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2006-2007 Annual Report

Georgia State University College of Law

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GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT

FY07

COLLEGE OF LAW

STEVEN J. KAMINSHINE, DEAN
October 2007

College of Law
2006-2007 Annual Report

Section A. Progress in Assessing Institutional Effectiveness

Learning Outcomes & Academic Institutional Effectiveness

The College of Law faculty has always insisted upon high quality classroom teaching. But the efficacy of traditional law school teaching and evaluation methods has recently been the subject of much debate and scholarship. In fact, in the 2007-2008 academic year, the College began a year long faculty-wide study of the findings regarding law school education reported by the Carnegie Foundation in "Educating Lawyers." We will have much more to report on that project in next year's report.

Entering that debate, two of our professors devised and implemented a new approach to teaching the required first year Civil Procedure course to test some of our assumptions about the effectiveness of our methods of teaching and examining students. Professor Curcio required her students to complete five written essay answers throughout the semester. She provided them with model answers for each essay question and allowed in-class time for peer and self edits.

The effectiveness of the new model was then examined by Professors Curcio and Washington, working together with statistician Gregory Jones, in a research project that began in the summer (and eventually led to two articles being accepted for publication in the summer of 2007). Professors Washington (who used the traditional oral question and answer method) and Curcio gave their respective spring Civil Procedure students the same two co-authored final essay exam questions. Using a jointly designed rubric, they then blind-graded all students' essay answers to each question. They compared students' raw essay exam scores on each exam question and correlated that with students' LSAT scores and UGPAs.

They found that the first-year Civil Procedure students who completed five practice essay writing exercises and received generalized post-exercise feedback, on average, had higher raw scores on their final Civil Procedure essay exam questions than those who did not have the writing assignments. They also found that the most statistically significant benefit from the practice and feedback inured to students with above-median LSAT scores and above-median UGPAs and that the practice exercises had no impact upon students' grades in other courses. They believe that the writing exercises likely improved student performances. They also believe that the fact that the biggest improvement inured to students with above-median LSAT scores and UGPAs may be attributable both to the impact of "test-taking speed" and to students' varying metacognitive skills. In any event, Professor Curcio intends to do more empirical research on such matters in the near future.

The faculty's interest in studying legal education itself does not end there. We approved a unique, one time three-credit course on "The Future of Legal Education." Created by Professor Cunningham, our Burge Chair in Law and Ethics, the course has allowed selected students to travel around the United States and beyond to study and report on the ways in which legal studies program worldwide are re-shaping legal education. We expect the benefits of Professor Cunningham's work to benefit the College and its students well beyond the life of this one-year course.

Our dedication to high quality instruction is not limited to the classroom; indeed, it is not limited to traditional law school subjects taught solely by law professors to law students. In 2006, the faculty adopted six new courses, dramatically improving the already impressive array of courses related to the intersection of law and medicine or health care delivery. These included such courses as HIV/AIDS and the Law, Genetics and the Law, and Human Rights and Children. All of these courses have not only enriched the College of Law curriculum, but have also given us new opportunities to bring graduate students from other disciplines and other schools into the law school's classrooms and community. We have already brought in several medical and engineering students, as well as many from graduate level programs in Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, and the like.

For 2006, the faculty also approved five new courses to be taught in the Summer Legal and Policy Study Program in Rio de Janiero, our outstanding study abroad program run by Professor Colin Crawford. These classes include Coastal Law, Comparative Mergers and Acquisitions Law, and a seminar in International and Comparative Equality Law. Like the other courses listed above, these are intended to give our student a wide ranging and sophisticated look at the legal aspects of various activities worldwide.

The College of Law's special commitment to affording opportunities for racial and ethnic minorities has also led us to offer or support two summer skills programs for applicants deemed to be at-risk. As of 2006, our in-house summer program consists of an intensive three week course devised and taught by Legal Writing Professor Heather Slovensky. Professor Slovensky's revised program now focuses more than ever before on developing specific reading, writing and analytical skills that students will have to master very early in their legal education careers to be successful law students.

As Professor Curcio's work demonstrates, measuring academic effectiveness is difficult; nevertheless, an important measure of our students' skills is how they match up with those of students from other law schools around the country. In 2006, as in all earlier years, our students performed extraordinarily well in Moot Court and Mock Trial competitions. Our mock trial teams finished second in the ABA Mock Trial Competition, third in the National Trial Advocacy competition, and second in the American Trial Lawyers Association competition. Our Moot Court teams have also performed quite well in a great number of competitions in different regions and in a wide variety of subject matter areas.

During this same time period, our academic programs underwent extensive review from several entirely different sources. One was the American Bar Association's site team visit, an event which occurs only after the subject institution completes a thorough self

study (developed by the entire faculty and staff over a period of one to two years) and an exhaustive set of questionnaires. Of the 66 major factual findings approved by the ABA Accreditation Committee, not a one questions the adequacy of any significant part of our academic program.

Another is the annual LSSSE (Law School Survey of Student Engagement) survey, in which the Association of American Law Schools and the Carnegie Foundation jointly survey law students nationwide. Post-survey, each of the 128 participating law schools receives an extensive set of findings, comparing its own students' responses with those from students at all other schools. Perhaps our students' responses to two questions best sum up their own assessment of our academic program. When our senior students (i.e., third or fourth year, depending upon whether they are full or part time) were asked how they would evaluate their entire educational experience at the College of Law, 56% of them rated it excellent, a full twenty five percentage points better than the national average. Similarly, when they were asked if they would attend the same law school if they had it all to do over again, 87% said they would, more than ten percentage points better than the national average.

A third source of review is the student exit surveys conducted by Georgia State's own Office of Institutional Research. In all of the areas of inquiry most important to a quality legal education (e.g., writing and speaking clearly and effectively, organizing and interpreting data appropriately, locating and organizing information from multiple sources, working effectively with others, analyzing problems from different points of view, and understanding values and ethical standards), our students report that their skills have significantly improved from the time they entered law school. In fact, over 97% of our graduates report that the quality of the courses and instruction in their program was good or excellent and that our program stressed high quality work and prepared them well for their careers.

Of course, we cannot overstate the import of what may be the clearest indicator of our academic program's effectiveness. Since 1990, our first time bar takers' passage rate has dipped below 94% only twice, and then only by a fraction. In 2006, 93% of our first time takers passed the Georgia bar exam, keeping us on a par with students from Emory Law School and the University of Georgia School of Law. On the Multistate Professional Responsibility exam, a separate ethics "bar exam" all students must pass to be admitted to the bar, every College of Law student who took the exam in 2006 passed.

Administrative Institutional Effectiveness

The HeLP Legal Services Clinic was established in 2006 as an extension of the Health Law Partnership (HeLP), an interdisciplinary community collaborative among Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (Children's), the Atlanta Legal Aid Society (ALAS), and College. The HeLP collaborative provides on-site legal services at local children's hospitals to address basic legal needs affecting low-income children's health and well-being. The HeLP Legal Services Clinic offers an educational dimension to this initiative by enabling students at the College of Law to provide representation to a portion of

HeLP's clients. Approved in the spring of 2006, the clinic opened its doors in the spring 2007 semester.

The Director of the Clinic is Professor Charity Scott, a tenured member of the faculty and the Director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. In the summer of 2006 the College hired two assistant clinical professors, Sylvia Caley and Lisa Bliss, who serve as Associate Directors of the clinic. Professor Caley has served as the HeLP project's Director/Lead Attorney since it began at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in 2004. These two clinical professors were hired on a non-tenure track basis under a newly approved Clinical Faculty Policy established in accordance with the job security arrangements provided under ABA Standard 405c.

In approving the creation of this clinic last spring, the faculty acted in accordance with the College's 2002 Strategic Plan and its stated goal for the College to establish a second in-house clinic for students. In addition, the College's and the University's strategic plans place considerable emphasis on the development and improvement of interdisciplinary education, outreach to the community, and taking advantage of our urban environment and capital city location. The HeLP clinical education program allows the College to claim both distinctiveness and innovation as among its programmatic strengths.

Significant organizational changes have taken place in the College's Technology Services area as a result of the recent ABA Self Study (Appendix 1) and the Administrative Services Unit Review (Appendix 2), which were recognized and endorsed by the ABA Site Evaluation Team in their letter dated June 26, 2007 (Appendix 3). These evaluation instruments indicated:

"In order to meet the current and future needs of its faculty, staff and students, the Technology Committee has identified the following goals and priorities in the area of technology resources:

- Increase technology resources (financial and personnel) to provide adequate equipment, staffing, and training for the College's faculty, staff and students
- Establish a Director of Technology position.
- Obtain funding to hire an instructional technologist to support the faculty.
- Continue to integrate technology into all aspects of the College's operations (i.e. instruction, clinics, law library, development, career services, admissions, etc.).
- Encourage and support the effective use of instructional technology across the College."

In order to address these concerns the Law Library Electronic Services group merged with the College of Law Technology Services group in March 2007 creating the College of Law Information Technology department. This new department is charged with supporting all technologies employed throughout the college including the law library.

The new department is made up of seven positions: Director of Information Technology, Technology Manager, Website Coordinator, Instructional Services Specialist, and three (3) PC Systems Specialists. The Director of Information Technology and the

Instructional Services Specialist are both new positions providing new services and products while assuming some responsibilities from other IT staff. In addition, graduate technical assistants work in the student computer lab and staff the college's technology help line during the academic year.

This reorganization of technology support at the college accomplished a number of goals including:

- Placing all College of Law technology development and planning under one roof
- Allowing for the reallocation of resources and responsibilities
- Creating a net gain of 1 ½ technology support positions
- Creating a single point of contact for faculty, staff, and students
- Eliminating duplication of services within the college
- Creating greater efficiency, communication, and cooperation between technology support personnel
- Day to day decision-making and prioritizing
- Strategic planning

Section B. Summary of Major Accomplishments

Planning for the Future

In 2006-07 College of Law continued its implementation of a multi-year plan to develop distinctive programmatic initiatives made possible by a recent Board of Regents-approved tuition increase and a University initiative designed to promote interdisciplinary collaboration across departments and colleges. Under this plan, 2006-07 saw the College expand the growth of its centers of excellence: the Center for Law, Health and Society, and the Center for the Comparative Study for Metropolitan Urban Growth. During this same year, the college also opened a second live client (the HeLP Legal Services Clinic) that focuses on children and families, expanded placements in its Externship Program, revived its International Connection program that hosts visiting law students from emerging from eastern block countries, developed an Intellectual Property Roundtable to bring together leaders in IP law and business, and began an initiative in public health law by the hiring of two outstanding new faculty members and scholars, Leslie Wolf and Jonathon Todres, who will work to support the University's Urban Health initiative coordinated by the Institute of Public Health.

Planning is underway to build on these successful efforts by helping the new Centers achieve national prominence, by pursuing initiatives in Intellectual Property in collaboration with the Robinson College of Business, Trial Advocacy, and Dispute Resolution, and to expand our summer abroad program in South America to include Argentina. This multi-year planning is an outgrowth of the College's Strategic Plan supplemented by its 2006 Self Study, which collectively offer a roadmap that will help the College to build upon its past successes and achieve its desired goals for the future.

In 2006-07 the College fine-tuned these planning efforts by concluding a year-long self study process in preparation for a ABA site accreditation visit that took place in March 2007. The ABA site team and the ABA committee on accreditation issue findings and a report that also will aid in our planning efforts.

All of these efforts, along with the continuing growth of the faculty's record of research and academic engagement on a national scale, will enable the College to enhance its reputation and profile nationally. The *U.S. News & World Report's* 2007 survey of the best law schools saw the College continue to be ranked among the top 100 law schools and emerge as the youngest law school with such a status. This same publication ranked our emerging Health Law program as 10th best in the nation.

Interdisciplinary Programs

Interdisciplinary programs are one of the strengths of the College of Law. The College's two centers, the Center for Law, Health & Society and the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Urban Growth, moved into their fourth years of operation and each continued with its own strong interdisciplinary focus.

The Center for Law, Health and Society explores the intersection of law, medicine, health policy, and ethics. The Health Center's name reflects its multidisciplinary focus and its emphasis on cross-professional education, research, and outreach. By promoting opportunities for collaboration among students, scholars, and health-related professionals in both law and non-law disciplines, the Center is already becoming a leading forum for examining the interplay of law and medical ethics and the impact of ethical norms in shaping health policy. Indeed U.S.News and World Report 2007 rankings of law school programs ranked our Health Law program 10th in the nation out of 200 law schools. Under the leadership of Professor Charity Scott, the Health Center continued its distinguished speaker series, its faculty fellows program to attract leading national figures in the health law field, its trailblazing Health Law Partnership (HeLP) with the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Atlanta Legal Aid, its legislative advocacy program for students, and opened a new live-client clinic for low income children and families. A more complete description of the Health Center's activities in 2006-07 is set forth in its annual report (Appendix 4).

Under the leadership of Professors Colin Crawford, Julian Juergensmeyer and Janice Griffith, the Metro Growth Center has been equally active, continuing its innovative foreign enrichment course taught by leading international scholars; a visiting lecture series; its "Urban Fellows" program that provided forums for law students and Georgia State graduate students in related disciplines to meet with leading urban planners and policymakers; and its study abroad program that began in the summer of 2005 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A more complete description of the Metro Growth Center's activities in 2006-07 is set forth in its annual report (Appendix 5).

The College of Law's interdisciplinary focus also is reflected in its joint degree programs. The College of Law offers six joint degree programs: in law and health administration in collaboration with the Institute of Public Health in the College of Health and Human

Sciences, in law and business administration with the Robinson College of Business, in law and public administration with Georgia State's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, in law and philosophy with the University's College of Arts and Sciences, in law and city and regional planning with the Georgia Institute of Technology's City and Regional Planning Program in its College of Architecture, and in law and health administration with the Institute of Health Administration in the Robinson College of Business

Outside of the joint degree programs, Law Faculty continue to teach courses that are cross-listed with other Georgia State departments. Law faculty member William Edmundson holds a joint appointment with the Department of Philosophy and Charity Scott holds a joint appointment with the Institute of Health Administration in the Robinson College of Business.

International Relationships, Foreign Visitors and Fulbright Scholars

The College of Law continued its Summer Academy in International Commercial Arbitration, which takes upward of 50 students to Europe each spring. The program, led by Professor E.R. Lanier, brings the college in contact with distinguished European experts in commercial arbitration who, in turn, visit the university during the regular academic year. Based in Linz, Austria, the program visited arbitration courts in Vienna, Prague, and other Central European cities. Instruction was shared by Georgia State College of Law Faculty and faculty from the University of Warsaw.

In addition, the College of Law's summer foreign study program in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil has continued to grow. This program, led by Professor Colin Crawford and offered in collaboration with the University of Tennessee College of Law and the Seattle University School of Law, expands foreign study opportunities for law students in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, furthers academic exchange between these institutions and with law schools in Rio de Janeiro, and increases opportunities for student exchanges and academic collaboration between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Brazil. This program offered courses on Comparative Human Rights, Corporate Trade, Environmental and Public Health Law and Policy, and Cross-cultural Conflict Resolution.

This past fall the College of Law hosted the first eminent foreign scholar as a visiting professor in intellectual property, Dr. Ronan Deazley, a professor at the University of Birmingham School of Law in Edgbaston, Birminham, U.K., and an internationally known copyright scholar. While at Georgia State, Dr. Deazley co-taught an advanced seminar in international intellectual property law with Professor Michael Landau. The College of Law also hosted almost two dozen deans and administrative officials of law schools from across the People's Republic of China for a seminar on administrative issues in legal education in the United States.

In the spring of 2007, the College's Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth continued its Foreign Enrichment Course in Comparative Environmental and Land Use Law. The course featured several internationally known foreign scholars, each

of whom visited the College of Law and taught a 3-week module of a semester-long course. The foreign visitors included: Daniel Bonilla, Professor of Law at Universidad de los Andes in Bogota, Colombia; Raymond Young, Esquire, a partner at Lidstone, Young, Anderson (Barristers & Solicitors) and Adjunct Professor of Law and Planning, University of British Columbia in Vancouver, B.C; and Maria Magdalena Kenig-Witowska, Professor of Law at the University of Warsaw in Poland

Professor Andrea Curcio was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for the spring of 2007 to lecture at South China Normal University in Guangzhou, China where she taught civil procedure and torts to Chinese law students. Professor William Edmundson was in residence at Oxford University in the U.K. as the HLA Hart Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Ethics and Philosophy of Law. Professor Clark Cunningham was admitted to membership in The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet in recognition of his work with the Glasgow Graduate School of Law and the College of Law of England and Wales. He is only the second American to become a member of The Society, which is charged with custody of the royal seal of the British monarchy and believed to be the oldest professional association of lawyers in the world.

The Law School as an Intellectual Hub

The College of Law significantly increased the number of outside speakers and scholars invited to campus in 2006-07. The 2007 Law Review Symposium focused on international intellectual property law. The endowed Henry Miller Distinguished Lecture Series featured nationally acclaimed scholars Glenn Loury in the fall of 2006 and Elizabeth Bartholet in the spring of 2007.

The Center for Law, Health and Society continued its biotechnology and law initiative by hosting a multi-part seminar series on the legal and ethical issues surrounding eugenics and genetics. It also hosted two conferences, one in Fall 2006 entitled, "New directions for Health Care Planning: Proposed Legislative Reform for Advance Directives in Georgia," the other in Spring 2007 entitled, "2007 Legislative Wrap-Up: Emerging Issues in Georgia Public Policy for Woman and Families."

The Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth conducted its third annual Comparative Foreign Enrichment Program by inviting three prominent foreign scholars to each give three weeks of instruction about the environmental and land use law of the metropolitan areas within their respective countries. The Metro Growth Center also held its third annual "Urban Fellows" Program in which outstanding graduates in law and other disciplines were chosen from across the University to participate in a monthly colloquium with prominent regional speakers on a theme for the year. The theme for 2006-07 was "Urban Neighborhood Development". In addition, the Metro Growth Center hosted a 2006-07 lecture series that welcomed 15 scholars and policymakers who spoke on themes related to environmental policy and global growth management. The College's Intellectual Property initiative helped launch a spring 2007 symposium on the theme of International IP in a Global Economy. The domestic and foreign scholars who participated in the symposium submitted papers that were later published in the College's Law Review.

The endowment established by the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute (SBLI) to support visits by nationally known experts in the bankruptcy field once again supported a program in which the visitors taught classes at the law school, shared their research interests with faculty, met with members of the SBLI, and made presentations on bankruptcy related topics to bankruptcy lawyers and judges. Professor Peter Alces of William and Mary School of Law served as the SBLI visitor during the 2006 fall semester, and Professor Mechele Dickerson from the University of Texas School of Law was the SBLI visitor during the spring 2007 semester.

A particular success in 2006-07 was the College's Visiting Faculty Lunchtime Colloquia Series, in which the College would invite leading scholars to campus for one-day visits in which they would discuss with the faculty their current scholarship and works in progress. Sponsored by the College of Law's Committee on Faculty Development, the lunchtime series featured scholars from Vanderbilt University Law School, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, University of Miami School of Law, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, University of Mississippi School of Law, University of Florida Levin College of Law, and Mercer University Law School.

Development and Alumni Cultivation

Taking an active role in the College of Law's development efforts, Dean Kaminshine and the Development Office led the way in setting new fundraising records for the college. Overall giving to the college, alumni participation rates, and individual class gifts all outstripped previous years. New gifts and pledges of $1.24 million surpassed last year's total of $887,000, and achieved a first-ever million dollar campaign. Alumni giving rose substantially from last year's $236,400 to $597,774, a 40% increase. In addition, alumni participation reached an impressive of 22%, capping three successful programs – an email outreach, a class gift effort, and a law firm campaign. A spirited contest among Atlanta law firms resulted in eleven firms reaching their goal of 100% giving from fellow law alumni; this law firm campaign raised $47,000 up from $38,000 the prior year. This represented a giving rate of 79%, up from 58% last year! In an unexpected record, the GSU Foundation tracked the highest number of online gifts ever made to the university as an influx of several hundred electronic gifts for the College of Law marked the final days of the 2007 fiscal year!

Aiding in this effort were a Development staff of three, including a new Director of Alumni Giving, and an impressive volunteer group. Many of the college's fundraising volunteers belong to the 46-member Graduate Leadership Council who are charged with conducting the peer-to-peer campaign in law firms and other organizations for the college, as well as serving as class agents. Ninety-three percent of the Graduate Leadership Council made individual contributions as well.

In 2006 faculty, staff, alumni, students, and friends strongly supported the *Patricia T. Morgan Scholarship* as the college continued to build endowment for this fund in memory of a beloved professor who taught at the college from 1998 to 2002. The endowment was completed for a new scholarship, the *F.A. O'Daniel Scholarship*, thanks to the generosity of alumnus Keith O'Daniel, Class of 1991, and the F.A. O'Daniel

Foundation. This scholarship supports the education of a law student who has been a recognized student athlete and leader in his undergraduate years and will be awarded in the fall of 2006. The College of Law now awards a total of 12 named scholarships annually; the largest is the Atlanta Law School Foundation which in 2006 provided 22 full tuition and fee scholarships to law students.

Two new professorships were also announced in 2006. The *Bobby Lee Cook Professorship in Law* was established by renowned attorney Bobby Lee Cook with a gift of $250,000 and plans to generate further support for a fully endowed chair. This professorship will help the law school to attract top faculty in the future and maintain the school's reputation for outstanding teaching. In recognition of the important work of the Tax Clinic in serving low-income citizens, the *Mark and Evelyn Trammell Chaired Professorship in Tax Law* was created through the generosity of the Mark and Evelyn Trammell Foundation and alumnus Tim Trankina, Class of 1989.

The Center for Law, Health, & Society continued to attract dollars, most notably a $750,000 grant from the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, an affiliate of the Woodruff Foundation, in support of its community service partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. A portion of the grant will be used to open a civil legal services clinic, HeLP, at the college in January of 2007. College of Law students will work on cases related to children's health and welfare.

The Intellectual Property Initiative is experiencing tremendous programmatic growth and serving Atlanta businesses and law firms as a resource for the exchange of ideas, information, best practices and networking. Raising over $91,000 in 2006 and over $220,000 since its inception in 2004, the group hosted the second *Intellectual Property Celebration*, the first *Hot Topics Panel*, and a successful second *Southeastern Intellectual Property Job Fair* last year. An important new initiative, the *Corporate Intellectual Property Roundtable*, brought over 50 businesses to GSU's Student Center in April and signified the first collaborative effort of the university's College of Law and Robinson College of Business. The IP Founders group now numbers nearly 122 supporters whose gifts range from $25 to $10,000 plus.

Students and alumni alike are attending annual events in increasing numbers. Among the most successful are the spring and fall *Henry J. Miller Distinguished Lecture Series*, a popular lunchtime format supported by the Loridans Foundation, and the *Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award Celebration*, named for our founder and first dean. A new event for 2005, but one that has all the marks of a great College of Law tradition, is the *Newly Minted Lawyers Reception*, a swearing-in ceremony for the college's newest attorneys upon successful completion of their bar exam.

With a strong alumni base of support, now numbering 3,500 graduates, the goal of the college, its dean and development staff, is to stay connected with its alumni and to continue to build support for a college that has in the dean's words *"sprinted into its second generation."*

New Faculty & Staff Recruited

During the 2006-07, the College of Law successfully recruited three outstanding young faculty members. Russell Covey is an Associate Professor of Law. His research focuses on criminal law and procedure, and he is the author of numerous articles on topics including the death penalty, police interrogation, crime and popular culture, jury selection, and plea bargaining. As a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Professor Covey has filed amicus briefs and represented pro bono clients in criminal appeals in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. Prior to joining the College of Law, he taught at Whittier Law School in Southern California and practiced criminal and civil litigation at Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C.

Jonathan Todres is an Associate Professor of Law. He has published numerous articles on a range of children's rights issues and health law issues. Professor Todres is a Vice-Chair of the International Human Rights Committee of the ABA Section of International Law and the Immediate Past Chair of the Section's International Health Law Committee. His research focuses on children's rights issues, particularly those related to trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children, and health law issues. Professor Todres previously taught at New York University School of Law and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University and, prior to his legal career, worked for a number of years in international health.

Leslie E. Wolf is an Associate Professor of Law. She conducts research in a variety of areas in health and public health law and ethics, with a particular focus on research ethics. She has conducted empirical research on conflicts of interest, research with stored biological materials, Certificates of Confidentiality, IRB web guidance, and HIV-related laws and policies. Prior to joining the law school, Professor Wolf taught medical ethics and research ethics at the University of California, San Francisco, where she also served on the UCSF institutional review board and advisory committee regarding stem cell research. She also previously was selected as a Greenwall Fellow in Bioethics and Public Policy and as a Greenwall Faculty Scholar.

The College of Law's Law Library also had a successful recruitment campaign. Pam Brannon joined the College of Law as a Reference/Electronic Services Librarian. Pam received her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law in 2007. She holds an M.S. in Library and Information Science from the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y. She has worked at Georgia's Law Library as a Research Assistant and also at the New York Public Library and the University of Georgia Science Library.

Michael T. Davis joined the College of Law as a Reference Librarian. Michael was employed as a librarian at Wayne State University Law School Library. Prior to Wayne State, Michael was a librarian at the New York City Department of Corrections - Rikers Island. He holds a B.A. from University of Michigan, J.D. from New York School of Law and a M.S. from Wayne State. Michael will be working with the law students at the reference desk and with faculty research projects.

Ely Abbott joined the College of Law as Associate Director of Development with a working title of Director, Alumni Giving. Ely came to us from Georgetown Law School, where he coordinated the school's Law Firm Challenge as Associate Director of Georgetown Law's Annual Fund. Ely is a native of Montana and a graduate of the University of Montana. He began his career as a political fundraiser in Washington, DC.

Bill Timm joined the College of Law as its Supervising Attorney in the Tax Clinic. Mr. Timm was employed for over 35 years by the IRS's Office of Chief Counsel. He has tried cases in both the United States Bankruptcy Court as a Special Assistant United States Attorney and in the United States Tax Court. Mr. Timm also served as a Colonel in the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's Corp where he commanded the 213th Legal Support Organization.

Faculty Scholarship

The impressive record of scholarly research and publications by the faculty of the College of Law continues, building ever greater professional reputations and contributing to an ever increasing scholarly reputation for the college and university. Legal scholarship constitutes an important part of the college's mission to provide new insights on molding the law to better serve our society. Appendix 6 indicates the productivity of the faculty in their scholarly endeavors and reflects an increase in scholarship in tune with the college's articulated goals and promotion and tenure policy.

Student Accomplishments

The College's student organizations continue to do great things. The Public Interest Law Association had another very successful Public Interest Law Auction, raising nearly $18,000. As a result, several students were given fellowships, allowing them each to work at non-paying public interest jobs over the summer months.

As is always the case at the College of Law, our Student Trial Lawyers Association fielded several highly competitive teams in trial competitions nationwide. Our STLA teams won the 10th Annual William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition. In addition, GSU became the first law school in the South to win both the American Bar Association National Trial Competition Regional and the American Association for Justice Regional mock trial competitions in the same year

The College's BLSA Trial Team won the 36th Annual National Black Law Students Association Southern Regional Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition and was first runner up at the national level. The College also won the 1st Annual NCCU Bioethics Mock Trial Competition.

Community Outreach and Service

The Georgia State University Tax Clinic continues to serve low-income individuals who are involved with disputes with the Internal Revenue Service. In addition to providing this public service, it serves as an important laboratory for the training of law students and graduate tax students from the College of Business Administration. The Tax Clinic continues to receive support from the Internal Revenue Service to fund the clinic's activities, and this past year received $86,000. In the past year, the clinic dealt with over 250 taxpayers. Despite the adversarial role of the Georgia State Tax Clinic, the Internal Revenue Service respects the clinic for its success in providing equitable solutions for troubled taxpayers. In addition to the Tax Clinic, the College opened its second live client clinic this past year. The HeLP Legal Services Clinic provides services for low income children and families.

The College of Law offers Health Legislation and Advocacy, a two semester experience that introduces second and third year law students to the process by which health-related legislation is developed, introduced, and enacted into law. During the fall, students work with a community partner, such as a non-profit health advocacy group, a non-profit health enterprise, or a health-related government agency to research a legislative issue of interest to the partner and to develop potential legislation for introduction during the legislative session. During the spring semester, while the Georgia General Assembly is in session, students are at the Capitol. They observe the legislative process, attend committee meetings, track and report on health-related legislation, track the health-related budget, and support the work of the community partner on the legislative issue developed during the fall by performing legal research, preparing testimony, and developing educational materials.

Faculty Community Service

As part of the college's efforts in strengthening and increasing community outreach and public service, law faculty serve in leadership positions and on numerous committees for the Association of American Law Schools, the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Georgia, and for other local and regional organizations where their legal training is of value. A complete listing of this service by faculty is shown in Appendix 6.

Law Library Accomplishments

The Law Library continued its fine efforts in support of the College and the overall Atlanta legal community as highlighted in the *ABA Report on Georgia State University College of Law* (Appendix 7, p. 37). Further details about the Law Library's accomplishments can be found in Appendix 8.

Appendices:

1. 2007 Self Study of Georgia State University College of Law
2. Georgia State University College of Law Information Technology Action Plan, dated July 30, 2007
3. ABA Decision of the Accreditation Committee, dated June 26, 2007
4. Health Law Center annual report
5. Metro Growth Center annual report
6. Summary of Faculty Accomplishments
7. ABA Report on Georgia State University College of Law, dated May 14, 2007
8. Law Library annual report