

TRIAL TEAM WINS NATIONAL TRIAL COMPETITION REGIONAL

The National Trial Competition regional round was held this past weekend in Tallahassee, Florida. Cumberland sent two teams to the competition. The team of **Andrew Brashier, Bailey Gladden, Julie McMakin, Robert Price, and Megan Stephens** lost in the semi-final round. The team of **Megan Head, Josh Hornady, Lisha Li, and Ashley Reitz** won and will advance to the final round in San Antonio, Texas on March 27-29. Cumberland was the only school at the competition that had two teams reach the semi-final round. The teams are coached by **Jim Roberts**.

The other twenty teams in the competition were from Barry University, Faulkner University, Florida Coastal, Florida State University, Mississippi College, Nova Southeastern, Stetson University, University of Alabama, University of Florida, University of Miami, and the University of Mississippi.

Thank you to everyone that helped to pick and prepare these teams by judging in the Peterson National Team Trial Competition and watching their practices.

PUBLIC INTEREST CAREER FAIR

Career Services and the Community Service Organization will hold **Cumberland's Annual Public Interest Career Fair** on **Tuesday, February 24**, in the **Great Room**. The career fair will begin **10:30 AM** and end at **2:30 PM**. Thus far, twenty public interest organizations (including several governmental employers) have registered to attend. All students are invited to drop by between classes and learn more about working for these organizations. Many of these employers have paid or unpaid summer clerkships available, so don't forget to bring your résumé. In addition to being a great networking opportunity, this will also be a rare opportunity for a free lunch.

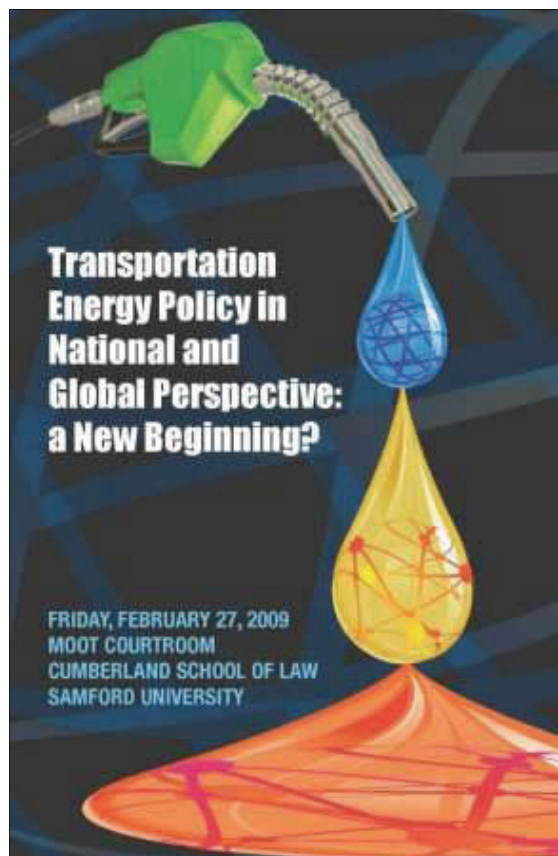
Your Career Services Office will provide pizza and drinks to students attending the career fair.

More information about the Career Fair may be found on page 3.



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BIOTECH SYMPOSIUM

Transportation Energy Policy in National and Global Perspective: A New Beginning?

Cumberland School of Law's Center for **Biotechnology, Law, and Ethics** will be hosting on Friday, **February 27, 2009**, a symposium entitled *Transportation Energy Policy in National and Global Perspective: A New Beginning?* The symposium will be held in the **Moot Court Room** of the law school and will have multiple discussions throughout the day.

Professor David Smolin of Cumberland School of Law will moderate a discussion among all conference participants, inviting discussion by both conference participants and audience, on the hard questions and difficult choices facing both the United States and other nations in regard to transportation energy policy.

The symposium is free and open to the public. For an overview of the conference and information about the program participants, please click [HERE](#). Below is the schedule for the program.

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Energy Futures

Professor Lakshman Guruswamy, University of Colorado Law School

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

United States Energy Policy

Professor Joshua Fershee, University of North Dakota Law School

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

India's Energy Future

Professor Deepa Badrinarayana, Chapman University School of Law

Noon

Lunch Provided in the Great Room

1:15 PM - 2:10 PM

Human Rights, Human Development, and Energy

Professor David Smolin, Cumberland School of Law, Samford University

2:20 PM - 3:20 PM

Point/Counterpoint

Professor David Smolin will moderate a discussion among all conference participants.

PUBLIC INTEREST CAREER FAIR

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If you secure an unpaid clerkship, you will want to apply for the Public Interest Stipend. Applications for the stipend will be available at the career fair and in Cassandra Adams's office in the Community Mediation Center. If you are a 3L and are interested in a permanent position with a public interest employer, this is a great time to discuss opportunities with these employers.

Recent federal legislation provides partial student loan forgiveness to those who work for public interest organizations, making public service a financially viable option for many new law school graduates.

Please contact Career Services if you have any questions about the career fair. We look forward to seeing you there.

TENNESSEE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Tennessee Student Bar Association will hold a meeting **Tuesday, February 24**, at **11:30 AM** in room **120**.

HUNTSVILLE ALUMNI RECEPTION

A reception for Cumberland alumni in the Huntsville, Alabama area is scheduled **Tuesday, February 24** at **5:30 PM** at the Heritage Club. The reception is hosted by **Judge John L. Carroll, '74**, Dean of Cumberland School of Law, and Huntsville Area Cumberland Club President, **Bruce Gardner, '79**. For more information, please contact the alumni office at lawalum@samford.edu or 205.726.2444.

TIRO LAWYER

Tiro Lawyer is a “magazine dedicated to publishing the résumés of graduating law students in a full color magazine and distributing the magazine to thousands of law firms nationwide.”

Tiro Lawyer will host a program at Cumberland on **Wednesday, February 25**, from **noon** to **2:00 PM** in the **Great Room**, and **lunch will be served**. Stop by to learn how they can help market your résumé and help you find a job.

For more information, please visit this link: www.tirolawyer.com.

CALLED TO THE BAR

The next program in the **Called to the Bar** series is scheduled **Thursday, February 26** at **11:00 AM** in the **Moot Court Room**. In this session, **Dean Strickland** will speak to all first-year students about registration and curriculum planning.

1L ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

“MARKET-BASED HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSALS”

The **Student Health Lawyers Association** and the **Cordell Hull Speakers Forum** are proud to announce that **Michael Morrisey**, from UAB's School of Public Health will be speaking on the future of Employer Sponsored Health Plans on **February 26 at 11:00 AM** in room **120**.

Michael Morrisey is one of the top health care economists in the United States. He is a professor of health economics and health insurance in the Department of Health Care Organization and Policy. He is also director of the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy, an endowed research center at UAB named for former Alabama Senator Lister Hill. His research interests have largely focused on employer sponsored health insurance, on the effects of legislation and regulation in health and health care, and on hospital economics. Recent work has examined the effects of gasoline prices, beer taxes, and graduated driver's license programs on motor vehicle fatalities; the effects of medical malpractice reforms on health insurance premiums; and the labor market for health economists.

Dr. Morrisey is the author of three other books and over 150 papers on health economics and health policy. He is a fellow of the Employee Benefits Research Institute, a member of several editorial boards, and the Treasurer of the American Society of Health Economists. He was the first recipient of the John Thompson Young Investigator Award for health services research given by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. In 2000, Dr. Morrisey was the recipient of the UAB School of Public Health Distinguished Investigator Award and in 2001 received the UAB School of Public Health President's Award for Teaching. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Washington (Seattle).

SENIOR CLASS MEETING

A meeting of the senior class is scheduled **Thursday, February 26 at 2:00 PM** in the **Moot Court Room**.

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM

Professor Joseph Blackburn will speak to the Cumberland faculty **Thursday, February 26 at 11:00 AM** in the Dean's Conference Room. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, February 25 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.***

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS PROGRAM



Bobby Chesney, Professor of Law at Wake Forest University School of Law, is the speaker for the next in the series of the Works-in-Progress programs. The topic of his presentation is “National Security Fact Deference,” and the program will be held **Friday, February 27, at noon** in the Dean's Conference Room.

Professor Chesney's profile may be found by visiting this link:

<http://law.wfu.edu/faculty/profile/chesner/>

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE CRAWFISH BOIL

The **Alabama Association for Justice** is hosting a CRAWFISH BOIL for Birmingham area law students **Friday, February 27** beginning at **4:00 PM** at **Innisfree** in the Lakeview District. This is an opportunity to meet fellow Birmingham law students and attorneys and to enjoy live music, good food and free beverages.

Contact Cumberland alumnus **Adam Clayton** for additional information (aclayton@frplegal.com).

FACEBOOK PAGE



Cumberland now has a **Facebook Page**. On it you will find the Dean's Blog, upcoming events, Cumberland links, and you can upload your own Cumberland photos and start discussions.

Become a fan by visiting the following link:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Birmingham-AL/Cumberland-School-of-Law/64008721065>

WHO'S WHO

Cumberland's nominations for the **2009 Edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges** is complete. Criteria for selection were GPA; participation and leadership within school organizations or extracurricular activities; community involvement; and future leadership ability or potential. Please congratulate the following 3L's who were selected by the faculty for inclusion this year:

Janice Rae Ballard
Jennifer Kathleen Benedict
Carin Anne Brown
Alyson Leigh Cantrell
Jonathan Gabriel Carpenter
Summer Austin Davis
Jeffrey Doss

John Rho Ellis IV
Margaret Jessica Head
Justin Lee Jones
Alan Scott Kirk
Lisha Xiao Li
Julie Elizabeth McMakin
Anna Belle Wilder Norton

Matthew Irvin Penfield
Katherine Ellis Reeves
Shawanna Haas Smith
Jessica Joyce Thomas
Matthew William Tynan
Christy Lanter Young
Larry Young Jr.

Students may pick up a certificate suitable for framing in the Student Services Office.

FACULTY NEWS

PROFESSOR MARCIA MCCORMICK

On Friday, February 20, **Professor Marcia L. McCormick** spoke at St. Louis University School of Law, presenting her work on *Revamping Antidiscrimination Enforcement for the Twenty-First Century*.

Tuesday, February 24, Professor McCormick will speak to the faculty at Marquette University School of Law on her paper, *Solving the Mystery of How Ex Parte Young Escaped the Federalism Revolution*.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL FLOYD

Professor Michael Floyd, Cumberland's Director of International Studies, will travel to Hyderabad, India February 20-28 to attend the 12th International Conference on Consumer Law, sponsored by NALSAR University of Law and the International Association of Consumer Law. He will also meet with administrators at NALSAR to explore ways that our two universities might work together in the future, building on relationships that **Professor David Smolin** established with his conference at NALSAR last year on adoption issues.

NORWICH SCHOLARSHIP

Third-year law students have the opportunity to apply for tuition scholarships to obtain a graduate law degree at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, England. The program provides excellent academic training as well as an opportunity to interact with students from across the globe. More information can be found on UEA's website at:

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/law/LLMProgs>

Interested students should submit a résumé and a short essay to **Professor Mike Floyd** in Room 220-A no later than **March 13th**. The essay should address how obtaining a scholarship and pursuing a graduate law degree at UEA will advance the student's future plans.

**The LL.M.
in international commercial
and business law
is taught in
Earlham Hall,
Norwich Law School.**



EARLHAM HALL • NORWICH LAW SCHOOL

ALABAMA CENTER FOR LAW AND CIVIC EDUCATION

Alabama Center for Law and Civic Education announces that the 7th edition of ***Play by the Rules: Alabama Laws for Youth*** has recently been released and is being shipped free of charge to middle schools across the state.

Adaptations for Guam, Connecticut, Nevada have been completed and the Texas adaptation is underway. These efforts are being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, the Alabama Department of Youth Services, the Alabama Department of Education and the Alabama Law Foundation with in-kind support from Cumberland School of Law.

SPIRIT OF SERVICE AWARD

The Law School annually recognizes faculty, staff, and students who have completed 30 hours or more of public interest legal work, community service, or public service during the school year. The recognition comes in the form of the *Spirit of Service Award* [a certificate suitable for framing] and an appreciation event. This year the event will be a Law School ice cream social to be held on **Thursday, April 9, 2009**. The certificates will be presented at that time.

You are encouraged to apply for the award. Examples of qualifying work would include: Street Law, VITA, Teen Court, Legal Services, work done through Law School organizations like the Community Services Organization, Women in Law, BLSA, and the Christian Legal Society, as well as work done through a favorite charitable organization or your church. All 30 hours do not need to have been completed through the same organization.

The application process for the award is easy [the award operates on the **honor system**]. Hard copies of the application are available in room 215 of Robinson Hall (Cumberland Community Mediation Center & Public Interest Project) . Completed applications should be emailed to ccmc@samford.edu or a hard copy delivered to Jeanette Lincecum in Room 215. **The deadline is March 30, 2009.**

LAW WEEK MARCH 1 - 7, 2009

Every spring, students, faculty and staff look forward to the annual events and celebrations which are held during Law Week. Below are a few highlights of this year's events.

POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL GAME

The Student Bar Association (SBA) is hosting its second annual powder puff football game to kick-off Law Week on Sunday, **March 1** from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. It will be held at the Samford Intramural Fields.

Continued on next page

WILLIAMS FRESHMAN TRIAL COMPETITION

The finals of the Parham H. Williams Trial Competition will be held:

3:00 PM

Wednesday, March 4

Moot Court Room

RASCAL DAY

On Thursday, **March 5** at **11:00 AM**, the Law School will honor the memory of **Rascal**, the only recipient of the Doctor of Canine Jurisprudence degree, at the annual Rascal Memorial Procession. Students, faculty, and friends of the Law School (along with their pets) will proceed behind a New Orleans-style jazz band from the foot of Samford's Centennial Walk to Blackacre Patio.

According to Cumberland tradition, Rascal was a mongrel pup who faithfully attended classes at the law school's former home in Lebanon, Tennessee, beginning in 1933, and in 1937 he was presented the rare degree of Doctor of Canine Jurisprudence. Rascal passed away in 1940 and was buried with much ceremony beneath the window where he attended classes. When Cumberland moved to Birmingham in 1961, Rascal's tombstone and a few spadefuls of dirt were brought to the Samford Campus, and again interred at Blackacre, on the west side of Robinson Hall.



After a moving eulogy, mourners and pets will enjoy a hotdog lunch served by Cumberland faculty. As always, judges will be awarding prizes in several categories, including the Best Dressed Dog, the Best Trick, the dog most resembling its owner, the smallest and largest dog, and the dog that most represents the spirit of Rascal.

Make sure you and your pet come out for a great afternoon of live music, free food and prizes in this fun-filled tradition honoring Rascal, Cumberland's own CJD.

FRESHMAN FOLLIES

The Freshman Follies will be held Thursday, **March 5** at 4:30 PM in the Moot Court Room.

LAW WEEK CALENDAR

The complete schedule for Law Week may be found at this link ...

http://cumberland.samford.edu/files/Law_Week_Calendar_2009.pdf

VITA SITE INFORMATION

SaveFirst Volunteers

Thanks so much to all of the students who have completed VITA training! The following is a schedule of when and where SaveFirst is hosting taxpayer clinics, now through February 28:

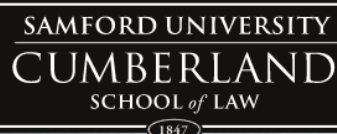
Smithfield Library

118th Ave West
Birmingham, AL 35204
Monday: Noon-8:00 PM
Tuesday: Noon-8:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

New Hope Credit Union

1741 Jefferson Ave SW
Birmingham, AL 35211
Wednesday: Noon-8:00 PM
Friday: Noon-8:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The website at www.impactalabama.org/taxsites.php lists all clinics SaveFirst hosts across the state as well as directions to them. Taxpayers looking for assistance can call 1-888-99-TAX-AL (1-888-998-2925) to schedule an appointment, or they can walk into a clinic. Students looking to volunteer or set hours should contact **Caroline Williams** at 423-914-3184 or cwilliams@impactalabama.org. If you have questions, please feel free to contact **Professor DiRusso** at 205-726-4325 or aadiruss@samford.edu.



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WHERE GOOD PEOPLE BECOME EXCEPTIONAL LAWYERS