

Scholarships provide for first-rate training and opportunities

Concerns over the rising costs of tuition in higher education, including law schools, is a frequent topic in the news. "At the School of Law, we understand these concerns and remain focused on helping our students mitigate these costs with scholarships and providing world-class training and opportunities so students know they are getting an excellent return on their investment," Dean Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge said.

Over the past 30 months, nearly 20 new law school scholarships have been established, and there are many more in the pipeline. These funds were established by generous alumni and alumnae as well as friends seeking to help create the next generation of lawyers and leaders who will benefit our state and society.

Last year, the law school established its **Distinguished Law Fellows** program with a founding \$2 million gift from **The John N. Goddard Foundation**. Modeled after UGA's successful Foundation Fellows undergraduate program, these fellowships

provide full-tuition-plus scholarships and represent a new phase in legal education where quality classroom instruction, professional development and enhanced student experiences are afforded to promising students.

The first fellows under this program – the **Alston Distinguished Law Fellows** – are: first-year student Lindsey R. Bunting, second-year student Taryn P. Winston and third-year student Katherine G. "Kate" Howard. Each is excelling academically at the law school and has received special opportunities to meet distinguished law school guests – the trio was given a private audience with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas last fall. They were invited to travel with Rutledge to Washington, D.C., this summer. The fellows also chose to expand on their classroom experiences using their experiential stipend. For example, one accepted a position in a legal clinic and one chose to pursue an intensive research project with a faculty member.

SELECT LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED THIS FALL:

James R. "Jim" Borders (J.D.'88) has endowed a scholarship bearing his name, which proudly supports a Georgia Tech undergraduate who has chosen to attend UGA for law school, like the scholarship's benefactor.

The Leap of Faith Fund by the Chastain family was created by 1984 alumna B. Lynn Chastain to provide scholarships to students who have touching, powerful and inspirational stories and to support those who are facing challenging circumstances or unexpected hardships.

Alumnus Billy Payne (J.D.'73) contributed additional resources to the **C. Read Morton, Jr. and William "Billy" P. Payne Scholarship Fund** for deserving law students as part of the Commit to Georgia campaign.

UGA Foundation Board of Trustees member **Susan C. Waltman**, who serves as executive vice president for legal, regulatory and professional affairs and general counsel at the Greater New York Hospital Association, established a needs-based scholarship.

The **Michael Lewis Goldberg Scholarship Fund** has been formed by the 1997 alumnus to support students who played sports in high school or college.



Alumnus and scholarship donor Jim Borders (J.D.'88) (left) met with his scholars third-year student Hannah Sells and second-year student Joel Bradley during a trip to campus.

A second Distinguished Law Fellows scholarship has been established by the **Richard B. Russell Foundation Board**. This scholarship will support a student from rural Georgia who plans to pursue a career in public service, similar to the scholarship's namesake. The student will be provided a full-tuition-plus scholarship for three years that includes enhanced learning experiences as well as professional development opportunities. The first **Russell Distinguished Law Fellow** will be named this fall.

The **Gary B. Blasingame Scholarship Fund** was created by the law firm Blasingame, Burch, Garrard, & Ashley, P.C., in tribute to one of its founding partners who recently retired. Blasingame is a 1961 Georgia Law graduate.

Alumna **Phaedra Parks (J.D.'98)** has created a scholarship fund that will support a deserving first-generation law student.

Robert J. "Bobby" Soper (J.D.'97), together with his wife Jackie, established the **Bobby and Jackie Soper Law School Scholarship Fund**. Bobby is a proud "Double Dawg."