

2016

ALUMNI/ ALUMNAE WEEKEND

Georgia Law's annual Alumni/Alumnae Weekend brought together alumni and alumnae, students, faculty and members of the judiciary for a variety of programs designed for learning and reflection, awards and recognitions as well as networking.



A keynote panel of sitting jurists spotlighted pathways to the bench and tips for lawyers appearing in court. Panelists included: U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Julie Carnes (J.D.'75), U.S. District Court Chief Judge Clay Land (J.D.'85) (right) and Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Hugh Thompson. Photo by Steve Strickland.



An "Alumni/Alumnae Through the Decades" panel explored changes at law school from the 1960s to present day. Graduates serving on the panel were: (l. to r.) William Jenkins (J.D.'81), Kellie Casey (J.D.'90), Barbara Mendel Mayden (J.D.'76), moderator Paul Kurtz (Associate Dean and Professor Emeritus), Shannon Shipley Hinson (J.D.'06) and Alex Crumbley (J.D.'66).



The law school's first female and male African-American graduates joined the festivities – Sharon "Nyota" Tucker (J.D.'74) and Chester Davenport (LL.B.'66).



Above: Dean Bo Rutledge (center) shares a moment with Benna Ruth Solomon (J.D.'78) (right) and her husband, David Strauss.



Graduates from the Class of 2015 were inducted into the Order of the Coif. Present for the ceremony were: (l. to r.) Associate Dean Erica Hashimoto (presenter), Russell Brown, Daniel Campen, Maria del Rosario Rivera-Díaz, Ricardo Lopez, Hali Anne Hill Cole, Chelsey McDade Lewis, Andrew Mason, William Smith, George Ray, Lee Deneen, Nicola Rossi and Hunter Carpenter. Not pictured: Emily Carlton Cook, Emily Evans, Michael Green Jr., Sarah Anne Hill, Amanda McDowell, Dov Preminger and Michael Sullivan. Photo by Steve Strickland.



Ken Klein (J.D.'76), Beth Chandler (J.D.'88) (center) and Carrie Raeber enjoyed the picnic, which was hosted by father and son Henry (J.D.'71) and Patrick (J.D.'07) Garrard.

Mark your calendar for next year's
Alumni/Alumnae Weekend –
March 17 & 18, 2017
www.law.uga.edu/upcoming-alumni-events



DSS AWARD

Davenport and Solomon honored

Chester C. Davenport (LL.B.'66) and Benna Ruth Solomon (J.D.'78) are this year's Distinguished Service Scroll Award recipients.

This accolade is the highest honor given by the Law School Association and recognizes outstanding dedication and service to the legal profession and law school.

Davenport is the law school's first African-American graduate. Born in Athens, Georgia, Davenport was a *cum laude* graduate of Morehouse College, earning his bachelor's degree in 1963. He graduated from Georgia Law in 1966, where he finished in the top 5 percent of his class and helped found as well as served as an editorial board member of the *Georgia Law Review*.

He began his career as an attorney in the tax division of the U.S. Department of Justice and subsequently served as a legislative assistant for California Sen. Alan Cranston. Following an appointment as an assistant secretary at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Davenport co-founded a law practice based in Washington, D.C.

Davenport is the founder and managing director of Georgetown Partners, a Maryland-based private equity firm specializing in leverage buyouts. He previously served as vice president of the R.H. Lapin Company and as chairman of GTE Consumer Services and Envirotec Systems. He is currently the executive chairman of Basho Technologies, a distributed systems company that develops disruptive technology to simplify critical data management challenges for enterprises.

In 2005, Davenport gave a gift to endow the Chester C. Davenport Scholarship Fund at Georgia Law. He also has served as a member of the Board of Visitors and the UGA Arch Foundation.

Solomon is the first Georgia Law graduate to serve as a judicial clerk for a U.S. Supreme Court justice. She earned her law degree in 1978, graduating first in her class. While a student, she was an articles editor and a member of the editorial board of the *Georgia Law Review*.

Solomon has dedicated her career to public service, beginning as a law clerk to Judge James I. Oakes on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. Following this clerkship, she served as a judicial clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White.

She has represented a number of major national organizations of state and local government officials in the U.S. Supreme Court and filed more than 100 friend-of-the-court briefs. While at the U.S. Department of Justice, Solomon provided oral advice and written opinions to the president, attorney general and cabinet officials, receiving commendations twice for her contributions and service.

Solomon is currently the deputy corporation counsel for the appeals division of the City of Chicago Law Department, where she is responsible for all appellate litigation involving the city in all state and federal courts, as well as providing advice as requested by the trial, transactional and counseling divisions. In more than 25 years with the city, she has filed nearly 2,300 briefs, participated in more than 800 moot courts and presented argument in 67 cases, including three in the U.S. Supreme Court.



Chester Davenport (LL.B.'66) (right) with fellow Athenian and first-year student Nathan Miles, who holds one of nine student scholarships supported by Davenport.



Benna Ruth Solomon (J.D.'78)

Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IN AND OUT OF THE COURTROOM



The relationships that Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves (J.D.'06) has had throughout her life have shaped her both in and out of the courtroom.

Growing up in Mississippi, her grandmother and parents instilled in her the importance of kindness and the value of education.

After earning her undergraduate degree at Ole Miss, Montgomery-Reeves moved to Georgia to attend law school. While here, she met an “amazing and genuinely kind” professor named Charles R.T. “Chuck” O’Kelley, who held the M.E. Kilpatrick Chair of Corporate Finance and Securities Law at the time. Her relationship with him altered the course of her career.

“I thought I was going to become a criminal lawyer and do criminal defense work,” she said. “When I got to law school I took Criminal Law and liked it well enough. Then I took Corporations, almost exclusively because of Professor O’Kelley, and I loved the subject matter. I couldn’t get enough of it and was excited to come to class.”

It was also at Georgia Law where she met others who would affect her life greatly.

“The best part [of my experience at Georgia Law] was the people. I met my husband there, Jeffrey Reeves. And I met one of my best friends, Bisa Ajanaku,” she said. “I think the best things that came from there for me were the relationships.”

After graduation, Montgomery-Reeves clerked for Chancellor William B. Chandler III of the Delaware Court of Chancery. Working with Chandler was an “immensely positive” experience for a number of reasons.

“[He has] an amazing grasp of the law,” she said, “but the thing that was most impressive to me was that he was a real person, and

he treated each person that he encountered with respect. He was this corporate rock star, but you’d never know that if you met him anywhere. He always treated people the way he wanted to be treated. ... It taught me that you have to be great at your craft. You must put your all into your work product every time you do something. But what is equally important is who you are and how you treat people, and you should work hard not to lose that as you work toward your goals.”

One of Montgomery-Reeves’ career aspirations came to fruition recently when she was nominated and unanimously confirmed by the Delaware Senate in October 2015 as a vice chancellor on the Delaware Court of Chancery. She is the first African-American and second woman to serve in this position.

“I was humbled that I was chosen,” she said. “... It’s an area of the law that I really enjoy. So to practice at this level, where I am helping to shape this area of the law – not just in this state, as many states look to Delaware corporate law when they’re deciding how to shape their own law – is humbling and exciting! I’m honored to do this important work and to be able to serve the state that I live in and call home now.”

Her experience to date has been “thrilling,” she said. “... My judicial colleagues have been warm and welcoming, and I inherited talented and passionate law clerks. It’s been a great experience thus far.”

This busy mother of one hopes to continue her work with the court while remembering the lessons she has learned from those who influenced her.

“I am focused on doing my absolute best at being a vice chancellor,” she said. “I strive to be well versed in the law and the facts of each case presented to me. I aim to be prepared. I try to be fair and reasonable. And, I really hope to never forget that I’m dealing with people and to treat them as I would want to be treated.”

Montgomery-Reeves is the first African-American and second woman to serve on the Delaware Court of Chancery.

Catherine Curlet

GEORGIA – AND D.C. – ON HER MIND



Even from the nation's capital, Catherine Henson Curlet (J.D.'11) has kept strong ties to her home state.

After growing up in Atlanta, this oldest of three girls earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from Washington & Lee University, which is located in Lexington, Virginia. During the summer between her junior and senior years, Curlet held an internship in Washington, D.C., with then-Georgia Congressman Johnny Isakson.

After graduation, she had an opportunity to once again work for Isakson, so she made the move to the nation's capital in 2003.

"It was a combination of having this job opportunity and knowing I wanted to have a different experience to broaden my horizons," Curlet said. "... I thought it would be one or two years working for him and was never expecting to love it as much as I did."

During the next five years, Curlet stayed with Isakson as he was elected to the U.S. Senate, and her work for the senator had an added hometown benefit.

"I was in D.C., which was a great place to live and work, but I got to travel back to Georgia while I was working for him," she said.

When it came time to further her education Curlet knew exactly where she wanted to go – back south to Georgia Law, to the same school her grandfather, father, uncle and sister had attended.

While in law school, Curlet was involved in the *Georgia Law Review* and the Appellate Litigation Clinic, which offered her one of her most memorable experiences when, as a third-year student, she briefed a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

"We were scheduled for oral argument, and we drew straws, which I loved this about [Appellate Litigation Clinic Director and] Professor [Erica J.] Hashimoto. She said, 'I'm confident in each of the three of you doing this argument,'" Curlet recalled. "We had varying degrees of oral advocacy experience. I actually didn't have much at all. ... So I appreciated it when she said, 'Any of the three of you can do this, so let's draw straws.'"

Curlet's straw was drawn, and with "rigorous training" and support from members of the law school community, she prepared for the argument and flew to D.C. to advocate before the court (a panel that included Judge Merrick Garland, currently President Barack Obama's U.S. Supreme Court nominee).

Continuous engagement in learning is Curlet's overarching goal.

"I appreciated it at the time, and I knew it was a big deal," Curlet said. "But now, five years out of law school, I realize even more so what an incredible opportunity that was and how lucky I was to be able to do that as such a young attorney."

After graduation, Curlet held two judicial clerkships – with Judge Rosemary M. Collyer on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and with Judge Margaret A. Ryan on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces – which she credits with helping her sharpen her analytical, legal research and writing skills.

In 2013, Curlet accepted a position as an associate with Covington & Burling in its Washington, D.C., office, where she focuses on litigation. Her work there keeps the self-described "intellectually curious" mother of one on her toes.

"It's challenging and it's fast paced. The clients we have present us with very complex problems," she said. "... The work I'm doing here is not dull or boring. Every day I am challenged."

For Curlet, that engagement in learning is a constant goal, regardless of what her physical address is. While she and her family have made Washington, D.C., their current home, she still has ties to the Peach State and the law school through her extended family and her work with Georgia Law's Young Alumni/Alumnae Committee, an experience she described as an "incredible way to stay engaged with the law school."

In fact, when she looks into her future, Curlet said she does not know exactly what it will hold, but she knows that she wants to continue learning through her experiences.

"I want to continue to be intellectually engaged but do work that is meaningful," she said. "I want to do meaningful, impactful work."

Alex and Claire Crumbley

CONTINUING TO HELP OTHERS

Georgia Law 1966 alumnus R. Alexander “Alex” Crumbley has spent much of his life giving back to the citizens of Georgia.

After studying journalism at UGA, he enrolled at Georgia Law.

“I entered the university in 1960 in the fall and stayed there for six years,” he said. “I went to law school after my third year. In those days, you could go and do law school for your senior year if they thought you could do the work.”

Attending college in Athens was an obvious choice for Crumbley.

“I never really considered going anywhere else,” he said. “My father had been there. I always wanted to go to the university in Athens, so there was never any consideration of anything else.”

After graduation Crumbley briefly moved back to Henry County, where he grew up, to practice law with his uncle but soon entered the Air Force National Guard during the Vietnam War. Once he was through basic training, he returned to Georgia, where he met his future wife, Claire, who is from Midland, Texas.

“Claire and I met in Atlanta and decided to get married,” he said. “We lived in Atlanta for 10 years and then moved back [to Henry County] in 1977 and have been here since.”

While in Atlanta, Crumbley took a position with the state attorney general’s office before he joined a law firm with former-Congressman and eventual Georgia Supreme Court Justice Charles L. Weltner.

“Then we moved to McDonough and I set up a public defender’s office for the judicial circuit that at that time had four counties: Henry, Butts, Lamar and Monroe,” Crumbley said. “... And I went around to those counties representing indigent criminal defendants for a year.”

Soon after, he was appointed to a Superior Court judgeship for the Flint Judicial Circuit by then-Gov. George D. Busbee (LL.B.’52). He served on the bench for five years before joining his brother Wade,



a 1977 Georgia Law graduate, and establishing the law firm Crumbley & Crumbley, where they practiced together for more than two decades. During this time, he also served one term as a state senator.

“I’ve been able to do a lot of different things which is good and provided a lot of variety,” he said. “I enjoyed all of it. ... Being a Superior Court judge was the biggest challenge, I suppose, but I decided after I served for five years that I did not want to stay there for my whole career for a lot of reasons, but one of which was I wanted to practice with my brother and I’ve never regretted that decision.”

In his practice, Crumbley said he has primarily helped regular people with “the common problems that ordinary people have” and has enjoyed his career focus.

“I’ve had some rich clients and a lot of poor ones but I’ve never represented any institutional-type clients, mostly just individual people with problems,” he said. “I’ve always tried to make it a job that was geared more toward public service than just trying to make money out of it. The thing I am proudest of is that our law firm produced six judges – two Superior Court judges, three State Court judges and a Probate judge – five of whom are still on the bench today.”

In the 50 years since Crumbley graduated from Georgia Law, he has maintained contact with and helped his alma mater. He and Claire have recently established a fund at the law school to assist a deserving student earn a law degree.

“We were able to endow a scholarship recently and it’s just something that we could do and we hope that it will help somebody afford to go to school,” he said.

The Crumbleys also have both been honored by UGA. Claire is a lifetime master gardener, as granted by the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, and in 2009 Alex was awarded the John Holliman Jr. Award for Lifetime Achievement by the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Alex and Claire Crumbley have one son, a clinical psychologist in New York City, who is married with two daughters.

“I’ve always tried to make it a job that was geared more toward public service than just trying to make money out of it.”

—Alex Crumbley (J.D.’66)

Law School Life



Chaffin celebrates 97th birthday

On Sept. 26, Callaway Chair Emeritus Verner Chaffin (LL.B.'42) (center) celebrated his 97th birthday. A pre-birthday gathering was held on Sept. 12 with Chaffin's wife, Ethel, and family, Dean Bo Rutledge and friends including Larry Walker (J.D.'65) (left) and Bobby Sherrell (J.D.'65).



Law library hosts black history collection

Georgia Law 1983 alumnus Roy Copeland and his wife, Cheryl, loaned the Alexander Campbell King Law Library a portion of their black history artifacts collection, which includes more than 200 items of largely handwritten and printed materials focusing on the slave era, the post-slavery period, sports and entertainment, and Civil Rights. The loan coincided with Black History Month.



Twilight Affair held this spring

William Barwick (J.D.'74) (left), Donna Barwick (J.D.'77) and Georgia Law Dean Bo Rutledge pause for a photo at the law school's 2016 Spring Twilight Affair, which honors JHL Society members. The event was hosted by the Barwicks and Duane Morris LLP.



Alumna presents on campus

Alumna Tess Davis (J.D.'09) presented "Tomb Raiders and Terrorist Financing: Cutting Off the Islamic State's Illicit Traffic in 'Blood Antiquities'" at UGA in April. Davis (second from left), who works at the University of Glasgow, is pictured with first-year students (l. to r.) Hannah Williams, Ava Goble and Karen Hays.

Artwork donated to law school

Betty Foy Sanders, widow of the late Gov. Carl Sanders (J.D.'48), donated a selection of her artwork to the law school. The untitled mixed media piece was inspired by a 2001 trip to Arizona, and it now hangs in the Sanders Deans' Suite entryway in Hirsch Hall.



Conference room named in honor of Wooten

An event in the fall was held to dedicate a Hirsch Hall conference room in honor of Joel Wooten (J.D.'75), who was celebrated by the law school for his outstanding counsel and support of Georgia Law. Photographed at the reception are (l. to r.) UGA President Jere Morehead (J.D.'80), Wooten and Dean Bo Rutledge.

Hanson receives employee award

Georgia Law's Staff Representative Group presented Administrative Associate II Susan M. Hanson with the 2015 Emma Terrell Distinguished Employee Award. The award is given each year to an employee who demonstrates dedication and service to the law school.

Hanson joined Georgia Law in 2014, and she supports the many needs of the eight members of the school's Office of Law School Advancement.

She was recognized for her "strong work ethic, commitment and exceptional job performance." According to written nominations, Hanson's "work product shows great skill. . . . Her work ethic is beyond reproach and she never misses a detail."

Formerly known as the Employee Distinguished Service Award, this honor was renamed in February 2005 in memory of Emma P. Terrell, a longtime employee remembered for her dedication to and enthusiasm for the law school.



Susan Hanson (left) was presented the 2015 Emma Terrell Distinguished Employee Award by Marie Mize, chair of the Law School Staff Representative Group.

Georgia Law Moments

FROM SENIOR DIRECTOR OF LAW SCHOOL ADVANCEMENT ANNE S. MOSER

Each Monday morning, Georgia Law's advancement team gathers around a table in my office. Not only does this provide an opportunity to update one another, but it is the perfect time to share the incredible stories we gather from the road or campus.

Regardless of their origin, these stories – or "Georgia Law Moments" – fuel our team's enthusiasm for the work we do to strengthen the law school. For example:

- the scholarship student who meets the scholarship fund donor over coffee and discovers shared interests – *forming a lasting mentor relationship.*
- an alumna from the New York City area tells of a promotion that will enable her to invest in a newly created scholarship – *crediting her law school education for her success.*
- a volunteer from South Georgia reports a lively phone conversation with a law school applicant from his hometown – *leading to the applicant enrolling in Georgia Law.*
- an alum returns to campus to visit with current and retired faculty to celebrate a faculty award – *witnessing firsthand the return on his investment.*
- a donor in Atlanta discusses the formation of a planned gift that will honor a late friend and mentor – *ensuring a mentor's impact and story will be perpetuated.*

Individually and collectively, these "Georgia Law Moments" enrich our work and, ultimately, your law school. Each one of these moments started with a choice. A choice that somebody made to take time out of their day and connect with a current student personally. A choice to take the time to travel to Athens or even to simply take the time to strategically think about their philanthropy and the impact it could have on others.



Georgia Law's advancement team solicits charitable gifts, creates stewardship opportunities and fosters alumni/alumnae engagement all in support of the school's mission. Our mission – consistent with the University of Georgia's mission – is to teach, to serve and to inquire into the nature of things. And it is because of

the outstanding support the law school receives – of time, talent and treasure – that we are able to prepare our students for successful careers in the law, public service and business; to serve our state and nation through the extensive network of our clinical and experiential learning programs; and to foster our faculty's world-class scholarship that will shape the discourse in communities both near and far.

This past year, the successful Georgia Law Challenge was the backdrop for many of these "Georgia Law Moments." As the advancement team called, wrote, traveled, visited and talked, more and more "Georgia Law Moments" were uncovered. And we collectively exceeded the \$2 million Law School Fund goal. Please know how grateful our students, faculty and staff are to all of those who participated. We will be awarding more scholarship support in the near future than ever before because of you.

Looking ahead, UGA President and Georgia Law graduate Jere Morehead will publicly announce our institution's capital campaign later this year. Please know that your law school will have an important role in this initiative. This campaign will, along with many new "Georgia Law Moments," propel our efforts in the months and years to come and make Georgia Law a law school of unparalleled excellence in educating the legal leaders of tomorrow. The law school advancement team welcomes the opportunity to be a part of and to help shape your "Georgia Law Moment."



ALUMNI/ ALUMNAE WEEKEND



Join us for the 26th Annual

GEORGIA LAW

HOMECOMING

BBQ

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016

Herty Field

Time to be announced when kickoff is determined.



March 17–18, 2017

www.law.uga.edu/upcoming-alumni-events



Ticket sales begin July 5 and end
Sept. 30 at 5:00 p.m.

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NO GLOSS UV ON MAIL PANEL

YOU CAN SUPPORT + ENRICH OUR SCHOOL

BECOME A SUSTAINER

One of the law school's highest fundraising priorities is the growth of the Law School Fund. The majority of the fund supports student scholarships, but it also supports student groups, faculty projects and alumni/alumnae activities.

THE LAW SCHOOL FUND IS OUR LARGEST SINGLE SOURCE OF SCHOLARSHIPS DOLLARS.

Sustainers make convenient, ongoing contributions that are automatically drafted each month. It's an easy and efficient way to support Georgia Law through secure payments from your credit card, debit card or bank account.

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Your gift to the **LAW SCHOOL FUND** can have an immediate impact:

\$840 monthly Provides a **HALF SCHOLARSHIP**

\$600 monthly Supports first-year **ORIENTATION**

\$420 monthly Funds a **QUARTER SCHOLARSHIP**

\$250 monthly Hosts a **NETWORKING EVENT** for students and alumni/alumnae

\$100 monthly Makes **MOCK INTERVIEWS** available for students

\$50 monthly Pays for **ONE STUDENT'S TRAVEL** to a national advocacy competition

\$25 monthly Funds the judicial clerkship program's **NUTS & BOLTS WORKSHOP**

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