

LETTERS FROM LAW LEADERS

BOARD OF VISITORS

This past year, our Board of Visitors had very thought provoking discussions with Dean Rutledge on the changing landscape of legal education, the unpredictable job market and the key elements of a first-rate legal learning environment. As chair of this group, I assure you the school's response to these challenges has been energetic and creative. Associate Dean Amann worked diligently to position our international law programs as a center of excellence – preparing both LL.M. and J.D. candidates for practice in the global marketplace. Associate Dean Rodrigues launched the Corsair Law Society – a mentoring group connecting transactional or corporate oriented students with alumni in major financial markets. The faculty unveiled a

restructured writing curriculum, the new Atlanta program and additional clinical opportunities. The Career Development Office has expanded its network for connecting our students to “J.D. preferred” positions in areas such as compliance and internal controls and emerging positions in business and other regulatory settings.

Last fall, I met a law student who perfectly embodies the many reasons to support the mission of our law school and to help its students become successful. Marcol Harvey and I met at a reception at the law school, and I learned he graduated from Central High School in Talbotton, GA. Marcol is likely one of the few students from his high school to be in graduate school. Quiet and soft spoken, he shared what a Georgia Law

education would mean for him, his family and his community. At the core of his thinking were straightforward plans to serve others with his law degree. Marcol's first goal is to use his summer job money to purchase a white board for his high school. This is a great reminder of what value can be gained, and spread, through legal training.

I invite you to give yourself an opportunity to get to know these dedicated students, faculty and staff, and to be a greater part of Georgia Law's success – hire a student, make a charitable gift, attend an event or host one. Find your way to engage with our school. You will not be disappointed.

—*Kathelen V. Amos (J.D.'82),
Board of Visitors Chair*

LAW SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

In the fall of 1980 as a 1L in Athens, I became a part of something great – the Georgia Law community – a community that includes scores of distinguished judges, prominent attorneys and corporate leaders. My law practice was built within this extended community. And as an alumnus, I've supported this community by serving on the Law School Association Council, mentoring students and providing financial support.

Now over 35 years later, I am honored to serve as president of the Law School Association. I invite you to join me as an engaged member of the Georgia Law community – our school's greatest strength.

Get involved. Get engaged. Get connected. Here's how:

- Return to the 26th Annual Georgia Law Homecoming BBQ on October 15, 2016.
- Contact Alex Sklut (asklut@uga.edu), Georgia Law's associate director of student affairs, and become a mentor.
- Attend the annual Alumni/Alumnae Weekend on March 17–18, 2017.
- Reach out to Kenny Tatum (krtatum@uga.edu), Georgia Law's senior director of career development, to discuss employment opportunities.

After that first fall in Athens, I sometimes would ask myself, “Well, how did I get here?” I am then reminded that I get by with a “little help from my friends.” Friends like Professor Perry Sentell, who both challenged and encouraged me; Judge Dudley Bowen, who gave me my first job out of law school; Arnold Young and John Tatum, my law

partners from whom I continue to learn; classmates Greg Crochet and Allen Bradley, always ready to share a warm greeting; younger alums (younger than me anyway) such as Rob Spears, who reassure me that good people can be good lawyers; and Professors Dan Coenen and Rebecca White, who arrived at the law school long after I graduated, but who inspire not only students but also seasoned lawyers.

With some schools, you go for three years, and you're over and done. You go to Georgia Law for the rest of your life. I am deeply grateful for the friendships – old and new – made through the ongoing Georgia Law connection. I look forward to seeing you in Athens.

—*Wade W. Herring II (J.D.'83),
Law School Association President*

YOUNG ALUMNI/ALUMNAE COMMITTEE

Last year Georgia Law formed the Young Alumni/Alumnae Committee, a dedicated group of recent graduates committed to staying involved in the law school. Charged with engaging the school's newest alumni and alumnae, the committee volunteered for admissions, student services and career development related tasks. I was honored to serve as the committee's first president.

From the outset, the group connected with recent graduates by sharing Georgia Law news through personal networks – on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. Over and over again Georgia Law news has been inspiring and focused on enriching the student experience, e.g., “alumnus funds

nation's first child sexual abuse victim clinic” and “students enroll in full-time semester of work/study in Atlanta.” We also reached out to admitted students and trumpeted the value of a Georgia Law education and the many opportunities that the law school affords. We look forward to the implementation of a formal mentor program at the start of the new school year, which will guide students through the law school experience and help students plan for their careers.

This emphasis on enriching the student experience is everywhere and you can be a part of it! Join me and other members of the YAAC to find your own way to invest in the law school (time, treasure or talent). Our

group hosts quarterly “Brews & Barristers” events for the recent graduates living in the Atlanta area. Special guests have included Dean Bo Rutledge, Professor Carol Morgan, Professor Ellie Lanier, Professor Lonnie Brown and Professor Christian Turner. Please contact the law school's Office of Advancement at (706) 542-5190 or lawalum@uga.edu if you are interested in learning more about these events or the many other ways in which recent graduates are staying involved in the law school.

—*Catherine H. Curlet (J.D.'11),
Young Alumni/Alumnae
Committee President*