



The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

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Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of September 21, 2015

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Cumberland School of Law's Cordell Hull Speakers Forum
Proudly Presents ABA President

Paulette Brown



Thursday, September 24

11:00 a.m. - Noon

Samford University's Cumberland School of Law

John L. Carroll Moot Courtroom

"Diversifying the Legal Profession During Difficult Times"

Event is Free and Open to the Public

Reception in the Great Room Following the Presentation

ABA President to Speak at Cumberland

The Cordell Hull Speakers Forum presents a lively one-hour discussion on "Diversifying the Legal Profession During Difficult Times" presented by Paulette Brown. Brown is the newly-instated president of the American Bar Association and the first woman of color to serve in this role.

The discussion will be held **Thursday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. — noon in the Moot Courtroom**. The event is free, open to the public and approved for one hour of CLE credit. A reception in the Great Room will follow the presentation.

Brown is a partner with Locke Lord Edwards LLP in Morristown, New Jersey where she is a member of the Labor and Employment Group and serves as co-chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She is also a mediator for the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey and a former president of the National Bar Association and the Association of Black Women Attorneys of New Jersey.

To learn more about Brown, visit her [online biography](#).



Law School Announcements

Moot Court Board Junior Applications Now Accepted

Eligible 2L and 3L students are invited to submit applications to join the Henry Upson Sims Moot Court Board. Membership on the Moot Court Board is a great organization to add to a résumé and allows students the opportunity to gain more exposure to the area of appellate advocacy. Applications are hanging outside of the Moot Court Office on the mezzanine or are available through email. Membership applications are **due by Fri., September 25**. Applicants must meet membership qualifications. For more information, contact [Elise Gilbert](#).

Brewer Client Competition Registration Now Available

Registration is now available for the fall 2015 Governor Albert Brewer Client Counseling Competition. 2L and 3L students may participate. The competition will be held on the evening of Sun., October 11 at Cumberland. There is a registration fee of \$10 per team (\$5 per person). Students can register online. Registration fees are due on competition day.

The competition consists of two preliminary rounds, after which the top scorers will advance to a final round. Rounds simulate the client intake/initial consultation meeting that would take place at most any firm. Participants are judged on their ability to build rapport with the client and get the information needed. The client/judge will have the full fact pattern; competitors will receive a brief and very general summary beforehand.

While you compete with a partner, everyone is scored individually. Top scorers also receive an invitation to join the National Client Counseling Team. This competition counts toward the required number of competition rounds for joining the Trial Advocacy Board.

Registration will be available until **Mon., September 28**. Problems will be released to competitors on Thur., October 8. For more information contact [Alan Moore](#) or [Neil Zaveri](#).

Competitions Take Place Throughout the Fall Semester

The fall **Brewer Client Counseling Competition**: Sunday evening, October 11. Contact [Neil Zaveri](#).

The **Intraschool Mediation Competition** will take place on Sun., October 18 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sign up by midnight on Fri., October 9. Competitors will negotiate settlement agreements while judges act as neutral mediators. Each pair or team will be evaluated on a variety of factors including professionalism, creativity, communication, strategy, and effective use of the mediator. After the two preliminary rounds, four individuals will move to the final round, and from there, winners will be chosen. To sign up, or if you have any questions, contact [Landon Graham](#) or [Richard Sarrell](#).

Cumberland will be hosting the **ABA Regional Negotiation Competition** Saturday November 14 - Sunday November 15.

Birmingham Bar Association Offers Two Scholarships

The Memorial Scholarship Committee of the Birmingham Bar Association meets each year to determine the recipients of scholarships in the amount of \$2,500.00 each. Second or third year law students from either Cumberland School of Law, The University of Alabama School of Law, Birmingham School of Law, or Miles Law School are eligible to apply.

Two scholarships are awarded annually by the Scholarship Committee. The scholarships are based upon several factors, including financial need. Applications will be accepted beginning August 1, and the deadline to submit is **Fri., October 30**. Awards will be made directly to the recipients' law schools for the Spring 2016 semester.



[Download a Scholarship application form](#) for the Spring 2016 semester to apply.

Students May Attend Office of Alumni Relations Events



Students and faculty are invited to attend alumni receptions and luncheons. For students, these are good networking events for those with aspirations to work in a specific location. To confirm your attendance and for full details, please contact Anne Marovich, director of alumni relations, at amarovic@samford.edu.

- **Thur., September 24**

A Samford Network alumni reception for Cumberland School of Law graduates and other Samford graduates in Washington, DC on Thursday Sept. 24 at the American Insurance Assoc., 2101 L St. NW Suite 400, Washington, DC.

[Register online.](#)

- **Thur., October 8**

Montgomery Area Alumnae Luncheon

Special guests Julia Weller '88, clerk of the Supreme Court of AL, Julia Beasley '92, principal of Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles PC; email RSVP to [Anne Marovich](#).

- **Tues., October 13**

Nashville Area Alumni Reception at Lewis Thomason, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., 424 Church St. Suite 2500, Nashville, TN. Co-sponsored by cicayda. RSVP to [Anne Marovich](#).

- **Thur., November 12**

Augusta, Ga Alumni Luncheon Hosted by Sam Nicholson '78 and Judge James G. Blanchard Jr. '68, Augusta Country Club.

If you would like to meet a potential professional mentor, please submit an information (mentee) sheet for our [Student Success Mentoring Program](#). The SSMP program pairs our students with outstanding alumni who will give them a real-world insight into the practice of law. Questions? Ask [Anne Marovich](#).

This Week's Events

ABA President Visits Cumberland
See [page 1](#) for more information.

ALAP Director on Campus Thursday

Robert Thornhill, Director of the Alabama Lawyers Assistance Program, will be in Student Services (Room 124) on **Thur., September 24 from 9 a.m. — 11 a.m.** Students are welcome to drop by and speak with him regarding character and fitness issues related to the bar. Appointments are available but are not necessary.

Society of Arts Holds First Meeting

Cumberland Society of the Arts will have their first meeting **Wed., September 23 at 3 pm in the Bishop Conference Room (226)**. This is a general interest meeting where goals for the year will be discussed. If you are interested in joining the Cumberland Society of the Arts please attend. For more information, contact [Brittany Harris](#).

For an up-to-date look at the Law School's Events, visit the [Online Calendar](#).

Plan Ahead

Career Development Events

Plan Ahead

Pinstripes & Pearls

Presented by the Women's Section of the Birmingham Bar
Tues., October 6, 5 p.m., The Great Room

Questions, contact [Mrs. Nicole Otero](#) or visit the Office of Career Development.

Samford's Events

- [Samford University's Public Events](#)
- [Sporting Events](#)
- [Performing Arts Calendar](#)

Click on event titles for more information!

Faculty & Staff Notes



On August 27, **Cassandra Adams** was a guest panelist at the Mureal Crump Senior Center in Montgomery, Ala. The topic was "Aging Successfully: Embracing the Journey." Adams spoke on the importance of having legal documents such as wills, durable power of attorneys and living wills available during all stages of life. This event was in coordination with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

Cassandra Adams was the guest speaker at the Mountain Brook Progress Study Club luncheon on September 9. The topic was, "Planes, Trains and Automobiles: From Washington DC to Guantanamo Bay Cuba: Seeking Justice for Victims of Terrorist Acts."



As part of the Members Consultative Group of the ALI's Restatement of the Law of Charitable Nonprofit Organizations, **Professor Alyssa DiRusso** offered written comments to the Reporters on the second draft of the Restatement. She also attended the morning portion of the web conference meeting of the Members Consultative Group on Friday, September 18. Professor DiRusso was elected to the The American Law Institute in 2013.



Professor Woodrow Hartzog is quoted in a [Fusion story](#) about deceptive robots.

Hartzog's research on obscurity was recently the [feature of a story](#) on Slaw, Canada's Online Legal Magazine.

Photo of the Week



WIL Thanks Cumberland

Women in Law's first community service activity was a huge success. We want to thank the entire school for your donations and support. With your help we were able to help the children at First Light Women's and Children's Shelter and Jessie's Place.

We know how hard school can be but can you imagine how hard it is to do well in school when you don't have a pen or paper? With Cumberland's help WIL collected 52 notebooks, 31 sets of pens, 24 folders, 23 reams of paper, 4 packs of construction paper, binders, Kleenex, scissors, colored pencils, rulers, dividers, glue, markers, crayons, highlighters, pencils, permanent markers, and pencil boxes. Thank you all again for helping the children!



**Want to see your photos featured?
Send them to [Laura Taylor](#) for inclusion
in upcoming editions of the Dean's Newsletter**