



Samford University
Cumberland School of Law

The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

Henry C. Strickland III

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of April 23, 2018

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Announcements



The Board of Editors for Volume 42 of the *American Journal of Trial Advocacy*

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The Board of Editors for Volume 42 of the *American Journal of Trial Advocacy*, pictured from left to right: Charlie Smith, Julianne Zilahy, Ian Shippey, Tiffany Walker-Jones, Caleb Faulkner, Haleigh Chastain, Hunter Hamm, and Lisa Cagle

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Announcements

Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the following Alumni events:

Please email Anne L. Marovich, Director of Alumni Relations at amarovic@samford.edu for details.

- Commencement reception for graduates and their guests: **Friday, May 11**
- Orlando, FL: **Thursday, June 14**
- Wilmington, NC: **Friday, June 22**
- Destin, FL (AL Bar Annual Meeting): **Thursday, June 28**

Cumberland School of Law's Mediation Team Places Third in National Competition

Samford University's Cumberland School of Law Mediation Team completed the 2018 competition season, finishing third in the American Bar Association (ABA) Representation in Mediation National Competition held recently in Washington D.C.

Ranse Hare and **Ryan Hawks**, both third year students, won their regional competition back in February, securing their spot in the national competition. Eight teams from across the country were invited to compete in this competition. The competition consisted of two preliminary rounds, a semi-final round, and a final round. During the preliminary rounds, Cumberland faced St. Mary's University School of Law and Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law. At the end of the first day, the top four teams advanced to the semi-final round, Cumberland being one of these teams. Cumberland came back the next day to face University of Denver's Sturm College of Law in the semi-final round, ultimately being defeated two votes to one. Sturm went on to win the national title.

"I've coached these two students for the last two years and am so proud of what they have accomplished these past two seasons. Finishing off their law school careers with a third-place finish at a national competition isn't a bad way to go out," **Head Coach Krista Cowley** said. The team was also coached by **Miranda Coley Taylor**.



The competition is intended to familiarize the students with advocacy skills in mediation. Students are judged on criteria designed to reward the use of a combination of advocacy skills, problem-solving approaches, and productive conversation.

Announcements

Congratulations to the Following SBA Runoff and 3L Honor Court Winners:

SBA Officers

- **President** — Denzel Okinedo
- **Vice President** — Jenna Jayjohn
- **Secretary** — Mackenzie Luce
- **Treasurer** — Michael Portner

ABA Vice Chair

- Dani Esposito

3L Honor Court

- Ian Benge
- Kim Fasking
- Hunter Hamm
- Denzell Moton
- Seth Roden
- Ashley Roy



Cumberland School of Law
faculty, staff, graduates, families and friends

*invite you to join us for a
reception honoring the*

May 2018 Graduates

Friday, May 11, 2018
4:30–5:45 p.m.

Samford University
Cumberland School of Law, Brewer Plaza
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35229

*Brewer Plaza is located directly in front of the law school in
Memory Leake Robinson Hall.*



A panel of criminal defense attorneys visited **Professor Ramona Albin's** criminal procedure class on April 19. The panel members were (left to right), **David Luker**, Jefferson County Public Defender; **Allison Case**, Assistant Federal Defender for the Northern District of Alabama; and Cumberland trial practice professor **John Lentine** of Sheffield and Lentine. They spoke about criminal defense practice, building client relationships, and the challenges facing the defense bar.

This Week

Robert Thornhill, Director of the Alabama Lawyer Assistance Program, will be on campus Thursday, April 26 to meet with students who have questions regarding character and fitness for the Bar. Please stop by Student Services between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. if you would like to speak with him about any concerns or if you just want to know a friendly face from the Alabama State Bar!

This Week

Spring 2018 Exams

Law School exams are scheduled for **April 24 – May 9**. Following are a few important tips/reminders:

ALTERNATES:

(1) Students must gain permission from the professor no later than **noon on the last day of classes**

Tuesday, April 24) if they plan to take an exam at an alternate time.

(2) The professor is responsible for the submission of an alternate exam envelope to Mrs. Zimmer. Students may not turn in their names or an alternate exam envelope to Mrs. Zimmer.

(3) A list of all alternate exam envelope submissions will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Associate Dean's office on Wednesday, April 25. Students must check the list for their name and information. If permission has been granted from the professor for an alternate but the student's name does not appear on the list, the student must contact the professor.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE:

(1) Students must download the new version of the Exam4 software at <http://exam4.com/>. The new version will be available on Monday, April 16.

ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS HAVE EXPIRED, including the midterm version. Complete download instructions are on the Cumberland website at https://www.samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/files/Extegrity_Instructions.pdf.

(2) **THE NEW COMPUTER EXAM SOFTWARE IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW THROUGH APRIL 28, AFTER WHICH DOWNLOADS WILL BE UNAVAILABLE.** If students plan to take exams via computer, students must download within this window.

(3) Students should complete practice test(s) (choosing the "S18 Practice Exam" option from the course dropdown box). Submit the practice tests wirelessly.

(4) Students should notify Jeff Whitcomb (jmwhitco@samford.edu) prior to the beginning of the exam period regarding technology issues.

EXAM SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES – STUDENTS SHOULD:

(1) Check the exam schedule at https://www.samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/files/2018_spring_exam_schedule.pdf and arrive at the exam on the correct date and at the appropriate time.

(2) Arrive in their scheduled room fifteen minutes prior to the start of any exam.

(3) Bring to the exam room writing utensils, ear plugs and any materials the professor allows. Proctors will supply bluebooks (for handwriters) and scratch paper. Earplugs or earphones that have the CAPABILITY of playing anything in the ear are disallowed .

(4) Refer to the Cumberland website at <https://www.samford.edu/cumberlandlaw/files/Exam-Policies-Procedures.pdf> for complete procedures.

GRADUATION – COMMENCEMENT

is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 11 in the Leslie Stephen Wright Fine Arts Center on Samford's campus. Students need to meet at the Brock Recital Hall (east of Wright Center) at 5:45 p.m. There are no tickets for the ceremony and the seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If anyone needs special assistance for a relative, they should contact Ms. Pam Nelson. There is no rehearsal for graduation, but instructions will be given in the recital hall prior to the ceremony. Faculty and staff marshals will give directions during the processional, conferring of degrees and recessional.

Faculty Notes



Assistant Professor Ramona C. Albin has been invited to attend and participate in the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference in early May. The conference involves Circuit, district, magistrate, and bankruptcy judges, as well as lawyers and legal educators, who come together to consider the business of the courts and how to improve the administration of justice in the Eleventh Circuit.

Professor Albin will also participate in a panel entitled “Leadership through Advocacy: Opportunities and Challenges” at the Educating Advocates: Teaching Advocacy Skills conference at Stetson University College of Law. This year, the focus of the conference is Advocacy: Fulfilling the Promise of Experiential Learning and will be held from May 21-23.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The Shakespeare and trial advocacy class performed Julius Caesar for their creative project.

Pictured front: Justin Rohe; left to right: Imogen Swash, Krista Tribble, Jeremy Skelton, Lanier Savage, Abigail Robinson, William Hawkins, and Carmen Weite