A weekly semester publication for law students, faculty and staff.



# The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

### Henry C. Strickland III

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of November 14, 2016

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# **Cumberland Teams Strong in National Competitions**





team of predominantly second-year students from A Cumberland School of Law competed and succeeded by taking third place in the National Trial Advocacy Competition (November 4-6) in Lansing, Michigan. The national competition, hosted by Michigan State School of Law and the Michigan Young Lawyers Association, consisted of 12 law schools from prestigious programs around the country. Cumberland's team included Kingsley Okpara (2L), Amanda Wineman (2L), Keith Stephens (2L), Austin Evans (3L), and Charlie Hearn (2L). The team was coached by Ross Massey (Class of 2011; Alexander Shunnarah Injury Lawyers) and Setara Foster (Class of 2012; Ferguson, Frost, Moore, and Young). Despite Cumberland's youth, the team advanced to the semi-finals prior to being eliminated by eventual champion Houston School of Law. Coach Foster stated "I am so proud of how this team performed against teams made up of thirdyear law students. You would have thought our advocates were already practicing law." Coach Massey added "We were fantastic. Not only did we win in the courtroom but we won reception afterward as well. Our students made fast friends with all of their competitors which was great to see."

Cumberland participated in the ABA Region 6 Negotiation Competition this weekend and went up against some very good competition. The schools in Cumberland's region included Ohio State, Michigan State, Loyola University Chicago, Northwestern, Marquette, Cincinnati, IIT Chicago, Northern

Illinois, University of Illinois and Western Michigan. Several of these schools have very well known ADR programs. Cumberland competed directly against teams from IIT Chicago, Michigan State, and Northern Illinois on Saturday. For the second year in a row, two teams advanced to the Regional Final. Kevin Bufford and Jacey Mann had the best score of the day and Aaron Pannell and Alex Parish tied for third.

On Sunday Cumberland went against teams from Northern Illinois and Marquette in the finals. Bufford and Mann won the competition and Pannell and Parish came in third. Cumberland has shown again that they can compete with any school out there! The teams are coached by alum Brian Turner. The team will compete in the National Finals in Chicago next semester.

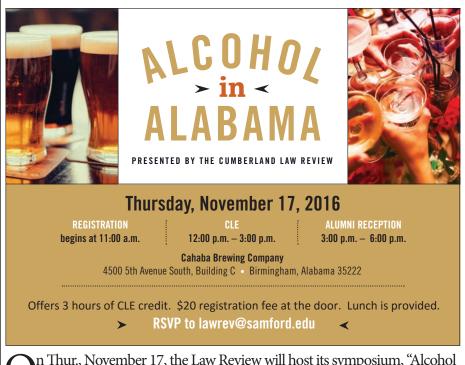
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#### This Week's Events

# 2L, 3L Students Compete in Client Counseling Competition

The Client Counseling competition is set up like client intake, where teams of two will be given a brief idea of what their "client" is coming in for and they will be responsible to greet them, make them feel comfortable and inquire more into what their needs are in seeking out legal counsel. Teams will get the problem a couple days before so they can prepare.

The competition will be held on November 17, 2016. The first round will be held at 5 p.m. and the final round will follow shortly after (about 7 p.m.). Sign ups are now closed. Those that try-out and are selected for the team will be members of the National Client Counseling Team.



On Thur., November 17, the Law Review will host its symposium, "Alcohol in Alabama." The event will showcase speakers in the areas of dram shop liability, DUI, and alcohol regulation. Cumberland's Judge Bishop will be moderating the DUI panel. Following the event, the Office of Alumni Relations and the Law Review are co-hosting a reception for all Cumberland Alumni.

Admission to the CLE is free for students. If you're unable to make it to the CLE, we would still love to see you at the reception following the event. If you'd like to attend either event, please RSVP. Please note in your RSVP which event you are attending (or both), AND that you are a current student.

# **Students May Attend Free CLEs**



CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW Students can attend CLE seminars for free For more information, contact the CLE office.

### **CVA to Host General**

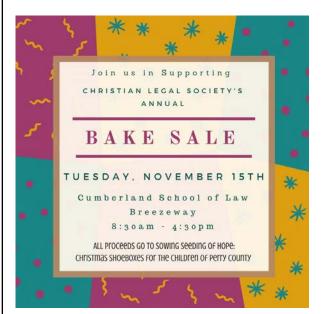


The Campus Veterans Association will be hosting General Charles Krulak. General Krulak will be speaking on faith based leadership as well as his distinguished 35 year military career in

the Moot Courtroom at noon on Tues., November 15.

General Krulak was Commandant of the Marine Corps, appointed by President Bill Clinton. He was more recently the President of Birmingham Southern College. General Krulak will be speaking on leadership and how his faith influenced that leadership. For more information, contact Stuart Lang, president of the CVA.

# Bake Sale Benefits Perry County



The Christian Legal Society will be hosting their annual fall bake sale on Tues., November 15. All treats will be sold on a donation basis (no prices will be set).

### **Law School Announcements**

#### **Evaluations:**

- (1) The law school is conducting course/faculty evaluations through December 2. 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.
- (2) SBA started visiting classes this week to encourage participation and answer questions.
- (3) You should have received an email with a link to the evaluation of each course in which you are enrolled. Please take a few minutes to complete these confidential evaluations for each of your courses/professors.
- (4) Classes with at least a 75% participation rate by noon on Tues., November 22 are invited to attend a pizza party on Mon., November 28 at 11:30 in the Great Room.

#### **Alternates:**

- (1) You must gain permission from your professor no later than 4:30 p.m. on the last day of classes (December 1) if you plan to take an exam at an alternate time.
- (2) Your 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. This process is handled administratively by the professor or his/her assistant.

(3) A list of all alternate exam envelope submissions will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Associate Dean's office on December 2, the day after classes end. You need to check the list for your name and information. If you receive permission from your professor for an alternate but your name does not appear on the list, you need to contact your professor.

### **Computer Software:**

- (1) You will need to download the new version of the Exam4 software. ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS HAVE EXPIRED, including the midterm version. Complete download instructions are on our website.
  (2) THE NEW COMPUTER EXAM SOFTWARE IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 5. In previous semesters, the download option has remained available throughout the examination period. This year, the DOWNLOADS WILL BE UNAVAILABLE AFTER DECEMBER 5.
- (3) Complete several practice tests (choosing the "F16 Practice Exam" option from the course dropdown box). You may take as many practice

exams as you wish, but always choose the practice exam course selection when taking a practice exam.

- (4) Submit the practice tests wirelessly.
- (5) Notify Ms. Nelson prior to the beginning of the exam period if you notice any problems with your technology. Technology assistance will be more limited once exams begin.

# Exam Schedule and Procedures:

- (1) Be sure to check the exam schedule and arrive at your exam on the correct date and at the appropriate time.
- (2) All students should arrive in their scheduled room fifteen minutes prior to the start of any exam. This allows time to sign in, pick up materials, launch computer software, complete information on the return envelope, etc.
- (3) Read through ALL of the procedures, even if you have taken exams at the law school previously, to make sure you are in compliance.

Please let Ms. Nelson know if you have questions about evaluations or the examination process.



### **Faculty Notes**



### **Professor Woodrow Hartzog**

'03 gave a talk titled "The Public Information Fallacy" at Microsoft's headquarter's in Redmond, Washington. He also workshopped chapters from his forthcoming book, "Privacy's Blueprint: The Battle to Control the Design of New Technologies."

# AJTA's Annual Faculty & Staff Holiday Dessert Spread

The American Journal of Trial Advocacy is pleased to host the Thirty-Second Annual Holiday Dessert Spread between 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Wed. November 30 in the Journal office suite. The editorial board and members of the Journal invite Cumberland faculty, administration, and staff to visit the Journal offices and enjoy special treats to begin the holiday season.

#### Plan Ahead ...

### **Academic Support Program: Upcoming Events**

Mark your calendars for confirmed and upcoming Academic Support Program events:

• Thur., December 1, 11 a.m., Room 114: Destress and Declutter your mind

Look for additional workshops to pop up as dates and locations are confirmed.

This Week

# Herman to Speak, Address Questions About Civil Liberties

Susan Herman, the national President of the American Civil Liberties Union, will speak in the Moot Court Room on Mon., November 21, 2016, at 10 a.m. In addition to talking about current issues in civil liberties, there will be considerable time for questions.

Ms. Herman, Centennial Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School, teaches in the areas of Constitutional Law and Criminal Procedure, and conducts seminars in Terrorism and Civil Liberties. She is a prolific and prizewinning author in these fields. Professor Herman is a frequent speaker before academic conferences and has also discussed constitutional issues in a variety of media outlets, including shows on NPR, PBS, SPAN, NBC, and MSNBC.

Her appearance is especially timely since civil liberties are currently of paramount concern to many Americans.



#### **Samford's Events**

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

Click on event titles for more information!

#### Alumni News

#### **Upcoming Alumni Events: Interested in attending?**

#### **RSVP** to Anne Marovich



#### Augusta, Georgia Alumni Luncheon

Please join
Judge James G. Blanchard Jr. '68,
Judge William D. Jennings III '77,
Judge Pamela J. Doumar '87,
Judge Bobby L. Christine '95
Sam G. Nicholson '78,
Dean Henry C. Strickland III, and
local Cumberland School of Law alumni
for a luncheon

Thursday, December 1, 2016 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

> Augusta Country Club Wallace House 655 Milledge Road Augusta, GA 30904

Please convey plans to attend by Monday, November 28, to Anne Marovich, director of alumni relations, at <a href="mailto:amarovic@samford.edu">amarovic@samford.edu</a> or 205-726-2443.

If there are any 3Ls from the Augusta, GA area and wish to attend, please contact Anne Marovich.



#### PLEASE JOIN....

Dean Henry Strickland, alumni, and special guest judge-elect James T. Patterson (SU '82, CSOL '00)\*,

For a Cumberland School of Law Alumni Reception

Hosted by Daniel A. Dennis IV '06, president of Roberts Brothers, Inc., at



A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

3601 Spring Hill Business Park Mobile, Alabama 36608

The Real Estate Center, Suite 101
On the West I-65 Service Road between Dauphin Street and Old Shell Road

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Appetizers and beverages provided

If you will attend, please respond: Anne Marovich <u>amarovic@samford.edu</u>

\*Mr. Patterson will be invested as a Mobile County Circuit Judge in January, 2017

Faculty and 3L students: Please join us, if your schedule allows:

## **Graduation Announcements**



**Graduation:** Everyone is invited to attend December graduation ceremonies to be held December 17th at 10 a.m. in the Wright Center on the Samford campus. Details for graduates may be found online.

# **Connect with Mentor Through Alumni Office**

I f 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.



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

# CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW December 2016 Graduates

Saturday, December 17 8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

#### **Cumberland School of Law**

Robinson Hall South Lobby

800 Lakeshore Drive Birmingham, Alabama 35229

# Nominate Full-Time, Adjunct Faculty for Annual Teaching Awards

Cumberland has a long history of outstanding teaching, and superior teaching is a critical part of the school. In order to foster and recognize outstanding teaching at Cumberland, two alumni provided a generous gift to endow the Harvey S. Jackson Excellence in Teaching Award. Two Jackson Teaching Awards are given each year--one to a professor who teaches first year courses and one to a professor who teaches upper level courses.

Any Cumberland student or faculty member may nominate a professor for the award by sending an email to Dean Strickland which explains how the nominee meets the criteria for the award. The criteria are (1) mastery of the subject matter; (2) ability to convey information effectively to students; (3) demonstrated enthusiasm for teaching; (4) commitment to excellence in the classroom; (5) innovation in teaching techniques and (6) commitment to students.

You may nominate someone whose course you are currently taking, someone whose course you have taken in the past, or someone with whom you have had other contact that demonstrates outstanding teaching in relation to the criteria above.

A joint committee of faculty and students will choose the winners, and we will announce the winners in the spring. A faculty member who has won the award in a particular category is not eligible to receive that award again for a period of three years. The faculty members who currently are ineligible to receive the award in a category because they have received it in the past three years are Professors Evans, Greene (Bob) and Ross (First Year Courses) and Professors Floyd, Walthall and Young (Upper Level Courses). The names of all of the award winners are on a plaque outside the Great Room.

Please take time to nominate a professor for this important award. In your nomination, please specify which award you are nominating a professor for – the First Year Award or the Upper Level Award and briefly explain why you think the nominee is deserving. Nominations are due by the last day of class of the fall semester.

The hard work and devotion of Cumberland's adjunct faculty will be recognized by the selection of one adjunct professor each year to receive an award titled "Outstanding Adjunct Professor Award." Dean Strickland solicits your help in selecting the winner of this award by asking for nominations of a deserving adjunct professor.

The criteria and some of the procedures in place for selecting the Jackson Teaching Award recipients from full time faculty will be used. The criteria for the Award considered by the Committee shall include (i) mastery of subject matter; (ii) ability to convey information effectively to students; (iii) demonstrated enthusiasm for teaching; (iv) commitment to excellence in the classroom; (iv) innovation in teaching techniques; and (v) commitment to students.

A faculty member who recently has won the award is not eligible to receive that award again for a period of three years. Professor Jay D. St. Clair is thus ineligible to receive the award this year.

Please submit your nominations to Dean Strickland or to Ms. Kathy Walton by the end of the fall semester, explaining why you believe your nominee deserves the award. The Jackson Award committee, which is composed of students and full time faculty, will select the recipient from the nominations.

# **Photo of the Week**

# Cook Selected as Cumberland's Lawyer in Residence



Cumberland School of Law has named well-known criminal defense attorney Bobby Lee Cook this year's Lawyer in Residence for the law school. Cumberland 's Lawyer in Residence program annually invites a distinguished graduate or friend of the law school to visit campus, speaking to classes related to his or her area of expertise. The program allows students to augment the traditional curriculum with the experiences of current practitioners. Cook spoke to students, faculty, staff and guests from the community on November 10.





Want to see your photos featured?
Send them to Laura Taylor for inclusion
in upcoming editions of the Dean's Newsletter