



Samford University
Cumberland School of Law

The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

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Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of January 15, 2017

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Plan Ahead



Audrey Gaston receiving her J.D. degree in 1970

Son of Cumberland's First African-American Graduate will Speak at Samford on January 23

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Samford's integration. The son of the first African-American student to be admitted to Samford and Cumberland will speak at Samford's Wright Center on January 23, 2018 at 10 a.m. Audrey L. Gaston Howard was admitted to Cumberland in 1967 and graduated as one of only two women in the Class of 1970. Ms. Gaston Howard's son, Rev. Charles L. Howard, will discuss his mother's life and her experiences at Samford and Cumberland. Being Cumberland's first African-

American J.D. student was not Ms. Gaston Howard's only "first." Six hours after her admission to the Alabama State Bar, she became the first assistant U.S. attorney in the Southeast. Cumberland students are encouraged to attend the University convocation honoring Ms. Gaston Howard and other African-American alumni from 1967-1980. Read more about the 50th anniversary of Samford's integration in the upcoming edition of Seasons magazine and on Samford's website [here](#).

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](#)"



Plan Ahead



KEEP CALM
and
STUDY ABROAD

We will be having an informational meeting about Cumberland's Cambridge Study Abroad Program.

Thursday, January 25th
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Bishop Conference Room, 226

Lunch will be provided.

The Cambridge Study Abroad Program's dates are July 1 - August 2, 2018.

SAVE THE DATE

The Cumberland Black Law Students Association presents the 24th Annual Thurgood Marshall Symposium. This event also honors the 50th Anniversary of the admission of Samford and Cumberland's first African-American student Audrey L. Gaston Howard (Cumberland '70)

Date: February 15, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.
Place: Samford University, Cooney Hall, Regions Community Resource Room, 4th floor



Integrating Spaces: Reflections on the Past, Present, and Future

SPEAKER:

The Honorable Cheri L. Beasley, Associate Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court

Faculty Notes



Tracey Roberts presented her paper, *Beyond Cost: A Field Guide to Tax Expenditures (with Case Studies from the Housing and Real Estate Development Industries)*, at the AALS Conference in San Diego as part of the Property Section's New Voices in Property Law: Junior Scholars Works-in-Progress Panel. Her paper, *How Extensive Are Fossil Fuel Stranded Assets in the United States?*, has been accepted for presentation at the 2018 Meeting of the Society for Environmental Law and Economics, June 15-16, 2018, at Notre Dame Law School's Chicago, Illinois location.

Photo of the Week



Late in the fall, the Magic City Bar Association held their annual MCBA Scholarship Banquet. They awarded Cumberland students Denzel Okinedo and Michelle Herd with scholarships. Denzel was the recipient of the top award for \$2,500 and Michelle won an award for \$1,000. Many prominent Birmingham attorneys and judges were present at the event and Judge Myron Thompson delivered the keynote speech.

Denzel Okinedo and Michelle Herd with their awards, along with members of the Cumberland School of Law Black Law Students Association. Pictured, left to right: Brandi McNeal (1L), Kameron Buckner (2L), Tyerra Henderson (2L), Denzel Okinedo (2L), Michelle Herd (2L), Ashley Roy (2L), Sierra Gray (2L), Brooke Pruitt (1L), and Terrell Blakesley (1L).

Want to see your photos featured?

Send them to [Erin Carroll](#) for inclusion in upcoming editions of the Dean's Newsletter.