Faculty Notes

The following summarizes the scholarly productivity of Georgia Law’s distinguished faculty during the calendar year 2014 and year-to-date 2015.

Diane Marie Amann

Peter A. Appel

Mehrsa Baradaran

Kent H. Barnett

Randy Beck

Elizabeth Chamblee Burch

Law school hosts high profile conferences

This academic year, Georgia Law played host to three distinguished groups of scholars, each with a different focus.

The Seventh Annual Junior Faculty Federal Courts Workshop, held in the fall, paired senior scholars with junior scholars presenting works-in-progress on topics relating to the federal courts, civil rights litigation, civil procedure and other associated topics. Assistant Professor Kent H. Barnett and Associate Professor Matthew I. Hall were key figures in organizing this gathering.

In March, the law school hosted the Annual Retreat for the Law and Entrepreneurship Association. Since 2008, the retreat has served as a forum for like-minded individuals to gather and discuss research and recent developments in the important areas of entrepreneurship and business law. Associate Dean for Faculty Development Usha Rodrigues, who served as president of the group for the 2014–15 academic year, was instrumental in bringing this group to Athens.

Also in the spring, members of the Association for Law, Property and Society came to the UGA campus for their annual meeting. Martin Chair James C. “Jim” Smith, who serves as president-elect of the association, convened more than 140 scholars from around the world who are conducting interdisciplinary research on all aspects of property law, policy and theory — including real, personal, intellectual, intangible, cultural and other forms of property.

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Faculty Colloquium Series

Colloquium brings scholars to campus

Georgia Law hosts the Faculty Colloquium Series each year, where legal academics from around the world come to the law school and present their current research to faculty. This forum greatly enhances the scholarly atmosphere at the school and fosters relationships with other institutions. With funding from the school’s Kirbo Trust Endowed Faculty Fund and the Talmadge Law Faculty Fund, the following presenters came to Athens during the 2014–15 academic year.

Ronald L. Carlson

Nathan S. Chapman

Dan T. Coenen

Harlan G. Cohen

Julian A. Cook III

Andrea L. Dennis


Jaime L. Dodge

Thomas A. Eaton

Thompson rejoins faculty

Earlier this spring, Larry D. Thompson returned to the Georgia Law faculty as the Sibley Professor in Corporate and Business Law. He was on temporary leave from the law school for the past two years as he rejoined PepsiCo as its executive vice president of government affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary. Thompson is the former deputy attorney general for the United States. He will teach in the areas of business crimes and corporate responsibility.
Amann and Rodrigues named associate deans

Earlier this year, Diane Marie Amann was named the law school’s associate dean for international programs and strategic initiatives, while Usha Rodrigues was appointed associate dean for faculty development.

As associate dean for international programs and strategic initiatives, Amann will oversee collaborations between the Dean Rusk Center for International Law and Policy and the law school’s faculty and students. Amann will also assist the law school with strategic initiatives such as growing its LLM program, strengthening partnerships with foreign universities and beginning work on the school’s next strategic plan.

Amann joined the Georgia Law faculty in the fall of 2011 as the holder of the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Chair in International Law, which she still occupies. She is an affiliated faculty member of UGA’s African Studies Institute and serves as the International Criminal Court prosecutor’s special adviser on children in and affected by armed conflict.

The author of approximately 50 publications in English, French and Italian, Amann’s scholarship focuses on the ways that national, regional and international legal regimes interact as they endeavor to combat atrocity and cross-border crime. She is editor-in-chief of the American Society of International Law Benchbook on International Law.

Prior to coming to Georgia Law, Amann was a professor of law, the founding director of the California International Law Center and a Martin Luther King Jr. Hall Research Scholar at the University of California, Davis. She was an assistant federal public defender, a solo federal criminal defense practitioner and a litigation associate at Morrison & Foerster. She also served as a judicial clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and Judge Prentice H. Marshall of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Amann holds a Dr.h.c. degree in law from Universiteit Utrecht in the Netherlands. She earned her J.D. cum laude from Northwestern University, where she served as a note and comment editor of the Northwestern University Law Review and was inducted into the Order of the Coif, her M.A. in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her B.S. in journalism, with highest honors, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

As associate dean for faculty development, Rodrigues will work closely with the law school’s faculty, especially its untenured professors, to expand and promote scholarly activities.

Rodrigues joined Georgia Law in the fall of 2005 and was named the holder of the M.E. Kilpatrick Chair of Corporate Finance and Securities Law in 2014. Her work has appeared in the Virginia, Illinois, Minnesota, Fordham, Emory, Florida, Kentucky and Washington and Lee law reviews. She has also published in online fora of the Vanderbilt, UCLA, Texas and Harvard Business law reviews and in the peer-reviewed Journal of Corporate Finance.

Prior to coming to Athens, she was a corporate associate with Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Reston, Virginia, where she specialized in corporate law and technology transactions. She also served as a judicial law clerk to Judge Thomas L. Ambro of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit.

Rodrigues earned her bachelor’s degree summa cum laude from Georgetown University, her master’s degree in comparative literature summa cum laude from the University of Wisconsin and her Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia, where she served as editor-in-chief of the Virginia Law Review and was inducted into the Order of the Coif.

Matthew I. Hall

Erica J. Hashimoto

Walter Hellerstein

Fazal Khan

Eleanor Crosby Lanier
“First Do No Harm” in 3 Experience 23 (2015).
Assistant Professor Kent H. Barnett’s article “The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s Appointment with Trouble” (60 American University Law Review 1459 (2011)) was cited by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. The court referred to the article as “offering legitimate and serious analysis” on separation of powers questions surrounding the Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s structure.

Callaway Chair Emeritus Ronald L. Carlson was awarded a faculty medallion from the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education in Georgia. The medallion is given to conference speakers who have obtained an evaluation rating of 4.5 or more on a 5-point scale at least three or more times from conference attendees.

Assistant Professor Nathan S. Chapman’s article “Due Process as Separation of Powers” (121 Yale Law Review 1672 (2012) (with M. McConnell)) was cited by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas in his concurring opinion in Department of Transportation et al. v. Association of American Railroads.

Assistant Professor Jaime L. Dodge served as the reporter for Duke University School of Law’s Multi-District Litigation Best Practices Conference in Washington, D.C., in the fall. This invitation-only conference brought together dozens of current District Court and Court of Appeals judges as well as the most prominent multi-district litigation attorneys from both the plaintiffs’ and defense bars.

Associate Professor Matthew I. Hall’s article “Standing of Intervenor-Defendants in Public Law Litigation” (80 Fordham Law Review 1539, 1542 (2012)) was cited by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York in Floyd and Ligon v. the City of New York, which concerns the New York Police Department’s “stop and frisk” policy.

Distinguished Research Professor & Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law Walter Hellerstein’s treatise on state taxation was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in Alabama Department of Revenue v. CSX Transportation, Inc. The Supreme Court referenced his work as follows: “As one treatise has observed, we recognize a ‘wide latitude state legislatures enjoy in drawing tax classifications under the Equal Protection Clause.’” 71 U.S. At 115–116. This includes the power to impose ‘widely different taxes on various trades or professions.’” Id., at 3–5 to 3–6. This same treatise was also cited four times by the Supreme Court of Oregon in the course of its opinion in Powerex Corp. v. Department of Revenue, 357 Or. 40 (2015), which addressed the attribution of sales of natural gas and electricity for state corporate income tax purposes.

Associate Professor Hillel Y. Levin has been selected to serve on Transfers of the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia Legal Committee for the 2015–16 term.

Associate Professor Timothy Meyer’s book Goldilocks Globalism: The Rise of Soft Law in International Governance was the focus of a Temple University Beasley School of Law roundtable conference in the fall.

Associate Professor Lisa Milot’s article “What Are We – Laborers, Factories or Spare Parts? The Tax Treatment of Transfers of Human Body Materials” (67 Washington and Lee Law Review 1053 (2010)) was cited by the U.S. Tax Court in Perez v. Commissioner, a case concerning the proper taxation of proceeds from egg donation.

Hochs Professor Lori A. Ringhand participated in an “Author Meets Critics” panel at the American Political Science Association’s annual conference in Washington, D.C. The panel was convened to discuss her book Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change. This coauthored title was named a 2014 Outstanding Academic Title by Choice, a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Dean Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge has been named to the Social Science Research Network advisory board. The SSRN is devoted to the rapid worldwide dissemination of social science research and is composed of a number of specialized research networks in each of the social sciences.

Georgia Athletic Association Professor David E. Shipley was named an ex-officio voting trustee of the UGA Foundation.

Martin Chair James C. “Jim” Smith was named president-elect of the Association for Law, Property and Society. ALPS is an organization for scholars conducting interdisciplinary legal scholarship on all aspects of property law, policy and theory. He will serve as the organization’s president during 2015–16.

Alan Watson, retired Distinguished Research Professor, received an honorary professorship from the University of Edinburgh. A title conferred only on individuals of high academic distinction, the professorship will run for 10 years and will require Watson to give lectures and seminars at the university.

Law Library Director Carol A. Watson (J.D./7) was recognized by the American Association of Law Libraries’ Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section with the Outstanding Article Award for her work “The Open Access Advantage for American Law Reviews” in 3A Edison: Law and Technology 1 (2015) (with J. Donovan and C. Osborne).

Additionally, two Georgia Law librarians’ scholarship has been selected for an award. Law Library Director Carol A. Watson (J.D./7) and Faculty Services Librarian Thomas “T.J.” Striepe published chapters in Law Librarianship in the Digital Age, which was presented the American Association of Law Libraries Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award.
Georgia Law bids farewell to longtime colleagues

Hosch Professor Thomas A. Eaton retired on May 31 after serving on the law school’s faculty for more than 35 years. Eaton taught courses in torts, constitutional litigation, health care regulation and workers’ compensation. He said that teaching first-year students has been a great joy. “I love their enthusiasm. I love observing them grow during the first year, and I love the lasting relationships we form.”

Eaton added that he is proud of the role he played in getting the mock trial program, the Equal Justice Foundation and the Joseph Henry Lumpkin American Inn of Court “up and running” at the law school.

On the scholarship front, he hopes the empirical studies he worked on with UGA’s Saye Professor of American Government and Constitutional Law and Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor Susette M. Talarico and Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor David B. Mustard “added something new” and “important to our understanding of how the tort and workers’ compensation systems actually operate.” In 2003, Eaton became the only law professor to be presented with a UGA Creative Research Medal, which was awarded for his systematic and in-depth study of tort litigation with Talarico (who has since passed away).

Eaton’s law school service will continue as he will become a member of the Board of Visitors in the fall.

He added that he and his wife, Joanna, plan to continue living in Athens and anticipate spending more time visiting their grandchildren in Florida. He also plans to spend some time on the golf course feeding his newfound “addiction.”

Maria Eugenia Giménez (LL.M.’89), associate director of the Dean Rusk Center for International Law and Policy, retired after 16 years of service on March 31.

Giménez developed and directed three major programs at Georgia Law: the International Judicial Training Program, which had more than 1,000 participants from the judiciaries of Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Liberia and the United Arab Emirates since its inception; the Global Internship Program, which places Georgia Law students in legal summer internships with more than 80 organizations in 35 countries throughout the world (geographically, this is the largest program of its kind at UGA); and the Transnational Law Program, which was created in 2013 and brings foreign law students to Athens for one to two weeks to study different areas of international and American law.

Giménez said establishing a Georgia Law presence in more than 100 organizations in 40 countries on five continents was among her biggest accomplishments during her tenure. “It makes me very happy to leave this legacy to future generations of lawyers.”

At present she intends to continue residing in Athens, but will embark on “a long list of international trips” as she begins her retirement.

Walter Hellerstein, the Shackelford Distinguished Professor in Taxation Law and Distinguished Research Professor, retired May 31 after 37 years at the law school.

Although he will no longer be teaching, Hellerstein said he will “remain active in the research, writing and related activities” that occupied most of his academic career. “These include, most importantly, the ‘care and feeding’ of my two-volume treatise, State Taxation, and my work as an academic adviser to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris in connection with the development of the International VAT/GST Guidelines.”

Hellerstein indicated his immediate post-retirement agenda is full of commitments that include, in addition to work at the OECD in Paris, speaking at the first General Session of the Southeastern Association of Tax Administrators (to be opened by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal) in Atlanta during July, presenting a paper on the International VAT/GST Guidelines at the University of Florida College of Law’s International Tax Symposium in Gainesville during October and presenting a paper on specialized tax courts in multijurisdictional systems at a conference at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (where he will also teach a course on comparative cross-border direct and indirect taxation in the digital age) in Austria during December.

C. Donald Johnson (J.D.’73) will retire on July 31 after directing the efforts of the Dean Rusk Center for International Law and Policy for more than one decade.

The center made significant strides in fulfilling its mission of increasing the understanding of global legal and policy issues during Johnson’s tenure. Key highlights include the expansion of summer legal study and work abroad opportunities for Georgia Law students and the 2008 roundtable “The Report of the Secretaries of State: Bipartisan Advice to the Next Administration” featuring former U.S. Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger, James Baker, Warren Christopher, Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell (which Johnson said was one of his greatest memories during his directorship).

Johnson added that he will miss his interactions with students on international trade policy issues and on related career opportunities. “I learned the importance of mentoring from Dean Rusk when I was his student here in the 1970s. His advice has been invaluable to me throughout my career, and I hope some of my counsel to students has been of value.”

Johnson plans to continue living in Hart County, where his family has resided since before the American Revolution. He also plans to spend time on professional matters in Washington, D.C., and to publish his almost completed book that is a comprehensive narrative of U.S. trade policy from the Revolutionary Era to the creation of the modern multilateral trade regime under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization. He currently has two other books on public policy issues in the works.
Family Violence Clinic for 14 years, left the managing attorney of the law school’s attorney at the Athens-Clarke County full-time job. “I tried to model what it was like to juggle careers. “As a professional and a mother, and to try to balance their lives and their students to think about their health and their communities. “ they are making a tremendous impact in the world of violence in various capacities. I know that she has mentored around 200 students during her time at Georgia Law.

She said many of her students “have continued to use the knowledge and skills that they learned at the clinic and have gone on to work with victims of domestic violence in various capacities. I know that they are making a tremendous impact in their communities.”

She added that she also tried to get her students to think about their health and to try to balance their lives and their careers. “As a professional and a mother, I tried to model what it was like to juggle a job and the daily demands of my other full-time job.”

Presently, Schaffer is the staff attorney at the Athens-Clarke County Probate Court working with Judge Susan P. Tate (J.D.’75).

Susan G. Schaffer, who served as the managing attorney of the law school’s Family Violence Clinic for 14 years, left the law school on January 9.

Under her supervision, law students helped victims of abuse gain access to the legal system in Athens-Clarke and Oconee counties while developing their interviewing, case preparation, counseling and advocacy skills. Schaffer estimates that she mentored around 200 students during her time at Georgia Law.

Thank you for your service.

Elizabeth Weeks Leonard (J.D.’99)

“The Fragility of the Affordable Care Act’s Universal Coverage Strategy” in 46 University of Toledo Law Review (forthcoming 2015); and

Hillel Y. Levin


Timothy Meyer


Joseph S. Miller


Lisa Milot


Carol Morgan (J.D.’79)


Lori A. Ringhand


Usha Rodrigues


Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge


Thank you for your service.

Georgia Law
Introducing two new legal research and writing instructors

Georgia Law welcomed two legal research and writing instructors in the fall: Georgia Law 1998 alumnus Patrick D. Conner and Susannah P. Mroz. Both also lead courses in document drafting, concentrating in contracts and litigation, in addition to teaching legal research and writing.

Conner previously worked for 14 years as an attorney with Morgan, Lewis and Bockius in Washington, D.C., where he was promoted to partner in 2007. At the firm, he specialized in high-stakes litigation and regulatory investigations. He also worked with Fellow, Johnson & La Briola in Atlanta from 1998 to 2000, where he primarily focused on commercial cases in federal and state courts.

Conner’s work has been published in Investment Lawyer, and he has been quoted in Investment Adviser Week as well as the Washington Post.

He earned his bachelor's degree cum laude and with honors in 1995 and his Juris Doctor cum laude in 1998, both from UGA.

Mroz came to UGA with six years of experience as a lawyer specializing in labor and employment law. Most recently a law clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge Karla R. Spaulding of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Mroz has also practiced with Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart and Ice Miller, both located in Indianapolis.

She is the author of several articles that have appeared in publications such as The Federal Lawyer, the Inside Edge E-Newsletter, QuickCounsel and BizVoice.

Mroz earned her J.D. summa cum laude from the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis, where she served as executive articles editor for the Indiana Law Review. Prior to law school, she pursued graduate work at Duke University and was a graduate teaching assistant at the Duke University Divinity School. Her B.A. is from Calvin College.

Margaret V. Sachs


Logan E. Sawyer III


Alexander W. Scherr

Editor of and contributing author to Learning from Practice, 3d ed. (Thomson West, forthcoming 2015).

David E. Shipley


James C. Smith


Larry D. Thompson