

## Advocacy program continues winning legacy

*The University of Georgia School of Law's advocacy program once again had an outstanding season, completing the 2007-08 academic year with three national titles and four regional/state trophies in addition to numerous individual and team honors. Only once before has Georgia Law recorded more national titles (in 1996-97 with four). Additionally, this year's results best the trophy tally in 2005-06 in which the program also captured three national titles but only two regional/state trophies.*

### National First Amendment Moot Court Competition



*Emily Shingler (left) and Leslie Horne teamed up to win the National First Amendment Moot Court Competition earlier this year.*

Georgia Law took first place in the 18th Annual National First Amendment Moot Court Competition, winning its third national advocacy title for the season. Third-year law students Leslie B. Horne and Emily E. Shingler defeated teams from schools such as New York University, the University of Washington and the University of Connecticut to win the competition.

### Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition



*Georgia Law won its second national title of the 2007-08 year at the William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition. The team was coached by Director of the Prosecutorial Clinic Alan Cook (J.D. '84) (center) and included: (l. to r.) third-year law students Adam Hebbard, Scott Grubman, Kevin Epps and Kristen Boyd.*

### Intrastate Moot Court Competition

Georgia Law swept the 2008 Intrastate Moot Court Competition with two teams from UGA advancing to the final round of the tournament.

The team of second-year law students Matthew A. Josephson, Titus T. Nichols and Robert D. Thomas won the championship trophy and received the Best Brief Award, while second-year students Kawania N. Brown, Audrey M. Seidle and David J. Younker finished the competition as finalists. Additionally, Younker earned the tournament's best oralist honor.

### Douglass National Moot Court Competition



*Georgia Law fielded two teams in the Douglass National Moot Court Competition. Representing the school was: (l. to r.) Aimee Pickett (coach), Arlisa Woodard, Christine Saunders, Melanie Reed and ShaMiracle Johnson.*

Georgia Law captured third place at the Frederick Douglass National Moot Court Competition. Second-year law students

### Emory National Moot Court Competition

Georgia Law won its first national title of the 2007-08 year at the Emory National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition in the fall. The winning team consisted of third-year law students Jennifer T. Blakely, Shunta R. Harmon and Cameron D. Hawkins.

Melanie D. Reed and Arlisa A. Woodard won the regional round and advanced to the national level, where Reed received the Helen Dawn Williams Award for superior oral argument skills.

Another Georgia Law team, composed of second-year law students ShaMiracle S. Johnson and Christine A. Saunders, also competed at the regional level of the competition and won the Best Brief Award.

### National Moot Court Competition

The School of Law also had a strong showing at the National Moot Court Competition where they finished as one of the top eight teams in the country. Representing the law school were third-year students James E. Butler III, Naveen Ramachandrappa and Alexandra H. Yeager.

### National Trial Competition



*Competing in the regional National Trial Competition was: (l. to r.) Jennifer Blakely, Lindsay Winzeler, Chase Samples and Rebecca Thornhill.*

Georgia Law secured the top trophy at the regional round of the National Trial Competition held in Atlanta. Third-year law students T. Chase Samples and Rebecca M. Thornhill finished the tournament in first place to advance to the national tier of the competition. A second team from Georgia Law, composed of third-year law students Jennifer T. Blakely and Lindsay A. Winzeler, also competed in the regional round and finished as semifinalists.

# Awards Day 2008

Awards Day is a tradition at the School of Law that provides the faculty, students and staff the opportunity to pause and honor those who have excelled both in and out of the classroom. The following will provide you with a list of those recognized earlier this year.



Class of 2007 inductees into the Order of the Coif, legal education's equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa and includes those who graduated in the top 10 percent of their class, are: (l. to r.) Bret Reed Hobson, Jessica Celina Morris, Jessica Moore Mallanda, David Ryan Roth, Ellen Claire Carothers, Haywood Scott Lowry Jr., Dean Rebecca White, Matthew T. Joe, Rachel Christina Young, Anuj Desai, Adrienne Leigh Smith, Merritt E. McAlister, Andrea Michelle Hoffenson, Daniel Horne Petrey, Tedra Cannella Hobson, Lauren Kate O'Shea, Patrick Hammond Garrard, Martin Chair Jim Smith, Associate Dean Paul Kurtz and Elizabeth Claire Arnett. Not pictured: Patricia J. Brooks, Janna Blasingame Custer, David S. Frist, Jeffrey Howard Gibson, Jessica C. Lawrence and Ansly Elizabeth Paulk.

## **The Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI) Excellence for the Future Awards**

Criminal Law - Ann R. Carroll, Elizabeth A. Freeman, Rachel K. Jones and Sara L. Lonergan

Civil Procedure - Daniel L. Delnero, Jason W. Howard, Brian C. Lea and Benn C. Wilson

Contracts & Sales - John T. DeGenova, Brian C. Lea, Jason D. McCoy and Benn C. Wilson

Legal Research & Writing - Bennett D. Bryan, John T. DeGenova, Matthew A. Josephson, James W. McPhillips, Keisha M. Oldacre, Weston B. Rochester and Alice E. Snedeker

Property - Michael B. Davis, Dennis M. Madison, Manoj S. Varghese and Benn C. Wilson

Torts and Class of 1933 Torts Law Award - Laura E. Ingram, Brian C. Lea, Kenneth W. Stroud and Benn C. Wilson

Constitutional Law I - Lori E. Morris, Christian C. Morrison, S. Trent Myers and Benn C. Wilson

Constitutional Law II - Farrar J. Barker and Anuj Desai

Corporations - Catherine E. Coleman, Scott R. Grubman and Brian C. Lea

Criminal Procedure I - Jessica C. Nix and Anna E. Papa

Criminal Procedure II - Kelly S. Culpepper, Scott R. Grubman and Brittany L. Summers

Evidence - Alphonso A. Howell, William P. Martin, T. Chase Samples and Benn C. Wilson

Federal Income Taxation - Lindsey C. Perry and Wade A. Schueneman

Legal Profession - Eric B. Coleman and Anuj Desai

Trusts & Estates and Verner F. Chaffin Award for Excellence in the Study of Fiduciary Law - Farrar J. Barker and Brian C. Lea

## **Donald P. Gilmore Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor & Employment Law - Marcia S. Alembik**

**ABA & Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Employment Law** - Janna Blasingame Custer

**ABA & Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor Law** - Caroline M. Knox

**ABA & Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property** - T. Rick Irvin and Blake A. Tankersley

**Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund Award for Excellence in the Study of Real Estate Law** - Efrain A. "Sonny" Poloche

**State Bar of Georgia Real Property Section Award** - Sally S. Jarratt

**Julian McDonnell Award for Excellence in the Study of Commercial Law** - J. Amanda Aldrich

**Georgia Municipal Association Municipal Corporations Award** - Joseph I. Bolling

**John C. O'Byrne Award for Excellence in the Study of Taxation** - William T. Thistle

**State Bar of Georgia Tax Section Outstanding Student Award** - Kellee A. Padgett

**Georgia Association for Women Lawyers Outstanding Student Award** - Lauren C. Giles

**National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Student Award** - Carla D. Riner

**Outstanding Prosecutorial Clinic Student** - Sonya E. Grounds

**Outstanding Land Use Clinic Student** - Janna Blasingame Custer and Matthew M. Weiss

**Outstanding Legal Defense Clinic Student** - Nandi F. Campbell

**American Bankruptcy Institute Medal** - Kelly S. Culpepper and Robert H. Snyder

## **Willis J. "Dick" Richardson Jr. Student Award for Outstanding Trial Advocacy - Lindsay A. Winzeler**

**Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial Awards**

Outstanding Mock Trial Advocate - Kevin E. Epps; Outstanding Moot Court Advocate - Tully T. Blalock

**Kerry Harike Joedeke Memorial Award for Excellence - Outstanding Moot Court Board Member** - Rebecca M. Thornhill

**Ronald Carlson Award for Excellence in the Study of Evidence** - T. Chase Samples

**National Order of Barristers** - Jennifer T. Blakeley, James E. "Jeb" Butler, Scott R. Grubman, Cameron D. Hawkins, Leslie B. Horne, Naveen Ramachandrappa, T. Chase Samples, Emily E. Shingler, Rebecca M. Thornhill and Alexandra H. Yeager

**Shelley B. Knox Award for Outstanding Public Interest Student** - Nandi F. Campbell and Sara R. Dykes

**LSA Award for Greatest Improvement in Academic Standing**

1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year - Nandi F. Campbell  
2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year - Regina F. Price

**LSA Award for Highest Academic Average**  
Class of 2008 - Lindsey C. Perry  
Class of 2009 - Benn C. Wilson

**William King Meadow Award** - Tully T. Blalock

**Ellen Jordan Award for Outstanding Public Interest Student** - Nandi F. Campbell

**Jesse and Dan MacDougald Memorial Award for First Honor Graduate & Isaac Meinhard Award for Highest Academic Average** - Merritt E. McAlister

## Annual auction raises nearly \$20,000 for public interest work



Third-year law students Lindsay Winzeler (left) and Cat Lawler look through the program during this year's EJF annual auction. Photo courtesy of Bob Brussack (J.D.'76).

It was a lively evening filled with laughs, shouts and frenzied bidding, which collected nearly \$20,000 to support Georgia Law students working in public interest positions this summer.

This year's annual Equal Justice Foundation auction was held in February and included both live and silent auctions with Callaway Chair Emeritus Ronald L. Carlson, University Professor and Hosch Professor Dan T. Coenen and Hosch Professor Thomas A. Eaton facilitating the live bidding.

Proceeds from the night's events support internships for Georgia Law students to help them gain public interest experience.

The EJF has supported public interest fellowships for more than two decades. Below is a list of this year's recipients and where they will serve.

Full fellowship recipients: **Avani H. Patel**, *World Organization for Human Rights USA*; and **Melanie D. Reed**, *DeKalb County Public Defender, Juvenile Court*.

Partial fellowship recipients: **David R. Shillcutt**, *Fundación Trabajo Empresa (Bolivia)*; **Elizabeth M. Long**, *Southern Environmental Law Center*; **Terressa M. "Tess" Davis**, *University of Papua New Guinea School of Law (law publication unit)*; **Amy S. Walker**, *GreenLaw*; **Candace A. Hill**, *Georgia Justice Project*; and **John E. Seay**, *Georgia Lawyers for the Arts*.

### Tilley selected as Spurgeon Fellow

Daniel B. Tilley has been awarded the 2008 Spurgeon Public Service Fellowship, which is supported by the Edward D. and Carol J. Spurgeon Public Service Fellowship Fund. The purpose of this fund, created by former faculty member and Dean Ned Spurgeon and his wife, is to provide a fellowship to a Georgia Law student who has completed the first or second year of law school, is working in a low-paying or non-paying public service summer position and has demonstrated a commitment to public service.

#### LAW SCHOOL LIFE



#### Dean's Business Roundtable

Students meet with Georgia Theatre Company President William Stembler (J.D.'71) (third from right) and his wife Anne (fourth from right) during a Dean's Business Roundtable.



#### Admissions Open House

Ron Ellington, Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism and Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor who also chairs the Admissions Committee, (right) speaks with two newly admitted Georgia Law students at a reception held for prospective members of the Class of 2011.



#### Women's Law Panel

The Women Law Students Association and Parents and Partners in Law presented the Second Annual Women's Law Panel, where panelists discussed various issues such as balancing parenting and the practice of law. Featured guests included: (front, l. to r.) Komal Patel, Home Depot; Jeanine Garvie (J.D.'96), McKenna Long & Aldridge; Alaina Gimbert, the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta; Lori Surmay (J.D.'92), Claiborne, Outman & Surmay; (back, l. to r.) Elizabeth Chandler (J.D.'88), City of Atlanta; Carmen Toledo, King & Spalding; Carla McMilliam (J.D.'98), Sutherland Asbill & Brennan; Penn Dodson, Timmons, Warnes & Anderson; and Beth Kirch, Georgia Law Legal Career Services.



### **Charlie Bailey: Destined for the University of Georgia**

First-year law student Charles C. “Charlie” Bailey has had an experience unlike many of his fellow classmates: working on a 1,300 acre farm in Harris County, Ga.

While growing up, Bailey helped to raise and to breed cattle on his grandfather’s property over most summer breaks. It was during these months that he was able to witness the strong work ethic of his grandparents, a virtue he believes is incredibly important.

“If I could be considered to have anywhere close to the work ethic of my grandparents, and I hope that I could, I would be very lucky indeed.”

Despite his fond memories of growing up in a farming community, it was never doubted that Bailey would leave the rural area to attend UGA. His grandparents, mother and uncle all graduated from the university, and Bailey was raised a Bulldog fan.

Starting at a young age, his family would take trips to Athens and he formed a “romantic idea of the city.” Then, after reading an article in *The Wall Street Journal* that rated the school’s Honors Program as being equivalent to an Ivy League education, his decision to attend became concrete.

During his time as an undergraduate at UGA, Bailey majored in both political science and religion because, in his opinion, they are “two of the most important subjects to think about, write about and talk about.”

His political experiences were not only limited to his major, and Bailey was active within the Student Government Association, serving as a senator. Additionally, he was the

manager of several student election campaigns and was the statewide chairman of Students for Edwards.

However, Bailey’s fondest memories during his undergraduate years were of the Athens experience in general.

“With UGA, while we may have a ways to go with making the student body diverse, the town itself is diverse in music, politics and more. For me, it was really about the depth of the cultural experience in Athens.”

After earning his bachelor’s degree, Bailey spent time working for Mark F. Taylor’s (J.D.’82) 2006 campaign for governor. His primary duties included managing relations with elected officials and community leaders and setting up political events and rallies. Despite the loss to Gov. Sonny Perdue, Bailey said the experience was well worth it and he “learned a lot about the election process and campaigns.”

Bailey’s decision to attend law school had been in the works for years, as he had grown up watching his great uncle Randolph Thrower, who was a lawyer, “break down issues and make arguments.” Consequently, he developed the belief that lawyers are vital to the well-being of society.

“I really enjoy the role of being an advocate as it is necessary to have able people with good intentions administering the law in order to exist as a democracy.”

During his first year of law school, Bailey won the 2008 J. Ralph Baird Closing Argument Competition and was elected the president of the first-year class. Recently, he was also selected president of the second-year class.

Bailey will spend his summer working as a summer associate for the Barnes Law Group and hopes to make a career working as a litigator, as he has developed a love for the courtroom.

“My ideal job would be one in which I could take on a number of cases, see some diversity and stay in the courtroom as much as possible.”



### **Sachin Varghese: World traveler and advocacy devotee**

It is a rare person who can say he has organized a 10-day expedition to Antarctica and has taken a dip in its nearby freezing waters. For second-year law student Manoj Sam “Sachin” Varghese, not only has he done this, but he has also visited five other continents and 23 countries around the globe.

Varghese began these travels as an undergraduate at UGA when he was awarded a Foundation Fellowship, the university’s premier undergraduate scholarship.

Foundation Fellows are given the opportunity to gain extensive study abroad experience through travel-study grants, and Varghese’s goal was to take part in the “most interesting, unique trips.”

Thus, he seized the opportunity to visit Tanzania, where he climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, and Antarctica.

While these travels have had a tremendous impact on his life, his most rewarding experience as an undergraduate was being elected Student Government Association president. Not only was it a tremendous honor to be chosen by his peers but, during his tenure, SGA had a great year “advocating on behalf of students and serving as a conduit for student interests.”

In between his travels, academics and involvement with SGA, Varghese took on the role of UGA’s campaign coordinator for Teach for America.

As someone with a strong interest in public service, TFA’s goals struck a resounding chord in him and motivated him to become



involved in the organization.

“The mission of Teach for America is phenomenal and needed. Our country does a terrible job of educating people of low socioeconomic status and, if we want to be successful in the long term as a nation and to be competitive, we need to do a better job with education.”

After graduating and teaching for six months with TFA in Atlanta schools, Varghese embarked on his future career in the law, something that had been on his horizon.

Despite having started college as a pre-med major, he earned his bachelor’s in political science and his master’s in public administration and then determined law would better suit his career aspirations.

“While I think being a doctor is a tremendous profession, for me, the avenues through law school into public policy and public service were just more appealing.”

The transition to law school was fairly easy for Varghese, and he has already developed a love for and honed his skills in the law school’s advocacy programs.

The program has become a particular passion of his not only because it is “a practical application of the knowledge” he gets in class, but because he truly enjoys the experience.

Accordingly, he has won both the 2007 J. Ralph Beard Closing Argument Competition and the 2007 Richard B. Russell Moot Court Competition and was part of the winning team for the 2007 Talmadge Moot Court Competition. Additionally, this past spring, his team finished as quarterfinalists in the national Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Moot Court Competition.

When not participating in an advocacy tournament or serving as a member of the editorial board for the *Georgia Law Review*, where he will be an articles editor next year, he divides his time between Atlanta and Athens in order to spend time with his fiancé, whom he met through Teach for America.

This summer, Varghese will work for two Atlanta law firms and hopes to eventually go into litigation.

For now though, he is focusing on his next travel itinerary – for his honeymoon!



### **Carla Riner: Decorated combat veteran and aviation expert**

Carla D. Riner has always had a love for aviation. Watching her father, who was a ramp worker for Delta Air Lines, work with airplanes influenced her to get involved with the industry and travel.

As a domestic flight attendant for American Airlines, she was able to visit some of the most magnificent places in the United States, her favorite being Jackson Hole, Wyo. However, her daily interaction with pilots quickly changed her career goals. During one flight, she was able to sit in the cockpit and watch the pilots land the aircraft and, from that moment, she knew she “had to do this.”

After receiving her pilot’s license, she was hired by the Air National Guard to complete U.S. Air Force pilot training. Despite being one of only a handful of women in a male dominated field and being only the second female to ever fly a C-130 in the 167th Airlift Wing based in Martinsburg, W. Va., Riner was never intimidated because “the Air Force did a great job of making sure everyone was on a level playing field.”

Soon after this Air Force training, Riner made the transition from flight attendant to commercial pilot on a Boeing 727.

Unfortunately, after only eight months, Sept. 11 occurred, changing her life and those of everyone in the aviation industry. For Riner, it was “unbelievable how close the events hit to home,” as she knew every crew member on American Airlines Flight 77, which hit the Pentagon.

Determined to help those in need, she volunteered to assist traumatized crew members who were scared to go to work following the attacks. “It was a demanding task, and we received a tremendous response. It was what people needed at the time though – someone to sit and talk to who was in the same position.”

Helping those affected by Sept. 11 did not stop there and shortly after these events, Riner was activated by the Air National Guard for tours of duty in Operation Joint Forge in Germany, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq, flying a constant flow of supplies to our country’s troops.

“The days in the desert were monotonous, and the terrain was harsh and austere. We would fly for hours and see no light at all and then spend days sitting in camp. So, to pass the time, I studied for the LSAT.”

Riner decided to attend law school to expand her skill set and to prevent herself from being tied to the cyclical airline industry. Furthermore, she was thrilled to come back to her home state of Georgia and to be accepted to the School of Law, as it was a “return to her undergraduate roots.”

While nothing can compare to those night flights in the desert, law school has been a challenge because it has been a different application of knowledge. There are “little to no steadfast rules, and it is all about the gray.”

After graduating this spring, Riner moved to Virginia to pursue a career combining her military and legal experience practicing law in aviation and serving as a maintenance officer in the Air National Guard.

“My future seemed set until, like many, the aftermath of September 11th changed its course. However deciding to come to law school has been an unexpected pleasure, and I believe my combined military and law knowledge will transform my life for the better.”

*All profiles written by Leigh Tenewitz.*