Alumni Serving in the Judiciary: Past and Present

One Soaring Eagle: A Tribute to the Honorable Clifton E. Johnson

Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law

Speaker Series Highlights
Our law school has experienced yet another year of significant activity and outstanding accomplishments. Our bar passage rate for 2008 marked continued strength and improvement with the North Carolina bar exam and a particular increase in graduates succeeding on out-of-state bar exams in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, New York, New Jersey and Maryland. Our overall bar passage rate for 2008 is 85% for first time takers. This success is attributed to the hard work of our students with support from dedicated faculty and academic support specialists.

We have also experienced another year of increased applications to our law school causing us to become even more selective with our admissions. This heightened interest in our law school makes us even more appreciative of candidates recommended by the alumni of our law school. In my fourth year as Dean I have realized many things about operating a law school. One of the many things I have learned is that applicants referred to our law school by our alumni usually make good students. So, please keep making those recommendations.

There is a considerable amount of excitement at our law school as we officially make application for full membership with the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). Membership in the AALS is based primarily on the ability of a law school to demonstrate that its law faculty is staying abreast of the ever changing law by continuing to perform research and produce legal articles for publication. I am confident that our outstanding faculty is producing the quality and level of scholarship that will present our law school as a strong candidate for membership with the AALS.

We are continuing another year of excellent guest speakers and special events. In the fall we were able to successfully launch our General Counsel Series by bringing in general counsels for both General Motors Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. The ‘Discourse in Contemporary Legal Issues in Constitutional Law’ is in its second year and this year featured former US Solicitor General and Independent Counsel, Ken Starr, currently the Dean of the School of Law at Pepperdine. Also in the fall, our Moot Court Room was host to the US Court of Military Appeals for the Air Force which sent a panel of Judge Advocates from the Pentagon to hear oral arguments in an actual case before that court.

The excitement is building for this spring when United States Chief Justice John Roberts visits our law school to judge a moot court competition. This is of course a great honor for our law school and will be a memorable experience for our students and faculty.

I want to express particular gratitude for the support of our alumni which was quite helpful in our law school receiving an increase in state funding for the operation of the law school. This increase in state funding has allowed the law school to satisfy all accreditation concerns expressed by the American Bar Association and is making it possible for our law school to provide an increasingly competitive program of legal instruction. This support coupled with a 99% increase in alumni giving is strong testimony of the outstanding alumni of our law school.

This edition of Of Counsel is a tribute to the judiciary and the role our law school has played in preparing individuals for so great a calling. As you read through this magazine I hope you will be impressed with how our law school has served well in producing those who would serve in that honored realm of the law—the judiciary.

These are exciting times for the North Carolina Central University School of Law. I remain fully engaged with being the dean of this outstanding institution and I look forward to hearing from many of you with your ideas and offers of support for our great law school.

Thank you,

Raymond C. Pierce
Dean and Professor of Law
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We welcome your comments, suggestions and ideas for future articles or alumni news. Please send correspondence to:

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SPRING 09
For most of us, there were a number of surprises experienced during our time at North Carolina Central University School of Law. From the classes we were required to take to the people who were taking those classes with us, many of those surprises prepared us for the world of law outside the classroom.

When I first started law school and told my friends at other law schools what classes I was required to take at Central, their responses were usually the same; “What?” “You are required to take Taxation, Business Associations, and Corporations!” “You have mid-terms?” By the time I studied with those same friends as graduates prior to taking the Bar Exam, there was another common response. “How in the world can you remember so much stuff from all these different subjects?”

In law school, I never aspired to serve as a District Court Judge. I just wanted to pass the bar and go back to Tar Heel, NC and be a country lawyer. Now as a District Court Judge, I regularly find myself relying on the information I learned in those required courses, most of which I would have never volunteered to take. At other times, I find myself giving thought to our clinical programs and other experiences I had while attending our unique institution.

During my first civil trial as a judge, I reminisced about Business Associations and the issue of piercing the corporate veil. When I began serving as a judge in our Family Court, I immediately recalled times in the Family Law Clinic working on issues of domestic violence and divorce. And yes, I have even found myself recalling the days of Taxation while working on equitable distribution and alimony cases.

Then there is Central’s uniqueness. All law school graduates will have some common familiarity with the basic law school courses. But in the real world, as opposed to the classroom, there is the challenge of sharing your knowledge with parties or clients from a wide array of backgrounds. Attending a law school with Central’s diversity for three years, provided that qualification.

Discussing Torts and Evidence with those who have been Morehead Scholars, construction workers, surgeons, teachers, and engineers is something you would be hard pressed to find at other schools. It is that experience that has helped me explain judgments and rulings to parties from various backgrounds. Even in Juvenile Court, I have thought of my experiences in the Street Law program during which I had to explain reasonable suspicion to at-risk teenagers at an alternative school.

It has not taken me long to realize that my education at our law school is one of the primary reasons that I have been able to swim the varied waters of being a District Court Judge after working as a prosecutor. As one of three graduates from the class of 2001 who is currently a North Carolina District Court Judge, I am certain I am not alone in my opinion and appreciation for our Law School.

The Honorable Judge Vinston Rozier, Jr ’01 North Carolina District Court Judge, 10th District
Few figures in history have exemplified the alarming relationship between campaign contributions and the political process better than Jack Abramoff. His scandal continues to send ripples of corruption through Washington, D.C. As allegations of impropriety involving hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign financing continue to unfold, it is apparent Abramoff’s legacy will stand as a reminder to the American voters that there will always be people attempting to wield influence over their chosen representatives.

While true civil servants still inhabit the halls of our federal and state governments, some elected officials have allowed their integrity to be compromised in order to raise funds to meet campaign funding pressures. Because I do not believe this fact is an inevitable end to a broken means, I have joined others in advocating and implementing a public financing system and a nonpartisan election process for appellate judges in North Carolina. This effort promotes judicial independence, which helps ensure that citizens of this state are afforded a judiciary that renders decisions free of personal interests shaped by outside forces, clear of political coercion, and free from the perception of improper influence.

To an extent, our effort has been successful. For instance, in 2002, judicial candidates received 73 percent of their contributions from attorneys and special interest groups. However, after judicial campaign reform in 2004, non-family qualifying funds were less than 14 percent. And, under the partisan election system, voters tended to vote for judges based on party affiliation. Records indicate approximately 100,000 fewer votes were cast for judges in each of the 1992, 1996 and 2000 elections; but, under the nonpartisan system, almost 500,000 fewer votes were cast for judicial candidates.

Using these statistics, criticism has been expressed. Critics opine that there are insufficient funds available to run a statewide campaign, and, as a result, voters cannot become well informed. However, voter education of judicial candidates has historically been lower than other branches of government, and, as shown, voters tended to substitute knowledge for party affiliation.

As for my campaign, public financing actually allowed me to focus on educating voters instead of searching for money. In addition, more funds have generally been available for appellate judicial races over the last two elections than in previous elections. Also, under judicial campaign finance reform, a voter guide is now mailed and available online. Thorough, nonpartisan information contained in the guide allows voters to become more informed about judicial candidates.

Judicial independence is crucial to sound decision-making. We do not want decisions made in a judicial environment perceived to be easily swayed by public opinion, political pressure, or the popular consensus of the wealthy. I am proud of the steps we have taken in North Carolina to promote judicial independence.

The Honorable Wanda G. Bryant ’82, North Carolina Court of Appeals
Why am I here? I must be out of my mind. I am a paper mill mechanic with no idea of what I'm about to get into! I'll have to keep working and drive 1 1/2 hours just to get to class...Maybe it will be rewarding in the end...I'll bet everybody here has planned how much money they will make when they graduate. Oh my God, I just want to GRADUATE! Oh well, it is law school. It is reasonable to think I can earn a great salary! I look forward to hanging my shingle and making lots of money. Here it goes...

Those were my thoughts upon entering North Carolina Central University School of Law and before I met Dean Mills, Dean Meddock, Professor Beckwith, Professor Ringer, Professor Amana and Professor Morris, just to name a few. For example, I recall Professor Morris in Torts advising that what we think to be morally right may have absolutely nothing to do with what is legally right or Professor Ringer asking, “What is the rule of evidence; have you met your burden of proof?” and finally Professor Beckwith and his subtle assertion that common sense and the UCC are not necessarily one and the same. The above mentioned professors and the other professors at the Law School laid the groundwork for us to know the legal standard we would be required to uphold as lawyers. Add to that, Professor Amana's constant reminder that there is the Constitution by which we must abide. Then, at every opportunity, there was Dean Mills and Dean Meddock promoting community service and advising us to give back and to look at the law as a way of righting wrongs and trying to make people “whole.”

As I attended classes, and talked to other faculty and administrators such as Professor Surles, Dean Lisa Morgan and Dean Karen F. Alston, I gained a better understanding of the history and purpose of North Carolina Central University School of Law. I also noticed many of the practicing attorneys in my hometown were NCCU Law School alumni who were Judges, District Attorneys, Assistant District Attorneys and Attorneys who often provided pro bono and community services. Then, I noticed First Lady Mary Easley, and North Carolina Supreme Court Justices, The Honorable Robert Orr (former) and The Honorable Mark Martin, giving back to us as Adjunct Professors. At that point, I had a very clear picture of the legal standard I needed to uphold, the Constitution I needed to abide by and, finally, the need for public service.

Looking back on my attitude in those early days, I needed to attend NCCU School of Law. I needed the careful and caring nudging of the
On a bright day in November, retired Judge Clifton E. Johnson enters the building of the North Carolina Central University Law School. For the first time in many years, he enters without the trappings of the judiciary. This time, he enters sans the black judicial robe, in a spectacular suit, with that same swagger of confidence and determination that those who know him recognize as uniquely his.

The word gets around quickly: Judge Johnson (not Elvis) is in the building. Before he can negotiate the short path to the conference room of the law school, where he is to meet me for this interview, Judge Johnson must make numerous stops to speak to all of the folk he has come to know over the years. These stops indelibly include a stop by the Deans’ Office to do two things. First, to inquire of the Dean how the law school is progressing, and second, to tell the charming and gentle lady who has been secretary to the deans of the law school for more than twenty years, Mrs. Iris Gilchrist, a joke or two. And if there is a young student who looks like he or she needs an encouraging word, Judge Johnson does not hesitate to stop and give a word of encouragement. You see, Judge Johnson knows, first hand, what it means to lose self-confidence.

When Judge Johnson came from the small Martin County town of Williamston, North Carolina to the hustle and bustle of NCCU (then North Carolina College) at Durham, he lost confidence in his abilities. Haunted by fears of failure and embarrassing his family and himself, Judge Johnson withdrew from college. He called his mother, told her that he had withdrawn from school and asked her to have someone come and pick him up. His mother told him to take the bus home. So, he sold some of his meager belongings to other students to get the bus fare home, said good-bye to his roommate and friends, and returned to Williamston, but not for long.

Upon arriving in Williamston via bus, he called home again and asked his mother to have someone pick him up at the bus station. She told him to take a cab. Judge Johnson caught a cab, and to his surprise, the cab driver even knew that he had quit school. When he arrived home, he was greeted by several friends, relatives and teachers who were waiting to counsel the apprehensive Clifton Johnson. After listening to the advice and kind ministrations of those persons, Judge Johnson soon decided that he would return to college. However, when he called NCCU to seek re-admission, he was told that he could return, but that he would have to secure off-campus housing. His room space in Chidley Hall, the only dormitory for male students, had been given to another student. There was no available room left in the dorm, or anywhere else on campus.

Although he was willing to return to NCCU, things looked bleak because his family did not have financial resources to pay for off-campus housing. Two of the teachers who greeted him upon his arrival home, Mr. Leroy Mizell and Mr. Richard Broadnax, were graduates of North Carolina A&T State University at Greensboro. They offered to assist Judge Johnson in getting into A&T, if he would consider going there. His mother, knowing that Clifton desired to attend law school and that NCCU had a law school, thanked them, but insisted that her son would return to Durham to attend college. Mrs. Johnson then called her sister who was living in Durham, and after explaining the situation to her, asked if Clifton could live with her family while attending NCCU. Mrs. Johnson’s sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Lossie Mason, gladly welcomed their nephew into their home. Judge Johnson, accompanied by the same self-confidence that has accompanied him throughout a most stellar career, returned to NCCU within two weeks of his earlier departure.

Judge Johnson, or Clift as some know him, is one of NCCU’s most distinguished alumni. Judge Johnson enjoyed a phenomenal career, entailing many firsts. After earning his undergraduate degree in 1965, Judge Johnson obtained his law degree in 1967. Thereafter, he went on to work as an associate attorney, first...
with Durham Attorney C.C. "Buddy" Malone, Jr., and then with the Durham law firm of Pearson, Malone, Johnson and DeJarmon until the end of December 1968. But it was not long before, recognizing the strong spirit of a pioneer, Judge Johnson was tapped in January, 1969 to be the first African-American Assistant State Prosecutor for North Carolina since the 19th century (on January 1, 1969, he was hired as an Assistant State Prosecutor in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina). Within six months, Judge Johnson would be appointed to be a District Court Judge of Mecklenburg County by Governor Bob Scott. In 1974, Judge Johnson became North Carolina's first African-American Chief District Court Judge. In 1977, he would become North Carolina's first African-American Resident Superior Court Judge. Finally, in 1982, Governor Jim Hunt appointed Judge Johnson to the North Carolina Court of Appeals, where he was elected, re-elected and served until his retirement as Senior Associate Judge in December of 1996. While on the appellate court, he served as the state's first African-American Chairman of the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission. Being one who forged many new paths, Judge Johnson, this quintessential man, has been ever-conscious of the need to continue to bridge the divide between the races.

Judge Johnson is the type of person who leads by example. He is not in the habit of asking or encouraging others to do that which he himself would not do. Therefore, Judge Johnson, through the years, without substituting or compromising qualification and ability with race or gender, did not hesitate to integrate his staff of clerks. He would also encourage other justices and judges to consider the benefits of such diversity (the diversity in Judge Johnson's hiring practices was very evident by the wonderful diverse group of former law clerks who returned to help honor him at a retirement dinner/roast held in March 1997).

There were two other notable facts regarding Judge Johnson’s hiring practices. First, at least one of his law clerks was always a graduate of NCCU School of Law. And second, he would not hire anyone who was not a registered and participating voter. He was not concerned with, nor did he inquire as to an applicant’s party affiliation. However, during an interview, he would first ask an applicant if he or she was a registered voter, and then ask if he or she was a participating voter. If the applicant answered “No” to either of the questions, the applicant...
was not considered further for employment. If the applicant answered “Yes” to both questions, Judge Johnson would then ask the applicant where he or she was registered. He would then inform the applicant that he would have his Executive Assistant call the Board of Elections, not to inquire about the applicant’s party affiliation, but to verify that the applicant was, in fact, a registered and participating voter.

To this very day, Judge Johnson encourages and expects each young person of his acquaintance to be or to become a registered and participating voter. He recognizes the right to vote as a hard-fought right. In fact, one of the rules of his household was that each of his children, upon turning eighteen, had to become a registered and participating voter. Judge Johnson realizes that we are all a product of our past, and rejoices in participation voter. Judge Johnson realizes that we are all a product of our past, and rejoices in turn, as the children of a prominent family. You see, however, Mr. Charlie Mack and Mrs. Willie Ann Johnson, in Williamston, North Carolina. He was the fourth of nine children. His mother was a domestic and factory worker and his father was a custodian at the U.S. Post Office. For a brief time, his father was also Williamston’s first African-American police officer. His father quit the police force after being “called on the carpet” for having arrested a young white fellow of a prominent family. You see, however, Mr. Charlie Johnson quit the force because he could not countenance the hypocrisy of the job. He had previously arrested one of his own children, and felt that if he could arrest one of his own children, he could arrest anyone regardless of race, or socio-economic status. This incident and the death of Joe Cross, a North Carolina A&T University student rumored to be dating a white lady, inspired an impressionable Clifton Johnson to become an attorney.

Joe Cross was killed by Martin County law enforcement officers in 1957, while en route to pick up his date, who happened to be an African-American young lady. Clifton Johnson was just fourteen when Cross was killed and at Cross’ home when NAACP attorneys arrived to discuss the matter with Mr. Jessie Rogers, Cross’ uncle, with whom Cross had been living. No one was ever convicted of Cross’ murder, but some good did result in this tragedy. The young Johnson was so impressed with the NAACP attorneys, that he decided he wanted to be an attorney. Boy, does he know how to follow through with a decision!

Judge Johnson served an adoring public for twenty-five years before returning to the bosom of his family. Judge Johnson married his high school sweetheart, Brenda Joyce Wilson, more than thirty-four years ago. This union was blessed with two biological and two adopted children. Yulonda, Clifton II, Khiva and Clinton. Yulonda, Clifton II and Khiva are all graduates of NCCU. Judge Johnson is the proud grandfather of nine grandchildren. To one who loves his family so much, retirement has been a bittersweet experience. Sadly, Brenda, who suffered a stroke in 1984, and was unable to actively join Judge Johnson in his retirement and passed away last year.

For those who are aware of the hard work, perseverance, honor, courage, and integrity of this great man, one only need look as far as the minions that he has nurtured and influenced not just his children and grandchildren, but all of those who he has touched during his lifetime. This is all a part of his legacy.

On March 15, 1997, there were few dry eyes during his Retirement Dinner Roast, what was to be an evening to celebrate and pay tribute to this monolith of the judiciary. But in typical Clifton Johnson style, he would not let an opportunity pass to honor and support his Alma Mater. On that evening, while more than 500 friends and associates gathered to honor this great man, Judge Johnson ensured that there would be an opportunity to support aspiring young lawyers at NCCU. Proceeds from the dinner would be used to create an endowed scholarship in his name.

Many who know him, know that this man is one of the most selfless human beings who has ever walked this earth. He is constantly giving, but he will tell you that in giving, he receives far more than any man can measure--the love, the respect, the unfettered adulation of all who meet him. Whether it was his great wit, wicked sense of humor, or indelible determination to make a difference, the love and affection of many were apparent on that March evening at the Sheraton.

It is unsurprising that as a man of many firsts, Judge Johnson has but two goals he wishes to accomplish before he closes the final chapter in his life’s book. One of these goals is to shoot a round of par golf. The other goal is to pilot an airplane. These goals somehow do not seem strange. Many, who have met and know this gentleman, know his love for the game of golf and his desire to excel each time he “surveys real estate.” The other goal, to pilot an airplane, seems most appropriate for one who has piloted many people to success. Flight seems second nature for this mighty eagle.

Reprinted and updated by Brenda Gibson ’95, the Legal Writing Director at NCCU School of Law.
The Connecticut Judicial Branch, in collaboration with the Friends of the Justice Glass Committee, named the Juvenile Matters Superior Courthouse after the Honorable Justice Robert D. Glass ’51, on May 19, 2008, in a dedication ceremony on the grounds of the courthouse in Waterbury, Connecticut.

Below are excerpts from an article published in the Connecticut Reports, “A Jurist Who Paved the Way.”

Justice Glass was born November 28, 1922, in Wetumpka, Alabama, to Isaiah and M. E. Glass, a farmhand and a domestic worker. Lacking the money to buy books, Justice Glass was not able to begin school until he reached the age of ten. Once he was able to enroll in school, the only one that was open to him was a racially segregated school. From 1943 to 1946, Justice Glass served his country in the United States Army, earning several decorations. In 1949, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, from North Carolina Central University. Despite his rejection, because of his race, from the all-white University of North Carolina, Justice Glass persevered in his dream of having a career in the law and entered North Carolina Central University School of Law, from which he received a Bachelor of Laws degree, cum laude, in 1951, as the top student in his class. He was admitted to practice in North Carolina in 1951.

After moving to Connecticut, Justice Glass settled in Waterbury and, from 1961 to 1962, was a claims examiner for the Connecticut Department of Labor. He was admitted to practice in Connecticut in 1962. In 1964, he served on the Waterbury Committee on Human Rights, and from 1966 to 1967, he served as Assistant United States Attorney for Connecticut. On September 1, 1967, Justice Glass became a judge of the Juvenile Court and served there until his appointment, in 1978, to the Superior Court. In recognition of his administrative talents, Justice Glass, in 1984, was appointed administrative judge for the judicial district of Waterbury, where he remained until he was sworn in as an associate justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court on June 26, 1987. He remained a member of the Supreme Court until November 1992, when he reached the constitutional age limitation of seventy years.

In an article published in the Hartford Courant December 11, 2001, Judge Charles D. Gill noted that Justice Glass “always was modest about himself, yet always praised the accomplishment of others…. [H]e loved his family, his church and his America…. He knew what was important in life and what was not.” Former Chief Justice Ellen Peters, in remarks made on the final day that Justice Glass heard cases on the Supreme Court, noted that “[t]he opinions that Justice Glass has crafted will stand as a legacy for generations to come. Yet it is not solely his legal acumen that is his legacy to us all. What we will also continue to remember, always, is his dignity, his wisdom, and his respect for each person, not only for what that person has been, but for what that person can become.” In truth, Justice Glass himself epitomized the triumph of determination over overwhelming odds.

Justice Robert D. Glass passed away November 27, 2001, just one day before what would have been his seventy-ninth birthday. Justice Glass, who stood six feet, nine inches tall, has been described as a giant of a man, in both the figurative and literal senses, and as the embodiment of the “American Dream.”

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Judge James R. Adams received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, and his Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1982.

Judge Adams served as legal counsel to Southwest Florida International Airport. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Adams worked both sides of the court room: first as Assistant County Attorney and later, as an Assistant Public Defender. He was elected County Court Judge in Lee County, Florida in 1992. He has chaired the Arbitration/Mediation Advisory Board, and served on the Florida Bar Grievance Committee, Edison Community College Board of Trustees, and the Lee County Y.M.C.A. Board.

Judge Adams has numerous affiliations including: Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Lee County Affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, Lehigh Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees (Vice-Chairman 2006) and President/ Master Calusa Inn of Court. He also served as the Administrative Judge for Lee County Court from 1999 to 2006.

He currently serves on the DUI School Review Board under the jurisdiction of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Judge Adams is the father of three sons.

Judge J. Henry Banks received his Bachelor of Science degree from North Carolina Central University in 1967, and his Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1973.

Judge Banks served in the United States Army and was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant. He was engaged in the private practice of law in Henderson, North Carolina, from 1973 until 1996. He also served on the Henderson City Council from 1983 until 1996, which included 1993 to 1996 as Mayor Pro Tem. In April 1996, Governor James B. Hunt appointed him District Court Judge for the Ninth Judicial District.
Judge William A. Cobb, Jr. received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1978. He is the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for the Fifth Superior Court District. Judge Cobb was in private practice for twelve years prior to his election to the District Court bench in 1990.

He was appointed to be a Resident Superior Court Judge in 1993 and was elected to that position in 1994 and 2002. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges and has been appointed by the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court to serve on the North Carolina Courts Commission, the Committee on Permitted Political Conduct and the Task Force for the Reorganization of the North Carolina Court System.

Judge Cobb has other professional and community affiliations including membership on the Board of Trustees of Cape Fear Community College, University of North Carolina Board of Visitors, and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington Board of Visitors.

Judge Cobb is a native of Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, and, except for the years he attended college and the School of Law has lived there his entire life. His father retired after serving for many years as the District Attorney for the same district. Judge Cobb is married and has one son.

Judge Baskerville graduated from Fayetteville State University in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology. In 1972, he attended North Carolina A&T State University, subsequently graduating with an Masters of Science degree in History Education. In 1976, Judge Baskerville obtained his Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law and became the first African-American Assistant District Attorney for the Ninth Judicial District.

Judge Baskerville practiced law from 1985 to 2005. He was appointed District Court Judge in Judicial District 9B by Governor Michael Easley in December, 2005. Judge Baskerville’s son Nathan Angus Baskerville, graduated from NCCU School of Law in 2006 and is currently an Assistant District Attorney in the Ninth Judicial District.
The Honorable Elaine M. Bushfan, a native of Durham, North Carolina, graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. In 1991, she graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law. She has served as District Court Judge for the Fourteenth Judicial District of Durham County since 1994. In September 2002, she was appointed Chief District Court Judge of the 14th Judicial District by Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake of the North Carolina State Supreme Court.

Judge Bushfan has continued her education by completing the Advanced Special Court Jurisdiction program in 1995 at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. In 1995, she completed the Juvenile Judge Certification Program at the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In June 1996, she obtained certification as a juvenile judge. She has also presided in Family Drug Treatment Court, Adult Treatment Court and Community Life Court.

Judge Bushfan has numerous professional affiliations, including membership on the Board of Visitors at North Carolina Central University School of Law.

She has twice appeared on The Montell Williams Show as a guest. She hosted her own cablevision show ... And Justice for All in 2002.

Judge Bushfan is a wife and mother and continues to resides in Durham, North Carolina.

The Honorable S. Quon Bridges received his undergraduate degree from the College of Wooster in Wooster Ohio. He received his Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1981. He is one of eleven children, raised in public housing.

Judge Bridges paid his own way through both undergraduate and law school working full time, to achieve his goal. After graduating from law school, Judge Bridges worked for North Central Legal Assistance Program in Henderson, North Carolina for a approximately six years. He then went into private practice with the Honorable J. Henry Banks in Henderson for three and a half years. Judge Bridges left his private practice to served in the public defenders office, from 1990 to 1991.

Upon leaving the Public Defender's Office, he joined the District Attorneys Office in Granville County, North Carolina where he worked for 17 years as an assistant district attorney. He prosecuted numerous murder, rape and other serious felony cases during his career.

In October 2007, Governor Easley appointed Judge Bridges to the District Court bench.

Judge Bridges is married to Paula (Bryant) Bridges, who is a 1993 graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law. They have three daughters.
THE HONORABLE RICHARD ELMORE ’82

Upon graduating from Guilford College, in 1974, Judge Elmore worked for the North Carolina Department of Correction and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. In 1982, Judge Elmore graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law. While at the Law School, he served as a member of the Law Review.

Judge Elmore has extensive trial experience in the district and superior court levels of state court, ranging from general misdemeanor to capital murder representation. He represented indigents throughout his twenty years of practice, a service which extended to the United States District Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. With the emphasis of his general practice being in criminal defense and real property law, areas of law significant to the Court of Appeals, it is little wonder Judge Elmore was elected to the North Carolina Court of Appeals in November, 2002.

Judge Elmore has been active in the Guilford County community. He served on the Guilford County Planning Board and fulfilled a four-year term on the Guilford County Board of Elections. An active volunteer with the Greensboro Jaycees since college, he concluded his service in 1987 as legal counsel for the Greater Greensboro Open. More recently, Judge Elmore served as volunteer legal counsel for Greensboro AAU Basketball. Judge Elmore resides in Greensboro, North Carolina.

THE HONORABLE SAMMIE CHESS, JR. ’58

The Honorable Sammie Chess, Jr. received his undergraduate and legal education from North Carolina Central University and School of Law. He received a Bachelors of Art in History and LLB with honors. He was licensed to practice in North Carolina in 1958. After completion of law school, he served a tour of duty in the US Army. He began a general practice of law in High Point in 1960. The modern civil rights movement was beginning and a significant part of his practice was devoted to this cause. He represented individuals and civil rights organizations such as the NAACP, The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and the Black Panther Party. He brought suits to desegregate theaters, hospitals, schools and the work place.

He was a cooperating attorney with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in the early stages of the landmark case of Griggs v. Duke Power Co., a Title VII employment dis-crimination case requiring employment tests to be job related.

In 1971, Governor Bob Scott appointed Chess as the first African American Superior Court Judge. After his service on the court, he returned to the private practice of law in the areas of constitutional, criminal and various civil areas of the law. In 1991, he accepted appointment as an Administrative Law Judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings.

Judge Chess has been active in numerous legal and civic organizations. His memberships include the North Carolina State Bar, North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers and High Point Bar Association where he served as President. He has served as a trustee of Winston-Salem State University and member of the North Carolina Board of Higher Education.
Judge Crystal A. Gaines received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1984 from Albany State University. In 1989, she received her Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law. In addition, Judge Gaines received a LL.M in Litigation in 1994 at Atlanta Law School.

Judge Gaines has over fifteen years of legal experience, with expertise in criminal law. She has excellent knowledge of State and Municipal Court processes. She also has experience in jury and non-jury trials, as well as legal administration. She has developed seminars for the state of Georgia’s Indigent Defense Council (GDIC) and was instrumental in developing and implementing the Drug Defense Resource Center and Fulton County Conflict Defenders, Inc.

Judge Gaines had the unique opportunity to be chosen to participate in the International Monitoring Program for the Truth and Reconciliation Hearings in South Africa.

Judge Gaines has numerous organizational affiliations, including the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Lawyer’s Club of Atlanta, National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Fulton County Conflict Defender, Inc. (Board President), National Bar Association (Judicial Chair’s Award), Georgia Association of Women Lawyers, National Association of Women Judges; National Council of Negro Women, and Albany State University and North Carolina Central School of Law Alumni Association.

Judge Roland H. Hayes graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. He also attended Wake Forest University from 1961 to 1963. Judge Hayes was awarded his Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1971.

Judge Hayes was appointed to the North Carolina District Court by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. in 1984. He was elected to subsequent terms and retired in 2002.

Judge Hayes has numerous organization affiliations, including: Reginald Heber Smith Community Law Fellow, North Carolina Association of District Court Judges, North Carolina Bar Association of Black Lawyers, the North Carolina Bar Association and American Bar Association, member of the Golden Heritage Life in NAACP, the Winston-Salem University and North Carolina Central University Central School of Law Alumni Associations.
Judge Carol A. Jones was awarded a degree in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1989. Judge Jones, a native of Kenansville, in Duplin County, North Carolina, subsequently obtained her Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law, she went on to pass the North Carolina Bar in 1994.

After passing the bar, Judge Jones returned to Duplin County where she worked as an Assistant District Attorney for the Fourth District. She enhanced her skills as a positive and productive community leader by completing fellowship studies at the North Carolina Institute of Political Leadership at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1999.

In November 2000, Judge Jones was the first female to be elected as a District Court Judge in the Fourth District. Judge Jones recently won her third term in November 2008 while actively pursuing her Masters of Divinity Degree at Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Despite her many duties and responsibilities, Judge Jones continues to actively participate in many civic, educational and religious activities throughout her community and around the state of North Carolina.

Judge Jones is married to the Rev. Victor L. Wilson, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church of Kenansville.

Judge Jones strives to be a positive role model for our youth, reminding them that if she can become District Court Judge, they can also achieve their goals.
THE HONORABLE MARY RUDD-ROBINSON ’80

In 1975, Judge Mary Rudd-Robinson received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1980, she obtained her Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law. While attending the Law School, she was a member of the Law Review, participated in the Regional (U.S. Southern) Client Counseling Competitions, gaining a championship for the Law School and worked as an assistant to the Dean. Judge Robinson was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1981.

From 1982 to 1985, Judge Rudd-Robinson was an attorney for Legal Aid Services of Broward County, Florida. She was appointed and served as General Master for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit from 1985 to 1989. Judge Rudd-Robinson is currently County Court Judge in the same district.

Judge Rudd-Robinson is a member of numerous organization including: the Trial Lawyers Federal Bar, United States Southern District of Florida, and the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit County Court Judges Conference.

She has also given lectures that include: Art of Parental Kidnapping, The Bar, Child Support System, Bridge the Gap, and Family Law.

Judge Rudd-Robinson is married and has three daughters.

THE HONORABLE CAMILLE BANKS-PAYNE ’01

“WHILE IN COLLEGE AND AFTER COMPLETING LAW SCHOOL, JUDGE BANKS-PAYNE SERVED AS A VOLUNTEER FOR THE FORSYTH COUNTY GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM.”

As a practicing attorney, she worked as an associate in a private law firm in Winston-Salem North Carolina for a year and a half before taking a position in the Forsyth County Public Defender’s Office in March of 2003. Judge Banks-Payne worked as an Assistant Public Defender until she was appointed as a District Court Judge.

While in college and after completing law school, Judge Banks-Payne served as a volunteer for the Forsyth County Guardian ad Litem Program.

Governor Michael F. Easley ’76 appointed Camille Banks-Payne as a Tenth District Court Judge in Forsyth County on January 31, 2008.

Judge Banks-Payne is a 32-year-old native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She is married and has a two-year-old son named Eric Alexander “Alex” Payne.
Judge Herman L. Sloan received his Bachelor of Science degree in community development from Georgia State University. In 1981, Judge Sloan graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University School of Law, where he served on the editorial board of the law journal.

In 1998, after a successful career as a lawyer, Judge Sloan was appointed to the Atlanta Municipal Court by Mayor Bill Campbell in January 2002. Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Sloan served as the Chief Assistant Solicitor General for the State Court of Fulton County. Judge Sloan also served as an Assistant District Attorney for Fulton County, Georgia.

He began his legal career as an attorney with Georgia Legal Services in Macon, Georgia and, in 1983, he was appointed an Assistant City Solicitor for the Atlanta Municipal Court. Judge Sloan served as a Regional Attorney with the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

Judge Sloan also served on the Governor’s Commission on Certainty in Sentencing and the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

Judge Sloan is a member of the Gate City Bar Association, the Atlanta Bar Association, State Bar of Georgia and the National Bar Association. He is a 2001 graduate of Leadership Atlanta. He has served as a mock trial coach and mentor to students at Spellman College, Banneker High School, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Anthony’s, Paul L. Dunbar and East Lake Meadows elementary schools.

Judge Beverly A. Scarlett is a native of Hillsborough, North Carolina. She is a 1983 graduate of Saint Augustine’s College. Following a rewarding career at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, she enrolled in the North Carolina Central University School of Law Evening Program. After obtaining a Juris Doctor in 1993, Judge Scarlett practiced law in her home town, concentrating in the areas of Family Law, Juvenile Abuse and Neglect, Juvenile Delinquency, and Child Support.

In 1998, Judge Scarlett closed her practice and began service as a prosecutor in the office of the District Attorney for Orange and Chatham counties in North Carolina. Judge Scarlett fought to protect the rights of victims of domestic violence, child abuse and impaired driver incidents.

Judge Scarlett was appointed to the District Court for Prosecutorial District Fifteen-B by Governor Michael F. Easley ’76 and was sworn to office February 9, 2007.

She has continued her commitment to children and families by implementing Orange County Domestic Violence Court and Accountability Court for Truancy. Judge Scarlett serves as the primary judge for Orange County Adult Drug Treatment Court and Family Drug Treatment Court. In September 2007, Speaker Joe Hackney of the North Carolina House of Representatives appointed Judge Scarlett to the North Carolina Domestic Violence Commission. She currently serves as a commission member and chair of the legislative subcommittee.
Judge James Webb graduated from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor degree in Political Science in 1974. In 1977, he graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree. That same year, he completed the US Army JAG basic training course and obtained his commission as Captain in the US Army. Judge Webb was admitted to the North Carolina Bar in 1977 and to the United States Supreme Court in 2003.

While in the military, he was assigned to the Trial Counsel for the First Cavalry Division, Fort Hood Texas in (1977), the Trial Defense Counsel for the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg North Carolina (1979).

In 1981, Judge Webb was appointed to the position of Assistant District Attorney for the Twentieth Prosecutorial District of North Carolina. Later that year, he was appointed Resident Superior Court Judge for the 20A Superior Court Judicial District, he has served as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 20A, Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 19B, and is presently Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Superior Court Judicial District 19D. Judge Webb has been elected Superior Court Judge in, 1990, 1992, 2000. Judge Webb has held Superior Court in 42 out of 100 counties in North Carolina.
JUDGE ARCHIE ELLIOTT, JR., '71, retired judge, was honored at a portrait ceremony July 12, 2007. Judge Roxie Holder of Portsmouth General District Court, presided over the event. The portrait was commissioned by the Portsmouth Bar Association and hangs in Courtroom 3 where Judge Elliott served for 27 years. Judge Elliott, a native of old Nansemond County, served in Vietnam and later, at age 28, rose to assistant provost marshal of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and was assigned to the Green Berets 6th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg. After attending law school at North Carolina Central University School of Law, he worked briefly in Washington, DC before opening his law practice in Portsmouth in 1972. In 1974, he was elected to the first of two terms on City Council. He received the highest number for the council during the election for his second term. He was appointed to the General District bench in 1979. Judge Elliott has traced his heritage to Native Americans in the early 1820s and serves as the assistant chief of the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc. He is married to the former Sheila Kay Wilson of Suffolk, Virginia.

WILLIAM GORE, JR., '77, a former Superior Court Judge in Whiteville, North Carolina, was named Commissioner of the State Division of Motor Vehicles by Governor Mike Easley. Judge Gore retired from the bench July 31, 2007. Judge Gore was the Senior Judge in Bladen and Columbus counties, serving from 1992 until he retired this year. Judge Gore also has been a Chief District Court Judge, an assistant district attorney and a private practitioner. In 2007, Gore was a candidate for the North Carolina State Supreme Court. "Gore spent nearly three..."
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<th>NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Donnie Hoover</td>
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<td>NC</td>
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<td>William Hunter</td>
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<td>Bonnie L. Jones</td>
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<td>NY</td>
<td>Housing Court</td>
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<td>Calvin E. Murphy</td>
<td>1977</td>
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<td>Paul M. Quinn</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>NC</td>
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<td>Herbert L. Richardson</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Judicial Court, District 16B</td>
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<td>Mary R. Robinson</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>Judicial Court, Circuit 17</td>
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<td>Peter F. Rogers</td>
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<td>PA</td>
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<td>Vinston M. Rozier</td>
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<td>Meredith A. Shuford</td>
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<td>Herman L. Sloan</td>
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<td>A. Leon Stanback</td>
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<td>Quentin T. Sumner</td>
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<td>NC</td>
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<td>Milton A. Tingling</td>
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<td>Scoti L. Ussery</td>
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<td>Teresa H. Vincent</td>
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<td>Acie L. Ward</td>
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<td>Monte Watkins</td>
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<td>James M. Webb</td>
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<td>Superior Court, District 28</td>
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<td>J. Seth Whipper</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>Summary Court (Former)</td>
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<td>Deborah A. Whithfield</td>
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<td>Donald Ramseur</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>Robert Glass</td>
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*D indicates deceased

This list has been compiled from numerous sources. Please let us know if you have information that will help us complete or correct our list.

Contact person—Sharon D. Alston, Alumni Relations Manager, sdalston@nccu.edu or 919.530.5386
Professor Mark Morris ’82 named to Dispute Resolution Commission

Professor Mark W. Morris, was appointed by Governor Michael F. Easley to serve as a member of the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission in February 2008. Morris served as an ex-officio member of the Commission prior to his appointment.

The Dispute Resolution Commission is a statutorily created body charged with the certification and regulation of mediators serving the North Carolina courts. The Commission helps to support the operations of a number of court-based mediation programs, including: the Mediated Settlement Conference Program (superior court), the Family Financial Settlement Program (district court), the Clerk Mediation Program, and the new District Criminal Court Mediation Program (misdemeanor cases). The Commission meets quarterly in various locations around the State.

The sixteen members of the Dispute Resolution Commission include judges, mediators, litigators, a Clerk of Superior Court, and knowledgeable members of the public. In addition to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, the President Pro Tem of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the State Bar President make appointments. Commission members not only oversee the certification and regulation of court-based mediators, but also help to set policy for mediation in our courts, recommend rules and rule revisions governing program operations, and certify mediator-training programs. Commission members serve three-year terms. The Commission’s current chair is Judge Sanford L. Steelman, Jr. of the NC Court of Appeals.

Mediation has been used by North Carolina courts for over a decade to expedite settlement of litigation. In mediation, parties involved in a court case sit down with a neutral mediator who helps them discuss the issues in dispute and work toward reaching an agreement. Unlike a judge, a mediator will not impose a resolution on the parties, but will help them reach their own agreement. If mediation is successful, the parties may be saved time, money and the stress of a trial. In addition, when cases settle early, taxpayers are saved the cost of protracted litigation and trial and judges are better able to allocate their time. Currently, there are some 1,500 certified mediators serving North Carolina’s courts.

In addition to serving as a member of the NCCU law school faculty, Morris also directs the Law School’s Dispute Resolution Institute, which undertakes research in dispute resolution and provides basic and advanced training for dispute resolution professionals. According to Steelman, “The Commission is pleased to welcome Morris and anticipates that he will make many important contributions to its work.” Steelman also named Morris as chair of the Commission’s Standards, Discipline and Advisory Opinions Committee. As chair of that Committee, Professor Morris has been involved in regulating mediator conduct.

Morris replaces Dorothy C. Bernholz ’75 who serves as Director and Staff Attorney for Carolina Student Legal Services, Inc. Bernholz, served two terms on the Commission.

Press release written by NCCU Public Relations staff writer
The Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law Institute is an academic and research institute housed at the North Carolina Central University School of Law. The Institute has 4 major research areas: Biotechnology and Patent Law, Pharmaceutical Regulation, Bioethics and Technology Transfer. In addition to these areas, the Institute is committed to addressing issues that affect communities of color and increasing the number of minority attorneys in this highly specialized area of law. The Institute’s mission is to make substantial contributions to the development of global biotechnology and pharmaceutical law and to the investigation and examination of contemporary U.S. regulatory affairs issues.

Current Research Project: The Impact of DNA Databases on Minorities
The project focuses on DNA felon databases and the potential for genetic discrimination through behavioral genetics research linking minorities to negative behaviors.

The Journal of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law was established in 2007. The student members of the journal co-sponsored the first spring symposium and laid the foundation for the journal. The first edition of the journal was published during the spring of 2008. The journal has grown in size over the past two years and the membership has increased twofold. This specialty journal is one of only a few of its kind in the country. The journal has one publication per year. Submissions for the spring edition will be accepted through December of the previous year.

Additional information on the journal can be found at: www.nccu.edu/law/biotech/journal

Each year, NCCU law students are selected for research fellowships with the Institute. Over the past 3 years, 12 students have served as BPLI research fellows. Fellows are selected for a semester or a summer and participate in directed research for the Institute. Research fellow Leon Cain, received a grant to attend a national conference on the ethical legal and social implications of the human genome research project. The program was held at the Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Fellows participate in reading groups and lead discussions on current legal issues. Last summer, research fellows Paige Jones and Cory Patterson presented research findings to faculty members.
from the Department of Social Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as part of a collaborative project with the Center for Genomics and Society.

2008 Summer Research Fellows

• Dr. Don Torino, D.C. is a second year student. He has been a practicing chiropractor for sixteen years. Most recently, he has clerked at the North Carolina Court of Appeals. His legal interests include medical malpractice, bioethics, and health care policy.

• Andrea Madle is a second year student. She has worked in the patent department at the law firm of Moore & Van Allen. Her legal interests include biotechnology, bioethics, and health law.

• Marsha Scott is a second year student at North Carolina Central University School of Law. Before entering law school, she worked at Biogen Idec as an Avonex therapy support coordinator. Her legal interests include FDA regulations, pharmaceutical law, and public interest.

• Leon Cain is a second year student. Before law school Leon worked as a field computer specialist for DHL Express USA installing, configuring, and integrating DHL’s automated shipping systems at customer locations. Leon hopes to enter the field of Intellectual Property specializing in patent litigation.

The NCCU School of Law proudly announced its first international program, a new initiative of the Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law Institute. Students enrolled in the Comparative Biotechnology, Bioethics and Policy course spent spring break in Costa Rica. This interdisciplinary law course exposes students to issues of biotechnology and pharmaceutical law as well as bioethics and health policy. Students analyzed legal issues related to the provision of health care in the United States and Costa Rica, which has a universal health care system. Students visited hospitals in two cities and were able to compare the provision of health services in urban settings paying special attention to diversity and access. Students saw the effects of legislation on conservation and biodiversity by visiting national parks, natural waterfalls and volcanoes. After spring break, the students presented papers on comparative law and policy.

“Collisions at the Intersection of Biotechnology and Law,” was the inaugural seminar for the launch of the Institute and was held in April of 2006. This program introduced the NCCU Law community to the area of biotechnology and pharmaceutical law with speakers such as NCCU Law Alum Nicole Leonard, technology transfer attorney with Johns Hopkins University. Topics covered included patent law, technology transfer, global intellectual property and bioethics. The keynote speaker for this event was Troy Duster, renowned sociologist and former national president of the American Sociological Association. Dr. Duster is well known for his ability to make the simple yet intellectual and poignant separation of the social construct of and the biological reality of genetic research.

Developing activities for student growth is an important part of the institute’s mission. The first Bioethics Trial competition, co-sponsored by the North Carolina Biotechnology Center was held in the fall of 2006. Students from around the region competed using trial advocacy skills on a problem dealing with drug development and informed consent. The Institute’s first symposium was held during the spring of 2007. The symposium entitled Stem Cells: Diffusing the Rhetoric was sponsored by the
North Carolina Research Campus with tremendous support from Mr. Clyde Higgs. The symposium represented a scholarly multidisciplinary look at the legal issues surrounding stem cells. Speakers included Robert Cook-Deegan, Director of the Duke University Center for Genome Ethics, Law and Policy and Anthony Cuticchia, Director of the Duke University Bioinformatics Group. The program included impressive legal scholars, law professors Simone Rose of Wake Forest University, Margo Bagley of the University of Virginia and David Smolin, Director of the Center for Biotechnology, Law and Ethics at Samford University. Professors Ann Boyd (bioethics) and Elizabeth Loboa (engineering) brought an interdisciplinary approach to the symposium. The most recent symposium was held in April of 2008 and featured Attorney Lemuel Dowdy of the Federal Trade Commission and Veleka Peeples-Dryer from Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice. The topic of this year’s symposium was biotechnology patents.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Professor Charles Smith has served the NCCU School of Law for nearly 30 years. He is respected as a scholar in the area of intellectual property and patent law. Professor Smith has served in numerous capacities including as patent advisor, corporate counsel, and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office examiner. He single handedly managed the university’s technology transfer activities for over a decade. He is truly remarkable. In 2006, Professor Charles E. Smith became the founding director of the Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law Institute. For two years, he led the research initiatives in the areas of biotechnology patents, technology transfer and global intellectual property. Professor Smith also served as mentor for current Institute Director Kimberly Cogdell. Under his leadership, the Journal of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law was formed. He also showcased the technology of the law school by appearing via videoconference to a group of attorneys and law students in Texas for a program sponsored by the Institute with the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.
The certificate program allows NCCU law students to earn a certificate in Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law. To complete the requirements of the certificate students must submit a competitive application including a personal statement and letters of recommendation. Students must complete 9 hours of coursework from a list of selected courses, write a paper of publishable quality, and participate in a related externship, fellowship or other practical experience, and attend certain Institute activities. The students receive recognition at the law schools awards ceremony as well as special recognition at graduation and on their transcripts. The first three students that earned the certificate in Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law in May of 2008 were Bethany Embry, Roderick Brown, and Rhonda Young.
Jennifer Brobst, Legal Director of the Center for Child and Family Health

May 2008

March 2008

November 2007

September 2007

August 2007

Summer 2007
“Expert Testimony in Rape Cases,” Duke University Medical Center and Durham Regional Hospital SANE Training, Durham, North Carolina.

Brenda Gibson ’95, Legal Writing Director

November 20, 2008
“What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings,” CLE for the private continuing education firm Lorman and Associates, Raleigh, North Carolina.

July 17, 2008

Professor James Beckwith
Editor, Notes Bearing Interest, Quarterly publication, Business Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association, Volume 29 (2007–08). Editor for upcoming Volume 30 (2008–09)


Professor Cheryl Amana-Burris
Legal Expert: Quoted and served as expert for article on forced sterilization and the North Carolina Legislature’s attempts to provide redress. Black Enterprise Magazine (January 2008).

Assistant Professor Donald Corbett

Clinical Supervising Attorney
Nakia Davis '01
Manuscript: A Shield or Sword? The Practical use of the Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) and North Carolina General Statute § 50–13.7 in temporary Orders resulting from custody actions—CLE presentation by North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, November 2, 2007.

Professor Adrienne Fox


Assistant Professor Susan Hauser

Manuscript: The Rise and Fall of Predatory Lending Law in North Carolina, presentation 2007 Eastern Bankruptcy Institute.


Professor Irving Joyner
11 Appellate Briefs to North Carolina court of Appeals.

3 Briefs or Petitions for Discretionary Review to North Carolina Supreme Court.

5 Monthly Articles to A Spectacular Magazine.

Professor Patti Solari

Professor Mary Wright

BOOKS

Professor Deborah Jefferies '76
Advanced Legal Research (Textbook in progress)

Professor Irving Joyner

Professor Wendy Scott


CHAPTER IN A BOOK

Professor Cheryl Amana-Burris
Contributor to Dear Sisters; Dear Daughters Volume II forthcoming August 2008 (Published by the American Bar Association).

Assistant Professor/Director BPLI
Kim Cogdell
Article, Biotechnology: Questions, Problems and Possibilities, included in forthcoming book by Professor Jimmy Washburn at the University of Costa Rica.

REVIEW OF A BOOK

Clinical Supervising Attorney
Nelwyn Mpare

ARTICLE IN INTERNET-ONLY JOURNAL

Professor Wendy Scott

Professor Patti Solari
The School-to-Prison Pipeline, SOAR.com (April 24, 2008).

Perpetuating the Myth of White Superiority, SOAR.com (April 28, 2008).
NEW AND VISITING FACULTY FOR 2008–2009

Felicia L. Branch
Assistant Professor
Professor Branch graduated cum laude from Arkansas State University with a B.S. in Accounting. She sat for and passed the Certified Public Accountant exam prior to entering law school at the University of Arkansas. She received her J.D. with High Honors from the University of Arkansas. While at the University of Arkansas, she served as a member of the Arkansas Law Review. Professor Branch received her Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Taxation from the University of Florida College of Law. After graduation, she served as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Florida where she taught Federal Tax Research and Advanced Corporate Tax to the LL.M. candidates and Legal Accounting and Basic Income Tax to the J.D. candidates. She has also practiced law in the Office of Chief Counsel for the IRS. Professor Branch teaches tax courses and supervises the Small Business and Development Clinic.

Todd J. Clark
Professor
Professor Clark received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Professor Clark currently teaches in the areas of Contracts, Employment Discrimination, and Business Associations. Prior to joining the law school faculty, Professor Clark worked for two years at Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC where he specialized in Employment Law and Medical Malpractice Defense. After leaving Steptoe & Johnson, Professor Clark worked for two years as a Lecturer in Law at West Virginia University where he taught Legal Writing and Appellate Advocacy.

Susan Stevens Dunn
Visiting Professor
Professor Dunn received her J.D. from the School of Law at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, where she was a member of the Southwestern Law Journal. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan and her Master’s Degree in teaching from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. Susan Stevens Dunn joined the faculty of NCCU School of Law as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Law in the Spring Term 2008, and has taught Sales and Secured Transactions, Real Estate Finance Law, and Antitrust Law. A member of the State Bars of Texas, Massachusetts and North Carolina, Professor Dunn has substantial practice experience in the private sector, including work as an associate attorney in law firms located in Fort Worth, TX and in Boston, MA, and subsequently as head of litigation for U.S. subsidiaries of two global pharmaceutical companies based in Research Triangle Park, NC. Her principal substantive areas of practice have included litigation and complex litigation involving products liability, as well as Commercial, Antitrust and Intellectual Property disputes. She also has experience as a corporate General Counsel and as an advisor to start-up businesses in North Carolina. Professor Dunn is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Fifth and First Circuit Courts of Appeals. She is a member of the American Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association. Professor Dunn served for three years as Co-Chair of the Products Liability Committee of the ABA Section of Litigation and thereafter was appointed to several other leadership roles in the ABA Section of Litigation. While in private corporate practice, Professor Dunn was elected to the council of the Corporate Counsel Section of the North Carolina Bar Association, and served as chair of that Section’s pro bono committee.

Judge Ernest B. Fullwood ’72
Visiting Professor
Judge Fullwood received his B.A. from Wilmington College, (now the University of
North Carolina at Wilmington), and earned his J.D. summa cum laude from North Carolina Central University School of Law. Judge Fullwood was a past Professor of Law at NCCU School of Law. After four years of teaching, he spent the next twelve years as a practicing attorney at the firm of Fullwood and Morgan Attorneys at Law. Later, he served the state of NC as Superior Court Judge, and as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge. Other professional memberships and community service activities include North Carolina Emergency Superior Court Judge, North Carolina State Bar, North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges, National Bar Association, and National Bar Association Judicial Council.

Sarah Hutt Ludington
Visiting Assistant Professor
Professor Ludington graduated cum laude with a B.A. in English from Yale University. She received her M.A. in English from Duke University and her J.D. with High Honors from Duke University School of Law. While at the Law School, she was a note editor on the Duke Law Journal and was awarded the Hervey M. Johnson Writing Prize and the American Jurisprudence Award for Constitutional Law. She is also a member of the Order of the Coif.

Reginald Mombrun ’88
Associate Professor
Prof. Mombrun received a business degree from Boston University, a J.D. (Cum Laude) from North Carolina Central University School of Law and a Master of Laws (LL.M) from the University of Florida. He is a member of the Florida Bar, the American Bar Association, and the National Bar Association. Prof. Mombrun has taught: Contracts, Fundamentals of Income Taxation, Corporate Taxation, Sales, Secured Transactions, and Selected Issues in Family Law. Prof. Mombrun has been approved as a Fulbright Senior Specialist (he is awaiting an assignment). Professor Mombrun joined the North Carolina Central University School of Law in the fall of 2008. Previously Prof. Mombrun taught at the Florida A&M College of Law from the fall of 2004 to the summer of 2008. Prior to teaching, Prof. Mombrun spent 14 years in the national office of the IRS specializing in corporate mergers and acquisitions. Professor Mombrun served as an Assistant Branch Chief his last two years at the IRS. Professor Mombrun has been responsible for a number of regulations, revenue rulings, revenue procedures, and countless private letter rulings in the corporate tax area. In sum, as Prof. Mombrun likes to tell his students, he is responsible for some of the complexities of corporate tax law.

Michael C. Wallace, Sr. ’83
Visiting Professor
Professor Wallace attended Fayetteville State University, and North Carolina State University, and is a 1983 graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law. He teaches Evidence, Criminal Law, Trial Practice, and Appellate Advocacy, and assists with coaching several NCCU School of Law mock trial teams. Professor Wallace’s legal career focused on the public sector, starting with service as an Assistant District Attorney and Director of the Medicaid Fraud Unit in Jackson, Mississippi. Later, he served as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in Houston, Texas and Washington, D.C. before joining the United States Department of Justice. With the Department of Justice for more than 13 years, Professor Wallace served as a Trial Attorney, Fraud Section of Main Justice, First Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, and Assistant United States Attorney.
in Richmond and Alexandria, Virginia. The majority of Professor Wallace’s legal career has been in federal litigation with an emphasis on complex litigation in money laundering and narcotic violations, police corruption, crimes of violence, civil rights violations, and white-collar crimes, earning him numerous awards from the Department of Justice and various law enforcement agencies. He has argued appellate issues on the behalf of the government and clients before the Fourth, Fifth and District Columbia Circuit Courts of Appeals on a number of criminal matters. Professor Wallace has lectured and participated in various seminars on a variety of topics within the Department of Justice and other legal and civic groups.

**NEW FACULTY:**

**CLINIC**

**Deria Phillips Hayes ’98**
Assistant Clinical Professor and Supervising Attorney for the Domestic Violence Clinic

Professor Hayes received her undergraduate degree in business administration from North Carolina Central University in 1993. She earned her J.D. from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1998. She was admitted into the North Carolina Bar in 1998. Professor Hayes joined the Law Offices of James D. Williams, Jr., P.A. as an associate attorney in 1998. While in private practice, her principal areas of practice were family law and civil litigation. Professor Hayes is a member of the 14th Judicial District Bar and the North Carolina Bar Association. She is member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties and a board member of Children and Family Services of Durham.

**Kathleen “Kacie” Wallace ’99**
Assistant Clinical Professor and Supervising Attorney for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic

Professor Wallace received a B.A. in Art-Design from Duke University, a J.D. from North Carolina Central University School of Law, a Master of Laws in dispute resolution from Pepperdine University School of Law, and a Certificate in Documentary Studies from Duke University. She is a William C. Friday Fellow for Human Relations within the Wild Acres Leadership Initiative, whose mission is to create a network of courageous leaders who connect across differences in identity and ideas to develop new solutions to the complex challenges facing the people and communities of North Carolina. Her teaching specialties include Mediation, Representation in Mediation, Communication, and Negotiation in Personal, Professional, and Legal Contexts. Professor Wallace is a Conflict Resolution Specialist with over fifteen years of experience as a Crisis Intervention Counselor, Arbitrator, Negotiator, and Mediator. She is also involved in Conflict Resolution Education, Mediation of Legal Disputes, and Prevention, Management and Resolution of Intra-Organizational and Interpersonal Disputes. Licensed by the North Carolina State Bar and certified by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission and Industrial Commission, Professor Wallace practice focuses on litigated claims involving personal injury, worker’s compensation, contracts and property damage, as well as pre-litigation claims of harassment, insubordination, issues among boards of directors, and intra-organizational disputes. Her corporate clients include the U.S. Olympic Committee, the North Carolina Medical Society, Telesis Biotherapeutics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Duke University. She is a recent recipient of the MacArthur Innovation Award and has helped design and develop Digital Learning Technologies to enable participants to enter an immersive, multi-sensory game-based environment that simulates complex conflict conditions in order to learn first-hand the necessary tools for efficient and effective response, management, and resolution. Professor Wallace served as a Violence Intervention Counselor and Police Officer in Durham, North Carolina, Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs at Duke University, and Arbitration within the Duke University Employee Grievance process. She has served as a consultant to Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Pepperdine University on issues such as crisis management, conflict resolution, harassment, suicide, integrity, and ethics. Within corporate, medical and higher education settings, Professor Wallace has assessed, analyzed, and redesigned grievance processes and procedures to promote prevention and early resolution of conflict.
AT SCHOOL NOW

CLIENT COUNSELING COMPETITIONS 

North Carolina Central University School of Law has been a successful participant in the American Bar Association Law Student Division Client Counseling Competition for over the last 30 years. The past two years, the team representing NCCU School of Law has experienced its greatest success. 3L Corye Dunn and 3L Brian Elston have represented NCCU in the Region IV competition in February 2007 and February 2008, winning the regional competition and going on to represent the region at the National Client Counseling Competition each year. In March 2007, Corye and Brian came in third in the National competition held in Dallas, Texas at the Southern Methodist University School of Law; they received a third place trophy as well as a financial reward for each of the participants in the amount of $150.00. In February 2008, Corye and Brian again won Region IV and represented the region at the National competition hosted by Pace University School of Law in White Plains, New York. Though they did not place in the top three, the only recognized placements, they again brought back to the Law School the Region IV champions' trophy as they had done in 2007.

Both Dunn and Elston have agreed to serve as student coaches in preparing the student teams who will compete for the right to represent NCCU School of Law at the Region IV competition, to be hosted by the University of Richmond School of Law in Richmond, Virginia in February 2009. The champions of that region, along with the champions of the eleven other regions and two teams from Canada, will compete in the American Bar Association Law Student Division National Client Counseling Competition to be hosted by the NCCU School of Law in March 2009.
Mr. Derek N. Gray '07 and Ms. Brenda Rivera Sanchez '07, who graduated December 2007, each received the Annual Bar-Prep Award, on Friday February 29, 2008, in the Janice Mills Conference Room. Dean Raymond C. Pierce congratulated Gray and Sanchez as Tonya Ford '99, President of the School of Law Alumni Association, presented the checks to the recipients. The School of Law Alumni Association established this award to help defray the cost of taking the North Carolina Bar Exam.

DISCOURSE ON CONTEMPORARY LEGAL ISSUES

On Monday January 28, 2008 the Honorable Harry T. Edwards Senior Circuit Court Judge, held a forum on the topic, "Legal Academies and the Law". Judge Edwards explored the important role law schools play in integrating the practical applications of lawyering within the academic curriculum, with theoretical applications.

The Honorable Harry T. Edwards is Senior Circuit Judge, Chief Judge Emeritus, of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and a Visiting Professor of Law, New York University Law School. Judge Edwards was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in February 1980, served as Chief Judge from September 15, 1994 until July 15, 2001, and took senior status on November 3, 2005. He has continued as an active member of the court since taking senior status.
Judge Edwards has co-authored five books and published scores of law review articles on federal courts, legal education, professionalism, judicial administration, labor law, equal opportunity, and higher education law. His most recent book, Edwards & Elliott, Federal Standards of Review, was published by Thomson/West in 2007. Since joining the court, he has taught law at Harvard, Michigan, Duke, Pennsylvania, Georgetown, and NYU School of Law. He is presently a Visiting Professor at NYU School of Law, where he has taught since 1990.

He is the Co-Chair of the Committee on Identifying the Needs of the Forensics Science Community, established by the National Academy of Sciences. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of AMTRAK; the Board of Directors of the National Institute for Dispute Resolution; the Executive Committee of the Order of the Coif; a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools, and also as Chairman of the Minority Groups Section; a Visiting Professor of Law in the Program for International Legal Cooperation at the University of Brussels; a member and Vice President of the National Academy of Arbitrators; a Public Member of the Administrative Conference of the United States; and a member of the President's National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year.

The Honorable Kenneth W. Starr, Dean of Pepperdine University School of Law, held a forum on “The Modern Lawyer and the Caring Community,” on Wednesday Oct. 22, 2008 in the Moot Court Room. Invited guests included regional law firms, members of the School of Law Alumni Association, Board of Visitors, and other distinguished guests. The lecture was followed by a reception in the Great Hall.

Kenneth W. Starr is the Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, California. He is also Of Counsel to the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, where he was a partner from 1993 to 2004, specializing in appellate work, antitrust, federal courts, federal jurisdiction and constitutional law. He was formerly a partner with the law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP.

Dean Starr previously taught Constitutional Law as an adjunct professor at New York University School of Law. He was also a distinguished visiting professor at George Mason University School of Law in Fairfax, Virginia and Chapman Law School in Orange, California. He published First Among Equals: The Supreme Court in American Life, in 2002. The book, which was written to explain key decisions by the Justices of the Supreme Court to the American people, is now in paperback. It is described by United States Circuit Judge David B. Sentelle as "eminently readable and informative…not just the best treatment to date of the Court after Warren, it is likely to have that distinction for a long, long time."

Having received his B.A. from George Washington University in 1968 and his M.A. from Brown University in 1969, Judge Starr graduated from Duke Law School with a J.D. degree in 1973. He was Note and Comment Editor of the Duke Law Journal and graduated Order of the Coif. He is admitted to practice in California, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. will conduct a Moot Court Competition in the Law School’s Moot Courtroom on Tuesday, April 14, 2009.

North Carolina Central University’s School of Law hosted an informal question and answer session with Mayor Dennis Archer. The session was entitled, “A Conversation with Dennis Archer,” and was held on Wednesday, June 25, 2008, in the Great Hall. Chancellor Charlie Nelms attended the event, in addition to numerous members of the NCCU community. Mayor Archer was the first African American elected president of the American Bar Association as well as the State Bar of Michigan. He has also served as president of the Wolverine Bar Association and the National Bar Association.

Mayor Archer served as mayor of Detroit, Michigan, from 1994 to 2001. He came to national attention when he won a bitter mayoral contest against a candidate endorsed by the former mayor. He worked to repair relations with the business community and moved to redevelop the city that depended on the ailing auto industry. Detroit news pundits described Archer as “poised, conciliatory and judicious.”

Prior to taking office as Detroit’s top leader, Mayor Archer was an associate professor at the Detroit College of Law and adjunct professor at Wayne State University Law School. As a former associate justice on the Michigan State Supreme Court, Archer was named the most respected judge in Michigan by Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

Since then, Mayor Archer has held other high-profile appointments. In 2004, he was made legal guardian for Rosa Parks, the woman considered the “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.” In 2004, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed him to an eight-year term on the board of trustees of Western Michigan University.

Currently, Mayor Archer is chairman of Dickinson Wright, a Detroit law firm that has offices in Michigan and Washington, D.C. In February 2008, Mayor Archer announced that he might run for governor of Michigan in 2010.
On September 23, 2008, E. Christopher Johnson, General Counsel at General Motors, the second General Counsel guest speaker at the Law School, joined student leaders for breakfast in the Dean’s conference room. Following a tour of the Law School and lunch off campus, Mr. Johnson spoke on the topic, *Diversity as an Imperative in the Legal Profession*, in the Law School’s Moot Court Room. A reception for Johnson was held in the Great Hall.

E. Christopher Johnson, Jr. was appointed General Motors North America vice president and general counsel in October 2001. In this position, he is responsible for managing the delivery of all legal services that impact the GM North America Region and its hundreds of attorneys, support staff, and outside law firms. Johnson also serves on the GM North America Strategy Board, the internal GM leadership organization that sets strategy and policy and manages GM’s North America operations. Additionally, Johnson is the chair of GM’s African Ancestry Affinity Group.

Prior to his current appointment, Johnson was Assistant General Counsel for Global Policy and Planning. From 1994 to March 2001, he served as Corporate Law and Transactions Practice Area Manager.

Johnson and Jonathan Patton, 2L
An Evening Reception was held in the home of Jennifer Munford ’00 on Monday September 15th for Ms. Susan Klooz, Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Wal-Mart Inc. The host committee for this event included Lisa K. Vira ’00, Anitra Goodman ’02, and Mavis Gragg (Pepperdine ’02). The following afternoon, Ms. Klooz held a forum on the topic, “Making Diversity Sustainable in the Legal Profession,” in the Law School’s Moot Court Room.

Susan Klooz is Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Legal Administration and External Relations at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. in Bentonville, Arkansas. Ms. Klooz joined Wal-Mart in October 1998 as an in-house trial attorney handling employment litigation matters in federal courts throughout the U.S. In 2001, Ms. Klooz became responsible for a team of attorneys managing Wal-Mart’s employment litigation and became primarily responsible for managing the Dukes v. Wal-Mart gender class action. In 2004, Ms. Klooz was promoted to Vice President and General Counsel of the Legal Department’s Employment Practices Division and was responsible for legal advice on employment compliance, workforce strategies and employment practices. Ms. Klooz was promoted to her current role in December 2007 and is currently responsible for Legal Department administration and for the team of attorneys responsible for advising on sustainability, corporate affairs and government relations. Ms. Klooz is also responsible for legal advice related to external relationships with NGOs, government officials, the company’s advisory councils, and other third parties.

Prior to joining Wal-Mart, Ms. Klooz practiced for nine years with the Michigan law firm of Plunkett & Cooney, PC, in its Detroit, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids offices. Her practice was largely focused on providing advice to major employers litigating employment and commercial matters and included both professional and medical malpractice defense.
On May 3rd, under beautiful sunny skies and warm afternoon breezes, the 69th North Carolina Central University School of Law commencement exercises got underway at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park (the DAP) in Durham, North Carolina.

The program included welcoming remarks by then SBA President, Jesse McCoy II ’08 and NCCU School of Law Alumni Association President Tonya Ford ’00. Dean Raymond C. Pierce introduced the keynote speaker, the Honorable Patricia Timmons-Goodson, Associate Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Larry Brown Jr. ’08, the Class President, gave the “charge to the class.” The ceremony concluded with Dean Pierce, Assistant Dean Adrienne Meddock ’91 and Assistant Dean Steve Douglas ’82 bestowing 137 Juris Doctor degrees on the graduates of the Class of 2008.
GREETINGS TO MY FELLOW NCCU LAW ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

I begin this letter by reflecting on this year’s accomplishments and set-backs; the “ups and downs” of 2008. From Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama making history as minorities, by conducting phenomenal campaigns vying for the 2009 Presidential nomination, to Barack Obama being the first African American Presidential Nominee of a Major Political Party, to hurricane devastation, to “The Wall Street Bailout,” to Barack Obama winning the presidential election, what a year it has been!

Consequently, where does NCCU School of Law fit in the “ups and downs” of our country? I am proud to say that the “ups” have definitely outweighed the “downs” at The North Carolina Central University School of Law. In 2007, NCCU Law was ranked number one, as the Best Value Law School in the Nation by the National Jurist. In the March 2008 edition of the National Jurist, NCCU School of Law was ranked thirteen for public interest lawyers. Additionally, in the 2008 Princeton Review, NCCU School of Law was listed as one of the best law schools in the nation. It was also ranked seventh in the nation for the most diverse faculty. Most recently, NCCU School of Law’s Clinical Legal Education Program was ranked twentieth in the nation by the National Jurist. NCCU was the only Law School in the state to make the top 50. Even in the midst of a growing recession, our alumni giving goal of 14% was met. This giving goal nearly doubled that of the previous year. We are making historical strides even in our local elections, with more NCCU Law alums vying for judicial positions and prevailing in those elections.

As President of the NCCU Law Alumni Association, I believe I speak for the majority my fellow alums when I say how extremely proud we are our Law School and all of its many accomplishments. Dean Pierce has instituted a great vision for our Law School. His goal of improving the school’s financial standing is being met by achieving the giving goal and increasing the funds actually being received from the legislature. His goal of improving the school’s national stature is being exceeded, as shown by our national rankings.

Moreover, I applaud the alumni of this esteemed law school for all of your accomplishments and support. You have represented our school in such a tremendous way. NCCU Law is known throughout this country because of you. Thank You. I encourage you to continue to give. Our giving goal for 2009 is 20%. Let’s meet and exceed this goal. We have an unwavering duty to “lift as we climb.” I encourage you to come back to NCCU Law to interview and hire our extremely qualified students. I encourage you to continue providing the Dean, the professors, and staff, all of the support that they need to move NCCU Law forward!

Warmest Regards,

Tonya L. Ford —’99
Alumni President
Legal Eagle Club Membership July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008. This list acknowledges members of the NCCU Legal Eagle Club, the membership body of alumni and friends who support the Law School. Thank you for remembering the Law School in your charitable giving plans. If you have supported the Law School during this time and your name is not listed, please accept our sincere apologies and notify Sharon D. Alston in the External Relations office at 919.530.5386 or sdalston@nccu.edu.

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SPRING 09

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW OF COUNSEL MAGAZINE
On Friday, June 15, 2007 North Carolina Central University paid tribute to one of its loyal supporters, the Honorable Henry M. “Mickey” Michaux, Jr. ’64, with the naming of the School of Education in his honor. “Representative Michaux has been a true friend to the University,” said former Chancellor James H. Ammons. “A double Eagle, with a bachelor’s and Juris Doctor degree from NCCU, we have come to rely on his unwavering support of this institution both within and without the North Carolina legislature.” A glimpse of Michaux’s distinguished resume commends him for this honor. He served three terms as the national president of the NCCU Alumni Association as well as terms as a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Board of Directors of the NCCU Foundation, Inc. In public life, he was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1972, 1974, 1976, and 1984 through the present. Michaux was a founding member and served as the first Chairman of the N.C. Black Leadership Caucus. Education has always been a primary concern for Michaux. His self-written description of political philosophy published on heraldsun.com began this way: “I believe that government should serve the people particularly when it comes to education and providing necessary services to the citizenry. The ability to provide basic services plus an affordable education to our people is paramount.” “Given his life-long commitment to education, it is only fitting that it is NCCU’s School of Education that will forever bear his name,” said Ammons.

Peter M. Adams ’74 has been selected to join the Board of Directors of the College Careers Fund of Westchester County, New York, a non-profit organization providing educational opportunities to underserved youth. With three decades in practice, Adams has tried multi-million dollar personal injury lawsuits. He participated in the National Institute of Trial Advocacy at Harvard University and served as Senior Corporation Counsel for Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and a Trial Advocacy Instructor. Adams is a former partner and senior trial attorney in the civil litigation firm of Callahan, Schepp, Yuhas, Adams and Carfora in Manhattan. He also served as the 30th National President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Edward M. Anderson ’76 has retired from the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He is an administrator with the Elbert County, Georgia Public School System.

A. Root Edmonson ’76 is one of three North Carolina State Bar Members noted as “Key Leaders” in the recent Bar Journal. Edmonson was in partner in the Raleigh Firm of Jernigan & Edmonson before joining the State Bar in 1979 as a trial attorney on the Disciplinary Staff. He and is currently deputy counsel. Edmonson has represented the State Bar’s Client Security Fund and, in 2006–2008, served as President of the National Client Protection Organization. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Wake County Bar Association and the 10th Judicial District Bar. Tom Lunsford commented: “Root is the longest serving member of the State Bar staff. His great strengths are his superb judgment and his generous spirit. I think he is everything a prosecutor ought to be because of his innate sense
of fairness. Root is a great human being and has a special talent for defusing volatile situations, especially in courtrooms. As the State Bar’s representative, he has on many occasions, by the sheer force of his magnanimous personality gotten lawyers and judges to put aside anger and frustration in order that justice might be calmly and professionally administered. I can’t think of anyone who’s done more than Root to enhance the image of the State Bar.”

JANE FLOWERS FINCH ’78 was appointed by Governor Michael F. Easley ’76 to be Vice Chairman of the North Carolina Ethics Commission.

PHILIP MCREA ’81 has been named Scotland County, North Carolina Clerk of Court. McRae, who has been a lawyer for 26 years, is a Laurinburg, North Carolina native. Resident Superior Court Judge Richard T. Brown appointed McRae.

ANTHONY FOX ’82 has been named a member of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) that will advise the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on a range of telecommunications issues. Fox, a partner of Parker Poe, serves as legal counsel to the various municipalities throughout North Carolina. He was named the sole attorney representative to the IAC, which also includes a governor, a utility commission representative and legislative, county, tribal, and municipal representatives. Fox has also been elected to Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP’s Board of Directors where he will serve a three-year term. The Board is responsible for setting and implementing firm policies and strategic plans.

CURTIS VENABLE ’83 has been selected by the Government and Public Sector Section of the North Carolina Bar Association to be the 2008 recipient of the Outstanding Government and Public Sector Attorney Award. The purpose of the award is to honor an outstanding government attorney who is as an exemplar of the excellence, dedication, and passion for justice of North Carolina’s government and public sector attorneys. He specializes in administrative, health and public benefits law. “Curtis Venable…has devoted his life and career to helping those who could not otherwise afford legal services and has been an advocate for the poor and those in need of health care,” writes Jeff Gray, former chair of the Government and Public Sector Section, who nominated Venable. “He untiringly has spent all 25 years of his professional career pursuing these endeavors.”

LESLEY O. WICKHAM ’83 is the new Chair of the Workers Compensation Section of the NC Advocates for Justice.

STEPHEN T. GHEEN ’84 Chief Deputy Commissioner with the North Carolina Industrial Commission, was named Judge of the Year by the North Carolina Advocates for Justice. This is the first time the award has been given to someone other than a superior court or district court judge.

LAWRENCE WITTMENBERG ’84 is serving a fourth term as a Fourth Circuit Representative on the Board of Directors of the National Organization of Social Security Claimants Representatives. He is currently serving as Secretary of the Board.

PAMELA THORPE YOUNG ’85 has been appointed by Governor Michael F. Easley ’76 Chair of the North Carolina Industrial Commission. Attorney Young was appointed as Commissioner in May 2003 and has served as its Vice Chair since April 2004. “Pam has distinguished herself through hard work and dedication,” said Easley. “She has demonstrated time and time again her commitment to serving the people of North Carolina. I have the utmost confidence in her ability to lead this vital commission.” Young formerly served as the Deputy Secretary and Legal Counsel for the Department of Cultural Resources and as a Deputy Commissioner of the North Carolina Industrial Commission from 1996 until 2002. In addition, she served as Ethics Advisor to the Texas Speaker of the House of Representatives, and, from 1990 to 1992, served as an Assistant District Attorney in Austin, Travis County, Texas.

HENRY C. CAMPEN, JR. ’86 has been re-elected to a third term as a member of Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein’s Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for setting and implementing firm policies and strategic plans. Campen is one of seven board members and serves as Managing Partner of the Raleigh office.

VINCENT B. DUDLEY ’86 is a Magistrate with the Domestic Relations Court for the Court of Common Pleas in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Dudley was appointed by the Honorable Timothy M. Flanagan.

IRA L. FOSTER ’88 was named Macon Bar Association Lawyer of the Year in 2007 for his commitment to the profession, his poverty law work, and ties to the community. Foster is only the second African American attorney in the 89-year history of the Bar Association to receive this award. He is a senior supervising attorney with the Macon Office of Georgia Legal Services Program. In addition, Foster has received the Supreme Court of Georgia Chief Justice Robert Benham Community Service Award, the Austin Thomas Walden Fort Valley State Alumni of the Year Award in Social Sciences, the Dublin/
Laurens County Black Festival Committee Citizen of the Year, and the Dublin Housing Authority Youth Mentor Volunteer Role Model of the Year. He serves on the Boards of the Alpha South Educational Foundation, the Jody Town Low Income Housing Development Corporation, and the Fort Valley State University Housing Corporation.

**CRAIG HEMMENS ’88** was appointed Director of the Honors College at Boise State University, in Boise, Ohio. He is also a Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Boise State where he has taught since 1996. Hemmens has previously served as the Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and Director of the ABA-approved Paralegal Studies Program. He has authored twelve books and more than one hundred articles, most focusing on a legal issue in criminal justice.

**ALAN MCSURELY ’88** currently serves as a Civil Rights Lawyer for the NAACP. He enjoys his work with Reverend William Barber, President of North Carolina NAACP and helping to rebuild the Anti-Racism/Poverty/War Movement.

**ROBERT C. VOWELS, JR. ’88** is Vice President for Education Services of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

**LUNDY LANGSTON ’89** was appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) College of Law in Tallahassee, Florida. She was one of the inaugural faculty members when the school reopened. In addition to presenting papers at US law schools, Professor Langston has either taught or presented papers in Beijing, China, Malaga Spain, and Ghana West Africa.

**DONNA RENFROW RUTALA ’89** has joined Young Moore Henderson, PA law firm as a shareholder. She continues to defend healthcare providers in cases of alleged medical negligence and advises clients in health law matters and complex litigation.

**ROBIN TATUM CURRIN ’90** is a Poyner & Spruill Partner, has been recognized as one of the state’s Top Zoning/Land Use attorneys by Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business. She is the only woman to be recognized in the top tier of land use attorneys in North Carolina, and one of only three women to be individually recognized as tops in their field in any practice area in the state. Currin has broad experience appearing before state and federal courts and commonly represents landowners and local governments, commercial and residential developers and public bodies and boards on a variety of real estate, zoning, and land use issues. She serves as the Co-Chair of the Ethics Committee of the Land Use Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. She is also a frequent lecturer on land use issues in North Carolina to educational, governmental, and public audiences.

**SUSAN FOSMIRE ’91** is the Assistant County Attorney for Henderson County, North Carolina.

**KIMBERLY A. MOORE ’91** an Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) for the Eastern District of North Carolina has been selected to serve a one-year detail as the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training (OPDAT) Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) for Kosovo. OPDAT is in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice; whose mission is to assist prosecutors and judicial personnel in other countries to develop and sustain effective criminal justice institutions. As the RLA, Moore will assist the Government of Kosovo to support its efforts to address corruption and human trafficking and to enhance the rule of law. Moore will also help the Kosovo people implement their own legal reforms designed to promote governmental integrity and accountability, and to bring Kosovo’s criminal justice system into compliance with accepted international standards. Moore has been an AUSA since 1999 and has specialized in narcotics trafficking cases. She was assigned to the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force where she prosecuted and investigated all phases of violations of federal narcotics and firearms laws. Prior to becoming an AUSA, Moore served as Assistant District Attorney for Pitt, Martin, Beaufort, Hyde, Washington, and Tyrell Counties in North Carolina. Moore received one of the Department of Criminal Justice’s top honors at the Annual Awards Ceremony November 6, 2007. The ceremony took place in the Great Hall of the Robert F. Kennedy Main Justice Building in Washington D.C.

**MICHAEL A. JORDAN ’92** is the managing partner for the North Carolina Personal Injury Practice of the Law Offices of James Scott Farrin. He also serves as the Publications Chair for the Auto Torts Section of the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers as well as the Legislative Committee. Jordan has an article in the June 2008 edition of Trial Briefs dealing with the interaction between workers’ compensation claims and third-party liability claims. The article is entitled “Subrogation Issues and Liens Against Third-Party Claims.”

**LYDIA LAVELLE ’93** placed first in the race for three at-large Board of Aldermen seats with 1,656 votes—or 25 percent of ballots cast in November 2007 in Carrboro, North Carolina. Her goal was to be one of the top three. Lavelle felt honored to get that many votes and said of her win, “It was a reflection of having strong
JAY J. CHAUDHURI ‘99 was selected as one of 11 outstanding citizen lawyers for recognition at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Atlantic Beach on June 21, 2008. Chaudhuri, who serves as Special Counsel to Attorney General Roy Cooper, is President of the Indian-American Leadership Initiative, which seeks to connect, support, and invest in Indian-American progressives. “I view my identity as a lawyer as one and the same as a citizen,” Chaudhuri said. “Both call upon us to assume a public role and advance the welfare of our community. My work for the Attorney General and community service sustain my personal purpose of giving back. I wake up every day knowing that I’m serving the greater good. There are few experiences more rewarding than that.” He was instrumental in the development of a school safety response kit in the aftermath of the Columbine massacre, and managed the Campus Safety Task Force created in response to the Virginia Tech tragedy.

MICHAEL (MIKE) DAYTON ‘95 has joined Consultwebs.com, Inc. as Manager of Content Services. Attorney Dayton, was formerly the editor for Lawyers Weekly of North and South Carolina. He will provide additional content support as well as develop additional content programs to offer to Consultwebs.com clients.

ATIBA D. ADAMS ‘96 was promoted to Assistant General Counsel at Pfizer, Inc.

JIMMONIQUE R.S. RODGERS ‘96 is the Director of the Appellate Division at the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) in Atlanta, Georgia. The GPDSC is the statewide public defender system.

MICHAEL D. BARNES ‘98 has formed the firm of Fuller & Barnes, LLP in Charlotte, North Carolina. The firm’s practice areas include business and insurance litigation, as well as medical malpractice litigation. Additionally, Barnes is in his second term on the Charlotte City Council.

ALICE GLOVER ‘94 was a recipient of the 2008 Pro Bono Impact Award from Business Leader of the Triangle. Ms. Glover is an immigration attorney in Chapel Hill North Carolina. She also teaches Immigration Law at North Carolina Central University School of Law and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

WILLIAM M. HENNIS, III ‘94, is the Litigation Director in the Law Office of the Capital Collateral Regional Counsel-South, State of Florida.

BRIAN BEVERLY ‘95 has been named President of the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys. Beverly is a partner with Young Moore & Henderson in Raleigh.

KEVIN FOY ’94 was re-elected to his third term as mayor of Chapel Hill, North Carolina in November 2007. Foy is a professor at the School of Law, teaching Environmental Law and Remedies.

STEVEN W. FOWLER ’99 is the Columbus County Attorney for the County Board of Commissioners and the County Government.

TERRY L. WALLACE ‘99 has joined Parker Poe as an associate in the Charlotte, North Carolina office. As a member of the firm’s Litigation Department, Wallace counsels and represents clients on a wide range of issues, including personal injury, wrongful death, and property damage claims, professional negligence claims, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fraud claims, trade secret disputes, breach of contract claims and real property disputes. After law school, Wallace clerked for the Honorable Henry E. Frye, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

Update: Wallace has been named to Business North Carolina magazine’s “Legal Elite” for 2008 as a Young Gun.
DR. MEHDI GANJIEZADEH ’00 has joined Butzel Long as a senior attorney based in the firm’s Ann Arbor, Michigan office. He focuses on domestic, as well as international, patent prosecution and counseling in the life sciences.

TINA N. HERBERT ’00 of McAngus Goudelock and Courie, LLC was selected as a member of Leadership South Carolina Class of 2009, the state’s oldest and most respected leadership development program. The Class of 2009, with the aid of state and regional experts in various fields will jointly explore natural resource, economic development, education, social and diversity issues in seven three-day sessions held around the state. At each session, participants meet additional professionals, business executives, community and government leaders, and social change agents who network and encourage them to pursue positive change in South Carolina. Each year, Leadership South Carolina, now in its 30th year, accepts approximately 50 participants who have demonstrated commitment to their community and strive to reach a higher level of service to the Palmetto State.

DAVID J. GREEN ’01 was selected as a 2007 General Douglas MacArthur Award Winner. Green is a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Army Reserves.

PATRICK HANNAH ’01 has been appointed as Special Assistant to Chancellor Charlie Nelms, and Director of Government and Community Relations at North Carolina Central University. He most recently served as Vice-President of Governmental Affairs for the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce in Durham, North Carolina. In this new position, he will lead NCCU’s efforts to systematically build and strengthen government relations and community partnerships, by serving as a liaison between NCCU and all governmental entities and will work with various community partnerships.

LYNNETTE R. RHODES ’01, was recently promoted to be Legal Services Manager of the Georgia Department of Community Health where she supervises four attorneys, a paralegal, and a legal secretary.

THOMAS E. SNELL ’03 recently joined Benefit Edge of the Carolinas, Inc. as a partner. Benefit Edge of the Carolinas, Inc. is a health insurance and consulting firm located in Sanford, North Carolina and doing business in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

JOHN M. SPERATI ’03 has joined the firm of Smith Debnam Narron Drake Saintsing & Myers, L.L.P. Mr. Sperati is a member of the firm’s Construction, and Equipment Leasing & Finance practice group.

PEARLA M. ALSTON ’04 has been promoted to Employee Relations Manager for North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). She has also been appointed to NC Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement Program (TSERS) Board of Trustees.

ROBERT L. “ROBBY” BROWN ’04 and Michelle Mark (Congleton) ’04 have recently formed the Brown & Mark Law Group in Raleigh, North Carolina.

JOSHUA MALCOLM ’04 is the new Assistant University Counsel at the University of North Carolina Pembroke. Malcolm is not new to higher education law. He held a similar position at Fayetteville State University for three and one-half years. He also served as an instructor in the Master of Public Administration program at UNC Pembroke. Malcolm is handling a wide variety of legal issues for the University including some public safety, civil, contract and employment matters. “Joshua has developed a broad knowledge of legal issues that institutions within the UNC system must face,” said Donna G. Payne, University Counsel and Chief of Staff for the Office of the Chancellor.

CHRISTOPHER PEFFLEY ’04 was promoted to Captain in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Judge Advocate with the Twelfth Legal Support Organization. Captain Peffley graduated in January 2008 from the Judge Advocate Officer Advanced course and made the Commandant’s List placing in the top 20% of his class.

KELLY ENSSLIN ’05 has been added to the firm of Smith Moore. She joins the litigation practice area in Raleigh, North Carolina. Ensslin a former North Carolina Magistrate in Judicial District 15B, worked as law clerk to U.S. Magistrate Judge William Webb and was an attorney for Lenovo, Inc. in the Research Triangle Park.

MELINDA QUICK ’05 has been appointed Assistant District Attorney in Monroe, Union County, North Carolina.

NATHAN BASKERVILLE ’06, on November 5, 2007, filled the prosecutorial vacancy in District 9 resulting from Quon Bridges being sworn in as a district court judge. He will be returning to his home city of Henderson, North Carolina after having served under District Attorney Joel Brewer in Person and Caswell counties since September 2006. Baskerville will join the staff of District Attorney Sam Currin and will serve in Vance County.

R. BRIAN CLONINGER ’06 has joined the firm of D. Randall Cloninger, his father, and is celebrating his second anniversary of practicing law.
JENNIFER A. LUEBKE ‘06 has joined The DiLone Law Group, P.C. She will handle a variety of matters for the firm, including business formation and growth, employment agreements and other business contracts, as well as estate planning. Luebke, a former vice president at Misys Healthcare Systems and Allscripts, LLC, worked for over 20 years in health-care information technology in Raleigh, North Carolina before receiving her Juris Doctor degree in 2006. She served as a legal intern with the North Carolina Department of Labor and the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund.

RENORDA HERRING ‘07 was featured in an article, “A Passion for Troubled Kids,” in the September 2007 Issue of The National Jurist (The entire article is posted on the Law School’s web page).

WILLIAM S. EUBANKS II ‘07 recently completed his Environmental Law LL.M., summa cum laude, at Vermont Law School’s nationally top-ranked LL.M. program. Eubanks is now an Associate Attorney with the Washington, DC public interest law firm of Meyer Glitzenstein & Crystal where he represents clients in a variety of environmental litigation matters. Eubanks is currently writing a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court regarding the devastating impact of military sonar use on marine mammals such as whales and dolphins.

LORI WARLICK ‘07 has accepted a new position as a Trial Attorney, Appellate, for the United State Department of Justice—Civil Division’s Office of Immigration Litigation (OIL) in Washington, DC.

SAMUEL F. THOMAS III ‘08, is an associate at the Law Office of Darryl G. Davidson, Sr., in Statesville, North Carolina.

IN MEMORIAM

Cecelia Faucette Cook ‘71 Wendell, North Carolina, June 9, 2008
Joseph L. Colp ‘74 Oceanside, New York, June 3, 1995
Herbert Bruce Hulse, Jr. ‘75 Goldsboro, North Carolina, October 1, 2008
Louis Stevenson ‘75 Marion, Ohio, December 22, 2007
David L. Cooper ‘76 Winston-Salem, North Carolina, March 9, 2008
James “Jack” Gilbert Harris ‘80 Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, October 6, 2007
Crystal Creech Shepherd ‘98 Raleigh, North Carolina, July 14, 2008
Kerwyn M. Thomas ‘06 Trinidad-Tobago, January 30, 2008
Dean Raymond Pierce was very busy visiting with alumni at the various receptions held at the Law School and beyond for the 2007–2008 academic year. Lumberton alums kicked off the season with the first alumni reception on December 13th. The event was hosted by Arnold Locklear ’73. Our second alumni reception was an evening affair held in January at the Law School for Raleigh-Durham alums. It was hosted by Natasha Adams ’01, John Constantinou ’80, William Dudley ’76, and Ruffin Poole ’98. The next alumni reception was a luncheon held in Richmond, Virginia. It was hosted by Tonnie Villines ’88. The fourth reception was held in the lovely home of Senator and Mrs. Leroy Johnson ’57 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Not pictured:
Raleigh-Durham 2008
Lumberton 2007
The tony Cardinal Club, with its awe inspiring view of downtown Raleigh, was the scene of the second annual NCCU School of Law Raleigh Alumni Reception. Alumni mixed and mingled while enjoying hors d’oeuvres and delicious desserts. Dean Raymond C. Pierce spoke during the reception focusing on the accomplishments of the Law School and challenges ahead. Special thanks go to Leonard Jernigan, Jr. ’76 for his sponsorship and tireless efforts to ensure the overall success of the event and to the host committee: Pearla Aston ’04, Victor Boone ’75, Theaosues Clayton ’58, William Dudley, Sr. ’76, Root Edmonson ’76, Stephen Gheen ’84, Richard “Gus” Gusler ’84, Robert Henley ’76, Michelle Mark ’04, Joseph Mitchiner ’76, Toni Pinkston ’04, Ruffin Poole ’98, Allen Wellons, ’75.
On April 24, 2008, John Harmon ’65 made sure a good time was had by all by sponsoring the second annual NCCU of Law New Bern Alumni Reception. The reception was held at the New Bern Riverfront Convention, which is located in the town’s historic district overlooking an expansive view of the Neuse River. Guests were treated to delicious side dishes and tempting, scrumptious homemade desserts. The program began with Robert Raynor ’81 introducing Dean Pierce. After his opening remarks, Dean Pierce spoke about the great strides the Law School has made in the past year, including a 90% bar passage rate, reached in February 2008.
Rogelyn McLean ’00 deserves much appreciation from the Washington area alumni for her dedicated efforts in arranging the second annual NCCU School of Law Washington D.C. Alumni Reception at her law firm, Crowell & Moring, LLP, on Thursday, May 15th. Along with Ms. McLean, William Gardner ’76 also deserves kudos for his generous support in providing the beautiful spread of hearty hot and cold hors d’oeuvres and delicious desserts. Special thanks to the host committee: Jason Groves ’96, Candace Ewell ’00, Gregory Fairbanks ’00, and Ladonna Webster ’06. The reception brought together Washington D.C. area alumni and guests in celebration of the Law School as a leader in legal academic diversity.
Overcast skies and a slight chill in the air had little effect on the high spirits of the Law School alumni golfers, faculty and staff who participated in the Law Week’s 2008 Golf Tournament, held on Saturday April 5th, 2008 at the Hillandale Golf Course in Durham, North Carolina.
The North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys held its Annual Meeting at the Westin Resort, Hilton Head, South Carolina during the weekend of June 12–15, 2008 and installed Brian O. Beverly ’95 as its 31st president. Brian is a partner with Young Moore & Henderson, P.A., in Raleigh. Pictured, Brian Beverly being congratulated by Dean Pierce.

The Law School took part in hosting The North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers Convention Alumni Breakfast at the Sea Trail Resort in Sunset Beach on June 18th. Alumni from left to right: Root Edmonson ’76, Helen Parsonage ’06, Jeanine Ford ’98, Leslie Wickham ’83, Glenn B. Adams ’84.

The Law School was host to an alumni breakfast on Wednesday July 30, 2008 at the National Bar Association Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas.

Front Row, left to right Lynn Whitted ’84, Gwen Bailey ’88, Dean Raymond C. Pierce, Susan Simms Marsh ’84.

Back Row, left to right Monte Watkins ’84, (Malik Edwards from Charlotte School of Law and the son of Professor Cheryl Amana), Statis Best, Director of Law School Relations, Charles Holmes ’75, Benn Brewington ’06, and David A. Green, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.