

FEBRUARY 2010 Faculty Highlights

Full-Time Faculty

❖ **Professor Cleveland Ferguson**

On February 15, 2010, Professor Cleveland Ferguson III was selected to present *Reimagining the Common Law System as a Form of Custom: a Comparative Approach*, at the *La Coutume Dans Tous Ses États*, an international celebration of 500 years of custom law in France (Auvergne). He will deliver a comparative perspective on the veracity of custom as a form of law using the development of the UCC as his lens for comparison of oral custom used in the south of France versus written custom used in the north. This conference is sponsored by the University of Paris X and the University of Auvergne and features scholars from around the world.

Professor Ferguson served as committee editor for *The International Lawyer-Year in Review* issue. *The International Lawyer* has grown to become the most widely distributed U.S. international law review in the world. As chair of the Publications Committee for the ABA International Human Rights Committee, he edited the articles submitted by committee members. Omar John, a past research assistant for Prof. Ferguson and a 3L at Florida Coastal School of Law, wrote "Apartheid Claims Under the ATCA," which was accepted for publication in *The International Lawyer*. Professor Ferguson was assisted by Associate Editors, Adrienne Kepner, of Ward Norris Heller & Reidy, LLP, Rochester, New York; and Thelma Young, of Florida Coastal School of Law. He also wrote the Foreword for the Section. The committee concluded its work on February 27, 2010.

On February 28, 2010, Professor Ferguson delivered the closing ceremony speech for the FCSL BLSA entitled: *The Shoulders on Which We Stand, Their Dreams Propel Us*.

❖ **Professors Mary Margaret Giannini**

The Institute for Law Teaching and Learning has invited Professor Mary Margaret Giannini and Professor Jana McCreary to present at the Institute's June conference at Washburn University School of Law. In their session, "Beyond the Black Letter: Promoting the Learning Process Through Continual Assessment in the First-Year Curriculum," Professors Giannini and McCreary will present ways instructors can efficiently integrate continual assessment learning tools into first-year courses which help students master the law as well as enhance the students' individual learning styles.

❖ **Professor Carolyn Herman**

On February 27th, Professor Carolyn Herman spoke as a panelist at the University of Florida Levin College of Law's 8th Annual Music Law Conference. The panel's topic was "The Upload and Downloads of Music Piracy."

❖ **Professor Robert Hornstein**

Rob Hornstein's article, "*After Reason and Reflection: The Case for Reversing Lassiter v. Dept. of Soc. Servs. and Finding a Civil Right to Counsel in the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment,*" will be published in Volume 59, Issue 4 of the *Catholic University Law Review*.

❖ **Professor Andrew Long**

Professor Long presented his research at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in connection with the Annual Conference of the International Society of Tropical Foresters, Yale Student Chapter. The 2010 conference addressed the theme "*Tropical Forests under a Changing Climate: Linking Impacts, Mitigation, and Adaptation*" and featured speakers drawn from national governments, the World Bank, non-governmental organizations and academia. Professor Long discussed legal design options for increasing the realization of "co-benefits" in conjunction with tropical forest projects designed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from deforestation and forest degradation. FCSL's A/V team deserves recognition for critical help with the presentation on short notice – thanks!!

Professor Long also co-coached Coastal Law's moot court team for the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition at Pace University School of Law, which is the nation's largest and most widely-recognized environmental law moot court competition. Coastal Law's team defeated over fifty-five teams to advance to the quarterfinals. Professor Long received invaluable coaching assistance from Adjunct Professor Nick Martino, and was deeply impressed by the level of dedication and talent displayed by students Lauren Shaffar, Michael Williams, and Liberty Haray.

Finally, earlier this month Professor Long co-hosted a "Land Use Workshop" at Coastal Law in conjunction with the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Florida Bar. The event was made possible in part by Renee Reed, Vice Chair of the Public Interest Committee of ELULS, and the following presenters: Deborah Andrews, Law Office of Deborah J. Andrews; Isabelle Lopez, Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.; and Dylan Reingold, Office of General Council, City of Jacksonville.

❖ **Professor Jana McCreary**

Professor Jana R. McCreary's article, *Not Guilty . . . Until Recommitment: The Misuse of Evidence of the Underlying Crime in NGRI Recommitment Hearings* has been published and appears in the current issue of the Utah Law Review at 2009 UTAH L. REV. 1253.

Additionally, the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning has invited Professor Jana R. McCreary and Professor Mary Margaret Giannini to present at the Institute's June conference at Washburn University School of Law. In their session, *Beyond the Black Letter: Promoting the Learning Process Through Continual Assessment in the First-Year Curriculum*, they will discuss ways professors can efficiently integrate continual assessment learning tools into first-year courses to help students not only master the law but also to help them evaluate and enhance their learning efficiency.

❖ **Professor Karen Millard**

Professor Karen Millard has been asked to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership Operations Team. The team is comprised of members of the legal and medical community in the Jacksonville area. The purpose of the team is to ally health care providers with lawyers to improve the health and well-being of the vulnerable population in Northeast Florida.

❖ **Professor David Pimentel**

Professor David Pimentel has been selected for a Fulbright Award for the 2010-11 academic year, at the University of Sarajevo. He will lecture at the university and conduct research on the impact of post-conflict judicial reform throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Professor David Pimentel has been accepted to participate in the Law and Society Association's "Early Career Workshop" in Chicago this year, a two-day workshop that immediately precedes the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association. He will be work shopping his new work-in-progress on *The Dynamics of Legal Pluralism in Mozambique*.

Professor has also been invited to the University of Washington (Seattle) to participate in a two-day discussion on traditional law, bringing his expertise in post-conflict transitional justice. UW's "Afghan Legal Educators' Project" has been exploring linkages between Afghan traditional law and Native American traditional law, working closely with UW's Native American Law Center (NALC) to introduce justice models from Native

American tribes to the Afghan legal professionals in residence. The discussion will bring together faculty and clinical professionals from the Asian Law Center, NALC, UW's Tribal Defense Clinic, outside experts, and current participants in the Afghan Legal Educators' project.

❖ **Professors Lucille M. Ponte**

Prof. Lucille Ponte was invited to make a pedagogical presentation entitled, *Teaching Techniques beyond the Classroom: Introducing Distance Learning into Your Law Courses*, at the 2010 Spring Contracts Conference on February 26-27, 2010 at the Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She reviewed a variety of distance learning methods one can incorporate into traditional face-to-face courses, including *Contracts*, to help deliver course content to students in a more customized and interactive manner.

❖ **Professors Rod Sullivan**

Professor Sullivan spoke to the Chester Bedell Inns of Court in Jacksonville (2/11/10) as part of a panel of four lawyers, all of whom had argued before the United States Supreme Court. The topic of the presentation was "Preparing for and Arguing before the Supreme Court." The Chester Bedell Inns of Court is a professional organization of judges and lawyers.

Professor Sullivan has been invited to address the Maritime Law Association of the United States on the subject of punitive damages at its annual meeting in New York this coming May.

❖ **Professors Alan G. Williams**

"Professor Alan G. Williams was interviewed live on WJXT-TV Channel 4 on February 27, providing expert legal analysis of the Health Care Summit convened by President Obama on February 25."



Adjunct Faculty

❖ Professor Robert Morgan

I am speaking at the Elder Law Section Annual Public Benefits Seminar in Tampa on Friday, March 12, 2010, on proposed revisions to power of attorney law. Also, I just made board member of the Academy of Florida Elder Law Attorneys. Lastly, I just received accreditation by the Veteran's Administration to serve the legal needs of veterans.

❖ Professor John Schickel

I was recently named Chair of Education and Workforce Development for the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce



Board of Directors

❖ Robert M. Rhodes

Presented a lecture last month sponsored by the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida and the University of Florida College of Law entitled "Florida Growth Management and Land Use Policy: The State, The People and The Future." It was part of the 2010 Samuel Proctor Florida History series.