Two named full professor

Andrea L. Dennis joined the law school’s faculty in 2010, and her teaching portfolio includes: Criminal Law, Evidence, Criminal Procedure II, Lawyering for Children, Children in the Legal System and Family Law.

Her scholarship explores criminal defense lawyering, race and criminal justice, criminal informants and cooperators, youth advocacy, legal socialization of youth and the cradle-to-prison pipeline. She has published works in the American Criminal Law Review, the Catholic University Law Review, the Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts, the Georgia State Law Review, the Howard Law Journal, Law and Contemporary Problems, the Nebraska Law Review, the Nevada Law Journal and the Journal of Legal Education. She is also the co-author of the book Rap on Trial (The New Press, forthcoming).

State courts nationwide have cited her research on rap lyrics as criminal evidence, and she has been quoted in The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times and Rolling Stone about pending cases concerning the issue.

Hillel Y. Levin, who serves as the director of the school’s Georgia Law in Atlanta program, leads classes in legislation and statutory interpretation, administrative law, constitutional law, education law and policy, and civil procedure.

His work has been published in the Stanford Law Review, the Illinois Law Review, the UC Davis Law Review, the Washington and Lee Law Review, the Administrative Law Review and several other leading journals. In addition, Levin serves on the advisory board of the peer-reviewed Education Law and Policy Review.

He received the law school’s Ellington Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2013, and his innovative teaching methods have been nationally recognized and have earned him invitations to speak at conferences about teaching practical lawyering skills within the doctrinal classroom.

Cade awarded title of associate professor

Jason A. Cade, who joined UGA in the fall of 2013, teaches Immigration Law and leads the school’s Community Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Clinic, in which law students partner with local medical providers to help low-income persons in Athens address health-harming legal needs, including immigration, public benefits and disability rights.

Cade’s scholarship explores intersections between immigration enforcement and criminal law, the role of prosecutorial discretion in the modern immigration system and judicial review of deportation procedures. His articles have been published in the UC Davis Law Review, the Fordham Law Review, the New York University Law Review Online, the Tulane Law Review, the Columbia Law Review Sidebar and the Cardozo Law Review.

Librarians promoted

Thomas “T.J.” Striepe and Jason Tubinis were promoted earlier this year from Law Librarian II to Law Librarian III.

Striepe, who serves as the faculty services librarian, teaches the courses Legal Research, Advanced Legal Research and Business Law Research. As faculty services librarian, he serves as the primary liaison between the law library and the faculty and manages the Current Awareness Program, which helps faculty stay informed of new developments in their fields. In addition, he supervises the library’s Research Assistant Program, a resource faculty members utilize for short-term projects. Striepe joined the staff of the Alexander Campbell King Law Library in 2011.

Tubinis has served as the information technology librarian for the law library team since 2010. He leads courses for law students in the areas of legal research as well as research and technology skills to make Georgia lawyers successful. In his IT role, he is responsible for researching and implementing new library and legal education technologies, troubleshooting software and hardware problems, and maintaining the library’s pages on the law school’s website. He also assists with the administration of GAVEL (the law library’s automated catalog system).
A commitment to intellectual engagement & thought leadership

INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

Diane Marie Amann, who is the holder of the Woodruff Chair in International Law, continues to expand her influence in international legal circles.

In her capacity as special adviser on children in armed conflict to the International Criminal Court prosecutor, she helped draft the Policy on Children of the ICC Office of the Prosecutor and took part in the November launch of that policy at The Hague. She also has accepted an invitation to serve on the advisory panel of the International Inquiry on Protecting Children in Conflict, chaired by Gordon Brown, the former British prime minister and current United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education.

In the spring 2018 semester, Amann will conduct research on the experiences of women who participated in post–World War II international criminal trials at Nuremberg. She will spend January in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research, which awarded her its inaugural Breslauer, Rutman and Anderson Research Fellowship. From March through June, she will be at Oxford University in England, serving as a Visiting Researcher at the law faculty’s Bonavero Institute of Human Rights and a Visiting Fellow at Mansfield College, which houses the institute.

Harlan G. Cohen was named the inaugural holder of the Wilner/UGA Foundation Professorship in International Law in December.

Cohen, who specializes in international law, has had his work published in the George Washington, Tulane, Iowa and New York University law reviews and the Yale, Berkeley, NYU and Michigan journals of international law. Recently, he was elected to the board of editors of the American Journal of International Law.

He has worked hard to expand the field of international law and draw new voices into its ranks through his role as managing editor of AJIL Unbound – the online extension of the American Journal of International Law, as co-chair of the American Society of International Law’s 106th Annual Meeting, as founding co-chair of ASIL-Southeast, and as a co-chair of the Junior International Law Scholars Association.

Named in memory of former Associate Dean and holder of the Kirbo Chair of Law Gabriel M. Wilner, who was a member of the Georgia Law faculty for more than 35 years, Cohen’s professorship was created through a gift from Georgia Law alumnus Kenneth “Ken” Klein (J.D.'76) and matching funds from the UGA Foundation.

As you will read on the next several pages, the School of Law faculty is actively involved in cutting-edge scholarship in a host of settings. From banking law to law and religion, administrative law to international criminal law, and private equity to mass torts, our faculty’s research truly spans the globe and reaches every facet of modern life. These contributions to the intellectual life of our state, nation and international community are a manifestation of our core values: a commitment to intellectual engagement and thought leadership. I am proud of my role as champion and cheerleader for the amazing work of my Georgia Law colleagues, and I am pleased to celebrate their accomplishments with you.

—Associate Dean for Faculty Development Usha Rodrigues
Distinguished Research Professor & Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law Emeritus Walter Hellerstein continues to be recognized as an authority on international cross-border tax issues, particularly in the area of consumption taxes. During the 2016–17 academic year, he served as a panelist at two plenary sessions of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s Global Forum on VAT and participated in two meetings of the Technical Advisory Group to the OECD’s Working Party 9 on Consumption Taxes. Additionally, he presented “Dispute Resolution and Dispute Prevention under the EU VAT: A Global Perspective” at a conference titled “The Court of Justice of the European Union: Recent VAT Case Law” held at the Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law.

Hellerstein, who is highly regarded for his expertise on state and local taxation, also presented “Top Ten U.S. Supreme Court Cases Everyone Should Know” at the 67th Midyear Conference of the Tax Executives Institute in Washington, D.C., and served as a panelist for “Tax Administration in an Anti-Tax Environment” at a meeting of the Tax Section of the American Bar Association.

She also organized a conference on the policy and operational aspects of postal banking last fall that was sponsored by the law school and hosted at the headquarters of Americans for Financial Reform in Washington, D.C. Of special note, this event was supported by the UGA President’s Venture Fund.

Baradaran is a frequent commentator in the media regarding postal banking and the unbanked. Over the last 12 months, she has been featured in The Washington Post, MarketWatch, NerdWallet, the Observer, Digiday and Mother Jones as well as on National Public Radio and PBS’ “Moyers & Company.”

The current holder of the law school’s Shackelford Distinguished Professorship in Taxation Law, Gregg D. Polsky provided expert commentary this past academic year to several high profile media outlets. He was featured in The Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times and International Business Times regarding tax and private equity issues.

The co-author of the casebook Federal Income Taxation: Cases and Materials, Polsky was ranked 25th for all-time Social Science Research Network downloads in a March ranking of U.S. tax law professors. His co-authored article “The Up-C Revolution” was accepted for publication in the Tax Law Review, the leading and peer-reviewed tax journal published by the New York University School of Law.

Earlier this year, he was elected as a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel, a not-for-profit professional association of a maximum of 700 tax lawyers in private practice, in law school teaching positions and in government who are recognized for their excellence in tax practice and for their substantial contributions and commitment to the profession.

He was also an invited speaker at the law schools of the University of Pennsylvania; the University of Virginia; Duke University; the University of California, Irvine; Washington and Lee University; the University of Florida and Loyola Law School, Los Angeles. Additionally, he made CLE presentations at the Estate Planning Institute and the Florida Tax Institute.

THOUGHT LEADERS IN THE NEWS

Hosch Associate Professor Mehrsa Baradaran continues to be a leading advocate for those who are underbanked in America. Her acclaimed 2015 book, How the Other Half Banks, is being followed by The Color of Money: Black Banking and the Racial Wealth Gap this fall.

Recently, she was selected to present a portion of her forthcoming book The Color of Money at the 2017 Stanford/Harvard/Yale Junior Faculty Forum. She has delivered presentations on her books to academic audiences at the Harvard University, Duke University, College of William and Mary, Fordham University and Vanderbilt University law schools.
The co-author of Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change, Lori A. Ringhand has been a sought-after expert by members of the media over the past 12 months. Speaking on the confirmation hearings for Neil Gorsuch to the U.S. Supreme Court, she has been featured in The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, U.S. News & World Report, Newsweek and on Al Jazeera and various radio programs throughout the country.


During the 2016–17 academic year, Ringhand, who serves as the law school’s associate dean for academic affairs and holds a Hosch Professorship, delivered the keynote address at the Brigham Young University Law School’s Supreme Court Review held in conjunction with Constitution Day. Her talk focused on Merrick Garland’s nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

SCHOLARS SERVING STATE AND SOCIETY

Associate Professor Kent Barnett co-authored what has been referred to as a “pathbreaking study” on the 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision Chevron U.S.A. v. Natural Resources Defense Council, which will be published in the Michigan Law Review. He and his co-author examined more than 1,500 agency interpretations that the circuit courts reviewed from 2003 to 2013 and determined, contrary to earlier limited findings, that judicial deference doctrines appear to matter. He presented their findings, highlighted in The National Law Journal, at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools.

During the 2016–17 academic year, he also presented his article “Against Administrative Judges,” appearing in the UC Davis Law Review, at the Annual Meeting of the Federal Administrative Law Judges Conference and the American Bar Association’s Administrative Law Conference.

Recently, Barnett was granted tenure at UGA, and he was named to the executive committee of the AALS Administrative Law Section. Thus far this year, his work has been published in the Missouri Law Review, the George Washington Law Review Arguendo and the Vanderbilt Law Review En Banc.

Elizabeth Chamblee Burch, the holder of the law school’s Kirbo Chair, was an invited speaker at several key venues during the 2016–17 academic year. She presented “The Future of Aggregate Litigation in the Federal Courts: The Academic and the Judiciary’s Perspective” at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania’s judicial retreat and “Publicly Funded Objectors” at the Fifty Years of Class Actions conference held at Tel Aviv University. She also shared portions of her forthcoming book Mass Tort Deals: Backroom Bargaining in Multidistrict Litigation at the University of California, Hastings College of Law; the George Washington University Law School and the Elon University School of Law.

This year, the U.S. House of Representatives solicited her views on class action proceedings, and she has been featured in The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Reuters, Bloomberg, Law360 and The National Law Journal in addition to appearing on NPR’s “Morning Edition.” The wide range of topics she addressed included issues such as the Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act, the NFL concussion and Trump University settlements, Johnson & Johnson’s product liability and Volkswagen emissions cases, cognitive diversity and multidistrict litigation, and contract disputes during litigation funding.

Her recent work appears in the Vanderbilt Law Review and the Cornell Law Review.

SCHOLARLY HONORS

Assistant Professor Nathan S. Chapman was selected as the winner of the inaugural Harold Berman Prize for his article “The Establishment Clause, State Action, and Town of Greece” in 24 William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal 405 (2015). The Association of American Law Schools Section on Law and Religion created the honor to recognize untenured scholars on the tenure track for excellence in law and religion scholarship.

Chapman writes on the history of due process, religious liberty, and Christian theology and law. He is currently working on a book exploring how due process has evolved through a process of ongoing political contestation over the past 200 years to encompass procedural rights, bureaucratic norms, fundamental privacy rights and jurisdictional limits. His article “Due Process Abroad,” forthcoming in the Northwestern Law Review, argues that due process was coextensive with federal law enforcement in the early years of the American republic.

Hosch Professor Elizabeth Weeks (J.D.’99) was recently counted among the most-cited health law scholars from 2010 to 2014, according to a law faculty citation analysis published on the Harvard Law School Petrie-Flom Center’s Bill of Health blog.


Over the past 12 months, Weeks has delivered presentations at the Harvard Law School, the Emory University School of Law, the Boston University School of Law, the University of Houston Law Center, the Marquette Law School and the Indiana University School of Law.

In 2005, she was recognized as one of four emerging health law scholars nationwide by the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics with its Health Law Scholars Award.

Sonja B. West received the National Communication Association’s 2016 Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression.

This honor is given annually to a NCA member who has authored outstanding published research on freedom of expression over the prior three years. West was recognized for her article “Press Exceptionalism” in 127 *Harvard Law Review* 2434 (2014).

Additionally, in December, West was named the inaugural holder of the Brumbly Distinguished Professorship in First Amendment Law, a post shared by the law school and UGA’s Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. This professorship was created by the late Otis A. Brumby Jr., a Georgia Law 1965 graduate who desired to help law and journalism students better understand the importance of First Amendment guarantees.

West has written and spoken extensively about legal protections for the press. Earlier this academic year, she was invited to address more than 100 judges from 19 European countries on the issue of press and court communication at the Annual European Conference on Courts and Communication in Hungary. She frequently commentates for various news media outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The National Law Journal* and National Public Radio, among others.

School receives $50,000 grant

Associate Dean for Faculty Development Usha Rodrigues, Law Library Director Carol A. Watson (J.D. ’87) and Faculty Services Librarian Thomas “T.J.” Striepe worked with the Terry College of Business to secure an approximately $50,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

This money will provide for the design of an open-source, open government digital transparency platform that will offer data access to and visualization of the U.S. legislative process. This interactive, informative tool will aid citizens in becoming more engaged, allowing them to form their opinions on legislation in a quick, fact-based and safe online environment.

By combining text analysis, network analysis and visualization, the project will provide insights into how libraries can take on new roles supporting access to government and legislative information and data.

Five law faculty recognized

Five faculty members were honored by the 2016–17 School of Law student body. They are: Hosch Associate Professor Mehrsa Baradaran (second from left) and Georgia Athletic Association Professor David Shipley (center) as graduation marshals, Cleveland Distinguished Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism Lonnie Brown (right) with the Student Bar Association Professionalism Award, University Professor and Caldwell Chair in Constitutional Law Dan Coenen with the Ellington Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Associate Dean and Hosch Professor Lori Ringhand with the O’Byrne Memorial Award for Significant Contributions Furthering Student-Faculty Relations.