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New Horizons Newsletter

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8-1-1998

New Horizons 1998-1999

North Carolina Central School of Law

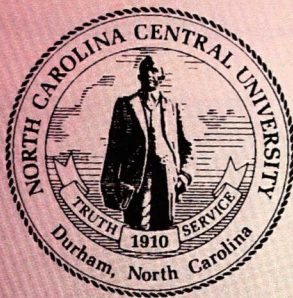
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New



Horizons

NCCU School of Law

1998-1999 Academic Year

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Greetings and Best Wishes from the Law School!

In August, 1998, I became Interim Dean on the eve of orientation for the incoming classes. The responsibility has been challenging and rewarding. At the beginning of the 1998-99 academic year, we welcomed 94 first-year day and 23 first-year evening students, bringing our total enrollment to 377 students. To date, we have received 750 and 212 applications for the day and evening programs respectively. We appreciate the role that you play in our recruitment efforts.



Janice Mills

While welcoming and registering new students, we also were preparing for our American Bar Association (ABA) seven-year accreditation visit which is conducted of all approved law schools. In its exit interview with me, the visitation team commended the Law School on its diversity, excellence in teaching, and strong academic support program. It is clear, however, that we need to raise funds to bolster student financial aid, support faculty research and development, and supplement limited state funds for building renovations and repairs. The Law School is now in the silent phase of a major Capital Campaign. We will be calling on you for financial support and I hope that you will assist us. Recently, we received a federal matching grant from Title III. For every dollar that we raise, up to \$354,000, the federal government will match with a dollar. As many of you know, Title III funds enabled us to establish the student computer lab, construct the Model Law Office Clinic and refurbish the main lobby and student area in the basement. With state funding for a new facility several years away, we could continue to use these funds to improve the learning environment of the Law School. For instance, we plan to establish a distance-learning facility in an unused area of the basement.

Faculty and students have been engaged in several initiatives beyond the classroom this year. Our Trial Advocacy and Moot Court teams have participated in several competitions. Future Attorneys Challenging Elementary Students (FACES) continues to work with local schools. Student organizations have conducted forums on a wide range of topics including race relations, the death penalty, and the reproductive rights of women. Both faculty and students continue to be involved in a variety of pro bono activities.

By the time that you receive this newsletter, we will have kicked off a year-long celebration of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Law School. Although the Law School was chartered in March, 1939, its official opening was delayed until September, 1940 because of insufficient enrollment. Over the years, the Law School has been transformed from a segregated school into one of the most culturally diverse law schools in the nation. This year's Law Week Banquet focused on the Law School's sixty years.

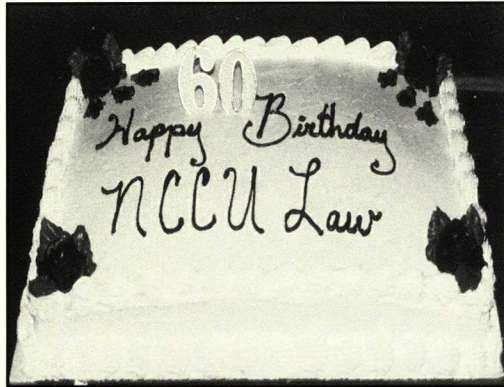
Our celebration will continue into the 1999-2000 academic year and we hope that you will start planning now to join us for the Second Annual Alumni Reunion to be held September 10-11, 1999. Please continue to share with us your visions for the Law School's future and continue to support us in maintaining its sense of community.

Sincerely,

Janice L. Mills
Interim Dean

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW MARKS 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT

On March 1, 1999, the School of Law celebrated the 60th Anniversary of its creation by the North Carolina General Assembly.



Happy Birthday To Us!

House Bill 18, entitled "An Act to

Provide Graduate and Professional Courses for the Negroes of North Carolina", was read three times and ratified in the General Assembly on the first day of March, 1939. The Act authorized the Board of Trustees at what was then North Carolina College for Negroes to establish graduate courses and empowered the Board to establish a "Department of Law".

The celebration was complete with balloons, streamers and a birthday cake for all students and staff. Various administrators at the Law School served the cake as well as submarine sandwiches. Dean Mills served sparkling grape juice and apple cider to those taking part in the festivities.

The Ninth Annual Civil Rights Seminars were held at the Law School in Fall, 1998. Two seminars were held, "Historically Black Public Universities in North Carolina: A Modern Day Version of 'Separate But Equal?'" and "North Carolina's State Legislative Redistricting Dilemma: Rectify Current Constitutional Violation or Appeasement to African-American Political Interests?" The seminars were coordinated by Professor Irving Joyner.



Lydia Lavelle '93, Nichelle Perry '93, and Victoria Taylor '97 preparing for the March 1, 1999 festivities

JANICE L. MILLS SERVES AS INTERIM DEAN

Janice L. Mills, who has been at the NCCU School of Law since 1981, is the Interim Dean for the School of Law during the 1998-99 academic year. Dean Mills replaced Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr., who left in September, 1998 to become President of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. Dean Mills received her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her law degree from Duke University. Dean Mills has served as a professor as well as an assistant dean at the Law School under three administrations. She has been a supervising attorney in the Legal Clinic and has taught Property, Legal Methods, and other courses.

When named to the position, Dean Mills said, "I'm just looking forward to the opportunity and thinking about the challenge that lies ahead. I'm excited about the Law School and I'm committed to its well-being."

Since being appointed, Dean Mills has overseen the Law School through its Fall, 1998 ABA accreditation visit and has been a driving force behind the various activities scheduled throughout 1999 in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Law School.



Dean Mills and Miss Universe, Wendy FitzWilliams, who visited the NCCU campus in Fall, 1998

Women Judges Forum Presented

The Women's Caucus and the Law School presented a "Women Judges Forum" in the fall of 1998. The forum consisted of a panel of female judges and was moderated by North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge Linda M. McGee. Others on the panel included Durham District Court Judge Anne McKown, Retired Administrative Law Judge Brenda Becton and Durham District Court Judge Elaine O'Neal '91.



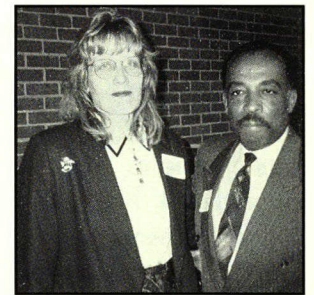
Judges Elaine O'Neal '91, Linda McGee, Brenda Becton and Anne McKown in the Law School Moot Courtroom

ABA ACCREDITATION TEAM VISITS

The ABA Accreditation Team visited the Law School in November, 1998, as it does every seven years. In preparation for the visit, the Law School spent the greater part of 1998 engaged in a Self Study. The accreditation team, consisting of seven persons, visited the Law School for three days, and examined various aspects of the Law School.



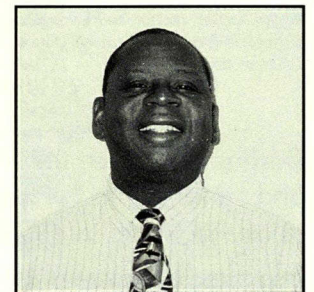
Evelyn Pursley, IOLTA Director, and Alan Head, NCBA President, attended a reception at the Law School with the ABA accreditation team



Susan Hall '95 with Judge Wiley Daniel, a member of the ABA accreditation team

CULP NAMED TO CHARLES HAMILTON HOUSTON CHAIR

Jerome Culp of Duke University is serving as the second Charles Hamilton Houston Chair at the School of Law. Culp is a graduate of the University of Chicago, and holds a Master's Degree in Economics from Harvard University. He also is a law graduate of Harvard University. Culp clerked for Federal Court of Appeals Judge Nathaniel Jones, was a resident fellow at the Rockefeller Foundation, and was a MacArthur Distinguished Scholar at the Joint Center for Political Science. He is currently teaching Employment Discrimination and Critical Race Theory at the Law School.



Jerome Culp

The Charles Hamilton Houston Chair was endowed by a gift from Franklin R. Anderson and Susie Powell. Robert Belton of Vanderbilt Law School was the first Houston chair.

"A Forum on Opportunities for the Tax Professional" was co-sponsored by the School of Law and the National Bar Association in February, 1999 in conjunction with an eight-hour CLE, "A Small Business Tax Seminar", which was held the next day at the Sheraton Imperial in Research Triangle Park. The forum and the event were coordinated by Professor Walter Nunnallee of the NCCU School of Law and Wayne Hamilton '90, Tax Attorney, Delphi Automotive Systems Corporation. Panel members for the forum included Hamilton; Glenn Carrington, Partner, Arthur Anderson, CPAs, Washington, D.C.; Stephanie Commander '90, Tax Attorney, Charlottesville, VA; Edward D. Fulbright, Fulbright & Fulbright, CPA, PA, RTP, NC; Jack Harper '98, Director, Corporate Tax Division, NC Department of Revenue; Richard Larkins, Senior Manager, KPMG CPAs, Washington, D.C.; and Gwendolyn C. Walker '96, Tax Attorney, IRS District Counsel, Atlanta, GA. Topics for the CLE included Multi-State Corporate Tax Developments, Corporate Mergers and Acquisitions, How LLCs Impact Business Entity Selection, The "New and Improved" S Corporation after TRA '96, 1998 Tax Reform and the General Practitioner, and Non-Profits Entering the "For-Profit" World.

School of Law Celebrates First

The Law School held its First Annual Alumni Reunion the week-end of August 28-29, 1998. One hundred fifty alumni attended a variety of events including a CLE, a Durham Bulls baseball game, a golf tournament, tennis matches, a pig pickin' held at Forest Hills Park, and a banquet held at the Regal University Hotel in Durham.

The banquet was especially enjoyed by alumni and members of the Law School community. Guests were welcomed by Professors Pamela Stanback Glean '80 and Mark W. Morris '82, and an invocation was given by William A. Dudley '76. Interim Dean Janice L. Mills gave greetings from the Law School and recognized various persons attending the event.

Portraits of Justice Robert D. Glass '51 and Judge Clifton E. Johnson '67 (which are now at the Law School) were on display during the dinner. Raymond Sitar '72 of New Haven, Connecticut spoke about Justice Glass, who was unable to attend the event. Kevin C. Foy '94 of Chapel Hill, North Carolina spoke about and introduced Judge Johnson, who made remarks to the guests.



Dean Mills at the reunion banquet



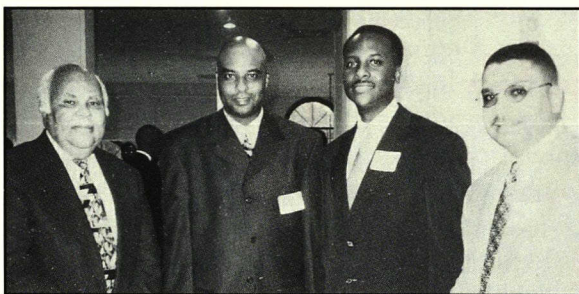
"Legal Eagles" recognized were Russell Washington '62, the late Cornelius Toole '60, Sammie Chess '58, W.W. Perry '55 and Earl Whitted '55

Professor T. Mdodana Ringer, Jr. then recognized all alumni ("Legal Eagles") from the years 1949-1963 who were attending.

Speakers from classes holding their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th and 30th reunions were recognized and spoke briefly about their Law School years. The speakers were Tonja A. Roberts '93, Fred A. Whitfield '88, Eugene W. Ellison '83, Willie S. Darby '78, Arnold Locklear '73, and Judge A. Leon Stanback, Jr. '68.

Finally, recognition was made of outgoing Dean Percy R. Luney, Jr. by Associate Dean Adrienne M. Fox and William A. Dudley '76. After the banquet, many alumni went to the "Talk of the Town" nightclub in downtown

Durham to dance the night away. It was remarked that this First Annual Alumni Reunion was "a great idea" and "a lot of fun." Plans are for the Reunion to continue as an annual event. All alumni present were urged to attend again in 1999 and to encourage all of their former classmates to attend as well.



W.W. Perry '55, Fred Whitfield '88, Charles Blackmon '88 and Ralph Frazier Jr. '94 at the reception prior to the banquet



Alumni and friends enjoyed a Durham Bulls game with their view from the terrace seats on the first base side of the stadium

MARK THE DATE!

THE SECOND ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION WILL BE THE WEEK-END OF SEPTEMBER 10-11, 1999! DETAILS WILL BE ARRIVING SHORTLY BY MAIL.

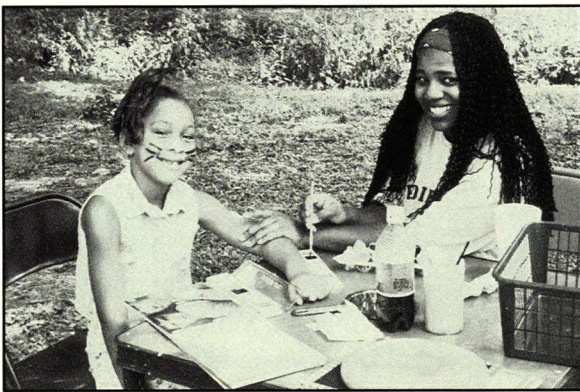
Annual Reunion....A BIG HIT!



Iris Gilchrist, the Dean's Secretary, attended the reception and banquet



Robert Raynor '81 and Pam Glean '80 shared a few laughs at the reception preceding the banquet



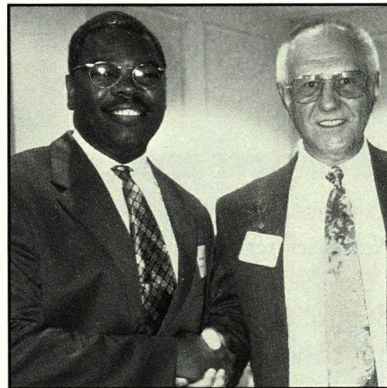
Children's activities during the pig pickin' included face painting by Robyn Thorpe, a 2L at the Law School



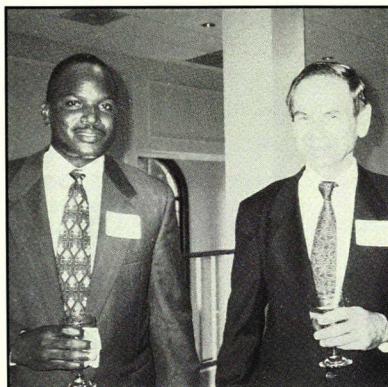
Dean Mills with Mildred Hardy '87, serving drinks at the pig pickin'



Kevin Foy '94 introducing Clifton Johnson '67



Virgil Walker '84 and Raymond Sitar '72 visiting prior to the banquet



Ken Gibbs '94 and Stanley Sprague '74 played tennis, one of the reunion activities



Joel Bowden '74, Paul Jones '74, and Marion Weaver '74 at the pig pickin'

Reunion Attendees

THE FOLLOWING
PERSONS PARTICIPATED
IN ONE OR MORE "FIRST
ANNUAL ALUMNI
REUNION" ACTIVITIES:

W.W. Perry, Sr. '55
Earl Whitted '55
Sammie Chess, Jr. '58
Cornelius E. Toole '60
Russell C. Washington '62
John H. Harmon '65
Rogers Davis '66
Clifton E. Johnson '67
J. Frank Hanley II '68
Lee McLean '68
A. Leon Stanback, Jr. '68
James E. McNeil '69
Ronald J. Pitts, Sr. '69
James W. Smith '69
James W. Harris '70
Donald L. Pitts '70
Deborah Greenblatt '72
Allen G. Roberts '72
Raymond Sitar '72
Arnold Locklear '73
Joel G. Bowden '74
Paul L. Jones '74
Lew Eleanor Hamlin McNeely '74
Thomasine E. Moore '74
Nathaniel Roberson '74
Stanley B. Sprague '74
Marion J. Weaver '74
Victor J. Boone '75
James E. Martin '75
N. Denise Wilson-Taylor '75
A. Root Edmonson '76
William A. Dudley '76
Donald L. Murphy '76
Peter F. Rogers '76
Leonard L. Brown, Jr. '77
Janet K. Ledbetter '77
Emma Jean Levi '77
Angus B. Thompson II '77
Willie S. Darby '78
Michael T. Hodges '79
Michael R. Morgan '79
W. Gregory Spencer '79
David Walker '79
Robert G. Raynor, Jr. '81
Ronald P. Butler '82
Eugene W. Ellison '83
Kathryn C. DeAngelo '84
E. Ann Hill '84
Tamara Young Lee '84
Anita R. Powers '84
Virgil B. Walker '84
Christopher T. Watkins '84
Monte D. Watkins '84
Lynn Whitted '84
Kevin B. Duckworth '85
Teresa L. Smallwood '85
Gregory L. Seibert '86
Mildred T. Hardy '87
Mark A. Perry '87
James E. Rogers '87

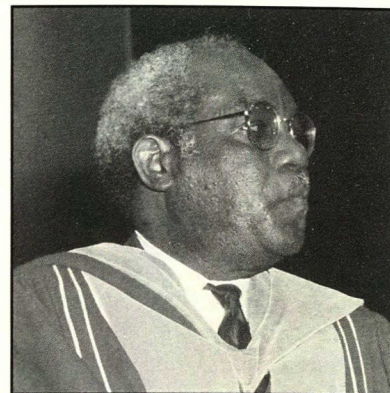
Reunion Attendees continued on page 8

NCCU CHANCELLOR NAMED TO "HALL OF FAME"

Chancellor Julius L. Chambers, who has been Chancellor at North Carolina Central University since 1993, was inducted into the North Carolina Bar Association's General Practice Hall of Fame during the Fall of 1998. The Hall of Fame selection committee looks at general practitioners' ethical standards and history of legal competence, as well as their standing in the community. A total of fifty-two persons have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Nominees must have practiced at least twenty five years.

Prior to coming to NCCU, Chambers served ten years as the Director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in New York. Chambers graduated summa cum laude with a degree in history from North Carolina College (now NCCU) and earned his Master's Degree from the University of Michigan. Chambers was one of the first blacks admitted to law school at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He ranked first in his class upon graduating in 1962.

He received a Master's Degree in Law from Columbia University and in 1964 opened a law practice in Charlotte. Working with founding partners James Ferguson and Adam Stein in the state's first integrated law firm, Chambers was credited with doing more to influence federal civil rights law than any other private attorney in the country.



Julius Chambers

Reprinted from the North Carolina Lawyer, September/October, 1998.

FACULTY NOTES

T. Mmodana Ringer, Jr. and Grady Jessup '86, professors at the School of Law, were honored by the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers as recipients of the "Community Service Award" for their outstanding work in establishing one of the best trial advocacy programs in the country. Ringer and Jessup were presented with the award at the NCABL's Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting held in June, 1998.



The School of Law had three new professors teaching during Spring, 1999

Wandra G. Mitchell, who also taught in Fall, 1998, will be visiting the Law School for two years. She received her undergraduate degree from Fisk University in 1977 and her law degree from Yale Law School in 1980. She has extensive knowledge and experience in international affairs, public and private law, and in U.S. foreign economic assistance programs. She is teaching International Law and Advanced Legal Writing I.



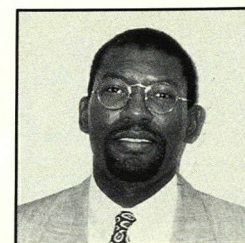
Wandra Mitchell



Elizabeth Rapaport

Elizabeth Rapaport received her undergraduate degree from Case Western Reserve University. She graduated from Harvard Law School in 1987. She is an Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, and is visiting the Law School for the spring semester. She is teaching Criminal Law and Professional Responsibility.

Wilton B. Hyman '92 graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1989. He received his law degree from NCCU in 1992 and a Masters of Laws from the University of Florida School of Law in 1993. Since that time, he has taught at the New England School of Law. He is teaching Business Transactions for Lawyers and Business Associations.

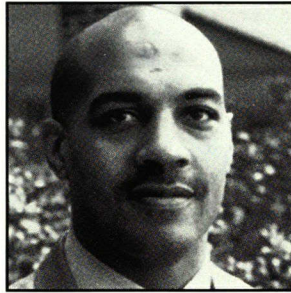


Wilton Hyman

STUDENT UPDATE

Louie Wilson III, who received his J.D. from the NCCU School of Law in May, 1998, was selected to receive the 1998 Pro Bono Award.

At the School of Law, Louie performed pro bono work for the Office of the Appellate Defender, where he researched an appeal which is now up for review by the United States Supreme Court. He also worked at the Office of the Public Defender, trying over 250 cases in juvenile court under the third year practice rule. Working with juveniles regularly motivated Louie to establish the NCCU Juvenile Tutorial Program, which began its second season in Fall, 1998. This program helps adjudicated delinquents with basic core courses that many find difficult at school. The volunteers in the program are all NCCU Law School students working in conjunction with the Durham Juvenile Services Division. Louie also worked with a volunteer project involving Hillside High School students. Louie passed the N.C. bar in 1998 and is now practicing law with offices in Ahoskie and Roanoke Rapids, NC.



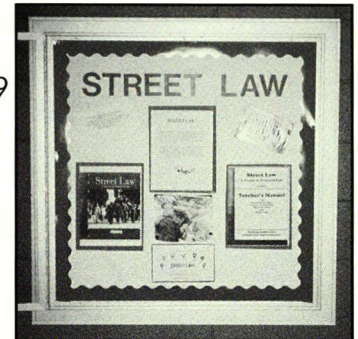
Louie Wilson III

Reprinted in part from the North Carolina State Bar Journal, Winter, 1998.

STUDENTS TEACHING "STREET LAW"

A new course offering at the Law School in Spring, 1999 was "Street Law", which immediately filled up with its maximum of twenty Law School students. "Street Law" is being taught and coordinated by

Natalie McKinney, a local attorney with Moore & Van Allen, and Pro Bono Coordinator Lydia E. Lavelle '93. "Street Law" is based on a national program through which law school students learn how to teach various areas of the law to middle school and high school students. The NCCU Law School students are teaching at Hillside High School, the High School Learning Center, and the Afterschool Program at Shepard Middle School. The program has been well received by the Durham Public Schools.



Tonya Ford, a 3L at the School of Law, was awarded the 1999 Herman L. Taylor - Ralph L. Stephens Scholarship by the Capital City Lawyers Association. This award is given each year to a deserving outstanding law student at the NCCU School of Law. Ford is a 1996 graduate of Hampton University.

Ford was recommended by Dean Janice Mills and the Director of Recruitment, M. Victoria Taylor '97, who is the daughter of the late Herman L. Taylor, a legal pioneer who practiced law for over fifty years. The scholarship was named for Mr. Taylor and Mr. Stephens who were two former members of the Capital City Lawyers Association. Ford is now a law clerk with Geoff Simmons and Evia L. Jordan '87.

Patrick Hannah, a 2L at the School of Law, served in the Office of Legal Counsel to the President while an intern at the White House during the summer of 1998.

The White House Intern Program consists of select students from around the country who have demonstrated strong leadership abilities and academic excellence with an emphasis on public service. During his internship, Hannah worked on issues affecting the Executive Office of the President and the United States. He is a native of Hope, Arkansas.

IN MEMORIAM:

MARK BLANCHARD '98
died in January, 1999.

JUDGE CORNELUIS TOOLE '60
died in January, 1999.

HUGH GAITHER SHEARIN, JR. '95
died in February, 1999.

REUNION ATTENDEES, continued from page 5

Charles K. Blackmon '88
Bernetta H. Hayes '88
Tonnie Villines '88
Fred A. Whitfield '88
John O. Eluwa '89
Patricia Y. Ford '89
Delton L. Green '89
Ola Lewis Bray '90
Rhonda J. Creecy '90
Alma L. Hinton '90
Jo Ann Bernard McCants '90
Vercelia M. Young '90
Lisa M. Logan '91
Elmyra Manigault '91
S.Y. Mason-Watson '91
John W. Perry '91
Tonia D. Butler '92
Kimberly Jones-Smith '92
Eleanor G. Kinnaird '92
Troy A. Smith '92
Darryl K. Beasley '93
Tab C. Hunter '93
Alexander S. Perry '93
Tonja Roberts '93
Kevin C. Foy '94
Ralph K. Frasier, Jr. '94
Kenneth D. Gibbs '94

Kimberly A. Moore '94
Ortharine W. Sansbury '94
Sherri L. Brooks '95
Debra J. Clark '95
Danita H. Curry '95
Zabrina W. Dempson '95
F. Catherine Surles '95
Charlene Y. Armstrong '96
Percele H. Brown '96
Arlene D. Hanks '96
Reggie McKnight '96
Darnell Parker '96
Sandy Rothschild '96
Evadne K. Smith-Little '96
Gwendolyn C. Walker '96
Brian C. Wilks '96
Lisa Harding Wilks '96
Monica D. Armstrong '97
John R. Blanton '97
Joel C. Cunningham '97
Keith D. Hempstead '97
Myra C. Leake '97
Dezmona J. Mizelle '97
Travis H. Simpson '97
Steven D. Thomas '97
Therese A. Tomlinson '97
Damian L. Tucker '98

Faculty and Staff:
Sharon D. Alston
Carnette Debela
Charles Daye (Former Dean)
Ronald S. Douglas '82
Adrienne M. Fox
Iris Gilchrist
Pam Glean '80
Renee Hill
Grady Jessup '86
Monica Kalo
Lydia E. Lavelle '93
Rosalyn Liles
Percy R. Luney, Jr.
Grace Mills
Janice L. Mills
Wandra Mitchell
Adrienne Meddock '91
Deborah Mayo-Jefferies '76
Lisa Morgan
Mark Morris '82
Nichelle Perry '93
T. Mmodana Ringer, Jr.
Charles Smith
Patti Solari '82
Victoria Taylor '97
Mary Wright



S.Y. Mason-Watson '91, President Tracy Barley '93 and Secretary Kathy Everett-Perry '94, of the Law School Alumni Association Board of Directors, attended a reception with the ABA accreditation team

We apologize for any omissions from this list.

**Make Plans Now To
Attend The Reunion
September 10-11, 1999**

FROM THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

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, 27707 * Phone: (Lydia) 919-530-7464 (Sharon) 919-530-5386 * Fax: 919-530-7981

* E-mail: llavelle@wpo.nccu.edu or sdalston@wpo.nccu.edu

NEW HORIZONS

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