

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back for the Spring Semester 2009. I hope you had a pleasant break and that the semester is enjoyable and productive.

Judge Carroll

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM

Professor **Joseph Blackburn** will speak to the Cumberland faculty Friday, **January 9th at 11:00 AM** in the Dean's Conference Room.

Lunch will be served. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, January 8th to Laurie Zimmer at 726-2411 or lzimmer@samford.edu if you plan to attend.

The topic of Professor Blackburn's presentation is:

Seven Come Eleven: Accrual Formula Under Seventh and Eleventh Circuit "Injury Discovery" Precedent

FACULTY NEWS

JUDGE JOHN CARROLL

On December 1, 2008, Judge Carroll was a presenter at the Colloquium on the Future of Commercial Litigation in New York which focused on Developing a Cost-Efficient Judicial Process for the Electronic Age. The Colloquium was sponsored by the New York State Judicial Institute.

On December 10, 2008, Judge Carroll participated in a nationwide Webinar concerning electronic discovery in employment cases. The Webinar was sponsored by the American Bar Association and the American Law Institute.



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HOW TO SUCCEED AS A SUMMER LAW CLERK

FROM THE
OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

January 9

How to Succeed as a
Summer Law Clerk

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January 13

How to Ace the Legal Interview

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January 20 or January 21

Dining Etiquette Program

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January 27 and January 28

1L Practice Interview Program

Career Services will present "**How to Succeed as a Summer Law Clerk**" in the Great Room at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, **January 9**. The panelists for this program are recruiters and attorneys representing law firm, government, and public service employers. These organizations regularly interview on campus. This program will provide essential information to all who are seeking employment this summer, whether through the on-campus interview program or otherwise. This is also an excellent opportunity to get to know representatives of local legal employers in a more relaxed atmosphere, so be sure to attend.

After the panel discussion, refreshments will be served and the panelists will stay to socialize and answer individual questions.

HOW TO ACE THE LEGAL INTERVIEW

The Career Services Office will present its annual "**How to Ace the Legal Interview**" program to 1Ls in the Moot Courtroom at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, **January 13**.

The speaker for this program is **Mr. Scott Simpson**. Mr. Simpson is a Cumberland graduate, a practicing attorney in Birmingham, and an adjunct professor at the law school. He will discuss interviewing for law clerk and summer associate positions and will answer questions on this and other related topics.

DINING ETIQUETTE PROGRAM

Employers will be coming to the law school to conduct 1L on-campus interviews beginning February 2. Before making final hiring decisions, most employers call several students back for a second interview. The "call-back" interview usually begins at the employer's office and ends with a formal meal at a local restaurant.

Often, these meals require you to sit down before a place setting with numerous pieces of silverware, some of which you may have never seen before. This can be very intimidating if you don't know which fork to use. To help you prepare for these formal meals, the Career Services Office will present an Etiquette Dinner Program. Due to the popularity of this program, we will have two dinners to accommodate more students. You may sign up for a dinner on either **Tuesday, January 20 or Wednesday, January 21**. **Each dinner will be held at 5:00 PM in the Flag Colonnade (near the law school on the Samford campus).**

The presenter at this dinner will be **Ms. Lochrane Coleman-Smith**, who was trained in the same program new Presidents and their spouses attend. She has done this program for us several times in the past and always gets rave reviews from the attendees. **We can only accommodate a limited number of students at the dinner**, so please come by the Career Services Office to sign up on the registration sheet. Be sure to sign up for the correct day.

To defray a portion of the costs, there will be a charge of \$20, which you must pay when you register. Unfortunately, we cannot accept checks. **The registration deadline is Thursday, January 14 at noon.**

1L PRACTICE INTERVIEW PROGRAM

Career Services will hold its annual Practice Interview Program for 1Ls at the law school on **Tuesday, January 27** and **Wednesday, January 28**.

This is your opportunity to receive valuable feedback from a local attorney before you start interviewing for summer employment. You will find this experience very valuable, whether or not you intend to participate in Spring On-Campus Interviewing.

If you wish to register for an interview, you must: (1) sign the registration sheet in the Career Services Office and (2) e-mail Anne Marovich a copy of your résumé (preferably in Microsoft Word format) **no later than Wednesday, January 21st**. Career Services will assign students to an interviewer and an interview time. Each evening, the interview times will be **6:00 PM** or **6:30 PM**.

Historically, this has been a very popular program. Since the number of interview slots will be limited based on the number of attorneys available to interview, the CSO will assign interviews to students on a first come, first served basis.

TAX VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Cumberland School of Law is partnering with SaveFirst in its VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) efforts.

SaveFirst:

A Tax Preparation & Financial Literacy Initiative seeks volunteer tax preparers for working families for the 2009 tax season!

SaveFirst trains college, graduate, and law students to provide free tax preparation services and opportunities for economic improvement to working families in Alabama. The Earned Income Tax Credit is the federal government's largest and most successful anti-poverty program for families who work but make very low incomes. However, 3/4 of Alabama's EITC recipients pay \$200+ each to commercial tax preparers simply to access this benefit. Then, they often take out predatory rapid refund loans at annual percentage rates of 800% or more, further eroding the benefits of the EITC. Students can play an important role in improving the economic situation of Alabama's working families by offering an alternative to predatory tax preparers and payday loan operations.

Why should you participate?

1. Help local, low-income families save \$200+ each in tax preparation fees.
2. Learn how to prepare basic tax returns.
3. Gain IRS certification as a volunteer tax preparer.
4. Develop valuable client interaction skills important for any resume or career.
5. Work with other students committed to economic justice.

Continued on next page

No tax experience necessary; we will give you all the training you need (six hours total, at the beginning of January). After completing the training and passing an IRS certification test, you will volunteer 2-4 hours per week from **January 19 - February 28, 2009**.

Interested? Please contact Stephen Black, President of Impact Alabama, at sblack@impactalabama.org, Sarah Louise Smith, SaveFirst Coordinator, at SLSmith@impactalabama.org, or Professor DiRusso at aadiruss@samford.edu.

2009 CAMBRIDGE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM



A second informational meeting concerning the 2009 Cambridge study-abroad program will be held on Wednesday, **January 21**, room **115**, at **3:30 PM**.

The meeting will offer relevant material for students who have not yet registered and, as well, additional information for students who have registered and would like additional information. Interested students should register with **Professor Floyd** (room 220-B) or **Meg Flowers** (room 220-A) at their earliest convenient time.

CALLED TO THE BAR

The next program in the Called to the Bar series is scheduled Thursday, **January 22** at **11:00 AM** in the Moot Court Room. In this session, first year students will have an opportunity to hear from representatives from the Law Review, American Journal of Trial Advocacy, Moot Court Board, Trial Board and Cordell Hull Speaker's Forum.

1L ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

LAW ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE

The admissions office will be hosting an Open House on **January 23rd** from 10:30 AM - 12 Noon in the Murfee Court Room of Robinson Hall.

Please R.S.V.P to Mary Ashley Powell:

mpowell@samford.edu

or

1-800-888-7213

ASHLEY ADAMS NAMED VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Ashley Adams, a first year law student at Cumberland and a senior outside hitter on Samford's volleyball team, was named Southern Conference Volleyball Player of the Year in November at the SoCon Tournament Awards Banquet in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Congratulations to Ashley for a great season!

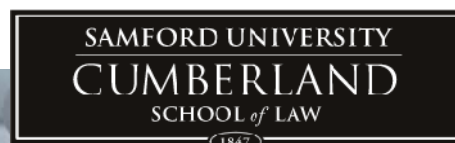
Ashley is pictured on the far left in the photograph.

PRESIDENT'S ROUNDTABLE MEETING

The spring President's Roundtable Meeting is scheduled Thursday, **January 8, 2009** at 11:00 AM in the Dean's Conference Room (room 226 in Robinson Hall).

MLK DAY

In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the University has designated **Monday, January 19, 2009** as a holiday. **Classes will not meet.** Tuesday, January 20, is a "Constructive Monday." Therefore, the Monday class schedule will be in effect on Tuesday.



WHERE GOOD PEOPLE BECOME EXCEPTIONAL LAWYERS