

January 9, 2007

JUDGE JOHN L. CARROLL, DEAN

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DEBATE CONCERNING NATURAL DISASTERS

This Thursday, **January 11**, at **11:00 AM** in the Moot Courtroom, two distinguished professors from Birmingham-Southern College will debate the role of government in dealing with natural disasters. The debate is scheduled to last 30 minutes or so. The floor will be opened to discussion following the debate.

Dr. Vince Gawronski, a political scientist, will argue in favor of a government role in dealing with natural disasters. Dr. Gawronski has served as a consultant for the U.S. Agency for International Development, evaluating training programs for Latin American civil defense personnel.

Dr. Paul Cleveland, an economist, will argue that the free market can and should be given completely free reign in handling natural disasters. Dr. Cleveland is a widely-traveled lecturer on free market economics.

Free pizza will be served in the Great Room following the program. All students are invited. Do not miss this timely and interesting exchange of ideas! This program is sponsored jointly by the Cumberland Libertarian Society and the Cumberland Federalist Society. For full bios of the visiting professors, visit the Libertarian Society's TWEN site.

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM

Professor Paul Kuruk will speak to the Cumberland faculty Thursday, **January 11** at 11:00 AM in the Dean's Conference Room. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, January 9 to Rhenae Kennedy at 726.2411 if you plan to attend.

The topic of Professor Kuruk's presentation is ***"Improving***

National and Regional Capacity to Formulate Trade Policy, Negotiate Trade Agreements and Enhance Competitiveness in the Private Sector.”

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR 1L SPRING RECRUITING

The Career Services Office will hold two programs this week to prepare 1L students for Spring Recruiting. The first is **How to Succeed in On-Campus Recruiting**, which will be held in the Great Room at **4:00 PM** on Thursday, **January 11**. The second is **Creating Resumes and Cover Letters that Work**, which will be held at **10:00 AM** in the Moot Courtroom on Friday, **January 12**.

The panelists for **How to Succeed in On-Campus Recruiting** are legal recruiters who manage law student recruitment for the large Birmingham firms that interview on campus in the spring and the fall. **Creating Resumes and Cover Letters that Work** is designed to pick up where the handouts distributed in the 1L Career Services Orientation leave off. This program will focus on issues the handouts cannot adequately address and on common errors students commit even after reading the handouts. We will also discuss reference lists and writing samples and take questions.

These programs are the first step in preparing you for job searches during and after law school. Don't miss them.

DAMALI BOOKER 1L MINORITY JOB FAIR PROJECT

On Saturday, February 17, 2007, The Nashville Bar Association will hold its 2007 Damali Booker 1L Minority Job Fair Project. This minority job fair will be held in Nashville and will be for 1L summer clerk positions in Nashville. If you wish to participate, you will need to submit the following materials to the Nashville Bar Association by **January 17, 2006**:

- Student Registration Form
- Student Interview Rankings Form
- Law School Transcript
- Undergraduate Transcript
- Resume
- Writing Sample
- Cover Letter expressing connection to Nashville or interest in practicing law in Nashville

The Student Registration Form and Student Interview Rankings Form are available online at

<http://www.nashbar.org/2007%201LMinorityJobFair.htm>.

This website also contains all other information about the job fair, including all deadlines and the name of the person to whom you should send your application.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Students with an interest in Cumberland's study-abroad programs in Brazil and England should attend the second informational meeting concerning the programs on Thursday, **January 18**, room 120, 11:00 AM. Students currently registered for either of the programs should attend for additional information concerning transportation and other matters which will aid their planning process. The program should not consume more than 45 minutes.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SaveFirst, a nonprofit organization that provides free tax form preparation services to low-income individuals, will be holding its training sessions on **January 22** and **23** from 6:30 - 10:00 PM in the computer lab in the law library.

Students are strongly encouraged to volunteer. Please feel free to contact Professor DiRusso with any questions.

CALLED TO THE BAR

Substance abuse and alcoholism are at an all time high among lawyers and law students. The *Called to the Bar* program scheduled for Thursday, **January 25** at 11:00 AM in the Moot Courtroom will focus on State Bar Programs which provide assistance in dealing with those sorts of problems. Jeanne Marie Leslie who is the Director of the Alabama Lawyer Assistance Program and David Woolridge who is a partner in the Sirote Law Firm will be the presenters.

CORDELL HULL SPEAKERS FORUM

Renowned attorney **Thomas A. Mesereau, Jr.** has accepted an invitation from the Cordell Hull Speakers Forum to speak at Cumberland on **January 25, 2007**, at 4:00 PM, in the Moot Courtroom. His speech will be followed by a reception in the Great Room.

Mr. Mesereau is a graduate of Harvard University, the London School of Economics and the University of California Hastings College of Law. He is recognized as one of the country's top criminal defense lawyers. He is most recently known for his successful defense of pop singer Michael Jackson. Following a five month trial, Jackson was acquitted on all counts. The acquittal on June 13, 2005 followed a five month trial which garnered world-wide attention.

Following the Jackson acquittals, interview requests were endless. Mr. Mesereau appeared on the **Larry King Live** and **Jay Leno** shows to explain why Michael Jackson was acquitted. **Barbara Walters** named him one of her "*10 Most Fascinating People*", due to his victory in the Jackson case and because of his presence and pro bono work in the African-American community. **GQ Magazine** named him one of the "Top Men of the Year" because of his "determination" against numerous obstacles in the Jackson case.

Cordell Hull Chair, Tyrus Sturgis, says, "Mr. Mesereau has expressed that he is honored and excited about speaking to our student body. I told him that the feeling is mutual. Tom is phenomenal trial lawyer. I am sure that his message will be pertinent and powerful."

ALABAMA CENTER FOR LAW AND CIVIC EDUCATION RECEIVES GRANTS

The Alabama Law Foundation awarded the Center with a \$10,000 grant to train teachers across the state in the *Play by the Rules* program, and the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation awarded the Center with \$5,000 for general operations. The Center is very grateful for these generous donations from Alabama's legal community.

FACULTY PRESENTATION

PROFESSOR ALYSSA DIRUSSO

Professor Alyssa DiRusso presented her article, *He Says, She Asks: Gender, Language, and the Law of Precatory Words in Wills*, as a poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Schools in Washington, DC on January 5. The poster presentation was sponsored by the Aging and the Law section of the AALS, and the article has been accepted for publication in the Wisconsin Women's Law Journal this spring.

FACULTY NEWS

PROFESSOR BRANNON DENNING

Professor Brannon Denning was recently awarded the *2006 Excellence in Writing Award for the Best Cutting Edge Article in Real Property* by the ABA's Probate and Property Magazine.

MLK DAY

In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the University has designated **Monday, January 15, 2007** as a holiday. Classes will not meet. Tuesday, January 16th is a "Constructive Monday." Therefore, the Monday class schedule will be in effect on Tuesday.
