonathan R. Cohen

Professor; Associate Director, Institute for Dispute Resolution

- Published chapter, “The Culture of Legal Denial,” in *The Affective Assistance of Counsel: Practicing Law as a Healing Profession*, ed., Marjorie A. Silver (Carolina Academic Press, 2007).

Stuart R. Cohn

Associate Dean for International Studies; Professor; Gerald A. Sohn Scholar; Director of International and Comparative Law Certificate Program

- Appointed as the Florida liaison to the American Bar Association’s Business Law’s Committee on Corporate Laws.

- Published revised two-volume treatise, *Securities Counseling for Small and Emerging Companies* (Thomson/West).

- Spoke on “Overlapping Financial and Legal Concerns for Start-up and Capital Raising Companies” to the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants at the Florida Gulf Coast University Accounting and Tax Conference.

USA Today, Sept. 9, 2006

“Our families are more unstable. There are more divorced and blended families. We also are more aware of the psychological impact of children losing emotional attachments with close relatives.”



Barbara Woodhouse, Professor, Center on Children and Families Director, commenting about courts increasingly siding with grandparents over visitation rights, especially in the cases in which one of the parents is dead.

157, Florida Sea Grant (revision of 1999 work) (with R. Hamann).

- Served as co-chair and presenter, “From Stem to Stern: Boating and Waterway Management in Florida” conference (Florida Sea Grant, Center for Governmental Responsibility, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission).

- Presented “Vamos a la Playa: The Law of Coastal Access in a Comparative Context,” at the International Seminar: Sustainable Tourism and Coastal Development, University of Costa Rica.

Learning,” UF IFAS Cooperative Extension Service, \$40,000.

- Co-principle investigator, “Protecting Florida’s Water Quality, Identifying and Overcoming Barriers to Implementation of Low Impact Development Practices,” UF Water Institute Program Initiation Fund, \$25,000.

Fletcher N. Baldwin, Jr.

Director of UF Center for International Financial Crimes Studies; Chesterfield Smith Professor

Jeffrey Davis

Professor; Gerald A. Sohn Scholar

- Presented to the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee of the Business Section of The Florida Bar concerning the amicus curiae brief he submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of a petition for writ of certiorari. His argument on behalf of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees concerns application of the in pari delicto doctrine against a trustee in bankruptcy.

- Participated in Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association panel discussion on the developments in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases following the sweeping 2005 amendments to the bankruptcy code.

George R. Dekle

Legal Skills Professor; Director, Criminal Law Clinic-Prosecution

- Spoke on pretrial motion practice in capital cases at the Western Regional Capital Litigation Seminar sponsored by the National District Attorneys Association and other organizations.

Patricia E. Dilley

Professor

- Spoke for the Section of Employee Benefits program on “Teaching Employee Pensions in the Land Where 401(k) Plans are King” at AALS annual conference.

Mark Fenster

Associate Professor

- Presented “The Dependency of Independence: 9/11 and the Independent Commission Form” to the faculty at the Brooklyn Law School.

USA Today, Oct. 10, 2006

“What’s interesting about this case is that (Scheff) was so vested in being vindicated, she was willing to pay court costs. They knew before trial that the defendant couldn’t pay, so what’s the point in going to the jury?”

Lyrisa Barnett Lidsky, Professor, UF Research Foundation Professor, commenting on the case in which a Florida woman sued a Louisiana woman for defaming her on an Internet blog and was awarded \$11.3 million.



Alyson Flournoy

Professor; Director, Environmental & Land Use Law Program

- Presented “Wetlands Conservation and Metropolitan Growth” at Georgia State University College of Law.
- Published *CPR for the Environment: Breathing New Life into the Nation’s Major Environmental Statutes, A Legislative Sourcebook of Progressive Ideas for Members of Congress and Staff* (co-edited and co-authored introduction with Matthew Shutz).

Michael W. Gordon

John H. & Mary Lou Dasburg Professor

- Published article, “Forum Non Conveniens Misconstrued: A Response to Henry Saint Dahl,” 38 *Inter-American Law Review* 141 (2006).
- Organized and presented two panels on “A Documentary Sale from the United States to Chile” and “Foreign Investment and Trade Issues in Contemporary Latin America,” and appeared on a third panel on “Doing Business in Civil Law Tradition Nations” at the ABA International Law Section Fall meeting.

- Prepared and presented “International Commercial Transactions” and “International Civil Litigation” for Nokia lawyers in Latin American offices.

- Participated in a panel on Canadian culture and the NAFTA at the Canadian Embassy in Washington.

- Spoke on litigation and arbitration between parties in Mexico and the United States, and on recent decisions of U.S. courts applying Mexican law, at the U.S.-Mexico Law Institute program. He was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Institute and elected vice chairman.

Linda Calvert Hanson

Assistant Dean for Career Services

- Published article, “The Law School Perspective of Small Firm Practice,” in the Fall 2006 issue of *Link*, a journal of the General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section of The Florida Bar.
- Panelist at the ABA mid-year meeting in Miami on “Small Firm Practice: A Blue Print for Success.”

Jeff Harrison

Stephen C. O’Connell Chair

- Cited three times (two different works, with R. Blair as co-author on each) in U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thomas’s opinion for a unanimous court in *Weyerhaeuser Co. v. Ross-Simmons Hardwood Lumber Company, Inc.*, 2007 WL 505794 (U.S. 2/20/07).
- Published article, “Trademark and Status Signaling: Tattoos for the Privileged,” *Florida Law Review*, November 2006.
- Published article, “An Instrumental Approach to Market Power and Antitrust Policy,” *SMU Law Review*, December 2006.

St. Petersburg Times, Oct. 20, 2006

“One of the concerns about the death penalty (is) that the stakes are so high, defense attorneys pull out all the stops. So there’s a real tension between the defense attorney’s desire to explore every avenue and the court’s desire to get an efficient resolution of the case.”



George Dekle, Legal Skills Professor, Director of Criminal Law Clinic-Prosecution, quoted in an article about the numerous measures attorneys, like those representing alleged cop killer Alfredie Steele, Jr., go through to effectively represent their client.

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

- Presented talk at the American Association of Law Schools 2007 meeting, “Teaching Economic Justice.”
- Presented talk at the Music Law Conference at the UF College of Law 2007, “What Musicians and Composers Need to Know About Copyright.”

- Loy, former commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard and deputy secretary of Homeland Security, and Steve Roberts (JD 06), Washington, D.C., lawyer and adjunct professor at George Washington Law School.
- Published a chapter, “Defining and Achieving Excellence,” in *Law School Leadership* (Aspatore).

Kommission, and the American Consulate, Leipzig.

- Presented “Private Enforcement Of Antitrust Law: Lessons From The US Experience” at the Conference on Private Enforcement in Competition Law: Legal and Economic Issues, sponsored by the Center for European Policy Studies and European Center for Austrian Economics Foundation in Brussels, Belgium.
- Presented “The Second Devolution of European Competition Law: The Political Economy of Antitrust Enforcement Under a ‘More Economic Approach,’” at the 25th Annual Conference on New Political Economy. It was held at the Center for the Study of Law and Economics at the University of the Saarland, Saarbruecken, Germany.

The Tampa Tribune, Nov. 1, 2006

“The new adoration of troops, and considering their mere agreement to serve as exceptional, was a fundamental change in how America raises its military force.”



Diane H. Mazur, Professor. Compare it with the Vietnam era, she said, when men were drafted and serving their country was a matter of “you do what you gotta do.”

Richard Hiers

Affiliate Professor Emeritus

- Appointed chair of the Advisory Committee for the *Journal of Law and Religion*.
- Published article, “Justice and Compassion in Biblical Law in *Convergence*, Vol. 1, Eckerd College (2006), pp. 75-95, from a collection of essays by Community Fellows of the Center for Spiritual Life at Eckerd.

Jerold H. Israel

Professor, Samuel T. Dell Research Scholar

- Published 2007 pocket parts for volumes 1-6 of *Criminal Procedure*, 2nd ed., (with co-authors Wayne LaFave & Nancy King), 792 pages, (West/ Thomson).

Robert H. Jerry, II

Dean; Levin Mabie and Levin Professor

- Published editorial in the *Miami Herald*, “A National Policy for Disasters,” on the need for a national catastrophe policy to deal with natural disasters. Co-authors were James

Clifford Jones

Associate in Law Research/Lecturer, Center for Governmental Responsibility

- Published “The Third Devolution in European Competition Law: Private Enforcement After the Green Paper”, 3 (1) *Competition Law Review* 1 (2007).
- Published “Foundations of Competition Policy in the EU and USA: Conflict, Convergence, and Beyond” in H. Ullrich, Ed., *The Evolution of European Competition Law—Whose Regulation, Which Competition?* 17 (Edward Elgar Publishing 2006).
- Presented a lecture, “The White Paper on Private Antitrust Damages in Europe: Channeling Nostradamus?” at the Amsterdam Center for Law and Economics, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Presented “Independent Voices in American Elections: The Role of Campaign Finance Law” at a lecture series in Leipzig and Jena, Germany, on “Contesting the Public Space in American Society.” It was sponsored by the University of Leipzig, the University of Jena, the German Fulbright

Christine A. Klein

Professor; Associate Dean for Faculty Development

- Presented paper on “The Law of the Lakes: From Protectionism to Sustainability” at the Institute for Trade in the Americas (Michigan State University) Symposium on the Great Lakes Water Basin: International Law and Policy Crossroads.

Paul J. Magnarella

Affiliate Professor; Professor of Criminology, Law and Society

- Published “The Hutu-Tutsi Conflict in Rwanda,” in S.C. Saha, ed., *Perspectives on Contemporary Ethnic Conflict*, New York/Oxford: Lexington Books, 2006.
- For three months (Oct., Nov., Dec. 2006) Oxford University Press ranked his article, “The Background and Causes of the Genocide in Rwanda” (2005), first among the 50 most frequently read articles in its *Journal of International Criminal Justice*.
- Delivered the World Affairs Council’s Great Decision Lecture (Feb./March 2007), “War Crimes and International Criminal Tribunals,” at the University of North Carolina (Asheville) and Brevard College.

Pedro Malavet

Professor

- Appointed to a term on the AALS Membership Review Committee.

Andrea Matwyshyn

Assistant Professor; Executive Director, Center for Information Research (CIR)

- Named the Jurisdynamic Idol by *Jurisdynamics*, which identifies junior faculty members and other aspiring scholars in law and allied fields.

Diane Mazur

Professor

- Presented on a panel at Harvard Law School about judicial deference to military personnel policies such as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” with Harvard professor Laurence Tribe, the preeminent constitutional scholar and Supreme Court advocate.
- In the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals case *Rasul v. Rumsfeld*, a suit by British citizens alleging torture at Guantanamo (and later released), joined an amicus brief of retired military officers and military law scholars arguing that immunity for defense officials is inconsistent with military tradition and law.

Paul R. McDaniel

James J. Freeland Eminent Scholar in Taxation; Professor

- Presented lecture, “Worldwide or Territorial Income Taxation: Which is Better for the United States?” at the annual Herman Goldman Memorial Lecture before New York City Bar Association.

The Miami Herald, Jan. 2, 2007

“The timing of future natural disasters is unknown, but that they will occur is absolutely certain. Now is the time to prepare a comprehensive, cohesive and coordinated national policy to deal with them.”



Robert H. Jerry, II, Dean, Levin Mabie and Levin Professor, co-authored an editorial about the need for a national catastrophe fund and mitigation measures in preparing for natural disasters.

Martin J. McMahon, Jr.

Clarence J. TeSelle Professor

- Published book, *Study Problems for Federal Income Taxation of Business Organizations*, (4th Ed.), and accompanying Teacher’s Manual (with P. McDaniel & D. Simmons) (Foundation Press, 2006).
- Published 2007-1 *Semi-Annual Cumulative Supplement to Bittker, McMahon 7 Zelenak’s Federal Income Taxation of Individuals*, Third Edition (Warren, Gorham & Lamont, 2002) (with Lawrence A. Zelenak).
- Published article, “Recent Developments in Federal Income Taxation: The Year 2005,” 8 *Florida Tax Review* 5 (2007) (with Ira B. Shepard).
- Presented “Recent Income Tax Developments” at the American Bar Association, Tax Section, midyear meeting (jointly with Prof. Ira Shepard).
- Presented “Tax Pitfalls and Planning Opportunities in the Formation of Partnerships and LLCs” at the University of Montana School of Law, 54th Annual Tax Institute.

- Elected to Board of Directors, The Theodore Tannenwald Jr., Foundation for Excellence in Tax Scholarship.

Winston Nagan

Professor; Samuel T. Dell Research Scholar; Director, Institute of Human Rights and Peace Development

- Appointed as acting judge on the High Court of South Africa, a court of law which, when constituted in 1994, inherited the jurisdiction of the provincial and local divisions of the Supreme Court of South Africa that was formally abolished following the post-apartheid settlement.

William H. Page

Marshall M. Criser Eminent Scholar in Electronic Communications and Administrative Law; Professor

- Published *The Microsoft Case: Antitrust, High Technology, and Consumer Welfare* with John Lopatka (University of Chicago Press, 2007).

Juan F. Perea

Cone Wagner Nugent Johnson, Hazouri and Roth Professor

- Moderated a panel on “Awakening from the Dream: The New Struggle for Diversity in the Legal Academy,” presented by the AALS Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Minority Law Teachers, at the AALS national conference.
- Named to the Research Committee of the AALS.
- Delivered two presentations on the role of constitutional courts in Latin

New York Times, March 1, 2007

“Most incompetency claims in federal court are denied and most defendants found incompetent are clearly psychotic.”

Christopher Slobogin, Stephen C. O’Connell Chair, Affiliate Professor of Psychiatry, quoted in a story about a federal judge finding Jose Padilla competent to stand trial on terrorism conspiracy charges.



FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

St. Petersburg Times, Nov. 30, 2006

“Officers are symbols of something more than just individuals who have committed an offense. The jury may reach a verdict based on the value of those symbols to them. Sometimes people use these cases to send messages for support of the police department as a whole.”



Kenneth Nunn, Professor; Associate Director, Center on Children and Families, quoted in an article about the arrest of eight correctional officers for the death of 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson and the difficulties faced when prosecuting law enforcement officers.

America and the United States at UF, and on “Straightening the Forked Paths” about Section 5 of the 14th Amendment at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

- Published a book chapter, “Mi Profundo Azul: Why Latinos Have a Right to Sing the Blues,” in *Colored Men and Hombres Aqui: Hernandez v. Texas and the Emergence of Mexican-American Lawyering* (Michael A. Olivas, ed., 2006).
- Completed *Race & Races: Cases and Resources for a Diverse America* (2d. ed. 2007) (with Delgado, Harris, Stefanic & Wildman).

Christopher L. Peterson

Associate Professor

- Testified in April before a U.S. Senate Banking Committee’s Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment hearing on “Subprime Mortgage Market Turmoil: Examining the Role of Securitization.” He discussed his article “Predatory Structured Finance,” which is forthcoming in the *Cardozo Law Review*.
- Debated Dr. Michael Maloney, an economics professor at Clemson University, on the efficacy of usury law. The debate was broadcast by National Public Radio’s affiliate station at Utah State University.

- Presented paper, “Usury Law and the Christian Right: Religious Political Power and the Geography of ‘Payday’ Lending Regulation” to the faculty at Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in Washington, D.C.
- Published opinion editorial, “Cleaning up a Consumer Lending Mess,” in the *Boston Globe*.
- Paper, “Predatory Structured Finance,” *Cardozo Law Review*, made SSRN’s “all-time hits” list for Legislation and Statutory Interpretation, making his paper one of the ten most downloaded papers in this class since the inception of SSRN.
- Published “Preemption, Agency Cost Theory, and Predatory Lending by Banking Agents: Are Federal Regulators Biting Off More Than They Can Chew?” in *56 American Law Review* 515 (2007).
- Interviewed on Public Radio International’s “Marketplace” about how state legislatures are likely to respond to a recent public relations push by a payday loan industry trade association.

Faculty Profile: George Dawson

Professor George Dawson has been a familiar face at the University of Florida Levin College of Law since he arrived in 1981, but a few times during the year he leaves his home in Gainesville to export the UF Law name and share his expertise with law students around the world.

In addition to teaching at UF Law, Dawson is in his eighth year as the director of the College of Law Summer Program at the University of Montpellier in France, a program jointly sponsored with Levin. Each year 25 to 30 students from UF travel to study in France for five weeks to take classes with UF professors, including Dawson.

“The program allows students to take the classes they need in a different environment and in a different way,” said Dawson, who earned an A.B. from Princeton University and a J.D. from the University of Chicago. “It also allows them to involve themselves in the French culture, while still taking classes from UF Law professors.”

He also travels to Poland to participate in the United States Law at Warsaw Program in which faculty travel to the Center for American Law Studies at the University of Warsaw. For two weeks at a time, Dawson teaches nine classes in Warsaw and gives a final exam in United States contract law.

However, Dawson’s most important and time consuming role is in Gainesville, where he serves as associate dean of academic affairs and carries the responsibility of making sure students are prepared to leave Levin and enter the working world with a solid legal foundation. The job entails everything from curriculum planning to course scheduling.

“In this role of associate dean of academic affairs, I am the connection between the students and the faculty,” Dawson said. “My major role is to take the responsibility to help the faculty accomplish their goals in the classroom so they can better prepare students for the practice of law.”

Even with all his work around the world and as an associate dean, Dawson still finds time to teach Estates and Trusts most semesters. He also works closely with the Admissions Office.

“Because I was president of the Law School Admissions Council in the ‘90s, it made sense for me to get involved with our admissions process,” he said.



—Alison Dubin

Gregg D. Polsky

*Visiting Associate Professor of Law;
Associate Professor of Law, University
of Minnesota Law School*

- Appointed the Professor-in-Residence in the Office of Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service for the 2007-2008 academic year. He will serve as a special assistant to Chief Counsel Don Korb.
- Published article, "Reforming the Taxation of Deferred Compensation," 85 *North Carolina Law Review* 571 (January 2007) (co-authored with Ethan Yale).
- Appointed to the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Deferred Compensation* (Aspen Publishers).
- Presented "The Tax Code's Misguided Attempt to Control Executive Compensation" at Seton Hall Law School's faculty colloquium.
- Presented "Regulating Independent Political Organizations" at the *First Amendment Law Review's* annual symposium at the University of North Carolina Law School.
- Cited five times by majority opinion in Washington Supreme Court decision of *Van Pham v. City of Seattle*, 151 P.3d 976.
- Cited by the Federal Election Commission in support of its decision declining to create a per se rule regulating independent section 527 organizations as political committees, *Federal Register*, Vol. 72, No. 25 at 5598.

Steve Powell

*Director, International Trade
Law Program*

- Presented paper on "Nature of the Obligation of States to Use Trade Instruments for the Advancement of Environmental, Labor, and Other Human Rights" at Idaho International Law Symposium.

Leonard L. Riskin

Chesterfield Smith Professor

- *The Journal of Dispute Resolution* published a symposium of articles based on the symposium honoring him held at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law last October. Riskin was the founding director and

a senior fellow of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution.

- Appointed to the AALS Professional Development Committee.
- Appointed to the Advisory Board of ProDialogo, a Peruvian NGO dedicated to conflict resolution and prevention.
- Published essay, "Awareness in Lawyering: A Primer on Paying Attention," in Marjorie A. Silver, ed., *The Affective Assistance of Counsel: Practicing Law as a Healing Profession* (Carolina Academic Press, 2007).
- Gave a public lecture at Suffolk Law School, "Defining the Problem in Court-Oriented Mediation," and a presentation to the law faculty, "What Every Law Student Should Know about Conflict Resolution: The Top Ten Ideas."

Elizabeth A. Rowe

Assistant Professor

- Published article, "Saving Trade Secret Disclosures on the Internet Through Sequential Preservation," 42 *Wake Forest Law Review* 1 (2007).
- Quoted in *Gainesville Sun* article, "UF Leads Way With Anti-Piracy Technology," about steps by recording industry to address piracy among college students.

Mike Seigel

Professor

- Named by UF Law students as 2007 Professor of the Year.
- Co-authored a chapter, "Federal Prosecutorial Power and the Need for a Law of Counts," in Joan MacLeod Heminway, ed., *Martha Stewart's Legal Troubles* (Carolina Academic Press, 2006).

- Participated in a panel and presented a lecture, "An Update on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure," to members of the Stetson Law faculty.
- Published an editorial, "Corporate America Fights Back," in *The Washington Post*.
- Published a letter to the editor, "Down With the Ship," in the *American Bar Association Journal*.
- Appointed to The Florida Bar Task Force on the Attorney-Client Privilege.

Michael R. Siebecker

Assistant Professor

- Published article, "Corporate Speech, Securities Regulation and an Institutional Approach to the First Amendment," in *William and Mary Law Review*.

Christopher Slobogin

*Stephen C. O'Connell Chair,
Edwin A. Heafey Visiting Professor
of Law, Stanford Law School*

- Spoke on "Public Camera Surveillance and the Right to Public Anonymity" at "Unblinking: Visual Privacy" conference at Berkeley Law School.
- Commented on Richard Salgado's paper at the "Search and Seizure in the Digital Age" conference at Stanford Law School.
- Gave a talk on "Preventive Justice and the Implications of Bioscience" at Stanford's Center for Law and the Biosciences.
- Co-authored a chapter titled "Federal Prosecutorial Power and the Need for a Law of Counts" in Joan MacLeod Heminway, ed., *Martha*

Belleville News Democrat, Feb. 9, 2007

“There’s a great deal of mental and emotional suffering in this profession. Mindfulness meditation is a terrific way for some people to feel better.”

Leonard L. Riskin, Chesterfield Smith Professor, recommended meditation to combat “a great deal of mental and emotional suffering in this profession,” in a story about the growing focus on meditation in law schools.



FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

The New York Times, Feb. 19, 2007

“I’ve never seen it in a single-mother will. She intentionally disinherited somebody.”

Lee-ford Tritt, Director of Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning and Estates and Trusts Practice Certificate Program, quoted in an article about Anna Nicole Smith’s estate and its lack of provision for her 5-month-old daughter.



- Published “Tarasoff as a Duty to Treat: Insights from the Criminal Law,” in *Cincinnati Law Review*.
- Published “Dangerousness and Expertise Redux” in *Emory Law Journal*.

Lee-ford Tritt

Associate Professor; Director of Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning and Estates and Trusts Practice Certificate Program

- Spoke at University of Miami School of Law on “Estate Planning Issues and Strategies for Non-Traditional Families.”
- Published *Liberating Estates Law from the Constraints of Copyright*, 38 *Rutgers Law Journal* 61 (2006).

Christopher A. Vallandigham
Foreign and International Law Librarian/Adjunct Professor

- Chief organizer of the “Intelligence and Ethics 2007” conference in Springfield, Va.

Stewart’s Legal Troubles (Carolina Academic Press, 2006).

- Spoke at the Section on Criminal Justice/Section of Law and Mental Disability program, “Insanity and Beyond: Current Issues in Mental Disability and Criminal Justice,” at the AALS annual meeting.
- Spoke about prosecutorial discretion in Florida death penalty cases at a conference on “Life and Death Decisions: Prosecutorial Discretion and Capital Punishment in Missouri,” St. Louis University School of Law.

- Gave a talk, “Twelve Objections to Ecological Jurisprudence,” at the Munsterberg Conference, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York.

- Gave a workshop on “The Liberal Assault on the Fourth Amendment” at Stanford Law School.

- Spoke at a conference on “Citizen Ignorance, Police Deception and the Constitution,” on the topic “Lying and Confessing,” Texas Tech Law School.

Faculty Profile: Christine Klein

Environmental patriotism will become a well-known phrase in every household, regardless of political affiliation, if Professor Christine Klein has her way.

Klein is researching methods of environmental protection and developing the idea that conservation is a “bipartisan family value.” Simply put, Klein is a passionate believer that conservation is the highest expression of patriotism, and one of the best ways to ensure that the nation’s environmental wealth will be passed on to the next generation.

Long a stalwart supporter of employing the law to protect the environment, Klein began practicing water allocation law in the western United States right out of law school in 1987. She worked at the Colorado Attorney General’s Office, focusing on an innovative state program that acquired western-style water rights to maintain minimum stream flows and lake levels to preserve the natural environment.

Later she moved to Michigan State University, where she taught water law and studied the Great Lakes system. There, she was intrigued by the growing opposition to water “export” out of the Great Lakes to other regions of the country.

Klein joined the UF law faculty in 2003. She has followed with interest the developing debate in Florida over the potential transport of water from water-rich areas such as North Florida to more populated areas of the state.

Drawing from her experiences in Colorado, Michigan and Florida, she argues that “the search for new water sources should not be the default principle of water management.” Instead, Klein is urging a focus on reducing the demand rather than increasing the supply. Regardless of the region, she feels conservation efforts can significantly whittle down

the ever-increasing demand.

“I am trying to find a middle ground to maintain the link between land and water and to preserve the integrity of watersheds,” Klein said.

Her actions are gaining notice. This past year Klein was invited to join the Center for Progressive Reform, a network of 50 progressive scholars from universities across the country. They are committed to protecting public health, safety and the environment through research, analysis and commentary.

She said she is honored to be affiliated with the Center for Progressive Reform and has joined its effort to structure the next generation of environmental law. Her work there parallels her research. Currently, she is canvassing water laws of all 50 states to identify methods of regulating the export of water from one watershed to another. She is particularly interested in identifying models of sustainability currently in use that may serve as models for other states.

“I am proud to be at a university like UF because there is a campus wide effort to maintain sustainability,” Klein said, referring to the university’s initiative to become a global leader in sustainability. “Conservation to manage demand—rather than a broad geographic search for new supplies of water, oil, and other natural resources—is the most equitable and cost-effective approach.”

—Aline Baker



Steve Willis

*Professor; Associate Director,
Center on Children and Families*

- Panelist on “Teaching Non-profit Law” at the AALS annual meeting of the Section of Non-profits.
- Published “People in Glass Houses” in 113 *Tax Notes* 477 (2006).
- Presented “Family Law Economics: Ruminations on Property” to Family Law Section of the Collier County Bar Association at its annual Family Law Conference.

Michael Allan Wolf

Richard E. Nelson Chair in Local Government Law; Professor

- Published an Expert Commentary for LexisNexis on *Mendota Golf, LLP v. City of Mendota Heights*, 708 N.W. 2d 162 (2006).
- Spoke at the “Preservation 101” seminar sponsored by Florida Trust for Historic Preservation in “Who’s Afraid of Property Rights?, Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Constitution.”
- Hosted and served as a presenter for the Sixth Annual Richard E. Nelson Symposium, “From Fairways to Driveways: Legal Implications of Golf Course Conversions.”
- Spoke at CLE International’s Regulatory Takings program.
- Published “Looking Backward: Richard Epstein Ponders the ‘Progressive’ Peril,” 105 *Michigan Law Review* 1233 (2007).

Barbara B. Woodhouse

*David H. Levin Chair; Director,
Center on Children and Families
and the Family Law Certificate
Program; Co-Director, Institute for
Child and Adolescent Research and
Evaluation (ICARE)*

- Advised Fordham University in developing its multidisciplinary center on child advocacy.
- Presented the keynote speech at a St. John’s University conference on

Boston Globe, March 3, 2007

“When the CEO of HSBC, one of the world’s largest banks, and legal aid attorneys who represent poverty-stricken Americans find something to agree on, it is no small event.”

Christopher L. Peterson, Associate Professor, in an op-ed piece that encouraged leaders to rethink national credit policies.



“Race, Class, Culture and the Child Welfare Crisis.”

- Spoke at a ceremony for the renaming of Arizona State’s law school, in honor of retired U.S. Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.
- Published “Waiting for Loving: The Child’s Fundamental Right to Adoption,” 34 *Capital U. L. Rev.* 297-329 (2005).
- Named the Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, for September 2007-January 2008 to do a comparative law study of child welfare rights and the ecology of childhood in the U.S. and the European Union.

Monique Haughton Worrell

Legal Skills Professor; Supervising Attorney, Child Welfare Clinic

- Presented “In Defense of Juveniles: Due Process Failures in the United States Juvenile Justice System” at the International Society on Family Law Conference in 2005; proceedings published in 2007.

- Spoke on objective expert witness testimony at the Florida State Child Protection Team Conference.
- Presented at the Harvard Law Child Advocacy Conference on the Center on Children and Families Multidisciplinary Programs.
- Spoke to the UF Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry on eyewitness testimony of children, “The Child Witness.”

Danaya C. Wright

Professor

- Published column in “The Blog,” *Inside UF*, on UF Senate Policy Councils, through which the Senate takes a proactive role in policy changes and guards the academic mission of UF. Wright currently serves as Faculty Senate Chair.
- Presented “The Legacy of Colonialism: Religion, Law, and Women’s Rights in India” at a conference at Washington and Lee School of Law on gender relevant legislation in Muslim and non-Muslim countries. It was sponsored by Washington and Lee and Harvard University.

The Washington Post, Feb. 26, 2007

“The attorney-client privilege is not an end unto itself but a means to an end.”

Michael L. Seigel, Professor, in an op-ed article about the push by big business to restrict or prohibit prosecutors of big business cases from requesting material that would be confidential under attorney-client privilege.



A photograph of a man with white hair and sunglasses, wearing a white polo shirt and light-colored trousers, riding a dark brown horse. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a vast, sandy desert landscape with a large, ancient pyramid (likely the Great Pyramid of Giza) rising in the distance under a clear sky. The title text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

It's all in a Day's Work

The exotic side of international law

Howe in Giza, Egypt

BY KATHY FLEMING

When Osmond Howe (JD 66) answers his cell phone, he asks if he can call back in 10 minutes.

“I’m at a dealership buying a red Ferrari for a client,” he says. “He’s a lucky guy.”

Turns out the client is a Brazilian businessman who has a stable of nice cars, including a Bentley and Rolls Royce, and always has Howe handle the purchases.

The purchase of a posh automobile is downright conventional compared to the numerous quirky requests Howe has handled in a 30-year practice focused on real estate and international law.

Later, from the comfort of his spacious waterfront office on Brickell Key, a tiny exclusive island just across from Miami’s downtown, Howe says it is hard to pinpoint the most exotic request he ever received. He remembers the time one of his wealthiest clients called and asked that he charter two 747s within 48 hours because the family was moving back to the Middle East. One jet was for the family, and the other was for their possessions.

Howe can tell these stories all day. Not unlike public radio’s Garrison Keillor, with measured words and a twinkle in his eye, Oz Howe relays anecdote after anecdote, pulling the listener into situations with him all over the world. While he has been tremendously successful during a time when Florida in general, and Miami in particular, was becoming a sizzling international business community, it quickly becomes clear Howe enjoys the people as much as the work.

Many of the more out-of-the-ordinary situations emerge from his 17-year relationship with Saudi Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, a brother of the King of Saudi Arabia and third in line to the throne. That affiliation began in 1987 when a London colleague called seeking assistance with a South Florida property title for the prince’s father-in-law. When it was time for payment, the father took Howe downtown to the bank.

“Here we were, walking down Flagler Street in downtown Miami holding hands—that’s common for Saudi businessmen—and we go into the bank. I had a sizable fee, \$50,000 I think, and his aide has the bank fill a shopping bag

with money,” Howe recalls, shaking his head, still incredulous. “We get back into the limo and he hands me the bag and says, ‘take your money.’ I count out the money, but tell him I don’t have anything to put it in. He dumps out the remaining money on the floor and gives me the bag. I went back to my office and dumped it on the office manager’s desk and asked him to take care of it.”

A few months later Howe was invited to meet with the prince’s wife, at their massive estate in Indian Creek Village in Miami, considered one of the wealthiest municipalities in the United States. As requested, he arrived at their gate at 11 a.m. That’s when he learned yet another international lesson—he was supposed to come at 11 p.m. because that is the time they conduct business. He returned that evening and waited in a lavishly decorated room, watching dozens of bodyguards come and go.

“Almost two hours later, the princess came into the room, beautiful and dressed to the nines,” he says, “She is very intelligent, and everything is very calculated from where she sits to what she says. In her sing-song voice, she asks me, ‘What can you do for me?’ So I tell her I can do this and I can do that.”

It was the start of a close relationship that has taken Howe, his fashion designer wife and their two daughters abroad too many times to count and presented him many memorable experiences.

FROM DIAMONDS TO BODY GUARDS

For instance, there was the time renowned London diamond jeweler Michael Graff alerted the princess that her one-of-a-kind 70-carat diamond was on the cover of a Sotheby’s catalog, about to go to auction in Geneva. The princess had not even realized it was missing.

“I want my diamond back,” she told Howe. The Miami lawyer conferred with Graff, located certificates of authenticity to contest the ownership, and eventually hired a Swiss attorney to stand up at the auction and announce that the auction of the diamond would be challenged. “The auction was stopped. But unfortunately, the diamond was given back to the mysterious sellers in keeping with Swiss law, and the princess has yet to recover her gemstone,” Howe said.

As just one of the family’s many lawyers—who seldom confer with each other—Howe carries out the usual assignments involving real estate, business investments and acquisitions and sales. The unusual requests are just as common: teach the prince’s young daughter how to deal with international bankers, photograph and catalog a shopping trip of designer clothing worth millions, and on this particular day, find a pain doctor in Japan. In 2005 there was a need to provide security in high risk areas for prominent

international families and international businessmen and dignitaries, so he formed the Strategic Tactical Assessment Group.

“It does keep the practice from becoming boring,” he says, smiling.

ONE END OF THE STATE TO THE OTHER

That he has these outlandish experiences is still somewhat of a puzzle for the tall, elegant lawyer, though he was ambitious from the start. Raised at the other end of the state, the Pensacola native comes from a long line of motivated Howes, as evidenced by original certificates on his office wall, in which his great grandfather was named the British vice counsel of the region by Queen Victoria and was accepted by U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1877.

After graduating from UF Law, where he served as notes editor and editor-in-chief of the *Florida Law Review*, he turned down more lucrative offers and opted to work at the second oldest Miami law firm, Mershon Sawyer Johnston Dunwoody & Cole.

“Miami was intriguing to me. It was unique and I

wanted the excitement of a larger city,” he says. He worked at Mershon in real estate for almost 30 years, heading up the firm’s real estate department of about 20 attorneys for 15 years.

Albert Quentel (JD 59), an early mentor of Howe’s at the firm, remembers the young lawyer as a quick study with natural analytical abilities and a calm, steady style of negotiation.

“All of those abilities make him an excellent lawyer, but what makes him a superb lawyer is the confidence and loyalty of his clients,” says Quentel, who left Mershon in 1971 to join Greenberg Traurig as the fifth principal.

“He brings a lot of ingenuity to his law practice. I’ll never forget when he bought his first house and walked away from the closing with a check, even though he was the buyer,” Quentel says. “Oz had gotten the seller to let him assume the first mortgage and take a purchase money second mortgage. The broker was miffed, ‘If I had known the seller would take a deal like that, I could have sold this house six months ago.’ Oz’s rejoinder was ‘Well, why didn’t you?’”

As Miami grew, so did the deal making. For many years, Howe recalls, the largest real estate loan a Florida bank could make was \$5 million.

“And then all of a sudden, the loans jumped up there when the big banks entered the market,” he says.

On Christmas Eve, 1974, he was closing a loan in New York when he was told that two Chicago businessmen wanted

One of his wealthiest clients called and asked that he charter two 747s within 48 hours.



Howe with Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud

to build a big condo building in Miami and needed to close a loan in four days. The deal went so fast that the commitment letter wasn't signed until after the loan closed.

"The loan was \$23.5 million and the *Miami Herald* and radio stations came to cover it because it was the largest loan ever closed in Florida," he said. "My fee was \$28,000, which was more than I used to bill in a year as a young lawyer."

REPRESENTING TOP CLIENTS

He represented many of the world's largest financial institutions and prominent real estate developers, and played a role in financing numerous Florida landmarks, including the Wachovia Financial Center (originally the Southeast Financial Center) and most recently the Loews Miami Beach hotel.

After the Mereshon firm closed in 1995, Howe eventually joined with Wes Robinson (JD 81) and Nic Watkins to form Howe, Robinson & Watkins. He remains an active member of the prestigious American College of Real Estate Lawyers and has long been listed as a member of the *Best Lawyers in America*.

A trustee of the UF Law Center Association and founder of the college's prominent Dunwoody Lecture, Howe spends a great deal of time serving the community he has helped grow.

One organization that has brought immense satisfaction is the Community Partnership for Homeless, which has been recognized as a national model for dealing with homelessness. Howe has served as general counsel since its inception and was responsible for resolving a complex contract with the county that has not been changed in 14 years.

"At the time we were negotiating that contract, it appeared hopeless. Osmond stepped in and said 'Let me see what I can do.' He handled everything, protected the organization and got through all that bureaucracy," says founding Chairman Alvah Chapman, also the former CEO of Knight Ridder and one of South Florida's most influential business and civic leaders over the past four decades.

"Osmond is deeply interested in the homeless and his commitment to service is very real," Chapman adds. "I have a lot of confidence in him."

In his waterfront office filled with informal photos of family and people like Dick Cheney, John Templeton and the Saudi Royal family, Osmond Howe is still a man looking for the next adventure.

"You don't get rich by hanging around the rich. While being on a retainer provides a stable income, you don't make money while you sleep, which is what the rich do," he says. For that reason, he is contemplating joining forces with an affluent Malibu client in a new international joint venture that will require him to live in Asia for a while as a co-owner and general counsel.

"I was never in practice to get rich, and I realize I have paid more attention to enjoying the moment than taking advantage of it," he reflects. "I've spent years keeping clients profitable and out of legal trouble and it's been exciting. My client wants me to get into this business, but now I have to decide what is right for me."

"The very rich have very few people they feel comfortable with and who they trust," Howe says. "Sure, there may be better lawyers, but for some reason they want me." ■

CLASS NOTES

Share Your News

Please send submissions to: fleming@law.ufl.edu (preferred) or Editor, *UF Law Magazine*, Levin College of Law, University of Florida, P.O. Box 117633, Gainesville, FL 32611.

If you wish to include your e-mail address at the end of your class note, please make the addition to your class note or provide permission to print.

1958

James E. Cobb, a founding partner at Peek, Cobb & Edwards, was awarded the University of North Florida's Presidential Medallion for Outstanding Service, the university's highest form of nonacademic recognition, given to local civic leaders who have helped guide UNF's progress.

1959

Stephen W. Sessums was awarded the first Lifetime Achievement Award by the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers in appreciation for his work with the academy and in furthering the practice of matrimonial law.

Seeking "Business Type" Alumni

A future issue of *UF Law* magazine will include an article about alumni who are entrepreneurs or who are involved in the top management of a business (other than as general counsel). If this applies to you or an alumnus you know, please e-mail contact information to Editor Kathy Fleming at fleming@law.ufl.edu.

1963

Larry S. Stewart, of Stewart Tilghman Fox & Bianchi, was awarded the ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section's Pursuit of Justice award in recognition of his lifelong devotion to the legal profession and for significant contributions to the pursuit of justice. He was also named to the Top 500 of leading plaintiff lawyers by *Lawdragon* magazine and was appointed to the Program Committee of the Council of the American Law Institute.

1964

The second edition of **Michael L. Jamieson's** book, *Remembrances: My Life with Chesterfield Smith: America's Lawyer*, was published recently and is available at major booksellers online.

1966

I. Michael Colodny, a partner with Colodny, Fass, Talenfeld, Karlinsky & Abate, was recognized in *South Florida Legal Guide* in the government relations and insurance law categories.

Steve Rossman, founding partner of Rossman Baumberger Rebozo & Spier in Miami, was elected secretary of the national board of Easter Seals and became a member of the board's executive committee.

1967

Donald J. Sasser, of Sasser, Cestero & Sasser in West Palm Beach, was elected president of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

1969

Joseph P. Milton, a Jacksonville attorney, has become certified as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. Membership is limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts, awards and settlements. He is a board-certified civil trial lawyer and a board-certified admiralty and maritime lawyer.

1972

Judge **John E. Futch**, of the 5th Judicial Circuit Marion County Court, was awarded the Outstanding Jurist Award by the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar.

1973

Walter "Skip" Campbell was appointed to the board of advisers of the Center for Governmental Responsibility (CGR) at the UF Levin College of Law. Campbell is a shareholder with Krupnick Campbell Malone Buser Slama Hancock Liberman & McKee and a former Florida senator.

Daniel Richardson, of Lewis, Longman & Walker's Jacksonville office, was elected a shareholder of the firm.

1974

Leslie J. Lott, past director of the International Trademark Association and founding partner of the intellectual property firm Lott & Friedland in Coral Gables, spoke at the Intellectual Property Litigation and Insurance Seminar. She also spoke at the Florida Bar 2007 midyear meeting in Miami about "I.P. Rocks: Intellectual Property and the Entertainment Business."

Richard A. Murdoch became a shareholder of Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs and is working out of the Boca Raton office. rmurdoch@bdblaw.com

1975

Wayne E. Flowers, of the Jacksonville office of Lewis, Longman & Walker, was elected chairman of the St. Johns County Housing Finance Authority.

1976

James A. Earp was elected Circuit Judge for Brevard County.

Jeffrey Pheterson, shareholder in Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs Boca Raton's office, was elected chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bethesda Memorial Hospital. jpheterson@bdblaw.com

Judge **Judy M. Pittman**, former chief judge and current family law administrative circuit judge for Florida's 14th Judicial Circuit



Cobb 58



Sessums 59



Colodny 66



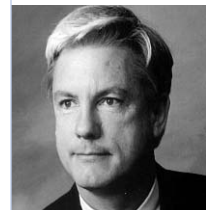
Richardson 73



Lott 74



Murdoch 74



Flowers 75

Talbot ‘Sandy’ D’ Alemberte

Receives High Honors for Public Service

Talbot “Sandy” D’ Alemberte (JD 62) has received two top honors for his public service work: the 2007 Simon Tobias Pro Bono Service Award, Florida’s highest honor conferred by the Florida Supreme Court on a private lawyer, and the 2007 Robert Drinan Award for Distinguished Service, created by the American Bar Association Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities.

The Simon Tobias Pro Bono Service Award is presented for providing extraordinary legal services to those who otherwise could not afford them, while the Drinan Award recognizes unsurpassed commitment to the legal profession in the advancement and protection of human rights, civil liberties and social justice.

D’Alemberte, president emeritus of Florida State University and now with the law firm Hunton & Williams, has a more than 40-year history of pro bono service and was in the forefront of the early days of the modern dispute resolution movement. He co-founded the central European and Euro Asian and Eastern European Law Institute while president of the ABA, thought to be the largest single pro bono project in the history of American law.

Other accomplishments include providing pro bono representation to four Florida death row

inmates and establishing the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. In 1990, D’Alemberte was the lead lawyer in what has become known as the “D’Alemberte Petition,” which urged the Florida Supreme Court to make it clear that all members of The Florida Bar have a duty to provide legal services to indigents when ordered by a court.

The Drinan is named for the late Father Robert F. Drinan, a leading advocate for international human rights.

The Tobias award pays tribute to Miami civil rights lawyer Tobias Simon, who died in 1982, and is believed to be the first of its kind in the country conferring recognition by the state’s highest court on a private lawyer for voluntary, free legal services to the poor. A permanent plaque listing the names of all award recipients hangs in the Lawyers’ Lounge of the Florida Supreme Court Building in Tallahassee. Throughout the years, four other UF Law alumni names have been engraved on this plaque:

- Neil H. Chonin (JD 61) in 1984
- William Sheppard (JD 67) in 1985
- Herbert L. Allen (JD 68) in 1989
- Leon B. Cheek III (JD 72) in 1995.



KRISTEN HINES



Sellers 79

in Panama City, was named the Lee University 2006 Alumna of the Year, where she received her undergraduate degree.

1977

Dennis Wall spoke to more than 100 members of the Jacksonville Claims Association.

1979

Larry Hames (LLMT), of Lowndes Drosdick Doster Kantor & Reed, and his wife, Jane, were selected as honorary chairs of the annual gala and fundraiser for the Winter Park Day Nursery. Larry was also appointed to the board of directors for Goodwill Industries of Central Florida.

Hilarion “Lari” Martinez was designated as a U.S. Department of State diplomat in residence at Florida International University’s International Relations Department. He also earned a M.S. degree in national security strategy from the National War College.

Lawrence “Larry” E. Sellers, Jr., a partner in Holland & Knight’s Tallahassee office, has been elected to a third term on the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar. Sellers was elected to the two-year term without opposition to represent the lawyers of the 2nd Judicial Circuit.

John J. “Jeff” Scroggin (LLMT) is the founding editor of the *National Association of Estate Planners and Councils* (NAEPC). Scroggin presented at the 2007 Million Dollar Round Table, the State Bar of Georgia’s 2006 Annual Estate Planning

Institute, the 2006 Georgia Tax Conference, and the 2006 meeting of the Financial Planning Association. He was appointed to the Strategic Planning Committee for the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils and appointed as vice-chairman of the North Fulton Community Foundation.

1980

Tenth Judicial Circuit Judge **Ralph Artigliere** was recently awarded the William M. Hoevler Judicial Award for outstanding professionalism and contributions to the judicial system. RArtigliere@Jud10.FLCourts.org

Linda A. Conahan, from the Ft. Lauderdale office of Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, was named in the 2007 edition of the *Best Lawyers in America* in the practice area of commercial litigation.

Dennis J. Wall was elected to the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys.

1981

Sixth Judicial Circuit Judge **Nelly N. Khouzam** was presented with the William Castagna Award for Judicial Excellence, which recognizes a member of the Pinellas County judiciary who displays the highest standards of judicial excellence in knowledge of the law, ethics, civility, professionalism and demeanor.

William R. “Bill” Lane, Jr. (LLMT), a Holland & Knight partner, was recently appointed to a one-year term on the board of directors of All Children’s Health System.



Artigliere 80



Lane 81

Jeanne Tate, managing partner of Jeanne T. Tate, was named the 2006 Outstanding Leader by the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

1982

Paul Mandelkern (LLMT), of Lowndes Drosdick Doster Kantor & Reed, was re-elected to the Board of Directors and elected as secretary of the Florida Academy of Healthcare Attorneys.

Michael D. Minton (LLMT), president-elect of Dean Mead, has been appointed to a one-year term on the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors.

Terrence J. Delahunty, of Foley & Lardner, was named president-elect of the central Florida chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties.

1983

Janet Courtney, of Lowndes Drosdick Doster Kantor & Reed, was named in *Who's Who in American Law* as well as *Marquis Who's Who*.

Robert H. Dellecker, a partner with the law firm Dellecker, Wilson, King, McKenna & Ruffier, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Central Florida division of the March of Dimes Florida chapter.

James A. Gale, co-founder of the intellectual property law firm of Feldman Gale, was named chair of The Florida Bar's inaugural committee for Intellectual Property Law Certification for a three-year term.

William F. "Bill" Hamilton, a Florida Bar board-certified business litigation partner in the Tampa office of Holland & Knight, has been named a member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce for 2007 and a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. william.hamilton@hkllaw.com

Elizabeth M. Hernandez, city attorney of Coral Gables, was recognized by the Miami-Dade County Commission, as an honoree of the "In the Company of Woman" award during Women's History Month 2006. Hernandez was recognized for her contributions in improving the quality of life and justice in the community and specifically her role in planning and providing diversity sensitivity training seminars to judges in the 11th Judicial Circuit.

Edmond D. "Ted" Johnson has joined the firm Pepper Hamilton as a partner in the Wilmington office. johnsone@pepperlaw.com

Glenn J. Waldman, a shareholder of Waldman, Feluren, Hildebrandt & Trigoboff in Weston, has written "Federal Court Sanctions Against Attorneys Under 28 U.S.C. 1927 – the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Attempts to Divide the Standard for Multiplying the Proceedings in Bad Faith," which published in *The Florida Bar Journal* in January. It was his sixth article in the *Journal*. He was also named in *Law & Politics'* 2007 magazine as a "Florida Super Lawyers," and as one of the "Florida Legal Elite" in *Florida Trend*. gwaldman@wfhtpa.com

1984

Mark Alexander, a partner in the Jacksonville office of Holland & Knight, has been named practice group leader for the firm's national Labor & Employment Practice Group. mark.alexander@hkllaw.com

1985

Donald C. Dowling, Jr. is international labor and employment counsel at White & Case in New York City, where he represents U.S. based multinational employers in cross-border employment law matters. ddowling@ny.whitecase.com

John E. Leighton, a civil trial lawyer in Miami with Leesfield Leighton & Partners, authored the two-volume treatise *Litigating Premises Security Cases*, (Thomson-West Publishers). Leighton was re-elected as chairman of the Inadequate Security Litigation Group of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and elected vice chairman of the Academy of Trial Advocacy. He also was re-certified as civil trial specialist by The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization.

David M. Silberstein (LLMT) was elected to the 2007 executive committee of Kirk Pinkerton law firm, with offices in Sarasota and Bradenton.

1986

Ellen M. (Waldman) Leibovitch has become Of Counsel to the firm of Schwarzberg Spector Duke Schulz & Rogers. Leibovitch is board certified in labor & employment law by The Florida Bar and predominantly counsels and defends employers. eleibovitch@schwarzbergglaw.com

1988

Michael D. Simon, from the West Palm Beach office of Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, was named in the 2007 edition of the *Best Lawyers in America* in the practice area of trusts and estates.

1989

Reginald Mombrun (LLMT) published a book, *A Complete Introduction To Corporate Taxation*, with Gail Levin Richmond, an associate dean at Nova Southeastern University School of Law. Mombrun has been teaching at FAMU College of Law since August 2004.



Minton 82



Gale 83



Hamilton 83



Hernandez 83



Johnson 83



Alexander 84



Leighton 85



Leibovitch 86

WANTED
Military Law Gators

The Military Law Student Association (MLSA) is establishing a network of UF Law alumni who are current service members or veterans. MLSA provides Gator service members with various types of support, including volunteer care packages and letters, and information about noteworthy campus events. Contact Christian E. Torres, 2L, at ufmlsa@gmail.com for additional information about MLSA and to join the network.

Atlanta Alums

An organization of UF Law alumni living in the Atlanta area has been established recently to provide a fun forum for professional networking, social interaction, fund-raising and recruiting. A summer gathering is planned. To learn details, contact Joe Fucile (jfucile@kilpatrickstockton.com) or Rachael Zichella (rzichella@kilpatrickstockton.com).



Tucker 90

1990

Roderick C. McDonald joined the Syracuse, N.Y., law firm of Bond, Schoeneck & King as senior counsel and member of the firm's business law department.

Kimberly B. Rezanka, a member of Dean Mead's Viera office, was recently sworn in as president of the Brevard County Bar Association.

John V. Tucker, of Tucker & Ludin in Clearwater, presented "ERISA: Liens and Much More, A Primer For Claims and Federal Litigation Under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act" to the Tampa Bay Trial Lawyers Association. tucker@tuckerludin.com



Rezanka 90

1992

Michael G. Schwartz (LLMT), from the Cincinnati office of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, was named in the 2007 *Best Lawyers in America* list in the practice area of tax law and trusts and estates.

1993

Edson Briggs, Jr., was promoted to partner at Ferrell Law, where he has practiced for more than six years in the areas of international and domestic commercial litigation and arbitration, anti-money laundering and employment law. reb@ferrellworldwide.com



Schwartz 92



Lopez 96

1994

David A. Brennan (LLMT), professor at the University of Georgia, will be the new AALS deputy director in August.

Jonathan S. Gilbert, a real estate attorney with Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart in West Palm Beach, was promoted to firm shareholder. He was also appointed chair of the Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. jgilbert@gunster.com

Steven D. Lehner and **Suzanne McCaffrey Lehner** married in 1995 and they have two children. Steven is a capital partner with Hinshow & Culbertson. Suzanne prosecuted with the 6th Judicial Circuit and acted as in-house counsel for Nationwide Insurance Company. She is now litigating part-time with the law firm of Reywart, Jones, Russo & Gugton.

1995

Curt P. Creely, senior counsel at Foley & Lardner in Tampa, was elected to partner. His practice focuses on securities law, mergers and acquisitions, and other corporate business transactions. CCreely@foley.com

1996

Isabelle C. Lopez has joined the Jacksonville firm of Lewis, Longman & Walker as a senior attorney.

William "Bill" Goza After UF Law Comes Distinguished Career

Sixty-six years ago in Miami, where William "Bill" Goza (JD 41) was working as a clerk in a law firm, his employer offered to pay for him to complete his law school education at a local university. Even though he didn't have the funds to complete his education, he declined. In his mind, it was the University of Florida or nothing.

Goza did find the money. The same employer agreed to give him \$50 a month, which in those days would cover all expenses of room, board and living at UF, provided he would work for their law firm upon graduation.

"I'd rather not have a law degree than have one that did not come from the University of Florida," Goza said. "I was determined to finish my law degree at UF."

He did finish, graduating in 1938 with a bachelor's in business administration and in 1941 with a law degree. While on campus he was involved in numerous activities, including serving as a member of Florida Blue Key and as president of the John Marshall Debating Society.

After graduation Goza found himself in the thick of World War II, where he was a battery commander of the 54th Armored Field Artillery.

Once the war ended, Goza returned to Miami briefly to fulfill his obligation practice

with his sponsoring law firm. Not long after, he returned to his hometown of Clearwater to open Goza & Hall. He served his profession and community as a municipal judge, city attorney, president of the Clearwater Bar Association and president of both the Clearwater Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce. In 1970 he was even named "Mr. Clearwater."

But after a successful 35-year career in estate planning, Goza felt it was time to move back to one of his favorite places...Gainesville. The move allowed him to focus on another passion—forensic sciences. As a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and associate director of the William R. Maples Center for Forensic Medicine at the University of Florida College of Medicine, Goza assisted the late William R. Maples on numerous projects, including those related to Francisco Pizzaro in Peru, Joseph Merrick (the Elephant Man) in London, President Zachary Taylor in Louisville, Ky., and Czar Nicholas II and family in Russia.

"I moved around for a few years after retiring, but I knew in my heart Gainesville was the place I wanted to end up," Goza said. "I enjoy the community and still attend Gator football and basketball games with my wife Sue."



KRISTEN HINES

His numerous achievements as both a student and during the course of his career resulted in many UF awards, such as induction into Hall of Fame in 1941, the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1976 and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 1985.

"I have many fond memories of my days as a Gator and I am thankful every day for the opportunities the University of Florida has granted me," he said.

—Aline Baker

John Ruffier, of Lowndes Drosdick Doster Kantor & Reed, was featured by *Orlando Business Journal* among the top vote recipients of Central Florida lawyers winning peer approval. He was also listed in the publication's "Best of the Bar."

Stephen Fulton Shaw was awarded a Ph.D. degree from the UF School of Design, Construction & Planning. The topic of his dissertation is fairness of school impact fees.

Dabney D. Ware, senior counsel at the Jacksonville office of Foley & Lardner, was elected as a partner. Ware is a member of the Litigation Department and the Labor & Employment Practice.

1997

Chad S. Bowen, a partner with the Tampa law firm of Jennis, Bowen and Brundage, received his national certification in business bankruptcy law.

Darin S. Christensen (LLMT), from the West Coast law firm Bullivant Houser Bailey, was selected as a 2006 Oregon Super Lawyer for his tax law practice. darin.christensen@bullivant.com

Charles C. Connors (LLMT) is an Atlanta-based partner for the timberland law practice of Powell Goldstein.

John T. Marshall, a Holland & Knight associate in Tampa, was made a partner. He is a member of the firm's Real Estate Section and practices in the areas of civil litigation, land use and zoning.

Vincent E. Miller opened the law office of Vincent E. Miller in Delray Beach. The firm's practice areas include business litigation and complex personal injury. Miller is married to **Jennifer Quildon-Miller** (JD 97), and they live in Boca Raton.

Todd B. Reinstein was elected partner with Pepper Hamilton in Washington, D.C. He focuses on the corporate structuring of domestic and international transactions, corporate tax counseling, tax due diligence, tax shelter compliance and the overall tax aspects of bankruptcy and workouts. reinstein@pepperlaw.com

Jeffrey Rubinger was elected partner of Holland & Knight in Ft. Lauderdale. Rubinger is a member of the firm's Business Section and practices in the area of domestic and international taxation.

Anthony J. Scaletta (LLMT) was elected partner of Baker & Hostetler. Scaletta is a member of the tax group and concentrates his practice in private wealth planning and tax controversy and litigation matters.

1998

Nicole K. Atkinson, an associate with the law firm of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart in West Palm Beach, was named to the Board of Directors of Hospice Foundation of Palm Beach County.

Matthew G. Breuer was elected partner of the Jacksonville office of Foley & Lardner. Breuer is a member of the Business Law Department and the firm's Real Estate Practice. MBreuer@foley.com

Bradley J. Bondi recently became a partner with the international law firm of Kirkland & Ellis in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the Litigation, Securities & Shareholder Litigation and White Collar Criminal Defense practice groups.

Rebecca C. Cavendish, of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart in West Palm Beach, became a firm shareholder. She concentrates her practice in products liability, complex commercial litigation and employment law. rcavendish@gunster.com

UF Law Alums Leading the State

The fourth most populated state in the nation with a state budget of about \$65 billion now has a UF Law alumnus as its lieutenant governor. Jeff Kottkamp (JD 87) was elected with Gov. Charlie Crist to serve a four-year term.

Kottkamp previously served on the Florida House of Representatives and was chairman of the Judiciary Appropriations Committee and vice chairman of the Rules and Calendar Council.

Several other University of Florida Law alumni are taking on state leadership roles in Florida as well, including the following appointments:

- Anna H. Benson (JD 96) to lead the Department of Professional and Business Regulation
- Tim Cerio as chief of staff in Florida Department of Health
- Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte (JD 62), Martha W. Barnett (JD 73), and Darryl E. Rouson (JD 80) to the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission
- Benjamin F. Diamond (JD 03) as special counsel to Alex Sink, Florida's new chief financial officer
- Cheryl E. Forchilli (JD 01) to the Commission on Ethics
- Paul C. Huck (JD 65) as general counsel for the Legal Affairs Office of Gov. Charlie Crist
- Scott Makar (JD 87) as solicitor general.
- Nathan Skop (JD 06) to the Public Service Commission.



Fulton Shaw 96



Breuer 98



Rogers 98

Fabienne E. Fahnestock became a firm shareholder at the Ft. Lauderdale office of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart. She concentrates her practice in appellate law, real estate, complex commercial litigation and estates and trusts. ffahnestock@gunster.com

Scott Ponce was made partner at Holland & Knight in Miami. Ponce is a member of the firm's Litigation Section and practices in the areas of complex civil and commercial litigation, with an emphasis on class action litigation and media law.

Lorraine O'Hanlon Rogers was named managing member of Schwarzberg Spector Duke Schulz & Rogers's new northern Palm Beach County office. She focuses her practice on employment law defense, including Title VII, ADA accommodation, Family and Medical Leave Act and Fair Labor Standards Act litigation.

Daniel A. Thomas, of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart's West Palm Beach office, was promoted to firm shareholder. dthomas@gunster.com

1999

Jeffrey T. Donner opened Donner Law Firm in Miami. The firm maintains a full-service dispute resolution and litigation practice, concentrating in the areas of appellate, government, administrative and commercial litigation. jeff@donnerlawfirm.com

Mariane L. Dorris became a partner in Latham, Shuker, Barker, Eden & Beaudine and practices in the area of bankruptcy, Chapter 11 reorganizations, and creditors' rights. MDorris@groneklatham.com

Paul A. Hechenberger, a member of Shutts & Bowen's Corporate Transactions Practice Group in Orlando, was elected partner in the Orlando office. He handles matters involving corporate taxation controversies and planning, mergers and acquisitions, general corporate law and business transactions.

Melissa Gross-Arnold, of Lewis, Longman & Walker's Jacksonville office, was elected a shareholder of the firm.



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Gross-Arnold 99



del Pozo Rodz 99



Hormozdi 03



Schefer 05



Demirdoken 05

Aliette del Pozo Rodz was elected partner in Shutts & Bowen's Miami office. She is a member of the Litigation Department, focusing her practice in general business litigation matters and international dispute resolution.

Alec D. Russell is a shareholder with GrayRobinson law firm.

2000

Juliann N. Hickey was appointed vice president and National Title Service (NTS) commercial underwriter in the Philadelphia branch of Fidelity National Title Insurance Company.

Ashley B. Moody became a circuit court judge for the 13th Judicial Circuit.

José A. Negroni opened his own firm, Feinstein & Negroni, specializing in personal injury in the South Florida area.

2001

Douglas I. Wall moved to the law firm of Alvarez, Sambol, Winthrop & Madson. Wall is continuing with construction defect law, and added the areas of commercial litigation and intellectual property to his expertise. DIW@aswmpa.com

2002

Beverly R. McCallum was appointed as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Arizona. She previously served as an assistant state attorney in the 8th Judicial Circuit of Florida and as a special assistant U.S. attorney for the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona.

David Scileppi, an attorney at the Ft. Lauderdale office of Gunster Yoakley, joined forces with colleagues and associates throughout South Florida to form a new non-profit organization called Orbis. The new group of business professionals has dedicated themselves to the growth and viability of the local economy.

2003

Christopher J. Hand, a Jacksonville attorney, joined the consumer injury law firm Terrell Hogan.

Hale E. Sheppard (LLMT) published "New Penalties for Undisclosed Foreign Accounts: Putting the Cart before the Horse?" in 8(3) *Journal of Tax Practice & Procedure* (2006) and "Evolution of the FBAR: Where We Were, Where We Are, and Why It Matters," 7(1) in *University of Houston Business*

& *Tax Law Journal* (2006). Sheppard was selected as an editor of a monthly column in the *Journal of Taxation* analyzing notable IRS rulings and was recently named a shareholder of Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin.

Shireen Hormozdi recently joined the Tampa office of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell as an associate. Her practice concentrates on several areas, including products liability, premises liability, casualty defense and commercial litigation. shormozdi@rumberger.com

Robert S. "Bob" Jacobs was elected director in the Tampa Bay area of Florida's Children First (FCF), a statewide, non-profit organization funded in part by the Florida Bar Foundation, which fights for the legal rights of at-risk children.

Kevin D. Slattery opened Kevin D. Slattery, P.A., an immigration law firm in Tampa specializing in employment-based and family-based immigration matters. His firm also handles naturalization cases and represents clients in removal (deportation) proceedings before the immigration court. kslattery@slattery-law.com

2004

Matthew J. Carson joined the Tallahassee office of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell as an associate practicing in commercial litigation, employment and labor law, and appellate work. mcarson@rumberger.com

Rebecca N. Shwayri joined the Orlando office of the national law firm, Baker & Hostetler, as an associate.

Michael J. Schefer joined Parr Waddoups Brown Gee & Loveless in Salt Lake City, Utah, as an associate. Schefer is practicing in the firm's business transactions group with emphasis on business organization, commercial finance and leasing, M&A and securities. mjs@pwlaw.com

2005

Ajda M. Demirdoken joined the Orlando office of Baker & Hostetler as an associate.

Rhada V. Thakkar joined Williams Parker Harrison Dietz & Getzen and will practice in the area of health law.

2006

Jorge A. Castillo joined the Orlando office of Baker & Hostetler as an associate.

Elizabeth Hernandez Leads National Professional Association

UF Law alumna Elizabeth Hernandez (JD 83) is now leading one of the largest minority bar organizations in the United States, the Cuban American Bar Association (CABA). The organization includes judges, lawyers and law students of Cuban and Cuban-American descent, as well as those interested in issues affecting the Cuban community.

"We are the advocates who ensure equal access and opportunity to all," said Hernandez. "It is exhilarating."

During her presidency, Hernandez hopes to "expand on the basic premise that motivates the organization, which is to complete diversity in all of its firms, not just at the bottom, but at the board level as well." The group provides yearly scholarships to all Florida law schools and runs a pro bono clinic providing free legal services to hundreds of qualified low income minorities.

Hernandez has served as chief legal officer for the City of Coral Gables for more than 10 years, during which time she has tackled more than a few hurdles.

"My most challenging role is to be able to ignore the political storms of a given moment and persevere in advising and representing my clients in the appropriate manner. Sometimes the negativity that motivates a reporter or malcontent permeates the atmosphere, and we need to rise above personal attacks to properly advise and represent our client," she said.

Even with her demanding job as city attorney, Hernandez said she stays active in organizations such as CABA because of the opportunities to mentor young attorneys and encourage them to become active in public service.

"I am very fortunate in that my job is my passion."
—Natalie Caula



Steve Uhlfelder

Receives National Award for Protecting At-Risk Children

BY SUSAN VERGNANI

Children's welfare has long been a focal point of Steve Uhlfelder's (JD 71) life. So it was fitting that his four-year-old grandson was by his side at the governor's mansion when he received the Daily National Point of Light Award for outstanding public service in October 2006.

Uhlfelder hasn't spent his career in public service, but it would be easy to make that mistake about him, given his lengthy legacy of volunteer work and advocacy on behalf of youth.

His love of children first found him in premed at UF, with a plan to become a pediatrician. But his other passion, politics and government, caused him to rethink that choice. He struck a good balance with law school, knowing it would afford him opportunities to impact public policy, particularly through educational initiatives for children.

It is clear Uhlfelder chose the correct path since his advocacy on behalf of youth speaks for itself. He has been the steward of programs such as the Florida Mentoring Partnership with 206,000 volunteer mentors, Holland & Knight's Opening Doors tutoring/mentoring program, which has helped more than 12,000 children across the nation, and the Florida Children's Coalition, which led the effort to obtain \$23 million in initial funding for the state's pre-K program for at-risk kids.

"I believe we will be judged by how we treat our most vulnerable," Uhlfelder said. "I learned as a public defender early in my career that most criminals are not born. The way children are raised, treated, educated and nurtured determines whether they go to college or jail."

But Uhlfelder's public service agenda doesn't stop with children. In 2004 he was appointed volunteer CEO of the Florida Hurricane Relief Fund, which raised \$24 million in donations and pledges.

During his years in governmental law, the skill and influence Uhlfelder garnered representing companies such as General Electric, Microsoft, the Pearson Publishing Group and UPS served him well when it was time to champion educational initiatives such as funding for the state's pre-K program and helping to secure the contract for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).

In keeping with his commitment to education at all levels, Uhlfelder helped launch and currently co-chairs the Florida Campus Compact, which promotes service on Florida college campuses. Other volunteer positions in higher education have included top roles on the Florida Board of Regents, the board of trustees of Florida State University, the Florida Board of Governors and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the largest international exchange program in the world.



“I want every child in my community to have adequate child care and healthcare. You have to shoot high, or you will never reach a decent goal.”

After many years with the international law firm Holland & Knight, Uhlfelder opened his own law practice in Tallahassee in 2002. Having his own firm has given Uhlfelder the flexibility to devote a larger percentage of his time to pro bono and volunteer work with children. Eventually he hopes to devote as much as 50 percent of his time working with children, Uhlfelder said.

"I want to help find a mentor or tutor for every at-risk child in my community that needs one," he said. "And I want every child in my community to have adequate child care and healthcare. You have to shoot high, or you will never reach a decent goal."

Despite his busy schedule, Uhlfelder has found time to tutor once a week in Leon County for the past 19 years. Further, the Florida Mentoring Partnership, which Uhlfelder co-chairs, recently inaugurated the Classroom Mentoring Connection at a Leon County elementary school. The new program targets at-risk elementary school boys facing the FCAT test for the first time and will be used as the statewide model.

While he has numerous awards, it is obvious that is not the reason he devotes so much of his time and resources.

"You cannot separate your professional life from the rest of your life," Uhlfelder said. "Lawyers are judged not only by what they make and do, but also by what they give to others. If someone had not saved my father when he was a child, he might have been killed by the Nazis along with his parents. I want to help 'save' many children's lives during my lifetime." ■

Uhlfelder (center) receiving National Daily Point of Light Award (from left) Robert Goodwin, then president of National Points of Light Foundation, Uhlfelder's grandson Bridger Barrett, and Gov. Jeb Bush.

Charles ‘Chuck’ Hobbs

Hazing Case Brings National Attention

Although Charles “Chuck” E. Hobbs, II (JD 98) has practiced law for less than a decade he has already made history—and headlines.

Hobbs, who practices in the areas of criminal trial law, appeals, personal injury and wrongful death, was the lead defense attorney behind Florida’s first hazing trial, which was televised last fall on Court TV. Hobbs represented four of five members of the

But in the midst of flashing cameras, Hobbs says he strives to be a voice for the voiceless, a goal he attributes to the skills he learned at the Levin College of Law and to the professors he learned those skills from.

“Law school helped to sharpen my analytical reasoning ability and oral advocacy skills,” Hobbs said. “I had the pleasure of studying under the late Professor Gerald Bennett, who was widely considered one of the preeminent experts in trial advocacy in the state of Florida. I also had the privilege of studying criminal law under Professor Kenneth Nunn. Professor Nunn also heightened my awareness of the law as a means of social justice through his Race and Race Relations seminar.”

Hobbs started his legal career as an assistant state attorney and worked for several firms, including the Law Offices of Frank Sheffield and Knowles & Randolph. Hobbs has also served as an adjunct professor at Florida A&M University and is a freelance writer whose columns appear in several statewide newspapers. During his tenure in Gainesville Hobbs was an editorial writer for the *Independent Florida Alligator*.

According to Professor Nunn, Hobbs was a dedicated student who worked hard in and out of the classroom.

“Chuck always had opinions and would speak his mind when he had the opportunity,” Nunn said. “Chuck was very instrumental in the Street Law Program I ran at the time to provide legal information to middle school-aged students in low-income areas of Gainesville. He was very popular with them, and he was very committed to giving back to his community.”

UF Law alumni played a role in his aspirations as well.

“A number of UF law black alumni, including U.S. District Court Judge Stephan P. Mickle (JD 70) and noted trial lawyer W. George Allen (JD 62), inspire me because they have broken barriers,” Hobbs said.

The impact these alumni have had on Hobbs has allowed him to reach for even higher heights in the legal community—so high, in fact, that he may make Florida history again.

“I eventually hope to become the first black elected state attorney in Florida,” Hobbs said. “I am strongly considering running for the same in the 2nd Judicial Circuit upon the retirement of my first boss, the Hon. William Meggs, in 2012.”

Hobbs’ experience with Professor Nunn’s Street Law Program, which led Hobbs to a chance meeting with his wife, Brooke, planted a seed in him that has now grown into a desire to begin his own mentoring program with other young African-American professionals in North Florida’s communities. The program will focus on nurturing, educating, empowering and inspiring young men.

“What I do is not unique,” said Hobbs. “I am just a small component in ensuring the voiceless have a voice.” ■

—Kanya Smith



Hobbs (left) answers questions in the high profile hazing case.

“What I do is not unique. I am just a small component in ensuring the voiceless have a voice.”

Alpha Xi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity on trial for allegedly participating in the hazing of a pledge at Florida A&M University.

Three fraternity brothers accused in the case avoided prison by pleading no contest in March to a lesser charge in the beating of a prospective member. Each received probation, including 30 days in a sheriff’s work camp, after entering the pleas to misdemeanor hazing. Prosecutors offered the plea deal only after two mistrials on felony hazing charges. The second jury convicted two other fraternity brothers who were subsequently sentenced to two years in prison. Their cases are currently on appeal.

The Kappa Hazing case is not Hobbs’ first time garnering national media attention. In 2003 Hobbs represented Florida State University’s former star quarterback and now pro-football player Adrian McPherson in his Court TV-televised trial for gambling violations. Hobbs and co-counsel Grady Irvin’s tactics left the jury in that case deadlocked and a mistrial was declared.

Professor Emeritus Francis A. Allen, a leading legal educator and thinker, has died at age 88. Allen taught criminal law for more than 40 years and was a principal architect of the provision of legal counsel to indigent defendants, both through his scholarly writings and his chairmanship of the Attorney General's Commission on Poverty and the Administration of Federal Criminal Justice, which led to the Criminal Justice Act of 1964 and the Bail Reform Act of 1966.

An authority on both criminal law and juvenile delinquency, Allen helped write the Model Penal Code of the American Law Institute and was the principal architect of the Illinois Criminal Code of 1961, which among other things decriminalized sexual acts between consenting adults of the same sex.

Allen began teaching at the University of Florida in 1986 as the newly appointed Huber C. Hurst Eminent Scholar after retiring from the University of Michigan as Edson R. Sunderland Professor Emeritus. Allen remained an emeritus professor even after he ceased teaching in 1994.

Allen wrote numerous articles and reviews and delivered guest lectures at many law schools. Allen's books include *The Borderland of Criminal Justice*, *The Crimes of Politics* (originally delivered as the Holmes Lectures at Harvard), *Law, Intellect and Education*, *The Decline of the Rehabilitative Ideal* (Storrs Lectures, Yale), and *Habits of Legality* (Cooley Lectures, Michigan).

Upon graduation from Northwestern University School of Law in 1946, Allen served as clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Fred Vinson. After leaving the court, he became a member of the law faculties of Northwestern (1948-1953), Harvard (1953-1956), the University of Chicago (1956-1962 and 1963-1966) and the University of Michigan (1962-1963 and 1966-1986), serving as dean of the Michigan law school from 1966-1971. He was elected president of the Association of American Law Schools in 1976.

Allen was a visiting professor at Northwestern, Boston College and the University of Chicago, a scholar in residence at the Rockefeller Foundation in Bellagio, Italy, twice was in residence at the Salzburg Seminar of American Studies, and was a visiting expert at UNAFEI, a United Nations agency concerned with the problems of criminal corrections, located in Japan.

Allen was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1971 and 1973. He received honorary degrees from Cornell College, the University of Victoria (British Columbia) and the University of Chicago, and received the Fellows Research Award of the American Bar Foundation. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1975.

Donald A. Mulligan Sr., of Temple Terrace, thought to be one of the oldest students to graduate from UF Law, has died. He was 69. He enrolled at the Levin College of Law in January 2001 at age 63 and graduated in May 2003 at age 65.

Before enrolling at UF Law, Mulligan served as vice president of corporate taxes in TECO Energy's tax department, where his duties often included legislative affairs in Washington, D.C.

For two decades he had an active involvement in youth soccer, serving as the executive director of the Tampa Bay Sun Bowl, a local youth soccer tournament. After graduating from UF Law, Mulligan worked as a tax consultant and continued his work as executive director of the Sun Bowl.

He enrolled in law school because it was something he had always wanted to do, said his son Brian, who graduated from UF Law in 2000 with a JD/MHA joint degree. After watching his son enroll at UF and his daughter, Ann Mulligan, enroll at Northwestern University's School of Law in that same year, he decided the time was right and he pursued his earlier aspiration.

George A. Smathers (JD 38), a former Democratic senator from Florida who forged friendships with presidents, waged war against communism, and focused on international issues, has died at the age of 93.

After graduating from the University of Florida, he served as an assistant U.S. district attorney, and then entered the Marine Corps during World War II. He later became a special assistant to the U.S. attorney general from October 1945 until his resignation in January 1946 to begin his campaign for Representative in Congress.

Smathers was elected to the United States Senate in 1950 and re-elected in both 1956 and 1962, serving until 1969. In Congress Smathers helped pass bills to create Medicare, the Small Business Administration and Everglades National Park. He pushed for federal holidays to be moved to Mondays and supported the war in Vietnam.

After voluntarily leaving office in 1969, Smathers became a lobbyist and entrepreneur with varied business ventures, ranging from orange groves to car dealerships. In 1991, he gave a \$20 million gift to the University of Florida library system, now known as the George A. Smathers Libraries.

Judge **T. Mitchell Barlow** (JD 75)
Ret. Judge **E. Randolph Bentley** (JD 59)
John G. Fatolitis (LLB 60)
James A. Garland (JD 64)
Eilon Krugman-Kadi (JD 77)

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Retires

BY KAYLA HARRIS

Gail Sasnett-Stauffer has assisted new mothers juggling newborns and law school, panicked students in jeopardy of losing their careers due to honor court violations, students dealing with crippling illnesses, young students who lost family members, and numerous men and women coping with emotional distress.

Of the handful of people at the law school who touch just about every aspect of a student's educational experience, Sasnett—as associate dean for Student Affairs, Professionalism and Community Relations—has used her ample counseling skills to help students meet their goals inside and outside the classroom. Now retiring after 35 years serving the state and 13 years in this central role at UF Law, she said there have been some surprises along the way as she supervised every area from orientation to graduation and registration to financial aid.

For example, on taking the position, she didn't expect to spend so much time working directly with the students ... men and women who turned out to be “phenomenal” and continue to invite her to their weddings and send Christmas cards.

“Working with the students was the best part of my job. They are appreciative of someone being able to help them. The students are so bright and often unaware of how smart and energetic they are,” she said.

In addition to her 60+ hour work weeks at UF Law, Dean Sasnett was active in her community and the legal profession as president of the National Association of Women Lawyers, the Association for Academic Women at UF, and the Kiwanis Club of Gainesville, to name a few of her leadership ventures. She also made an impact on the state with her work regarding the handling of drug and alcohol crimes in the state court system. She became active in the issue after noticing the devastating effects alcohol had on students and families, and she realized the principles of drug court could be applied to those battling alcohol issues. This system uses the “carrot and stick” approach, which rewards good behavior and punishes bad behavior. Sasnett said, though the



KRISTEN HINES

Sasnett (right) at student function

process is slow, Florida has started to implement DUI courts.

Sasnett's devotion to her work and her students is evident to those around her. According to a coworker, Carol Huber, Sasnett was involved in all aspects of the students' lives.

“Gail was extremely concerned not only about the students' academic success but really their overall success in life,” said Huber, financial aid coordinator. “She is a very caring individual and this showed in her interactions with the students, faculty and staff.”

Her caring approach to her job continues to resonate with students even after graduation. Bill Falik (JD 06) said Dean Sasnett was instrumental to his success.

“Dean Sasnett's supportive disposition was unspoken motivation that allowed me to achieve a far richer law school experience than would otherwise have been possible.”

Retired only in title, Dean Sasnett now is turning her attention to helping others and using her law degree as a county court mediator and dependency mediator.

“Lawyers often have to cut themselves off from feeling. It just goes with the territory,” she said. “I believe you also can solve problems effectively by giving people permission to feel and by connecting with them.”

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Entertainment Law Up Close

BY ALINE BAKER

W

hen Gerard Kardonsky entered his first year of law school, he wasn't even sure he liked lawyers.

As the owner and manager of the label Noisepolluter Records in Dallas, Texas, Kardonsky said he had not always had pleasant experiences with lawyers and felt the only way to fix this situation was to go to law school.

"I realized I would be more of an asset for my record label if I had the insight of a lawyer when entering a meeting," said Kardonsky, who earned his bachelor's degree at Texas A&M. "You immediately gain more respect when someone knows you have a law degree."

Now planning to graduate in May 2008, his uncertainty about lawyers has changed, primarily because of those he met through law school events.

Kardonsky said the more he has interacted with entertainment lawyers, the more he realizes the "cut-throat" stereotypes of many lawyers is a false assumption.

"I am more of a laid-back kind of guy," Kardonsky joked. "I realized that many entertainment lawyers are more easygoing sort of people like me."

As the person responsible for organizing the 2007 Live Music Showcase, the kickoff to the student-run annual Music Law Conference (chaired by UF Law student Brian Frankel) and the newly-elected executive director of next year's conference, Kardonsky said he appreciates the numerous opportunities law school has offered him. His involvement with the Music Law Conference—which connects musicians, lawyers, students, academics, policy makers and entertainment executives at the Levin College of Law—has given him confidence with others in the field as well as real insight into an industry in which he has already worked for six years, he said.

Kardonsky, 25, debuted his natural musical abilities at the age of 4 when he started taking piano lessons. By the age of 10 he was easily playing the saxophone and

clarinet. Just recently, Kardonsky has started learning to play the guitar.

After serving as the business manager for his father's jazz band in Dallas, Kardonsky started Noisepolluter Records in 2001 as the next natural step in his passion for music and business. His label now represents seven bands from various music genres, some of which are finding regional and financial success throughout Texas.

Though law school keeps him busy, he is able maintain his business from home thanks to technology and the three-hour time difference in California, where the entertainment industry is located.

As Kardonsky heads into his last year as a law student, he said he realizes law school is just the first of many steps in his journey toward the success of his record label.

"As a businessman, I did not understand the details about things like

copyrights and contracts until I came to law school at the University of Florida," Kardonsky said.

Because Gainesville has a large talent pool and easy access to larger markets, he plans to build a studio here after graduation and watch his company grow into a record label that represents all genres of music.

"I am a lover of music. Just imagine life without music. A scary movie without music wouldn't be very suspenseful, would it?," Kardonsky said, grinning. "I want to bring music to all types of people and stir their souls."

"I realized I would be more of an asset for my record label if I had the insight of a lawyer when entering a meeting."

Law student Kardonsky is involved in several areas of the music field.



KRISTEN HINES



Springtime at UF Law

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