



LEGAL EAGLE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Contacts

Alumni Relations:
Delores James
(919) 530-7450

Publications:
Marcia Thomas
(919) 530-7723

Donor Relations:
Iris Gilchrist
(919) 530-6427

Alumni Events:
Sharon Alston
(919) 530-5386

Greetings NCCU Legal Eagle Alumni!

I am happy to report that, thanks to the support of more than 400 Alumni, the NCCU School of Law met its alumni giving participation goal of 14 % for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

This outstanding achievement marked a record setting year for alumni participation with a 99% increase over fiscal year 2006-2007. The goal was achieved through active participation by many of you who hosted fundraising receptions, authored and sent direct mail solicitations, and made phone calls to encourage alumni giving. Thank you very much from the entire faculty staff and students of the Law School.

Now its time to begin work on our fiscal year 2008-2009 alumni participation goal of 20%. This fiscal year we will celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the NCCU School of Law. We are planning a reunion celebration in October of 2009, that will include a celebration of reaching this fiscal year's goal of 20%. So let's get started now on making the goal.

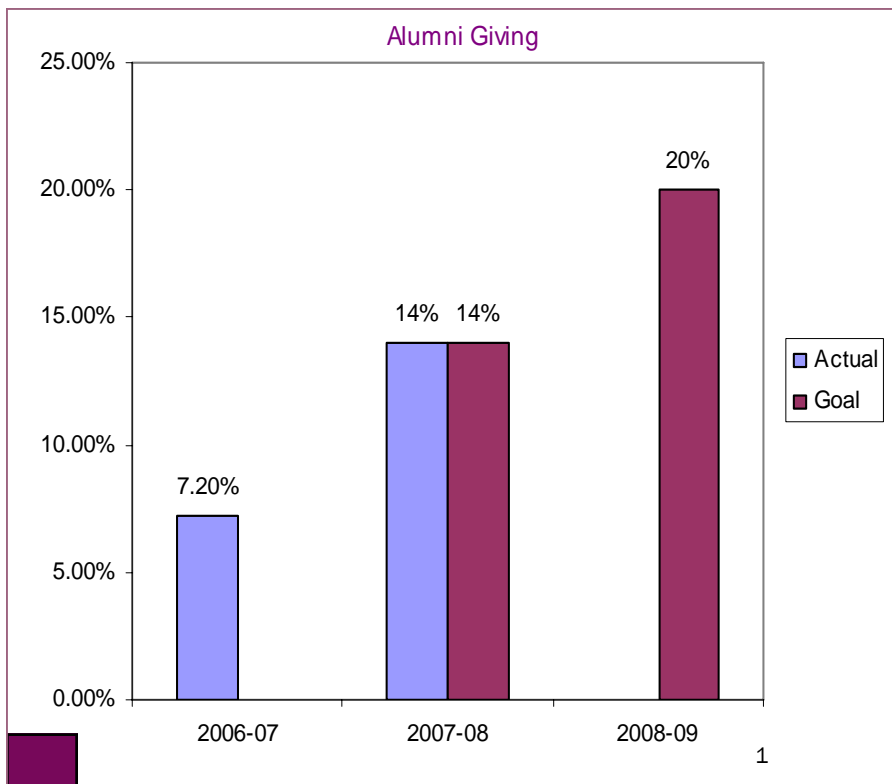
Alumni financial support helps with scholarships, student events and competitions, library and technology needs, and many projects that state and federal funds are not allowed to cover.

I encourage you to go online now and make a contribution to your NCCU School of Law at <https://webapps.nccu.edu/departments/donations/law.cfm>

Thank You,

Delores James, Director of Development

ALUMNI GIVING REACHES 14% GOAL! YEAH!!!!



COMING SOON! THE 2008 LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The 2008 Law School Alumni Directory is finally completed. University Publishing Company will be distributing copies to the 221 alumni who placed orders.



2008 General Counsel Speakers Series



Topic: *“Making Diversity Sustainable in the Legal Profession”*

Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Moot Court Room

Susan Klooz is Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Wal-Mart Stores Incorporated. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. generated more than \$374 billion dollars in sales in 2007, making it the largest retailer in the United States. With over 7,000 stores worldwide and with more than 2 million associates worldwide, Wal-Mart employs the services of hundreds of attorneys and law firms globally.

**Alumni are cordially invited to attend the
NCCU School of Law General Counsel Speakers Series Reception for
Susan Klooz**

Date: Monday, September 15, 2008

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Menu: Heavy hors d'oeuvres

At the home of Alum, Jennifer Sullivan Munford '00

Location: 3312 Landor Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Phone: 919-272-8001

Rsvp: September 8, 2008

Sharon Alston 919-530-5386 email sdalston@ncu.edu



Topic: *“Making Diversity Sustainable in the Legal Profession”*

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Moot Court Room

E. Christopher Johnson is GM North America Vice President and General Counsel. General Motors Corp. (NYSE: GM), the world's largest automaker, has been the annual global industry sales leader for 77 years. Founded in 1908, GM today employs about 266,000 people around the world. With global headquarters in Detroit, GM manufactures its cars and trucks in 35 countries. GM has an in-house legal staff of over 230 attorneys in 31 countries and it retains the services of over 400 outside law firms.



Discourse on Contemporary Legal Issues
Speakers Series

Guest Lecturer: Dean Kenneth Starr Wednesday, October 22, 2008



**Kenneth W. Starr
Dean of Pepperdine
University School of
Law and former
Federal Judge on the
D.C. Circuit Court of
Appeals**

Kenneth W. Starr is the Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, California. He is also Of Counsel to the law firm of Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, where he was a partner from 1993 to 2004, specializing in appellate work, antitrust, federal courts, federal jurisdiction and constitutional law. He was formerly a partner with the law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP.

As Solicitor General of the United States from 1989 to January 1993, Judge Starr argued twenty-five cases before the Supreme Court. He also served as United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit from 1983 to 1989, as counselor to U.S. Attorney General William French Smith from 1981 to 1983 and as law clerk to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger from 1975 to 1977 and 5th Circuit Judge David W. Dyer from 1973-1974. Judge

Starr was appointed to serve as Independent Counsel for five investigations, including Whitewater, from August 1994 to October 1999.

Dean Starr previously taught Constitutional Law as an adjunct professor at New York University School of Law. He was also a distinguished visiting professor at George Mason University School of Law in Fairfax, Virginia and Chapman Law School in Orange, California. He published First Among Equals: The Supreme Court in American Life, in 2002. The book, which was written to explain key decisions by the Justices of the Supreme Court to the American people, is now in paperback. It is described by United States Circuit Judge David B. Sentelle as "eminently readable and informative...not just the best treatment to date of the Court after Warren, it is likely to have that distinction for a long, long time."

Having received his B.A. from George Washington University in 1968 and his M.A. from Brown University in 1969, Judge Starr graduated from Duke Law School with a J.D. degree in 1973. He was Note and Comment Editor of the Duke Law Journal and graduated Order of the Coif. He is admitted to practice in California, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Judge Starr has numerous professional affiliations, including having served as president of the Institute of Judicial Administration in New York and the Council for Court Excellence in Washington, D.C. Other Boards on which he serves or has served include Advocates International, American Law Institute, American Association of Law Schools, American Judicature Society, Supreme Court Historical Society, American Inns of Court Foundation, Institute for United States Studies, American University, Shenandoah University, and the American Bar Association Journal Board of Editors.

He has received a multitude of honors and awards including the J.

Reuben Clark Law Society 2005 Distinguished Service Award, the 2004 Capital Book Award, the Jefferson Cup award from the FBI, the Edmund Randolph Award for Outstanding Service in the Department of Justice, and the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service.

Judge Starr was born on July 21, 1946, in Vernon, Texas, and raised in San Antonio. He and his wife Alice have three children and two grandchildren. They lived in McLean, Virginia from 1978 to 2004, when they moved to Malibu, California. He has volunteered many hours teaching in the inner city and assisting disadvantaged students in Washington, D.C. with summer internships, after school programs, and financial help for attending college.

For more information please contact: Marcia Thomas

919-530-7723
mthomas@nccu.edu

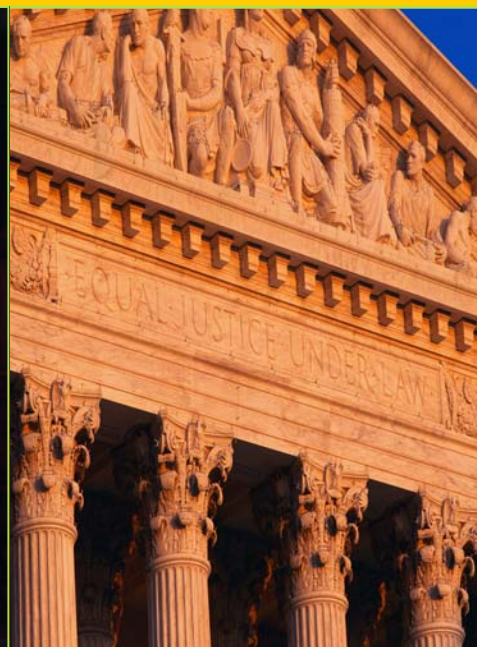
or

Sharon Alston 919-530-5386
sdalston@nccu.edu

Spring 2009 Discourse on Contemporary Legal Issues Speakers Series

Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. will conduct a moot court session in the Law school's Moot courtroom on Monday, April 13, 2009

- **Details for this event will be available in the February 2009 eNewsletter.**



John G. Roberts, Jr. Chief Justice of the United States, was born in Buffalo, New York, January 27, 1955. He married Jane Marie Sullivan in 1996 and they have two children - Josephine and John. He received an A.B. from Harvard College in 1976 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1979. He served as a law clerk for Judge Henry J. Friendly of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1979–1980 and as a law clerk for then-Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist of the Supreme Court of the United States during the 1980 Term. He was Special Assistant to the Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice from 1981–1982, Associate Counsel to President Ronald Reagan, White House Counsel's Office from 1982–1986, and Principal Deputy Solicitor General, U.S. Department of Justice from 1989–1993. From 1986–1989 and 1993–2003, he practiced law in Washington, D.C. He was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in 2003. President George W. Bush nominated him as Chief Justice of the United States, and he took his seat on September 29, 2005.



**UPCOMING EVENTS
HAPPENING AT THE LAW SCHOOL
THIS FALL**

- **Thursday, September 11th, *North Carolina Industrial Commission Hearing***
- **Monday, September 15, *Alumni Reception for Susan Klooz at the home of Jennifer Munford***
- **Tuesday, September 16th, *General Counsel Speakers Series and Reception.*
*Guest Speaker: Susan Klooz***
- **Tuesday, September 16th, *Board of Visitors Meeting***
- **Tuesday, September 23rd, *General Counsel Speakers Series Lecture and Reception.*
*Guest Speaker: E. Christopher Johnson***
- **Saturday, October 11th, *Alumni Association Meeting***
- **Wednesday, October 22nd, *Discourse on Contemporary Legal Issues Speakers Series-Dean Kenneth Starr***
- **Tuesday, October 28th, *Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals***
- **Friday, October 31st, CLE, *“Back to School with Your Professors”***
- **Friday, October 31st, CLE, *Pre-Homecoming Reunion Party***

For more information please contact: Marcia Thomas @ 919-530-7723 email: mthomas@nccu.edu
or Sharon Alston @ 919-530-5386 email: sdalston@nccu.edu





Alumni News

29 Alums volunteered for the Law School's 7th annual Orientation Program on Professionalism

The Annual Orientation Program on Professionalism was held on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for the incoming North Carolina Central University School of Law class. This program was co-sponsored by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism and the NCCU Law Legal Professionalism & Ethics Series.

We would like to take this time to acknowledge and thank these volunteer group leaders for making this program a success. Each year, Mel Wright, the Director of the Commission, comments on the wonderful participation of our alumni. You are much appreciated!

Alumni who participated in the Professionalism Program:

Ashley Ascott '07

James Little '07

John Stokes '81

Fred Battaglia '86

Nancy Mayer '06

Matt Sullivan '06

Valderia Brunson '00

Nathan McKinney '05

Barbara Szombatfalvy '05

Henry Campen '86

Janet McLamb '96

Donna Taylor '00

Catherine Constantinou '92

Tom Neagle '02

Lisa Vira '00

Ronda Davis-Ward '89

Jeff Nieman '06

Larry Wittenberg '84

William Dudley, Sr. '76

Toni Pinkston '04

Arthur Yancey '91

Bobbie DuRant '00

Raushanah Rodgers '07

Stephen Gheen '84

Judy Schlegel '89

Eric James '06

Archie Smith '76

Angela Law '76

Jon Speight '01

Alumni News

Alumna Receives Stem Cell Treatments in China By Charles Harrison

**Saturday, August 09, 2008
Rocky Mount, N.C.** It was just over a month ago that attorney Teresa Walker Mason '93, receive stem cell treatments not available in the United States for a debilitating, and deadly hereditary condition in Qingdao, China. According to Ms. Mason, she has experienced immediate results from the treatments, however her doctors in China indicate that it will take 2-6 months for the stems cells to effectively synchronize with her existing cells. In the meantime, is that I watching her dietary intake, and doing some form of physical exercise on a daily basis. Teresa says that she is glad to be home, and that she is so grateful for all of the prayers and loving support. Teresa received the least amount of stem cells initially because of cost restraints, although she has the option to return to China for additional stem cell injection treatments.

A native of Rocky Mount, and now a director with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., Teresa was diagnosed a year ago at the age of 39 with Olivopontocerebellar atrophy (OPCA), a specific form of the neurological condition, Ataxia. There is no precise treatment for her condition; therefore Teresa sought treatment of OPCA at a hospital in Qingdao, China that uses stem cells obtained from umbilical cords from live births. That material has historically been discarded as medical waste. This kind of treatment is prohibited in the United States and has been at the center of debate politically in the United States. It has prompted many patients like Teresa to seek treatment

else where. While in the hospital in Qingdao, China, Teresa received four doses of 10 to 15 million umbilical cord stem cells injected into her cerebral spinal fluid via an epidural catheter and through IV. The thirty day (30) treatment also included rehabilitative sessions six days a week. Those rehabilitative sessions included; balance exercises; practice walking in a straight line; running, jogging and going up and down steps without holding on.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Walker's family is elated to see immediate improvements, although he says, "We are prayerful and cautiously hopeful." He says, "The family is still concerned, considering Teresa's condition appears to be more aggressive than that of her mother, whose same condition began more than fifteen years ago, and has progressed intermittently." The disease also has previously affected many generations of her family including her grandfather who died at age 55, an uncle at 32 and several cousins. Now, Teresa's three children, her brother and his children are at risk of contracting the disease. Prior to Teresa's mother contracting the disease, they thought that it was just relegated to men in their family because it had only affected the men, and the fact that OPCA is more prevalent in men than women.

In addition to Teresa's quest for a stem cell treatment resolution, her condition is part of a larger national urgent surge by the National Foundation for Ataxia, and other neurological associations, to harness results for

conditions similar to OPCA that presently affect millions of people. Rev. Dr. Thomas Walker has been a tireless advocate in search for a cure while raising awareness for OPCA, especially understanding the family's history of the disease and being a caregiver for his wife, Joyce.

Additionally, Rev. Walker is hopeful for his daughter's outcome so that his wife may have an opportunity to participate in appropriate treatment to help improve her condition. Teresa also says, "I want to be transparent while seeking a resolution for myself, my mother, my family and future generations to come."

Dr. Allen Mask, medical reporter for WRAL TV, Raleigh, NC, reported on Teresa's journey, and has committed to following her medical quest. According to Dr. Mask, he received tremendous feedback with inquires about the disease. Dr. Mask says, "I was really moved by Teresa's courage, inspiration and her willingness to publicly and transparently expose her condition." Adding that, "She comes from a beautiful family whose philosophy is, *Never Giving Up*." Dr. Mask is scheduled to produce a follow-up feature detailing her travel and treatments in China. That feature will air later this month, or early September, on WRAL TV's evening news.

Charles Harrison graduated with an MA in Ed. Media Technology in 1986 from NCCU. His nephew, Kevin Hicks, graduated from the Law School this year.

[Click here to read more...](#)

LTC (Ret) Edward M. Anderson '76 has retired from the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps. He is an administrator with the Elbert County, Georgia Public School System.

Leslie O. Wickham '83 is the new Chair of the Workers Compensation Section of the NC Advocates for Justice.

Kevin Duckworth '85 is the Managing Partner of a St. Louis law firm, Greensfelder Hemker & Gale, Chicago Office. He has also been elected as an officer in the firm.

Robert C. Vowels, Jr. '88 is Vice President for Education Services of the (NCAA) National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Phyllis Gorham '90 is a Superior Court Judge in the 5th Judicial District for North Carolina.

Kimberly A. Moore '91, an Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) for the Eastern District of North Carolina has been selected to serve a one-year detail as the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT) Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) for Kosovo. OPDAT is in the Criminal Division of the US Department of Justice; its mission is to assist prosecutors and judicial personnel in other countries to develop and sustain an effective criminal justice institutions. As the RLA, Ms. Moore will provide assistance to the Government of Kosovo to support its efforts to address corruption and human trafficking and to enhance the rule of law. Ms. Moore will also help the Kosovo people implement their own legal reforms designed to promote governmental integrity and accountability and to bring Kosovo's criminal justice system into compliance with accepted international standards. Ms. Moore has been an AUSA since 1999 and has specialized in narcotics trafficking cases. She was assigned to the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force where she prosecuted and investigated all phases of violations of federal narcotics and firearms laws. Prior to becoming an AUSA, Ms. Moore served as Assistant District Attorney for Pitt, Martin, Beaufort, Hyde, Washington, and Tyrell Counties of North Carolina.

William M. Hennis, III '94 is the Litigation Director in the Law Office of the Capital Collateral Regional Counsel-South, State of Florida.

Brian Beverly '95 has been named President-Elect of the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys. Beverly is a partner with Young Moore & Henderson in Raleigh.

Brian C. Wilks '96 was sworn in as a District Court Judge in Durham, NC on July 31, 2008. Wilks was appointed by North Carolina Governor Michael Easley to replace Judge Craig Brown who retired on May 31, 2008.



Alumni News

Jay J. Chaudhuri '99 was selected as one of 11 outstanding citizen lawyers for recognition at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Atlantic Beach on June 21, 2008. Jay, who serves as Special Counsel to Attorney General Roy Cooper, is President of the Indian-American Leadership Initiative which seeks to connect, support and invest in Indian-American progressives. "I view my identity as a lawyer as one and the same as a citizen," Chaudhuri said. "Both call upon us to assume a public role and advance the welfare of our community. My work for the Attorney General and community service sustain my personal purpose of giving back. I wake up every day knowing that I'm serving the greater good. There are few experiences more rewarding than that." He was instrumental in the development of a school safety response kit in the aftermath of the Columbine massacre, and managed the Campus Safety Task Force created in response to the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Brenda Branch '01 has been appointed Chief District Court Judge for Judicial District 6A Halifax County, effective August 1, 2008 by Chief Justice Sarah Parker.

Thomas E. Snell '03 recently joined Benefit Edge of the Carolinas, Inc. as a partner. Benefit Edge of the Carolinas, Inc. is a health insurance and consulting firm located in Sanford, NC and doing business in NC, SC and VA.

John M. Sperati '03 has joined the firm of Smith Debnam Narron Drake Saintsing & Myers, L.L.P. Mr. Sperati is a member of the firm's Construction and Equipment Leasing & Finance practice group. He concentrates his practice in the areas of construction litigation, commercial litigation and creditor's rights. He brings a wealth of experience and strong practical knowledge of the construction industry to Smith Debnam.

Robert L. "Robby" Brown '04 and Michelle Mark (Congleton) '04 have recently formed the Brown & Mark Law Group in Raleigh, NC.

Joshua Malcolm '04 is the new Assistant University Counsel at UNC Pembroke. Malcolm is not new to higher education law. He held a similar position at Fayetteville State University for three and one-half years. He also served as an instructor in UNCP's Master of Public Administration Program. Malcolm is handling a wide variety of legal issues for the University including some public safety, civil, contract and employment matters.

Christopher Peffley '04 was recently promoted to Captain in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Judge Advocate with the 12th Legal Support Organization. Captain Peffley graduated in January 2008 from the Judge Advocate Officer Advanced course and made the Commandants List (Top 20%).

Victorianne Maxwell '07 has opened the Maxwell Law Firm in Charlotte, NC.

Lori B. Warlick '07 is a Judicial Law Clerk at the Miami Immigration Court with the U.S. Department of Justice.

-_-_*-

IN MEMORIAM

Crystal Creech Shepherd '98, Raleigh, NC, July 14, 2008

Cecelia Faucette Cook '71, Wendell, NC, June 9, 2008

