



The Dean's Weekly Newsletter

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Trial Team Places in Top Eight in Mock Trial Challenge

This past weekend, national trial team members Drew Panella, Curtis Seal, and Bianca Svensson competed at the South Texas College of Law's Fifth Annual Mock Trial Challenge. One of the few teams composed of only second year law students, the team litigated their way to the quarter-final round before being eliminated. Their efforts placed them in the top eight teams out of more than thirty law schools from across the country.

Panella, Seal, and Svensson competed against students from the University of the Pacific, St. Mary's School of Law, The University of Houston, The University of Pennsylvania, and Stetson School of Law. Bianca Svensson was recognized as an outstanding advocate. The team was coached by Bains Fleming '07 and Setara Foster '12.



L-R: Curtis Seal, Bianca Svensson, and Drew Panella reach the Quarter-final round in Texas Mock Trial Competition.

Samford Honors Leadership of Cumberland Student



L-R: Laura Breedlove, Lieutenant Jordan Thompson and Anika Strand celebrate the success of the Campus Veteran's Association.

On Wed., April 13 the Office of Student Leadership & Involvement hosted the Student Organization Awards Ceremony. Cumberland's Lieutenant Jordan Thompson was honored with the Outstanding Student Organization Leader Award for his work with the Campus Veteran's Association. Thompson said its an award for CVA since he couldn't have done anything without the group as a whole, its a team effort.

CVA is not a Cumberland organization but rather a university organization initiated by Cumberland students. The university has been impressed with this organization and decided to recognize them at the awards banquet.

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

Rising 3Ls Invited to Apply for Inn

Rising third-year students have the unique opportunity to become a part of an [American Inn of Court](#), an organization which is dedicated to promoting the highest levels of professionalism. Cumberland is fortunate to be one of the few Inns in the country directly connected with a law school. Our Inn is the Judge James Edwin Horton Inn of Court named after a famous and courageous judge who graduated from Cumberland in 1899.

In this collegial environment, outside the courtroom and pressure of daily practice and study, members discuss legal practice, principles, and methods. Academicians, specialized practitioners, and complementing generalists provide a mix of skill, theory, experience, and passion. This fluid, side-by-side approach allows seasoned judges and attorneys to help shape students and newer lawyers with practical guidance in serving the law and seeking justice.

As a third-year student, you would be required to attend six Inn meetings throughout the course of the academic year. Membership provides a great opportunity to meet distinguished lawyers and judges and to be trained by them. There will also be significant mentoring opportunities and you will make invaluable contacts.

If you are interested in joining the Inn, send [Judge Carroll](#) an email with your resume and a short statement about why you would like to join by April 22.

Cumberland Democrats to Hold Elections

The Cumberland Law Democrats are holding their annual Election Meeting on Thur., April 21 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 123. They'll be electing the Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 Academic Year; including President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Any Cumberland student may be nominated; no previous political experience is required. Any student interested in serving as an officer or with any questions may contact Law Democrats President [Kyle Pierce](#) at lawdems@samford.edu.

Community Meeting to Address Veterans' Needs to be Held Friday

On Fri., April 22, the Cumberland School of Law will be convening a meeting of lawyers and persons in the community who serve the needs of our veterans. The purpose of the meeting is to assess the legal needs of veterans in our area and determine what resources currently exist to serve those needs. The long term goal is to develop a coherent system for delivering legal services to veterans who could not otherwise afford them. This meeting is being held in partnership with the United Way, the Birmingham Bar, the Birmingham Bar Volunteer Lawyer Program and the Alabama Access to Justice Commission. Students are invited but they will need to let [Judge Carroll](#) know by April 20 at 5 p.m. The meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Bishop Conference Room

Samford's Events

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

Click on event titles for more information!

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

Law School Announcements

ABA Offers Free Student Membership

The American Bar Association offers FREE membership to all law students. They provide valuable services, including the following benefits:

- The opportunity to build your resumes by participating in legal skills contests and applying for fellowships;
- The exploration of practice areas when you join up to five legal specialty groups, such as the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, for FREE; and
- Finding your first job by searching the ABA job board and gaining advice from experts at the career center.

You may contact lawschoolinfo@americanbar.org for more information.

Women in Law Elects New Board

Congratulations to the newly Elected Women in Law Board for 2016 - 2017:

Kaylie Eichholt: President
Danielle Davis: Vice President
Marianna Evans: Secretary
Adria Barnes: Treasurer

Graduation Announcements

Graduation regalia is in! Please note the steps for obtaining your gown, tam and tassel:

- FIRST, go to the Career Development Office and receive a certificate of completion for your exit survey. This is information we must have from everyone. You may complete the exit survey at <https://law-cumberland-csm.symplicity.com/surveys/Classof2016GradEmploymentSurvey> prior to stopping by their office or via computer in their office suite.
- THEN, Stop by Room 201 during posted hours to receive your gown, tam and tassel. You must have the certificate of completion of your exit survey in order to receive regalia. You may stop by today or tomorrow, 9:30 a.m. to 11a.m. While there:
 - o Pick up your copy of this year's composite.
 - o Sign a class composite for inclusion in the university's time capsule – To be buried at Homecoming 2016 in celebration of Samford's 175th anniversary celebration. It will be opened at Samford's 200th Anniversary Homecoming in 2041!
 - o Register in the drawing for a free week in a beachside condominium in Ormand Beach, Florida.

Please note: The gowns were ordered specifically for YOU. We do not have extras. If your gown is lost or damaged, we might not be able to replace it in time for graduation, so please take extra care.



Faculty Notes



Judge John L. Carroll '74 spoke to the Birmingham Young Men and Women's Business Club about the Alabama Ethics Act and the Alabama Ethics Commission on Mon., February 18. From October 1, 2014 to April 15, 2015, Judge Carroll was the acting director of the Alabama Ethics Commission.



Professor Woodrow Hartzog's '02 was quoted in a WIRED piece "[Bots Need to Learn Some Manners and It's Up to Us to Teach Them.](#)"



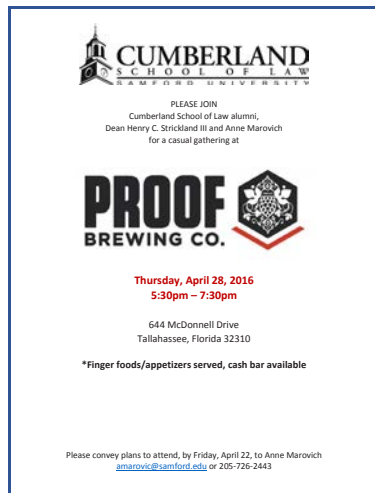
Grace Simms is speaking at the Corporate Counsel Conference in Birmingham this week. Her topic is Useful Apps and More for Corporate Counsel.

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:



May 13 @ 4:30 p.m.:
Reception
For J.D., M.C.L. candidates,
and their guests, prior to
commencement
4:30 p.m., Brewer Plaza/
Robinson Hall

June 16-17: Orlando FL -
Alumni events
June 16 @ 5:30 p.m.
Alumni Reception at the
home of
Mary Ann Etzler '95 and
Bruce Phillips,
Hosted by: Etzler Law
2581 Skif Drive, Orlando,
FL 32812

June 17 @ 8 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Alumni Breakfast at the
Hilton Orlando Bonnet
Creek, Broward Room

June 23 @ 6 p.m.
Alumni Reception during
the
AL State Bar Annual
Meeting
Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin

June 24
Alumni Reception in during
North Carolina Bar Annual
Meeting @ 5– 6 p.m.
The Westin Charlotte
Alumni Dinner @ 6:30 p.m.
Location TBD

August 25 @ 5:30 – 7:30
p.m.
Huntsville Alumni
Reception
Cotton Row

September 1 @ 5:30 -7:30
p.m. Nashville, TN Alumni
Reception
Hosted by Edward Hadley
'94 and



Please join Samford University's
Cumberland School of Law
faculty & staff, graduates, families & friends
for a reception honoring the

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW May 2016 Graduates

Friday, May 13, 4:30—5:45 p.m.

Cumberland School of Law
Brewer Plaza
(in front of the law school)
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL 35229

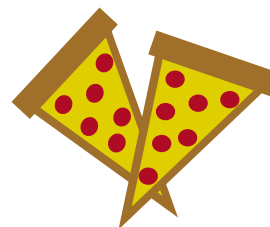
For the student members of the Birmingham Bar Association:

Save The Date! The Birmingham Bar's Night at the Barons Game, Monday, May 23, 2016; Game time 7:05 p.m., with pre-party from 5-6:45 p.m. at Good People Brewing! Join friends and colleagues for a great time at Regions Field! Stay tuned for more details.

End of Semester Updates

Evaluations:

- (1) SBA started visiting classes last week to encourage participation and answer questions.
- (2) You should have received an email with a link to the evaluation of each course in which you are enrolled. Please take a few minutes to complete these for each of your courses/professors.
- (3) Classes with at least a 75% participation rate by noon Tues., April 19 are invited to attend a pizza party on Thur., April 21 at 11 a.m. in the Great Room.



Alternates:

- (1) You must gain permission from your professor no later than 4:30 p.m. on the last day of classes (April 26) if you plan to take an exam at an alternate time.
- (2) Your professor is responsible for the submission of an alternate exam envelope to Mrs. Zimmer; students may not turn in their names or an alternate exam envelope to Mrs. Zimmer. This process is handled administratively by the professor or his/her assistant.
- (3) A list of all alternate exam envelope submissions will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Associate Dean's office on April 27, the day after classes end. You need to check the list for your name and information. If you receive permission from your professor for an alternate but your name does not appear on the list, you need to contact your professor.

Computer Software:



- (1) You will need to download the new version of the Exam4 software at <http://exam4.com/>. ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS HAVE EXPIRED, including the midterm version. Complete download instructions are on our website at http://cumberland.samford.edu/files/Extegrity_Instructions.pdf
- (2) The new computer exam software is available for download now through May 2. In previous semesters, the download option has remained available throughout the examination period. This year, the downloads will be **unavailable after May 2**.
- (3) Complete several practice tests (choosing the "S16 Practice Exam" option from the course dropdown box). You may take as many practice exams as you wish, but always choose the practice exam course selection when taking a practice exam.
- (4) Submit the practice tests wirelessly.
- (5) Notify [Ms. Nelson](#) prior to the beginning of the exam period if you notice any problems with your technology. Technology assistance will be more limited once exams begin.

Complete exam procedures are located on the Cumberland website at <http://cumberland.samford.edu/files/Exam-Policies-Procedures-S16.pdf>

Please let [Ms. Nelson](#) know if you have questions about evaluations or the examination process.