



# The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

## Henry C. Strickland III

Dean & Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law

Week of February 8, 2016

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## Negotiation Team Places in Top Ten in ABA Competition



Rachel Cobble, Coach Brian Turner ('95) and Kevin Bufford celebrate their awards at the regional Negotiation competition.

Last fall, 140 law schools entered a total of 199 teams in the ABA Law Student Division Negotiation Competition. Twenty teams advanced from the various regions to the national finals competition.

From that group, 16 teams advance to the semi-finals of the championship round. Cumberland, represented by Rachel Cobble (3L) and Kevin Bufford (2L) finished the semi-final round tied for sixth place in the country. Cumberland hosted a regional competition, where Cobble and Bufford finished in second place, and the national finals took place in San Diego at the ABA Mid-year Meeting on February 5 and 6. This is the second time in three years that Cumberland has finished in the top ten in the national finals competition.

## Trial Team Advances to Nationals



Coach Sara Williams ('06), Stewart Alvis, Collin Hatcher and coach Judge Jim Roberts ('94) advance to National Finals.

Cumberland School of Law advances to the national finals of the National Trial Competition for the seventh time in the last eight years. The team of Stewart Alvis and Collin Hatcher won their bracket of the southeastern

region with wins over Mississippi College School of Law and Florida Coastal School of Law in the preliminary rounds, Stetson University College of Law in the semi-final round and Jones School of Law at Faulkner University in the final round. Alvis and Hatcher become the ninth team from Cumberland to advance to the national finals since 2009. They were assisted by team member Drew Panella. The team of Amanda Herren, Curtis Seal and Bianca Svennson advanced to the semi-final round of the competition. The teams were coached by Judge Jim Roberts and Sara Williams. The National Trial Competition is co-sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers and the Texas Young Lawyers Association. The national finals will be held March 31 through April 2 in Dallas, Texas.

## Thursday's Seminar to Discuss Veterans Treatment Courts

The Campus Veterans Association and Military Justice Society will be hosting a Veterans Treatment Court Seminar in the Moot Court Room **Thur., February 11 at 11 a.m.**

Speakers include: Judge John Carroll - Cumberland School of Law; Attorney and Combat Veteran Jeremy Glassford - Balch & Bingham LLP; Attorney Texys Morris - Community Law Office.

Veterans Treatment Courts include many facets of law and help veterans in a variety of ways. In fact, most say Alabama is leading the way in VTC. The purpose of this seminar is to inform students of what VTC are, the emergence of VTC in Alabama, the VTC process, as well as the future of VTC. For more information on Veterans Treatment Courts, read Glassford's, "[In War, There Are No Unwounded Soldiers.](#)" For more information, contact [Jordan Thompson](#). [Register online.](#)

Get Connected to Cumberland School of Law for all the latest updates.

The official Facebook page is "[Cumberland School of Law](#)" and the official Twitter account is "[CumberlandLaw](#)"



## This Week's Events

### PICS Hosts Cold Weather Drive to Benefit Jimmie Hale Mission

The Public Interest and Community Service Organization (PICS) is holding a cold weather drive to aid those who are in need of cold weather attire. PICS will be collecting coats/jackets, gloves scarves and any hats. Donation bins will be in the Breezeway until **February 11**. Donations will benefit the Jimmie Hale Mission. If you have any questions please feel free to contact [Emily Irvin](#) or [Depri Hale](#).

### Dangerous Dreams Tour at Cumberland This Week

Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt, LLC and Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton are delighted to present these remarkable productions at Samford University's Cumberland School of Law. Performances will take place in the Great Room.

The American Shakespeare Center brings a unique performance style to Cumberland, blending Shakespeare's stagecraft with modern sensibility.

*Admission is free; space is limited.*

*R.S.V.P. by February 11  
to [Charmayne Fillmore](#).*

### Donworth Moot Court Competition Registration Open

The Donworth Moot Court Competition is an intraschool competition for 1Ls and it is the ONLY moot court competition that 1Ls are eligible for. There are only 48 individual spots available for this competition, so the event may fill up quickly. [Register online](#). The judges will be National Moot Court Team and Board members, National Team Coaches, professors, and local attorneys and judges. Participants will be scored and advanced as individuals, and therefore do not need to participate with a partner. For more information contact [Christian Borek](#) or [Kate Furek](#).

**Sign-up Deadline**      **Competition**

Tues., February 16      Mon., March 14 (Preliminaries) - Tue., March 15 (Semi-Finals) - Wed. March 16 (Final Round)

### Career Development Events

Alabama Defense Lawyers Association  
and Career Development Office Presents:  
Pre-Trial Discovery Skills Session

This session will include an overview of pre-trial discovery including depositions, interrogatories, and request for production.

Featuring: Christie Strange, Porterfield Harper Mills  
Motlow & Ireland, P.A. and Joana Ellis, Holtsford  
Gilliand Higgins Hitson & Howard, PC

**Thur., February 11**

Room 120

11 a.m.- Noon

Lunch will be provided for all who [register online](#).

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

### Samford's Events

- [Samford University's Public Events](#)
  - [Sporting Events](#)
  - [Performing Arts Calendar](#)
- Click on event titles for more information!**

## Law School Announcements

### Writing Competition Open to Students & Faculty

Students and faculty are invited to participate in the 2016 American Inns of Court **Warren E. Burger Prize writing competition**. The submission deadline for the 2016 Warren E. Burger Prize is July 1, 2016. For more information, please contact **Cindy Dennis** (571) 319-4703.



The American Inns of Court Warren E. Burger Prize is a writing competition designed to promote scholarship in the areas of professionalism, ethics, civility, and excellence. You are invited to submit an original, unpublished essay of 10,000-20,000 words on a topic of your choice addressing the issues of excellence in legal skills, civility, ethics, and professionalism.

The author of the winning essay will receive a cash prize of \$5,000 and the essay will be published in the *South Carolina Law Review*. The 2016 Warren E. Burger Prize will be presented during the annual American Inns of Court Celebration of Excellence at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, DC on November 5, 2016. **Submissions are due July 1, 2016.**

AMERICAN INNS OF COURT  
www.innsocourt.org/burgerprize

### Judge Abraham Caruthers Fellows Applications Now Accepted

Applications to be a Judge Abraham Caruthers Fellow for the 2016-17 academic year are now being accepted from rising second and third year law students. The deadline for applications is **Friday, February 19, 2016**. Caruthers Fellows serve for two semesters. There are no separately scheduled class sessions for the Fellows, but the Fellows have responsibility along with the L.L.R. faculty in teaching research skills and citation. Fellows provide additional assistance to their assigned faculty members as needed. This additional assistance may include working with first year students on an individual basis in the library to assist them in honing their research skills. It may also include checking citation format and proper attribution in submitted assignments. Fellows will receive two hours of graded credit each semester. Caruthers Fellows are expected to be available during Orientation to welcome incoming 1L students and to provide assistance to the L.L.R. faculty.

Successful applicants must be second or third year law students at Cumberland School of Law who have either a 3.0 cumulative grade point average or are in the top 35 % of their class. It is also desirable that the applicants have knowledge of and experience with information technology systems as they relate to training in legal writing and legal skills. In addition to possessing excellent legal reasoning and writing skills, the successful applicants must possess outstanding interpersonal skills as this position involves working closely with the law school students, faculty and administration.

Interested students should submit a hard copy of your resume and a short application letter to Prof. Stoddard. The letter of application should include a statement of the reasons for the applicant's interest in participating as a Caruthers Fellow.

## Send a Cupid Gram for Valentine's Day

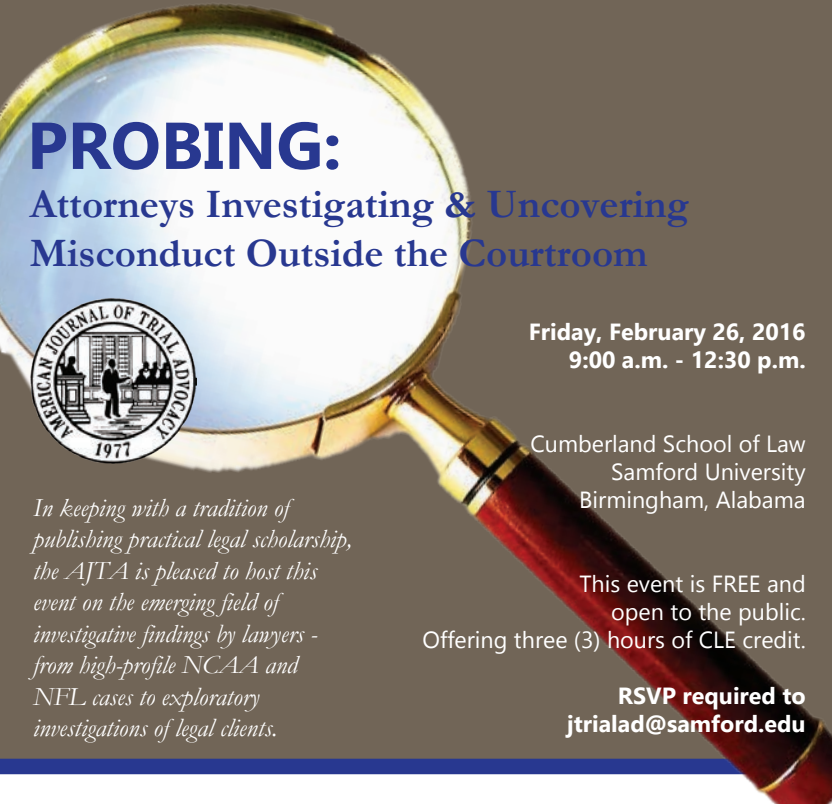
Looking for a unique Valentine's Day gift for that someone special in your life? Consider buying them a Cupid Gram from Cumberland's Society of the Arts. Cupid Grams are personal cards delivered to your significant other/friend on campus by Cumberland student, Matthew Hoyle. He will also sing and play the guitar.

How it works: On Thur., February 11, beginning at 10:30 a.m., the Society of the Arts will be in the breezeway where students will be able to fill out a card and share a few details about the recipient, then Hoyle will deliver the card, and sing a song written specifically for the person with the details that you have given.

Cards with no singing are \$3.00, and cards with singing are \$10.00.

## Plan Ahead

*The American Journal of Trial Advocacy Presents*



**PROBING:  
Attorneys Investigating & Uncovering  
Misconduct Outside the Courtroom**


**Friday, February 26, 2016  
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Cumberland School of Law  
Samford University  
Birmingham, Alabama

This event is FREE and open to the public. Offering three (3) hours of CLE credit.

**RSVP required to  
jtrialad@samford.edu**

*In keeping with a tradition of publishing practical legal scholarship, the AJTA is pleased to host this event on the emerging field of investigative findings by lawyers - from high-profile NCAA and NFL cases to exploratory investigations of legal clients.*



### Featured Speakers:

- ▷ Kenneth L. Wainstein - Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, Washington, DC
- ▷ Christopher W. Madel - Robins Kaplan, LLP, Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Presentations & Panel Discussion on the Practical Applications of Probing:

- ▷ Robert Boland - Ohio University, Department of Sports Administration
- ▷ Jeffrey P. Doss - Lightfoot Franklin & White, LLC, Birmingham, Alabama
- ▷ Anthony L. Joseph - Maynard Cooper & Gale, Birmingham, Alabama
- ▷ Clinton T. Speegle - Lightfoot Franklin & White, LLC, Birmingham, Alabama



## Bar Exam Meetings Mandatory for 3Ls

Cumberland is holding a series of three identical meetings about the bar exam in upcoming weeks. The meetings will provide information on and an opportunity to ask questions about the bar exam, bar exam preparation, and related topics. The meetings will be held in the Moot Courtroom at the following times and will last approximately 30 minutes:

- Tuesday, March 1 at 8:00 a.m.;
- Monday, March 14 at noon; and
- Thursday, March 17 at 1:30 p.m.

All third-year students are required to attend one of these meetings (though first and second year students are welcome to attend).

## BLSA Hosts Chili Cook-Off

The Black Law Student Association will hold a fund-raising chili cook-off from **11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Thur., February 25, in the Great Room.**

Admission is \$3.00 to try all of the chili. Individuals are asked to pay \$5.00 as an entry fee, \$10.00 for groups (of no more than 5 people), and \$15.00 for organizations. Prizes will be given out for first, second and third place winners.

## Student Volunteers Needed for Project Homeless Connect 9!

On **Sat., February 27, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, for the eighth year, Cumberland will join with attorneys and judges from the Birmingham area to participate in Project Homeless Connect 9! at the Boutwell Auditorium (1930 8th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203). Last year, volunteers from all professions provided services to more than 650 homeless or near-homeless clients with issues ranging from misdemeanor criminal charges, social security and housing crises, to health and dental care.

Law students are needed to facilitate intake for the legal services section of PHC9! Volunteers will make initial contact with the client, run a basic search for outstanding

warrants and court cases, and determine which attorney can best deal with the client's issue. There will be an orientation/training session for students that are volunteering with Project Homeless Connect this year. Training will be Thur. February 25 from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. in the Bishop Conference Room. If you are interested in volunteering, please stop by Suite 215 and sign up or send an email to [ccmc@samford.edu](mailto:ccmc@samford.edu) with the time you are available. There are two-hour shifts available throughout the day. All Cumberland volunteers are asked to wear their red volunteer shirt and bring their laptop. If you don't have a volunteer shirt, you can pick one up from Suite 215. Thanks in advance for helping out.

## Admissions News

### Love Cumberland? Apply to be an Admission Ambassador



Applications for the 2016-2017 Admission Ambassador Program are now being accepted. [Apply online.](#)

The Office of Law Admission is seeking rising second and third year students to serve as Admission Ambassadors and represent the law school to prospective law students and their families. The general responsibilities of the Ambassadors are to meet with and educate prospective students about Cumberland School of Law. Ambassadors can expect to participate in a wide range of activities that can be performed to fit their schedule during both the school day and (occasionally) outside of school hours.

Applications are due by **Fri., February 26**. Top applicants will be interviewed in early March and Ambassadors will be chosen following the interviews. Contact [Jennifer Hartzog](#) for more information.

Samford University's  
Cumberland School of Law  
**SPRING OPEN HOUSE**


PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE WELCOME

**Friday, February 26, 2016 • 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

- Tour the law school •
- Learn about the law school, clinical programs, career opportunities and more •
- Hear from faculty and current students during Q&A discussion panels •
- Hear about academic fellowships and scholarships •
- Gain a thorough understanding of the admission process •

To register for the open house, please follow this link:  
<http://2016springopenhouse.eventbrite.com>  
or call the law admission office at 800-888-7213.



**CUMBERLAND**  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
SAMFORD UNIVERSITY

**Know someone interested in attending Cumberland? Invite them to the spring admission open house.**

**For more information, contact**  
**[Jennifer Hartzog](#)**



## Alumni News

### 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.

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](#).


#### Upcoming Alumni Events:

<p style="text-align: center; color: red;"><b>Thur., March 31, 2016</b> <b>6 p.m.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Washington DC Alumni Event</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;"><b>For Cumberland and SU alumni and friends:</b> <b>The Washington Center</b> <b>1333 16th Street, NW</b> <b>Washington DC,</b> <b>20036-2205</b></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: x-small;">PLEASE JOIN Cumberland School of Law alumni, Dean Henry C. Strickland III and Anne Marovich for a casual gathering at</p>  <p style="font-size: x-small; color: red;"><b>Thursday, April 28, 2016</b> <b>5:30pm – 7:30pm</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">644 McDonnell Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32310</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Finger foods/appetizers served, cash bar available</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: blue;">Please convey plans to attend, by Friday, April 22, to Anne Marovich <a href="mailto:amarovich@samford.edu">amarovich@samford.edu</a> or 205-726-2443</p> </div>
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#### This Week- Faculty Event:




JOIN fellow Cumberland School of Law *young* alumni  
and Dean Henry C. Strickland III  
for complimentary pizza and beverages at



**Wednesday, February 10, 2016**  
**5:30pm – 7:30pm**

Your Pie  
1831 28<sup>th</sup> Ave. South (SoHo)  
Homewood, AL 35209

The event is generously sponsored by:  
Lloyd Peoples '98 (owner of Your Pie)  
and Charles Felgner (of Cadence Bank)



Email Anne Marovich ([amarovich@samford.edu](mailto:amarovich@samford.edu)) if you plan on attending,  
so we know how much pizza to have ready!

Faculty are invited to the Young Alumni Event at **YOUR PIE** (owned by alumnus Lloyd Peoples '98)

Wed., February 10  
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

RSVP to **Anne Marovich**

Unfortunately, due to the limited seating at the venue, we are unable to invite law students to this particular alumni event.

# Photo of the Week



*Hilaire Armstrong, the current Southern Regional Chair, meets Cumberland Alum, Mu'min Islam, Esq., class of 2008, in Philadelphia during the Mid-Atlantic National Black Law Students Association's Regional Convention at the MABLSA Chair's Welcome Reception.*

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