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O F COUNSEL

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
VOLUME 4 FALL 1999

Inside ...

- Dean Janice L. Mills Reflects
- Robert Bond, The Law School's First Graduate
- "First Lady" Ruth Caldwell
- And Much More!

OF COUNSEL

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NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
VOLUME 4 FALL 1999

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Please see the inside back cover to submit ideas for future articles or to send news or articles for inclusion in *Of Counsel*.

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After attending the American Bar Association's Seminar for New Law School Deans in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Dean Janice L. Mills visited Reynolda Gardens, where this photo was taken.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

GREETINGS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

On July 1, 1999, my appointment to the permanent deanship became effective. I am honored to be featured in this volume of *Of Counsel* and to share with you my reasons for accepting this tremendous challenge and responsibility. Also, in the pages that follow, we will showcase some of your accomplishments and inform you of new developments at the Law School.



Mills

I am pleased to report that the 1999-2000 academic year is off to a good start. We have registered 118 eager and capable new students: 93 in the day program and 25 in the evening program. Our total enrollment stands at 367 students. The Honorable Clifton E. Johnson '67 joined us in welcoming these students. He delivered an informative and inspirational speech about the law school experience, the legal profession, and the value of diversity.

Faculty and returning students were pleased to see that the administrative area of the Law School had been refurbished with new carpet, furniture and wall hangings. Through the efforts of the Honorable Frank W. Ballance '65, we have received state funds to expand the Clinical Program into the areas of alternative dispute resolution, domestic violence, and family court. Also, we have been examining the administrative structure of the Law School and are reorganizing to facilitate planning and growth of our various programs. For example, we will have a Student Affairs unit that will advise student groups and organize graduation. An External Relations unit will include a Development Officer to work on our Capital Campaign, and a Special Events Coordinator to schedule and organize events at the Law School.

Recently, we received the report of the American Bar Association Accreditation Committee. The Committee found teaching, the Clinic, and diversity to be among our strengths. As anticipated, the Committee expressed concern about our financial resources and physical plant, and found that roof leaks and the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems adversely affect the learning environment of the Law School. By the close of the academic year we must respond to this interim report with action items. Thereafter, we will receive the final report.

Throughout this year, we will continue to celebrate the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Law School and to showcase significant milestones in its history. This rich history guides us as a law school of opportunity and provides a foundation for our future. You are a part of that foundation and we need your continued support.

Sincerely,

Dean Janice L. Mills

ROBERT BOND '43: THE GENESIS OF NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF LAW

By Michele Bond Hill

In March of 1939, as North Carolina College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University) received its charter from the State Legislature to begin a department of law, Hitler and his German army were preparing to invade Poland. As the first student entered this new law program, World War II was in full swing. Can you, for one moment, imagine this time in history? The world was at war abroad, and in one small school in North Carolina a young black student began law school alone. How does it compare to your law school experience?

Imagine attending law school without the benefit of an established faculty. What would it be like to go through law school without any fellow classmates? There were no study groups to share information and debate ideas. Imagine no law library in which to do research; in fact, there was only a small space set aside in the Administration Building for this new law program. Can you imagine the isolation and loneliness? That was the experience of the first graduate of what was to become North Carolina Central University School of Law – Robert Richard Bond.

Blazing a new trail is never easy – Bond sometimes went to neighboring segregated law schools to sit at the back of a particular law class without the benefit of participating. Professors from Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill would come to NCCU's campus to test Bond's progress and sometimes provide one-on-one instruction. More often than not, he read and studied the law alone. Oftentimes he went to those other law schools to use their libraries late at night because, as a Negro, he could not have access during the day. Can you imagine the overwhelming pressure to succeed – not just for yourself, but for your school - for your entire race?

Bond graduated from high school in Bertie County in 1935 and entered North Carolina College in 1937 pursuing a degree in Business Administration. Bond had no intentions of pursuing a profession in law. In fact, he had plans to attend medical school after graduation from college, but that was not to be. Dr. James Shepard noticed his outstanding scholastic record in the Business

Department and in 1940 persuaded Bond to begin the law program. Bond was selected for the law program not only because of his intellectual ability, but also more importantly, because Dr.

Shepard believed that he had the perseverance to endure the isolation and separation and successfully

complete the course of study and pass the bar examination. Dr. Shepard's belief proved correct and in 1943 Robert Richard Bond became this proud institution's first graduate. Failure was not an option;

in that same year he took the bar examination and passed on his first attempt. There were eighteen people to successfully pass the North Carolina bar examination in 1943; Robert Bond was the only African-American.

After passing the bar, Bond accepted a position with the Social Security Administration in Washington, DC. In 1947 he moved to Wilmington, North Carolina and went into private

practice. "Lawyer", as he was affectionately called, was the only African American attorney in Wilmington, North Carolina until his death in 1969. Bond was a staunch civil rights advocate. He was instrumental in the desegregation of the New Hanover County Schools. In addition to filing a lawsuit, he convinced several black families to send their children to their neighborhood schools, thereby forcing integration. During the civil rights demonstrations in Wilmington he worked diligently to



Bond

"Lawyer", as he was affectionately called, was the only African American attorney in Wilmington, North Carolina until his death in 1969.

gain the release of jailed demonstrators. This focus on civil rights led to threats and harassment. On many occasions Bond would leave court only to find notes on his car claiming "the KKK is watching you." There were nights when he would sit behind his house, armed and ready to protect his family against racist activity.

Bond was also extremely active in local, state and national politics. He believed that real change for his race would come through the power of the ballot. Bond worked tirelessly to organize voter registration campaigns and on Election Day he would go house to house giving rides to the polls. After the presidential election in 1960 of John Kennedy, the local Chairman of the Democratic Party (who was white) expressed his surprise, and probably his disappointment, when Bond was invited to the Kennedy Inauguration. He jokingly remarked, "How in the world did you get invited and I didn't?"

Robert Richard Bond was born September 26, 1918, to John B. and Mary P. Bond. Robert was the third of four sons. His mother Mary was a teacher and his father John was an educator, first teaching and eventually becoming a principal. John Bond, Sr. has the distinction of having a school named for him in Bertie County, North Carolina. Education was an extremely important ingredient in the Bond family. In addition to Robert receiving his law degree in 1943, both his youngest brother, Clarence, and his father, John, Sr., received Bachelor degrees that same year from North Carolina A & T. Clarence received his degree in Agricultural Sciences and his father's degree was in Education. His older brothers, John Jr. and Harwood, both graduates of North Carolina College had already received degrees in Education and Chemistry, respectively. In 1943, to have five college graduates in one family was no small accomplishment.

Robert was an active member of numerous professional, social and fraternal organizations including the North Carolina Lawyers Association, the Wilmington, North Carolina Bar Association, the New Hanover County Democratic Party and the Guardsmen. He was

also a 33rd Degree Mason and member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Robert married Margaret Farnsworth in 1953 and to this union was born one daughter, Michele. Michele and her husband Benjamin Hill, both graduates of North Carolina Central University, are the proud parents of Benjamin F. Hill, III and Robert Richard Bond Hill. Benjamin III is a junior at Hampton University and Robert is a high school senior.



This photograph, from an unidentified newspaper, apparently ran in 1943 with the following caption:

FIRST LAW GRADUATE - Governor J. M. Broughton of North Carolina presents a diploma to Robert R. Bond of Lewiston, N.C. Bond is the first graduate of the school of law at the North Carolina College for Negroes. He was one of 13 successful candidates to pass the state board of law examiners, and the only Negro.

A portrait of Robert Richard Bond hangs in the Law School hallway leading to the Dean's office. The School of Law is proud to claim this distinguished gentleman as the first graduate of our school.

Michele Bond Hill and her husband are the owners of three "Kidazzle" child care centers in Atlanta, Ga.

RUTH CALDWELL '48: THE LAW SCHOOL'S "FIRST LADY"

By Natalie C. Watson

Laboring as a student at the North Carolina College for Negroes School of Law, while the man for whom our esteemed building is named acted as Dean, Ruth Norman Caldwell '48 remembers a small law school with a lot of promise and a wealth of opportunity.

Holding the honor of being the first female graduate of what *National Jurist Magazine* deemed in 1995 as "the nation's best law school for women," Caldwell recalls a small law school, unsure of where best to educate its students. "There were only three of us in my graduating class and we moved around so much, one year we were in the administration building, and we also had some classes in an old wooden building near the gate. I remember the library was a small, red building." Caldwell laughs as she remembers her graduating class of three as "huge."



Caldwell in the 1960's

Caldwell says that she was given three choices for a career upon completion of college: a lawyer, a doctor or a dentist like her father.

As far as the climate surrounding the law school during this time, Caldwell remembers Durham as a close, quiet community dedicated to its students. "The Durham community was pretty friendly. At school we pretty much stayed to ourselves, while

making friends with a few people from the community. I stayed with a close friend of my mother's. Most nearby residents took in students in those days."

Caldwell came to North Carolina for law school after having living her whole life as a New Yorker, and remembers a little of the culture shock she experienced after relocating. "I was a Northerner, born and raised in New York, New York. I was totally unfamiliar with the Southern ways. I knew that we [Blacks] could not do some things and go some places, but I was totally unprepared for the reality. We would go in stores, and were not permitted to try on clothes...we did not have these problems in New York. The racial climate was just different."

Caldwell acknowledges that there was not much fanfare when she graduated as the first female graduate, but her close family was there and she was excited nonetheless.

Hailing from a prominent family in New York, her father was an acclaimed Harlem dentist. Caldwell says that she was given three choices for a career upon completion of college: a lawyer, a doctor or a dentist like her father. After researching the choices, Ruth chose to go to law school. "I had done volunteer work at a local Harlem hospital, and had worked some time at my father's office and was not impressed, so law school became my only choice."

Caldwell's most special memory of the law school is the legal education and background she acquired, although she never took a bar examination or had an

interest in practicing law. She feels that the background that she gained prepared her for a colorful non-legal career, including stints as a member of the Board of Trustees of Jesuit College, and as an operator of a small chain of drug stores in New York. "I worked in law offices, I worked for the United Nations, and I was also a member of the Board of Trustees for the YMCA, which at the time was unheard of for a woman. A legal background was useful in all of these positions."

When asked whether she regretted not ever taking a bar examination, Caldwell gives an emphatic NO! She emphasized that she got a great education and managed to have many careers doing whatever she liked. "I did a lot of artwork. I was a hatmaker, a dress designer, and I did theater work. Art was my true love."

In an interesting twist to her story, Caldwell noted that one of her many jobs was helping her husband set up a law office in New York. He had been a professor at the North Carolina Central University School of Law from 1946-48.

Because of her experiences, Caldwell urges all students in law school to consider non-legal careers. She emphasizes the impact NCCU had on her life although she never had an interest in practicing law.



Caldwell (left) and Marcia McDonald '48 while they were students at the Law School. Caldwell, McDonald and Catherine Johnson '48 comprised the Class of 1948 - all female.

Other words of wisdom from one of the Law School's most legendary? "READ, READ, READ, READ! Sometimes our folks read things one time and think that they got it. The easiest way is not always the best way." Coming from the first woman graduate of the Law School, those are truly words of wisdom.

Natalie C. Watson is a rising 2L at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

MIKE EASLEY '76: NORTH CAROLINA'S "TOP COP"

IS ALSO A CONSUMER ADVOCATE

By Ruffin Poole '98

Mike Easley, the Attorney General for the state of North Carolina, is one of us, a Legal Eagle. There are other associations with the name Mike Easley, such as tobacco settlement, public service announcements, and candidate for Governor. Many of us don't know about his background and accomplishments as Attorney General.

Michael F. "Mike" Easley grew up in Nash County, just outside of Rocky Mount. He is the second of seven children. Easley graduated from Rocky Mount High School in 1968. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of North Carolina receiving a B.A. in political science with honors. Easley attended North Carolina Central University School of Law and graduated cum laude in 1976, after serving as managing editor of the law journal. This was the beginning of an illustrious career.

Easley's first job was as an Assistant District Attorney in Brunswick County. After working in Brunswick County for two years, Easley returned to Rocky Mount for a short period of time. Two years later, Easley returned to Brunswick County, once again, as an Assistant District Attorney. In 1982, Easley ran and was elected District Attorney for the 13th Judicial District which includes Bladen, Brunswick, and Columbus counties. At age thirty-one, he was one of the State's youngest District Attorneys ever.

Easley used his youthful vigor to battle drug trafficking along the southeastern coast of North Carolina. While District Attorney, Easley achieved one of the highest conviction rates in the state. Easley helped craft state legislation to create investigative grand juries, which he used to prosecute drug traffickers and numerous South American drug kingpins. Because of his successful accomplishments as District Attorney, Easley was recognized by *USA Today* as one of the nation's top "Drug Busters."

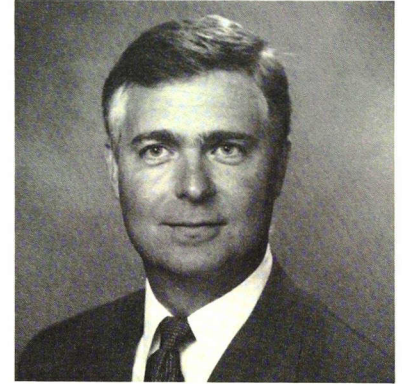
In 1990, Easley ran for the United States Senate. He lost in the primary to Harvey Gantt. For two years,

Easley entered the private practice of law. He represented many local interests in Brunswick County, including Bald Head Island. Two years later, Easley threw his hat in the ring for the office of Attorney General. This election was successful, recording the highest-ever vote total for any North Carolina candidate.

As a District Attorney, Easley was known for being tough on crime and criminals. One of his first actions as Attorney General was to repeal the prison cap in North Carolina. Easley successfully challenged a federal court order that limited North Carolina's prison population. The removal of the prison cap kept more than 4000 violent criminals behind bars, and combined with the new structured sentencing law, has resulted on a doubling of the average time served by violent felons. Our state has seen violent crime drop every year since Easley has been Attorney General.

Easley has been a very proactive Attorney General. Last year, when it became clear that several states were taking action to sue the tobacco industry, Easley quickly stepped in to make sure that North Carolina's interests were protected. Easley spearheaded efforts to reach a national tobacco settlement with several other State's Attorneys General. Easley realized that North Carolina was uniquely positioned to facilitate the dialogue that made the Master Settlement Agreement possible. As the state with the strongest economic and political ties to the tobacco industry, it enjoyed a special relationship of trust with industry leaders, as well as a high degree of political leverage with them. That credibility and influence, combined with the willingness of Easley to take the lead on a politically treacherous issue, ultimately drove the industry and the states to a comprehensive agreement.

From the earliest stages of the negotiations, Easley sought to craft a settlement that would be acceptable to all the states. Easley sought an agreement that would clamp down on youth access to tobacco products and teen smoking and, at the same time, ensure stability and a sense of order to the tobacco market and farming communities of the fourteen tobacco-growing states.



Easley

"We all want our communities to be a safer place to live, work, and go to school. Education is a top priority for our state."

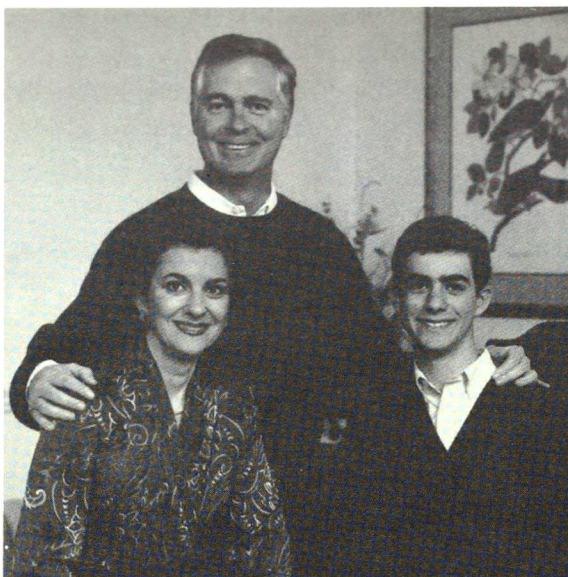
Easley played a pivotal role in brokering a \$206 billion dollar deal, the largest financial recovery in history. North Carolina will receive approximately \$5 billion dollars of this settlement. The settlement promises to bring much stability to the tobacco industry and the tobacco farmers. A little known fact is that Easley grew up on a tobacco farm in Nash County. His father owned a tobacco warehouse. Easley understood the challenges facing the tobacco farmer, their communities and the industry.

While the tobacco settlement has drawn most of the attention over the past year, Easley has been a strong advocate for consumers. Easley has been leading an aggressive fight against consumer fraud. Soon after taking office, Easley established the Partnership for Consumer Education which uses consumer education outreach programs to stop scams before they start. Most of us have seen him on television, in public service announcements, saying "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Remember, sometimes it's not too rude to hang up." Public awareness has increased and complaints of telemarketing scams have decreased.

Recently, Easley has lead the charge against predatory mortgage lending. Predatory loans are high-rate, high fee loans typically targeted to borrowers who own their homes, but may have cash flow problems. Lenders often target elderly, minority, low-income homeowners and those who know little about borrowing.

During a press conference in mid-April, Easley unveiled the legislation portion of his three-pronged attack. The legislation targets common practices associated with predatory loans, such as charging excessive fees for originating or brokering the loan; adding balloon payment provisions so the borrower pays off almost no principal after many years of payment; "packing" the loan with thousands of dollars of unnecessary credit insurance; and repeatedly refinancing or "flipping" loans to keep the borrower continually in debt.

The legislation attacks predatory lending by creating a special category in the state's lending laws for "high cost loans," making North Carolina the first state to seriously address this problem. If the loan has fees or a rate that significantly exceeds prevailing market rates, then special restrictions and protections apply. These new provisions are intended to make borrowers more aware of the consequences of high cost home loans and create barriers to prevent predatory practices.



Easley, wife Mary and son Mike

Easley and members of his staff, including another Legal Eagle, Senior Deputy Attorney General Wanda Bryant '82, have held several seminars across the state to educate citizens. In fact, one seminar was held in the Moot Court room at the Law School in Spring, 1999. Easley discussed predatory lending practice with a group of citizens, reporters, law school faculty, staff and students.

Easley's legislative achievements include pushing through the General Assembly new laws that create "weapon free" school zones. Currently, Easley is serving on the Governor's Task Force on Youth Violence

and School Safety. In an interview concerning education and school safety, Easley commented, "We all want our communities to be a safer place to live, work, and go to school. Education is a top priority for our state. We need safe schools, so that our children can learn. Weapons have no place in or near our schools." Easley continued by saying, "A quality education is a critical component in reducing crime. A small class can make a big difference. It can mean the difference between a child that gets the individual attention they need and a child that gets overlooked and ends up on the wrong path." One of his major platform issues as a candidate for Governor is his commitment to education and reducing class sizes.

Attorney General Easley is married to Mary Easley, an attorney and professor of law at North Carolina Central University School of Law who teaches appellate advocacy and trial practice. Their son, Michael, will be a high school freshman this fall in Raleigh Public Schools.

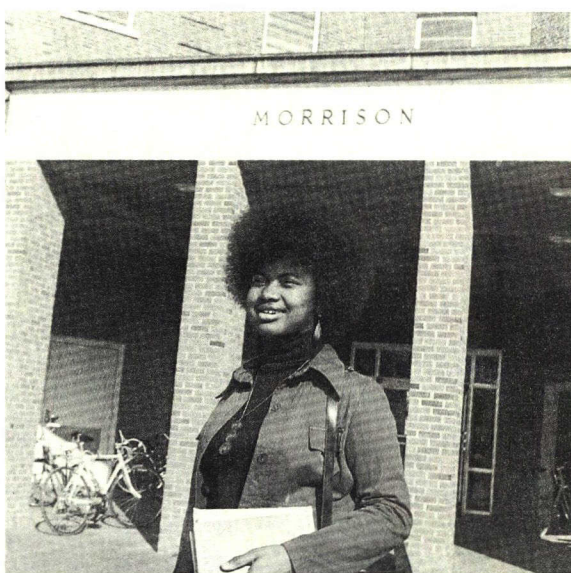
Mike Easley is a man of accomplishments. Over the years, Easley has accepted challenges, established goals and fulfilled them. He is a man who cares and listens, a man of action, and a voice for all.

Ruffin Poole '98 is an attorney in the Citizens Rights Section of the Attorney General's Office.

DEAN JANICE MILLS: WATCHING HER GARDEN GROW

By Brenda D. Gibson '95

Earlier this year, the Board of Governors chose Janice L. Mills to guide the North Carolina Central University School of Law into the next millennium. However, in the hearts of many students, administrators, and alumni, Janice Mills had been “their” Dean for some time. Dean Mills, as this author has always referred to her, served in an interim capacity since August of 1998 upon the departure of former Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. and served as Assistant Dean in no less than three administrations. To one who believes in destiny, it seems that Dean Mills has long been set upon a path to the Dean’s Office.



Mills as a UNC-CH student outside Morrison dorm

Dean Mills was born the fourth of nine children in rural Reidsville, Rockingham County, North Carolina to Laurene Wise Mills and the late Charles Mills. Her mother still lives in North Carolina.

“[T]he legal profession is a powerful one - one that should set an example for diversity and inclusion.”

Growing up, her maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Kay Wise, played an intricate role in her development. To this very day, Dean Mills credits her grandmother with teaching her two

important lessons that have sustained her over time - to “respect people” and to always remember that she was “as good as anybody else – important lessons for a little black girl growing up in the south in the ‘50s. These lessons are as important today as they were then – for all children throughout the world.”

Dean Mills attended the public, but segregated schools of Reidsville through the eighth grade. In the ninth grade, she transferred to the predominantly white junior high school under the “freedom of choice plan.” During her junior year of high school, one year after the compulsory merger of the two separate public school systems, the African-American community of Reidsville sought the assistance of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the law firm of now-Chancellor of North Carolina

Central University Julius Chambers. It was at this time that she, at seventeen, first met an attorney. The young Mills was particularly impressed with and inspired by the ease with which one associate from the Chambers firm presented the African-American community’s grievances to an antagonistic body of school administrators. Notably, this young attorney, Charles Becton, went on to become a Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and is now partner in the law firm Fuller, Becton, Slifkin & Bell. As a result of Becton’s great example, Mills decided to become an attorney.

She finished high school and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH), where she majored in Political Science. While at UNC-CH, Dean Mills was a member of such esteemed honorary societies as Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Valkyries. She was also a Johnston and Brooks Scholar. An exceptional student, Dean Mills completed her undergraduate studies in three years, and entered the Duke University School of Law in 1977. During her time at Duke, she was chosen to be a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow, and worked as a legal assistant in the University Equal Opportunity Office. Mills also worked as a legal intern with the Durham County Legal Aid Society and law clerk with the firm of Chambers, Stein, Ferguson & Becton. Mills graduated from Duke in 1977 with a juris doctor, and immediately set upon the course that would lead her to the School of Law.

Her first stop was Southern Piedmont Legal Services in Charlotte, North Carolina, and then North State Legal Services in Pittsboro, North Carolina where she served as Staff Attorney, practicing in the areas of consumer law, landlord-tenant law, and other general areas of the law. As a result of her dedication to public service, in 1980, Professor Thomas Mdodana Ringer recruited Dean Mills to be a supervising attorney for his beloved Clinical Program. She also served as an adjunct assistant professor, coordinating and teaching the law school’s legal writing program, before becoming an assistant professor. In 1985, Dean Mills became Interim

Assistant Dean and in 1987, Assistant Dean. She became an Associate Professor in 1989, and subsequently served again as Assistant Dean from 1992 until 1993. In 1993, Dean Mills became tenured, and until her appointment as Interim Dean in August of 1998, taught a host of courses including Real Estate Transfer & Finance, Property, Legal Methods, Statutory Interpretation, and Civil Rights Legislation.

When asked when she first decided to become dean, she laughed, “Did I really do that? As an assistant dean in three different administrations at the Law School, I knew better. It’s a thankless job for a complexity of reasons. I became interim dean just three months before our American Bar Association seven-year accreditation. We had a lot of work to do and we did it. Faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends coalesced in this effort. When the core group did not identify a permanent dean from our search, I reflected on its positive support and accepted the position.”

As Dean, she still teaches, but more importantly, Dean Mills is still learning. Her classroom now encompasses a larger audience - students, faculty, administrators, alumni, and the public at large - and a different subject--the North Carolina Central School of Law. Daily, she must firmly and succinctly state the Law School’s case.

When asked to speak about the law school past, Dean Mills describes the School of Law as “a school of opportunity--one worthy of respect.” She recounts her first visit to the Law School in the ‘70s, when it was housed



Mills as a teenager

in the Jones Building, before renovation. She notes, with awe, that “people were teaching, learning and working in that environment; their efforts produced many distinguished alumni.” Dean Mills says that she benefits from the School of Law’s history of struggle. She credits the sacrifices and struggles of other School of Law alumni and faculty before her for keeping her



Mills at Duke Gardens

going. On the rough days, “faith and hope” spring up to help this self-professed optimist. Dean Mills’ immediate vision for the Law School is quite simple: to raise expectations. She elaborates that “as faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends, we need to continue to think about what we can do, positively and actively, to promote the Law School. It has a rich history and has been commended by the American Bar Association for its diversity. As one of only four law schools associated with an historically black university, its contribution to society has been understated.” She goes on to say that “the legal profession is a powerful one – one that should set an example for diversity and inclusion.”

Many readers may not know, but gardening is Dean Mills’ favorite hobby. She loves the “fresh air and color.” While she may not see the correlation between her love of gardening and the School of Law, this author certainly does. Just as she nurtures and watches her garden of flowers and fresh vegetables grow, she nurtures and watches the School of Law grow by leaps and bounds. Her long-term goal is to increase the fundraising efforts of our great institution so as to accommodate even greater projected growth in enrollment. A shorter term goal is to make the School of Law a more welcoming and exciting learning environment. With the lessons taught first by her grandmother and later by life’s experiences, Dean Mills will continue to plant the seeds of knowledge, water and nurture the seedlings as they grow, and we will all watch proudly as the NCCU School of Law continues to grow.

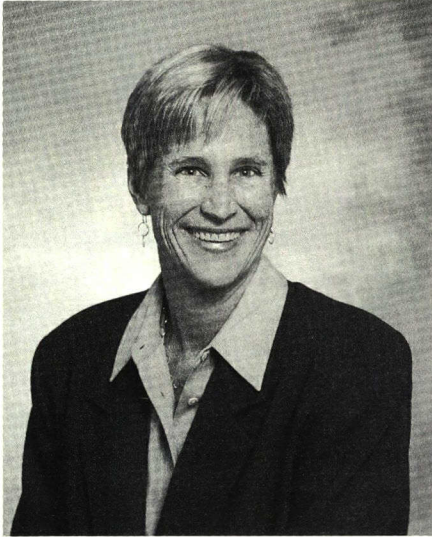
Brenda D. Gibson '95 is a staff attorney for the Office of Staff Counsel at the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

ROBIN MORRIS '90: A CLASS VALEDICTORIAN WITH BEAUTY, BRAINS, BRAUN AND TWO BOYS

By M. Victoria Taylor '97

It seems very appropriate that the law school voted "the best for women" in 1995 by *The National Jurist* would produce outstanding female professionals in the legal arena. Without a doubt, Robin Tatum Morris '90 continues this tradition of excellence. Today, Robin

balances life as a mother of two boys, a partner at Poyner & Spruill, LLP (Raleigh, NC office), an aerobics instructor, and a wife.



Morris

I must admit that I was excited about the opportunity to write this article about Robin Tatum Morris and to learn more about her life. My interest in Robin began five years ago when we briefly met in the Law

School library. In just a few moments and with few spoken words, I decided that I liked her; I admired her energy and I wanted to know more about her. Reality, however, stepped in, and my law school career consumed me. The next time I saw Robin Morris, four years had passed.

In 1998, NCCU Law's Women's Caucus group convened a panel of speakers to dialogue with, inspire, and educate the Law School community and invited guests; the program was entitled "Women Lawyers: Balancing Personal and Professional Lives." Much to my delight, Robin Morris was a panelist. Once again I was reminded of my interest in her. This time, I thought to myself, I would not fail. I would learn her secret of success and fulfillment. She spoke. I listened. The passing of another year brought us together again for this article. My patience has finally paid off. I am getting to go on the inside - to learn about Robin Morris from the ground up.

Highlighting law school alums is important in our

law school recruitment and development efforts, and it strengthens the sense of pride in Legal Eagles all across the country and the world. Let me now introduce you to Robin Tatum Morris, a class valedictorian with beauty, brains, braun and two boys. Enjoy.

Robin grew up in Winston-Salem with her older brother, John. Full of energy, Robin's parents introduced her to athletics at a young age, all the while stressing the importance of getting a good education. Her high school years took her out of state to a boarding school in Pennsylvania - Mercersburg Academy. Robin returned to North Carolina to pursue her undergraduate and graduate work at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. She also swam competitively for the Wolfpack. From this solid beginning, Robin blossomed into the success she is today.

Q: Robin, who were your greatest influences growing up and why?

A: My parents were my greatest influences growing up. They have always believed in me and always had very high aspirations for me. They pushed me to succeed and this has taught me to believe in myself and my abilities.

Q: Any people who surprisingly had an influence on you?

A: There are others who have influenced me; however, I can't say any are a surprise. In particular, my mentor at our firm, Cecil Harrison (now a managing partner), has been my role model in the practice of law. Even though we do not work together much anymore, I always consult him for important decisions, and for other smaller decisions, ask myself what he would do before I act.

Q: Why law school? Why NCCU School of Law?

A: I had always wanted to go to law school and finally got around to it (I taught high school several years before returning to law school). I'm not sure why, but "lawyering" seems to suit my personality. I feel like it is what I am supposed to do. I originally went to NCCU because I applied to law school late and it was the only school that would take my application. However, after I got there I liked the environment and decided to stay.

Q: What was your law school experience like?

A: I had a great law school experience. It was exciting to learn and I made many good friends (one in particular, who I married - Mark Morris). I always felt challenged, but comfortable enough to talk with professors.

Q: Did you know what kind of law you wanted to practice when you were in law school?

A: Yes, I always knew I wanted to be a litigator. However, originally, I wanted to prosecute and that has changed dramatically. I now do exclusively zoning law (with an emphasis in litigation). I did not even know such a thing existed while I was in law school.

Q: How have you balanced/how do you balance the wife, mother, and lawyer roles?

A: I have two children, ages six and three. Balancing all of my roles is very difficult. Fortunately, I have an understanding family and an understanding law firm. I have to be very organized and very flexible. This means having a portable telephone, and working after the kids go to bed. I have also been known to work while watching Barney, and my children have spent time sleeping and/or coloring in my office, etc. In sum, I have to do what I can,

when I can. For example, I always work through lunch, so I can be home earlier. I also have a good nanny. I always try to take at least three full weeks of vacation a year and whenever possible I DO NOT work at home. The good thing is I am never bored, and I almost

always look forward to going to work and to returning home to my family. It's a constant juggling act, but very exciting.

Q: If you could wave a magic wand, is there anything about your life you would change/enhance/remove?

A: I would have more hours in every day! This would allow me to spend more time with my family and still have time to do other things. I miss some of my kids'

activities that I'd really like to participate in. Also, I miss pursuing my own personal interests and hobbies. However, I figure I'll get around to that again when my kids are grown.

Q: Would you encourage young women entering law school to follow in your footsteps? Would you encourage young women to go to law school?

A: I would encourage young women to follow in my footsteps if that is what they want to do. The decision to work and be a mother and wife is a hard one. This is a decision that has to be made after a lot of reflection, and must be guided by your heart. There is no "right or wrong." However, I would encourage women not to give up a career or children if they want to have both. It is possible even though there are frustrating moments.

Q: What's next for Robin Morris?

A: I don't plan a whole lot more right now! I want to continue to grow my practice, yet be able to be at home more. I would like to be known for my expertise in my area (zoning), and to grow my section within the firm. Most of all I want to continue to be with my kids as much as possible and continue to enjoy watching them grow.

Lastly, I want to share Robin's accomplishments with you. Read this list keeping in mind all that she had done and does. It's pretty amazing. After law school, Robin clerked for Federal Judge Franklin Dupree (1990-91). In 1991, Robin joined Poyner & Spruill, LLP, and in 1997 she made partner. The NCCU Law family is extremely proud of Robin's recent appointment to the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners; she is the first "Legal Eagle" to hold this position.

Alums, go forth and inspire.

M. Victoria Taylor '97 is the Director of Recruitment at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

"[I] would encourage women not to give up a career or children if they want to have both. It is possible even though there are frustrating moments."

FRANK TURNER '73: OUR MARYLAND LEGISLATOR

By Natalie C. Watson

It is no secret that NCCU Law Alumni have had a long love affair with North Carolina politics. From North Carolina Senator Frank Ballance '65, to N.C. House Representative H.M. "Mickey" Micheaux Jr. '64, Legal Eagles have been at the forefront of North Carolina legislative and policy making issues.

Frank Turner '73 recently spoke about how his experiences and lessons learned at NCCU Law prepared him for political life in a different arena, Maryland. "NCCU law school graduates have always had a love affair with politics. However, most of this fascination has been with North Carolina politics. Since I had no immediate intention of returning to North Carolina, I decided to get involved with Maryland politics." Turner later explained that he ended up in Maryland after a brief stint in North Carolina, "I came to Maryland three months after completing law school. I had worked for Governor Dan K. Moore of North Carolina upon completion of undergraduate school at NCCU. This experience provided insight about myself and an opportunity to learn about public service as a career."

Turner completed his undergraduate work at NCCU in 1968. As an undergraduate Eagle and a later Legal Eagle, Turner looks back with happy memories on his NCCU experience. "I spent four years in undergraduate school at NCCU and loved every experience. I have fond memories of the campus, teachers, friends, campus life, the canteen, and the academic opportunities at NCCU. I never gave serious thought about attending another law school upon completion of undergraduate school. NCCU was the right choice for me."



Turner

When asked to reflect on being a law school student during the Civil Rights Movement, Turner recalls the impact of the movement, which he strongly believes is still going on. "From my perspective, the Civil Rights Movement continues, but with a different emphasis than the late 1960's and early '70's. During that era, the movement was more focused on public accommodation, employment opportunities and housing. We all believed we had something to contribute to society."

Turner began his Maryland legislative career in 1994. With six candidates in the field for one of the two House seats in district 13A Howard County Maryland, Turner finished second, and won the general election by 731 votes. In 1998, he finished first in the primary and 4000 votes ahead of his opposition in a district that only has an 11% minority population. He plans to continue his dream and run for the state senate in 2002. He believes his education at NCCU law prepared him for these successes. "NCCU instilled in me the importance of believing in oneself, using perseverance and hard work to achieve whatever goals one sets for himself." In addition to his career as a Maryland legislator, Turner is also a dedicated professor at Morgan State University teaching Business Law and Insurance.

While in Law School, Turner was associate editor of the NCCU Law Journal and a member of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. Turner also has fond memories of the classroom experience at NCCU, one memory that all students can identify with from Torts and Property classes. "We all watched with amazement as Professor [later

Dean] Sampson used his hands to mesmerize and delight the class in explaining Justice Andrews and Cordoza's positions in *Palzgraf vs. The Long Island Railroad*. And of course, we all tried to stay awake as Dean DeJarmon explained the 'Rule Against Perpetuities.'"

When asked to give a word of advice to those of us in Law School beginning the new millennium, Turner looked back at a conversation he had with classmates in Law School concerning the future. Some wanted to make a lot of money. Some wanted to make their mark in the movement, and some wanted to work with people, but were not quite sure what they wanted to do. Turner was a part of that group. "I have found much happiness and great satisfaction in teaching students and serving the public as a delegate in the Maryland General Assembly. I have two great careers and I love them both. Whatever you choose to do with your life, I feel that it is important to listen to your inner self and always follow your dreams."

Natalie C. Watson is a rising 2L at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

"NCCU instilled in me the importance of believing in oneself, using perseverance and hard work to achieve whatever goals one sets for himself."



Various Law School faculty and administrators gathered for this photo taken in March 1999. Front row, left to right: Grady Jessup '86, Adrienne Fox, Wandra Mitchell, Adrienne Meddock '91, Nichelle Perry '93, and Ronald Douglas '82. Back row, left to right: Fred Williams, Lisa Morgan, Irving Joyner, Lydia Lavelle '93, Charles Smith, Renee Hill, Mary Wright, Elizabeth Rapaport, and James Beckwith.

HISTORY OF THE LAW JOURNAL

By Lydia E. Lavelle '93

Can you answer these trivia questions
before reading further?

1. What year was the Law School's Law Journal first published?
2. What was the name of the first Law Journal?
3. Who was the Dean at the time?
4. Who was the first editor of the Law Journal?
5. Who is perhaps the most well-known contributor to the Law Journal?
6. Who were the first two students at the Law School to write for a law journal? (This is tricky!)

A look at the history of the *NCCU Law Journal* reveals much about the interests and concerns of those associated with the North Carolina Central University School of Law. The first Journal, published in the spring of 1969, was dedicated to former Dean LeMarquis DeJarmon, with the following quote:

"Truth is the secret of eloquence and of virtue, the basis of moral authority, it is the highest summit of art and life."

Henri-Frederic-Amiel

Articles in the first *Law Journal* ranged from an article titled "Advisory Opinions" by Dean Emeritus Albert L. Turner, to an abridged comment on "African Public Law" by Joseph Chea Sampson. Also contained in the first *Law Journal* is a speech made by Durham attorney William A. Marsh, delivered at the Annual Senior Banquet on May 27, 1967, entitled "This Is Our Challenge, Not Our Fate."

Many friends were recognized for making the first national publication of the *Law Journal* possible. In addition, the *Duke Law Journal* conveyed the message of "Best Wishes" and the *North Carolina Law Review* wished the "Best of Luck" to the newest law journal in the triangle.

The Editor-in-Chief of the 1969 *Law Journal* was Vincent P. Maltese '69 (however, a notation was made in the first *Law Journal* that "[a] special thanks is extended to Marvin Rux '68, Editor-in-Chief, 1967-1968"). Other members of the first Board of Editors were Ronald Barbee '70, Philip Auerbach '69, Diego L. Villarreal '70, Roger Thurston, Marvin House '70 and James Foster. William R. Williams '69 served as Business Manager, Beryl Sansom '70 and Ronald Pitts '69 were in charge of Advertisements, Carlton Fellers '70 was the Treasurer,

Brown H. Payne was the Faculty Advisor, and Mrs. Anne M. Duncan was the Library Advisor. The Dean at the time of the publishing of this first *Law Journal* was Daniel G. Sampson.

North Carolina College Law Journal

SPRING

VOLUME 1969

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Third class postage paid at Durham, North Carolina

The Spring 1970 edition of the *Law Journal* contained a variety of articles, one of which was entitled "Credit Card Law" by John Dalzell, then a professor at the NCCU School of Law. It began, "America has taken with enthusiasm to the use of the credit card, a plastic card carried usually in a wallet, with the holder's name and a number embossed on it, which is accepted by many merchants, restaurants, service-station operators, etc., as establishing the credit of the holder." How far we have come!

Howard N. Lee wrote an article published in the *Law Journal* in Spring 1972 entitled "Political Trends and Life Styles in North Carolina for the Decade 1970." At the time, he was mayor of Chapel Hill. He stated, "No longer can a white candidate expect to be elected purely because he is white, or a black candidate accept the pessimistic view that he will automatically be defeated because he is black. There appears to be a greater open-mindedness developing among the Populist of North Carolina to the extent that candidates, whether black or white, who can come forth with a progressive and relevant program stand a good chance of being elected to almost any office within the state regardless of the economic status, sex, or age. Of all the trends, this is the ultimate goal. When we have finally reached this plateau, our political system will be close to excellent health."

Howard N. Lee is currently a North Carolina state senator representing Chatham, Lee, Moore, Orange and Randolph counties.

**"Judge Hayes
flew in the face
of localism in
race relations
cases."**

In the Fall 1972 *Law Journal*, author Joseph R. Aicher, Jr. wrote a detailed biography of Judge Johnson J. Hayes (1886-1958), a Federal Middle District Court Judge who authored various civil rights cases in the 1950s. Aicher stated that "[o]f the five race relations cases heard by Judge Hayes he ruled in favor of the Black litigants four times." The cases were *Epps v. Carmichael*, 93 F. Supp. 327 (1950), *Blue et. al. v. Durham Public School District*, 95 F. Supp. 441 (1951), *Frasier v. Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina* (Chapel Hill), 134 F. Supp. 589 (1955), *Covington v. Montgomery County School Board*, 139 F. Supp. 161 (1956) and *Simkins v. Greensboro*, 149 F. Supp. 562 (1957).

Aicher noted that "Judge Hayes flew in the face of localism in race relations cases." He quoted the *Raleigh News & Observer* that "North Carolinians are shocked at the *Blue* decision. [*Blue* held that Durham's segregated public school system did not provide real equality and held against the system.] This decision was given by J. J. Hayes who also gave us the *Epps* decision." Yet, Aicher noted, "[i]t is interesting that even in ruling against local interests in race relations, a highly volatile issue, the press

and people of the state still viewed Judge Hayes as a friend." The author methodologically analyzed Judge Hayes' tenure on the court and his apparent influence on his fellow appellate judges. He quoted Daniel G. Sampson, then counselor to the President of NCCU and later Dean of the Law School, as stating, "Neither Blacks nor whites need fear prejudice in Judge Hayes' court. The kindly old man had a great belief in humanity."

The Fall 1974 *Law Journal* contains a note on *United States v. Dzialak*, 441 F.2d 212 (2nd Cir. 1971), written by law student Michael F. Easley '76, now the Attorney General of North Carolina. The note, titled "The General Search Warrant - A Void in Judicial Logic," concluded that the ruling "reflects a [consensus] of federal courts wishing to eliminate the Fourth Amendment protections against searches and seizures heretofore restricted to special circumstances, by juxtaposing the question of reasonableness upon the plain view doctrine, where the latter should have stood alone."

Another student, Julian Pierce '76, wrote a note concerning "The Abolishment of Contributory Negligence as a Defense in North Carolina" in the Fall 1975 *Law Journal*. In the note, Pierce argued that the doctrine was "antiquated" and needed to be abolished. This, of course, is still being argued today. In Spring 1976, Dorothy C. Bernholz '75 wrote about the newly created "Student Legal Services at the University of North Carolina." At the time, she was the first on-campus attorney for UNC students.

A declaration inside Volume 8 of the *Law Journal*, Fall 1976, stated that the volume was the particular "result of the long, arduous and dedicated service" of Anne McKay Duncan. "As Law Librarian, from 1951 to her retirement in 1975, and as Faculty Advisor to the *Law Journal* from its inception, she served with uncommon success in an arena of common adversity. Her selfless service and total devotion to the welfare of the student body continues to be an inspiration to us all. In deep appreciation for her services, personal example and wise counsel, and in recognition of a rare human being, we proudly dedicate this volume to Mrs. Anne McKay Duncan." This particular volume also contained an article titled "Reforming the Federal Criminal Code: A Congressional Response" by Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

In the spring of 1977, the *Law Journal* contained the article, "Handgun Control: Constitutional and Critically Needed." It was written by Maynard Holbrook Jackson, Jr. '64, then mayor of Atlanta. The following Fall 1978 *Law Journal* contained the response "Handgun

Control: Constitutional or Unconstitutional? - A Reply to Mayor Jackson" written by David I. Caplan, an attorney from New York.

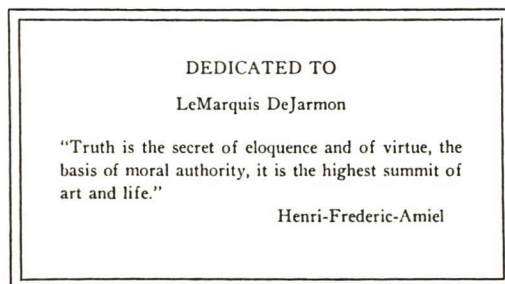
The Fall 1979 *Law Journal* contained a tribute to former Dean and then Professor Daniel George Sampson upon his thirtieth year of service at the School of Law. Within the tribute, Anne M. Duncan quoted comments written by students about Professor Sampson: "Good instructor. Concerned. He always prepares clear, concise examples of how the law applies to various fact situations . . . [he] is perhaps the most outstanding professor in this entire institution - not only does he possess a wealth of knowledge to share with students, but he also has the ability to get this information across to the most timid or gregarious student." Duncan went on to say of Sampson, "[t]otally devoid of arrogance, Sampson is very low-keyed, tending toward self-effacement, and more than a trifle shy. . . . Because of his pedagogical expertise, philosophical concepts, articulate communication, sincere interest, and understanding, this 'reasonable and prudent man' has earned the love, admiration, respect, and gratitude of countless students who have attended the School of Law at North Carolina Central University since 1950."

In the same Fall 1979 *Law Journal*, student Jimmy D. Sharpe '81, now an attorney in Durham, North Carolina, asked, "Is There a Need for Equitable Distribution of Property Upon Divorce in North Carolina?" He concluded that there was indeed such a need.

The Spring 1980 *Law Journal* honored Robert E. Stipe, an attorney considered the father of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. In his tribute to Stipe, Rufus L. Edmisten, then Attorney General of North Carolina, announced on behalf of the School of Law at North Carolina Central University "the first preservation law course in a North Carolina school." He

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also announced that the *Law Journal* would publish a symposium issue in historic preservation in honor of Stipe. Professor James P. Beckworth, Jr. contributed to the symposium with a forward to the *Law Journal* regarding the symposium and an article entitled, "Preservation Law 1976-1980: Faction, Property Rights, and Ideology."

In 1981, the spring *Law Journal* contained articles relating to the contributions of the "Warren Court" to equal protection. They were presented by nationally recognized legal scholars in a lecture program following the formal dedication of the new Albert L. Turner Law Building. Among those present were Associate Justice Potter Stewart of the United States Supreme Court, who made remarks about Chief Justice Earl Warren, which are also included in the 1981 Spring *Law Journal*.

The Fall 1983 *Law Journal* contained papers from a Hospital Law Symposium that was held at the School of Law in April 1983. The symposium was co-sponsored by the School of Law and the Duke University Program on Legal Issues in Health Care. In the forward, Professor Clark C. Havighurst of Duke University noted that "[t]he *Law Journal* is to be congratulated for its timely contribution to the field of health care law."

In the mid-'80s, the *Law Journal* dedicated two of its volumes to two people's contributions. The 1985 volume of the *Law Journal* was dedicated to former Dean Charles E. Daye, and the 1987 volume was dedicated to Albert Broderick "for his unselfish contributions to this *Law Journal* and his enthusiastic and continual support of the Law School."

The 1990 *Law Journal* contained what might be perhaps the longest title for a submission to the *Law Journal*: "Denial of Admission to the Bar Which is Based on the Applicant's Assertion of the Fifth Amendment Privilege Against Self-Incrimination With Respect to Questions Concerning the Applicant's Subversive

Advocacy," by then NCCU School of Law Constitutional Law Professor Warren D. Bracy.

The 1990's saw emerging trends in the law reflected in the pages of the *Law Journal*. In 1992, Neil E. Nussbaum '92 authored "'Film at Eleven ...' Does the Press Have the Right to Attend and Videotape Executions?" and James W. Morgan, '94, contributed, "The Legal Liability of Blood Donor Services and Transfusion Providers in the Wake of the AIDS Crisis." A 1995 volume of the *Law Journal* contains interesting contrasting articles on Thurgood Marshall (by Daniel Pollitt, Kenan Professor Emeritus of Constitutional Law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and Clarence Thomas (by Anton Bell, '95, who practices in Virginia).

The 1996 *Law Journal* contains the keynote address of Walter J. Leonard on the occasion that marked the establishment of the Charles Hamilton Houston Chair (on March 22, 1995 Franklin R. Anderson, NCCU Trustee and Susie R. Powell, former NCCU law faculty member, honored the School of Law by establishing the Chair). Leonard, formerly President of Fisk University, was recently retired as the Executive Director of the Cities in Schools, Inc. program in Washington, D.C.

Indeed, the *NCCU Law Journal* is in its infancy compared to law journals of many other law schools. Yet this overview of its history does not begin to do justice to all the scholarly writings contained in its pages. It does, however, give us pause to reflect on a bit of what we have accomplished in our thirty years since the publishing of the first *NCCU Law Journal*.

Answers:

1. 1969
2. North Carolina College Law Journal
3. Daniel G. Sampson
4. Marvin Rux '68
5. Either Senator Edward M. Kennedy or U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stewart Potter
6. Notes by Robert Bond '43 and John W. Langford '47 appeared in the North Carolina Law Review in Volume 20, Number 4 (June, 1942). An explanation reads, "Notes by Robert Bond and John W. Langford, law students in the North Carolina College for Negroes, appear in this issue." Bond wrote about a case dealing with a forfeiture of a life estate for non-payment of taxes, and Langford wrote about a case regarding immunity from suit in the court of a sister state.

Lydia E. Lavelle '93 is the Director of Alumni Relations at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

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The Board of Editors of the North Carolina College Law Journal would like to express its sincere appreciation to our friends for making the first national publication of our Law Journal possible.

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A special thanks is extended to Marvin Rux, Editor-in-Chief, 1967-1968.

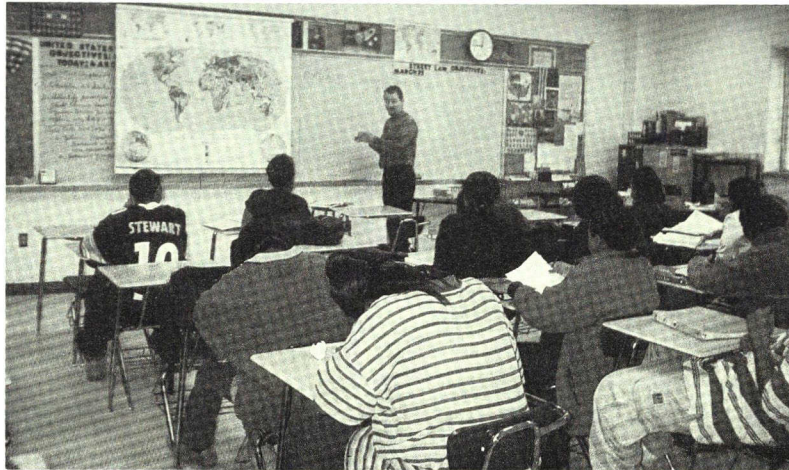
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Vol. 19, No. 2 (1991): Gail L. Davis
Vol. 20, No. 1 (1992): Marilyn Bowens
Vol. 20, No. 2 (1992): David L. Lambert
Vol. 21, No. 1 (1995): Freddie Lane, Jr.
Vol. 21, No. 2 (1995): Lisa P. Harding
Vol. 22, No. 1 (1996): Lisa P. Harding
Vol. 22, No. 2 (1996): Nicholas J. Perry

STREET LAW: NCCU LAW STUDENTS RETURN TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS!

By Natalie J. McKinney

In spring of 1999, a new course, Street Law, was offered at the School of Law. This course was the result of a partnership between NCCU School of Law and the Durham Public Schools. A total of twenty 2L and 3L NCCU law students, in teams of two, taught students at Hillside High School, the High School Learning Center (an alternative school) and Shepard Magnet After-School Program about the legal system and the fundamental principles and values on which our constitutional democracy is based. Primarily, however, the law students provided lessons about the areas of law which directly affect and concern our youth.



Will Brownlee, a 3L at the Law School, teaches Street Law

Plans are under way for expansion into Northern Ireland, Eastern Europe and Russia. Also, Street Law has spurred the development of a special program in the juvenile justice system for juvenile offenders arrested and charged with gun possession offenses, combining Street Law and conflict resolution.

Street Law at NCCU School of Law

Lydia Lavelle, NCCU School of Law's Pro Bono Coordinator, and I met in 1998, and ended up talking about Street Law. I explained to her that I had participated as a law student in California and taught at an alternative school for one semester. I further explained what an incredible impact the experience had on me and my students. The students, who were attending the alternative school for various and sundry reasons, including plain disinterest in school manifesting itself in poor attendance and performance and behavioral problems, actually looked forward to our class. They felt that they were learning something "useful." Hearing this from students all too often labeled as incorrigible or "unteachable" or "lazy" demonstrated to me that Street Law was definitely desired and certainly needed.

As Lydia and I continued to communicate throughout the year, we determined that Street Law was definitely a prime program for the Durham Public School system, as well as for NCCU's law students. With the "crisis" in juvenile justice and less forgiving rules pertaining to juveniles on the rise, Durham Public School students could benefit from knowing their rights and the

What Exactly is Street Law?¹

Street Law was started in 1972 at Georgetown Law School. Faculty and students interested in exploring cutting-edge approaches to legal training and providing "legal services" to youth in a less traditional manner decided to educate District of Columbia school students about the law, hoping that legal problems could be avoided, or at the very least reduced, through self-help or knowing how to effectively use counsel. The program was a success. About ten years after Street Law began, a three year evaluation of the impact of Street Law was funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. The evaluation demonstrated that, when properly implemented, not only did Street Law increase knowledge about the law and the legal system, and improve attitudes toward authority, it also resulted in reductions in delinquency.

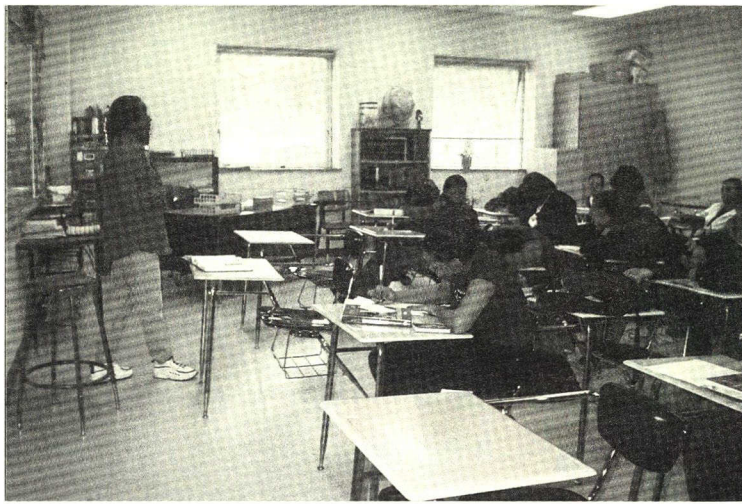
Street Law is now a part of the curriculum at approximately forty American law schools and is in place at fourteen of the eighteen law schools in South Africa.

potential consequences associated with certain behavior. On the other hand, NCCU law students would get the opportunity to sharpen their legal knowledge and skills, while providing a valuable community service, teaching our youth. Thus, the idea took shape, and Lydia and I approached the Durham Public Schools Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Elsa Woods.

Dr. Woods received our proposal to incorporate Street Law into the Durham Public Schools with great enthusiasm. Lydia then approached, first, NCCU School of Law Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr., and then acting Dean Janice L. Mills and the faculty. Street Law was subsequently approved as a one hour spring semester course for second and third year law students. We then met with Dr. Woods and representatives from the participating Durham Public Schools and began the task of developing a workable course for the law students and Durham Public Schools students.

How does Street Law Work at NCCU?

The Street Law course has two components: (1) a one-hour, once a week law seminar on various teaching methods, and to a much lesser extent, substantive law; and (2) a one-hour per week time during which the law students teach the high school or middle school students. The law students were divided into ten teams of two, with each team teaching once a week. As the initial class, many law students were not quite certain what to expect; however, we had one student who had been involved in Street Law as a high school student in Washington D.C. Armed with enthusiasm, dedication and a general desire to aid the Durham community youth, the law students, after some training, began teaching. Many of the NCCU law students found the Street Law experience most rewarding. One law student found that "the opportunity to teach is the best portion of the course. It is a refreshing change of pace from law school classes and gives the opportunity to recap first year classes." Another law student described the best thing about Street Law as "applying what I have learned in law school and 'translating' it to younger students. It really gave me an opportunity to add practical skills to my knowledge." Finally, one law student explained that the best thing about the course was "the goal of the course -- that



Durham Hillside High School students listen to Dilcy Grady, a 3L at the Law School

children may be empowered when armed with knowledge about their legal rights."

The course had initial growing pains, but it has survived. Law students taking the course this past spring recommended other law students take the course.

"It gives you a creative outlet on your knowledge of the law," said one law student. It also provides one the "opportunity to review first year courses and to teach what you've learned while in law school," said another law student who participated in the spring semester Street Law course. More importantly, the law students recognize the importance of reaching out and giving back to their community. Street Law is "a wonderful opportunity to give back. It also tests your understanding of some basic law," said one law student. Finally, one law student recognized that "the course allows law students to remain in touch with [the] community."

Street Law will be offered again in Spring 2000. Given the success of the course, the Law School and Durham Public Schools have decided to add an additional one to two schools to the program. As this course offering continues, NCCU law students will continue to benefit academically, while providing valuable knowledge and experiences to high school and middle school students.

Natalie J. McKinney is an attorney with Moore & Van Allen in Durham, North Carolina.

¹ Statistical and historical information provided in Lee Arbetman's "Twenty-five Years of Street Law in Our Nation's Schools: The Successes Are Growing," Cleveland Bar J., September 1997.

By Janis Ernst

Some time ago, local community leaders, physicians, and academicians, including North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law's own Professor Cheryl Amana, came together to address child abuse prevention in the Orange-Durham counties and surrounding areas. These individuals had long ago recognized that child abuse was a growing epidemic that needed the attention of our community and universities, and the services of medical, legal and mental health providers. They conceptualized a multi-disciplinary organization staffed by faculty and employees of NCCU, Duke University (Duke) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) who would provide "on-site services" to children and families. The founders also realized that the different services would need to be offered under one roof - one physical structure - so that families would not get lost while trying to access different types of services. After years of dialogue, negotiations and fundraising, the Center for Child & Family Health - North Carolina (the Center) opened its doors on November 1, 1996, at 3518 Westgate Drive in Durham. Given NCCU's mission and commitment to the community and the issues that face the community, it should come as no surprise that NCCU was not only instrumental in the creation of this highly specialized facility but is dedicated to eliminating child abuse.

Background

The Center offers pediatric services, mental health services and a family and legal support program to children and parents of children who have been abused, neglected or traumatized. The majority of the children seen at the Center have been sexually abused although many have been physically or emotionally abused, neglected, experienced some horrendous event or a combination thereof. The Department of Social Services (the Department) is the organization mandated by statute to investigate suspicions of child abuse. The Department refers many children to the Center as do law enforcement agencies and other health care professionals. Most of the families seen at the Center are indigent and have experienced the problems that typically accompany poverty, such as domestic and other types of violence, substance abuse, and lack of education.

Medical and Mental Health Services

Generally, children are brought to the pediatric clinic first (although all of these clinics and services are offered at the same site, they are coordinated separately). Children social workers or psychologists interview children and their

parents or caretakers. This psychosocial component of the medical program allows staff to learn more about what brought the child to the Center in the first place and the nature of the abuse. Very skilled interviewers attempt to help children reveal the identities of their abusers and details of the abused. If children disclose criminal abuse and

name perpetrators, this information is provided to law enforcement agencies who may prosecute the culprits. Additionally, such information is also very helpful to the therapists who ultimately work with the children in a counseling capacity. In other words, the interview has diagnostic and forensic purposes.

Many of the local children are referred on for mental health. Mental health therapy is the most highly recommended treatment for victims of abuse. Duke and UNC employed social workers, psychiatrists and psychologists staff the mental health clinic. Therapy is provided in several forms including group, family and individual.

Parenting Education

The family and legal support program has two components, parenting education and a legal information clinic. The parenting program is administered and staffed by Children and Parents' Support Services (CAPSS). This program offers parents and caretakers several types of parent education - all of which will hopefully result in child abuse prevention and better parenting. Options offered include weekly classes on basic parenting skills including one specifically geared toward teenage mothers; an intensive in-home, one-on-one class available for the firsttime mother; and "private coaching" for the parent needing tips on everything from homework or discipline. This component is staffed by social workers.



Center for Child & Family Health North Carolina

Additionally, a Grandparent Support Program is available to seniors who are raising other people's children. This common phenomena of adults over sixty who suddenly find themselves clothing, feeding and nurturing grandchildren and nieces and nephews is skyrocketing in number. This program offers a monthly support group for the seniors and quarterly field trips for the children. This is a joint effort between the Center and the Durham Links, a public service organization.

Legal Information

The legal information program is staffed by a NCCU employee and attorney, Janis Ernst, and student interns from NCCU, Duke and UNC. Two students from each school are selected to intern and are supervised by the staff attorney. Law students are available during the school year Monday through Friday to provide families with answers to questions. Parents and caretakers frequently have concerns surrounding divorce and custody, child support, housing and public education. While the Center cannot and does not represent clients, information may be provided to parents who can then make informed decisions and seek representation, if necessary. Parents are frequently surprised to learn that there are alternatives to living with abusive partners that may be commenced with a legal proceeding; or that generally, minor children are entitled to a public education in North Carolina; or that child support is still available to them despite a parent's unwillingness to pay.

Some have compared the student internships to those of legal services positions where people come in with a variety of issues - not all of which are legal ones - but ones that are overwhelming and impede people from moving forward. Again, resolution or assistance with these issues is often imperative to a family's healing process after the discovery of a child's abuse. Frequently, "Mom" can't help her child work through abuse symptoms until she resolves the stalker boyfriend problem or locates suitable housing. Likewise, these same stressors, if not alleviated somewhat, may trigger child abuse.

When the provision of legal information is inadequate and families need actual representation, referrals are made either to the appropriate legal services agency or a private attorney. Some NCCU law alumni have given their time

and expertise, pro bono, to Center clients. The Center is grateful to these alumni who have been so generous and supportive of these efforts.

Recently, the family and legal support program collaborated with NCCU's Law School Clinic to provide parenting services to their clients. Clinic clients were offered these services in attempt to ultimately reduce or impact child abuse. Certainly, being involved with the law in a defendant capacity is a very stressful time during which it would be fairly easy to lose one's temper. Law Professor and Clinic Director Grady Jessup '86 described the connection to the Center and its services as "... a holistic approach towards the law and the client."

Research and Training Aspects

Finally, the Center serves as a training ground and research institute in the area of child maltreatment. Duke and UNC pediatric medical residents rotate through the Center; social work interns train at the Center; and law students from all from all three institutions learn, on-site, about children in the law and have experiences analogous to practicing law. Connections with all universities continue to be made in various programs. Nursing students from NCCU have also trained at the Center. Additionally, research projects within the Center continue to track child abuse victims and the long-term results. These studies conducted by highly educated researchers are a daily and ongoing part of the Center's work.



Ernst and Amana at the Center

The concept that child abuse is a community problem and not an individual family's problem is one that many are still unwilling to accept. Fortunately, NCCU, including Cheryl Amana, School of Law Dean Janice Mills, and Chancellor Julius Chambers, has not accepted this notion as evidenced by its continued support of and involvement in the Center. Child abuse is an ugly problem, but a stubborn one. Thank you to all those who are willing to deal with this monster.

Janis Ernst is the Director of Family and Legal Support at the Center of Child & Family Health.

RECRUITING ALUMNI!

By M. Victoria Taylor '97

I am pleased to report that my second year as Director of Recruitment at NCCU School of Law was very successful. This year's recruitment strategies, including the utilization of third-year students and Jackie Faucett, Admissions Coordinator, and an organized travel schedule, reflect growth from last year's building block period. Once again, the recruitment year consisted of college and university trips to attend Graduate and Professional Schools Days, four on-campus Open House events (fall and spring), bi-weekly evening informational sessions for persons interested in the part-time program (spring), numerous individual meetings with prospective students, and class talks with area middle school and high school students (fall) and a girl scout troop (spring). With the additional recruitment help, more schools and programs were attended this year. In addition to my recruitment duties, I also assisted in preparing for the accreditation visit by the American Bar Association which was in November 1998.

Recruitment, however, does not sufficiently describe all that I do. In addition to providing information about the Law School to prospective students and university and college personnel, I also spend a lot of time educating the public about NCCU School of Law's programs, student body and faculty, career options with a JD, and Durham, North Carolina. Quite often, I (or a member of my recruitment team) am (is) the first person the public associates with our Law School. Additionally, our alumni across the country provide first impressions of NCCU School of Law.

Recruiting is fun, but exhausting. If we are to keep our application numbers up (compared with the nationwide trend, NCCU School of Law has not experienced a significant decrease in applications), I will need help from our talented alumni at every stage of the recruitment process. In order to attract the top students we must be visible (locally and nationwide) and we must define who we are as a school, student body, and faculty to the public (not vice versa). Alumni can assist by traveling to recruitment events, visiting with prospective students at local area campuses, attending Law School

Open House events, representing the Law School at local community events, and inviting me to speak to groups and organizations of which alumni are members. Additionally, the better informed I am about our alumni, the better a Law School ambassador I will be. Please provide me or other members of

the Alumni Relations Office with interesting/new/exciting news about you!

The recruitment process begins with attracting top students to NCCU School of Law and it does not end until that student sends in an "Intent to Enroll" form. There are lots of ways to get involved. Your help would allow me to do other community events, develop Law School marketing literature, and assist with daily Law School administrative duties. Please, please consider showing your school spirit through recruitment.

M. Victoria Taylor '97 is the Director of Recruitment at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.



Taylor showing a prospective student materials in the law library

LET'S SURF!: CAREER SERVICES ON THE WEB

By Lisa G. Morgan

At North Carolina Central University School of Law, we are always looking for new ways to help our students and alumni gain a competitive edge in the workplace. We are committed to assisting students and alumni in finding the best career opportunity in the most efficient manner. To that end, we are pleased to announce the addition of OCI+, a service of AttorneysAtWork.com. OCI+ is an internet-based system which revolutionizes the recruiting process for law schools, students, attorneys and employers.

AttorneysAtWork.com is the industry expert in recruitment solutions, and OCI+ is fast becoming the industry standard. In 1997, a pilot launch was conducted with the participation of twenty law schools and firms to build a seamless solution for the on-campus interview process. Brent Smith, Area Director for Net Placement Corporation, stated that "OCI+ was designed to accelerate the entire on-campus recruitment process, ease the administrative burden for both schools and employers, and increase student efficiency via the internet." OCI+ is 100% user-designed and tested, and AttorneysAtWork.com continues to make changes in the system based on user suggestions.

In addition to streamlining the on-campus recruitment process, OCI+ also provides a mechanism to manage many of the administrative functions of the Career Services Office more efficiently. Information on employers and students is currently being entered into our database. This will allow for ease in conducting research on and communicating with employers. The student information will not only provide a more efficient manner of communication with students but will also help to facilitate the counseling of students.

Another great feature of this service is the ability to post job notices. Now students will be able to access all employment opportunities via the internet. Because we receive many more requests to post a job notice than we do requests to conduct on-campus interviews, this feature will prove to be quite useful. Students will no longer have to visit the Career Services Office on a daily basis to view the newest job opportunities. Also, positions with a quick turnaround can be communicated to students in real time.

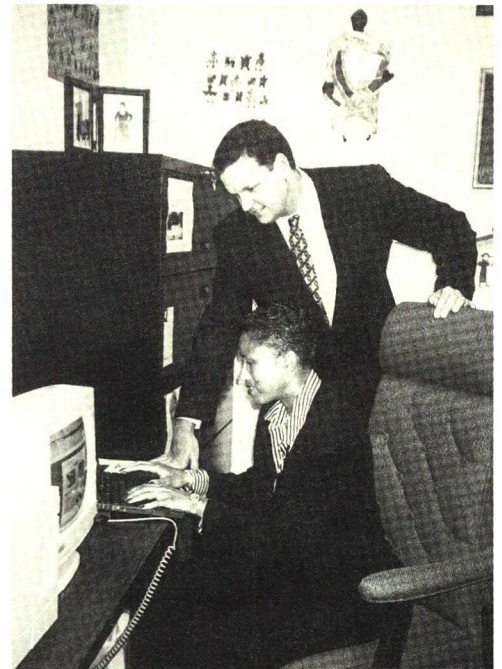
We anticipate increased student participation and satisfaction this recruiting season, because our students will now be able to reach additional employers not

recruiting on-campus through the on-line job posting database, build their own profile and upload their own personal resume, and conduct employer research on-line. In addition, they can sign-up for interviews, send resumes and cover letters to employers on-line, and communicate with the Career Services Office and employers via e-mail. And they can do it all at any time, day or night, at their convenience.

In addition to helping with on-campus recruitment needs, OCI+ enables attorneys to post resumes and find lateral career opportunities without going through a search firm. The

system is totally confidential and thousands of attorneys are using it today. NCCU alumni can obtain a password directly from www.attorneysatwork.com, to research their on-line nationwide database. In early 2000, we will be posting additional job opportunities originating from the Career Services Office which will be accessible only by NCCU alumni.

We understand the importance of staying on the forefront of technology in our efforts to continue to bring our students and alumni the best possible career opportunities and information. If you would like more information about this service, please contact Lisa Morgan, Director of Career Services at 919-560-6115 or lmorgan@wpo.nccu.edu.

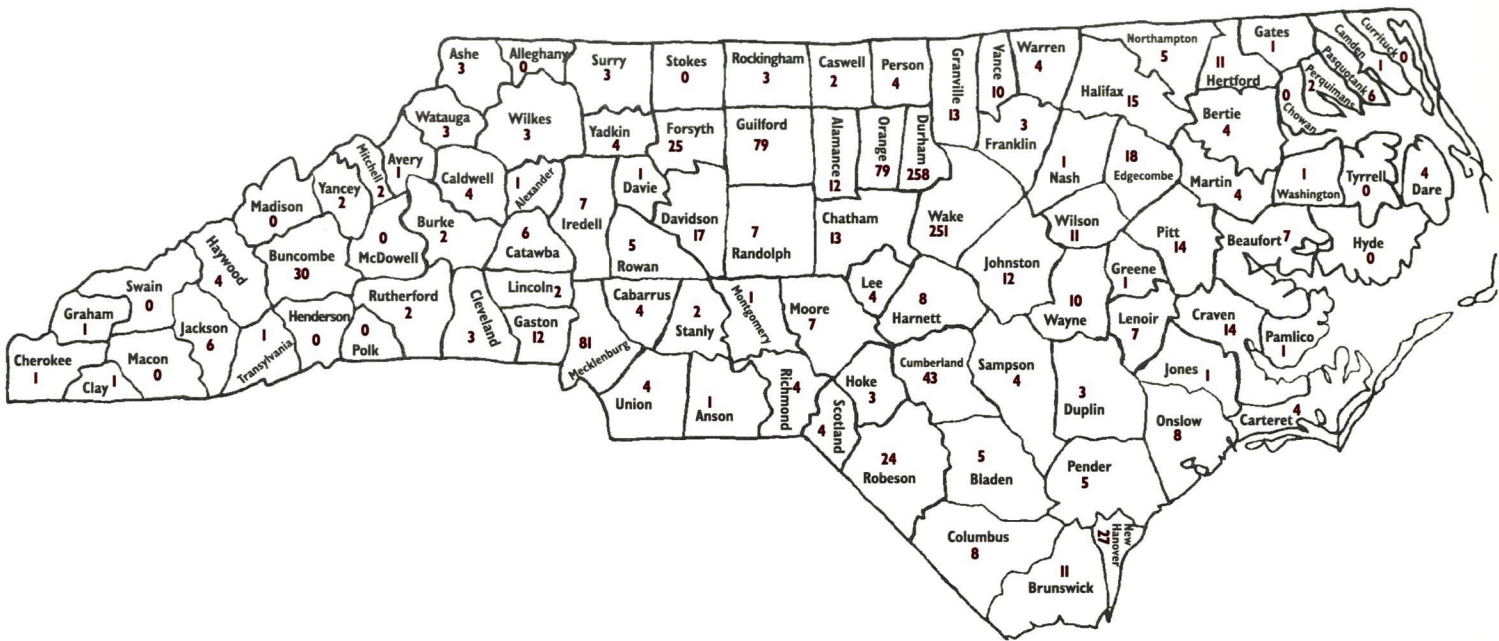


Smith shows Morgan how to access OCI+

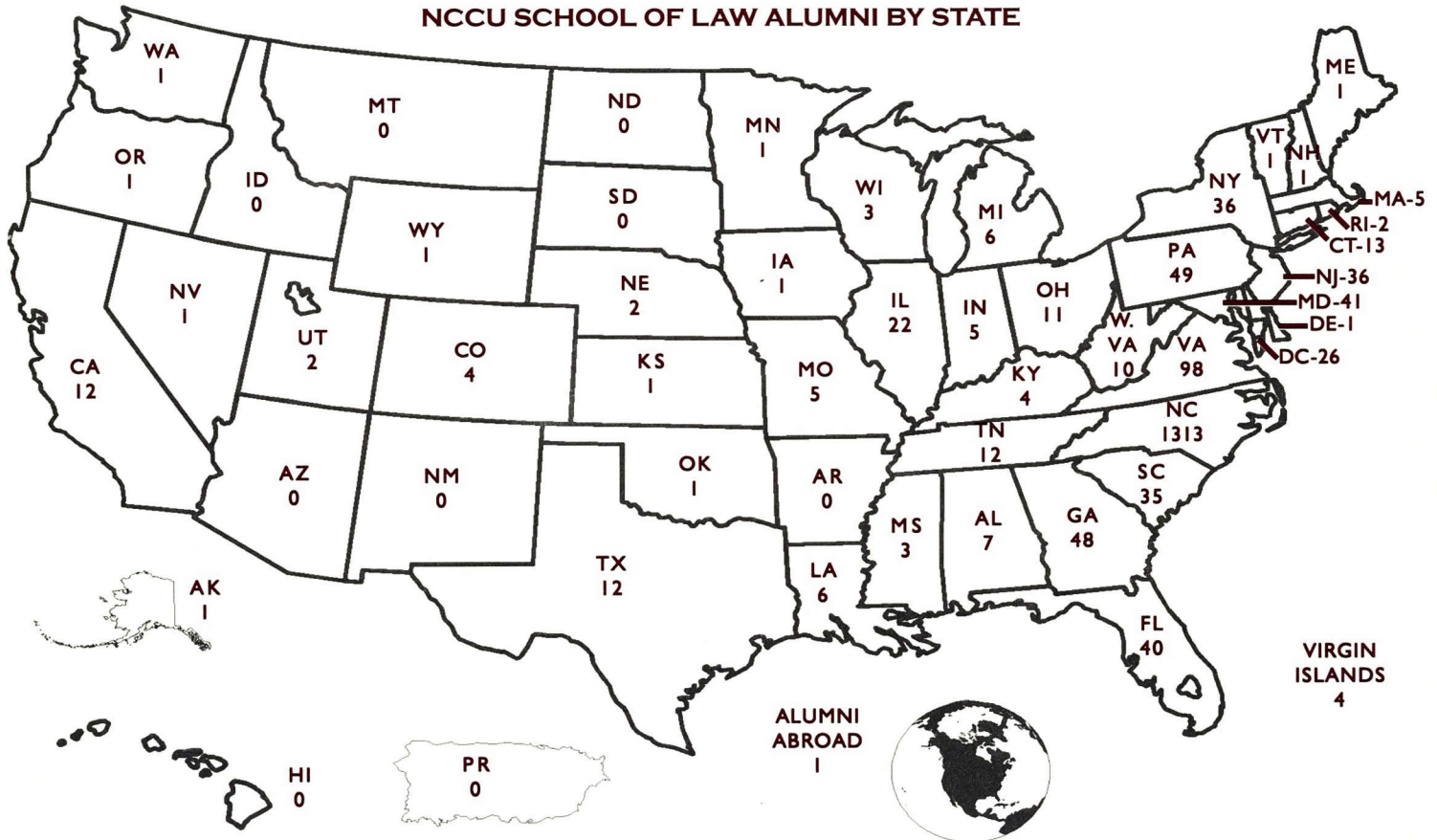
Lisa G. Morgan is the Director of Career Services at the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

ALUMNI: WHERE ARE WE?

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BY NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES



NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BY STATE



DATA COMPILED BY SHARON D. ALSTON JUNE 1999

Judge Irwin D. Sugg '53 retired from the bench February 1998.

H. M. "Mickey" Michaux, Jr. '64 was honored by the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People in 1998 for thirty years of service and work as a role model of achievement during the past several decades. He was inducted as an honoree at the 63rd Annual Founders Banquet. According to *The Herald-Sun* (Durham), Michaux became the first black person from Durham County to serve in the General Assembly in 1972 and was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as a U.S. attorney for the N.C. Middle District in 1977. He became the first black person in the South to hold a federal district attorney post. Michaux returned to the General Assembly in 1985 and is also a practicing attorney in Durham.

Ralph K. Frasier '65 retired as general counsel and secretary of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated and executive vice president, general counsel, secretary and cashier of The Huntington National Bank in May, 1998. At that time, Frasier was elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Huntington National Bank. Upon his retirement, Frasier joined the Columbus office of Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur as Of Counsel. He serves as advisor and counselor to the firm while continuing his focus on issues related to financial institutions. He also continues to serve on the Board of Trustees for North Carolina Central University.

Judge A. Leon Stanback '68 was awarded the Outstanding Trial Judge of the Year award for 1998 by the N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers. Stanback has been on the Superior Court for ten years.

Frank S. Turner '73 was re-elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in November, 1998 from Howard County District 13A. Turner is highlighted in a feature article elsewhere in this *Of Counsel*.

Willie E. Gary '74 participated in the Inaugural Willie E. Gary Celebrity Golf Classic on December 19, 1998. Celebrities and 125 golfers raised more than \$100,000 to provide college scholarship money for needy children. Among the celebrities who participated were Don Newcombe, formerly of the Brooklyn Dodgers and one of the first black pitchers to pitch in the World Series, heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield, free agent baseball player Cecil Fielder, pro golfer Calvin Peete, former Dolphins receiver Nat Moore, and former major league baseball players Mike Cuellar, Luis Tiant and Ivan Murrell.

Leonard T. Jernigan, Jr. '76 was elected President-Elect of the Workplace Injury Litigation Group (WILG). WILG was formed in 1995 as a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the rights of injured workers through education, communication and research. Jernigan has also had his third edition to North Carolina Workers' Compensation - Law and Practice published. It is available from the Harrison Co.



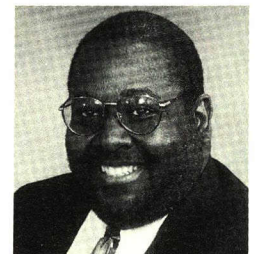
Jernigan

Judge Herbert L. Richardson '76, the chief judge and most senior of Robeson County's sitting judges, was featured in an article in the *Fayetteville Observer-Times* in October, 1998. The article, entitled "Judge of Character," noted that "[i]n his 19 years on the District Court bench, Herbert L. Richardson has earned a reputation as a fair but tough judge who hasn't lost his sense of humor."

David L. Cook '81 was featured in *The Charlotte Observer* in April, 1999 about his Charlotte, North Carolina business, American Catering Group, which served food at both of President Clinton's inaugurations. Founded nine years ago with Frances K. Culbreth, the business specializes in concessions and sporting events. The business also serves a once-a-week restaurant Gospel Buffet, modeled after Sylvia's, a famous soul food restaurant in Harlem. The business made its Washington connections after serving food to President George Bush when he made a guest appearance at the 1992 Faith Fourth of July Celebration in Rowan County.

Ann Toney '83 has a law practice in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Rickey N. McCurry '84 is the Associate Vice Chancellor at the University of Tennessee and was the Capital Campaign Director for the university's 21st Century Campaign which ran from 1993-1998. The Campaign, the school's most successful ever, raised over \$234 million. Former Senator Howard Baker was the Honorary Campaign Chair.



McCurry

Susan D. Sims '84 was one of eighteen women honored at an event sponsored by the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for significant contribution to their companies. This was the 10th anniversary tribute to women and

industry for professional achievement; the event was co-sponsored by Penn National Insurance. Sims is the Associate Corporate Counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary for Pennsylvania-American Water Company.

Glenn B. Adams '84 was named the Lawyer of the Year by the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers in 1998. Adams was the first minority lawyer in the firm of Beaver, Holt, Richardson, Sternlicht, Burge & Glazier, P.A. in Fayetteville and is now a partner in the firm. Adams serves on several boards in Fayetteville and Cumberland County and also shares his time and talent with young people by speaking about legal issues.

Deborah L. Armstrong Whitfield '84 was appointed Municipal Court Judge by the City Council of Austin, Texas on May 13, 1999. She will serve on the Municipal Court Bench on a part-time basis while retaining her full-time position with the Texas Property & Casualty Insurance Guaranty Association, a position she has held for the past six years.

Brenda Baldwin-White '86 was appointed as Acting Executive Assistant United States Attorney for Management in the United States Attorney's District of Columbia office in February, 1999.

Judge Edgar L. Barnes '86 in Manteo, North Carolina, has been a District Court Judge in the 1st Judicial District since June, 1995. He writes a weekly newspaper column, "View From the Bench," which is published in four newspapers.

Grady Jessup '86 of Durham has been named to the Board of Governors of the North Carolina Bar Association. He is an associate professor of law and the director of clinical programs at the NCCU School of Law.

Nancy P. White '86 was featured in an article in *The News & Observer* (Raleigh) in May, 1999 about her practice which includes representation of female athletes and coaches. In the past three years, she has represented more than 250 college and professional coaches and athletes. She also speaks at seminars about coaches' contracts in the WNBA.

Judge J. C. Cole '87 of Hertford, North Carolina was named as a vice president to the Board of Governors of the North Carolina Bar Association in Fall, 1998. He has served as a district court judge in the 1st Judicial District since 1994. Cole is a member of the Governor's Crime Commission and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee.

Dorothy Jean Killian '87 joined the South Carolina Department of Social Services as a Regional Attorney in July, 1997. She prosecutes child welfare cases in the 6th judicial circuit. On April 6, 1998, Killian was sworn into the bar of the United States Supreme Court.



Killian

Patrice C. Lewis '88 co-authored *Federal Civil Practice in the Fourth Circuit* (1997), published by LEXIS Law Publishing.

Robin T. Morris '90 of Raleigh was appointed to the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners in Fall, 1998. She is featured in an article elsewhere in this *Of Counsel*.

Scott Boyles '91 has opened "The Law Offices of M. Scott Boyles" on North 4th Street in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Michael Duncan '92 is a sole practitioner in Raleigh, North Carolina, concentrating in the area of Social Security disability law. He is a founding member of the recently formed Social Security Disability Law Section of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and currently serves on the Executive Committee as membership chair. He is a past member of the Executive Committee of the Disability Advocacy Section of the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Alison Newman '93 is a senior associate at King, Kitrick, Jackson & Troncone in Brick, New Jersey. She handles insurance defense, criminal defense and is the Public Defender in two townships. Newman has invented a toy named "Smoochie Pooch" that is manufactured and sold nationwide by Mattel Toys. It was featured on "Regis & Kathie Lee" and on "The View."

Scott Thomas '92 was elected to the North Carolina House in November, 1998. He represents Craven and Pamlico counties, the 3rd District. He is a member of the law firm of Chesnutt, Clemmons, Thomas & Peacock in New Bern, North Carolina.

Craig Croom '94 was sworn in as a Wake County District Court Judge on July 30, 1999 by Judge Michael R. Morgan '79. Previously, Croom had been a Wake County assistant district



Croom, wife Claudia Croom '96 and Morgan

attorney and prior to entering law school, a Wake sheriff's deputy. *The News & Observer* (Raleigh) reported that after being sworn in, Croom said, "I'm looking forward to the challenge of serving the folks of Wake County. I want to be a judge that all the people can be proud of."

Falecia Dukes-Gibson '94 was promoted in April, 1999 to Senior Attorney for the Office of Hearings and Appeals with the Social Security Administration in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Ortharine W. Sansbury '94 has been appointed to serve on the Criminal Justice Information Network Governing Board by North Carolina Speaker of the House of Representatives James B. Black. Sansbury was named as an Assistant Attorney for the City of Fayetteville in July, 1998.



Sansbury

Stacey M. Stone '95, an entertainment and insurance attorney from Greensboro, North Carolina, was pictured in the July, 1999 issue of *Ebony* magazine; she was quoted about her "perfect man."



Turner

Sharon Pullen Turner '95 was named the Dean of the Oregon Health Sciences University School of Dentistry in August, 1998. Turner went to the position from the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry, where she had served as a faculty member and division director for nearly twenty years, most recently as associate dean from Administration and Planning.

Shawna Early '96 is working with the Internal Revenue Service in Manhattan.

David J. Gasper '96, a Regulatory Compliance Manager at Dupont in RTP, was in Washington, D.C. during the impeachment trial of President Clinton and sat in on the proceedings. He writes that he felt "privileged to witness the historical event and the significance of seeing only the second Chief Justice in US history to preside in the Senate Chamber."

Cynthia V. McAlister '96 is now an attorney with Smith Debnam Narron Wyche Story & Myers, L.L.P. in Raleigh.

Margaret K. Richardson '96 works at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Research Institute and is the Director, Corporate Relations and Technology Transfer.

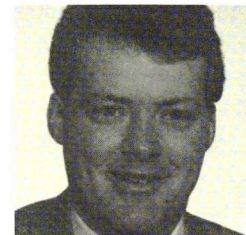
Gary M. Pace '97 is Vice President and General Counsel for Novartis Agribusiness Biotechnology Research, Inc.

Meredith A. Shuford '97, an associate with Lewis & Shuford, P.A. in Lincolnton, North Carolina, was the attorney advisor for the West Lincoln High School mock trial team that competed in competition sponsored by the NCATL.

Princess C. Smith '97 has been an assistant public defender in Durham County since December, 1998.

Mitchell Styers '97 is an Assistant District Attorney in the 9th Judicial District of North Carolina in Louisburg, North Carolina.

Bobby White '97 has joined the North Carolina State Bar staff as the new CAP Director. White had most recently served as assistant to the president and college legal counsel at Barton College.



White

Carey Fleming '98 accepted an associate position in the Energy Practice Group of the Washington, DC office of Winston & Strawn in June of 1999. His area of practice is regulation of nuclear power plants. He previously worked at CP&L's Harris Nuclear Plant in Wake County, North Carolina, and the U.S. Navy's nuclear submarine engineering program.

C. Douglas Green '98 has been named as an associate in the firm of Zimmerman, Shuffield, Kiser & Sutcliffe, P.A. in Orlando, Florida. Green practices in the area of workers' compensation defense.

Frank J. Pita '98 has joined the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) as Director, Corporate Legal Affairs and Intellectual Property Counsel. He is responsible for SRC legal affairs, contracts, grants and intellectual property protection.

IN MEMORIAM

CHARLES V. BELL '50

JAMILA N. BENNOU '96

AMICUS BRIEFS

NCCU School of Law Alumni at the Summer 1999 National Bar Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. included, top row standing, l to r: Linwood Foust '73, Charlotte, NC; Virgil B. Walker '85, Fort Washington, Pa.; Hon. George W. Harris '67, Salem, Va.; Beryl Sansom Gilmore '70, Bethesda, Md.; Hon. Peter F. Rogers '76, Philadelphia, Pa.; Willie E. Gary '74, Stuart, Fl.; Leonard L. Brown, Jr. '77, Chesapeake, Va.

Seated l to r: Gwendolyn S. Hailey '88, Harrisburg, Pa.; Thomasine Moore '74, Jacksonville, NC; Donna J. Johnson '82, Libertyville, Ill.; Regina Budd, Washington, DC, Miss Alumni 1998-99; Kay Webb, University Attorney.

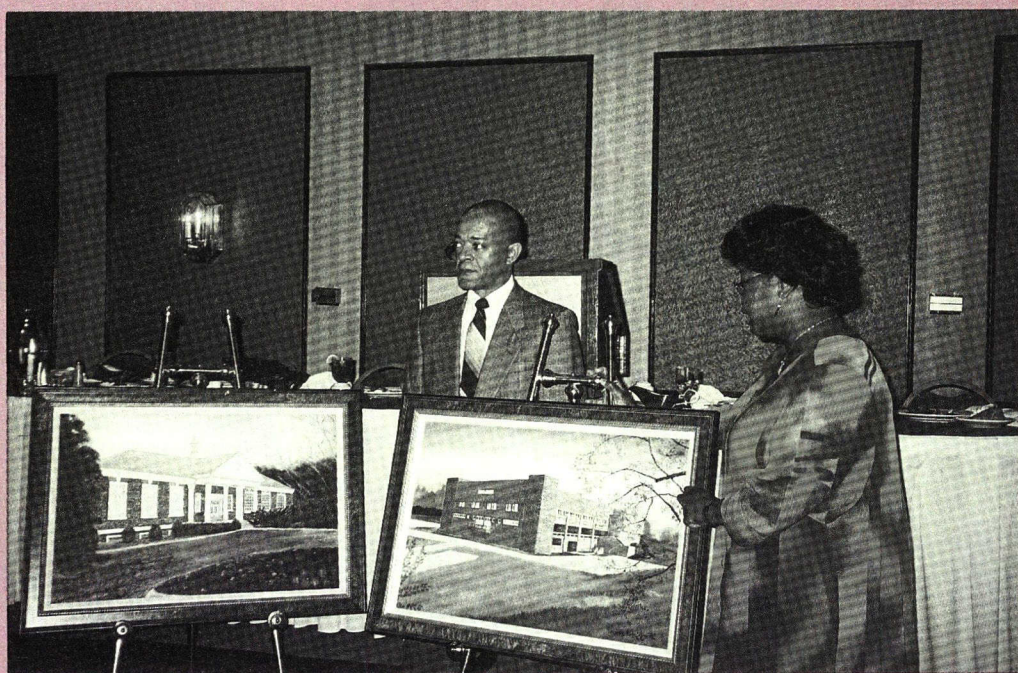


Scholarly reflections on the life of Judge A. Leon Higginbotham were held at North Carolina Central University on March 19, 1999. Judge Higginbotham had a long and distinguished legal career and most recently was a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit. At the time of his death, he was teaching at Harvard University and was Of Counsel to Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in their New York and Washington offices. Panelists reflecting on his life included Charles Daye, former Dean of the NCCU School of Law and currently a professor at UNC School of Law, Julius L. Chambers, Chancellor of NCCU, Robert Connor, Ph.D., Director of the National Humanities Center, and Anita Brown Graham from the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill. Judge Higginbotham was a visiting professor at the NCCU School of Law in 1994.

* * *

The NCCU School of Law Sports Law Society and local attorney James D. "Butch" Williams, Jr. '79 sponsored a "Sports Law Forum" on March 24, 1999 at the School of Law. Guests included Bill Strickland, NBAPA (he represents basketball players Chris Webber and Rasheed Wallace), Fred A. Whitfield '88, a Nike executive, and William Henderson with the Green Bay Packers.

Two paintings by local Durham artist Aaron Michael Moore, III were unveiled during the Law Week Banquet in March, 1999. One was a painting of the old Law School building, now the Jones Building. The other was a painting of the current Albert L. Turner Law School building. These paintings hang in the administrative area of the Law School and plans are being made to have numbered prints available for purchase by alumni and friends.



Mills and Moore admire paintings

FACULTY NOTES

While on leave for the 1998-99 academic year, Professor Monica Kalo spent part of the Spring 1999 semester as a visiting professor at a law school in Lyon, France. As part of its Institute of Comparative Law, the Université Jean Moulin Lyon III invites law professors from other countries in Europe and the United States to teach French law students about various aspects of the law in their respective countries. Law classes in France typically consist entirely of lectures given by the professor and because the course dealing with the law of the United States is taught in English, students are not allowed to enroll unless they can demonstrate the required level of competence in that language. Professor Kalo reported that she was extremely impressed with the students' ability to comprehend the material.



Kalo

Professor Kalo's course was devoted to introducing the students to the law of inheritance and trusts in the United States; however, she spent part of her time preparing to teach by examining the French law of inheritance because she felt the students would find the classes more interesting if they were designed to focus on the major differences. She discovered that, although there are many similarities, the law of inheritance in France differs dramatically in several respects from that of the United States and she credits the excitement that generated with the students' willingness to ask questions in class, a real departure from the typical French lecture format.

Professor Kalo summed up the time she spent in Lyon as offering not only an enriching professional experience but also a feast for both the eye and the palate.

* * *

Professor Marilyn O. Bowens '92 of the NCCU School of Law had a lively exchange with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia when he spoke at UNC-Chapel Hill in March, 1999. Scalia came to UNC-CH at the invitation of UNC-Chapel Hill Law Dean Judith Wegner to present the William T. Joyner Lecture in Constitutional Law, a periodic series of speeches

endowed by the Sarah Graham Kenan Foundation. A crowd of nearly 1,000 attended the lecture.

According to *The News & Observer* (Raleigh), Bowens "engaged Scalia in an animated debate on the merits of using legal rulings to right the past wrongs of segregation and other discriminatory public policies. 'The legal system bears no greater responsibility,' she said.

'For some of us, the democratic process is as difficult to work with as the courts,' Bowens said. 'There are certainly imperfections in the democratic process. If these cannot be corrected and amended by the Supreme Court, then I don't know where to turn.'

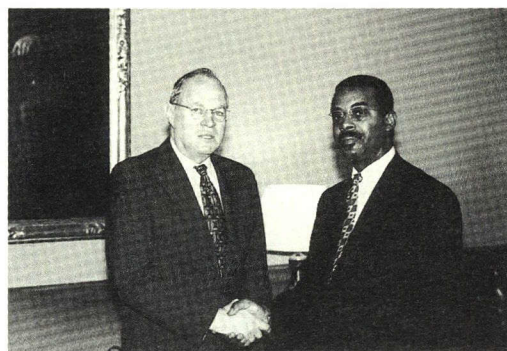
Bowens teaches Constitutional Law at the School of Law.

Visiting Professor Wandra Mitchell (who taught International Law in Spring, 1999) attended the 5th Biannual "African-African American Summit" in Accra, Ghana from May 15-22, 1999. The Summit brought together over 4,000 people from all walks of life in Africa and the U.S. to discuss issues of concern, including education, culture, conflict resolution, and trade and investment. Heads of state, U.S. government officials, leaders in business and community development specialists attended the summit. Professor Mitchell also visited the Ghana School of Law during the visit.

* * *

Visiting Professor Jerome M. Culp of Duke University, who held the School of Law's Charles Hamilton Houston Chair in Spring, 1999, led a seminar discussing a draft of his article, "The Woody Allen Blues: 'Identity Politics,' Race and the Law," with the NCCU School of Law faculty and students in March, 1999.

* * *



Professor Grady Jessup '86 was recently licensed to practice before the United States Supreme Court. He is shown here with Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy in Washington, D.C.

Steve McCloskey, while a third year NCCU law student, filed a lawsuit against Geraldo Rivera in March, 1999. According to *The Herald-Sun* (Durham), the lawsuit claimed "Rivera had refused to honor a challenge he made on his CNBC show 'Rivera Live.' Rivera said he would pay \$10,000 to anyone who could come up with a case in which someone was convicted of perjury for lying about sex." McCloskey found thirteen cases he thought met the criteria and sent them to Rivera. Although Rivera paid a husband and wife legal team from Washington, D.C. who appeared on his show who found a case that met the criteria, he did not pay McCloskey. After McCloskey filed suit, he was ultimately paid the \$10,000 plus court costs. McCloskey donated part of the money to NCCU School of Law.

* * *

Robin Thorpe, a rising 3L at the School of Law, was quoted in the "Town Hall" section of *The News & Observer* (Raleigh). The town meeting involving approximately 150 people took place at Duke University and revolved around the principles of public life essential for America's future. Thorpe was quoted as saying, "We look to our ancestors, but we know that history is not all that nostalgic for some people. For some people, history is not a good story... Take that into consideration and [be] very open-minded as a leader... In diversity, we don't have to sing the same song, but we do have to listen to what everybody else is singing. That's the important thing."

* * *

The 2nd Annual Faculty-Student Cocktail Party was held April 16, 1999 at the Regal University Hotel in conjunction with a silent art auction. The event was sponsored by the Office of the Dean, the Class of 1999 and the Class of 2000.

* * *

The School of Law held its commencement exercises on May 8, 1999 at Hillside High School in Durham. Ninety-six students received their juris doctorate degrees. The graduation speaker was Robert L. Mallett, Deputy Secretary for the United State Department of Commerce. The Class of 1999 presented the School of Law with a check for \$7,000 to set up an endowment fund which ultimately will provide stipends for students wishing to perform summer public service work. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony.

NCCU LAW STUDENT SERVES AS WHITE HOUSE LEGAL INTERN

By T.E. Wilkins



Hannah

Patrick Hannah, a rising third year law student at the North Carolina Central University School of Law, was selected for the White House Internship Program during the summer of 1998. The White House Intern Program consists of students from around the country who have

demonstrated strong leadership abilities and dedication to public service. During the program, Hannah served in the Office of Legal Counsel to the President, working on issues that affect the executive office of the President, and our nation as a whole.

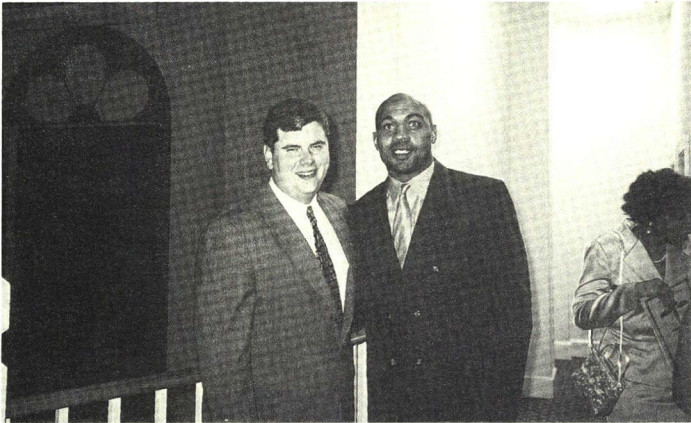
When Hannah was asked what he valued most about the White House experience, he stated, "The program was a great opportunity, not only for me but also for NCCU Law. A lot of times students are overlooked based on the school they attend. This opportunity was great exposure for me as well as the University. It let the rest of the country know that the students at NCCU Law are equally as qualified as students at some of the top-ranked law schools. Last summer, there were only six legal interns, including myself, in my class. My five colleagues attended law school at Yale, Harvard, Stanford, Boston University and Suffolk University."

While a student at North Carolina Central University, Hannah served as class president from 1997-98. He is an active member of the Black Lawyers Students Association and the Sports and Entertainment Law Society, where he serves as vice-chairman. During the summer of 1999 he worked with The Law Offices of James D. Williams, P.A. in Durham as a law clerk.

Upon graduation, Hannah plans to pursue a career in government affairs and sports/entertainment management. He is a 1994 graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history.

STUDENT NOTES

The School of Law celebrated "Law Week 1999" from March 21 - 27, 1999. Activities included a Walk-a-thon, moot court and trial advocacy competitions, a Brown Bag Lunch Series, a CLE entitled "Financial Ethics in the Profession: Keeping Good Records and Staying Out of Trouble," basketball and golf tournaments, a softball game and a picnic. The traditional Saturday night banquet featured a video highlighting the sixty years of the School of Law.



Steve Fowler '99 and Louie Wilson '98 shared a few laughs before dinner



JoAnn B. McCants '90, Angus B. Thompson, Jr. '74 and Vercelia M. Young '90 visited at the banquet



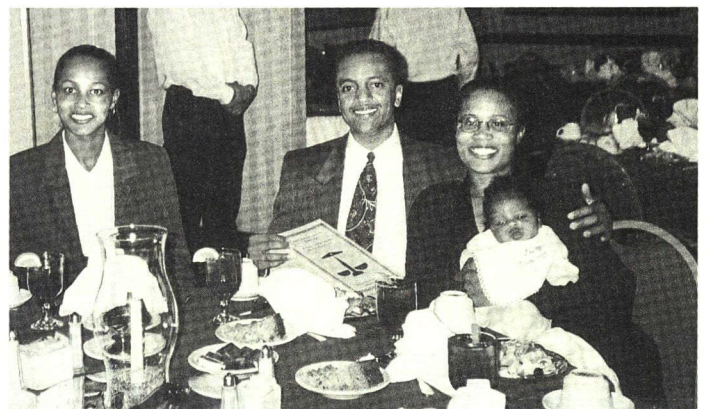
Frank Morris, II '94 and Jason L. Groves '96 enjoyed seeing Mrs. Iris W. Gilchrist, Secretary to the Dean



Randy A. Farmer and Robyn Thorpe, now 3Ls, and Marcus L. Woodson '97



Dean Mills with several members of the class of 1999: from left to right, William M. Polk '99, Danielle T. Bennett '99, Rashmi M. Damani '99, Mills and Tonya L. Ford '99



Tara Brown and Ralph Hunt, now 4Ls, enjoyed the dinner with Anita Hunt '98 and Nigel Hunt (Nigel is perhaps a future Legal Eagle!)

OF COUNSEL

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
VOLUME 4 FALL 1999

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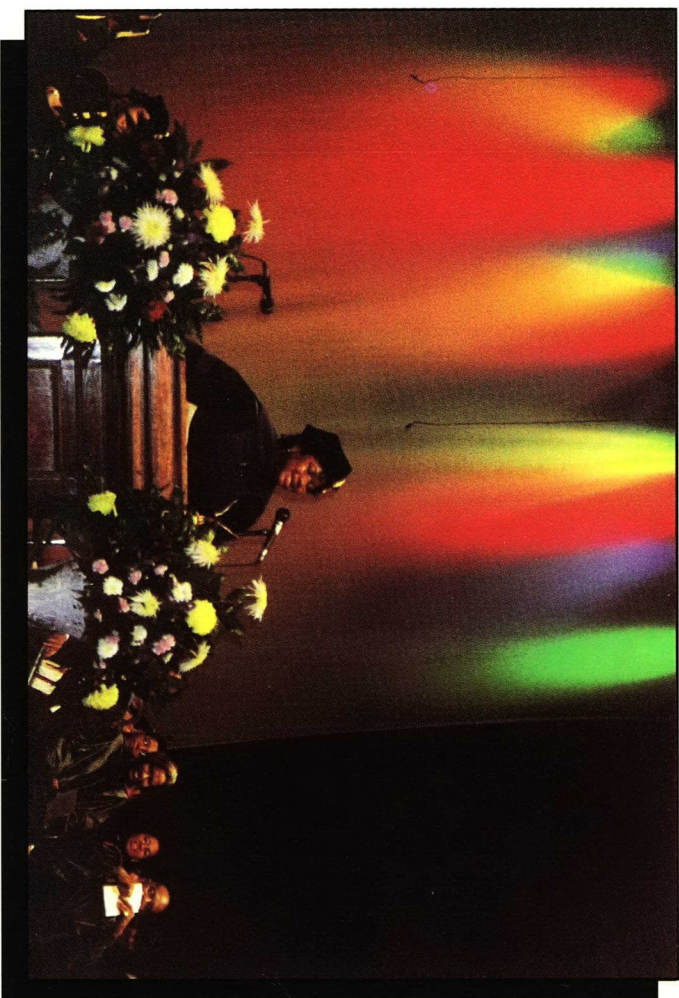
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☐ I can be a resource or contact person in my area for the School of Law students.



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