



Done at the City of Washington this fifth day of May in the year of our Lord Two thousand and sixteen and of the Independence of the United States the two hundred and fortieth.

BARACK OBAMA
President

Appellate Litigation Clinic secures clemency grant

Earlier this year, students and professors in Georgia Law's Appellate Litigation Clinic had a profound and lasting impact on a client's life when President Barack Obama granted a clemency petition they prepared.

The clinic first began work on Georgia native Steven B. Boyd's case in 2013 when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit referred the matter. Then-students Anne Horn Baroody (J.D.'14) and Bryan W. Lutz (J.D.'14) initially litigated the matter before the 11th Circuit, which remanded the case to the District Court for the Southern District of Georgia to decide a procedural question. After litigation on that question proved unsuccessful, then-students Elliott R. Gillooly (J.D.'15) and Matthew C. Mikkelsen (J.D.'15) and current third-year students Elliott C. Ream and Taylor Strickland prepared the clemency petition.

Boyd's story exemplifies the importance of sentencing reform efforts and having committed legal advocates representing indigent prisoners, according to clinic supervisors Erica J. Hashimoto and Thomas V. Burch.

"The clinic was appointed to represent Mr. Boyd in habeas proceedings and pardon came as a result of a clemency petition filed on his behalf," the professors said. "Prior to the involvement of the clinic, Mr. Boyd was representing himself as he did not have the means to retain private counsel."

Boyd's life sentence resulted largely from the quantity of drugs possessed by those he was associated with and from the

presence of two prior convictions for the possession and sale of cocaine, according to Hashimoto and Burch. The two prior convictions were subsequently overturned, but at the time they gave the prosecutor discretion to ask for a sentencing enhancement that led to the mandatory-minimum life sentence without parole. Even though the prior convictions were later vacated, Boyd's subsequent petitions to correct his federal sentence were denied.

"This was despite the fact that Mr. Boyd had changes in case law on his side," Hashimoto said.

The changes in law along with the discretionary sentencing enhancement were key arguments in the clinic's successful clemency petition. But Burch said they were secondary to Boyd's lack of violent history and his ability to avoid disciplinary infractions for the 18-plus years he was behind bars.

"Mr. Boyd met all of the president's conditions for clemency. No violent history before being incarcerated. No violent history while incarcerated, and he was serving an overly harsh sentence for a nonviolent crime. He deserved sentencing relief," Burch added.

When Boyd is released, he will have served more than 18 years for crimes that under today's federal sentencing guidelines would have resulted in a maximum sentence of 15 years and 8 months.

He plans to live with his daughter and two grandsons, who, as the daughter explained in a letter to President Obama, "love him dearly and cry every visitation because he is not leaving with us."

Boyd will officially be released in September.

Clinic gains victories in the 11th Circuit

Appellate Litigation Clinic students also made a difference briefing and arguing other cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit.

Corey J. Goerdts (J.D.'15) and Nicola M. Rossi (J.D.'15) earned a victory for their client in the case of *Brooks v. Warden, et al.* After full briefing and oral argument, the court reversed the district court, concluding that the plaintiff may proceed with his claim alleging a violation of his § 1983 Eighth Amendment right to basic sanitation.

In *Ace Patterson v. Secretary, Florida Dept. of Corrections* Maria Rivera-Diaz (J.D.'15) and Zachary J. "Zack" Kelehear (J.D.'15) briefed the case, with Rivera-Diaz presenting oral argument before the court. Agreeing with the arguments raised by the clinic, the court held that a habeas petition filed by Patterson was not barred as "second or successive."

Elite fellowship created

ALSTON FELLOWS TO RECEIVE FULL-TUITION-PLUS SCHOLARSHIP

Georgia Law has established an elite fellowship program as a result of a \$2 million founding gift from The John N. Goddard Foundation. Initially, the program will allow three students each year to receive a unique law school educational experience including domestic and international externships and guided research experiences, opportunities to meet some of the country's top legal leaders and a full-tuition scholarship.

"Enhancing graduate and professional education is a priority of the University of Georgia," UGA President Jere W. Morehead (J.D.'80) said. "The Distinguished Law Fellows program will help us to further this goal while honoring one of our most accomplished alumni. We are grateful to the Goddard Foundation for their support."

Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said this fellowship program will attract the best and brightest to Athens for law school and will place Georgia Law among a small group of institutions offering full-tuition-plus law school scholarships. "I am thankful to the Goddard Foundation for their generous leadership gift that will make this new level of legal education possible at Georgia Law."

The Distinguished Law Fellows program is modeled after the university's prestigious Foundation Fellows program, which was established in 1972. The initial fellows of the law school's program will be known as Philip H. Alston, Jr. Distinguished Law Fellows and will be announced later this year.

Benefits of being an Alston Distinguished Law Fellow will include:

- A professional development stipend to be used at the end of the fellow's first and second years of law school for summer externships, study abroad offerings or research projects.
- Special travel opportunities to meet some of the nation's foremost legal advocates and jurists, including U.S. Supreme Court justices. The law school's dean will serve as the guide for at least one of these trips.
- A full-tuition scholarship.



The first Distinguished Law Fellows will be named in honor of the late Philip H. Alston, Jr.

Robert G. "Bob" Edge, legal counsel for the Goddard Foundation and senior counsel at the law firm Alston & Bird, said the trustees of the Goddard Foundation, all but one of whom are children or grandchildren of Elkin Goddard Alston and Philip H. Alston, Jr., are pleased to help launch this significant new program at Georgia Law.

"Just as the Foundation Fellows program for undergraduates has helped attract many of our nation's most outstanding college-bound students to UGA, the Goddard Foundation trustees believe that the new Distinguished Law Fellows program can do the same for the law school," Edge said. "It is very fitting that the first of these law fellowships will bear the name of Philip Alston, Jr., because he was so devoted to the university that he served so well in so many capacities and because he, as the head of

a major law firm himself, recognized that making the School of Law excellent in every way was vitally important to our state and region – and to his beloved alma mater."

Rutledge added that it is his goal and the Goddard Foundation's desire that the Distinguished Law Fellows program be expanded to allow for other named fellows so that Georgia's flagship law school can offer future legal leaders of the state and nation a premium level of support and unrivaled learning opportunities.

"This fellowship program represents a new phase in legal education that is focused on a quality education, professional development and an enhanced student experience," Rutledge said. "It will aid in the attraction of outstanding students with the potential for leadership and service as exemplified by the career of Philip Alston."

Alston, who passed away in 1988, was a confidant of former President Jimmy Carter and a former ambassador to Australia. He was a leading member of the State Bar of Georgia; helped to form one of the country's most prominent law firms, Alston & Bird; and was an innovative leader at UGA especially with regard to the university's foundation.

The Distinguished Law Fellows program, similar to UGA's Foundation Fellows initiative, makes a new level of legal education possible.



School launches Atlanta program

“... provides access to an impressive array of civil practice settings and opens up new opportunities for professional networking.”

—Atlanta Director Hillel Levin

Georgia Law has expanded its footprint to include the state’s capital with its Atlanta Semester in Practice. The new program offers students full-time, practical lawyering experience through externship placements in the judicial, governmental, corporate and nonprofit arenas. As part of the externship course, students take a clinical seminar and also take upper-level courses at the school’s facility in Atlanta, allowing them to earn a total of up to 16 credits for a semester.

Georgia Law in Atlanta Director and Associate Professor Hillel Y. Levin said this program is a terrific opportunity for students to spend a semester working and learning practical lawyering skills in Atlanta-area legal settings. “The program provides access to an impressive array of civil practice settings and opens up new opportunities for professional networking,” he said.

Placements from the spring semester included the U.S. District Court judicial chambers of Judges Richard W. “Rick” Story (J.D.’78) and Leigh Martin May (J.D.’98), the Georgia Attorney General’s Office and the Access to Law Foundation, in addition to other governmental and nonprofit placements.

Participating students and employers have embraced and praised the program. According to Georgia Law Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and Experiential Learning Alexander W. “Alex” Scherr, who teaches the externship course, students report getting more complex, difficult and meaningful work as a result of working full time, which develops their abilities as lawyers in ways that exceed their expectations.

“Having students full time [gives employers] the opportunity to learn the student’s abilities

earlier, to rely on them more heavily, and to get to know them more thoroughly,” Scherr said. “The supervising attorneys routinely compliment the quality of our students’ work. In turn, our students praise the depth and focus of the supervision and feedback that they receive. Most students formed strong mentoring relationships with supervisors, and all appreciated the chance to participate in the Atlanta legal community.”

Over the next year, even more placements will be available to students, including some in the corporate counsel area, through the school’s Corporate Counsel Externship. Additionally, the program will offer expanded opportunities for students to meet with Georgia Law graduates and other practitioners in targeted networking events.

Levin said the feedback from the inaugural semester was unanimously positive and that students are starting to organize their law school careers around the program.

Working at the Access to Law Foundation, under the leadership of Georgia Law alumna Rebeca E. Salmon (J.D.’07), third-year student J. Michelle Hamill said working full time at a busy, efficient law practice gave her the chance to test her abilities in a way she had never before experienced in previous internships or in any traditional law school course.

During its first semester, students were offered Education Law and Constitutional Law II courses in Atlanta. The courses on tap for the fall of 2016 include Remedies as well as Political Leadership and the Law, which will be co-taught by former U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss, who will be continuing his role as the school’s Sanders Political Leadership Scholar.

First of its kind

CLINIC AIDS CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS

Thanks to the generosity of Marlan B. Wilbanks (J.D.'86), earlier this year Georgia Law launched the nation's first experiential learning opportunity dedicated solely to the assistance of child sexual abuse survivors. The effort is being led by law school alumna Emma M. Hetherington (J.D.'11), and demand for the Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic's services has been extraordinary.

"We've had a steady stream of people contacting us for services," Hetherington said. "More than anything it's been eye-opening to see the prevalence of child sexual abuse in not only the local community, but across the state of Georgia and nationally."

The clinic's mission is threefold and includes representing survivors of child sexual abuse in civil tort claims, creating a network of attorneys all over the state who are trained to represent survivors of child sexual abuse and preparing the next generation of lawyers to be effective advocates in this sensitive and critical area.

Since the beginning of the year, the clinic has investigated more than 20 cases.

Hetherington said that once they receive an initial phone call, they determine whether they should investigate further or refer the client to other sources.

"We go through an exhaustive investigation process where we look at medical, psychological and educational records of clients as well as speak to witnesses," she said. "We not only assess the strength of a claim, but also whether the client is ready to go through a civil lawsuit. Lawsuits can take months, if not years, and can be traumatizing to clients who do not have sufficient therapeutic and other support systems."

Student interest in the clinic has been high, and the clinic has received broad support from the legal community. Several local bar associations have asked clinic representatives to speak at their meetings to educate their members on the activities of the clinic.

"We have also received inquiries from attorneys interested in taking cases pro bono," Hetherington said. "Attorneys understand the importance of the work we are doing and the need in the community."

Initial funding for the clinic was provided by Wilbanks after the passage of House Bill 17, the "Hidden Predator Act," by the Georgia legislature. The act created a two-year window of relief from the statute of limitations for bringing civil charges in the case of child sexual abuse. Regardless



of when the abuse occurred, victims can now bring suit against their abusers until the window closes on July 1, 2017. After that time, the law requires suits to be brought forward before the victim reaches 23 years of age or within two years of the time the victim makes the connection that sexual abuse caused current problems such as substance abuse or relationship difficulties.

Part of the clinic's funding provides for summer legal interns and a postgraduate fellowship.

"The act of sexually abusing a child is the attempted murder of a soul. I can see no more important task than protecting those in our society who too often have no voice," Wilbanks said. "The underlying goal of this clinic will be to educate, prepare and sensitize the next generation of lawyers as to the ways victims can be protected. On behalf of the children and families who would otherwise not be able to avail themselves of legal assistance, I applaud the University of Georgia School of Law for its willingness to be the first law school in the nation to draw a line in the sand against child sexual abuse."

Wilbanks CEASE Clinic Director Emma Hetherington (J.D.'11) (fifth from right) poses with clinic participants (l. to r.) Jon Tonge, Heidi Gholamhosseini, Hart Willoughby, Michael Alfano, Amble Johnson, Meredith Gardial (postgraduate fellow), Andrew Smith, Sarah Ehlers (administrative associate), Jacob Edwards and Ashmal Ali (undergraduate volunteer). Not pictured is John Farmer (summer intern). The clinic, the first of its kind in the nation, seeks to be a model for the nation with respect to the representation of survivors of child sexual abuse.

Fellowships expanded

PUBLIC INTEREST OPPORTUNITIES INCREASED

Three new fellowships, combined with existing avenues of support at Georgia Law, allowed more than 20 rising second- and third-year law students to take summer positions in the public interest arena.

These service-oriented fellowship recipients spent the summer months working in legal placements including public defender's and prosecutor's offices, nonprofit agencies, a law school clinic and the U.S. Department of Justice. Notably, three placements took students overseas to Bangkok, Jerusalem and Phnom Penh.

"The students we supported in public interest placements this summer are the next generation of Georgia Law's legacy of public service, which includes elected, judicial and nonprofit leaders who have made, and are continuing to make, an impact across our state and society," Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said. "We are extremely grateful to those who have chosen to invest in these students' futures both through their financial support and their engagement with our institution."

The three new fellowship opportunities result from a partnership between the law school and the Justice John Paul Stevens Public Interest Foundation, the creation of the Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic at Georgia Law and funding from the Melburne D. and Jacqueline K. McLendon Endowment.

The Stevens Foundation, which was established by former law clerks of the retired U.S. Supreme Court justice, matches funds to support students taking summer public interest law positions. Associate Dean for International Programs and Strategic Initiatives Diane Marie Amann, Professor Sonja R. West and 2007 alumna Merritt E. McAlister, all of whom clerked for Stevens, served on the selection committee for this year's recipients.

The Wilbanks CEASE Clinic was created in 2015 through a gift made by Georgia Law alumnus Marlan B. Wilbanks (J.D.'86). It is the first law school clinic in the nation dedicated to the representation of survivors of child sexual abuse.

The McLendon Endowment was created by Melburne D. McLendon, a 1948 graduate of the law school and his wife, Jacqueline, to support legal education and training.

Ongoing public interest support includes the Edward D. and Carol J. Spurgeon Public Service Fellowship and the Global Externship Overseas, which is administered by the law school's Dean Rusk International Law Center. In addition, the Equal Justice Foundation, a student organization, raised funds through its annual auction to support 10 students interested in public interest law.

2016 Public Interest Summer Fellowships

(anticipated year of graduation is indicated in parentheses)

JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIPS

Taryn L. Arbeiter (2018) – The Door, New York City, New York

Jennifer J. Cross (2017) – Orleans Public Defenders, New Orleans, Louisiana

WILBANKS CEASE CLINIC FELLOWSHIP

John E. Farmer (2018)

MELBURNE D. AND JACQUELINE K. MCLENDON FELLOWSHIPS

Tiffany L. Donohue (2017) – Access to Law, Atlanta, Georgia

Katherine L. Ekstrand (2017) – Office of the DeKalb County Public Defender, Decatur, Georgia

Fabian J. Goffe (2017) – New Hampshire Public Defender, Concord, New Hampshire

Harris R. Mason (2018) – Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Atlanta, Georgia

Mishael K. Najm (2018) – Georgia Public Defender Standards Council – Appellate Division, Atlanta, Georgia

R. Larkin Taylor-Parker (2017) – U.S. Department of Justice, Disability Rights Section, Washington, D.C.

Hannah Mojdeh Williams (2018) – Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

GLOBAL EXTERNSHIP OVERSEAS

Brenny B. Nguyen (2017) – Boat People SOS, Bangkok, Thailand

EDWARD D. AND CAROL J. SPURGEON PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

Meredith L. Mann (2017) – Treatment and Accountability Court of Athens-Clarke County, Athens, Georgia

EQUAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Kassidy L. Dean (2017) – Her Justice, New York City, New York

Bradley D. Dumbacher (2018) – U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division – Office of Immigration Litigation, Washington, D.C.

Maria Kachniarz (2018) – St. Yves Society, Jerusalem

Faith A. Khalik (2017) – Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Atlanta, Georgia

Kent J. Miller (2017) – Office of the Hall County Public Defender, Gainesville, Georgia

Ethan K. Morris (2018) – Office of the DeKalb County Public Defender, Decatur, Georgia

Chloe I. Owens (2017) – Office of the U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Georgia, Savannah, Georgia

Ryan H. Shriver (2018) – Office of the Hall County Public Defender, Gainesville, Georgia

Zeelita V. Smith (2018) – Office of the DeKalb County Public Defender, Decatur, Georgia

Sarah E. Willis (2017) – Office of the U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Edenfield Jurist in Residence places judges in classrooms

Georgia Law has created the B. Avant Edenfield Jurist in Residence program, which allows law students to learn from federal judges through a series of mini-courses.

Made possible by a contribution from 2003 Georgia Law alumnus Allen W. Yee, a former clerk of the late Edenfield, the initiative will enable one or more Article III judges to spend a period in residence at Georgia Law each academic year.

The inaugural Edenfield Jurist in Residence will be Lisa Godbey Wood (J.D.'90), who currently serves as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia. Her course will focus on sentencing.

Thereafter, David B. Sentelle, former chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, will be the second Edenfield Jurist in Residence. He will teach a course titled Persuading the Judge and Jury.



"Judge Edenfield's astute legal mind and passion for justice made him a hard-working judge who demanded much of those in his courtroom. To those who clerked for him, he was a true friend and mentor," said Yee, who is a senior attorney with The Coca-Cola Company. "I am so grateful for the opportunity to create through my charitable giving to Georgia Law the B. Avant Edenfield Jurist in Residence fund. It honors my friend and mentor, Judge Edenfield, and continues, in a small way, his legacy of teaching and guidance to the next generation of lawyers."

Of special note, Georgia Law held a reception in the spring to reveal a portrait of Edenfield, which now hangs in Hirsch Hall. Edenfield was a longtime federal judge on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia who earned both his bachelor's and law degrees from UGA.

Chambliss returns as Sanders Scholar

Georgia Law students will once again learn from former U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss and Georgia Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Camila Knowles (who previously served as Chambliss' chief of staff).

The pair will co-teach the class Political Leadership and the Law, where students will receive firsthand insights into public service and explore the topics of ethics, campaign finance and negotiation.

Last year, when Chambliss and Knowles taught the course, several prominent guest speakers visited the class. They included: U.S. Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates (J.D.'86), former U.S. Sen. Tom Coburn, Gov. Nathan Deal, Georgia Speaker of the House David Ralston (J.D.'80), Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and leading public affairs professional Arthur B. "Skin" Edge IV (J.D.'80).

This year's class will be taught as part of the law school's Atlanta Semester in Practice initiative and will be based at the law school's facility in the state's capital.

The former senator said he is honored to be serving as the law school's Sanders Political Leadership Scholar. "I look forward to sharing my experience of 20 years in public service with tomorrow's leaders," he said. "The University of Georgia School of Law is one of the top law schools in America, and to have the opportunity to be a part of the faculty is very humbling."

Established in 2002, the Sanders Political Leadership Scholar position is named for Georgia's 74th governor and 1948 Georgia Law alumnus Carl E. Sanders. Previous Sanders Political Leadership Scholars include: former U.S. Sen. J. Maxwell "Max" Cleland, former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Poland Lee A. Feinstein and former U.S. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Theodore W. "Ted" Kassinger (J.D.'78).



Former U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss will continue to serve as the law school's Sanders Political Leadership Scholar. Photo by UGA's Andrew Davis Tucker.

Corporate Counsel Externship adds high profile locations

The Corporate Counsel Externship, which allows students to explore the practice of law from the perspective of an in-house counsel, has gained new partners and exciting opportunities for Georgia Law students.

Earlier this year, The Coca-Cola Company, Aaron's, Brambles, CARE, Cotiviti, the Federal Reserve Bank, Grady Health System, The Home Depot and Newell Brands opened their doors to Georgia Law students, becoming part of a network of more than 25 companies which provides real world legal experience in a corporate setting.

"I am delighted that Georgia Law students will now have the opportunity to gain experience at

The Coca-Cola Company in addition to other new placements which have agreed to host our students," Business Law and Ethics Program Instructor Carol Morgan (J.D.'79) said. "This sort of practical training is invaluable. I am thankful to my fellow Georgia Law graduates, and others, who are serving as their supervising attorneys."

Third-year law student Meghan Jones Wells said her placement at Coca-Cola was fantastic. "I was a member of a transactional team and played a primary role in standardizing a variety of Coca-Cola contracts," she said. "Through this and other projects, I sharpened my drafting and editing skills as well as my ability to anticipate issues that a company might face."

A network of over 25 companies provides in-house legal experience for Georgia Law students.

Clinic supports Athens' entrepreneurs

The Business Law Clinic at Georgia Law was founded four years ago with two primary goals: to provide law students with real-world transactional law practice experience and to provide Athens entrepreneurs with free access to legal services that would otherwise be beyond their financial reach.

According to instructor and clinic founder Willow Tracy, the clinic gives second- and third-year students who are interested in transactional law an opportunity to develop practical professional skills in a closely supervised, educational setting.

"Athens has such a vibrant and eclectic business community," Tracy said. "From independent book stores to tech start-ups and from musicians and artists to corner grocery stores, the variety of clients guarantees our students a diverse range of experiences and fascinating challenges."

The Business Law Clinic, in turn, has been a good asset for local entrepreneurs. "With their tremendous enthusiasm and dedication, the students have made the clinic an important resource for Athens' businesses," Tracy said. "We see a lot of ambitious clients with bold ideas, but they lack the financial means to obtain the legal guidance they need. They're so grateful for the services our clinic provides. Our students help them launch and grow their businesses in a sustainable way and avoid the common pitfalls that new enterprises often face."

Clinic students work on an average of 12 client matters each semester that vary depending on client needs and students' interests. Tracy makes sure each student has the opportunity to draft contracts, form a company (usually a corporation or LLC), work with a tech start-up and handle an intellectual property issue. Some of the more common projects include registering trademarks, drafting operating agreements, helping clients obtain licenses and permits, and drafting independent contractor and employment agreements.

"The Business Law Clinic is a unique opportunity for law students to interact in depth with local entrepreneurs and apply their practical legal skills to help these entrepreneurs grow their businesses," third-year student Erin M. Peterson said. "I really enjoyed the diversity of the services that we provide to our clients in the clinic as well as seeing how our work helps build the Athens community."

Tracy added that Athens has a very active community of small businesses that are passionate about what they do. "It's exciting to see our students making such a big difference in that ecosystem, while also gaining invaluable professional experience."



Business Law Clinic students Hannah Coleman (second from right) and John Tomes (right) and clinic instructor Willow Tracy discuss business plans with FH&L Creative designer Phil Goodwin.

First in Georgia: Three-year J.D. and M.B.A. launched

To help meet the growing demand for lawyers with business acumen, the law school has partnered with the UGA Terry College of Business to allow students to graduate with both a law degree and a Master of Business Administration in only three years.

This time-shortened dual degree will prepare students with the skills required for successful careers that combine law and business, including banking, entrepreneurship, finance, international business or commercial interests.

"Students participating in this three-year dual degree will have a distinct competitive advantage when they graduate," Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said. "In only three years, students will earn a law degree and an M.B.A., saving both time and money while gaining the necessary knowledge to succeed in today's marketplace."

Business Law and Ethics Program Instructor Carol Morgan (J.D.'79) said businesses today face a growing number of challenges as a result of an increasingly global economy and continually changing regulations, among other factors. "Employees with a strong background in both law and business, especially from nationally

recognized schools such as ours, are a valuable asset to any law firm serving corporate clients or a company's in-house legal department," she said.

Morgan added that the combination of the coursework and professional development opportunities offered through the J.D./M.B.A. program enables graduates to make meaningful contributions to their clients and workplace.

UGA is the only school in Georgia – and one of only a few nationwide – to offer a true three-year J.D./M.B.A. dual degree.

"Students participating in this three-year dual degree will have a distinct competitive advantage when they graduate."

—Dean Bo Rutledge

Program creates student mentorships

Under the leadership of Georgia Law Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge, the school has taken proactive steps to fully embrace the need for authentic relationships between – and support for – all members of the law school community. This coming fall, Georgia Law will take this concept one step further by ensuring that all first-year students have a network of support when they arrive on campus.

The system of support will consist of a faculty member, an upper-level law student and a Georgia Law graduate or legal professional. This will be in addition to the Career Development Office counselor who will be appointed to the student.

"The goal of the mentor program is to give students as much support as possible," Associate Director of Student Affairs Alex D. Sklut (J.D.'11) said. "Our first-year students will have multiple people to approach with questions, and the program will allow for more individualized attention. Another

benefit is that these students will have someone to talk to on a more casual basis versus having to make an appointment with someone in a particular office."

The mentor matching process will be based on surveys filled out by the mentees and mentors, and eventually the program will be expanded to all students – regardless of what year they are in in law school – so they will at a minimum have a mentor network of four individuals.

Sklut said most of the matching will be based on interests and hobbies or other common areas such as undergraduate school/degree or hometowns or location of practice. "We feel students will naturally find the professors who align with their desired practice areas. They will also find ways to connect and network with alums in their intended fields. We do want to guide students about jobs, but this process is about them having a general resource about life as well as law school concerns."

There are not any time or meeting commitments for mentors or mentees, and the communication method will be what works for each pair. However, a few mentor/mentee events will be held throughout the year to provide an additional connection time for those who are interested.

"We do not want to over structure these relationships so that they lose their flexibility and personalization," Sklut said. "The key will be a genuine connection that will last and be fruitful for more than just three years of law school and hopefully continue as these students transition into practice and throughout their careers. Law school is not easy for most people. At Georgia Law, we want belonging to our community to be established at the beginning."

Those interested in mentoring should contact Alex Sklut at (706) 542-5167 or asklut@uga.edu. All mentors are supported by the Office of Student Affairs and are provided with a comprehensive resource guide.

Practitioners deliver diverse curriculum

Visiting and adjunct professors, who are skilled practitioners and jurists, fill an important role in delivering a relevant and diverse curriculum to today's law students.

David N. Lefkowitz, who has been teaching legal malpractice law as an adjunct at Georgia Law for the last three years, enjoys his role in the classroom, ensuring that students know how to recognize and avoid malpractice. "I love providing practical knowledge to students whose previous knowledge has been mainly theoretical," he said. "Every lawyer needs to understand the risks – both legal and ethical – that arise in the attorney-client context."

With more than 25 years of experience, Lefkowitz said it is important for lawyers to recognize risky transactions, including conflicts of interest, and to consider the interplay between the Rules of Professional Conduct and the legal duties lawyers owe their clients. "I wish that when I was in law school, someone had taught a class where I could learn about the practical aspects of being a lawyer, including risk management, client relations and legal malpractice," he said.

Practitioners bring "unique and valuable" perspectives that come from their "interesting and exceptional" careers, according to Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Lori A. Ringhand. "The courses they teach are designed to tap into their expertise and to complement our already strong teaching faculty," she said.

Examples of other practitioners teaching at Georgia Law include: Rupert M. Barkoff, Kimberly R. Bourroughs (J.D.'07), J. Michael "Mike" Levensgood (J.D.'80), Kenneth W. "Ken" Mauldin (J.D.'80), Donald F. "Don" Samuel (J.D.'80) and Tina K. Shah.



Adjunct Professor David Lefkowitz said many attorneys today are running a business and practicing law, which at times are entirely consistent with each other and at times travel divergent paths. His legal malpractice course offers real-world guidance on how to navigate this sometimes tricky road.

Clerkship benefits emphasized

Georgia Law faculty and career development staff have refocused their efforts on communicating to students the advantages of post-graduate federal judicial clerkships, and these efforts are showing considerable success.

Since 2015, 30 students have secured federal clerkships both in the state of Georgia and beyond in states such as New Mexico, Texas and Florida. One student will also clerk for the Delaware Court of Chancery, which is considered the most important court in the country for business law.

Furthermore, a recent ranking published by Excess of Democracy places Georgia Law among the top 20 law schools in the nation (and 9th among public law schools) for graduates from the Classes of 2013, 2014 and 2015 securing full-time, long-term federal clerkships.

"We found that many students, especially first-year students, did not understand what a judicial clerkship is, the work they will perform or the valuable relationship they will develop with their judge," said Associate Professor Kent H. Barnett, who also serves as one of the school's faculty clerkship advisers along with David E. Shipley, who holds the Georgia Athletic Association Professorship in Law. "They did not realize the prestige marker or the gold star this will be on their résumés," Barnett added.

Part of the outreach includes faculty advisers making contact with qualified and interested students to find out their career goals; meeting with judges in locations where the students want to work; inviting these judges to campus, especially those from other circuits or states, to learn more about the quality of education provided at Georgia Law; and emphasizing to students the importance of summer internships and externships in judicial chambers, which are often unpaid but can lead to post-graduate clerkships through the advantages of clerking experience and recommendations to other judges.

"Clerkships provide a valuable introduction to the legal profession through the mentoring that takes place," Barnett said. "One's writing, thinking and professional demeanor are all shaped during this time. It's also a useful stepping stone to other prestigious and well-paying jobs, including positions in the federal government and the legal teaching academy."

Laura E. Woodson (J.D.'90), who serves as the judicial clerkship adviser in the school's Career Development Office, said the office also supports a variety of informational programs for students like the "nuts and bolts" of applying for clerkships in addition to "very hands on" consulting for putting together and improving their application packets.

She added that once judges hire from Georgia Law and they see the caliber of our students they often continue to look for other Georgia Law graduates to hire. "There is a real continuity to these relationships with our school, in addition to the lifelong relationships these judges create with their clerks."

New scholarships bring student dreams closer to reality

Scholarships play a critical role in Georgia Law's ability not only to attract the best and brightest, but also to allow them to graduate with a level of debt that does not hinder them in pursuing their chosen career path. Private donations received through the annual fund or other gifts designated for scholarships have a meaningful impact on students, the law school and the legal profession.

Over the past year, Georgia Law has been able to announce a number of new fellowships and scholarships resulting from gifts from law school graduates, foundations and friends interested in supporting the next generation of lawyers. Central to this initiative was the **Challenge Fund**, which was established by an anonymous group of benefactors and matched any new or increased contributions to the Law School Fund during the 2015–16 fiscal year. By hitting the goal of \$2 million, the law school will be able to award an additional 33 half-tuition scholarships and dedicate an historic level of resources to financial support.

Some new fellowships and scholarships secured or awarded this year include:

The John N. Goddard Foundation made a \$2 million founding gift to establish the **Philip H. Alston, Jr. Distinguished Law Fellowships**. The program, modeled after the successful UGA Foundation Fellowships, will offer three law students full tuition and

experiences such as domestic and international externships, guided research and interaction with some of the nation's top legal leaders.

The estate of former Georgia Gov. Carl E. Sanders (J.D.'48) made a multimillion-dollar contribution to the law school to support a variety of needs. Approximately \$2.4 million was used to create the **Carl E. Sanders Law Scholarship Fund** and provided financial assistance to more than 15 students during the 2015–16 academic year.

Gerald S. Tanenbaum (J.D.'70) created a distinguished law scholarship bearing his name that will provide a full-tuition scholarship. The first Tanenbaum scholar is anticipated to be named this fall.

State Rep. Stacey Godfrey Evans (J.D.'03) and her husband, Andrew C. (J.D.'03), donated \$500,000 to create the **Stacey Godfrey Evans Scholarship** for first-generation college graduates attending Georgia Law. This gift is the first of its kind to the law school.

An anonymous donor made a major contribution to the **scholarship fund named in honor of Georgia Law's legendary R. Perry Sentell Jr. (LL.B.'58)** with the hope that others will follow suit in honor of this longtime member of the law school's faculty.



Alumna Stacey Godfrey Evans (J.D.'03) with her inaugural scholarship holder Trevon Smith.

An anonymous donor created the **Pin Point Scholarship to honor U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas**, who was born in this Georgia town. The scholarship is for first-generation college graduates who have overcome adversity to achieve academic success.

Active alumnus **R. Alexander (J.D.'66) and his wife Claire Herd Crumbley**, established a scholarship bearing their names to allow a deserving student to attend Georgia Law. The first holder of the Crumbley scholarship will be announced during the 2017–18 academic year.

In conjunction with the gift creating the Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic, **Marlan B. Wilbanks (J.D.'86)** created the **Aubrey and Marilyn Motz Scholarship** in honor of his parents. This scholarship will support students sharing his commitment of supporting survivors of child sexual abuse.



Welcome to career development leader

The law school has welcomed Kenny R. Tatum as the senior director of the Career Development Office. In this position, he oversees the school's legal career services and professional development programs.

Tatum previously served as assistant dean of career services at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law and the Penn State Dickinson School of Law. He also served as the director of lateral recruiting and diversity strategy for Womble

Carlyle Sandridge & Rice. While at Womble Carlyle he was based in the law firm's Atlanta office but was responsible for directing his title-related efforts for the firm's 11 offices. Additionally, Tatum has experience recruiting attorneys for law firms and corporate legal departments as the owner and lead recruiter for Diversity Legal Recruiting. Early in his career he practiced law at Hunton & Williams in Atlanta and Foley & Lardner in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Advocacy Success

National Title, Intrastate Sweep and Top Five International Finish

Advocacy teams at Georgia Law continue to reflect the school's commitment to providing first-rate legal training to its students. During the 2015–16 advocacy season, Georgia Law students captured one national title, swept the intrastate competition, finished in the top five in an international contest, brought home four semifinalist trophies in national tournaments and beat the University of Florida in the annual courtroom battle. Additionally, eight oralist honors were earned as well as five brief awards.

National title captured



Winning the top trophy at the 39th J. Braxton Craven, Jr. Memorial Competition were second-year students Tayah Woodard (left), Chris Stokes (center left) and Matt Rosenthal and third-year student Mical Carter (coach). They also captured the competition's Best Brief Award.

ABA National Appellate Advocacy tournament



After winning the regional round of the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition earlier in the year, third-year students Ty Adams and Kate Hicks posted a strong showing for Georgia Law by finishing as quarterfinalists at the national tier of the tournament. This pair also won the Best Brief Award of the national competition. Competing in the regional round of the tournament was a second UGA team comprised of second-year students Jake Edwards, Hannah Sells and Andrew Smith. They finished as regional semifinalists. Both teams were coached by third-year student Kevin Davis, and Thomas Burch served as the faculty adviser. In the photo are: (l. to r.) Smith, Edwards, Davis, Adams, Hicks and Sells.

Intrastate sweep



This year, second-year students Michael Parrish, Troy Stram and Benjamin Stell were named champions of the Intrastate Moot Court Competition. They also captured the Best Brief Award, and Stram was named best oralist. The second UGA team, comprised of second-year students Callen Carroll, Thomas Church and Mary Grace Griffin, finished the contest as semifinalists. Both teams were coached by third-year students Marshall Sims and Jake Ware. Notably, Georgia Law has won 12 out of the last 15 intrastate competitions. In the photo are: (standing, l. to r.) Church, Stram, Parrish, Ware, (sitting, l. to r.) Griffin, Stell and Carroll.

Georgia dominates Florida



Third-year students Stephen Morrison (left) and Jake Ware defeated a team from the University of Florida to win the annual Florida/Georgia-Hulsey/Gambrell Moot Court Competition. This victory brings Georgia Law's record in this long-running tournament to 22-9-2.

Top five finish at Vis

The Georgia Law team competing in the 23rd Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot posted the school's best finish ever in this global advocacy battle. Third-year student Stephen Morrison and second-year students Ronald Chicken, Emily Cox and Bethany Edmondson advanced to the quarterfinals and placed among the top five teams in the world. Significantly, they were the last American law school team in this international competition. The Georgia Law students were coached by Sara Burns, an associate in the Atlanta office of King & Spalding. Morrison also served as the student coach.

Georgia Law goes online

Georgia Law is moving into cyberspace. To meet student desire for greater scheduling flexibility, the law school is harnessing technology to offer remote instruction in several high-demand courses.

"Our face-to-face instruction is a real strength at Georgia Law," Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Lori A. Ringhand said. "Distance learning will complement that and provide students with more options in designing their law school experience."

Delivering courses through distance learning makes sense as the school seeks to provide students with more experiential learning and professional development opportunities outside of the Athens area. This includes participants in the new Atlanta Semester in Practice, the Washington, D.C., Semester in Practice and those in study abroad, as well as students enrolled in the Master in the Study of Law program.

As the head of the law school's distance learning committee, Associate Professor Hillel Y. Levin said the group adopted a step-by-step approach to find what will work best at Georgia Law. "It is an exciting time that presents new opportunities and challenges," Levin said. "As with anything new there is a learning curve." He added that there are several different types of distance learning, and that this type of instruction requires something different from traditional law school teaching to be successful.

"We want to strike the right balance between innovating our approach to teaching and keeping what makes Georgia Law truly special," Levin said. "We have a unique law school community here in Athens that we want to retain, even as we explore cutting-edge opportunities in legal education."

Distance learning provides students with more options for their law school experience.

This past spring, Associate Professor Christian Turner, who is known for experimenting with the use of different types of technology in his classroom, embraced the opportunity to deliver the law school's first course using virtual classroom technology. His upper-level course Modern American Legal Theory was taught using downloadable podcasts and live discussions via the video chat app Zoom.

One of the challenges of distance learning according to Turner is producing content that students can download at a sufficiently high quality. "You also have to make the correct technical choices so that students have no technological barriers to the class. Additionally, you want technology that creates a sense of presence. . . . It is very important to maintain the quality of in-person instruction."



Georgia Law publicly launched its Corsair Law Society in early 2016. This prestigious group seeks to foster and improve opportunities for law students who desire to practice in the areas of transactional law or corporate litigation in major financial markets across the country.

Among the group's goals is the formation of a support network for these top-performing students that includes alumni and alumnae nationwide who have excelled in business law careers, likeminded law students, and undergraduate and graduate business students.

Associate Dean Usha Rodrigues, Business Law and Ethics Program Instructor Carol Morgan (J.D.'79), Alston Chair in Corporate Law Margaret V. Sachs and Hosch Associate Professor Mehra Baradaran currently serve as advisers to this new and exciting group.

Students participating in the Corsair Law Society include: (back row, l. to r.) Wil Alexander, Carol Williamson, Ty Adams, Steven Zavodnick, Anthony Kennedy, (middle row, l. to r.) Audrey Rogers, Matt Rosenthal, Pedro Dorado, Bo Uuganbayar, Jessie Kimball, (front row, l. to r.) Matthew Gobel, John Tomes, Olivia Scofield, Taryn Winston, John Thomas III and Elizabeth DeVos.

Negotiation teams shine

Georgia Law students representing the law school in negotiation tournaments during the 2015–16 academic year had a strong showing.

In the Transactional LawMeet competition, third-year students Elizabeth A. DeVos and Lily D. Wilkerson and second-year student Molly H. Cash won the Best Draft Award at the Southwestern regional contest, while third-year students Johnathan Chiu and Frances H. Kim and second-year student Hannah R. Coleman earned the Best Draft Award at the Chicago regional. Adjunct Professor Susan J. Wilson (J.D.'89) and Robert C. "Rob" Davis III (J.D.'99) served as coaches.

Of special note, Georgia Law also served as host of the Southeastern regional round of the Transactional LawMeet.

During the fall, second-year law students Gregory D. "Greg" Mark and Louis J. "Joe" Potente finished as finalists in the American Bar Association Regional Negotiation Competition.

Georgia Law hosts Court of Appeals

Last October, the law school hosted the Georgia Court of Appeals in its Hatton Lovejoy Courtroom as the court heard oral arguments on three cases involving medical negligence, sovereign immunity and aggravated assault. A question-and-answer session with Court of Appeals judges followed the arguments.

The jurists, all Georgia Law graduates,

included Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes (J.D.'83) (center), Judge William M. Ray II (J.D.'90) (left) and Judge Carla Wong McMillian (J.D.'98). The last time the Court of Appeals held oral arguments at the law school was in 2007.

Georgia Law Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said having the court hear arguments at the law school benefitted students greatly.

"This unique opportunity to witness firsthand Court of Appeals proceedings offered our students a front-and-center view into the legal system that will assist them as they move forward with their education and careers," he said. "It was also a tremendous opportunity for the public at large to see the Georgia Court of Appeals in action."

Red Clay focus: Sustainability

Making a sustainable lifestyle accessible to all was the working title of the 28th Annual Red Clay Conference, which was held during the spring semester.

The daylong program included discussions on solar power in the Southeast and Georgia's new "Household Solar Panel" bill, flood insurance and the tensions between risk and affordability, and farm-to-school food initiatives and child nutrition reauthorization.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency General Counsel Avi S. Garbow provided a special address, while Loyola University New Orleans' Robert R.M. Verchick, a legal expert in environmental regulation, climate change and the developing field of disaster law, delivered the keynote address.

The annual Red Clay Conference aims to increase public awareness of environmental issues of regional, national and international significance through a series of educational presentations and open forum discussions. It is entirely student-organized by members of the law school's Environmental Law Association.



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency General Counsel Avi Garbow

WIPI Conference addresses social justice

The 11th Annual Working in the Public Interest Conference, held during February, focused on current social issues affecting the law and potential solutions the law can offer in such situations.

Key topics explored during the event's three panels included: the effects of the Supreme Court's decision on same-sex marriage in regard to the administration of probate, estate planning and adoption proceedings; issues with inadequate representation for misdemeanor offenses and how the law can be used to remedy the problem; and opportunities to provide undocumented immigrants with access to higher education and legal advice. Steve Gottlieb, executive director of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, presented the keynote address.

The Working in the Public Interest law student organization brings together practitioners, students and faculty to discuss equal treatment under the law, access to legal representation for the currently underrepresented and practical approaches to public interest lawyering.



Morris, Manning & Martin Café

Georgia Law held a dedication ceremony on Feb. 1, naming its café in honor of the law firm Morris, Manning & Martin. Pictured (l. to r.) are firm founder



Joseph R. Manning, Dean Bo Rutledge, Managing Partner Louise Wells and firm founder Sonny Morris. The widow of the firm's third founder, the late Arthur B.L. Martin, also attended. Throughout the years, Morris, Manning & Martin has been a consistent employer of Georgia Law graduates. The firm has also taken a leadership role in mentoring students and has supported student scholarships.



Graduates connecting with students

Georgia Law's African-American alumni and alumnae held a reception at the Loudermilk Center in Atlanta to network with students and honor Dean Bo Rutledge. The event focused on strengthening ties with the law school's African-American community and discussing opportunities to engage with Georgia Law. Pictured (l. to r.) are third-year students Kevin Davis, James Graham, NaTasha Webb-Prather and Jonathan Stuart. Photograph by MITE Services.

Law School Life



Meeting the U.S. Attorney General

Third-year student Austin Ramsey (left) had the opportunity to meet U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch while working at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Atlanta as part of the law school's Civil Externship program. Photo courtesy of Austin Ramsey.

LL.M. students tour Atlanta



Georgia Law's LL.M. students benefitted from a professional development trip to Atlanta this spring. While there, they toured the Supreme Court of Georgia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit and ended the day with lunch and a professional briefing at the global law firm Troutman Sanders.

Stevens Public Interest Fellows

Rising second-year student Taryn Arbeiter (left) and rising third-year student Jennifer Cross were named recipients of Justice John Paul Stevens Public Interest

Foundation Fellowships, which support students taking summer public interest law positions. Arbeiter interned at The Door in New York City, and Cross worked at the Orleans Public Defenders in New Orleans during the summer.



STUDENT PROFILES

Mical Carter

EMPOWERING THE WORLD

Recent graduate Mical D. Carter wants to live a life of service more than anything.

As a child, she was an observer – someone who took notice of playground politics and how certain groups of people were treated differently, and she knew she had to play a part in equaling the playing field for the underdogs.

“Not having financial resources and the education to really know how to stand up for your rights is kind of a handicap,” Carter said.

Understanding the power of an education, she attended East Tennessee State University where she earned her bachelor’s degrees in sociology and criminal justice/criminology and her master’s degree in criminal justice/criminology. After serving as an adjunct professor of sociology for one year at Tusculum College in Greeneville, Tennessee, Carter made the move to Athens and enrolled at Georgia Law.

Here, she found the resources and programs she needed to gain direct access to those who need legal assistance. Through her participation in the school’s Criminal Defense Clinic and Mediation Practicum, she was able to work with clients and make a difference.

“I’m most proud of my clinic work and my internship work,” Carter said. “That’s when I’m dealing with real people with real problems, and it’s not a simulated exercise.”



One of her most memorable experiences came from her time interning with the Public Defender’s Office for the Clayton Circuit, where she became involved with its Drug Court Program.

“One gentleman – he actually got to be in the delivery room when his granddaughter was born,” Carter recalled. “He had had a horrible relationship with his daughter. They had a rocky road for about 15 years, and he was able to see his grandchild be born. Just seeing people grow and become stronger, healthier individuals was amazing.”

In fact, Carter would love to see the law become more of a positive influence in the lives of everyday citizens.

“I’m a firm believer that a lot of legal practice should be a hybrid of social work and advocacy,” she said. “I think a lot of the time, depending on the type of law you’re practicing, a lot of our clients need to be empowered. They need to be able to figure out what kind of tools they have in their tool belt that they don’t even know are there.”

Carter’s next step is to focus on civil work for Georgia Legal Services in its Athens branch, and eventually she would like to return to teaching to establish a pre-law track at a small college or university that does not already have one.

“I just want to be a part of the domino effect. I really believe in paying it forward, and I think that any impact that you have on one individual can then trickle down into the impacts that that individual is empowered to have,” she said.



Matt Rosenthal

A PATH TO SUCCESS

Rising third-year law student Matthew B. “Matt” Rosenthal lives by his father’s motto that hard work makes the biggest difference.

In fact, he attributes his drive to pursue a career in law to his network of support – his family and friends – and especially a family friend Michael R. Duponte, a criminal defense attorney in Atlanta.

“My dad’s best friend is Michael Duponte, and he’s basically like an uncle to me,” Rosenthal said. “... Ever since I was a little kid, he always encouraged me to try and go to law school, so it was always in the back of my mind. He’s probably been one of the most influential people to encourage me to go to law school and just in growing up in general.”

After graduating from UGA with bachelor’s degrees in history and Spanish, Rosenthal enrolled at Georgia Law. During the summer of his first year in law school, he was fortunate

Carson Stepanek

A HEART FOR HISTORY

Georgia Law student Carson L. Stepanek knew from a young age that she wanted to be where the history was.

Growing up, she favored trips to museums while exploring new cities, and she said she even owned a library card before most of her peers and she used the card to browse the history section of the library. She immersed herself in stories of the past, focusing on her favorite time period – Colonial America.

Expanding upon her love of history, Stepanek majored in the topic as an undergraduate student at Georgia Southern University, where she was selected to be a part of the Georgia Southern Eagles in D.C. program that offers congressional internships in the nation's capital. Through the initiative, she interned with U.S. Congressman Austin Scott and was thrilled to learn she could give tours of the U.S. Capitol and provide attendees with heavy doses of history that she acquired throughout the years.

"You know, what I really love are just the little side stories," Stepanek said. "You can talk about the big battles, but really, it's these little avenues of stories that you just pick up from classes or books. And you wouldn't think that 'I have a funny history story' is a good lead in to a joke, but it really is."

After earning her bachelor's degree, Stepanek worked at the Georgia Southern library for two years but always knew that she wanted to further her education. Her father's career as a law professor exposed her to her first taste of the legal field. At the age of eight, she was able to go with her father to observe a criminal trial, which she recalled as an exciting opportunity. That experience cemented her resolve to apply for law school.

While researching law schools, Stepanek discovered Georgia Law and its rich history, which was more than enough to draw her

enough to serve as a judicial intern for U.S. District Court Judge Leigh Martin May (J.D.'98).

"It was an amazing experience," Rosenthal said. "She's just a brilliant person, and she's very kind. It makes me comfortable knowing that judges like that are out there because they're really trying to do what's right."

He also explored both written and oral advocacy as a member of the school's J. Braxton Craven, Jr. Memorial Competition team earlier this spring. He and his moot court teammates won the national championship and earned the tournament's Best Brief Award. Additionally, he served as an editorial board member for the *Georgia Law Review* last year, and he will serve as executive articles editor this coming year.

Rosenthal was selected as a member of the inaugural class of the school's Corsair Law Society, a group that encourages students to pursue work opportunities in transactional law or corporate

in. Upon enrollment, she found the roots and sense of permanence she desired.

In Athens, Stepanek has gotten involved with organizations such as the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association and Georgia Society for International and Comparative Law.

Since this Iowa native moved around the United States multiple times while growing up, her experiences of living in different areas led her to test the waters with international law.

"That love of moving has really influenced [me]," she said. "I have a love of international law that I think can really be tied down to, you know, just loving to be everywhere and anywhere."

In the coming years, Stepanek would like to become a published author and potentially study abroad to get more hands-on experience with international law.

"I have this love for reading, writing and rhetoric, and that's what we're here to perfect. That's what we're here to learn," she said. "... [I am] hoping to hunker down and get some decent writing done and leave my mark on this field and the school in general."



litigation in major financial markets across the country. Through his participation, he was able to land a position as a summer associate at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York City.

"Being a part of the Corsair Law Society and getting to know the different business law professors really sparked my interest in corporate law that I didn't think I had before," he said. "I don't think I would have been able to have this [Sullivan & Cromwell] opportunity without being a part of the Corsair Law Society."

Rosenthal has accepted a judicial clerkship with U.S. District Court Judge Thomas W. Thrash, Jr. that will begin after his graduation. He said eventually he would like to work in New York and develop his legal specialization.

"I would like to work hard and just make sure that whoever I am working for, whoever is my client, that I will make their life a little bit better and hopefully be able to be a good force in the world," he said.

—All Profiles by Kelly Tran