Alumni Participation Rate Goal Set at 20% for FY ’11-’12

Our 2011-2012 Alumni Fundraising Campaign is in progress. Join me and help us reach our goal of 20% for alumni giving. Recently you may have received a letter from Dean Pierce informing you that the NCCU School of Law’s state budget was cut by 14%, a total of about $1.7 million dollars.

I am asking you today to make a contribution of $1,000, $250, $100, or $50 right now and help us reach our goal for the Evening Program Annual Fund of $100,000 by December 31, 2011. This will help provide funding for critical areas that have been deeply affected by the 14% budget cut.

Please go to law.nccu.edu/ to contribute online right now, call Carissa Burroughs at 919-530-6427, or mail your contribution to NCCU School of Law, Development Office, 640 Nelson St., Durham, NC 27707. Make your check payable to NCCU Foundation/School of Law Annual Fund.

Larry D. Brown, Jr. ’08
Alumni Association Board President

NCCU Law Ranks in Top Four Law Schools for Clinical Opportunities

NCCU School of Law has been named one of the nation’s top law schools for clinical opportunities by The National Jurist.

On an annual basis, the magazine ranks law schools by dividing the total number of full-time clinical course positions by the total number of full-time students. In the rankings compiled for 2011, NCCU School of Law placed fourth with a ratio of 62.7 percent (308 clinical positions divided by 491 students). Yale Law School placed first with a ratio of 100.2 percent, followed by the law schools at the University of Georgia (68.7 percent) and the University of the District of Columbia (66 percent).

In the September 2011 issue of The National Jurist, Pamela S. Glean, Assistant Dean for Clinical and Professional Skills at NCCU School of Law, noted, “In 2010-2011, NCCU law students provided a little over $2 million in free legal services” through clinical programs. “It truly is service learning,” [Glean] said. “It’s a very good value to everyone that is involved.”

The NCCU School of Law community is quite pleased with the ranking, which is well-deserved considering the school’s jump from a 49 percent clinical opportunities ratio in 2010. “This ranking is further testimony to the strength of our clinical education program, which supports practical skills training,” said Raymond C. Pierce, Dean of NCCU School of Law. “It is further recognition of our strong connection to practical applications of the law.”
NCCU Law Helps Those with IRS Woes

NCCU School of Law has a new addition to its nationally ranked clinical programs, this one aimed at helping low-income residents with their tax troubles. The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC), which began in August, provides assistance for individuals and families experiencing problems with the Internal Revenue Service. The clinic does not provide tax preparation, but offers help in resolving a myriad of tax-related legal issues. The clinic is staffed by students and faculty who have an interest in tax law and practicing attorneys who offer their services pro bono to the community. The students and practitioners represent low-income taxpayers and negotiate terms with the IRS at little or no cost to the client.

“We typically pick up the problems that happen after people have filed, or not filed, their taxes,” Clinic Director Tamora Lester said. “This clinic is an opportunity to help some really good people out there who have gotten into bad situations. It’s an opportunity to serve the public.”

Lester holds a bachelor’s degree in integrated marketing communications from Winthrop University, a master’s in business administration from the University of Phoenix, and is a 2011 graduate of NCCU School of Law. She is a member of the North Carolina State Bar.

Lester was hired in August to lead the LITC, which is partially funded through a three-year grant from the IRS. The law school received $70,000 for the first year. The clinic helps those who earn less than 250 percent of federal poverty level, which translates to an annual income of no more than $27,225 for a single person.

With the addition of the LITC, NCCU’s law school now offers 14 clinical programs, which pair law students with low-income residents who need free help with everything from paperwork to representation in court. The students are supervised by practicing attorneys.

Under the leadership of Assistant Dean Pamela Stanback Gleen, the Clinical Legal Education Program is expanding efforts to serve residents in other areas of the state through the use of videoconferencing technology.

“It is easy for the general public to assume that low-income individuals have very few issues with the IRS,” Gleen said. “The response we have had to this new program clearly indicates otherwise. I am proud that NCCU has been given the opportunity to join in the effort to provide this service to those who need it the most.”

For more information or to make an appointment with the clinic, call 919-330-7166 or go to http://law.nccu.edu/clinics. The clinic also accepts walk-ins from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Conference to be Held at NCCU Law

On March 3, 2012, the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning (ILTL) will hold a one-day conference at NCCU School of Law. The conference entitled “Technology In and Beyond the Classroom: How to Use Technology to Leverage Learning” will focus on using technology to enhance teaching and learning in and out of the classroom.

According to ILTL’s website, “conference presenters and participants will explore how advanced use of technology can enhance student learning in the traditional law school classroom, maximize distance learning opportunities consistent with American Bar Association (ABA) rules, and expand the ability of clinical and pro bono programs to deliver legal services.”
Professor Kevin Foy Receives Cornerstone Award

Kevin C. Foy ’94 was recently honored by the Community Home Trust and the Fenwick Foundation for his dedication to affordable housing. Foy, an Assistant Professor at NCCU School of Law and former Mayor of Chapel Hill, was presented with the Cornerstone Award at the “Opening Doors” Fundraiser on September 9, 2011.

The fundraiser was held at Greenbridge Condominiums, a Chapel Hill community where there are 15 permanently affordable condos in the Home Trust owned by individuals who typically could not afford them. Over 150 people attended the event, including current Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt and Roger Perry, President of East West Partners.

Oct 28: Attorney Fees CLE

Victor Boone ’75 will give a CLE on Rule 1.5 (Attorney Fees) of the N.C. Rules of Professional Conduct at the law school on October 28, 2011 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Atty. Boone is the Senior Managing Attorney for Legal Aid of North Carolina in Raleigh, NC. To register for the CLE, contact Staris Best at (919) 530-7163 or sbest@nccu.edu.

Oct 28: Alumni Assoc. Board Meeting and Homecoming BBQ Dinner

The Alumni Association Board will be holding its October meeting, in conjunction with a Homecoming BBQ Dinner on Friday, October 28, 2011 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the law school in the Great Hall. All alumni are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Carissa Burroughs at (919) 530-6427 or carissa.burroughs@nccu.edu or to Sharon D. Alston at (919) 540-5386 or sdalston@nccu.edu by October 25, 2011.

Save the Date: 2012 Alumni Reunion/Law Week

The School of Law’s Alumni Reunion will coincide with Law Week, which is March 25 – 31, 2012. The Alumni Reunion will be held Friday, March 30th, and Saturday, March 31st. Be sure to save the date! More information on events and registration will be coming your way.

Evening Program 30th Anniversary Celebration

NCCU School of Law will be hosting a celebration to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Evening Program on Friday, November 4, and Saturday, November 5, 2011. Festivities include:

Friday, Nov. 4
- Welcome Reception
  - 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
  - NCCU School of Law, Great Hall
  - $15/person

Saturday, Nov. 5
- Tour of Law School & Telepresence
  - Room Demonstration
  - 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
  - NCCU School of Law
  - No Charge
- Evening Program 30th Anniversary Buffet Dinner (to benefit the Evening Program Fund)
  - 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
  - Durham Hilton
  - 3800 Hillsborough Rd., Durham, NC
  - $75/person

To register via phone, contact Carissa Burroughs (919) 530-6427. To register online, go to law.nccu.edu and click the “Give Now” tab. You must select the gift designation “Evening Program Fund” and denote in the comments the events you will be attending. All registrations must be received by October 28, 2011.

Alumni Receptions

Please contact Delores James, Director of Development, at (919) 530-7450 or dajames@nccu.edu if you are interested in hosting an Alumni Reception in your area.
ALUMNI EVENTS

Nov 16: Alumni/Student Internship Day

The Alumni Internship Fair, co-hosted by the Alumni Board Association, Career Services, and Development Department will be held November 16th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. We are asking our local alumni to help fellow NCCU law students gain invaluable practical legal experience by providing students with internships this spring and summer. This will also be a great opportunity to see the innovative changes that have occurred at the law school. Alumni may interview students on the spot, or request resumes and schedule interview times on that date, or any combination of the two. Dinner will be served buffet style in the Great Hall. Interested alumni should contact Emma Kinyanjui at (919) 530-6002 or ekinyanjui@nccu.edu by October 21st.

NCCU Law Annual NC Bar Reception

The Annual NC Bar Reception was held Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at the NC Bar headquarters in Cary, NC to welcome our most recent graduates to the profession.

2011 Clifton E. Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament

NCCU Law alumni gathered August 13, 2011 for a day of golf and giving at Birkdale Golf Club near Charlotte, NC. To view the photo album, click here.

ALUMNI NEWS

Alex Gomes ‘06, has been appointed to the North Carolina Council for Women, which works closely with the state government’s monitoring and funding of domestic violence and rape crisis centers. Gomes is an attorney with Pisgah Legal Services in Asheville, specializing in the representation of domestic violence victims, and was one of the first law students to enroll in NCCU’s Domestic Violence Clinic when it was first developed.

DeWarren K. Langley ’11, was elected Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for the City of Durham during its regular meeting held in the conference room of the Department of Community Development for the City of Durham on August 29, 2011.

The CAC works to enhance housing quality and affordability for the citizens of Durham by advising the Durham City Council and the Board of County Commissioners on housing and community development needs.

Langley was first appointed to the CAC on September 4, 2007 and reappointed on June 16, 2008 and August 1, 2011. His current term expires June 30, 2014.

Made a change, made partner, or just made good? Contact the Development Department to share the good news with your fellow NCCU School of Law alumni. For news submissions or address changes, email sdalston@nccu.edu or call (919) 530-5386. To reconnect online, click here. Please feel free to send a digital photo of yourself with your news stories. Low-resolution photos are acceptable for electronic publications and webpage postings; however, for images to be included in the School of Law print publications, high-resolution images are required (e.g. 800kb, 300 dpi).
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