

February 1992

February 1992 Docket

Georgia State University College of Law

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The Docket



February, 1992

A Publication of the Student Bar Association, Georgia State University, College of Law

Vol. I, No. 6

A Letter From the Dean

The first few weeks of my service to this College's community have been very enjoyable. Thanks to those of you whom I have been able to meet so far for the warmth of the welcome that you have extended to me. I am also delighted to have been able to attend the Law Review members' farewell party for Eina Williams, who had played such a crucial role in the success of their efforts during the last four years.

We are also delighted that Professor Frank Kennedy has joined us this week as our first Visiting Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Professor. Professor Kennedy is the Thomas M. Cooley Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan and has long been a leading scholar in the field of bankruptcy reform. From 1971-73, Professor Kennedy was the Executive Director of the U.S. Commission on Bankruptcy Laws. The "Commission Report" is a landmark document in the bankruptcy field and served to establish the agenda for discussions that culminated in the enactment of the 1978 Bankruptcy Code. Numerous amendments to the Code have been considered since its original enactment. Professor Kennedy's views on those proposals have enjoyed a sustained high level of significance, and we are very fortunate to have him with us.

Professors Budnitz and Williams are coordinating the arrangements for Professor Kennedy's stay with us. Our plan is for him to make periodic visits for several days at a time throughout the semester. He will serve us in a number of ways, including participating in some classes and advising on research projects. Professor Kennedy has a wealth of knowledge about legislative reform that has relevance far beyond the limits of bankruptcy issues. Student organizations whose agendas include legislative activity should take advantage (in the best sense) of his presence with us. Please introduce

yourselves to him. He is occupying Professor Lanier's office (#415; ext. 2085). (Professor Lanier is enjoying a well-deserved "professional development" leave in Austria (!) during calendar 1992.)

Finally, mid-winter is the predictable time during the academic year when accumulated stresses can seem very difficult to manage. In our particular context, examination results can be disappointing, and the bar examination process overlaps with spring semester academic obligations for many third-year students.

I am gradually learning about the resources that the University has to offer our College and want to remind you that GSU's Counseling Center enjoys an unusually fine reputation. Quoting from its brochure, "You may make an appointment to see a counselor by calling 658-2211... If you are facing a crisis, help is available without an appointment." Services are currently provided to GSU students without cost, and they can be very helpful in producing positive solutions to complicated problems. Please don't struggle for too long on your own when such skilled assistance is readily available.

Marjorie Girth, Dean

SBA News

The Board of Directors of the SBA has approved and will be submitting for your approval, amendments to the SBA constitution. The Proposed Amendments will be posted before February 1st throughout the school. Please review these amendments. The Proposed Amendments will be offered for your approval on the Spring ballot.

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Notes From the Associate Dean

Welcome back!

New Dean. We are all very excited that Dean Girth has arrived. Many of you joined us in a fun "thank-you" party for former Acting Dean Blasi, who you may now simply call "Professor Blasi." (This advice responds to numerous questions on this topic from understandably confused students.)

Student Advising. During the past transitional months, students have been unsure to whom to turn for advice about their status, grades, etc. I have tried to help field such questions, but now my role in this area will diminish. Dean Girth has asked me to undertake several long-range planning projects, including planning for our Tenth Anniversary celebrations next fall, development of a sound and predictable curriculum, planning for our future space expansion needs, and development of a strategic plan for computer and information systems.

Dean St. Germain and her people (who collectively are our "Student Affairs" specialists) will be available to consult with students each Tuesday morning (9 a.m. to 12 noon) and Wednesday afternoon (2 p.m. to 6 p.m.). Sign-up

sheets for appointments during these times are posted on the bulletin board to the left of the entrance to Student Affairs on the third floor. For this system to work, students should do their best to keep their scheduled appointments and to notify the third-floor receptionist if they will not be able to meet a scheduled appointment. By doing so, other students who may need to consult will have an opportunity to do so. Of course, "emergencies" can and do happen, and Student Affairs specialists will be available during normal office hours to deal with such situations.

Curriculum Planning. We are continuing our work on improving curriculum planning advice. Last fall we held a curriculum planning workshop that was poorly attended but helpful and informative both for the students who attended and for the faculty and staff. This Spring we will hold several such workshops, some designed for first-year students only. We hope to complete a more thorough curriculum planning handbook shortly and to make it available to you before the first workshop.

Patricia Morgan, Associate Dean

Association of Women Law Students

Professor Mary Radford will present the highlights of her experience last year as a Judicial Fellow for the United States Supreme court on Tuesday, February 4 from 12:00 - 1:00 in Room 230. This event is sponsored by the Association of Women Law Students.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

There will be a VITA organizational meeting on Thursday, February 6 at noon in Room 100. VITA will help GSU students prepare their 1040EZ tax returns. If you have done your own tax return before, or if you can read - YOU CAN HELP!

Reminder to Graduating Students

State Bar Rule 8-104(D) requires that each member of the Bar complete 9 litigation experiences before being allowed to handle a solo trial. Consult your Georgia State Bar manual for details.

Publication Guidelines

- Items must be submitted by the 25th of each month in order to be included in the next month's newsletter.
- Send items to Box #381, or leave at the SBA office.
- Long items must be submitted on disk in WordPerfect format. Put your name on the disk so we can return it.
- We cannot accept anonymous items, however you may request anonymous publication.
- Classified ads can be placed at the rate of \$3.00 (prepaid) for 21 words (approximately 3 lines).

Changes Made to Spring Exam Calendar

Several students recently expressed concerns regarding the amount of preparation time prior to spring semester exams. The fact that April 28th and 29th are scheduled as both make up class days and the reading period raised the fear that some students might lose opportunities for studying prior to exams. As a result of this concern, a new exam calendar has been prepared which includes days devoted solely to exam preparation. This calendar has been approved by the faculty.

The new calendar calls for exam-free Wednesdays, in effect building two new reading days into the exam period, while retaining April 28th and 29th as dual purpose days. While some students may have make up classes on the 28th or 29th, and thus lose part of a reading day, few students should find themselves with make up classes completely eliminating their study time prior to the start of exams. However, since this is still a

possibility, the exam schedule will be created with this in mind and exams will be scheduled for April 30th only after all other exam days are used.

Since Wednesdays will have no scheduled exams, students will find that they are no longer faced with three or four exams in a row, and students will face no more than two exams without either a reading day or a weekend break.

The use of two day blocks for exams also means that it will be easier to create an exam schedule which contains fewer conflicts caused by having two exams scheduled to begin less than 24 hours apart (6:00 Monday followed by 6:00 Tuesday is not a conflict; 6:00 Monday followed by 1:00 Tuesday is a conflict).

The exam calendar now looks like this:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4/26	4/27 Last Day of Classes	4/28 Make-Up Classes/ Reading Day	4/29 Make-Up Classes/ Reading Day	4/30 Exams Begin	5/1 Exams	5/2
5/3	5/4 Exams	5/5 Exams	5/6 Reading Day/ Exam Reschedules	5/7 Exams	5/8 Exams	5/9
5/10	5/11 Exams	5/12 Exams	5/13 Reading Day/ Exam Reschedules	5/14 Exams	5/15 Exams	5/16

SBA Bookstore

All students who have casebooks remaining in the bookstore need to pick them up by February 7. All casebooks remaining after that date will be recycled. If you have study aids or hornbooks for sale, they will remain in the bookstore. If you're falling behind in class and need a helping hand, remember that the SBA Bookstore stands ready to serve you in your time of need.

To sell your used books, put your name and box number on one side of an envelope and the name of the book and your asking price on the other side of

the envelope. Tape the envelope to the inside cover of the book and bring to the SBA office. That's all there is to it!

MISSING!

The SBA Bookstore is missing a casebook. It is a Commercial Law casebook with Anandhi Rajan's name on the front cover. Anandhi had some important notes in the book that she needs to recover. Please contact Anandhi or the SBA office with any information about the book.

Hearsay Column

Have you heard that. . .

. . . last semester the University of Georgia College of Law had its first public Honor Court trial in 22 years? UGA students can opt for a public trial and apparently student interest was intense. A form of crowd control was implemented and the Dean of the school showed up to watch part of the proceedings.

. . . the reason the SBA office always seems so busy is that SBA officers are there playing "Blockout"?

. . . Linley Jones' real name is rumored to be "Sunshine"?

. . . the last time the SBA President was called at home about SBA business, his wife told the caller that it had better not take long because "his Highness" had a bubble bath running!

Finally, have you heard about the melee that broke out in Professor Marvin's Mass Communications Law Class? It seems that one student infuriated the whole class by making off the wall comments and several students took him to task. Professor Marvin, being the extremely nice man that he is and certainly not one to seek confrontation, hid behind the podium (in a manner of speaking) while uninvolved students were tempted to duck beneath the tables to avoid the verbal salvos. This seems so out of place for the normally boring and mundane world of Mass Communications Law.

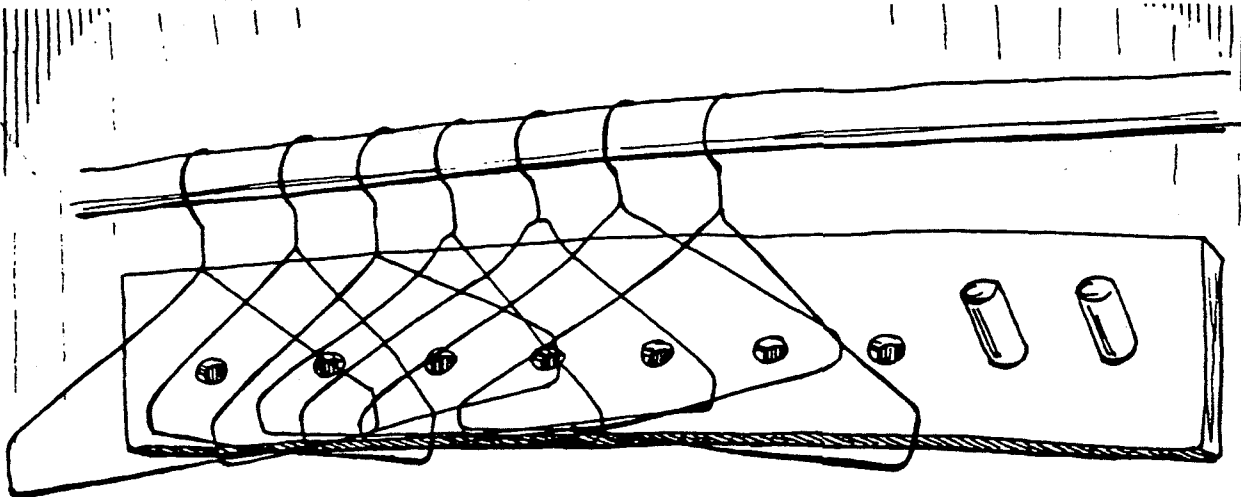
Reshelve Your Books!

During December, the entire library staff looked for books out of call number sequence in the library. Throughout the semester, books become "lost" due to mis-shelving and general carelessness. The process of looking for books out of sequence is very tedious, however, well worth the effort for those of you who will be doing research. Since the books are not in accurate order on the shelves, we ask that you reshelve your books in the correct place. It is mandatory that you reshelve the books that you use. In fact, failure to reshelve your books is a violation of the Honor Code (§ 4(c)). We ask for your full cooperation in this matter.

Nancy Johnson, Law Librarian

Student Court Advocate

Flyers have been posted for applicants for the position of Advocate with the GSU Student Government Association. The SGA is trying to develop a pool of qualified applicants for the position and applications will be taken on a continuing basis. See the posted flyers for details.



IN THE HIGH COURT'S CLOAKROOM...

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