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New Horizons Newsletter

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New Horizons 1997-1998

North Carolina Central School of Law

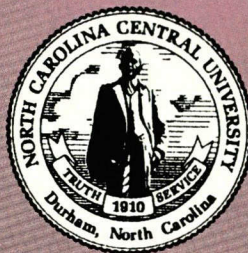
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New



Horizons

NCCU School of Law

1997-1998 Academic Year

Dear Alumni and Friends of NCCU Law:

I write again with best wishes for a wonderful 1998 and with greetings from the Law School. The beginning of a new year is a time of renewal. We are beginning the self-study process as part of our next accreditation visit by the American Bar Association.

The physical environment of the Law School is a focus of intense discussion and planning. As I walk around the law school, I am reminded that the arrangement of our offices, classrooms and library reflect architectural and pedagogical choices made over twenty-five years ago. Today, the location, design and continual refurbishment of this building remain indispensable parts of our students' learning environment.

Over the past two years, our renovations have included the construction of a new Model Law Office Clinic and a new parking lot next to the Law School, added lighting for the parking lots and the building, and a renovated faculty lounge and moot court room judges' chambers and jury room (also used for on-campus interviews).

We have renovated the basement student area and have created a student study lounge. We have added a television to the student area in the basement. We have begun renovation of our classrooms by having electrical outlets installed in the seating areas so that students can plug in their laptop computers during class. We have added new computers to the computer lab and have wired computers for access to the Internet.

We are trying to transform our facility to meet the contemporary needs of students because in the campus hierarchy of building needs, it will be several years before we will be able to approach the legislature for a new facility. These renovation projects, both in scale and design, address the pressing need to improve our existing facility.

Chancellor Julius L. Chambers has been very supportive of the Law School and our efforts to improve our facility. With the help of Chancellor Chambers, we have had a study done to determine what is needed to repair the heating and cooling system in the Law School. We have begun to implement the suggestions which were made in the study.

Winston Churchill once remarked that "we shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us." This observation is particularly true of academic spaces where rapid changes in technology and pedagogy require constant attention to functional adaptation. We are requesting proposals for a Law School work space study, which is the first step in the planning process for a new building. This study will be a comprehensive audit of our work spaces and building functions.

I want to report that the news from the Office of Admissions remains positive. We received 1,450 day applications and 252 evening applications for the entering first year class in Fall 1997. Since we enrolled a larger than anticipated first year class in 1996 (135), our goal for the entering class in 1997 was a more modest 125 students (90 day and 35 evening). We could only admit approximately 250 students to achieve this goal.

I encourage you to return to the Law School for the annual Law Week dinner in April. As always, I welcome your thoughts, comments and suggestions and solicit your continued financial and moral support for the School of Law.

Sincerely,

Percy R. Luney, Jr.
Dean



Luney

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW RECEIVES AWARD

The National Bar Association presented the Wiley A. Branton Award to the N.C. Central University School of Law at a luncheon in Durham, N.C. on October 25, 1996. Awards were presented to Texas Southern, Howard, Southern, and North Carolina Central, the four remaining Historically Black Law Schools, in recognition of the significant role they have played in the struggle for justice and equality. The presentation was a part of the annual Wiley A. Branton Symposium.

Fred Anderson Toyota Establishes Endowed Scholarship Fund at the School of Law

Fred Anderson Toyota in Raleigh, North Carolina has established an endowed scholarship fund at the North Carolina Central University School of Law with a generous donation of \$7,500. Earnings from the Fred Anderson Toyota Scholarship Fund can be used for tuition and book scholarships for NCCU law students. The Law School thanks Mr. Anderson and Fred Anderson Toyota and hopes this Scholarship Fund will grow with future donations in the years ahead.

LAW SCHOOL STARTS "OFFICIAL" PRO BONO PROGRAM

The Law School officially started a Pro Bono Program in the winter of 1997. NCCU law students have been performing pro bono work for years, but with the hiring of the school's first Pro Bono Coordinator, there is now an office where students can find out details about specific pro bono opportunities. A feature on the new Pro Bono Program will be in the next Of Counsel magazine.

FACULTY NOTES

NCCU School of Law **Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr.** served on a discussion panel as part of a celebration noting the 50th anniversary of John Hope Franklin's ground breaking history text, "From Slavery to Freedom." The two day celebration was held in September, 1997 at North Carolina Central University. Also serving on the panel with Dean Luney were Dr. Mary Frances Berry, chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and Geraldine R. Segal, a professor of American Social Thought at the University of Pennsylvania.

Professor Irving Joyner hosts a weekly radio program, "The Legal Eagle Review," every Thursday night on WNCU 90.7 FM. Be sure to tune in!

Professor Pam Glean '80 is a Faculty Member of the Assistant Principal's Executive Program, teaching juvenile justice to assistant principals across the state. She also is a member of the Court Improvement Project, a grant funded program established to help the state courts make improvements in their handling of proceedings related to foster care and adoption. She also trained juvenile judges for certification in Juvenile Law at the Institute of Government in March, 1997.

Lisa Morgan, Director of Career Services at the Law School, is President of the Legal Services of North Carolina Board of Directors. She also is the Chair of the NCBA Working Coalition on Pro Bono and the Law School Mentoring Committee.

Nichelle J. Perry '93, the Academic Support Specialist at the Law School, received her Masters of Library Science Degree in May, 1997. She also serves as an advisor to the NCCU School of Law Moot Court team.

Professor Thomas Ringer serves on the N.C. Commission for the Delivery of Civil Legal Services.

Professor Patti Solari '83 was elected president of the North Carolina Civil Liberties Union in 1997. She also serves as a secretary for the North Carolina Legal Assistance Foundation.

NCCU Presents Seminars on Race and the Legal System

April 14-22, 1997, the School of Law hosted a series of seminars dealing with the liberation of black women, legal and practical approaches to race relations, race relations in Wilmington and reparations. This was the third year for these law school seminars which were organized by law school professor Irving Joyner. Some well known participants in the seminars on the Wilmington Uprising and the Wilmington Ten were Benjamin Chavis Muhammad and Philip Gerard, author of "Cape Fear Rising." Each of the seminars had strong participation and were very informative.

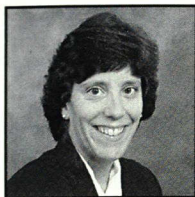


l to r: Judges McGee, Cozort and Martin at the NCCU School of Law

N.C. COURT OF APPEALS HOLDS COURT AT NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW

On Wednesday, April 2, 1997, the North Carolina Court of Appeals held morning and afternoon sessions of court in the Moot Court Room at the North Carolina Central University School of Law. The Court of Appeals panel consisted of Judge Jack Cozort, Judge John Martin, and Judge Linda McGee. This annual event provided the NCCU students and staff with the opportunity to see appellate arguments, which are normally held in Raleigh. Students and staff also had the opportunity to visit with the judges. A luncheon for the judges was hosted by Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. At press time, the Law School planned to host the Court of Appeals again in November 1997.

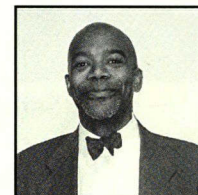
NEW FACES AT THE SCHOOL OF LAW



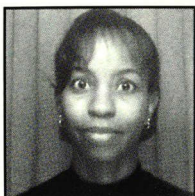
Lavelle

Over the past year, the School of Law has added three "old new" faces to its staff! In December of 1996, **Lydia E. Lavelle '93** was named as the Law School's first Pro Bono Coordinator/Director of Alumni Relations. Lavelle received her B.A. degree from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in 1983, and a Master's Degree in Recreation Resources from North Carolina State University in 1985. She worked for the city of Durham as a Recreation Supervisor until graduating from the evening program at the School of Law in 1993. She clerked for Judge **Clifton E. Johnson '67** on the N.C. Court of Appeals from 1993-95 and has been in private practice since that time.

Ronald S. "Steve" Douglas '82 was named in Fall, 1997 as the Law School's Assistant Dean for Admissions. Douglas is from New Rochelle, N.Y. He graduated from Howard University in 1978 with a B.A. degree in economics, and from the NCCU School of Law in 1982. While in law school, he was in a study group with **Professor Mark Morris '82** and **Professor Patti Solari '82**. He worked in private practice in Wilmington, N.C. before moving to Washington, D.C. where he was in private practice until returning to his alma mater this fall.



Douglas



Taylor

M. Victoria Taylor '97, after graduating in May and passing the bar in July, started her new job at the School of Law as Director of Recruitment. Taylor was born and raised in Greensboro. She lived in Dallas, Texas for eight years and attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She graduated in 1988 with a B.A. degree in economics. After working in the corporate world for a few years, she went into the hospitality industry. She worked for both Omni Hotels and Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts before attending law school.

Professor **Nancy Bertolino** is a new face at the law school. She joined the NCCU Law faculty after nearly ten years of practice at the Manhattan law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, where she specialized in corporate reorganizations and bankruptcy litigation. She represented many indigent clients pro bono in housing and family court, as well as at social security and high school suspension hearings. She taught a course entitled "Unlearning Stereotypes" to inner city high school students in the New York metropolitan area. Professor Bertolino graduated from New York University undergraduate college in 1985 and from Brooklyn Law School in 1988. She was the first generation of her family to attend college or law school and financed her education by working at many full and part-time jobs while attending school.



Bertolino

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW SPONSORS ETHICS CLE

The North Carolina Central University School of Law sponsored its Annual Ethics Continuing Legal Education program on Friday, April 11, 1997, in the Moot Court Room of the School of Law. The program, *Current Issues in Professional Responsibility*, was held as part of the school's annual Law Week celebration and was designed to satisfy the three hour ethics credit requirement of the N.C. State Bar.

Presenters and topics included Carl Fox, District Attorney for Orange and Chatham Counties, and **James "Butch" Williams '79**, a prominent defense attorney, who discussed issues for both "sides" of the court room on Ethical Considerations in Criminal Litigation; **Michael Dayton '95**, Editor, *North Carolina Lawyers Weekly*, who presented Recent Developments in Professional Responsibility; Jay Reeves, Vice President of North Carolina Lawyers Mutual Insurance who addressed Malpractice and Ethical Considerations; and Paul Kohut, Chair, PALS CLE Committee, who highlighted Ethics and Substance Abuse Issues for Attorneys.

FORMER JUDGE CLIFTON E. JOHNSON ROASTED AT RETIREMENT DINNER



Judge Johnson honored with a portrait from former law clerks

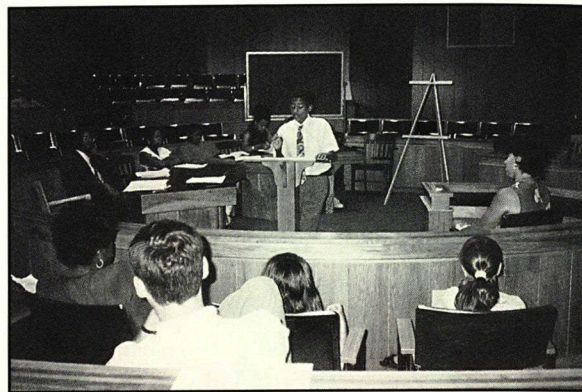
Former North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge **Clifton E. Johnson '67** was roasted by his friends and family at a retirement dinner held on March 15,

1997, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Durham, North Carolina. Over 500 friends attended the \$50-a-plate dinner from which proceeds will go toward an endowed scholarship in Judge Johnson's name. "The scholarship is a special project of Clift's, [in] which he wants to support aspiring young lawyers of a similar background to his, who might otherwise be unable to attend law school," NCCU Chancellor Julius Chambers said.

Judge Johnson was North Carolina's first black state prosecutor since the 19th century, the first black chief District Court Judge, the first black resident Superior Court Judge, and the first black senior associate Appeals Judge. Judge Johnson's life and distinguished career will be featured in the next *Of Counsel* magazine.

5TH ANNUAL DURHAM LAW CAMP FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HELD AT THE NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW

A Law Camp for fifteen middle and high school age students was held the week of June 23-27, 1997, at the North Carolina Central University School of Law. The Camp ran from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. daily. Campers were presented with an overview of the legal system and a tour of the Durham County Judicial Building. Campers also learned basic rules of evidence, how to do preliminary legal research, and participated in a mock trial. NCCU staff and students organized the camp. The camp was co-sponsored by the Durham Parks and Recreation Department.



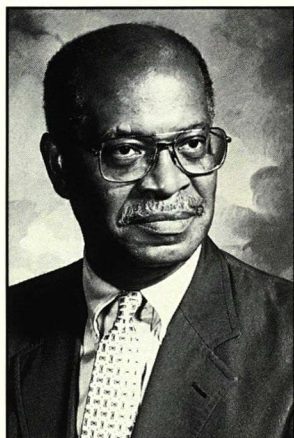
A future "Legal Eagle"

State Senator FRANK BALLANCE in the News

North Carolina State Senator **Frank Ballance** '65 of Warrenton has been featured in the Raleigh News & Observer prominently this year. In February of 1997, he was featured as the "Tar Heel of the Week" in his new role as the General Assembly's highest-ranking black lawmaker. The article centered around how Ballance "even[ed] scales by breaking barriers."

In a feature in October, 1997, on "Activism in the 90's: Have Americans Run Out of Steam?" the News & Observer printed comments from Ballance on activism. Ballance noted that the world is different than it was when he was a law school student at NCCU, stating that "[a]ctivism has to respond to a defined and pressing and very important need or problem - something that is visible: You can't drink from this water fountain, you can't sit at this lunch counter, you can't go to this school. . . Today we have a lot of problems, but they are not so clearly defined."

Senator Ballance's wife, **Bernadine Ballance** '82, is an administrative law judge for the N.C. Utilities Commission.



Belton

RECEPTION HELD TO HONOR ROBERT BELTON, VISITING CHAIR

A reception was hosted by Chancellor Julius Chambers and Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. on October 22, 1997, at the University Club in Durham, to honor visiting Charles Hamilton Houston Chair Robert Belton. The reception was well attended by NCCU School of Law faculty, UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke law faculty, area legislators and friends.

Also in attendance were Franklin R. Anderson, a NCCU Trustee, and Susie R. Powell, a former Law School faculty member, the founders of the Chair.

Professor Belton was appointed to serve as the first Charles Hamilton Houston Chair at the NCCU School of Law for the fall semester of the 1997-98 academic year. Professor Belton received his B.A. from the University of Connecticut in 1961 and his J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1965. He has worked as Assistant Counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in New York, New York and was a partner in the law firm formerly known as Chambers, Stein, Ferguson & Lanning in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is the first and only tenured African-American Professor of Law at Vanderbilt Law School in Nashville, Tennessee. He has been a member of the Vanderbilt Law School faculty for twenty-two years. Professor Belton has held visiting professorships at Harvard Law School and the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Professor Belton has written numerous law review articles and publications, including Remedies in Employment Discrimination Law and Discrimination in Employment (co-authored). He is a member of several professional associations, including the American Law Institute, the Association of American Law Schools where he served on the Executive Committee from 1991-94, the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the National Employment Lawyers Association, the Tennessee Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association. He also is a member of the Steering Committee of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit's Gender Fairness Task Force and Racial Fairness Task Force. Professor Belton has lectured at numerous conferences and symposiums on employment discrimination law, civil rights, labor law and related subjects.

Professor Belton has served as counsel in a number of landmark civil rights racial discrimination cases, including the U. S. Supreme Court cases of *Griggs v. Duke Power Company* and *Albemarle Paper Company v. Moody*, and the sexual harassment case of *Harris v. Forklift Systems, Inc.*

The Houston Chair, the first endowed chair at the School of Law, was funded in 1995 by Mr. Anderson and Ms. Powell in honor of Charles Hamilton Houston, who was called the chief engineer and first major architect of the twentieth century civil rights movement by his most famous pupil, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. During his legal career, Houston was Dean and Professor of Law at the Howard University Law School and general counsel of the NAACP.

A feature article on Professor Belton will be in the School of Law's next Of Counsel magazine for alumni and friends.



l to r: Steve Douglas, Justice Sarah Parker and Jim Beckwith at Belton reception

ALUMNI AWARDS GIVEN OUT AT NCCU ANNUAL LAW WEEK BANQUET

On Saturday, April 12, 1997, the NCCU School of Law held its Annual Law Week Banquet and presented several alumni with awards.

Marcus B. Jimison '93 received the *Julian Thomas Pierce Award*. It is given to a graduate who is working or has worked for a legal services or other public interest organization that is geared towards protecting the legal rights of poor and disadvantaged persons or a graduate who has done a significant amount of pro bono services for poor and under represented persons. Mr. Jimison is a staff attorney with North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services in Raleigh, N.C.

Robert Lambright '93 received the *Floyd B. McKissick Award*. It is given to a graduate who has contributed to the community in which he or she lives by working with city, county, state or national projects, the education system, aiding the sick, elderly or homeless, teaching illiterate persons to read and write, or other worthwhile projects designed for the betterment of our society. Mr. Lambright is in private practice in Neptune, N.J.

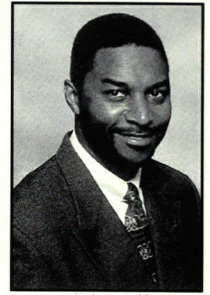
U.S. Attorney **Sandra Hairston '87** received the *Albert L. Turner Award*. It is given to a graduate who has contributed to the development and enhancement of a positive image for the Law School and the Law School's graduates. Ms. Hairston is an Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina in Greensboro, N.C.

The Honorable **Ellie Kinnaid '92** received the *Clifton E. Johnson Award*. It is given to a graduate who has used his or her legal training to make a difference and to protect the rights assured to all persons by the state and federal constitutions. Senator Kinnaid is a member of the North Carolina General Assembly and also works at North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services.

Ms. Sue Wasiolek '89 and **Ms. Tracy Barley '93** each received the *Daniel G. Sampson Award*. The Daniel G. Sampson Award is given to a graduate who has made a significant contribution to the Law School by his or her active participation in the Law School's Alumni Association. Ms. Wasiolek serves as Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs at Duke University. Ms. Barley is in private practice in Durham, N.C.

HARRELL NAMED PRO BONO STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Kyle A. Harrell '97 from Asheville, North Carolina, was named the School of Law's Pro Bono Student of the Year for 1997. A design engineer with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utility Department who performed volunteer work with many organizations before entering law school, Harrell continued his spirit of volunteerism while in law school as well. Prior to and while in law school, he helped raise hundreds of dollars for the Multiple Sclerosis Society during their annual fund-raising bike ride to the beach. Harrell also volunteered to help with Durham's annual Crop Walk to raise money for the homeless. While in law school, he donated hours of computer time for various organizations, designing programs, brochures and announcements for law school events, particularly during Law Week 1997.



Harrell

The great majority of Harrell's volunteer time, however, came while he was tutoring Mrs. Watford's fourth grade class at Lakewood Elementary School in Durham. He spent hours on a weekly basis serving as a mentor to these young students, helping them with their spelling and reading, and sharing stories with them. Victoria Taylor, Director of Recruitment at NCCU and a former law school classmate of Harrell's, said, "I have never met a person with such a big heart as Kyle Harrell. During our law school experience, there was not a classmate he would not help, a problem he would not attempt to solve. He is a blessing to any community, especially among the youth, and a big pro bono volunteer and asset."

Harrell is now working as an associate at Michaux & Michaux in Durham, North Carolina. His father, **The Honorable Robert L. Harrell '55**, is also a graduate of the NCCU School of Law.

FORMER NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW DEAN RECEIVES TOP LEGAL EDUCATOR AWARD



Groves and Luney

At the 1997 summer annual meeting, the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar named Harry Edward Groves, former Dean of North Carolina Central University School of Law (1976-81), as the 1997 recipient of the Robert J. Kutak Award. NCCU School of Law Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. was also present at this ceremony.

This annual award is given to someone who has distinguished themselves with a career of service to legal education and the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. The Kutak Award Selection Committee stated that Professor Groves "has served legal education for almost half a century. He has done so with great intelligence, dignity and devotion. All who have had the privilege of working with him agree that he is an extraordinary educator, scholar and lawyer."

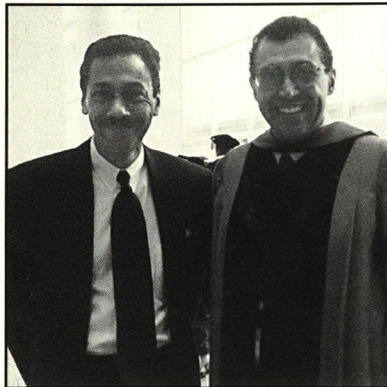
Professor Groves holds a B.A. from the University of Colorado, a J.D. from the University of Chicago, and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. He is currently the Henry Brandis Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of North Carolina School of Law. He has served as Dean of Texas Southern University Law School, Dean of Faculty of Law at the University of Singapore, President of Central State University and the Dean of North Carolina Central University School of

Law. Professor Groves is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, serves as a director of the American Bar Foundation, and served as chairperson of the Ethics Committee for the 1994 Olympics. He is a former member of the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and is currently a member of the Section's Accreditation Committee. He is the author of three books and a number of law review articles. NCCU School of Law congratulates Dean Groves on this deserved recognition.

LAW SCHOOL GRADUATION 1997

Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. was proud to present Juris Doctorate Degrees to 84 candidates from this year's Law School class. The Hillside High School Auditorium was the site as faculty, family, and friends gathered May 10, 1997 to congratulate these students on their hard work and accomplishments.

Joseph T. Grunkemeyer '97 and **Nicholas J. Perry '97** led their classmates as valedictorians. The Honorable Melvin Watt, of the U.S. House of Representatives Twelfth Congressional District, was this year's distinguished speaker. The musical talents of **Princess Smith '97**, **Jim Maloney '97** and **Kenneth A. Free, Jr. '97** were also a treat! The program included a video presentation of the class of 1997 which was very moving and enjoyed by all. Best wishes to all of our graduates as they embark on their careers.



Luney and Watt

RICHARDSON PRESENTED WITH SCHOLARSHIP

Paul Demond Richardson, now a third year student at the Law School, was chosen by the Earl Warren Legal Training Program to receive an Earl Warren Civil Rights Training Scholarship for the 1996-97 academic year. This award was a one year grant in the amount of \$3,000, supported through special funding from Exxon Corporation. Richardson was chosen because the sponsors of the program believed that he had the interest and potential to become an advocate on behalf of civil rights and equal justice.

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW PRO BONO AND PLACEMENT OFFICES SPONSOR PROGRAM FOCUSING ON IMMIGRATION LAW

The NCCU School of Law Pro Bono and Placement Offices sponsored a program focusing on immigration law in conjunction with the Alliance for Justice, an organization which promotes public interest, on Monday, October 4, 1997. This program, known as the First Monday program, derives its name because it is the first day on which the United States Supreme Court takes the bench for a new session. Students viewed a video on immigration law entitled "With Liberty and Justice For All". Afterward, local immigration attorney **Kären Fraiser Alston '94** spoke to students and participants about the practice of immigration law, in particular about new laws which took effect in the fall of 1997. NCCU was one of many law schools across the country that sponsored a First Monday program.

IN MEMORIAM

Former NCCU Professor **Joseph Albert Broderick** died in May of 1997 at the age of 79. Broderick served as a professor at the Law School from the mid-1970's through the mid-80's. Professor Broderick graduated from Princeton in 1937 and from Harvard Law School in 1941. He commanded PT's and LST's and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander during World War II. He practiced law for many years with the firm of Sullivan and Cromwell before beginning studies for the priesthood in the Dominican Order of the Roman Catholic Church in 1952. He was ordained in 1959 and served until 1980. During that time, he also taught at Catholic University Law School and completed and received doctoral degrees from Oxford and Harvard before moving to Durham. Professor Broderick was featured in the 1996-97 *Of Counsel* magazine.

Freddie Polhill '69 of West Orange, New Jersey, died this year of leukemia at the age of 53. A former Essex County assistant prosecutor, Polhill became Orange's first black municipal court judge in 1982. He was appointed East Orange's presiding judge in 1996. At the time of his death, Polhill was in line to be nominated for a state Superior Court judgeship by Governor Christie Whitman. "He was a class act, a great role model for the community," Senator Richard J. Codey (D-Essex), a longtime friend, said of Polhill. Services for Polhill held at St. Matthew's AME Church in Orange, New Jersey drew 1,000 people.

Bill Hamilton '85 died in August, 1997. He was an evening law graduate from NCCU. Hamilton received his undergraduate degree from Duke and had practiced law in Chapel Hill for fourteen years with the Grover McCain firm, specializing in medical malpractice. He was respected by defense and plaintiff's attorneys alike.

ALUMNI GATHERING AT ANNUAL NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING



Dean Luney and various "Legal Eagles"

Dean Luney met with several NCCU School of Law alumni at the annual National Bar Association Meeting in Minneapolis. Among the alumni who attended the conference were:

Monte D. Watkins '84, **Donna J. Johnson '82**, **Gwendolyn S. Hailey '88**, **Tonja M. Roberts '93**, **Allen G. Roberts '72**, **Ulysses Bell '77**, **Lovell Johnson, Jr. '83**, **Nicolle T. Phair '96**, and **Gene Ellison '83**.

NCCU TRIAL ADVOCACY TEAM CONTINUES TO EXCEL

Based on its performance in trial competitions during the past three years, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Tournament of Champions Board of Directors extended an invitation to North Carolina Central University School of Law to compete in the 1997 Tournament held October 22-23, 1997 in Los Angeles, California. The Law School won third place in the tournament.

Each year the NITA Tournament of Champions invites the sixteen best trial advocacy training law schools to compete against each other in the most elite law student mock trial competition in the nation. Selection is based on the law school's record for the past three years in the two major non-invitational student trial competitions, the National Trial Competition and the ATLA Student Trial Advocacy Competition. The sixteen law schools invited to this tournament have clearly shown themselves to be the best in the nation and NCCU was honored to be named to this exclusive group.

Although the total enrollment of NCCU School of Law is just 340 students, the size of the first year classes at some of the competing schools, the NCCU School of Law Trial Advocacy Team has a distinguished record in regional and national competitions. In 1995, the team placed fourth nationally in a field of 161 competing teams, has represented the region with top ten finishes at the national level in 1996 and 1997, and has won first and second place awards at numerous other competitions in the past three years. Additionally, NCCU School of Law has emerged as regional champion in competition including teams from all five North Carolina law schools (NCCU, UNC-CH, Duke, Campbell, and Wake Forest). Remarkably, the team was only just revived in 1994 after a ten year absence from the school. The team is coached by Professors Thomas Ringer and **Grady Jessup '86**.

At the Tournament of Champions, NCCU went undefeated in the four preliminary rounds of the tournament, defeating teams from Creighton University School of Law, Suffolk University School of Law, Northwestern University School of Law, and Loyola Law School en route to the semi-final rounds.

In the semi-finals, NCCU lost to Temple University School of Law in a 3-2 split decision by the judges. Temple went on to take the title against the University of Georgia. Georgia had defeated IIT Chicago Kent College of Law to reach the final round. The other eight teams participating were from the University of Akron, the University of Alabama, the University of Denver, the University of Houston, Stetson University, South Texas College of Law, Syracuse University, and Texas Tech University.

Students on the team were Dawn Baxton, Elaine Bingenheimer, Randolph Lee, and Curtis Osborne.

1997 LAW WEEK STUDENT AWARDS PRESENTED

The Annual Awards Banquet for the Law School was held April 29, 1997. Several awards were announced in the areas of outstanding scholarship, public service, leadership, and achievement.

The **H.M. Michaux Award for Public Service** is awarded to the student who has distinguished himself or herself by his or her outstanding contribution to the community while enrolled as a student at the NCCU School of Law. This award was presented to Mark Chilton, Natasha Miller and Sterling Thomas.

The **Daniel G. Sampson Award for Scholarship-Day and Evening Programs** is awarded to the student who has attained the highest academic average after three years in law school. This was presented to Nicholas Perry and Andru Wall.

The **Floyd B. McKissick Award For Leadership and Scholarship** is awarded to the student who has distinguished himself/herself because of his/her academic performance and outstanding service to the Law School community. This was presented to Everett Keith Chandler.

The **Justice Robert Glass Award for Outstanding Service to the Law Journal** is awarded to the student who has made an outstanding contribution to the Law School by his/her service to the Law Journal. This was presented to Nicholas Perry.

The **Clifton E. Johnson Award for Outstanding Service to the Moot Court Board** is awarded to the student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Law School as an advocate for the Moot Court Board. This was presented to Myra Leake.

The **Marian Wright Edelman Scholarship Award for Public Service** is awarded to a single custodial parent who has made or is making a significant contribution to the community while enrolled as an NCCU Law School student. This was presented to Susan Liggin.

The **Anne Duncan Award for Academic Achievement in the Face of Significant Obstacles** is awarded to the student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in the face of significant obstacles. This was presented to Katherine Chester and Therese Smith.

Illinois Judicial Council Scholarship Recipients were Everett Keith Chandler, Rebecca Chappel-Myers, Joseph McCain, Louie Wilson III, and Sterling Thomas. **Johnnie Brown Scholarship Recipients** were Rebecca Chappel-Myers and Susan Liggin. **George H. White Bar Association Scholarship Recipients** were Myra Leake and LaShawn Strange.

SPRAGUE RECEIVES NCBA AWARD

Stanley B. Sprague '74 of Greensboro, North Carolina, was honored at the North Carolina Bar Association's annual meeting as the recipient of the Legal Services Attorney Award for his representation of low income clients in the North Carolina appellate courts. Sprague works as the executive director for Central Carolina Legal Services, Inc. in Greensboro. Sprague will be featured in an upcoming issue of Of Counsel.

TAYLOR RECEIVES SCRIBES LAW JOURNAL AWARD

M. Victoria Taylor '97 was named as the recipient of the 1996-97 annual award from the SCRIBES law journal competition. This accommodation is for the best note or comment. The Law School Community is very proud of her accomplishment. Taylor has recently been hired as the Law School's Director of Recruitment (see "New Faces at the School of Law").

THE NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

All persons who have earned the Juris Doctor or equivalent degree for the School of Law are alumni of the Law School and members of the Association. Active membership is obtained by paying annual dues. All active members are eligible to vote and hold office in the Association. The Association also has honorary members and associate members, who are not eligible to vote or hold office in the Association.

The Annual Meeting of the Association is held on the Saturday of Law Week (in April) at the Law School. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to hear reports of the activities of the Board of Directors during the past year, to elect members of the Board of Directors, and to receive written reports of local chapters.

The NCCU School of Law Alumni Association Board of Directors meets at least quarterly. A meeting was held August 16, 1997 at the law office of Pilmon-Day & Barley in Durham. The Board of Directors for 1997-98 are **Tracy H. Barley '93**, President; **S. Y. Mason '91**, Vice-President; **Kathy Everett '94**, Secretary; and **Jonathan Babb '94**, Treasurer. New members appointed to the Board were **James Rogers '87** and **Kären Fraiser-Alston '94**. Outgoing President **Grady Jessup '86** was re-appointed to the Board.

Other members of the Alumni Association Board include **Nichelle J. Perry '93**, **Judge Paul Hardison '84**, **Charles Blackmon '88**, **Rhonda G. Davis '89**, **Donald Murphy '76**, **William A. Dudley '76**, **Kimberly Jones-Smith '92**, **U.S. Attorney Sandra J. Hairston '87**, **Judge A. Leon Stanback, Jr. '68**, **Donald R. Buie '81**, **Suzanne J. Wasiolek '89**, **Judge William Todd Graham, Jr. '86** and **Marvin Waters '93**.

The Board of Director's meetings for the rest of the year at press time were scheduled for November 15, 1997, at the School of Law; February 21, 1998, at Whitfield, Blackmon & Morse in Greensboro; and May 16, 1998 at a place to be announced in Charlotte. All meetings are at 12:00 noon.

Standing committees of the Association are the Executive Committee, the Committee on Nominations, the Committee on Student Financial Assistance, the Committee on Fund Raising, the Committee on Bylaws and Resolutions, the Committee on Membership, and the Committee on the Budget.

You are encouraged to get active in the Association. If you are not sure if your membership is current, or are interested in getting involved on any committees, contact Tracy Barley at (919) 956-9440.

UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

* We are in the process of changing and updating our alumni database and may be contacting you to make sure we have current, up-to-date inclusive information. In order to save us time, please take a moment to complete the alumni information section found on the envelope attached to this issue of New Horizons and return it to us.

* We have started to work closely with the NCCU School of Law Alumni Association to better coordinate events and information which is sent to our alumni and friends.

* We plan to have receptions for alumni in various locations over the next year. Please watch for information which will be mailed to you.

* We may have our first Law School reunion in 1998. Details on this will be forthcoming.

* We want to know what you and all of our alumni are doing! We are interested in announcements, new jobs, any tidbits about what you are doing in the legal profession. Please remember to send information to us so that we can share it with the rest of the Law School community.

* Information should be sent to: Lydia E. Lavelle or Sharon D. Alston, Alumni Relations, NCCU School of Law, 1512 South Alston Avenue, Durham, NC, 27713

* Phone: (Lydia) 919-560-5191 (Sharon) 919-560-5386

* Fax: 919-560-3229 or 919-560-6339 * E-mail: llavelle@wpo.nccu.edu or sdalston@wpo.nccu.edu

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