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Georgia State University College of Law

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**PILA Auction Success!**

By Lisa Moultrie

Students, faculty, and alumni of the College of Law attended the 10th Annual PILA Fellowship Auction in the State Ballroom of GSU's student center on Saturday, February 9, 2002. The fundraiser provided living-expense stipends to qualifying students pursuing unpaid public interest summer jobs. The early estimate of this year's proceeds is between $12,000 and $13,000.

The early evening included socializing, food and drinks and silent bidding for donated items. These donations ranged from a homemade cheesecake made by 2L Samantha Johnson to a signed Ken Griffey, Jr. baseball to a first-edition copy of Heminway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls.*

The live auction featured dinners and activities with professors. Professor Sobelson auctioned off his traditional beer and bowling, a student favorite. A last-minute offering to the auction was a 3-on-3 basketball game with Dean Kamshine and Professors Kinkopf and Segall. Attendees bid on items such as a BarBri course and a week in a Wyoming cabin near the national parks.

Student and faculty volunteer auctioneers MCed the live auction. Brian Nichols, 2L, said that he wanted to be an auctioneer to raise money for his friends. "I wanted to make sure I got bids for each item. I'm amazed the autographed picture of Michael Vick sold." Nichols thought that the event itself was the "best bargain in town. If Hamerick, Meleski, and Shannon (Carpenter) think it's a good deal it must be because those guys are super cheap." The admission cost of $5 included food, beer and wine, and parking.

Trish Hinton, 3L, said, "this was the best PILA auction we've had yet." She said that this year's auction had much more alumni attendance. "The alumni attendance just shows how great the auctions have been in the last few years -- more alumni want to come back and participate."

The only complaint many had about the auction was the lack of 1L attendance. "I thought that the student turnout was lower, but we had alot of alumni attend this year," commented Cheryl Barnes, former PILA president.

Students and professors noticed that alumni outnumbered 1Ls: "the only thing I was wondering was where were all the 1Ls?" Brian Nichols remarked.

Despite a lower 1L turnout, the event was a success, and came off without a hitch. "I was thrilled with the results of the auction. I don't think I could have asked for much better," said Emily Gilbert, this year's Auction Chairperson.

**Aftermath of Terrorism**

By Amy Mcmorrow and Alison Pepper

On January 29, 2002 a lunchtime forum on Anti-Terrorism Laws focused on new laws and proposed changes being considered by Congress in the wake of the events of September 11th.

Professor Williams opened the forum with an overview of the PATRIOT's Act, a bill signed into law by President Bush on October 26, 2001 and designed to broaden the communications of suspected terrorists ongoing changes and the potential sentencing each may face.

As the strong turnout at the forum indicated, students and faculty have an active interest in these ongoing changes and the potential repercussions in the legal community. Once the dust settles, it remains to be seen which new laws and proposals will withstand legal scrutiny and the test of time.
The Forgotten Victims of September 11

By Andy Lewinter

On January 22, 2002 the National Lawyers Guild chapter at the College of Law hosted two guest lecturers who presented a program entitled "The Forgotten Victims of 9/11: Discrimination in its Aftermath." David Gespass, the Regional Vice-President of the National Lawyers Guild for the southern region and an attorney in Birmingham, Alabama, spoke about the brutality of the attacks themselves, and the negative effect that they have had on efforts to combat racism globally.

Mr. Gespass condemned the attacks as a crime against humanity. He then criticized the Bush administration for committing to a military solution but not addressing the global economic disparity that leads people to commit these acts. Mr. Gespass talked about his experiences at the World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa. He complained that the conference produced comprom¬mises that gave people hope of progress in combating racial discrimi¬nation worldwide, but the progress was nullified by the September 11 attacks.

Loretta Ross, Director of the National Center for Human Rights Education, spoke next. Ms. Ross described how, in overcoming ob¬stacles of racial discrimination, she developed a devotion to human rights education. She discussed the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and complained that too many judges and lawyers were unfamiliar with the document. She suggested that law schools should lead the way by making human rights education a core part of their curricu¬lum.

President's Corner

By Trish Hinton

"As miserable as some may think law school is, law school has been a wonderful experience."

OK, so I'm lying. As miserable as some may think law school is, as miserable as even I have sometimes felt it to be, law school has been a wonderful experience. It has its downsides: deadlines and stress, reading and studying, embarrassing class performances, disappointing exam results ... . But (1) reading, with your time to make it memorable (let's think positively—no crazy unts like protesting graduation). It makes a world of difference when you have been a part of the process. Enough already with the "rah- rah law school." This is really just to say that I wish I had more time here (but with pay—for some reason, they refuse to pay me). It is difficult to believe it's almost over and that I must be considered.

Senator's Corner: Looking For That Perfect Job

By Danny Coleman, 2L Parttime

Here are some things you should consider in your search for a job:

- Health Insurance: Health insurance should always be an
  important consideration when evalu¬ating a position. If an employer does not offer affordable health insurance, consider not taking the job.

- Do not forget to ask whether the employer also offers vision, dental, and life insurance. A job that pays less, yet has a good benefits package is usually a better deal than a job that pays more but has a poor benefits package. Research the topic at www.motley.com.

- Retirement Plan: Ask whether the employer offers a tax deferred retirement plan, and how much it contributes to the plan. If an employer's benefit package does not offer a good retirement plan, you may want to look elsewhere.

- A place to learn about investing and saving is The Motley Fool at www.fool.com.

- Travel: If the job requires travel, ask how much, how long, and how often is travel required. Jobs that require travel usually lead to better opportunities and additional responsi¬bilities. A job requiring travel may offer a great opportunity; however, your family and personal obligations

Embarrassment, and stress can happen anywhere and (2) it's not work. (This, of course, does not apply to you masochistic part-time

- Student Bar Association of Georgia State University

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- Direct questions and comments to: Trez Drake at thedocket_gsu@yahoo.com.
Law Review
Symposium Explores Hot Topics of Arbitration Ethics and Effects
By Misty Speake

When will you be in arbitration? It may be sooner than you think. Due to the proliferation of arbitration clauses in consumer and employment contracts, chances are good that you will deal with arbitration sooner rather than later in your professional life.

The 2002 Law Review Symposium, Ethics in a World of "Mandatory Arbitration," featured arbitration experts from around the nation discussing the ethics of arbitrating and the effects arbitration has on the court system. This symposium was the first forum in the nation to explore the newly revised Code of Ethics for Arbitration.

"This year's symposium offered a unique format where each topic opened with a presentation by a scholar in that field followed by a discussion of practitioners in that field," said Stephanie Everett, Symposium Editor. "For example, the first panel opened with the former Dean of Duke College of Law, Professor Paul Carrington, discussing ethical dilemma for lawyers. One issue is whether an attorney for an employer can or should draft an arbitration clause in an employee's contract in a way that severely limits an employee's rights, while knowing that this employee will probably be barred from seeking redress in a court of law," Everett added. The symposium also presented an unbiased format for discussion, with two members of the bar on different sides of the issue. "Alan Kaplanisky represented Green Tree Financial, a motor home company with a mandatory arbitration clause, before the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the clause should be enforced. Al Pearson is a local attorney who does not think arbitration clauses should be enforced," Everett said.

Students who attended the symposium learned about hot issues facing today's practitioners. Everett concluded, "no matter what field you think you want to practice, you will probably go to arbitration at some point. More and more contracts are listing ADR for claims instead of courts, and many courts are ordering arbitration or mediation before a trial date will be set. Besides that, arbitration affects our personal lives. If you buy a Gateway computer, a plane ticket, or sign a contract with your employer, chances are you are binding yourself to an arbitration proceeding instead of court."

The symposium concluded with a cocktail reception that provided the perfect opportunity for students to meet and network with the panelists and ask them a few questions.

Sports & Entertainment Law Society
Whales, not Minnows
By Allie Fennell, President

SELS's first guest speaker of the semester, Josh Ziede, is a GSU College of Law graduate of the class of 2000. While studying for his joint MBA/JD program, Josh served as the President of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society for two years. Being the overachiever that most law school students seem to be, Josh started InnerArtists Management, LLC in 1998 while pursuing his law degree. InnerArtists focuses on representing athletes from basketball and football to baseball. In addition, specifically dealing with music, film and literature, Josh practices entertainment law with Cliff Lovette, a former LaFace Records Business Affairs Director. Josh had some great advice on how to get involved and be successful in the entertainment industry. Practicing within the entertainment industry is riddled with challenges. Josh's philosophy is to seek whales, not minnows, better serving his client's needs by cultivating and focusing on the talents of a few athletes ("whales") instead of working with a large volume of clients ("minnows"). He challenged each of the audience members to truly analyze why we wanted to work within the entertainment industry, because that would be extremely helpful in determining which job would best suit us.

Entertainment law, even though it encompasses many areas of the law, is quite specialized and becoming increasingly difficult to break into. SELS has made it a mission to inform the students of some amazing internships, which are not usually publicly advertised. On Friday, February 22, GSU's and Emory Law School's SELS will co-sponsor an extremely exciting seminar. David Fagin from New York City will speak on the topic of preserving artists' rights, and how the recording contracts are unfairly slanted against the artist. David has traveled throughout the country speaking out for artist's rights, and has appeared on the Howard Stern show as well as testifying before a panel of Federal Judges with artists such as Alanis Morissette and Sheryl Crow.

Black Law Student Association
Georgia State University is host to "National Reparations Symposium: beyond Rhetoric, the reality of reparations", February 28- March 2, 2002. This event is organized to increase awareness about the Black Reparations movement; reparations is about much more than a paycheck.

The opening ceremony is at 7:00pm in the West Exhibit area of the Urban Life Building. This event is free. Come expand your knowledge. ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

Co-sponsors of this event include National Black Law Students Association, Georgia State University (GSU) Department of African American Studies, GSU College of Law; GSU Office of Diversity, Office of African American Student Services and Programs at GSU, GSU Spotlight Speaker's Committee, GSU Spotlight Black Life and Culture, BLSA at GSU, Atlanta N'COBRA Chapter, GSU Student Government Association, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (Atlanta Chapter), GSU Black Student Alliance, GSU NAACP, GSU Sankofa Society, Drammeh Institute and GSU Graduate Minority Alliance.

For more information, contact the GSU Department of African American Studies at (404)-651-2157 or email reparationsgsu@yahoo.com.

Christian Legal Society
Students Learn How to Keep Balance in Their Law Careers
By Laura Zachach, President

In its last meeting of January, the Christian Legal Society's speaker Mr. Clare Draper from Alston and Bird's Labor and Employment Law division, shared how he maintains his balance of God, family, and work at a prestigious firm. Draper emphasized the importance of putting Christ first in every area of our lives, including work, which is difficult for many attorneys. He discussed the importance of not allowing the "world's" influence of money to prevent a person from pursuing the One who has given true life. He also encouraged members of the CLS to set realistic goals in order not to forsake family and friends over a job, which has no eternal value, but rather invest in others so that Christ may be glorified. Mr. Draper's words sufficiently encouraged me, along with other CLS members, as we strive toward becoming attorneys. I feel that although the road ahead may not be easy, we can rest assured in knowing that the One who gave us His Only Son and provides true salvation will carry us through. The Christian Legal Society meets the first and third Wednesday of every month. For more information, please contact Laura Zachach at lauramcm_1@yahoo.com.

Organizations

Employment & Labor Law Association
The Employment and Labor Law Association will hold elections for next year's officers in February. Misty Speake, President of ELLA, said this year's officers would like to begin working with the incoming officers in order to have a smooth transition and to ensure that this new organization continues to gain momentum, members, and motivation. Students interested in running for a position can contact Speake at mistys@mindspring.com.

The Docket Staff asks you to LET US KNOW!

if you have Questions or Comments for The Docket staff,
if you are interested in writing an article for The Docket,
or if you know about something that is newsworthy...

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Advice for the Young at Heart

Editor's Notebook

Trez Drake

Don't let your first semester stop you. It's February and you have gotten all of your grades— Hopefully! Congratulations to all you 1Ls for surviving one semester, only five more to go. For some of you, grades were excellent. Keep up the hard work. For others, grades were fine. Except, you can't figure out how you did well in the classes that you blew off and badly in the classes where you studied hard. It's random; but, unfortunately, it happens.

The rest of you are like me (or maybe I am the only one who has experienced this): Grades are well below expectation and you can't even celebrate your highest grade. You are disappointed. Frustrated. You wonder if you are cut out for lawyering, much less law school. And, maybe, you wonder how you ever thought you were smart.

Grades do not determine your worth; you do. First semester law school grades are a mid-term evaluation of how well you can express in three hours what you learned in 14 weeks. They are not an evaluation of intelligence.

If you are in law school, it's a given that you are smart. But, so is everyone else here. Intelligence is no longer the factor in your grades. But, exam performance is. Here's some advice for next semester:

1. Talk to your professors. It's embarrassing, but these folks are paid to help you learn; they also used to be law students. Follow whatever suggestions they give on how to improve on the next exam.

2. Find a friend who did well on exams. Ask to study with them and look at their outlines. Studying alone is futile if you don't understand the material.

3. Keep up with your assignments. Enough said!

4. Use study aids to learn the material. The bookswap, library and bookstore are filled with alternative sources for learning the material.

5. Outline. If you waited until the last minute, or didn't do it last semester, begin today. Making your own outlines helps you learn the material and gives you focus for your exams.

6. Talk to a counselor. If you knew your stuff but had horribly-timed test anxiety, you have time to get help before exams. You can learn skills to help you overcome your anxiety.

7. Rest. Give your brain time to process what you learned. If you didn't do well last semester, you have another semester. A "60" is passing. You need an average of "73" or above to return next year; at least "70" to be invited back on probation. And, most of all, you want to be invited back.

You still have time to make a comeback in your second semester. But now is the time to begin. Get to work!

Careers

A significant portion of students who are now in their last semester of law school stand at a crossroads: Begin constructing the story they'll need to tell family and friends about how the ripple effects of the dot-com crash crushed the dreams of bright legal minds ready to save the world in $125,000 per year increments; or, start looking for a job now. Those who have working spouses, who have grown weary of eating Ramen noodles for dinner every night, or who have Uncle Sam-sponsored loans at the sunset of their deferment realize that the former road is not exactly a viable option. The songwriter will hopefully save at least a few from advanced degreestyle poverty:

- Attend One (Or Both) of the Upcoming Job Fairs
- Public Interest Job Fair (February 22, 2002): employers will conduct both private and "table" interviews.

Atlanta Legal Hiring Conference (March 15, 2002): strictly for Atlanta-area employers seeking to hire students with diverse interests and backgrounds, not just necessarily those who are at the top of their class.

- Take Advantage of the Career Services Office

Spring Recruitment: Remember that the list of employers already circulated is not the end of the story. Many smaller employers in particular recruit on an "as needed" basis.

- Online Job Postings: Sign up for lifetime use.
- Use Other "Traditional" Job Search Strategies

Read the Fulton County Daily Report (or other court organ): Contact local firms who are working on a case you're interested in, and ask if they'd be willing to give you work on a contract or part-time basis. Contract work can be a great way to network and build experience.

- Post Your Resume on Monster.com or HotJobs.com

This is especially a good idea if you are looking for non-traditional or non-legal work, or work outside of the area. Get a feel for which corporations are hiring and what the markets are like in other cities.

- Check Government Web Sites' Employment Listings

Network: Can't say it enough. With job hunting, especially at this stage and in this economy, the attitude to have is one of flexibility. Consider working part-time during the semester to build experience and make contacts. Be willing to work in an area of law that may not be your "dream job," if such a thing exists. Diversify your search in terms of the types of employers you solicit.

Remember that, if you're looking for non-legal corporate work, that companies tend to do less hiring as the end of the year draws closer. Most importantly, don't wait to get started.

Answers to last issue's puzzle:
ACROSS:
1. diversity
2. eject
3. offer
4. bilateral
5. partition
6. talk to a counselor
7. fraud
8. libel
9. perjury
10. intent
11. OCGA
12. arbitrary
13. per se
14. concealment
15. eleventh
16. en banc
17. arbitrate
18. firm
19. subpoena
20. tenant
21. probate
22. gross
23. venue
24. equitable
25. arbitrary
26. gross
27. firm
28. probate
29. surety
30. tenant
31. overruled
32. venue
33. surety
34. permissible
35. assignment
36. fiduciary

DOWN:
1. diversity
2. eject
3. offer
4. bilateral
5. partition
6. abstract
7. fraud
8. libel
9. intent
10. perjury
11. OCGA
12. arbitrary
13. per se
14. concealment
15. eleventh
16. revocation
17. forbearance
18. CFP.
19. heirs
20. heirs
21. FSUPP
22. per se
23. surety
24. venue
25. good faith
26. citations
27. reversed

Trish and Jonathan,
Thank you for all your hard work.
--The Docket Staff

Look for a new puzzle next edition!