March 1995

March 1995 Docket

Georgia State University College of Law

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FROM THE DEAN

During the spring semester of each academic year we usually host special events, and this year is no exception. By the time this issue is published, you will have had the opportunity on March 13 to hear the Honorable Drew S. Days, III, the U.S. Solicitor General, as our Henry J. Miller Distinguished Lecturer. Solicitor General Days has had a distinguished professional career, most recently serving as the Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law and the Director of the Orville H. Schell, Jr., Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School. From 1977-81, he was the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in President Jimmy Carter's administration following long service on the legal staff of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in New York City. We are honored that he accepted our invitation.

Later in April the College of Law will honor Donald Lee Hollowell, Esq., as the second recipient of the Ben F. Johnson, Jr., Public Service Award. Mr. Hollowell, now of the firm of Arrington and Hollowell, first began practicing law in Georgia in 1952. He rapidly developed an outstanding reputation representing numerous individuals in the civil rights and civil liberties struggles of the 1950's and 1960's. In 1966 he was appointed Regional Director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Atlanta, later becoming a Regional Attorney with responsibility for training dozens of younger lawyers in preparation for trials pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and the Equal Pay Act.

We are very pleased to be able to honor Mr. Hollowell's remarkable record of public service. The faculty created this award on the occasion of the law school's tenth birthday, to honor the extensive public service of Dean Emeritus Johnson. Judge Elbert P. Tuttle of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals was the first recipient last year.

The College of Law will also have the opportunity to host approximately 140 United States District Judges from around the country when they participate in an educational seminar later this month in Atlanta. Prof. Steve Wermiel was able to arrange for us to host a reception honoring the retiring Director of the Federal Judicial Center, William W Schwarzer, during their visit. In addition, he was able to arrange for two of our faculty members, Prof. Charity Scott and Prof. Kathryn Urbonya, to present portions of the academic programming to this audience. The combination of roles is obviously a very attractive one for us, and we are excited about having this opportunity to introduce our law school to this extraordinary group.

This is also the time of year when student organizations experience a transition in leadership. On behalf of the faculty, let me express our sincere appreciation to the outgoing student leaders for their commitment and enthusiasm. The diversity of our more than two dozen student organizations is one of the attractive hallmarks of the College of Law. We understand well the dedication which is required to serve them and thank you very much.

Be sure to take time to enjoy the spring season . . . .

SBA NEWS

By the time you read this, a'new SBA Board will have been elected, and many of our current members will be preparing to leave office. Therefore, it only seems fitting for me to take a few moments to recognize my fellow Board members and others who have labored long and hard to deliver quality student services and exceptional advocacy.

Without question, all the Board members deserve special applause for their boundless enthusiasm and commitment to the student body. But as Vice President, Sue Gordon, deserves special recognition. Sue pulled together an enormous Student Affairs Committee, with volunteers too numerous to mention here (thanks everybody!). Together, they coordinated virtually all of SBA's contributions to student programs, including Brief Encounters, 1L Orientation, the Buddy System, and the upcoming Barrister's Ball. In addition, she provided essential support during Board meetings, including filling in as President at the last minute (twice) when I was too ill to attend. Her contribution to the SBA and this College of Law can't be contained in one small paragraph, but I hope you will all give her your personal thanks, for she certainly has earned it.

In addition, Secretary Rebecca Crowley and Treasurer Mary Sharp excelled at giving the SBA the structure it desperately needed. Rebecca single-handedly published the student directory, and ensured that SBA activities were promoted on campus and documented in the minutes for future reference. Mary brought sanity to an otherwise insane budgetary process, and helped us find ways to fund things out of our tight budget when I was certain the well had run dry.

All three of these women are true professionals, and all came through even though they were also dealing with Law

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO
Their mission, and always gave 110% to their efforts. We were two of the strongest, most convincing ever encountered. I have tremendous respect for both of them, as they never lost sight of their mission, and always gave 110% to their efforts.

Sensible, practical answers to issues have proven to be a team player in his quick acceptance of the least-favored job (coordinating the coffee duty) and his good natured ribbing of the status quo during Board meetings. Finally, newcomers Kim Dawson and Abu Bangura came on the Board at a time when we were short-staffed and helped us finish the year with a flourish of activity.

Several other non-Board members also deserve recognition for their SBA efforts. John Creasy, as Editor of the Docket, brought his incredible energy and drive to every issue, and consistently produced a quality publication. His Editorial Board also deserves your thanks, especially Tara Waller and Forrest Shealy, who provided insightful, sometimes controversial, editorial comments, and Art Corso for sharing his poetic treasures.

Of course, the faculty and administration deserve special thanks, as they have all proved to be open to new ideas and student input. Dean Girth and Dean Stephens repeatedly took the time out of impossibly busy schedules to participate in forums with the students. They both openly addressed the issues that concerned our community, and were always available to me when I had questions, needed guidance, or wanted an outlet for the plethora of ideas and suggestions the SBA has floated throughout the past year.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize a woman who made the past year so rewarding for me personally and professionally. As Coordinator of the Office of Student Life, Brenda Cornelius has provided unfathomable assistance to our Board, especially during those times when I really didn't have a clue about where to turn next. She is a tremendous asset to the College and the University, as well as a trusted advisor to the SBA. Fortunately, even with our busy schedules, she has also found time to become a dear and valued friend. I simply cannot thank her enough.

To all of those who I couldn't address individually, such as Heather Darby, Cheryl Jackson, Charles Gilbreath, Tricia Rackliffe, Tom Gromme' and innumerable unnamed students. I will truly miss it.

Thanks again,
Vicki Bell

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STUDENT COMMENTARY

I feel compelled to respond to Forrest Shealy's commentary in the last Docket issue. Mr. Shealy states that he has "a vision of a law school that seeks to serve the people who pay for our existence as an institution. These people are the people of Georgia. . . [w]e have a school that promotes 'diversity' at the expense of trampling on the values and concerns of the citizens of Georgia . . . I doubt that the school's agenda of promoting acceptance of homosexuality would win many friends with either the state legislature or the people of the state."

Mr. Shealy's shortsighted comments neglect to recognize a few simple facts. First, that gays and lesbians are in fact people, as well as being taxpaying citizens of the state of Georgia who also have "values and concerns". Second, they are students at GSU law school, who also have their own visions and who pay for their education just like they do.

Georgia State's Law School was founded twelve years ago for the express purpose of serving a diverse metropolitan community whose needs required a different setting and curriculum than Emory or UGA could provide. GSU has consistently been recognized on a local and national basis for the excellent education it provides. Most recently that recognition arose when GSU was accepted as a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), the very first time it was voted upon by the AALS board. It is my understanding that most schools are reviewed and come up for consideration at least twice before membership is approved. I personally attended a luncheon with the AALS site team during GSU's review and can attest that GSU's commitment to supporting diversity was a major factor in the site team's consideration.

What does "diversity" at GSU law school mean anyway? It means that the faculty and staff try to ensure that all students who achieve acceptance into this competitive law school get the best legal education possible; that there are not barriers placed in the way of some students' ability to
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THE GEORGIA BOOK STORE
COMMENT continued from page two

succeed based on "age, gender, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, handicap and/or veteran status." (from the GSU non-discrimination policy). Mr. Shealy is a part of those protected classes, just as we all are. His vision of a great legal education may not include allowing lesbians and gays (or anyone whose status represents 'diversity') to have the same rights as he believes he is entitled. However, his is not the only vision.

If Mr. Shealy wants curriculum change, or for his organizations to gain more funding, he may go through the same arduous channels that other groups have had to endure. If he wants the law school to sanction the Attorney General's discriminatory practices by allowing him to interview on campus, he is welcome to raise the issue again. However, I personally wish that he would stop using the gay and lesbian students at this law school as a doormat upon which to wipe his grievances. The manipulative propaganda employed by Mr. Shealy only trivializes his issues.

Lastly, I would like to respond to Mr. Shealy's innuendo that the newly hired Professor Flatt was hired, instead of Professor Friedland, to promote acceptance of homosexuality. Mr. Shealy should know the facts before he speaks. The law school faculty decided to develop our environmental law curriculum and to hire an associate professor with expertise in the environmental field. Prof. Flatt fit this particular need and was the most qualified applicant, therefore, the entire faculty, excluding Dean Girth, voted to hire Flatt. It is infuriating to see law students exploit Flatt's honesty about his sexual orientation as an excuse to justify their anger at the faculty and Dean Girth for not hiring Professor Friedland. It has created a most unsavory atmosphere for Flatt's arrival.

We should welcome a new professor, instead of Professor Friedland, to promote acceptance of homosexuality. Ga State is equal in its treatment of homosexuals and heterosexuals. Imagine, GA State doesn't five a damn as to its faculty or student's sexual orientation! It's non-discrimination policy includes sexual orientation as well as race and religion. Mr. Shealy's real fear isn't that homosexuality is being promoted, but rather that homosexuals are being treated like everyone else.

The truth as to his second allegation is far worse. GA State doesn't promote the acceptance of homosexuality. Ga State is equal in it's treatment of homosexuals and heterosexuals. Imagine, GA State doesn't five a damn as to its faculty or student's sexual orientation! It's non-discrimination policy includes sexual orientation as well as race and religion. Mr. Shealy's real fear isn't that homosexuality is being promoted, but rather that homosexuals are being treated like everyone else.

Lastly, Mr. Shealy claims that the policies of this school are creating animosity between GA State and the Legislature. I have no defense. While it is true some legislators dislike the idea of actually hiring people who are gay and don't lie about it, all ABA accredited schools have non-discrimination policies. The ABA seems to think that we should judge lawyers by how they perform as professionals. Fortunately, GA State enforces that policy.

Friedland has accepted a position as a visiting professor and will teach at GSU again next year. Welcome back !!!!!

Mimi McCain

MORE COMMENTARY

In last month's Docket Mr. Forrest Shealy wrote an article in which he alleged: (1) GA State has hired a lesser qualified homosexual as a Professor over better qualified heterosexuals, (2) That GA State has a policy of promoting acceptance of homosexuality, and (3) That these policies are alienating GA State from the Powers that be.

Apparently, had Mr. Shealy taken the time to ask the hiring committee why they hired the new Professor, he might have discovered that GA State has no affirmative action policy concerning homosexuals and the new instructor just happened to be the best qualified. His suspicion is understandable, some people are skeptical when a black or woman is hired over a white or a male, since we all know that white men are the most qualified. Then again, maybe those people are just bigots. I will not venture a guess as to the prejudices of Mr. Shealy.

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Mr. Shealy, if you object to the non-discrimination policy, just have the guts to come out about it. You see, coming out isn't as bad as I imagined.

Jerry Henderson
LGLSA Member

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

NEWSFLASH

"SUMMER JOBS"

If you would like to work for a public interest law organization this summer AND get paid for it, here's what you need to do:

1. Find an organization that will hire you and have them write a sponsor letter, the letter should state that they have offered you a LEGAL job this summer, and what type of work they envision you performing. (A list of public interest organizations in Atlanta is in the Career Planning and Placement Office. See Beth Brown -- However, you are not limited to working in Georgia.)

2. Submit your resume, sponsor letter, and a letter explaining: a) why you would like to work in public interest, b) why for this particular organization, c) what you have done to advance the fundraising for the fellowships and/or what work you have done generally to further public interest law. (Part c is not a prerequisite for the fellowship).

Send all of this information to: Mimi McCain, Box #379.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS WEDNESDAY MARCH 29th, 5:00 P.M. !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

3. Interviews with the Fellowship Committee for all applicants will follow during the first week in April. If you need any additional information, contact Mimi McCain, Box #379, or by voice mail at 415-6617.
Moot Court

This is a very busy time for the Moot Court. If you have noticed students mumbling to themselves over a turkey sandwich in the cafeteria, or as they drive out of the parking lot, they are probably saying something like, "Mr. Chief Justice, may it please the court...."

All the briefs have been filed and the teams are now practicing for oral arguments in March. Two teams will compete on March 10-12 at the ABA Competition in Miami. The Wagner Labor Law team will compete in New York on March 16-18. And two teams will represent us in the Intrastate Competition right here at GSU on March 24-25. The team members are:

ABA
Sharon Dinwiddie
Elizabeth Jaeger
Kimberly Stone
Matt Lawrence
Bill Little
Julie Sonenshine

WAGNER LABOR LAW
Barbara Chakales
Shaheen Imami
Nicole Todd.

INTRASTATE
Jennifer Mazer
Ken Margolf
Michelle Schwartz
Ailene Page
Tara Waller
Lorraine Sanchez

If you can't get to Miami or New York, please come see our Intrastate teams perform right here at GSU. And in the next few days and weeks, take a minute to wish your fellow students good luck. See you in court...Moot Court that is.

The College of Law has established a presence on the Internet. If you have access to a World Wide Web browser, you will find the College of Law's Home Page at:

http://www.gsu.edu/~lawad
mn/gsulaw.html

The College's pages were created and are maintained by Prof. Patrick Wiseman. He would like to include links to students with email addresses. If you have an email address, and would like to have it accessible from the College's pages, please send your name, as you would like it to appear, and your email address, to Prof. Wiseman at lawppw@langate.gsu.edu.

Thanks.

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DOCKET LAUREATE
by Arturo Corso

Love I have lost, My soul I have lost, Faith I have lost.
I plunge deeply into a pit of despair,
A pit without hope and without truth.
I never knew I could love like this,
I never wished to love like this,
I never wished to lose like this.
They say it's better to have loved and lost
than to never have loved at all.
But those, I say, never really loved--or never really lost,
Because once you lose love,
you risk the greatest loss of all,
Faith in truth, Faith in God.
Like the wind, he says love passes,
And like the rain, my tears flow strong.
I cry for what I had, but most of all,
I cry for what I lost.
And now, I cry back for God.
I fear I'll never love again, but most of all,
I fear that I will love again.

-anonymous

"Phaedra"

Tell me, about the wrinkles of your smile,
And the little curls in your hair,
About the twinkle in your eyes,
And the pretty heart that you wear
On your sleeve.

Remind me, of the anxious drops
Of confusion, falling from your brow,
And the salty, lonely lollipops
Of worry-eyes that for now,
Are all forgotten.

Forget me, never, when you hear a song
That cries, about how warm it is to be alone,
But wonder to yourself, "How strong
Is the Love that has to moan, moan
When you're apart?"

Remember me, when you fall asleep
On your side, And silly-dream about
All the secrets your body can't keep
Hidden from me; Do you ever doubt
That I can see?

Tell me all that you can feel
About this youngish Love surreal!

-By Jac Bavaria

WHAT'S GOING ON

Sunday, March 6th, the Lesbian and Gay Law Students Association is hosting its end of the year banquet. This banquet is open to all current and former members as well as to anyone who is possibly interested in becoming involved in the future.

LGLSA is open to all people of all sexual orientations who are interested in the legal and social issues surrounding sexual identity and orientation.

If you would like to attend the banquet, please call 888-5137 by Monday, March 20th to RSVP.

March 15 A question and answer session with Deans Girth and Stephens. 12:00-1:00. Rm 100

March 15 The Chief Justice Commission on Professionalism is coordinating a mentoring program to match judges and practicing attorneys with 1Ls according to their areas of interest. Submit your resume to the 3rd floor receptionist on or before March 15th if interested.

April 1 BLSA are holding a banquet at Ollie’s Restaurant. 6:00 pm

April 13 BLSA invites Dr. Asa Hilliard to speak about “African Origins of Law” as part of the Minority Bar Reception. 2:00 pm West Exhibit Area of the Urban Life Center.
CAREER PLANNING

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT OFFICE

March 13 - For those who signed up for the March 17 Four-in-One Job Fair, please check with our office on March 13 for your interview schedules.

March 21 - Alternative Careers for Lawyers workshop will be held at 5 p.m. in room 170.

Date TBA - Solo Practice preparation.

April 10 - Motion Hearings on video tapes will be available for two viewings and can be used for 3 hours of CLE credit. There will be a lawyer on hand to answer questions. The first viewing will be from 9 a.m.-12 noon and the second viewing will be from 6-9 p.m. Both viewings will be held in room 144.

Date TBA - Government and Public Interest Careers Program. Call 651-2062 for information.

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THANKS!

to
Ferrin Matthews, Esq.

from all the Evening Students for the great Pizza Party!

Mr. Matthews, a graduate of Emory Law School’s defunct evening program, generously donates annually to GSU College of Law. He specifies that his contributions are to underwrite a fun event for the evening students AND WE THANK HIM!

Delighted students and evening faculty gorged on pizza, sodas, and cookies during the break last Thursday night. Stuffed students then enjoyed a welcome nap during the remainder of the evening.

Desperately Seeking Students

Law student volunteers needed to help staff the College of Law follow up phonathon.

Callers needed for Monday, March 27th, Wednesday, March 29th, and Thursday, March 30th, from 6:00 to 8:30pm. Calls will be made from the College of Law’s 4th floor office phones. Brief orientation at 6:00pm before volunteers begin making calls. Please call 651-2142 by Wednesday, March 22nd and leave a message about the day(s) you are able to help.

No prior phonathon experience necessary for you to take advantage of this opportunity. Learn about another aspect of your law school. This will look good on your resume!

The time you volunteer is an investment in the future of your law school.

Pizza and Coke served to volunteers at 6:00pm sharp.

Thank you very much.

Derek Coelho
Director of Development
GET READY FOR SUMMER !!!

SIGN UP NOW FOR WESTLAW'S SUMMER ASSOCIATE & JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP TRAINING

MARCH 21st-24th