



# The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

## Henry C. Strickland III

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of April 4, 2016

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## Team Reaches Elite Eight at National Trial Competition

The team of Stewart Alvis and Collin Hatcher reached the Elite Eight at the national finals of the National Trial Competition in Dallas, Texas this past weekend becoming the fifth Cumberland School of Law team to reach the national quarterfinals in the past six years. The team was assisted by fellow student Amanda Herren in preparation for the competition.

Over 300 teams competed in the 41st annual National Trial Competition, co-sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers and the Texas Young Lawyers Association. Alvis and Hatcher faced teams from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, University of Cincinnati College of Law, California Western School of Law and Yale Law School. The team was coached by Judge Jim Roberts '94, Sara Williams '06 and Jeremy Hazelton '02.




Judge Jim Roberts, Stewart Alvis, Collin Hatcher, and Sara Williams celebrate at the banquet.


## Cordell Hull Event Features Three Judges in Panel Presentation

The Cumberland School of Law  
Cordell Hull Speakers Forum Presents


**A Conversation:  
Restrictions Placed Upon  
Judicial Candidates'  
Freedom of Speech**



The Honorable Pat Ballard  
Judge, Civil Division,  
10th Judicial Circuit, Alabama



The Honorable Shanta Owens  
Judge, Criminal Division,  
10th Judicial Circuit, Alabama



The Honorable Joseph Boohaker  
Presiding Judge, Civil Division,  
10th Judicial Circuit, Alabama

Tuesday, April 12, 2016  
12:00 p.m.

Cumberland School of Law  
Great Room, 2nd Floor

This event is FREE and open to the public.  
No registration necessary.  
Offering 1 hour of CLE credit.

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

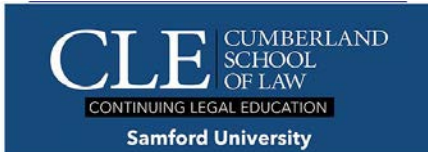
The official Facebook page is "Cumberland School of Law" and the official Twitter account is "CumberlandLaw"



## This Week's Events

For an up-to-date look at the Law School's Events, visit the [Online Calendar](#).

### Students Invited to Free Entertainment Law CLE



Students are invited to attend a CLE seminar free of charge on Fri., April 8. The "Risky Business: Financing and Distributing Independent Films" seminar

explores how independent films are financed and distributed. The lunch hour will provide a great opportunity for networking. Mark Litwak is a veteran entertainment attorney. His practice includes work in the areas of copyright, trademark, contract, multimedia law, intellectual property, and book publishing. Students interested in Entertainment Law may find the seminar particularly relevant.

Fri., April 8, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Check-in at 8 a.m.)  
Samford University's Sullivan-Cooney Field House  
To register for the program, please email [Karen Larsen](#).

### BBA Offers Special Program for Student Members

A Special Program for BBA Law Student Members will take place on Thur., April 7 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the The Bar Center. "[Transitions: From Law School to Law Practice](#)," is a non-CLE program specially designed for law students, but all are welcome to attend. Please [RSVP](#).

### Guests Invited to Watch Final Round of Moot Court Competition

The final round of the Justice Janie Shores Moot Court Competition will be held in the John L. Carroll Moot Courtroom on Sat., April 9. All are welcome to watch this exciting competition of appellate advocates! Please be seated by 8:15 a.m. for the 8:30 a.m. prompt start time.

### Final Called to the Bar Features Alumnus Discussing Life as a Corporate Lawyer



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

On Thur., April 7, 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, Alabama.

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. In his address on **Thur., April 7 at 11a.m.** in the Moot Courtroom, Mr. Thuston will discuss the steps that led him from Cumberland to being in a position to lead these monumental projects.

#### *A Note from Women in Law and Black Law Student Association:*

Thank you once again Cumberland Family for your support. WIL and BLSA were able to raise almost \$200 to donate to the people in Flint, Michigan. We are proud to attend a school that is filled with so many people that care about those in and outside our community. Your donations will help provide several families with clean water to drink. Thank you.

## Plan Ahead

### Trial Journal and Law Review Host Lunch for 1Ls

All first-year Cumberland students are invited to an informational lunch on Thursday, April 14 at 11:00 AM in the Great Room. BBQ from Johnny Ray's will be served!

Students in the top 15% of the first-year class after this year will be eligible to write for Law Review membership this summer. And 1Ls in the top one-third of the class will be invited to write for Trial Journal membership. No matter where you are in the class right now, a superior performance this semester can move you up farther than at any other time in law school!

If you cannot attend the lunch, send your summer contact information using [this online form](#) (you'll have a login to Cumberland's intranet site) as soon as possible. And feel free to email the [Trial Journal](#) or the [Law Review](#) with any questions.

## Law School Announcements

### Spirit of Service Awards Accepted

The Law School annually recognizes students, faculty and staff who have completed 30 hours or more of public interest/pro bono legal work and/or community service during the academic school year. The recognition comes in the form of the Spirit of Service Award Certificate. You are encouraged to apply and receive recognition for the valuable contributions you have made.

Examples of qualifying work include: Street Law, VITA, Teen Court, Legal Services, Pro Bono Week, Project Homeless Connect, the 1L Service Project, work done through Law School organizations like the Community Services Organization, Women in Law, BLSA, and the Christian Legal Society, as well as work done through your favorite charitable organization or your church. You do not have to complete all 30-hours through the same organization.

The application process for the award operates on the honor system – the service hours you submit are the service hours that will be recognized. [Applications](#) are now being accepted and are due on **Tues., April 12, 2016.**

**Correction:** 3L Brittany Bryan was inadvertently omitted from last week's 2016-2017 Caruthers Fellows list.

## Faculty Notes



**Professor Woodrow Hartzog's '03** led a workshop at the annual We Robot Conference at the University of Miami School of Law titled "[Juris Machina: Legal Aspects of Robotics.](#)"

### ABA Offers Free Student Membership

The American Bar Association offers FREE membership to all law students. They provide valuable services, including the following benefits:

- The opportunity to build your resumes by participating in legal skills contests and applying for fellowships;
- The exploration of practice areas when you join up to five legal specialty groups, such as the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, for FREE; and
- Finding your first job by searching the ABA job board and gaining advice from experts at the career center.

You may contact [lawschoolinfo@americanbar.org](mailto:lawschoolinfo@americanbar.org) for more information.

### Samford's Events

- [Samford University's Public Events](#)
- [Sporting Events](#)
- [Performing Arts Calendar](#)

**Click on event titles for more information!**



## Alumni News

# Four Alumni to be Recognized During Upcoming Reunion Weekend



### 2016 Distinguished Alumni

*Richard H. Knight, Jr. '76  
and Linda W. Knight '76*

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is given to a Cumberland School of Law graduate who has distinguished herself/himself in the practice of law, service to the community, and leadership in the profession.

This year, for the first time, we are recognizing a married couple - married before they entered Cumberland School of Law and each of whom is equally deserving.



### 2016 Young Alumnus of the Year

*Woodrow N. Hartzog '03*

The Young Alumnus of the Year Award is given to a Cumberland School of Law graduate, who graduated within the last 15 years, and who has distinguished herself/himself in the practice of law, service to the community, and leadership in the profession.



### 2016 Volunteer of the Year

*Sara L. Williams '06*

The Volunteer of the Year Award is given to a Cumberland School of Law graduate who has provided exceptional volunteer service to the law school and its constituents. The recipient has distinguished himself/herself by assisting in multiple facets of the law school program.

The annual alumni reunion reception is Fri. evening, April 8, at the Florentine, where alumni award winners, former members of our National Trial Teams, and all classes celebrating a 5 year anniversary since they received their law degree will be recognized.

Open House for alumni on Sat., April 9 is from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. A reception for former SBA presidents and Senior Class presidents is from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. in the Friendship Room of the Law Library

## 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.

If you would like to meet a potential professional mentor, please submit an information (mentee) sheet for our [Student Success Mentoring Program](#). The SSMP program pairs our students with outstanding alumni who will give them a real-world insight into the practice of law. Questions? Ask [Anne Marovich](#).

### Upcoming Alumni Events:

**CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW**  
MONTGOMERY ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Join Dean Henry C. Strickland III, Thomas J. McEvins '80, local chapter president, fellow Cumberland alumni, and members of the judiciary for a luncheon honoring **J. Anthony "Tony" McLain '72**, General Counsel of Alabama State Bar, for over 27 years of service to the State Bar



The Warehouse  
130 Commerce Street, Suite 800  
Montgomery, AL 36104

Tuesday, April 19, 2016  
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by:  
**Beasley Allen**

Please register by Friday, April 15, at <http://montgomeryalumni2016.eventbrite.com>  
Direct inquiries to 800-888-7248

**CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW**

PLEASE JOIN Cumberland School of Law alumni, Dean Henry C. Strickland III and Anne Marovich for a casual gathering at

**PROOF BREWING CO.**

Thursday, April 28, 2016  
5:30pm – 7:30pm

644 McDonnell Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32310

\*Finger foods/appetizers served, cash bar available

Please convey plans to attend, by Friday, April 22, to Anne Marovich [amarovich@samford.edu](mailto:amarovich@samford.edu) or 205-726-2443

# Photo of the Week



Please join Samford University's  
Cumberland School of Law  
faculty & staff, graduates, families & friends  
for a reception honoring the

**CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**May 2016 Graduates**

Friday, May 13, 4:30—5:45 p.m.

Cumberland School of Law  
Brewer Plaza  
(in front of the law school)  
800 Lakeshore Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35229

**Want to see your photos featured?**  
**Send them to [Laura Taylor](#) for inclusion**  
**in upcoming editions of the Dean's Newsletter**