

## SPRING 2009 STUDENT BODY ELECTION RESULTS

### SBA OFFICERS

**President:** Roderick Evans  
**Vice President:** Courtney Peinhardt  
**Secretary:** Kisha Thomas  
**Treasurer:** Chip Jett

### SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS

**President:** Rebecca Donnellan  
**Vice President:** Josh Hornady  
**Secretary:** Stephanie Williams  
**Treasurer:** John Hensley

### JUNIOR SBA REPRESENTATIVES

Jesse Anderson  
Ross Massey  
Laura Terry  
Cassi Witcher

### ABA CHAIR

Larry Fantroy

### ABA VICE CHAIR

Alyson Hood

### SENIOR HONOR COURT JUSTICES

Taylor Bartlett  
Andrew Brashier  
John Exum  
Nick Gonzalez  
Shannon Hardin  
Seth Hunter

### JUNIOR HONOR COURT JUSTICES

Cody Dobbins  
Charles Elliott  
Kristin Jeffreys  
Nesha Spencer  
Reanna Todd  
Christopher Yearout



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## CORDELL HULL SPEAKER'S FORUM NEW MEMBERS

The Cordell Hull Speakers Forum is a prestigious group that relies on the dedication of its small group of members to bring compelling speakers to the law school campus. Congratulations to the following individuals who were selected for membership to the 2009-10 Cordell Hull Speakers Forum.

**Christine Baylet  
Jordan Beard  
Finn Cox  
Chip Crowell  
Grant Howard**

**Chip Jett  
Amanda Kistler  
Brandon Prince  
Trey Taylor  
Brandon Zimmerman**

### BLSA OFFICERS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) for the 2009-10 year.

**President: Lakeita Rox  
Vice President: Menyian Woodall  
Secretary: Neshia Spencer  
Treasurer: Kisha Thomas**

**1L Liaison: Larry Fantroy**

**Thurgood Marshall Symposium Chair:  
Sharna Ettinoffe**

### CSO OFFICERS

The following students have been selected to serve as the Community Service Organization Officers for the 2009-10 year. Congratulations!

**President: Krystal Drummond  
Vice President of Community Service:  
Steve Rygiel  
Vice President of Public Interest:  
Laura Cade  
3L Representative: Cliff Nelson  
2L Representative: Kristen Sims**

## WOMEN IN LAW OFFICERS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Women in Law Organization (WIL) for the 2009-10 year.

**President: Alison Tomlinson**

**Secretary: Kristen Sims**

**Vice President: Brittany Waggener**

**Treasurer: Kathryn Varner**

## 2009-10 PHI ALPHA DELTA OFFICERS

Congratulations to the 2009-10 Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) officers:

**Justice: Lauren Goodson**  
**Vice Justice: Lauren McCulloch**  
**Clerk: Jackie Dulock**

**Treasurer: Cliff Nelson**  
**Marshall: Kristin Jeffreys**

## 2009-10 TRIAL ADVOCACY EXECUTIVE BOARD & GENERAL MEMBERS

**Chief Judge:**  
**Bailey Gladden**

**Director of the James O. Haley Federal Trial Competition:**  
**Ashley Reitz**

**Associate Director of the James O. Haley Federal Trial Competition:**  
**Josh Hornady**

**Director of the Herbert W. Peterson National Trial Competition:**  
**Patrick Dean**

**Associate Director of the Herbert W. Peterson National Trial Competition:**  
**Adam Sanders**

**Director of the Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition:**  
**Tim Douthit**

**Associate Director of the Parham Williams Freshman Trial Competition:**  
**Nathan Mays**

**Director of the Albert Brewer Client Counseling Competition:**  
**Andrew Brashier**

**Associate Director of the Albert Brewer Client Counseling Competition:**  
**Daniel Milton**

**Director of the Negotiation Competition:**  
**John Exum**

**Associate Director of the Negotiation Competition:**  
**Matt Davis**

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**Director of the Mediation Competition:  
Rachel Winford**

**Associate Director of the Mediation Competition:  
Clifford Nelson**

**Director of the Arbitration Competition:  
Anthony Michel**

**Associate Director of the Arbitration Competition:  
Tanya Solomon**

**General Members:  
Chelsey Mitchell  
Jay Hartin  
Charles London  
Josh King  
Riley Phillips**

## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE (AAJ) TRIAL TEAM PLACES 2ND AT NATIONAL

Congratulations to **Summer Davis, Timothy Douthit, Shannon Elliott, and Jessica Jones** for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the American Association for Justice (AAJ) National Student Trial Advocacy Competition at West Palm Beach April 2-5, 2009. A total of 224 teams began the competition at the regional level. The winning team from each region advanced to the national finals. Other schools in the finals were: University of New Mexico, Suffolk University, Duke University, Loyola University – Chicago, University of Akron, Baylor University, Stanford Law School, New York University, Duquesne University, Stetson University, Loyola Law School – Los Angeles, University of Colorado, and University of Maryland.

The team was coached by **Mike Rasmussen**. A special thanks to the firm of **Cole, Scott & Kissane** in West Palm Beach for providing a place for the team to practice and other assistance they provided. Thank you to all the alumni, local practitioners, and staff that helped with the selection, judging, and special practices for the team.

## NATIONAL APPELLATE ADVOCACY TEAM

The national appellate advocacy team of **Lauren Ellison, Brad Howell, and Matthew Penfield** represented Cumberland very well last weekend in Chicago at the ABA's national round. The team advanced twice, making it to the quarterfinals (in other words, only two arguments shy of winning it all), but were very narrowly edged out by a team from South Texas.

Cumberland should be very proud of these folks. The quality of argument was very high all around, and every judge uniformly noted that they performed better than most attorneys who appear in appellate courts.

## SPRING MEDIATION WINNERS

Last week, the Cumberland Trial Advocacy Board announced the winners of the Spring Mediation Competition.

**Ryan Stringfellow and Nick Gonzalez**

Also, congratulations to the other finalists: **John Exum** and **Riley Phillips**.

## APRIL 2009 BIRMINGHAM MAGAZINE • TOP ATTORNEYS

Cumberland is proud of its graduates who were listed as “Rising Stars” in the updated list of Top Attorneys in the April 2009 Birmingham Magazine.

**Thomas E. Bazemore, III '96**  
**Robin L. Beardsley, '02**  
**J. Derek Drennan, '96**  
**Anne Lamkin Durward, '95**

**Michael I. Fish, '95**  
**G. Courtney French, '98**  
**Sandra Eubank Gregory, '98**  
**Kenneth E. Riley, '99**

**Barry Walker, '97**  
**Howard P. Walthall, Jr., '98**  
**Lance J. Wilkerson, '04**

## FACULTY NEWS

### PROFESSOR BELLE STODDARD

On March 18, 2009, the Alabama Supreme Court reappointed **Professor Belle Howe Stoddard** to the Alabama Pattern Jury Instructions Committee-Civil for a term ending in 2012. The Committee is currently embarked on the task of re-writing the APJI into plain English. It is a long and arduous process. In addition, the APJI Committee updates jury instructions to conform to current appellate court holdings.

New technology brings new problems for the APJI. A recent *New York Times* story concerning mistrials because of jurors “googling” questions and “twittering” jury verdicts is an example of the emerging problems for the APJI.

The APJI is enthusiastically led by The Honorable Arthur J. Hanes, Jr. The Honorable Julian M. King serves as Treasurer and the Honorable William R. Gordon as Reporter. Leila Hirayama Watson, Esq. of the Cory Watson firm is the technical guru. Other members of the APJI include: Tyrone C. Means, Esq., The Honorable J. Scott Vowell; The Honorable Thomas F. Young, Jr.; The Honorable Robert Bernard Harwood, Jr.; the Honorable Janie L. Shores; E. Ted Taylor, Esq.; Melanie M. Atha, Esq.; Joseph B. Mays, Jr., Esq.; the Honorable Douglas Inge Johnstone; Robert L. Gonce, Esq.; The Honorable Loyd H. Little, Jr.; Bert S. Nettles, Esq. and Thomas M. Powell, Esq. The APJI meets monthly in Birmingham.

### PROFESSOR BRANNON DENNING

**Professor Brannon Denning** was recently quoted in *The New York Times* in an article entitled “Toll Discounts for In-State Residents Draw Constitutional Challenge.” To view the article, please click [HERE](#).



## CAMBRIDGE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

For those students who are free mid-summer, you may want to consider Cumberland's Cambridge study-abroad program June 28 - July 30. The current exchange rates and airfares make this a good time to travel to the UK. The Cambridge program is open to students in good standing at ABA-accredited law schools, members of the Bar, and graduates of approved foreign law schools.

Cumberland's Cambridge program provides an excellent overview of the UK and European Union legal systems in the first week. Then for the remainder of the program students

choose two courses, each of which will enhance their understanding of both a substantive area of law and the comparative-law process. The program also includes a field trip to London, where visits are made to the Royal Courts of Justice, Middle Temple Inn of Court, and Parliament.

Cambridge is a delightful place to spend July, and it is convenient for weekend travel to other parts of the UK and continental Europe. The class schedule incorporates two long weekends to facilitate travel, and it is easy to add excursions onto the beginning or end of the trip. Cumberland's quarters at Sidney Sussex College are attractive, comfortable, and centrally located.

The brochure for the program contains detailed information, including a calendar, course descriptions, faculty biographies, financial information, and other significant topics. You can access the brochure at:

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/files/StudyAbroad2009Brochure.pdf>

The summary page describing all Cumberland's international programs at:

<http://cumberland.samford.edu/students/foreign-programs> also has a link to the Cambridge brochure.

Please stop by room 220B in Robinson Hall to see **Professor Mike Floyd** if you have questions or send him an e-mail at [mdfloyd@samford.edu](mailto:mdfloyd@samford.edu).

## TENNESSEE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Tennessee Student Bar Association will hold a meeting:

**Thursday, April 9 at 11:00 AM in room 120**

**Officers for next year will be elected at this meeting.**



## COURSE AND FACULTY EVALUATIONS

The law school will be conducting course and faculty evaluations from **April 7** through **April 21**. Having students complete these evaluations each semester is critically important to the law school. Faculty use the evaluations to improve their classes and teaching and to identify problems that require action. We thus strongly urge all students to take a few minutes to complete evaluations for each of their courses.

Like last semester, evaluations will be online. The online responses are entirely confidential, as there is no way to identify the author of any submitted evaluation. The system requires students to log-in only to assure that each student completes only one evaluation per course.

**Beginning April 7**, therefore, we ask that all students complete evaluations for each of their courses. To complete evaluations, simply access the law school website from any internet connection, click “2009S Evaluations,” and follow the instructions. SBA representatives will be visiting all classes beginning April 7 to facilitate online evaluations in class. However, students are free to complete evaluations outside class on any computer.

All students in classes which achieve a 75% response rate by the end of business on April 17 will be eligible for a **pizza party** on the last day of classes and will be entered into a drawing for the new **4GB iPod Shuffle!**

## MARCH OF DIMES WALK • APRIL 25, 2009

**Grace Simms** is the March of Dimes Walk team captain for the law school and law library. She has set up a team on Cumberland’s site. Please consider donating to this worthy event or joining Grace in the walk on **Saturday, April 25th** at Caldwell Park.

To join or donate - please go to:

[http://www.marchforbabies.org/s\\_team\\_page.asp?seid=642615](http://www.marchforbabies.org/s_team_page.asp?seid=642615)



## ATTORNEY’S TITLE INSURANCE FUND, INC. LAW STUDENT AWARDS PROGRAM 2009 • WINNING ENTRY RECEIVES \$500

Awards will be made to law students for the best legal papers on any subject matter related to the field of real property law; the specific subject to be selected by the student. The paper must be of such a nature that its preparation will be of benefit to the writer. For example, it may be prepared in conjunction with a course of study in real property or for inclusion in a legal publication. All entries must have a minimum of 3,000 words exclusive of footnote citations, and must be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of each sheet of 8.5 x 11” paper.

**Please submit your entry to Professor Floyd in 220B no later than April 30, 2009.**

## INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION EVENTS

The International Justice Mission (IJM), a human rights agency which secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression, will present a forum at Cumberland School of Law, on **Thursday, April 16, 2009, at 3:00 PM** in the **Moot Court Room**. **Dr. John Robinson**, at attorney with IJM, will speak to law students interested in a potential career with IJM upon graduation.

Dr. Robinson will be speaking in the Moot Court Room to those interested in hearing more about the work provided by IJM and about human trafficking. IJM staff intervenes in individual cases of abuse, in partnership with state and local authorities to ensure proper support for victims and to see that appropriate action is taken against perpetrators. IJM's professionals work in several different countries through the local court systems.

If you have an interest in this area of the law, please plan to attend this interesting program of opportunity for potential employment. For more information about IJM, visit their Website at [www.ijm.org](http://www.ijm.org).

## ALABAMA VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



ALABAMA VETERANS MEMORIAL  
FOUNDATION

On May 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham, **Alabama Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb**, will “Honor Alabama Veterans.” This program and dinner will benefit the Alabama Veterans Memorial park and its purpose to honor all Alabama Veterans.

The Alabama Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc., is a 501©(3) non profit organization. The Foundation was formed to bring to life the dream of a permanent memorial park to honor all Alabama Veterans of the 20th & 21st Century—those 11,000 killed as well as those who fought, served, and came home. 428,000 veterans currently live in Alabama.

For more information, contact Bob Mosca at 205.985.9488 or [avmf@bellsouth.net](mailto:avmf@bellsouth.net).

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