



The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

Henry C. Strickland III

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of March 30, 2015

In This Edition

FRESHMAN TRIAL COMPETITION

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CALENDAR

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Thirty-Six Teams Participate in Freshman Trial Competition

On March 27, Cumberland's Trial Board hosted the finals of the annual Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition. This year's competition began with 36 teams competing for a chance to be crowned the winner of the Williams. This year's trial problem was a criminal case with the defendant on trial for murder. The last two teams standing were Rebecca Wright and Will Thompson (representing the defendant) and Lindsey Voelker and Kyle Weaver (representing the United States of America). Local criminal defense attorney and Cumberland alumnus John Lentine served as the bench judge for the final round. The scoring judges consisted of attorneys Sara Williams, Blake Milner, Ellen Matthews, Wayne Rogers, Nathan Mays, Adam Clayton and Andrew Moak. After a very impressive showing by both teams, Wright and Thompson took home the championship with Thompson winning the Best Advocate award. Please join us in congratulating Wright, Thompson, Voelker, Weaver and all of the other competitors of this year's Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition. The Trial Board would also like to extend a special thank you to all of the judges and everyone else that volunteered their time to help make this year's competition a great success. Specifically, a huge thank you goes out to Tracy Luke for all that she does.



The Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition finalists stand with bench judge John Lentine (From L to R) Rebecca Wright, Will Thompson, John Lentine, Kyle Weaver, Lindsey Voelker.

Called to the Bar Series Presents: 'Life as a Corporate Lawyer: How Mercedes Benz, Honda and Hyundai Ended Up Building Cars in Alabama'



On Thursday April 2, Mr. Lee Thuston '74 will be the last of the Called to the Bar speakers for this academic year. Mr. Thuston is the Managing Partner for the firm of Burr & Forman.

He served as Alabama Counsel during the site selection and negotiation processes for several major companies as they chose to locate their facilities in the state of Alabama. Those companies include Mercedes-Benz, The

Boeing Company, Mi-Tech Steel, Inc. and IPSCO Steel. He also assisted Honda Manufacturing of Alabama with the process leading up to the development of its plant in Lincoln, Ala.

Mr. Thuston has been instrumental in the creation of thousands of jobs as he worked on new economic development projects representing over \$16 billion of capital investment. His background and work in this area will be the subject of his presentation on April 2 at 1:30 p.m. in the Moot Court Room.

Get Connected to Cumberland School of Law for all the latest updates.

The official Facebook page is "Cumberland School of Law" and the official Twitter account is "CumberlandLaw"



Florida SBA Fish Fry Supports Community Food Bank

In addition to being a successful event, the March 29 Florida Student Bar Association Fish Fry also supported a local food bank. The Fla. SBA donated 20 pounds of fish to the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama. The donation was made on behalf of Cumberland by the Florida Student Bar Association.

This Week's Events

Fall Bid Point Course Registration Is Now Open

Fall Bid Point Registration

Begins on Tuesday, March 31 and will close at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 3
Registration forms may be picked up in the office of law student records.

Summer online registration

Opens at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1.

Career Development Hosts an Event on Conducting Depositions

The Alabama Defense Lawyers Association and Career Development Office are hosting "How to Prepare for and Conduct a Deposition." The event features Stephen Still, hiring partner with Starnes, Davis, Florie, LLP. Lunch will be provided for all who [register](#). Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, April 2
Room 120
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Hodges Lecture in Ethics and Leadership Features Dr. George Marsden

The Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership is hosting the 2015 Andrew Gerow Hodges Lecture in Ethics and Leadership on **Wednesday April 1** featuring Dr. George Marsden, author of the award-winning book, "Jonathan Edwards: A Life." He will lead a lecture titled "Beyond Liberalism and the Culture Wars: A More Inclusive Pluralism" on April 1, in Brock Recital Hall, at 4:30 p.m. There will be a coffee hour at 1:00 p.m. on **Thursday, April 2**, in Reid Commons.

Marsden has studied at Westminster Theological Seminary and Yale University and taught at Calvin College, Duke Divinity School and Notre Dame. Beyond the biography of Jonathan Edwards, Marsden has also written on the topics of American church culture, fundamentalism, and Christian scholarship. The Mann Center's Assistant Director, Cameron Collins, 726-4634, is available to answer additional questions.

Public Interest and Community Service Meeting Held Thursday

A Public Interest and Community Service Meeting on **Thursday April 2** will cover Project Homeless Connect on April 11, Spirit of Service Award/Public Interest Stipend deadlines and elections for next years officer positions. The meeting will be held in room 123 from 11 a.m. to noon.

Applications for the Spirit of Service Award are now available [online](#). Please electronically submit applications by Tuesday April 21.

Donations Collected from Class of 2015 for Peer Scholarship

It has been a tradition at Cumberland for the senior class to fund a scholarship for a 2L student for his or her last year at Cumberland. The 3L SBA representatives will be collecting donations for that scholarship until Thursday afternoon. It is important that everyone give at least a little something. Usually, we ask that everyone pay an amount equal to our graduation year (\$20.15 for the class of 2015), but every little bit helps. There will be SBA representatives in the breezeway collecting donations.

Plan Ahead

Samford University will be closed Monday, April 6, 2015 in observance of the Easter holiday. Classes will not meet.

Symposium Addresses Bad Lawyering and Prosecutorial Misconduct

Several lawyers are coming to speak on a panel about trial lawyering using a currently-pending case to illustrate the role of lawyers and investigators in capital case litigation. In the ongoing death penalty case of Donnis Musgrove, the lawyers plan to discuss how they are challenging falsified evidence and perjury— and how trial lawyers can spot and confront bad evidence in their criminal trials.

What: Symposium: The Musgrove Case: A Lethal Combination of Bad Lawyering and Prosecutorial Misconduct?

When and Where: April 7 at noon in the Brock Forum/Brock School of Business

Who: Two of the lawyers are from New York and are involved in the Donnis Musgrove case. Two of the lawyers are local and well-known in our community: Cumberland graduate Doug Jones and Richard Jaffe, a preeminent capital defense attorney in the state.

Cordell Hull Speakers Forum to Discuss Stand Your Ground Laws



On *Thursday, April 9*, from 11 a.m to noon, Cumberland School of Law's Cordell Hull Speakers Forum will host Associate Dean and Professor of Law Tamara Lawson of St. Thomas University School of Law. Lawson will present, "Stand Your Ground Laws: The Dilemma of Discretion, Race and Culture." Free food will be provided at a reception in the Great Room following the lecture.

The lecture will cover modern self-defense laws, commonly referred to as "stand your ground laws." Lawson will discuss the dynamics of the discretionary decisions made by legislatures, prosecutors, judges, and juries in controversial homicide cases like the Trayvon Martin/George Zimmerman case, as well as other high profile criminal cases.

Lawson teaches criminal law, criminal procedure and evidence law and has conducted extensive research on Florida's Stand-Your-Ground law as well as self-defense laws nationally. She has also made multiple media appearances on these issues, and has written an article and a book chapter on the Trayvon Martin case. The event is free and open to the public.

Bar Exam Preparation Meetings Mandatory for 3Ls

Cumberland is holding a series of four identical meetings about the bar exam over the next few weeks. The meetings will provide information on and an opportunity to ask questions about the bar exam, bar exam preparation, and related topics. The meetings will be held at the following times and will last approximately 30 minutes:

- Wednesday, April 8 at 12:00 noon in Room 118;
- Thursday, April 9 at 4:15 p.m. in the Room 101 (Moot Court Room);
- Tuesday, April 14 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 118; and
- Wednesday, April 22 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 115.

All third-year students are required to attend one of these meetings (though first and second year students are welcome to attend.).

Summer Fellowship Applications Available Online

Submit Applications by Tue., April 7

The 2015 summer fellowship application is available [online](#). The application deadline is Tuesday, April 7 and there is a mandatory meeting for applicants on Tuesday, April 7 at 4:30 p.m. in the Great Room.

Plan Ahead

Volunteers Needed for Project Homeless Connect 8!



On Saturday, April 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Cumberland will join with attorneys and judges from the Birmingham area to participate in Project Homeless Connect 8! at the Boutwell Auditorium (1930 8th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203). Last year, volunteers from all professions provided services to more than 800 homeless or near-homeless clients with issues ranging from misdemeanor criminal charges, social security and housing crises, to health and dental care.

Law students are needed to facilitate intake for the legal services section of PHC8! Volunteers will make initial contact with the client, run a basic search for outstanding warrants and court cases, and determine which attorney can best deal with the client's issue.

There will be an orientation/training session for students that are volunteering with Project Homeless Connect this year. Training will be Thursday, April 9 from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. in the Friendship Room of the law library.

If you are interested in volunteering, please stop by Suite 215 and sign up or send an [Email](#) with the time you are available. There are two-hour shifts available throughout the day.

Also, all the Cumberland volunteers are asked to wear their red volunteer shirt and bring their laptop. If you don't have a volunteer shirt, you can pick one up from Suite 215. Thanks in advance for helping out.

**A special Thank You to Students
who spent part of their Spring Break
helping with pre-intake for PHC8!**

Top: *Church of the Reconciler:*

Cumberland Volunteers: Katie Barnes, Kristina Gubbels, Kate Furek, John Brewer & Cassandra Adams

Other volunteers: Lisa Borden and volunteers from The University of Alabama

Middle: *Firehouse Shelter:*

Luke Rasnick, Evan Pantazis, Cassandra Adams, Adam McKinney & Lisa Borden

Bottom: *First Light Shelter:*

Nicholas Gutierrez, Kristen Schaeff, Shadi Jaraysi, Lee McLean, Katie Barnes & Kristina Gubbels

Complete Evaluations for a Chance at Pizza Party

The law school will conduct course and faculty evaluations **April 13 through April 29**, the day prior to exams. Having students complete these evaluations each semester is critically important to the law school. Faculty use the evaluations to improve their classes and to identify problems that require action. All students are encouraged to take a few minutes to complete evaluations for each of their courses.

Students will receive an emailed invitation for each class in which they are enrolled, requesting that they click a link in the email to evaluate a particular course and professor. There will not be a link on the website that will

connect the students to their course evaluations. Student responses are entirely confidential, as there is no way to identify the author of any submitted evaluation.

SBA representatives will visit classes April 13-17 to encourage participation and answer any questions students might have regarding the process. As an incentive/reward, all students in classes achieving a 75% response rate by noon on April 20 will be eligible for a pizza party to be held in the Great Room at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 23. [Email Ms. Nelson](#) or stop by Student Services if you have any questions or concerns.

Class of 2017 Hosts Crawfish for a Cause Cookout

The Cumberland Class of 2017 is hosting the first Crawfish for a Cause cookout on **Saturday April 18** at 2:00 p.m.. This event will be a fund raiser; proceeds from ticket and t-shirt sales will go to a local Meals on Wheels chapter located in Birmingham. This will be a great way to impact our community and to hang out with some people outside of your own classes.

Scotch Ritchey and his family have generously agreed to host this event and we will be selling a maximum of 100 tickets, due to the size of the venue, so make sure to purchase your tickets before they are gone! The first 60 tickets will be sold for \$5 each, and the rest will be \$10. Tickets will be available to purchase them in the breezeway during the week of the event. If you have any questions please contact [Steven Bode](#).

Congratulations to the 2015-16 Caruthers Fellows

Professor Stoddard

Sarah Falkson Bothma (3L)
Sarah C. Chamberlain (3L)
Tyler Flores (3L)
Landon Marcus Graham (3L)
Jacob Key (3L)
Jonathan Griffith (2L)
N. Riley Murphy (2L)
William Thomas Thompson (2L)

Professor Baggett

Hope E. Beaton (3L)
Scott Michael DeZouche (3L)
Jessica Hayslip (3L)
Autumn Smith (3L)
Kayla A. Currie (2L)
Ariel Jebeles (2L)
Kayla Mosley (2L)
S. Kyle Weaver (2L)

Professor Schuck

C. E. Elise Gilbert (3L)
Erin Godwin (3L)
Asher L. Kitchings (3L)
Adam S. Buddenbohn (2L)
Miranda D. Coley (2L)
Dustin Key (2L)
Miya Moore (2L)
William S. Pylant (2L)

Professor Shaw

Stewart Alvis (3L)
Mark A. Kilgore, PhD (3L)
Anna Whitney Akers (2L)
Kylee Berger (2L)
Christian W. Borek (2L)
Jordan Jackson (2L)
Courtney Moseley (2L)
Darcy Olivia Townsend (2L)

Faculty Notes



Judge John L. Carroll, '74 is a Uniform Law Commissioner from the State of Alabama and has been appointed by the Uniform Law Commission to be a member of a committee which is drafting a Model Veteran's Court Act. Judge Carroll is currently serving as a member of a committee drafting amendments to the Uniform Athlete Agents Act.

Faculty and Staff are invited to attend **Breakfast hosted by the Cumberland Law Review** next week:
 Thursday April 9
 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
 Law Review Suite



Professor Nelson Presenting at HEaL Conference

On **Friday April 17**, Professor Jack Nelson will be one of the presenters at the 2015 Annual Conference of the Healthcare Ethics and Law (HEaL), "Religion and Healthcare in a Diverse Society: The Role of Institutional and Individual Provider Conscience." For more information, including a conference brochure, please visit the [HEaL website](#). There is no charge for Samford

faculty, staff and students who wish to attend all or part of the conference, and we welcome faculty who may wish to bring a class to one or more of the sessions. If you would like to attend the entire conference or bring a class to a session, please contact [Iaina Andrews](#) to register at isandrew@samford.edu or 726-2820. There is no need to register if you are only attending one or two sessions.

Students May Attend Office of Alumni Relations Events

Students and faculty are invited to attend alumni receptions and luncheons. For students, these are good networking events for those with aspirations to work in a specific location. To confirm your attendance and for full details, please contact Anne Marovich, director of alumni relations, at amarovic@samford.edu.



Reunion Details

- **Fri.-Sat., April 10-11 - Reunion Weekend**
 Fri., April 10, all alumni reunion reception at the historic Tutwiler [Details and Registration](#)
 Sat., April 11, Open House 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- **Tue., April 21 @ 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.**
 Montgomery Area Alumni Luncheon Honoring Judge Joel Dubina '73, hosted by Beasley Allen, at Alley Station (130 Commerce Street, Montgomery, AL 36104)
- **Thu., April 23 @ 5:30- 7 p.m.**
 Alumni Reception, Roswell, Ga., McCalla Raymer law firm
- **Thu., June 18**
 Alumni Reception, Asheville, N.C.
- **Wed., June 24**
 Alumni Reception, Tampa, Fla.
- **Thu., June 25**
 Alumni Reception, Boca Raton, Fla.

Cumberland's Calendar

Plan Your Spring 2015 Semester

Check each week's newsletter for updates and additions!

March							April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	31					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

This Week's Events

Wed., April 1

Summer School Registration Begins Online

Wed., April 1 @ 4:30 p.m.

Andrew Gerow Hodges Lecture in Ethics and Leadership

Brock Recital Hall

Thu., April 2 @ 11:00 a.m.

Office of Career Development
How to Prepare for and Conduct a Deposition Room 120 [Register](#)

Thu., April 2 @ 11:00 a.m.

Public Interest and Community Service Meeting, Room 123

Thu., April 2 @ 1:30 p.m.

Called-to-the-Bar: "Life as a Corporate Lawyer," Lee Thuston, Moot Courtroom

Fri., April 3

Fall Registration Ends

Mon., April 6

Easter Holiday/Closed

Samford University will be closed Monday, April 6, 2015 in observance of the Easter holiday. Classes will not meet.

Tue., April 7

Summer Public Interest Fellowship Application Due Mandatory Meeting: Great Room @ 4:30 p.m.

Tue., April 7 @ noon

The Musgrove Case: A Lethal Combination of Bad Lawyering and Prosecutorial Misconduct? Brock Fourm/Brock School of Business

Thu., April 9 & 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Cumberland Law Review
Faculty/Staff Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Law Review Suite

Thu., April 9 @ 11:00 a.m.

Cordell Hull Speakers Forum
Great Room

Fri., April 10

Spring Advisory Board Meeting

Fri. & Sat., April 10-11

- Office of Alumni Relations

Reunion Weekend

[More Details](#)

- Office of Law Admission

Admitted Student Weekend

Sat., April 11 @ 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Project Homeless Connect 8!

Boutwell Auditorium [Sign up](#)

Thu., April 16 @ 11 a.m.

Trial Journal & Law Review 1L Luncheon, Great Room

Fri., April 17 @ 11 a.m. @ 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

2015 Annual Conference of the Healthcare Ethics and Law (HEaL), Brock Forum

Sat., April 18 @ 2:00 p.m.

Crawfish for a Cause Cookout

Do not see your event listed?

The first step is to confirm your room reservation with [Mrs. Kathy Walton](#) in the Dean's Office.

The second step is to send your event details to [Mrs. Laura Taylor](#).

Cumberland's Calendar continued

Tue., April 21 @ 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Luncheon, honoring Judge
Joel Dubina '73, Montgomery

Tue., April 21

Spirit of Service Applications Due

[More information](#)

Thu., April 23 @ 5:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Reception, Roswell, GA

Tue., April 28

Classes End

Wed., April 29

Study Day

Thu., April 30

Exams Start

MAY

Wed., May 13

Exams End

Fri., May 15

Commencement

Tue., May 26

Summer Classes Begin

JUNE

Thu., June 18

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Reception, Asheville, N.C.

Wed., June 24

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Reception, Tampa, Fla.

Thu., June 25

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Reception, Boca Raton,
Fla.

JULY

Thu., July 16

Office of Alumni Relations
Alumni Reception, Point Clear,
Ala.
During the Alabama State Bar
Meeting

Fri., July 31 - Sat. Aug. 1

Office of Alumni Relations
**Annual Military Law
Symposium** Sponsored by the
Alabama State Bar Military Law

FALL 2015

Thu.-Fri., Aug 6-7

ADLA Trial Academy

Mon. - Fri. Aug. 10-14

First Year Orientation

Mon. Aug. 17

Classes Begin

Wed. Nov. 4

Supreme Court Oral Arguments,
Wright Center

Samford's Events

- Samford University's Public Events
- Sporting Events
- Performing Arts Calendar

Samford Arts

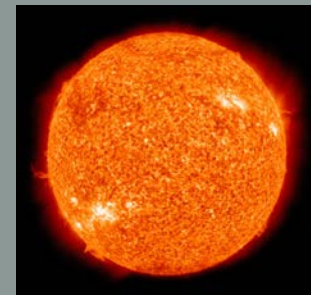
**Free for Samford Students,
Faculty and Staff**

H.T. Chen & Dancers

Sun., April 19 @ 3 p.m.
Wright Center

Annie Moses Band

Thu., April 23 @ 7:30 p.m.
Wright Center



Energy Forum

Fri., April 17 @ 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Moot Courtroom
[register online](#)

**Click on event titles
for more information**

Photo of the Week



Congratulations to the 2015 Intramural Soccer Champions: Cumberland Varsity

After falling behind 1-0 early on in the championship game, Cumberland scored three unanswered goals to win by a final score of 3-1.

Back row - left to right: David Weigal, Justin Mitchell, Nick Gutierrez, Hunter Garnett, Trey Perdue, Christian Borek, and Will Street; Front row - left to right: Chase Hoyle, Zach Evans, and Zach Smith