

PREPARE. CONNECT. LEAD.

ALUMNI/ ALUMNAE WEEKEND 2018

The School of Law's Fourth Annual Alumni/ Alumnae Weekend, held March 23–24, included a keynote address by U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Georgia Steve C. Jones (J.D.'87), awards presentations, the annual Equal Justice Foundation Auction, receptions for donors and law school graduates as well as opportunities for students to connect with legal leaders.



Distinguished Service Scroll Award recipients Larry Thompson (top image, seventh from left) and Don Waters (J.D.'78) (bottom image, fifth from left) met with students during their time on campus. Thompson, who serves as the holder of the law school's Sibley Chair of Corporate and Business Law and as the independent compliance monitor for Volkswagen, spoke with students interested in public service. Waters, who spoke with students with an interest in business law, is chief executive officer of Waters Capital Partners and the vice chair of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.



Alumni Harley Yancey (J.D.'15) (left), Steve Jones (J.D.'87) (center) and Andy Davis (J.D.'84) attended the law school's Leadership Circle reception, which is reserved for law school annual donors of \$1,500 or more. Photo by Ian McFarlane.



Dean Bo Rutledge welcomed attendees to Alumni/Alumnae Weekend, which kicked off Friday evening with a cocktail reception on Herty Field. The event was hosted by the law firm Blasingame, Burch, Garrard, & Ashley, P.C.

DSS Awards

TWO DEPUTY ATTORNEYS GENERAL AND USG REGENT HONORED

The School of Law recognized three individuals for their service during the school's Fourth Annual Alumni/Alumnae Weekend. Larry D. Thompson, Don L. Waters (J.D.'78) and Sally Quillian Yates (J.D.'86) received the alumni/alumnae association's highest honor – the Distinguished Service Scroll Award – for their outstanding dedication and service to the legal profession and the law school.



Thompson has held the John A. Sibley Chair of Corporate and Business Law at the School of Law for the last seven years. He also serves as the independent compliance monitor for Volkswagen. He previously served as executive vice president – government affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary for PepsiCo.

He has extensive experience in the public sector. In 2001, the U.S. Senate confirmed Thompson as deputy attorney general of the United States after his nomination by President George W. Bush. From 1982 to 1986, he served as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, where he led major political corruption and drug trafficking prosecutions.

King & Spalding Partner Paul B. Murphy (J.D.'88) presented his award.

Murphy, a former colleague of Thompson, remarked on his friend's willingness to give back to the legal profession, his law students and the country.

"He's probably the best teacher I ever had. No matter how busy he was he always took the time to mentor me and

teach me, and he did that for a lot of other people, too," he said.

"The work he has done is truly amazing," Murphy added. "But what's more amazing to me is that when you ask Larry about this, he's characteristically humble. What he says is, 'I've just been lucky,' and he credits other people. He credits his parents, who instilled these values in him. He credits his colleagues, people with whom he's worked over the years, and I think that that speaks volumes about Larry and the kind of man he is."

Waters is chief executive officer of Waters Capital Partners and is the vice chair of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

From 1993 to 2016 he was chairman, president and CEO of Brasseler USA, which manufactures dental products and instrumentation. Prior to that, he practiced as a certified public accountant, as a partner with Price Waterhouse & Co. and as an attorney with Hunter Maclean.



Photos by Ian McFarlane.

A native of Savannah, Waters currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Chatham County Hospital Authority, the Board of Trustees of the Augusta University Health System and the Board of Curators of the Georgia Historical Society.

UGA President Jere W. Morehead (J.D.'80) presented his award and noted how much he values Waters' counsel.

"Don is also a person of exceptional moral character. You can be assured he will say, 'How can I help?' when there is any problem to solve," Morehead said. "He applies the best principles of a legal education to his work. He is thoughtful and analytical at every turn."



Morehead described Waters as “a great supporter of higher education not only for the University of Georgia, but throughout the state.” He also noted that Waters’ children are UGA graduates and his wife shares his passion for education.

“There is no more generous or caring alumnus of this institution than Don Waters,” he said. “Thank you for all that you have done for this institution and this law school, and we look forward with great anticipation to all the support we continue to receive from you.”

Yates has served in several leadership roles during her career – most recently as acting U.S. attorney general and as deputy attorney general.

She also served as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia. During her time in this unit, Yates was first assistant U.S. attorney and chief of the Fraud and Public

Corruption Section of the office, prosecuting white-collar criminal cases. She was the lead prosecutor in the case against Olympic bomber Eric Rudolph.

Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office, she practiced law in the Atlanta office of King & Spalding, where she specialized in commercial litigation.

Her award was presented by Daniel P. Griffin (J.D.’86), who is a member of the law firm Miller & Martin.

“Sally is a leader,” Griffin said. “Some people are natural born leaders, and they have common attributes. They have integrity. Others trust them and others want to be around them. They coax the best

out of people. They are calm under fire. They’re decisive and they take personal

responsibility for the decisions they make. They are competitive and they are hard working. They have no problem sharing the credit. They can be humble even though usually they are the smartest person in the room and, more often than not, they have a healthy sense of humor – and Sally does.”

Remarking on Yates’ future plans, Griffin noted that Yates embodies the law school’s mission: “She will be prepared. She will be connected. She will lead – and she’ll make a difference.”

Distinguished Service Scroll Awards recognize outstanding service and dedication.

Hawkins receives Young Alumni/ Alumnae of Excellence Award



Young Alumni/Alumnae of Excellence Award recipient Cameron Hawkins (J.D.'08) (right) received his honor from former Fulton County Superior Court Judge Gino Brogdon Sr. Photo by Ian McFarlane.

The School of Law’s Young Alumni/Alumnae of Excellence Award was presented to Cameron D. Hawkins (J.D.’08).

Created by the law school’s Young Alumni/Alumnae Committee, this honor recognizes an outstanding young graduate of the law school who gives gifts of time or talent to the law school community or community at large.

Hawkins’ award was presented by former Fulton County Superior Court Judge Gino Brogdon Sr., who is currently an attorney and mediator.

Brogdon recognized Hawkins for his work not only as a lawyer but also as a mentor to youth and law students across the state. Hawkins is a trial lawyer with Busby Negin specializing in civil litigation. He currently mentors moot court and mock trial teams statewide, including serving as an assistant coach for the Morehouse College Moot Court Society. He assists with the Davenport-Benham Black Law Student Association moot court competitions. He also serves as an instructor for the Fulton County Youth Leadership Academy for Boys.

While in law school, Hawkins received several awards for his advocacy skills. As a student, he was named the winner of the law school’s Beaird 1L Closing Argument Mock Trial Competition and the England Mock Trial Competition. Additionally, he was a member of the winning teams of the Emory National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition and the Intrastate Moot Court Competition, where his team received the Best Brief Award. Hawkins was also named a pupil of the Joseph Henry Lumpkin Inn of Court and inducted into the National Order of Barristers.