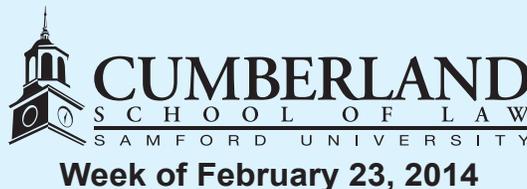


The Dean's Weekly E-Newsletter

A publication from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law for law students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the school



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In this Edition

- *Mediation Team*
- *Sports Law Guests*
- *Shakespeare*
- *CDO Events*
- *Around Samford*
- *Admission Ambassadors*
- *Faculty News*
- *Law Week Details*
- *The Williams Eight*
- *Birmingham Bar Fellows*
- *General Announcements*
- *Photo of the Week*

Cumberland's Mediation Team is Ready for ABA Competition



Cumberland School of Law's National Mediation Team competes this spring in the ABA National Representation in Mediation Competition to further demonstrate the law school's dedication to advocacy through alternative dispute resolution.

This year's team is comprised of eight members, including third-year law students **Caitlyn White**, **Tina Thapar** and **Ben Perry**, and second-year law students **Mary Margaret Bielby**, **Nathan Guin**, **Krista Cowley**, **Andrew Rainwaters** and **Nick Leslie**. Each competitor was selected from a finalist placement in one of several law school intramural competitions hosted by Cumberland School of Law's Trial Advocacy Board. Team members exemplify excellence in interest-based negotiation in the mediation process.

This year, the law school has the opportunity to send four team members to the regional component of the ABA competition held at Faulkner University on the weekend of Feb. 28. Team Coach **Virginia Miller**; a 2000 alumnus, Birmingham attorney, and experienced mediator and collaborative lawyer; accompanies the team to Montgomery, Ala., for the competition.

At the competition, students are paired into groups and must assume the role of attorney and client in three separate

rounds. Each round represents a new dispute in various settings ranging from employment relationships gone wrong to landlord-tenant contractual disputes. Together, these teams must engage in the mediation process and demonstrate their abilities to negotiate settlement agreements that satisfy the complex interests of each party.

Cumberland School of Law wishes these competitors the best of luck as they represent the student-led Trial Advocacy Board and its legacy of excellence. ☺

SEC Commissioner Speaks to Sports Law Class and Surprises Students with Additional Guests



On Feb. 19, Adjunct Professor Donald Jackson's spring Sports Law course of 27 students and students from his fall 2013 Sports Law course welcomed Southeastern Conference (SEC) Commissioner Mike Slive for a candid, intimate class

discussion about his lengthy sports career.

Unrealized by many, Commissioner Slive holds a law degree and masters of law degree, and he started his professional career in the legal field.

“A large portion of the discussion involved the promotion of the upcoming SEC Network, an ESPN channel featuring SEC sporting events. There is an important balance between promoting the network efficiently, and conforming to the morals and standards of the SEC,” said **Taylor Martin**, third-year law student and Auburn University graduate. “As an avid SEC fan and supporter, it was a great opportunity to hear Commissioner Slive’s remarks on his path to becoming the SEC Commissioner.”

A surprise to all, Commissioner Slive brought additional guests to class including SEC Executive Associate Commissioner and Chief Operating Officer Greg Sankey; Chris Turner, SEC Network/ESPN liaison; Larry Templeton, consultant and former long-time athletic director at Mississippi State University; and SEC Network Associate Commissioner Charlie Hussey.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to hear Mike Slive, Greg Sankey, and Chris Turner in class,” said **Lance Goodson**, a third-year law student and Vanderbilt University graduate.

“While they each have different roles in shaping and promoting collegiate sports, specifically within the Southeastern Conference, they are all working towards a common goal of providing the best possible experience for student-athletes, schools and fans. I came away most impressed with their vision for the future of collegiate sports and their passion to continue getting better in what they do,” Goodson said.

Adjunct Professor Jackson is well-connected within the sports industry. When he is not teaching, Jackson is the owner of The Sports Group, a unique and diverse boutique sports firm. His clients include players in the National Football League, Major League Baseball, National Basketball Association, Canadian Football League, and Women’s United Soccer Association, among others. During fall 2013, Jackson’s Sports Law course focused on professional sports, whereas the spring 2014 course focuses on amateur sports.

Jackson was recently quoted in the *NY Times* article “Want to Play at a Different College? O.K., but Not There or There” as well as the *New York Newsday* article “MLB might have hard time penalizing A-Rod, players in latest PED case.” ☐

Law School Transforms into Old-World Theater for Shakespearean Plays



“I was seated Sunday afternoon in the Great Room of the Cumberland School of Law, and I saw Shakespeare the way it was meant to be done,” said Courtney Haden, columnist, in the *Weld* of Birmingham article “The first thing we do, let’s thrill all the lawyers.”

On the weekend of Feb. 15, Cumberland School of Law’s Great Room was transformed into an old-world theater such as the Globe Theatre in London, England, from Shakespeare’s day to host world-class, Elizabethan style performances of two Shakespearean plays. Students, faculty, friends of the law school, alumni and members and guests of the law firm of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff and Brandt attended the American Shakespeare Center’s performances of *Othello* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

“These Shakespearean plays were an excellent way to thank law school

donors. I would like to acknowledge and thank the law firm of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff and Brandt for underwriting the cost,” said David R. Hutchens, Cumberland School of Law’s senior advancement director.

Hutchens is overseeing the law school’s **Pride. Promise. People. capital campaign**. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$15 million for academic programs, student scholarships and faculty enhancements.

A detailed account of how the performances arrived at Cumberland School of Law is posted on *Weld* at <http://weldbham.com/blog/2014/02/21/the-first-thing-we-do-lets-thrill-all-the-lawyers/>. ☐



The Office of Career Development Presents the Upcoming Programs

Breakfast with Senior Policy Counsel of Alabama Policy Institute

Wed., Feb. 26, at 8 a.m., Bishop Conference Room

Katherine Robertson is Senior Policy Counsel at the Alabama Policy Institute in Birmingham, Alabama. Prior to working at API, Katherine worked as Legislative Counsel to U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions and with the U.S. Department of Justice.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can use your law degree in the legislative or policy arena, this is a must attend event! [Registration](#)

Samford University's 2014 Networking Expo

Feb. 26, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., The Pete Hanna Center

The Samford University Networking Expo is open to all Samford undergraduate and graduate students.

How to Prepare for & Conduct a Deposition

Thurs., Feb. 27, at 11 a.m., room 118

The Alabama Defense Lawyers Association & the Career Development Office invite you to attend "How To Prepare For & Conduct a Deposition" featuring Stephen Still of Starnes Davis & Florie, LLP. Lunch will be served to all who register to attend by Wed., Feb. 26 at 10 a.m.

[Registration](#)

1Ls & 2Ls – How to Look for a Summer Job Outside of OCI

Thurs., Feb. 27 at 1:30 p.m., room 120

On Campus Interviews (OCI) is not the only way to find a summer job. Come hear from Advisory Board students **Carl Williams (3L), Jon Townsend (3L), and Katie Dix (2L)** about their experience, and what worked for them!

An afternoon treat will be served! [Registration](#)

Lessons Through the Generations: How Far We've Come & How Far We Can Go

Tues., March 4, at 5:30 p.m., The Great Room

The Women's Section of the Alabama State Bar and the Career Development Office invite you to attend a panel discussion featuring an all-star lineup. Panelists will include Joyce Vance, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama, Judge Caryl Privett of the Jefferson County Circuit Court, Deborah Alley Smith of Christian and Small, Meredith Lees of Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell, and Janine Smith of Regions Bank.

There will be a networking reception following the event. [Registration](#)

Save the Date: Cumberland's Public Interest Career Fair

Tues., March 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Great Room

Around



Lunch and Learn with Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow

DAVID J. DUNFORD

Former U.S. Ambassador, Middle East expert

Samford's undergraduate Career Development Office hosts "Lunch and Learn" with former U.S. Ambassador David Dunford on **Mon., March 3, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Howard Room**. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Heather Averett by email at heaveret@samford.edu by Friday. Free lunch will be served.

About Dave Dunford

Dave Dunford's 29 years in the U.S. Foreign Service included three years as U.S. Ambassador to Oman and four years as Deputy Ambassador to Saudi Arabia during the 1990-91 Gulf War. He worked for General Garner and Ambassador Bremer in Iraq in 2003 as the senior official in charge of reorganizing Iraq's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His other assignments included Economic Minister-Counselor in Cairo, Director of Egyptian Affairs in Washington, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative in the Executive Office of the President, and Coordinator of the multinational team tasked with setting up MENABANK, a proposed regional multilateral development bank in Cairo. ☐



Submit an Application to be a 2014–15 Office of Law Admission Ambassador

Deadline: February 28

The Office of Law Admission seeks rising second and third year students to serve as Admission Ambassadors to represent the law school to prospective law students and their families. Serving as an Admission Ambassador is a wonderful way to get involved with the law school, promote the school to others, meet new people and build your resume.

The general responsibilities of the Ambassadors are to meet with and educate prospective students about Cumberland School of Law. Ambassadors can expect to participate in a wide range of activities that can be performed to fit their individual schedule during both the school day and (occasionally) outside of school hours. The Office of Law Admission will work with each Ambassador to develop a schedule that works around their current class schedule and other obligations.

The Admission Ambassadors will be trained with general knowledge about the history, courses, application process, faculty, student organizations, etc., of Cumberland School of Law. Full support will be provided to the Ambassadors by the Office of Law Admission.

Ambassadors Receive:

- a \$500 scholarship, to be distributed during

- the fall 2014 and spring 2015 semesters
- two Cumberland School of Law polo-style shirts
- one Cumberland School of Law hat
- a copy of *From Maverick to Mainstream, Cumberland School of Law From 1847-1997*
- use of Cumberland School of Law promotional materials as needed to promote the school
- meals at Admission Office events

Ambassador Responsibilities:

- conduct tours for prospective and admitted students
- escort prospective students who wish to sit in on a class
- correspond with prospective and admitted students via email and hand-written notes
- represent the Office of Law Admission at events such as Admitted Student Weekend or Scholarship Weekend

Applications can be submitted online at <http://cumberland.samford.edu/form/admission-ambassador-application>, it is due by Friday, February 28. The top applicants will be interviewed and Ambassadors will be chosen following the interviews. ☎

Faculty News

Judge John Carroll



On Feb. 27, Judge Carroll will be one of the featured speakers at an E-discovery Project Management Conference sponsored by the Atlanta Law Firm of King & Spaulding. His topic covers “Proportionality & Cooperation in Small Cases.” In addition, Dean Carroll will participate in a judicial roundtable discussion on current e-discovery issues.

Professor Alyssa DiRusso



“Who the beneficiaries are can make things a snap. Or they [may] cause you to snap. If you have a group of like-minded, reasonable adults, your settlement paperwork costs are probably going to be ‘fairly simple and inexpensive because all of the beneficiaries can sign off on the accounting ... without a hearing or judicial invention,” said Professor

Alyssa DiRusso in the Feb. 20 US News & World Report Article “[The Hidden Costs of Closing an Estate.](#)”

On Fri., Feb. 21, Professor DiRusso attended a symposium at Vanderbilt University sponsored by The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. She provided commentary on Professor Jeffery Schoenblum’s article: “Strange Bedfellows: The Federal Constitution, Out-of-State Nongrantor Accumulation Trusts, and the Complete Avoidance of State Income Taxation.”

Professor Woodrow Hartzog



Professor Woodrow Hartzog’s recent article, “[Reviving Implied Confidentiality](#),” has been published by the *Indiana Law Journal*. The article explores how implied confidentiality might thrive online. ☎

Law Week, March 10–15, a Brief Look at What SBA has Planned (Updates)



- Every professor has their own policy of allowing dogs to class, so please be respectful of professor's preference.
- ***Dogs only, do not bring cats, birds, ferrets, etc.**

Trivia Night

- Location: TBD
- Time: TBD
- Price: Nominal entry fee

per team

Friday, 3/14/14

Cumberland Classic Golf Tournament

- Location: RTJ Oxmoor Valley, Ridge Course
- Time: 8 a.m. shotgun start, 4 man scramble
- Price: \$75 a person (fee covers greens fee, cart, lunch after the round and prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, place teams, longest drive and closest to the pin).

Saturday, 3/15/14

Barristers Ball

- Location: Iron City
- Time: 8 p.m.-12 a.m.
- Price: \$50 per person for the first 100 people to buy tickets and then \$60 a person after that. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$75. Students are encouraged to bring spouses, fiancés, girlfriends, boyfriends and dates. Barristers Ball is not limited to law students.
- Barristers will be 4 hours this year instead of 3 hours. Tim Tyler is performing all night.

Look for email updates from the SBA. ☐

Monday, 3/10/14 (update)

Kickball

- Location: George Ward Park
- Time: TBD
- Price: \$60 team registration

Tuesday, 3/11/14 (update)

Freshman Follies

- 4:30pm in the Moot Court Room

Bowling Night Hosted by the Third-Year Class

- Location: Vestavia Bowl
- Time: 9 p.m.
- Price: Shoes and bowling free

Wednesday, 3/12/14 (update)

Cumberland Idol

- Location: TBA
- Price: \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door
- Time: 8:30ish

Thursday, 3/13/14

Rascal Day

- Location: Angel Patio
- Time: Parade begins at 11 a.m.
- Price: Free; lunch will be provided
- Rascal Day is something unique to Cumberland and those students who have dogs are encouraged to bring them.

Elite Eight of the Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition

Please join the Trial Board to congratulate the following teams for advancing into the elite eight of the Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition:

Herren – Nichols	Stallings – Hatcher
Cobble – Osteen	Reynolds – Bowen
Redmond – Veazey	Miller – Harrison
Scholl – Hayes	Gross – Drexler ☐

Birmingham Bar Foundation's 2014 Fellows Class

Congratulations to Dean John Carroll and the following alumni who were honored recently as members of the Birmingham Bar Foundation's 2014 Fellows Class. They represent 11 of the 25 members:

Beverly P. Baker '85
 Judge Houston L. Brown '73
 S. Greg Burge '84
 Judge John L. Carroll '74
 Robert P. Mackenzie III '79
 Teresa G. Minor '93
 James R. Pratt '78
 Ted Stuckenschneider '77
 Allen Sydnor, Jr. '81
 Jere F. White, Jr. '80 (honored posthumously)
 L. Stephen Wright, Jr. '66 ☐

Please join the **Florida Bar Association** for a **Fish Fry** on **Sat., March 8 at Avondale (201 41st Street South)**. Tickets: \$10 includes free koozie

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:

Miles A. McGrane, III, Esq., Class of '75

MICHAEL G. BARKET, P.A. MORGAN & MORGAN TIMOTHY BARKET LAW

THE FRESH MARKET KoolerKeg COASTALPRO

General Announcements

Summer 2014 Public Interest Fellowship Application

- **Deadline: Mon., April 7, by 4:30 p.m.**
- Submit your Public Interest Fellowship Application at <https://cumberland.samford.edu/form/public-interest-fellowships>

2013-14 Spirit of Service Application

- **Deadline: Mon., April 7 by 4:30 p.m.**
- Submit your service details at <http://cumberland.samford.edu/form/spirit-service>

Annual Law Library Satisfaction Survey

Be on the lookout for the annual survey, student participation is highly encouraged.

Attend Barbri 3L Bar Talk to be Successful on The Bar Exam

Join Barbri's legal education adviser, Chris Nikitas for a 3L Bar Talk. Chris will share helpful information about the upcoming bar exam and offer tips to help you pass the exam the first time.

- **Wed., Feb. 26, noon-1 p.m. or 1-2 p.m., The Great Room**
- Free meal
- \$500 off course tuition and \$250 off course tuition certificates will be given away.
- Vegetarian? Non Vegetarian? Food Allergies? RSVP with Ashley McKibbin at ASHLEY.MCKIBBIN@BARBRI.COM to confirm your meal preference.
- To learn more go to BARBRI.COM

Office of Law Admission Spring Open House

Fri., Feb. 28, from 2-5 p.m.

The Office of Law Admission is hosting a Spring Open House for prospective students. If you know any prospective students who would like to attend, please put them in contact with the Office of Law Admission at 800-888-7213 or by

email at lawadm@samford.edu.

Class of 2014 Gift Peer Scholarship (For 3Ls)

The 3L Class Gift Luncheon is Thurs., Feb. 27, from 11-1 p.m. Newks will be catered on the mezzanine for class gift participants and for those who bring their donation to the luncheon.

The Cumberland School of Law Class of 2014 is once again excited to continue the tradition started by the Class of 2004 of awarding a peer scholarship to a member of the second-year class as a class gift. In remembrance of Matt McLain, the peer scholarship has been re-named the "Matthew McLain Peer Scholarship." Every third-year law student in the Class of 2014 is encouraged to donate.

Bar Exam Preparation Course Offered to Third-Year Law Students

Reminder, there are additional sessions on March 7 and April 4. Students who could not attend the Feb. 7 class can still attend the later sessions.

- Friday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- There is no cost to students other than the purchase of the book *Beginning Your Campaign to Pass the Bar Exam* by Keith Elkin. This book is a great resource beyond this course.
- To sign up for the course see Laurie Zimmer in room 127.

Save the Date for Project Homeless Connect 7!

Sat, April 5, 2014

LSAC Diversity Committee Writing Competition

LSAC is pleased to announce the first LSAC Diversity Committee Writing Competition.

The three winners (1L, 2L and 3-4L) will be eligible for cash prizes of \$5,000. Submissions must be received by **5 p.m. EST on Thurs., May 1, 2014**. Competition details are included in a [memo from LSAC](#).

Cumberland School of Law's 2014-15 Need Based Scholarship Application is now Available

Due by May 1, 2014
[Apply online](#)

Spring 2014 Events

- March 10-14: Law Week
- March 24-28: Law School Spring Break
- Fri., April 11 (morning): Spring Advisory Board Meeting
- Fri., April 11 (evening): Alumni Reunion Reception
- Sat., April 12: Reunion Open House, alumni awards, announce new alumni association president, ETC.
- Sat., April 12 (evening): Individual Class Reunion Parties, for classes ending in "9" and "4"
- Wed., April 23: Montgomery Alumni Luncheon, *sponsored by Beasley Allen
- Tues., April 29: Washington, D.C., Cumberland/Brock Alumni SBN Reception, *sponsored by BBVA Compass and Balch & Bingham. *Students are invited if you are able to attend, email Anne Marovich at amarovic@samford.edu for details.
- May 16: Commencement 📍

Photo of the Week



Sword Fight in The Great Room

The actors from The American Shakespeare Center practice in the Great Room.

Students, staff and faculty, did you take a great picture on your smartphone? If so, you are encouraged to submit your photo to share with the rest of the law school in the "Photo(s) of the Week" segment. Please send photos to dsmith@samford.edu.

