

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

of COUNSEL

MAGAZINE

VOLUME 21 / WINTER 2019



CELEBRATING *Eighty* YEARS | 1939-2019



Interim Dean:
Elaine O’Neal

Assistant Dean and Director
of Development:
Ronald S. Douglas

Editor:
Karuna Rekhraj

Editorial Assistance:
Zanada Joyner
Matthew Neely
Mitzi Townes

Design:
The Main Event Designs
Pandora Frazier (Cover)

Photographer:
Elias Brown

Illustration and Printing
Progressive Business Solutions

The NCCU School of Law publishes
the **Of Counsel Magazine**. This
publication is supported by a Title III
grant. 3,200 copies of this issue were
printed at the cost of \$3.45 each.

Address:
NCCU School of Law
640 Nelson Street
Durham, NC 27707

Email:
ncculawdevelopment@nccu.edu

4

80th Anniversary Special Features

- 4 80th Anniversary - Timeline
- 6 Governor of North Carolina
- 7 Durham County Commissioners
- 8 Mayor of The City of Durham
- 9 NCCU Chancellor’s Message
- 10 Interim Dean of the NCCU School of Law
- 11 Assistant Dean and Director of Development
of the NCCU School of Law
- 12 Interview with Professor Irving L. Joyner
- 14 Alumni Remarks
- 15 Students Remarks

16

Featured Articles

- 16 The First Eighty Years and Counting
- 20 Father-Daughter Reflections
- 24 North Carolina Central University is a Family Tradition
- 26 The NCCU School of Law Evening Program: Learning the
Law By Moonlight Since 1981
- 27 Making History: The History and Scholarship Digital Archives
- 30 Ties That Bind and History That Is Deep

32

NCCU Law News

- 32 John Hervey Wheeler United States Courthouse
Naming Ceremony
- 34 New Law School Pipeline Initiative - ETL Scholars
- 35 Chancellor Award Recipient Michelle Gordon
- 36 Commencement 2019

38

Alumni News

- 38 Where Are They Now
- 39 Two North Carolina Central University Alumni
Legal Legends of Color | Judge Reuben F. Young
Karen Bestman
- 40 William G Pagan | Jonathan M. Bogues

Also In This Issue:

- 37 Faculty News
- 41 Legal Eagle Gatherings
- 42 Alumni Testimonials
- 44 Memorials
- 45 Donor Honor Roll
- 46 Alumni Giving
- 47 Admissions: 2019
Incoming Class Profile

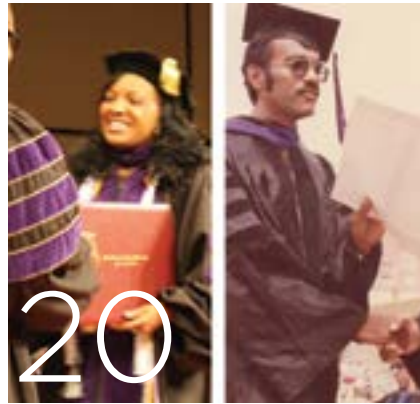
OF COUNSEL MAGAZINE

anniversary

**The First
Eighty Years
and Counting**



**Father-
Daughter
Reflections**



**NCCU is
a Family
Tradition**



**Learning
the Law By
Moonlight**



**Making
History**



**Ties that Bind
and History that
is Deep**



House Bill 18-Enacted March 1, 1939, approved the opening of a law school at the North Carolina College for Negroes (now NCCU).



Robert R. Bond - The first student to enroll and graduate from the NC College of Law in 1943. He was the only African-American to pass the bar in 1943 in North Carolina.

In 1950, the law school received accreditation from the American Bar Association.

1939

1940

1942

1943

1944

1950



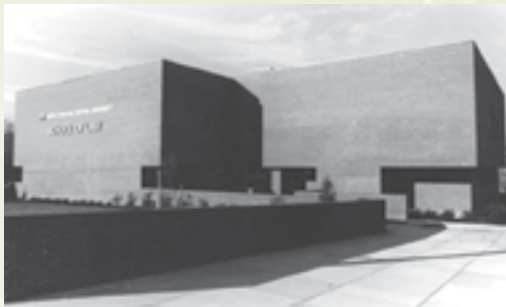
Administration Building- The first classes for the School of Law were held on the top floor in 1940.



Maurice T. Van Hecke - The Dean of the Law School at UNC-Chapel Hill who also served as the first Dean of the North Carolina College School(NCC) of Law from 1939-42.



In 1944, the first female students were admitted - Marcia McDonald (left) and Ruth Norman (right).



In 1980, the Albert Turner Law Building opened.

80th

1975

1980

1981

1990

1995

1975 - North Carolina General Assembly appropriates 2.5 million for a new law school building.

In 1981, NCCU opens the first evening law school program in the state.



Mary E. Wright (1990-1994)

In 1990 -Mary E. Wright became the first woman to hold the position of Dean of the Law School.

In 1995- National Jurist magazine named NCCU Law School as the best for women.



NCCentral
UNIVERSITY

School of Law



Dean Albert F. Turner- Appointed the First African-American Dean of the law school in 1942. During his 23-year tenure as Dean, the first female students were admitted in 1944, school was accredited by the ABA in 1950.



In 1963-4 school year, the law school moot court team, led by future mayor of Atlanta Maynard Jackson, defeated 14 teams including UNC and Duke law schools.

1963 1964



Jones Building - Home of the NCC Law School from 1950-1980.



In 1950, students picketed the State Capitol in Raleigh to protest the lack of adequate funding for the law school.

anniversary

TIMELINE

2009



In 2009 -U.S. Supreme Court Judge Roberts visited the law school and conducted a swearing in ceremony and presided over Moot Court competition.



In 2015 - U. S Attorney General and Durham, NC native, Loretta Lynch (third from left) visited the law school and held a civil rights roundtable.

2015

2018



In 2018- The "Golden Girls", four alumni and roommates who are all judges appeared on several national television shows discussing their experiences at NCCU law school. (L to R: Shamiaka Rhinehart, Camille Banks-Prince, Keisha Wright Hill, Teresa Raquel Robinson Freeman.)



GOVERNOR
ROY COOPER

State of North
Carolina



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

Roy Cooper
Governor

20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N. C. 27699-0301

Dear Friends:

As Governor, I am delighted to congratulate you on the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the founding of North Carolina Central University's School of Law.

House Bill 18, enacted on March 1, 1939, authorized a law school at the North Carolina College for Negroes, now North Carolina Central University. In the 80 years since the passage of that legislation, the School of Law has become a distinguished and respected institution for the study of law. Your alumni have included members of Congress, members of state legislatures, judges and other community leaders. This is a heritage you, and all North Carolinians, can be very proud of.

Again, congratulations on this exciting celebration and I wish you continued success in the years ahead.

With warm personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

R. Cooper
Roy Cooper

RAC/sm

*Thanks for continuing
to educate bright legal
talent!*

Location: The State Capitol Building, Raleigh, N. C. 27602
Phone: 919-814-2100

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
4308 Rivermont Road
Durham, NC 27712
Email: wjacobs@dcconc.gov

James Hill, Vice-Chair
5505 Lake Elton Road
Durham, NC 27713
Email: jhill@dcconc.gov



COUNTY OF DURHAM BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Heidi Carter
31 Falling Water Drive
Durham, NC 27713
Email: hcarter@dcconc.gov

Brenda A. Howerton
3325 Tangleton West
Durham, NC 27713
Email: bhowerton@dcconc.gov

Ellen W. Reckhow
11 Pine Top Place
Durham, NC 27705
Email: ereckhow@dcconc.gov

October 18, 2019

North Carolina Central University School of Law
Elaine O' Neal, Dean
640 Nelson Street
Durham, NC 27707

Dear Dean O'Neal:

It is our pleasure to congratulate North Carolina Central University School of Law as you prepare to celebrate 80 years of educating some of the most highly qualified individuals that have served our state and nation.

Since the enactment of House Bill 18 on March 1, 1939, NCCU has paved the way for African American lawyers in North Carolina. Through your mission, you have continued to provide a challenging and broad-based educational program designed to produce competent and socially responsible members of the legal profession.

As your Elected Officials for Durham County, we congratulate you and wish you continued success as you celebrate this magnificent milestone. Your leadership and commitment to the students and University are exemplified in its success.

Sincerely,


Wendy Jacobs, Chair


James Hill, Jr., Vice Chair


Heidi Carter, Commissioner


Brenda Howerton, Commissioner


Ellen Reckhow, Commissioner

Durham County Administrative Complex | 200 East Main Street, Durham, NC 27701 | (919) 560-0025 Fax (919) 560-0013
Equal Employment/Affirmative Action Employer | Website: <http://www.dcconc.gov/>



DURHAM COUNTY
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS



MAYOR STEPHEN
M. SCHEWEL
City of Durham



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF DURHAM

October 14, 2019

NCCU School of Law
Elaine O'Neal, Dean
640 Nelson Street
Durham, North Carolina 27707

Dear North Carolina Central University School of Law:

On behalf of the Durham City Council, I would like to congratulate the faculty and staff of NCCU School of Law as you celebrate your 80th Anniversary. We are indeed fortunate to have such a prestigious educational institution in the City of Durham.

NCCU School of Law has had a remarkable presence in Durham for the last 80 years, producing some of the finest law graduates in the nation that foster change and promote fairness through the practice of law.

Again, congratulations to you all on your 80th Anniversary. May you enjoy this season of celebration.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Schewel
Mayor





 Office of the Chancellor

December 2019

Dear NCCU School of Law Supporters:

Thank you for your ongoing investment in the North Carolina Central University School of Law. This year, the School of Law celebrates 80 years of service, continuing to fulfill its original mission of training and empowering legal scholars who are committed to advancing public service in the Triangle region, the state of North Carolina and nationwide.

As a flagship program for the university and a nationwide model of legal education, NCCU School of Law trains scholars who are deeply rooted and uniquely equipped to serve the needs of underserved populations.

Legal Eagles stand as preeminent practitioners of law and are often chosen to serve on local, state and federal benches, to head successful legal teams, and take the helm as leaders in political and public life. We nurture students as they develop into empathetic, fair and ethical servant-leaders prepared to enter the profession on day-one as practice-ready attorneys.

Over the years, our School of Law has expanded its original focus of providing educational opportunities for African Americans to becoming one of higher education's most diverse training grounds. Our students represent nearly every race and culture, and their performance reflects the powerful impact of their North Carolina Central University School of Law education. The rankings and accolades earned by the school also demonstrate the extent to which our graduates succeed as transformational change agents and trailblazers in communities around the world. Just this year, the School of Law was ranked as a top-value law school among institutions nationwide, as well as the No. 1 school in enrollment of female J.D. students.

This anniversary milestone is an honor for those who have led the School of Law over the past 80 years, as well as the faculty and staff who have been instrumental in its establishment and growth. Please read this edition of *Of Counsel* with enthusiasm and pride, as it commemorates where the school has been, but most importantly, its direction forward.

In Truth and Service,

Johnson O. Akinleye, Ph.D.
Chancellor

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY • 100 FAYETTEVILLE STREET • DURHAM, NC 27707 • (919) 530-6104

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY IS A CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM



JOHNSON O.
AKINLEYE, Ph.D.

North Carolina
Central University



ELAINE O'NEAL
INTERIM DEAN

NCCU School
of Law



Greetings Legal Eagle Family

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to return to my alma mater to serve as the 14th Dean of the School of Law. As we embark on the 80th year Anniversary, I am proud to know that the work being done is still rooted deep with the mission of “Truth and Service.” Over the past year, we have developed new initiatives to support academic success, embrace student wellness, and create socially conscious graduates that are prepared to advocate for the underserved and underrepresented population all across the nation. *“When it comes to delivering quality education, North Carolina Central University School of Law has proven to be a crown jewel.”*

Pipeline programs developed with various departments across the campus and with sister institutions ensure that the School of Law is strategically placed to be a first choice premier institution. A diverse faculty with an array of skills provide practical in-class instruction which makes sure our students are Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) ready, while a diverse offering of clinical experiential courses guarantees that our students are practice ready. I am confident that the School of Law’s rich legacy and history will continue to thrive for years to come.

As we come together to enjoy a milestone celebration commemorating eight decades of education excellence, I would also like to share a few changes that have taken place within the School of Law administration. Malik Edwards, one of our full professors, is serving as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Attorney Finesse Couch is serving as the Interim Dean of Administration. Attorney John Perry will be the new Assistant Dean of Finance. Attorney Syrena Williams is serving as the Assistant Dean of Career and Professional Development. Ronald Douglas, Assistance Dean of Scholarship and Financial Aid, is also serving as the Director of Development.

Thank you for your continued support to the Legal Eagle Community.

Elaine O'Neal
Interim Dean



Celebrating an anniversary is an opportunity for celebration and reflection. Our illustrious graduates give us cause for celebration while our history gives us the memories for reflection. In this issue of *Of Counsel*, you will find both.

As you enjoy this issue please take a moment to reflect on the past and anticipate growth over the next 80 years. Society, technology and our environments have and will change but the fundamental mission of NCCU Law School to be rooted “In Truth and Service” will always remain the guiding principle of our growth. While we are very product of our history and we thank you for your support, we hope we can count on you for the next 80 years.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any thoughts you may have on our journey. I look forward to creating a dialogue with all past, current and future legal eagle family members to continue the mission of our NCCU School of Law.

In truth and service,

Ronald S. Douglas
Assistant Dean and Director of Development



RONALD S. DOUGLAS

NCCU School of Law
Assistant Dean &
Director of
Development



We Got to Keep On Pushing

AN INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR IRVING L. JOYNER

For thirty-seven years, Professor Irving L. Joyner has embodied North Carolina Central University School of Law's spirit of service and sacrifice. Though he is one of the longest-serving faculty members at NCCU, Professor Joyner does not consider himself special. Over his tenure at NCCU, he has seen many changing points in the school's history, including the growth of The Legal Clinic at NCCU.

Professor Joyner has long served his community by taking a plethora of civil rights cases, including employment discrimination, voting rights, and police misconduct cases. Currently focusing on voting rights cases, which he finds personally satisfying because of the high success rate in voting rights litigation. One of the most important cases that Professor Joyner contributed to was the Wilmington 10 case. This case covered nearly forty years but was worth the time and effort because the surviving victims were awarded compensation.

The self-satisfaction that Professor Joyner derives from his work makes up for the sacrificed required to do civil rights work. Often, he receives little to no financial compensation for his efforts. Civil rights work, however, has its peculiar compensation. Professor Joyner knows that he strove on behalf of people who deserve to be represented and have their voices heard. Often the victims of discrimination never have their stories told, and many individuals are satisfied with having their day in court



and knowing that they were able to tell their stories of abuse and violations they have experienced.

In recognition of his sacrifice and service, The NAACP awarded Professor Joyner the 2019 William Robert Ming Advocacy Award. This award is presented annually to an attorney who exemplifies the spirit of financial and personal sacrifice that Mr. Ming displayed in his decades of legal work for the NAACP. Professor Joyner received this award because of his work serving as the legal counsel for the NC NAACP and as the chair of the Legal Redress Committee.

The struggles of his family dealing with Jim Crow led Professor Joyner to pursue a career advocating for those who couldn't advocate for themselves. Professor Joyner recalls how his grandparents were unable to register to vote prompting him to encourage everyone to vote. He makes a point of voting in every election to honor his grandparents and the hardships they endured. When he was seven years old, Professor Joyner's cousin was shot down by the police. He remembers the difficulty and intimidation that his grandfather experienced attempting to bring about justice. Professor Joyner is also no stranger to discrimination himself having experienced employment discrimination. He knows firsthand the frustration of knowing you have been discriminated against, but not being able to prove it.

Professor Joyner began his career in Civil Rights activism at early age. In high school, he was active in the Civil Rights Movement to confront segregation, Jim Crow laws, barriers against voting, and police misconduct. While he did not participate in the Royal Ice Cream Sit-In or the Sit-In at Greensboro A & T, these demonstrations led him to visit A & T and visit the Woolworths and meet the students who did participate. Hearing these students' stories inspired Professor Joyner to continue in the struggle. Those efforts led him to become a community organizer where he traveled around the country working with community groups and organizations to deal

with specific problems. One problem was the difficulty local organizations had finding attorneys to champion their causes in court. This difficulty led Professor Joyner to attend Rutgers's Law School.

An avid sports fan, Professor Joyner, attends as many basketball and football games that he can, both at NCCU and at other schools. For the last 12 years, he has enjoyed leading a group of students every year to South Africa to learn about their history and present situation. Most of his time, however, is spent serving as a professor or with his Civil Rights activity. Professor Joyner has this message for NCCU on our 80th Anniversary:

I am honored to have been chosen to have worked here at institution that I have always held in high regard, an institution that I had placed on a pedestal in regard to what it was able to do or making a way out of no way when things were not favorable, this institution survived and worked its way through it, so the success that has occurred here has been an inspiration, so I am honored to have had this opportunity to share, but that I also try to be a positive image for the university so that whatever I do I want it to reflect favorably on the institution that I am apart of as well as my own reputation and image. So, I guess my message would have to come from the temptations to keep on pushing with what we try to do and without this push there wouldn't be any successor as Fredrick Douglass would say without agitation there is no progress, I am strong supporter of that notion, and that be my message to the institution and those who make up the institution we got to keep on pushing.

Professor Joyner sets a high bar for all Legal Eagles, past, present, and future. He exemplifies the spirit of service and sacrifice so integral to NCCU's mission to give voice to the voiceless.



Alumni Remarks

It is my honor to offer congratulations to the North Carolina Central University School of Law on 80 years of service to the community, the nation and the world. You have trained countless numbers of advocates for the people in the field of law. Our legal thinking and legal writing was honed in your classrooms and we left your doors with the knowledge and skills to make an immediate impact in our respective communities. Thank you! May you continue to bless and train young legal minds for many more years to come.

Judge Henderson 1999

Congratulations to North Carolina Central University School of Law on educating generations of lawyers – so many that have stood up for justice. As a student, I was constantly reminded of the school's history as I reviewed the black and white photographs in the lobby of the first African-American law students enrolled in the school. Today, as a lawyer and State Senator, I carry the legacy of the law school's history. And, I know a new generation of lawyers will do the same over the next 80 years.

Senator Jay Chaudhuri



Congratulations on 80 continuous years of educating the nations lawyers. I was so fortunate to enter NCCU Law School just as the doors opened widely for women to enter and thus position us to make great contributions in every area of society at large. So that now our graduates shape policy, champion social justice and educate the future generations in the foundation of our country, the rule of law. My legal education allowed me to enter solo private practice for 30 years. Although I have retired, I encourage all alumni to continue to support our Law School with our resources which were made possible by the education received from The School of Law, NCCU.

Frances Dyer 1976

The Foundation for My Legal and Political Career

I came to NCCU School of Law straight from completing four years at The University of Virginia in 1982. I was an only child who had just graduated from a predominantly white institution with 2% black population and I had helped establish the undergraduate chapter of the NAACP. I came to NCCU to experience an HBCU. I left in 1985 a more mature and wiser woman with a greater appreciation of diversity and the law! My professors, including but not limited to Smith, Williams, Joyner, and my Deans, pushed me out of my comfort zones to higher levels of performance both academically and in the legal field. The rigorous pursuit of excellence fostered in me from NCCU School of Law became the foundation for my legal and political

career, culminating with 27 years as the elected Commonwealth Attorney (District Attorney) for Petersburg, Va, retiring in 2017 as the senior female Commonwealth Attorney in Virginia and the senior black female District Attorney in the United States! More importantly, this wonderful school was the wind beneath my wings and gave me the encouragement to enter into the field of politics and serving people as the elected chief prosecutor! My administration was not about convictions but about justice and improving the lives of the citizens in my jurisdiction. I would like to think I have carried the legacy of social justice emulated by NCCU School of Law to my small city in Virginia.

Cassandra Stroud Conover 1985

Opportunities for the Underrepresented

In 1973, my great uncle, Henry Ward Oxendine, was one of the first three Native American students to graduate from North Carolina Central University School of Law. NCCU School of Law has maintained a strong commitment to provide a legal education to those students historically underrepresented in the field of law, and that opportunity has been extended to other Native American students like myself. I find it most fitting that NCCU School of Law gave me the same opportunity to pursue a legal education that was extended to my great uncle almost a half century ago.

My journey to this law school has been one based on faith. Although I often wondered when my dream of attending law school would become reality, my unwavering faith never doubted that it would happen. It was God's grace that brought me here, where the motto, "In Truth and Service," is exemplified each day through the students, faculty and administration. I extend my congratulations to the North Carolina Central University School of Law on its first eighty years of service to the community at large, and I look forward to becoming a proud alumna of this great institution.

Dana L. Chavis 4LE



Although I am only a 2L, NCCU School of Law has already given me so much opportunity. I am so thankful to be a part of such a prestigious and incredible institution that is dedicated to transforming lives in and outside of the classroom. It is truly an honor to be part of The Legal Eagle community. Congratulations to a wonderful 80 years!

Anna Huntley 2L

In August of 2017 I had the pleasure of officially beginning my journey as a Legal Eagle. As I embarked on my path of obtaining my Juris Doctorate, NCCU School of Law has impacted my life in more ways than I can imagine. I take pride in attending a law school whose mission is to provide a high quality, personalized, practice-oriented and affordable legal education to historically underrepresented students

from diverse backgrounds with the goal of increasing diversity in the legal profession. I am extremely grateful to the school for introducing their students to a variety of legal professions. Over the last 3 years I've had the opportunity to be exposed to the field of Intellectual Property by way of participating in the Patent Clinic. The NCCU School of Law Clinics have provided students with a chance to gain practical experience by

I am excited to join faculty, staff, students, and alumni in wishing NCCU School of Law a Happy 80th Anniversary! NCCU School of Law was founded to provide the opportunity of a quality legal education to historically underrepresented students from diverse backgrounds. Being a Native American law student, I am proud to be a part of such a prestigious institution that makes it a mission to serve and educate underrepresented students from diverse backgrounds. As legal eagles, we are making a powerful impact in the legal profession, and we know the future will only lead to even greater opportunities to soar in the legal profession. I look forward to continue serving NCCU School of Law's mission and serving in the legal profession as a proud legal eagle!

Joshua L. Richardson 3L



working alongside professors, and providing legal services for individual clients and members of the community. Congratulations NCCU School of Law on sustaining a strong legacy of 80 years. I am proud and honored to be a future graduate of this prestigious law school and look forward to observing the school's future success.

Ava L Hendericks 3L

Student Remarks

THE FIRST 80 YEARS AND COUNTING

BY FINESSE G. COUCH



W

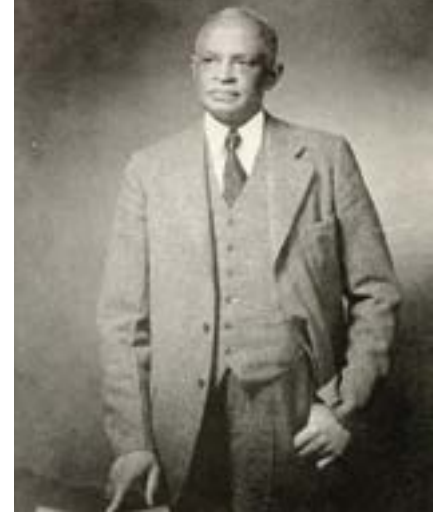
hen Dr. Shepard envisioned the School of Law, even without a crystal ball, he correctly foresaw the importance of a law school that could produce diverse, practice-ready attorneys. Opening March 1939, the same year *The Wizard of Oz* movie premiered, Dr. Shepard's keen insight surpassed mere wizardry with its green smoke and closed curtains. Dr. Shepard's legislative lobbying efforts eventually

materialized into North Carolina Central University School of Law. On hallowed ground, for eighty years, with dedicated and committed administrators, faculty, staff and students, the School of Law stands prominently among its peers. Still a beacon of light, the School of Law celebrates its first eighty years of successfully providing a quality legal education program to generations of diverse attorneys.

Proud, competent, and capable, like the first graduate, Robert Richard Bond, some graduates have chosen careers in public service, where they have run on to become distinguished judges and legislators. Others have chosen entrepreneurship, education, Legal Aid and the private practice of law where they have evolved into award-winning practitioners and leaders with transformative presences. Interim School of Law

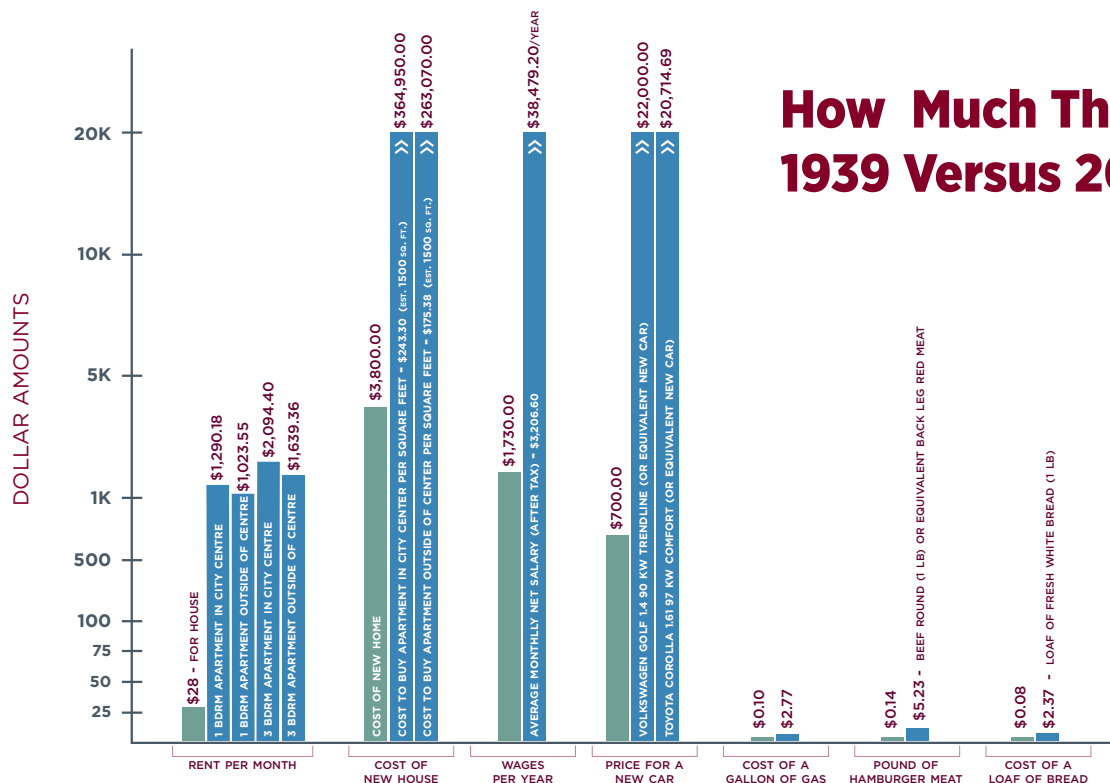
Dean Elaine O’Neal, a retired Superior Court Judge and “double eagle”, is one byproduct of Dr. Shepard’s life-changing, vision. Following Dr. Shepard’s example, Law School Administration collaborates with colleagues at other law schools, supporters, alumni, legislators and friends to promote the school’s unique mission. Also Administration has worked closely with its active Alumni Association which has created methods to assist and mentor law students.

Given the first eighty years, one can only ponder the headway the School of Law will make during the next eighty years. Yet looking back, a couple of easy comparisons are helpful in seeing how far society has progressed as the School of Law has grown from its first student to its current 363 student census. For instance, a comparison of the price of



necessities for living in 1939 to the price of necessities for living in 2019 seems incredible. Also a similar comparison of the number of lawyers in the United States in 1939 to the number of lawyers in 2019 seems equally amazing! Consider the comparisons in the chart below.

Like the proliferation in the price of necessities for living, a similar comparison of the increase of lawyers in the United States during this time period leaves one equally amazed. According to a *United*



How Much Things Cost in 1939 Versus 2019 ^{1,2}

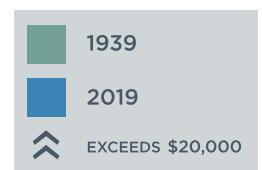


Chart Reflects Average Prices

1939 vs. 2019



States 1940 Census Report, the combined number of lawyers and judges around 1939 was 180,483,160.³ The *ABA National Lawyer Population Survey, Historical Trend in Total National Lawyer Population 1878–2018*⁴ shows 181,220 lawyers in the US in 1940. Then, simply contrast that number with the current number of lawyers in the US in 2019: 1.35 million.⁵

In a recent article written by Debra Cassens Weiss published by the ABA Journal, Weiss describes the race and ethnicity of American attorneys. Ms. Weiss states that in recent years, race and ethnicity data have been collected and reported by twenty states to the

ABA. The 2018 reported data shows “85 percent of attorneys identify as Caucasian/White; 5 percent as African-American; 5 percent as Hispanic; 3 percent as Asian; 1 percent as Native American; and 1 percent as multiracial.” According to Ms. Weiss, the states with the largest lawyer populations are not necessarily the same states where lawyer numbers are growing the fastest. States with the “highest percentage of growth over the last decade”⁶ were North Carolina (22%), Texas (22%), and New York (19%), with growth rates indicated in parentheses.

Locally, the North Carolina State Bar currently regulates over 28,000 licensed attorneys.⁷ In a recently updated *Demographic Distribution Report* published by the North Carolina State Bar, based on voluntary survey results from 11,675 North Carolina Attorneys, 1054 African American and 261 Latino Attorneys self-reported their race and ethnicity, respectively.⁸

Diversity in the judiciary is alive and well among School of Law graduates. Four alumnae/judges were recently featured on Steve Harvey’s national television show, where they discussed the subject of diversity. Law School Alumnae, Judge Shamiaka Rhinehart, Judge Camille Banks-Prince, Judge Keisha Wright-Hill and Judge Teresa Raquel Robinson-Freeman’s friendship started in the Law School’s Moot Courtroom. Interviewed by a local news team, the judges discussed the importance of diversity. “It is equally important to have diversity of age which we are all younger in our careers, but also diversity of

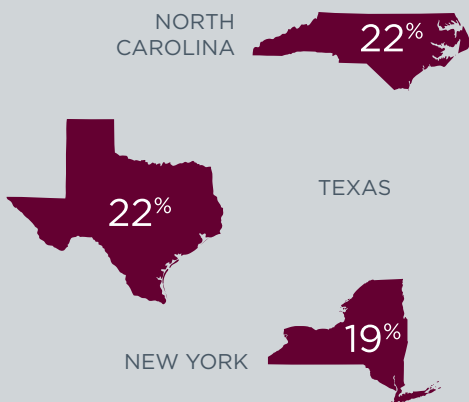
thought process and background and experiences,” said Robinson-Freeman. “It’s about justice and justice should include everyone,” Rhinehart added.⁹

Throughout the years, law graduates have collaborated with law school colleagues and been recognized for their contributions to the legal community and exemplary leadership. The impressive list of graduates recognized in “*So Far, 70th Anniversary, North Carolina Central University School of Law School*,”¹⁰ has continued to grow. From the local North Carolina District Court Bench where Judge Pat Evans is Chief, to the State Supreme Court, where Associate Justice Michael Morgan presides, and many other courts, School of Law Graduates are actively presiding, thereby demonstrating the importance of diversity in the judicial arena.

The Law School’s undeniable narrative of hard work and success go hand in hand. One example is the in-depth practical skills training and knowledge law students receive prior to emerging practice ready upon graduation. Consider the school’s outstanding Clinics designed to buttress practical skills and applications of doctrinal and theoretical classroom knowledge. Experiential Learning Outcomes are carefully designed to improve student learning and provide meaningful feedback to students. These Clinical, Simulation and Field Placement Courses have grown to include an array of offerings such as the Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic, Appellate Advocacy, Arbitration, Civil Litigation Clinic, Consumer Financial Transaction

“...The states with the largest lawyer populations are not necessarily the same states whose lawyer numbers are growing the fastest.

[The] states with the “highest percentage of growth over the last decade:



Clinic, Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, Family Law Clinic, Juvenile Law Clinic, Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, Mediation, Negotiation, Patent Clinic, Pathways to Practice, Pleadings and Practice, Trademark Clinic, Trial Practice, and Veterans Law Clinic.

Also, to maintain standards, senior administrators, faculty, staff and students have worked mindfully in compliance

with *ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools*.

The eightieth anniversary finds the School of Law with an ultimate bar passage rate of 81.88 for 2016 and 77.77 for 2017. Senior administration, faculty, staff and students welcomed the ABA Fact Finders’

November 2018 visit, and their subsequent, favorable compliance findings.

Thereafter, senior administrators, faculty and staff prepared and timely submitted mandatory reports prior to the ABA Site Evaluation Team visit in November 2019. The Site Evaluation Team evaluated the School of Law’s operations, policies and procedures; and interacted with senior administrators, faculty, staff and students regarding ABA Accreditation standards, rules and requirements. An extensive written site evaluation report will be issued. The Site Evaluation Team’s



report should cover “all aspects of the school’s operation including faculty and administration, the academic program, the student body and its success on the bar examination and in job placement, student services, library and information resources, financial resources, physical facilities, and technological capacities.”¹¹ North Carolina Central University School of Law looks forward to completing the current

accreditation process, while recognizing re-accreditation will recur in ten years.

Looking ahead, distance education courses will allow one-third of the credit hours required for the J.D. degree¹² to be provided “online”. Through approved distance education courses, the School of Law

may award one academic year of course credits toward the three-year Juris Doctorate Degree. The School of Law may be able to utilize its virtual classroom, synchronous learning environment to this end. Certainly the School of Law will seek to explore this new arena, while fulfilling its important mission. Already delivering services to rural and local partners, this technology and learning environment have yet to reach their full potential. Also, technology may help the School of Law to expand the provision of a quality legal education program, through well-planned distance education coursework with other

law schools and universities. Adding the distance education component will help students and the school save time, money and resources, thereby enhancing the School of Law’s effective presence in this new arena.

The next eighty years: more collaboration with supporters, friends and alumni to perpetuate Dr. Shepard’s vision of educating future generations of diverse lawyers, judges, legislators and leaders. Reinstating the Board of Visitors, increasing local, regional and national alumni participation and fundraising may help in this regard.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Pearson, Steve. “What Happened in 1939 Important News and Events, Key Technology and Popular Culture.” *The People History*, Thepeoplehistory.com
- ² “Cost of Living in United States.” *Numbeo*, 2019
- ³ *Occupation and Industry Statistics, 1930 And 1940* p 59, Table 3.
- ⁴ Published by the American Bar Association in 2018.
- ⁵ Black, Nicole. “ABA 2019 Report: Lawyer Demographics, Earnings, Tech Choices, and More.” *MyCase Blog*, 13 Aug. 2019
- ⁶ Weiss, Debra Cassens. “Lawyer Population 15% Higher Than 10 Years Ago, New ABA Data Shows.” *ABA Journal*, 3 May 2018
- ⁷ “Who We Are.” *North Carolina State Bar*, www.ncbar.gov/about-us/who-we-are.
- ⁸ “Demographic Distribution Report.” *North Carolina State Bar*, www.ncbar.gov/about-us/demographic-distribution-report/.
- ⁹ pages 35-41.
- ¹⁰ “4 NCCU roommates brought together by fate, share journey becoming judges”, <https://abc11.com/4-nccu-roommates-become-judges-together/4631965/>, 11 March 2019.
- ¹¹ American Bar Association, Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, *The Law School Accreditation Process, Site Evaluation Process*, p 9, 2016 ABA Law School Accreditation Process
- ¹² Standard 306. Distance Education, *ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools 2019-2020*



Finesse G. Couch
Interim Associate Dean of Administration
North Carolina Central University School of Law
fcouch@nccu.edu

Father-Daughter REFLECTIONS

After watching Perry Mason as a kid on a black and white TV, I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer. I was born and raised in the small town of Taylorsville, North Carolina, the eighth of ten kids, the last seven of which were the product of my parent's marriage to each other. I attended an all-black school for grades one through eight until the Civil Rights Movement put an end to segregation. I was the first and last black male to graduate with honors from Taylorsville High School as it closed the year after I graduated. Thanks to affirmative action, I was accepted to and graduated from North Carolina State University in 1974.

After watching Perry
Mason as a kid on a
black and white TV, I
decided that I wanted
to be a lawyer.



After working several jobs, I decided that I would become a lawyer and open my own law practice; however, because my grade point average in undergrad was only 2.7 and my LSAT score was marginal at best, I theorized my chances of being admitted to most law schools was limited. I applied to NCCU School of Law because of I felt I might have an ace in the hole. While I was a senior at N. C. State, I interned at the North Carolina General Assembly with the Hon. Mickey Michaux. During one of our many talks, he had mentioned that he was NCCU School of Law Alumnus. That relationship turned out to be a blessing because one of the things that Mr. Michaux emphasized when trying to get a bill passed was “it’s not always what you



know, but who you know.” I figured that a letter of recommendation from one of Central’s more distinguished graduates wouldn’t hurt. He was the “ace in the hole” that I was relying on. I drove to Durham and, without an appointment, requested an audience with him,

hoping that he would remember me. Not only did he remember me, he wrote a wonderful, glowing letter about how I was the type of student that NCCU School of Law would be proud of one day. I honestly believe that his letter and Central’s policy of admitting students that most law schools wouldn’t take a chance on are the only reasons I was able to get my foot in the door. I will always be indebted to him and the law school for giving me that chance.

When I entered the law school in the fall of 1976, because I was broke, I went to the Kmart where I had trained in 1974 and took a part-time job running the toy department. Halfway through my freshman year, my older brother Thomas, moved to Durham, and using the money from his G.I. bill student loan,

enrolled in the local community college and paid the rent so I could devote more time to my studies. At the time, the School of Law was being pressured by the State Bar and the national accreditation authorities to improve its bar passage rate. In an effort to reverse that trend, a strict disciplinarian by the name of Harry Groves was hired as Dean of the law school. A few of my classmates, including Justice Michael Morgan, and I often called him “General Groves”. My class was the first class under Dean Grove’s leadership and he was

determined that the law school was going to turn around with the class of 1979. His methods were scary. My theory was that he had a trap door in his office. I can’t tell you how many times I saw fellow classmates, i.e., those who weren’t serious about their studies, go into his office and never emerge. Once they went in his office, they were never seen again. I made it a point to never go into the dean’s office for any reason. Once I got past the shock of my first year, I adjusted and actually enjoyed the

time I spent in the old law school building located in the center of the main campus. The faculty, which included two former deans, was on the same page as Dean Groves and we really felt we were the class that was going to turn things around for the law school. In my third year, I interned with the Durham County District Attorney’s office. That turned out to be a fortuitous assignment as it apparently helped me land a job as an assistant District Attorney in Wake County. The night I got my bar results, I got a call from Randolph Riley, Wake County’s elected district attorney, who asked if I had passed the bar. When I told him yes, he wanted to know if I was interested in going to work for him. Since this was the only job I had applied for two weeks earlier, of course I was interested.

I started working for Randolph Riley on September 17, 1979. It was great trial experience as he had a system where assistant district attorneys assigned to district court, once a case was appealed, had to try it again in Superior Court. I learned a lot from retrying crappy misdemeanor cases against some really crafty old lawyers. The most valuable lesson about trying cases that I learned from those guys was that “it isn’t the guy who has the best case that usually wins, but



the guy who puts on the best show”. Quite a few of the misdemeanor appeals that I thought were “slam dunks” were lost because those slick old geezers took me to school. I worked for the Wake County District Attorney’s office for two years, thirteen days and five hours. I left three hours early on my final day, September 30, 1981. Little did I know that thirty-one years later, on October 1, 2012, my daughter would take my old job.

I moved back home to the Hickory area and joined a husband and wife firm that

case. Using that method, I won a lot more cases that on paper looked like I didn’t have a “snowballs chance in hell” of winning. In the six years I was in private practice, I only lost one jury trial in Alexander County

as a defense attorney and it was overturned on appeal. My track record was almost as impressive in Catawba County. I didn’t win every case I tried there, but I won a lot more than I lost.

Despite the fact that my practice was starting to show positive results, the fact of the matter,

was that I didn’t enjoy private practice. So when a job opening came up for an assistant district attorney in Catawba County, I applied for and was hired as the first black assistant district attorney for the 25th Prosecutorial District. After I had been there a little over a year, the chief ADA died unexpectedly at 48 years of age. I became the chief assistant for Catawba County. Without bragging, suffice it to say that I made a reputation for myself as someone that defense attorneys and criminals didn’t want to go up against. I took a job as an ADA in Iredell and Alexander Counties in 2002 again as the first black assistant district attorney for the 22nd Prosecutorial District. I retired from prosecuting

in March of 2012, the same year that my daughter entered the profession. I owe my entire career to NCCU School of Law for affording me the opportunity to attend that wonderful institution.

**Jason R. Parker,
NCCU School of Law, Class of 1979**

Jason R. Parker



had offices in Catawba and Alexander County. I will never forget the first day I went to District Court in Catawba County and introduced myself to the Chief District Court and another old lawyer who happened to be standing at the counter in the clerk’s

office. The judge welcomed me to the bar and wished me luck. The old lawyer sort of sneered and said, “You’re going to starve up here. Nobody is going to come to a black lawyer in Catawba County.” I thought to myself, “Well, thank you for that warm welcome.” Fortunately, I had been trained at the NCCU School of Law and it didn’t take me long to prove him wrong. In fact, once I made a reputation for myself, most of my paying clients, especially in criminal cases, were Caucasian. You see, I remembered (1) how I was taught the importance of preparation at Central and (2) what I learned from those old lawyers in Wake County. So when I went to trial, I made sure that I was prepared and that I was going to be a better “showman” than the assistant district attorney who was trying the State’s





Growing up, I never wanted to be a lawyer.

*G*rowing up, I never wanted to be a lawyer. Every time someone inquired about my future dreams or aspirations, they would say, “oh, do you want to be a lawyer like your daddy?” My response was always,

“absolutely not. I want to be a doctor.” It wasn’t an attempt to shade my father and all of his accomplishments, but I really wanted to set my own path. Honestly, he was extremely encouraging and wanted me to pursue any dream or goal that I had. Fast forward to 2005, I was accepted and enrolled at Wake Forest University in hopes of becoming

our family’s first doctor. That hope died after the first semester of biology when I barely made it out with a C. I realized that I was not built for the pre-med track, but still did not want to face the music of what I would ultimately become.

It wasn’t until my second semester of my Junior year of undergrad, after another failed attempt at being a psychology major that I knew what God had called me to do. Not only did I like to argue and talk a lot, but I really wanted to use those skills to help people. So, I called my dad and said, “I want to be a prosecutor.” He was shocked, but proud that I had made the decision on my own. I also knew that the only law school that I wanted to attend was North Carolina Central University School of Law.

Without having toured the school or even visited

Durham, I applied and was accepted in May of 2009. I knew what NCCU Law had done for my dad, and quite frankly, he was one of the most devastating litigators that I knew. It made me proud to walk down the hallways of NCCU Law and see the photo of the Class of 1979 with my dad and his huge afro alongside his other legendary classmates such as James “Butch” Williams and Supreme Court Justice Michael R. Morgan.

NCCU Law lived up to everything that I had hoped for and more. For the first time, I was being educated by Professors and Deans who looked like me and I understood what a dynamic impact that that has on students. While my brain was retrained into “thinking like a lawyer,” my core values taught by my mom and dad to ensure that I lived a life of service to others was further developed through the opportunities provided to me by NCCU Law. Upon graduation, I began at the same job that my father did as a prosecutor at the Wake County District Attorney’s Office. From there, I became an Assistant Attorney General at the North Carolina Department of Justice. In 2017, I was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to become the youngest and third African American female District Court Judge in Wake County history. I owe everything to God, my parents, and family, and NCCU Law for the education and opportunities that I have been afforded. As the current President of the NCCU Law Alumni Association, I’m grateful to give back to the school that has provided an impactful legacy worldwide for 80 years and beyond!

Hon. Ashleigh Parker Dunston
NCCU School of Law, Class of 2012

Ashleigh Parker Dunston



Being a graduate of an HBCU educational institution, such as North Carolina Central University, and the NCCU School of Law, is important to the Parrish family. In fact, it is a tradition. I was born in Brooklyn, New York and my family later moved to Wisconsin. My father, the late Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge Clarence R. Parrish, was born in North Carolina. He spoke highly about the schools in North Carolina, especially North Carolina Central University. He was delighted when I decided to attend NCCU School of Law.

Often, I am asked why I went into the field of law. I always reply, to know how, when, and where to make a difference in life for our people in our communities. Being a law student at NCCU was exciting and life changing. I entered the law school in 1969 when I was twenty years old. I had never been south before, only to New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington D.C. I soon adapted to life in the south. I am a 1972 graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law. While there I learned from many learned professors. Dean Le Marquis DeJarmon and Dean Daniel G. Sampson really impressed me in my legal course decisions, and in my understanding of the law. The courses that held my interest most and that I have built my legal career upon since graduation are Domestic Relations, Probate, Juvenile Law, and Legal Research. I am ever so grateful to the National Bar Association granting me book scholarships for the three years of my attendance.

Besides being a student, I also was involved with activities at the law school. I am one of three co-founders of the NCCU School of Law Raymond Watkins Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity which is thriving still today. In 1971, I served as the NCCU School of Law - Law Day Chairman. I have a published comment in the North Carolina Central Law Journal Vol.3, Spring 1972, No. 2, "Due Process in Juvenile Proceedings." I also attended Exeter University School of Law in England for a summer taking comparative law classes.

Since graduating from NCCU School of Law, I am licensed to practice law in Wisconsin

North Carolina Central University

IS A

Family Tradition

By Attorney Sheila M. Parrish-Spence
Of Wauwatosa, (Milwaukee County), Wisconsin



by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and the Eastern and Western Federal Court Districts of Wisconsin. My NCCU degree and license over 40 years, have allowed me to hold many employment positions in the Midwest. Two of them are the Iowa Civil Rights Commission as Compliance Director of employment discrimination cases, and the Omaha Human Relations Department as an investigator. Upon returning to Wisconsin, the late Atty. Mabel Hayden of Washington DC, founder of the National Association of Black Women Attorneys, appointed me as the North Central Regional Director. Positions I have held in Wisconsin are: Racine County assistant district attorney in charge of juvenile, paternity, child support, and international family cases. I was the first African American to be hired as an assistant district attorney in Racine County.

After four years there, I became employed by Milwaukee County. I retired from the county in 2008, but while there. I was an assistant corporation counsel, assistant district attorney, and child support legal counsel. Presently I am partly retired, and have a part time law practice where I focus on family and juvenile law. I have also been an adjunct faculty for various colleges and universities in Milwaukee County.

Throughout my youth I listened to my parents and cousins memories about North Carolina College, now known as North Carolina Central University. My mother, the late Mildred English Parrish, originally of Worcester, Mass, was a 1942 NCCU graduate with a BBA in business administration. She often proudly spoke of being a secretary for Dr. Shepard.

In May 2013, I attended the first NCCU Legal Eagle Commencement Reunion held May 10-13, 2013. It honored the law classes of 1948-1973. Reuniting with law school classmates and friends that I knew while there was great. The entire weekend was filled with events. On Saturday May 11th, the highlight of that weekend was that my cousin, Damon Parrish, graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law, and I was there to witness him being conferred his law degree. He is practicing law in North

Carolina. My cousin, Thomas I. Parrish, NCCU undergraduate class of 1968, and my cousin Theodosia (Ingrid) Parrish Dunn, NCCU undergraduate class of 1971, also are NCCU alumni. In fact, there is a NCCU scholarship in the name of Thomas I. Parrish and his wife, Margaret Parrish.

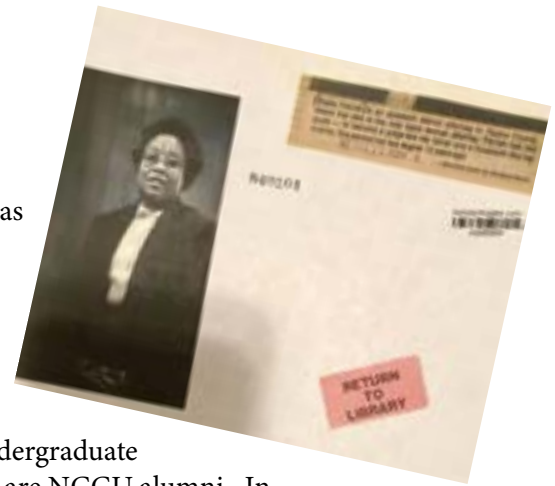
I have served Wisconsin communities by serving with the Urban League, NAACP, National Bar Association, Wisconsin Bar Association, Inns of Court, Alpha

Kappa Alpha Sorority, Links Inc, Top Ladies of Distinction, and St. Mark AME Church. I am also working on forming an alumni chapter of NCCU in Wisconsin.

Publications that I co-authored are in the Milwaukee Federated Public Library System –A Trilogy of Poetry, Prose, and Thoughts for the Mind, Body, and Soul, and Trilogy Moments for the Mind, Body, and Soul. For my master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin, my published seminar paper is entitled, “Useful Strategies for Educators to Facilitate the Learning Process When Instructing the Adult Learner Afflicted with Narcolepsy. I am a member of a string group where I play my violin called “No Strings Attached.” And,

I travel globally.

North Carolina Central University School of Law, as I stated before, was a turning point in my life. Several times my classmates would tease me when I was stuck in Chicago’s O’Hare Airport due to severe snow storms when flights were cancelled to North Carolina. They would say, “You made it back, did your plane need snow shoes?” Coming from Wisconsin, my eyes and heart were enlightened and inspired. My awareness of the south, love of education, desire to give back and help the communities, its culture, cuisine, mores, customs, and way of life became mine. I will be forever grateful to NCCU School of Law.



Top image: Sheila and Judge Parrish
Bottom Image: Sheila, Thomas Parrish, Damon Parrish



The NCCU School of Law Evening Program: Learning the Law By Moonlight Since 1981

For nearly half of its life, the School of Law has operated our part-time Evening Program. Since opening in January 1981, over 700 particularly industrious adult learners have balanced work, family, and personal obligations with the dauntingly ambitious goal of earning a JD at the same time. I have been fortunate to share the journey with these students since July 1994 as the Assistant Dean for the Evening Program. That's 39 years for the Evening and 26 for me with it.

Prior to becoming the assistant dean for the program, four others served in the position. Acie Ward was the inaugural dean of the program, helping to establish Dean Harry Groves's vision for a school that drew from RTP, government, law office, and university employees. Dean Ward later joined the faculty of the School of Business where she served for decades. Next was Assistant Dean Suzanne Leary, who helped initiate the rotation system of classes, which was a useful tool for student and administrative planning. It permitted the program to be run efficiently and predictably by offering most required classes in alternate years. Assistant Dean Mark Morris '81 returned from Harvard Law with his LLM and next led the program; he passed the reins to classmate Patti Bynum (then Solari), who served from 1990 until 1994. Both served the school as longtime professors after leaving the EP. After Assistant Dean (Solari) Bynum is where I come in.

Dean Bynum and I had a truly confused conversation that eventually resulted in my joining the Evening Program as assistant dean. One of the early tasks for the Assistant Dean for Evening was the scholarly task of locking the doors to the lobby, which is where the office for Evening Program was located. I was passing through the lobby; Dean Solari asked me while she was locking up, "How would you like to be dean for the evening?" I thought she meant THAT evening, and was essentially asking if I could stay and watch that the lobby was locked at closing. I replied "I can't, my parents are coming for dinner tonight." This was truly baffling to her, and in a few minutes we sorted it out and I threw my hat in the ring for the job, where it has remained ever since.



BY ADRIENNE LEA MEDDOCK '91
Assistant Dean for Evening

The Evening Program has expanded and contracted over the years, at one time enrolling over 120 students in the four year program. Most years, the program totals in the 70 to 80 student range. The program has made a significant impact on the practice, especially in North Carolina: our alumni hold elective office at the state and local level, as well as serving in the courthouse as clerks and judges. Many have started companies or moved to the boards of the companies where they worked while in school. In short, the program is unique in the region and has allowed our graduates to achieve their dreams of becoming lawyers while maintaining their daytime employment. From retail workers to corporate executives, keeping the day job was a condition precedent to their legal studies. I am so pleased that Dean Groves had the vision to see how needed such a program would be in our region.

It has been such a privilege to work with the motivated and focused members of the Evening Program this quarter-decade plus. While all successful law students rely on these traits, our Evening students maintain and demonstrate them over the long haul of four years and three summers. While we will change and grow along with innovations in teaching, there remains a need for legal education geared to working persons. Here's to at least 39 more years!



archives.law.nccu.edu

MAKING HISTORY

The History and Scholarship Digital Archives

As we celebrate North Carolina Central University School of Law's 80th anniversary, now is the perfect time to take a tour of the growing collections housed in the law library's digital repository, The History and Scholarship Digital Archives (<https://archives.law.nccu.edu/>). Initiated in 2016, the repository's mission is to collect, preserve, and provide perpetual access to the scholarly works and professional activities of the faculty, staff, and students of the law school, as well as materials and artifacts relating to the history of the school, its administrators and faculty, and alumni.

Today, you can find our current faculty's scholarly output centrally organized into individual Selected Works profiles. Designed to be customizable and portable, the profiles contain brief biographical sketches, lists of areas of expertise, and downloadable digital versions of faculty scholarship. Lately, we have begun work on a historical scholarship project highlighting the accomplishments of each of the law school's deans.

In addition to housing faculty scholarship, the repository is also the open access home to the law school's journals, the *North Carolina Central Law Review* and *North Carolina Central University Science and Intellectual Property Law Review*.

Jonathan Beeker, MLIS
Access Services Librarian

Jonathan has worked at NCCU Law School Library for almost 10 years. His primary duties include managing circulation, reserves, interlibrary loan, library marketing and outreach, and coordinating the History and Scholarship Digital Archives.



NCCentral
UNIVERSITY

School of Law Library

TELLING OUR STORIES

The rest of the History and Scholarship Digital Archives is devoted to publications, photographs, brochures, reports, and ephemera chronicling the first 80 years of NCCU School of Law. Here we have collected student newsletters, graduation photographs, alumni magazines, Law Week guides, class profiles, and much more. One of our most recent collections makes available the law school notebooks of alumnus Maynard Jackson, the first black mayor of Atlanta.

We hope you enjoy looking through a sample of what we are working hard to preserve for future generations, and we encourage you to visit the digital archives and check-in regularly as we add new collections. By capturing and providing access to these documents, to the voices and stories of Legal Eagles past and present, we aim to maintain the legacy of this truly unique law school.



The repository houses issues of *The Barrister*, a law school newsletter, going back to 1968. It features news articles, opinion pieces, book reviews and more from students, faculty, and staff.



This map shows the distribution of people who have downloaded items from the repository. At the time of this article's writing, materials have been downloaded 7,636 times in over 100 countries.

History of N.C.C. School of Law

By DEAN ALBERT L. TURNER

The Law School is a part of the North Carolina College At Durham which was founded in 1883 by the late President James K. Shepard, as The National Religious Training School and Chautauque.

In 1925 the North Carolina College for Negroes, which was the name of the college until changed by legislative enactment in 1947, was made the first state supported liberal arts college in the South for the training of Negro students. In 1939 the North Carolina Legislature amended the charter of the North Carolina College for Negroes to read in part as follows: " Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees of the North Carolina College for Negroes is authorized and empowered to establish departments of law, pharmacy and literary science at the above mentioned institution whenever there are applicants desirous of such courses. That said Board of Trustees of North Carolina College for Negroes may add other professional courses from time to time as need for the same is found, and of the state will justify."

The following news item appearing in the Education News section of New York Times, and bearing a Durham, North Carolina date line September 14, 1949 marks the beginning of the North Carolina College Law School pursuant to this law:

"With seven students already accepted for the first class in North Carolina's first Negro law school, opening Tuesday at North Carolina College for Negroes here, President James K. Shepard says that the class is thus assured for the year.

The students were selected from fifteen applicants from States between Maryland and Texas. Others will be accepted upon presentation of further credentials.

The school was first attempted last Fall, after a month's public notice. Only one student arrived, and it was decided to wait another year, the lone student being persuaded to enroll at a Northern college.



The new institution will be directed by Dean M. T. Van Hook of the University of North Carolina Law School. Instructions will be given by Duke and U. N. C. professors. By 1947 the school will be enlarged to full three-year size.

The records show that five of the seven accepted students enrolled, and of this number two were dropped for scholarship at the end of the first year. Another year of study one of these students, Ellis Jones, Jr., discontinued the study of law for personal reasons.

When North Carolina College was known as the National Religious Training School and Chautauque, typing classes were held in a room at the corner of Army Hall.

[4]

In 1950, the law school celebrated it's 10th anniversary by publishing *The Apocrisarius*, edited by Floyd B. McKissick. Part historical chronicle and part yearbook, it offers a fascinating glimpse into the law school's earliest years.

The *New Horizons* newsletter, available in the archives from 1982 through the early 2000s, discusses student, faculty, and alumni news and events.

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

The History and Scholarship Digital Archives is growing daily. If you have items that you think would make good additions to the repository, please contact:

Jonathan Beeker
Access Services Librarian
NCCU School of Law Library
640 Nelson St. | Office 241
Durham, NC 27707
jbeeker@nccu.edu
(919) 530-6608

Moving To New Horizons A Newsletter For Students, Alumni And Friends • School Of Law NCCU • Durham, NC 27707

Volume 1 SPRING EDITION Date March 1982 Number 1

HEMARRIE MAYNARD JACKSON HEADLINES LAW DAY WEEKEND 1982

Former Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, a 1964 School of Law graduate, will keynote the Annual Law Day Awards Banquet, Saturday, April 3. Attorney Patricia Russell, a dynamic speaker will address a Law Day Forum on Friday, April 2, at 3:00 p.m. Attorney Russell, a graduate of the Howard University School of Law, is widely noted as a powerful, stimulating orator. One of her speeches has been printed in the Congressional Record.

Law Day 1982 will be excellent. Expect a real treat. If you miss it, you're likely to regret it.

"Law Day Weekend '82," says Anthony Harris, chairman of the Law Day Committee, "is expected to be one of the best events ever held for the NCCU Law School Alumni, their guests and friends." He emphasizes that, "Alumni and friends are warmly invited to join the entire Law School Community in the '82 Law Day Weekend celebration of our new thrust, 'New Horizons Through Opportunity and Excellence.'" A Generative Law Day '82 seminar program will memorialize the event.

The program includes:

Friday, April 2
3:00 p.m. - Patricia Russell, Esq., Speaker
4:00 p.m. - Variety Show, NCCU Law School Students and Faculty
9:00 p.m. - Party, Flint Ridge Apt. Club House, Hillsborough, NC

Saturday, April 3
1:00 p.m. - Forum, Professor Albert Broderick and others
3:00 p.m. - Alumni Meeting
7:00 p.m. - Hon. Maynard Jackson, Speaker
Law Day Banquet and Dance following
M. G. Pearson Cafeteria, NCCU

Sunday, April 4
11:00 a.m. - Brunch, Hotel Europa, Chapel Hill, NC
Alumni and Friends
REMARK: Dean Daye

* Event to be held in Law School's 3000 Court Room

LAW SCHOOL REPORTS "TRULY DIVERSE" STUDENT ENROLLMENT

"The School of Law," according to Dean Daye, "is the most diverse law school in America." Its 290 students are 60% white, 60% black, 30% female, 30% over



The ties that bind Legal Writing Director Brenda Gibson and Law Library Director Nichelle “Nikki” Perry are deep. They go back to their days as students at NCCU School of Law some...well that’s not relevant. Nikki was two years ahead of Brenda, but they knew each other through mutual acquaintances. They were friendly, if not friends. After graduating, Nikki clerked for the late Judge Clifton E. Johnson at the North Carolina Court of Appeals before coming back to NCCU School of Law to serve as the law school’s Academic Support Specialist. She served in that capacity for some years before becoming a librarian and moving to the Law Library, where she now serves as Director.

TIES THAT **BIND** and **HISTORY** THAT IS DEEP

After that year, Nikki informed Brenda that she would not teach legal writing anymore. But that did not mean that the partnership would end, because Legal Writing and Legal Research are taught together in the first-year curriculum at NCCU School of Law. Accordingly, we worked together for several years to ensure that research instruction covered the fundamentals while being innovative. Brenda specifically remembers the time that they pushed to have legal research included in the first and second semester of the first-year legal writing curriculum, thinking that such a move would increase the level of retention of the material if research materials were introduced in spaced segments to somewhat track legal writing instruction. It was an “epic failure.” Nikki and Brenda were so sure that it would work and be better for the students, but it was not! In fact, the students didn’t seem to remember ANYTHING taught during the first semester legal writing course. It was like the material had never been introduced! Nikki and Brenda went back to the drawing board on that one. Since then, however, they have had more successes than failures working together and developing their units.



Brenda followed a similar path—she graduated from NCCU, went to work for Judge Johnson after Nikki, and ended up back at the law school as its first Legal Writing Director. When Brenda arrived back at NCCU, Nikki was a Reference Librarian and willing (at least for a brief time) to assist her in any way that she could. And so, she taught legal writing with Brenda for a year while she got familiar with her new job. Nikki has been described as a lifesaver that year because Brenda was very unfamiliar with the dictates of the legal academy. While Brenda knew a lot about legal writing, she knew little about drafting assignments and dealing with first-year law students. This time bonded us as colleagues and friends. It didn’t hurt that we are both proud members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the mothers of two boys!

As Director of the Legal Writing Program, Brenda has moved the once fully adjunct-based program to a hybrid model. As the legal writing academy moves to a full-time legal writing professional model, NCCU’s Legal Writing Program has been moving along that same continuum. In addition to former Dean and Professor Mary Wright, the program currently has two very dedicated full-time legal writing professors, Professors Shelly DeAdder (c/o ‘08) and Lisa Kamarchik (c/o ‘11). They all work alongside Brenda and several very experienced



L: **Brenda Gibson**, Legal Writing Director
R: **Nichelle “Nikki” Perry**, Law Library Director

adjunct professors to deliver effective, innovative legal writing instruction to our students. Brenda has also added a support arm (as she likes to call it) to the program—The NCCU Legal Writing Center. The Center, initially staffed by one half-time adjunct, is currently staffed by a three-quarter-time Legal Writing Specialist (J.D.), a full-time Writing Specialist (English Ph.D.), and eight student Legal Writing Fellows/Scholars.¹

Additionally, Brenda has worked with the Legal Writing team to modify the first-year legal writing curriculum to better meet the changing needs of our students and the profession. Further, she proposed and, after a rather arduous approval process, had added three upper-level writing courses to our legal writing curriculum--Judicial Opinion Writing, Advanced Legal Writing, and Legal Writing and Technique (NCCU's first online course). In collaboration with the Chair of the English Department, Brenda also styled and had added an undergraduate writing course, The Basics of Legal Writing, to help build the foundational skills of students who were interested in law school.

As the Law Library Director, Nikki has been able to re-imagine and redevelop the law library and its role in the law school. Specifically, the law library continues to support the Law School's academic mission by increasing access to information, enhancing the library space. To further enhance students' academic experience, the library has purchased a subscription to two study aid platforms through Wolters Kluwer and West Academic which enables the library to provide access to these much sought after study-aid resources to all law students. The library has also created an atmosphere that encourages both individual and collaborative study by providing multiple seating options throughout the first and second floors by purchasing new individual study carrels, soft seating, and additional tables equipped with power outlets. The library has further supported the students' study experience within and outside of the library by providing students with a variety of resources that they can check out, such as rolling whiteboards, power adapters, and headphones. Additionally, the reference librarians developed several new courses: Law Practice

Technology and Research Labs which support several upper-level writing courses. Law Practice Technology provides students with the background to understand technological changes in the legal field, and how those changes are impacting the way attorneys manage and provide legal services. The Research labs support the writing courses Legal Letters, Judicial Opinion Writing, and Appellate Advocacy and allow the librarians to teach advanced research techniques in correlation with the substantive course material.

As Brenda and Nikki have transitioned their units, individually and collectively, into new eras, it seemed only natural that they would partner on a new edition of North Carolina Legal Research. It happened so quickly: an email asking Brenda if she was interested writing the third edition, her approaching Nikki and Wake Forest Legal Writing Director, Laura P. Graham about co-authoring and Nikki asking UNC-CH Law Library Deputy Director Julie Kimbrough. The entire project needed to be done in less than a year! Though Laura was a veteran author, the rest of us were rookie authors and to boot we were all perfectionists!

Technology enabled us to meet to discuss our project in its infancy. In fact, we did not meet in person until after the book proposal was completed. We met via Zoom and parceled out writing duties and to establish timelines for the project. We emailed incessantly to make sure we were producing a book worth using in the legal research and writing classroom. What happened during the months of preparation/ writing was transformative? We became like a well-oiled machine. When one of us got down or crazy busy, the other(s) instinctively filled in. We each found our lane and we stayed in it! No arguments—even when we disagreed about something. We knew what our strengths were and trusted one another to do the right thing for the project.

The result was the third edition of North Carolina Legal Research. Anecdotally, Brenda and Nikki have been told they are the first African- Americans to author in this series of books. When relationships begin, no one ever knows how they will develop. Brenda and Nikki certainly never envisioned those brief conversations in the halls of the Turner Law Building leading to a lifetime of such rewarding collaborations! Eagles Soar!

¹Hat tip to Professor Courtney Bryant, who is the Legal Writing Specialist, and Dr. Shirley Faulkner-Springfield, who is the Writing Specialist, in the Legal Writing Center.

John Hervey Wheeler

John Hervey Wheeler (January 1, 1908- July 6, 1978) became a prominent bank president, civil rights lawyer, political activist, civic leader, educator, statesman, and philanthropist. He was born in Kittrell, North Carolina to John Leonidas and Margaret Hervey Wheeler. The Wheeler family, which included older sister Ruth Hervey (b. 1906) and younger sister Margery Janice (b. 1912), came from Nicholasville in Jessamine County, Kentucky. John Leonidas came to work for N.C. Mutual in July 1908. In 1912, the

Whealers moved to Georgia where the children came of age in Jim Crow Atlanta.

After

graduating summa cum laude from Morehouse College in 1929, John Hervey moved to Durham where he joined the Mechanics and Farmers Bank (M&F Bank) as a teller. On Christmas Day in 1935, he married Selena Lucille Warren (1912-2014), daughter of Julia McCauley and Dr. Stanford L. Warren, a co-founder and one-time president of M&F Bank. They had two children from their union, Julia Margaret (b. 1937) and Warren Hervey (b. 1943).

By the 1960s, Wheeler was the state's most influential black power broker and among the top civil rights leaders in the South. He remained with M&F Bank his entire career, rising from bank teller to the presidency where he

served from August 1952 to July 1978. As M&F Bank president, Wheeler carried the banner as a community bank while also expanding its reach. During World War II, he enrolled in law school at North Carolina Central University where, in 1947, he was among the first law school graduates. He became a political activist with the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People (DCABP) and had stints as chairman of the economic and education committees before taking over as the organization's chairman in 1957, a position he held until 1978.

Through the DCABP's education committee, Wheeler led a legal challenge beginning in 1949 toward school equalization in Durham and other cities across North Carolina. In 1951, a judge ruled in the case *Blue v. Durham* that "plaintiffs have been, and are, discriminated against on account of their race and that they are entitled to injunctive relief." After the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) decision, Wheeler and other black leaders from across North Carolina called for immediate implementation. They ultimately filed several school desegregation suits before the decade ended, and continued to use the legal realm to fight for black educational equality. In 1956, he and several other Durham attorneys, including Floyd B. McKissick, Sr., Conrad O. Pearson, and William A. Marsh, Jr., won the U.S. Supreme Court case *Frasier v. Board of*



Trustees of the University of North Carolina, which led to the first three black undergraduates gaining admission to the state's flagship institution.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed him to the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity (PCEEEO). In 1963, Wheeler became an incorporator of the North Carolina Fund, an ambitious antipoverty agency established by Governor Terry Sanford to help eradicate issues of poverty. He joined the board of directors and his bank became the repository for the accounts. In 1964, Sanford names Wheeler as a delegate to the Democratic Party's national convention, the first African American from the state to do so. That same year, Wheeler became the first black president of the Southern Regional Council (SRC), a civil rights organization founded in 1944 that administered the Voter Education Project (VEP), which helped increase voter registration in the South leading to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In the last decade of his life, John Hervey Wheeler continued his activism whereby he received many awards and accolades for his civil rights work. He mentored a rising generation of leaders so they could "take their appointed places in American life."

John Hervey Wheeler was a living legend throughout the South. He was not just a banker and lawyer; he was a visionary African American leader.

CONGRESSMAN G.K. BUTTERFIELD



Oct 15, 2019
Press Release

Office of Congressman G. K. Butterfield

▲ 1952 National Bankers Association 25th Annual Convention
Memphis, TN

DURHAM, N.C.—Congressman Butterfield joined with the Durham, North Carolina community and the family of the famed banker and attorney John Hervey Wheeler to celebrate the naming of the city’s federal courthouse after the late North Carolina-native and civil rights leader. Congressman Butterfield led the official unveiling of the sign on the newly designated John Hervey Wheeler U.S. Courthouse during the special ceremony hosted by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina.

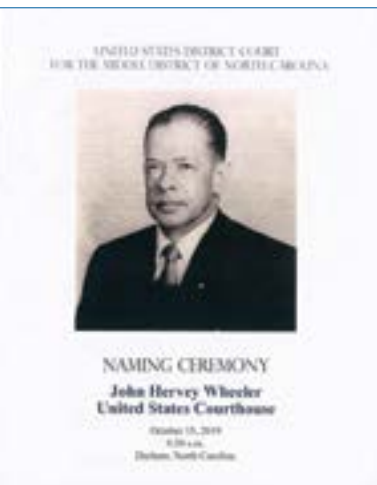
“On July 27, 2017, I was proud to introduce H.R. 3460, a bill to rename the U.S. Courthouse in Durham after John Hervey Wheeler. H.R. 3460 was passed in the House of Representatives on July 16, 2018, and was passed in the Senate on December 21, 2018,” said Butterfield. “John Hervey Wheeler was a living legend throughout the South. He was not just a banker and lawyer; he was a visionary African American leader. Over his long and remarkable career, John Hervey Wheeler played a key role in transforming the City of Durham and helped lead the fight for racial equality in Durham and throughout North Carolina. I am happy the Durham courthouse is now named in John Hervey Wheeler’s honor and his contribution to Durham will long be remembered. This dedication has served as a symbol of triumph over racial and economic injustice.”

The bill naming of the courthouse after Wheeler was signed into law on January 3, 2019, honoring his commitment to equality and his work during the Civil Rights Movement.

“When we name a building, we’re honoring the accomplishments of great Americans who inspire us to help make our nation a better place for all people,” said Brian Stern, regional administrator for GSA’s Southeast Sunbelt Region. “John Hervey Wheeler distinguished himself as a banker, attorney, and civil rights leader for the Durham community, the state of North Carolina and our country. It is an honor to commemorate his legacy today with the naming of this courthouse.”

When we name a building, we’re honoring the accomplishments of great Americans who inspire us to help make our nation a better place for all people.

BRIAN STERN
Regional Administrator for GSA’s Southeast Sunbelt Region





New Law School Pipeline Initiative – ETL Scholars



KIMBERLY COGDELL GRAINGER
Associate Dean

The Emerging Technology Leadership Program is a new law school pipeline program created jointly by the NCCU School of Law and the NCCU School of Library and Information Science. NCCU School of Law maintains its mission of providing opportunities for law school for underserved populations. This initiative directly supports this mission. Not only does the ETL program increase the pool of diverse applicants for law school, it also increases the diversity of the information sciences field as well. Although minority students tend to have lower indicators on some standardized tests, NCCU has accepted the challenge to assist aspiring law students obtain admission in law school by providing coaching and support for LSAT preparation. The first group of students that participated in the program took the LSAT in September. These students posted impressive improvements to their LSAT scores bringing many of these ETL Scholars above the median LSAT score for admission at NCCU School of Law. Our tradition of rigor is maintained within the program. Students are not automatically admitted to law school because of their participation in the program. They must earn the requisite application credentials to be offered admission to the law school. The ETL Program assists them by providing structure and coaching which may help them raise their LSAT scores.

During the summer of 2019 Interim Dean Elaine O’Neal and Dean John Gant formed a partnership to develop the program. After meeting with Associate Dean Kimberly Cogdell Grainger, Program Director for the ETL program, a group of administrators and faculty members including Dean Malik Edwards, Professor David Green, Professor Dorothy Hairston Mitchell, Professor Ansel Brown, and Dr. Shirley Faulkner-Springfield sketched out the plan for the program and moved quickly to implement it.

Professionals with expertise in the intersection of technology and law are in growing demand by successful national and global entities. This is a unique opportunity to become a leader in the area of law, information and technology. ETL Scholars form a cohort of students matriculating in the Masters of

Information Science program at North Carolina Central University during the fall semester.

A unique aspect of the program is that in addition to preparation in information science, ETL Scholars will complete a series of skills training modules designed to hone logical and analytical reasoning skills to prepare them for the LSAT. The students meet as a group/cohort to move through the fall semester together preparing for the LSAT and taking classes together in the MIS program. The cohort approach creates a community which is useful for test preparation and study groups. Law professors provide weekly coaching sessions to encourage the students, provide accountability and foster community amongst the group. Dr. Shirley Faulkner-Springfield, of the law school’s Writing Center provided a writing assessment for the students in the program. The law school’s Director of Wellness, Brett Bowers, provides sessions on coping with stress, test taking anxiety and goal visualization to create a holistic approach to LSAT preparation. Scholars are encouraged to sit for the September/October LSAT. During the fall semester, ETL students take required classes in the MIS program and participate in weekly LSAT, application and skills preparation. ETL Scholars will apply to the law school in October or November of the fall semester. If accepted into the JD program, ETL scholars will have the opportunity to transition from the MIS program to the JD/MIS program for the joint degree in law and information science leading to the JD/MIS degree. Upon successful completion of the program requirements, all ETL Scholars earn a Master of Information Science or a JD/MIS. Careers which combine law, information and technology are growing and we are excited about this innovative program. The ETL Program is being led by Kimberly Cogdell Grainger, Associate Dean for Accreditation and Professor of Law. Dean Grainger has taught at the law school since 2005. She has also served as Chair of the Faculty Senate. Creating the ETL program represents just one of the many initiatives the law school is planning with other units on campus.

Chancellor Award Recipient Demonstrates Commitment to Law School

Every year the NCCU Chancellor, Dr. Johnson O. Akinleye, recognizes employees who consistently exemplify exceptional levels of commitment and student service. Students recognize Michelle Gordon, Librarian Circulation Assistant, from the Service Desk inside the law library. There she checks out study aids, materials on reserve, and electronic peripherals left inadvertently in a car or at home. According to Michelle, “What I enjoy most about working in the library is reading the books, interacting and getting to know the students, and helping them select horn books, supplement books and other materials for their studies.” A constant presence providing support and encouragement to every class of law students since she joined the Legal Eagle family in December 2005.

A demonstrated commitment to the law school and a student service are credentials worthy of recognition, but few realize the depth of Michelle’s education and talents. Originally from Chicago, Michelle moved to North Carolina after graduating from the University of Washington (Seattle). Initially she planned to

pursue a Ph.D. at Duke University in American Ethnic Studies. Armed with experience working as a research assistant, Michelle worked at the Durham County Public Library for twelve years. Although she decided not to pursue the doctorate, Michelle moved onto to academic libraries.

During her time in libraries, Michelle has continued her studies. Today she can speak Korean, Japanese, some Mandarin Chinese, Spanish. She attributes her interest in languages to her father’s insistence that she pursue Japanese. A Merchant Marine, her father returned from working in Japan, enrolled her in a Japanese elementary school. From those experiences, Michelle developed an intense interest in Asian languages and culture which led her to martial arts. She has studied martial arts since 1971, “am [is] currently a 5th Dan master in Jidokwan Taekwondo, a 3rd Dan in Shorin Ryu Karate and have 1st Dan (black belt degrees) in Aikido, Judo and a white sash (black belt) in White Crane Gung-Fu.” Over the years, she has travelled extensively in South Korea and China.

Over the years, Michelle has taken up horology, the study of the measurement of time, and the art of making clocks and watches. An avid collector of watches for over 20 years, her collection had grown so long that she began giving away watches to graduating law students. Recognizing that “the majority of law students are in debt after law school with student loans, paying for bar prep, and the bar exam” she realized that these students did not have much money and a new watch for their new professional career would serve them well. To date Michelle has given away almost 200 watches from my collection, but she still has enough watches for her personal collection. She explains, “The majority of the watches that I give to students come from micro brand companies that will send me a free watch to wear, because it’s a new company that’s trying to promote their watch brand. I send feedback to the companies about their watches and tell them that I’m a horologist that donates watches to students and sometimes they will give me several watches or allow me to buy them wholesale for the students.” Michelle enjoys giving away the watches to students and hears from graduates that the watch serves as a great conversation starter and way to network with potential employers and clients.

Although Michelle knew that she’d been nominated for the Chancellor’s Award, winning the award came as a surprise. “My supervisor, Jonathan Beeker told me that... I needed to attend the Staff Day Ceremony [August 13, 2019]. I was surprised because I didn’t think I would win.” For Michelle, working with students and supporting the Legal Eagle community are part of her pledged commitment to the University.



What I enjoy most about working in the library is reading the books, interacting and getting to know the students, and helping them select horn books, supplement books and other materials for their studies.



Judge Wanda G. Bryant is a native of Brunswick County, NC. Judge Bryant graduated in three years from Duke University in 1977 with a degree in History and Comparative Area Studies. She also attended Oxford University in England. In 1982, she earned her law degree at North Carolina Central University. In 1983, Judge Bryant made history when she became the first African American and first female prosecutor for the 13th Prosecutorial District in North Carolina. As an Assistant District Attorney, she served the coastal counties of Bladen, Brunswick, and Columbus. Her experience as an Assistant D.A. in her own hometown helped shape her unbiased approach to the justice system and develop a strong sense of fairness and justice.

Beginning in 1989, Judge Bryant served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia where she focused on the prosecution of child and adult sexual assault cases, earning a Special Achievement Award for her distinguished work in the U.S. Attorney's Office. Judge Bryant returned to North Carolina to head then-Attorney General Mike Easley's newly created Citizens Rights Division. Under her leadership, the Division opened the first ever Sunshine Office, providing access to public records and open meetings. Her Division also worked with citizens and communities to address consumer protection issues, child abuse, elder abuse, hate crimes, and safe neighborhood initiatives.

In February 2001, Governor Easley appointed her as a Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, and she was reappointed in December 2002. Judge Bryant ran successful judicial election campaigns in 2004 and 2012. As a result, she has served for more than eighteen years on the Court of Appeals, where she is now second in seniority. Judge Bryant and her husband, Ronald Steven Douglas, Assistant Dean at North Carolina Central University School of Law, have two children and three grandchildren.



Commence

2019

Commencement exercises for the School of Law were held on Saturday, May 11th at King's Park International Church, Durham, NC. The speaker for the Law School ceremony was the Honorable Judge Wanda D. Bryant, North Carolina Court of Appeals.

In her commencement address, Judge Bryant emphasized the certification of an academic rigor education is a signal to the people of the world that graduates have been exposed to and the understand the legal principles which structure to the transactions to the country, both social and business. She also stressed that success on taking the bar examinations will qualify the graduates to represent the right of people in legal contests and transactions.

As NCCU lawyers with years of rigorous training, Judge Bryant noted NCCU graduates leave campus with "exceptional powers of analysis, expression, and persuasion." In conclusion, Bryant wished for NCCU's newest class of lawyers "the satisfaction of serving that high calling and of pursuing the highest ideals of law and justice." She encouraged our lawyers to go out and fly like the Eagles that have trained to be. We are extremely honored to welcome 2019 graduates to the Legal Eagle Family, and express our warmest congratulations to them.





ment



Irving Joyner. The NCCU School of Law and Professor Irving Joyner received the NAACP’s William Robert Ming Advocacy Award at the NAACP’s 110th Annual National Convention Center on July 22nd, 2019 in Detroit, Michigan.

This award is presented annually to an attorney (usually a litigator) who exemplifies the spirit of financial and personal sacrifices that Mr. Ming displayed in his decades of legal work for the NAACP.



Professors Brenda Gibson presented on a panel along with Saleema Snow (UDC), Professors Teri McMurtry-Chubb (Mercer), Jane Cross (Nova Southeastern), Shakira Pleasant (Miami), Latisha Nixon-Jones (SULC) and Tiffany Jeffers (Penn State Dickinson) for their panel presentation held at the 4th National People of Color Scholarship Conference at American University Washington College of Law (March 21-24th). The panel focused on the creation of a Legal Writing Pipeline called WAR—Writing as Resistance.

The purpose of the pipeline is to foster a conducive writing environment for people of color interested in teaching Legal Writing and Skills courses. The panel also celebrated and honored the launch of the social media movement @blackandbluebook on twitter. The social media movement highlighted and provided resources for legal scholars of color.



Brenda Reddix-Small. The NCCU School of Law and Professor Reddix-Small received the NBA IP Section’s Diversity in Tech Award on July 21, 2019 during the National Bar Association’s Annual Convention in New York, NY.

The NBA’s IP Section acknowledges the work of individuals, companies and schools that recognize the importance of fostering diversity and inclusion in the scientific and IP fields. The NBA IP Sections’ Diversity in Tech & IP Awards are designed to highlight the importance of ensuring that minorities and women are not excluded or left behind, and were created to acknowledge efforts to eliminate imbalances in the racial, ethnic and gender representation in the IP and technology fields.

The Tech awards were created to recognize diverse lawyers and in-house legal departments that have demonstrated a commitment to advancing the hiring, retention and promotion of diverse attorneys in the technology industry. North Carolina Central School of Law was

recognized along with Professor Reddix-Small as having a significant contribution to the field of Intellectual Property by creating a pool of diverse attorneys with its programs and curriculum.



Where Are They Now?

Gray Ellis, Class of 2001, had a vision of creating a family law firm where all families going through separation and divorce could receive exceptional representation in a comfortable and trusting environment. From this goal, Ellis Family Law, PLLC was born.

For nearly twenty years Gray has successfully represented hundreds of individuals and families in their



most important legal matters, including in district court, superior court, North Carolina Court of Appeals and North Carolina Supreme Court. In 2007 he became designated as a Board Certified Specialist in Family Law by the North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization – a distinction held by less than 2% of all family law practitioners in the state – and has been recognized for excellence in the practice of law by numerous independent attorney rating services, including Martindale Hubbell, Super Lawyers, and US News and World Report. The firm also has received numerous honors including winning the BBB Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics in 2019, an award for which they were runner up in 2017. According to the BBB “The Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics is the most prestigious award the BBB can present to a business. Being a recipient indicates the business

not only believes in high standards promoted by the BBB, but consistently demonstrates and integrates them into daily business practices.”

Gray is also a believer in giving back to both the legal profession and broader communities served by the practice. He is currently Vice President of the Board of Directors of Meals on Wheels Durham, and he created the Feed the Need Gala,



an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and funding to fight nutritional challenges among our

elderly population.

In August of 2009, Ellis Family Law hired its second “legal eagle,” Autumn Osbourne. Autumn rose in her career quickly as her passion for the law earned her the title of an aggressive and talented litigator and Judges and peers alike took notice. More recently Autumn was recognized as a Super Lawyer both in 2018 and 2019 and voted best lawyer along with her, now, business partner Gray Ellis in 2019. In 2016 Autumn became Board Certified by the North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization and continues to be well respected by Judges and her peers in the legal community. Autumn has worked with organizations such as the Durham County Legal Aid Clinic and the Durham’s Women Clinic as well as mentoring other young attorneys in the family law arena.

In November of 2013, the third “legal eagle,” Jillian Mack, came

aboard. Jillian is known as a zealous and fierce litigator, and with her in-depth knowledge of Family Law, North Carolina Rules and attention to intricate detail, she leaves no stone unturned. Jillian is an award-winning attorney and an active supporter of the legal profession at both the national and local level. Jillian has been recognized for excellence in the practice of law by numerous independent rating organizations such as The National Advocates, the North Carolina Business Journal, and North Carolina Central University. In 2011 the American Bar Association named Jillian one of its top ten representatives for her contributions to its members.

In October of 2016, the fourth “legal eagle”, Amanda Knight, joined the firm. While one of the youngest in the bunch, her talent far surpasses her years. Her everyday analytical thought process makes her a natural at family law. Amanda brings a passion and commitment to achieving client goals, while maintaining civility and professionalism in the practice of law. She is an active member of the Durham/Orange Junior League and volunteers with the Durham County Legal Aid Clinic.

In May of 2017 the fifth “legal eagle,” Rebecca Poole, joined the firm. Over the course of her legal career, Rebecca has maintained an unwavering commitment to achieving client goals, even when faced with challenging circumstances. She brings a powerful combination of skill, passion, and advanced training to the practice of family law. Rebecca became certified by both the North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization as a Specialist in Family Law in 2017 and certified by the Center for Cooperative Parenting in 2016. Rebecca has established a reputation for excellence and results in the areas of mediation, arbitration, litigation, and the collaborative divorce process.

Two NCCU Alumni Celebrated



Mickey
MICH AUX



Sammie
CHESS

Two North Carolina Central University Alumni, Former legislator H. M. “Mickey” Michaux Jr. and Judge Sammie Chess were celebrated at the fourth installment of the Legal Legends of Color Award on Friday, June 21, in conjunction with the 2019 NCBA Annual Meeting at the Biltmore in Asheville.

Mickey Michaux became Durham County’s first black representative in the General Assembly in 1972 and became the longest serving member of the N.C. House of Representatives, serving more than 43 years. His numerous contributions include banding together with the other two Africans Americans in the House to start the first black caucus. His imprint on North Carolina politics is deep-seated and meaningful.

Judge Sammie Chess of High Point made it through the Great Depression, Jim Crow era, and the civil rights struggle to become North Carolina’s first African American Superior Court judge. His legacy includes lawsuits that sought to integrate schools, theaters, hospitals and businesses in High Point and other N.C. cities.



Judge Reuben F. Young became the newest member of the North Carolina Court of Appeals on May 9, after taking the oath of office at a ceremony held at the Court of Appeals in Raleigh. Chief Linda McGee presided over the special court session and administered the oath to Judge Young.

Accompanying Judge Young in the ceremony were his wife, Pamela T. Young, sons Brandon Young and Avery Young, and mother-in-law Lula G. Thorpe. Current members of the Court of Appeals also were in attendance. Judge Young joins one other new member of the Court of Appeals who took an oath of office two days prior.

Judge Young most recently served as Chief Deputy Secretary for Adult Corrections and Juvenile Justice at the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. He also served for five years as a Special Superior Court Judge and as Secretary of the NC Department of Public Safety. Previously, Young was Chief Legal Counsel in the Office of the Governor and received the Distinguished Services Medal for his support of the North Carolina National Guard. He started his legal career in Austin, TX working as a prosecuting assistant attorney general and private practitioner. Judge Young returned to North Carolina in 1995 to work for the North Carolina Department of Justice. Young received his undergraduate degree from Howard University and his law degree from North Carolina Central University.



Karen Bestman Lewers is a 2015 Summa Cum Law graduate of NCCU School of Law. While at NCCU School of Law, Karen received the 1L Legal Writing Book Award, tutored Property I and II, participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, and served as a Staff Editor of the North Carolina Central Law Review. Aspiring to become

in-house counsel of a corporation, Karen’s primary interest in law school was commercial transactions and corporate law. During law school, she found opportunities to gain exposure to a broad range of corporate and commercial transactional matters by interning at The Coca-Cola Company, McGuireWoods LLP, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC, as well as an externship with the Honorable Cheri Beasley (now Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court). Karen truly believes that NCCU School of Law shaped her life in countless ways, and she is forever appreciative of the faculty and staff who were instrumental in developing and nurturing her career.

Currently, Karen is an attorney in Microsoft’s Corporate, External and Legal Affairs (CELA) Department where she reviews, drafts and negotiates complex cloud technology deals and provides counsel to business clients responsible for enterprise commercial customers in the U.S. northeast region on legal issues such as data privacy, security and regulatory compliance. Karen resides in the Washington D.C. area with her husband, Corey.



NCCU Law Alum 2019 recipient of the North Carolina Bar Association Intellectual Property Law Section's Outstanding Achievement Pro Bono Award

William G. Pagán of Coats Bennett, PLLC in Cary was honored on April 4. Pagan is a graduate of the Evening Program.

The award was presented in April, in conjunction with the section's annual meeting and CLE in Charlotte. Pagán is a remarkably accomplished attorney whose achievements belie the fact that he is only 40 years of age.

He is an award-winning patent attorney who has been credited as a named inventor on more than 130 patent applications, earning him the title of Master Inventor over the course of 15 years of developing patentable technologies for IBM.

To Be Young, Gifted and Black

Jonathan was awarded the North Carolina Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division Robinson O. Everett Professionalism Award on June 20, 2019. Jonathan received the award at the Bar Association's Annual Meeting, Awards & Recognitions Dinner at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC.



Jonathan BOGUES

In June of 2010, the Young Lawyers Division decided to honor recently deceased Robinson O. Everett by naming a special "Professionalism" Award for him. The award is given to an attorney whose commitment of time to be active in civic, bar law school education and community service activities inspire others and exemplify enthusiasm for achievement and excellence in the betterment for all.

Jonathan Bogues is an associate attorney with Moore & Alphin, PLLC in Raleigh, North Carolina. Jonathan was born and raised in Durham, North Carolina. Jonathan is a graduate of North Carolina State University and North Carolina Central University School of Law. Jonathan was a member of the North Carolina Bar Association Leadership Academy Class of 2017. He currently served as Membership Chair to the Wake County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. In addition, Jonathan is Co-Chair of the Wake County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Summer Clerks Orientation. He has served as Co-Chair of the North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division's Communications Committee and Young Lawyers Division Liaison to the Real Property Section of the North Carolina Bar Association.

1

CHARLOTTE, NC

Hosted by Robinson Bradshaw Law Firm.

2

ALEXANDRIA, VA

From the Investiture of 82 Grad Rossi David Alston Jr., for the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

3

NEW YORK, NY

Hosted by Milton Tingling and Atiba Adams on July 22nd, 2019 at Coogan's.

4

WASHINGTON, DC

Appreciation luncheon with alumni.

5

RALEIGH, NC

Hosted by Attorney Leonard T. Jernigan Jr. at the Governor's Mansion.

The office of Development and Alumni Relations want to give a special thank you to all in attendance at our alumni receptions this past year! The Assistant Dean enjoyed sharing updates on new initiatives, events and programs at the law school! We always love seeing our alumni and hearing about the wonderful things you all are doing. Our receptions are a great way to stay engage with the law school and your fellow alumni. For those of you not able to attend, you were missed and we hope to see you all next year's receptions. Below are a few snap shots of what took place at some receptions during the 2018-2019 reception tour. Keep up the great work, Legal Eagles!



LEGAL EAGLE



Gatherings



If you are interested in hosting an alumni reception in your area, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at: krekhrj001@nccu.edu



Enisa Smith

My name is Enisha Smith, and I am a 2019 graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law (NCCU Law). During my time at NCCU Law, I developed an interest in patent law. Now I am pursuing an electrical engineering degree at North Carolina A&T State University and intend to sit for the USPTO patent bar in 2020.

After completing my first year of law school, I gained an interest in intellectual property law and reached out to Professor Afshar, Director of the

NCCU IP Clinic, and Supervising Attorney for the Patent Services. I spoke with her over the phone and she encouraged me to try the patent clinic. Although I had zero experience in patent law and was very unfamiliar with this area of law, I decided to try the patent clinic for a semester. I enjoyed meeting new business owners and seeing their passion for their new, distinct inventions. But what I enjoyed most about working in the patent clinic was Professor Afshar's patience and eagerness to teach. Her passion and love for this area of law intrigued me, and I was eager to learn everything I could about patent law. After completing my first semester within the patent clinic, I decided to continue into the second semester.

I also joined the Intellectual Property Law Society and became president of the organization for my third year of law school, and my favorite extracurricular activity was competing in the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition as a member of the NCCU Trademark Moot Court team. Studying intellectual property law at NCCU Law, I learned about copyright law, trademark law, and patent law through coursework and participating in numerous programs held by the NCCU Intellectual Property Law Institute. Participating in these activities has provided me with a better understanding of the importance of protecting intellectual property.

Working within the patent clinic and participating in IP related activities opened up many opportunities for me. I was a recipient of the NCCU Law Patent Clinic Scholastic Award, and, during my final semester of law school, Professor Afshar connected me helped me secure a position within the NCCU Technology Transfer Department. Through my work in the Technology Transfers Dept., I was able to apply the legal analysis skills I learned in the IP Clinic.

As a graduate, I have received the Thurgood Marshall Access Scholarship because of my participation in IP during law school and my ambition to have a career as a patent attorney. This scholarship directly supports my pursuit of obtaining a degree in engineering at NC A&T.

In addition to all of the great opportunities I have received due to the Intellectual Property Institute and all that it has to offer, I developed a long-lasting relationship with a professor who has worked tirelessly to push the importance of intellectual property law. I have no doubt that any student interested in intellectual property law will have access to everything needed to develop the necessary training, and experience needed to succeed in this area of law.

Through the IP opportunities at NCCU Law, I have to obtained extensive intellectual property experience through experiential learning, participating and community service events, and working within the patent clinic.

Will Breeze

One of the most interesting aspects of the IP field is that it is constantly evolving, and as a patent attorney, we get to be on the frontlines of the changes. Now, working as patent attorney, one of my favorite parts of my job is working with incredibly bright innovators, and seeing how their minds work and how they go about solving problems in unique ways.

What I liked most about studying intellectual property law at NCCU School of Law was the passion, enthusiasm, and genuine care for the students. The professors take a sincere interest in each student's progress and ambitions, and help to maximize the experience for each student.

During law school, I worked in the USPTO-certified Patent Clinic at NCCU School of Law where I hands-on practical training that most people are only able to get after graduation.

As a student practitioner, I performed preliminary clearance searches, drafted patent applications, and responded to office actions under the guidance of Prof. Mimi Afshar, Patent Supervising Attorney and Director of the NCCU IP Clinic. This experiential learning gave me practical experience and training that set me apart from my peers when applying to job opportunities.

I enjoyed attending variety of talks and panels with NCCU alumni who are now practicing in the intellectual property field. Not only was I able to learn more about the IP field, but I was also able to get to know them better after their presentations.



The Honorable Lori A. Dumas

It was the late Dean Louis Westerfield who encouraged me to attend NCCU School of Law. I showed up in his office in a panic after my law school application process for other institutions had been halted due to delayed recommendations from a college professor. Knowing that NCCU was not my first choice, he promised me that he would assist me to transfer to another law school if after the first year I felt that my experience was not positive. He was extremely confident that I would stay, but made the offer just the same. I was coming from a college environment where I did not see many people that looked like me and I was apprehensive about my expectations. From the first class, I was blown away by both the professionalism and acumen of the law professors and the students. I was being prepared for the rest of my life by some of the most passionate and intelligent legal advocates that I had met up to that point in my life. Having the opportunity to work under my mentor Professor Irving Joyner was icing on the cake. Under his watch, I learned what true research really was and when you sprinkle those skills with his passion about “the War on Drugs”, my path towards true advocacy was being laid. I was able to use all that I learned under his guidance as both a capable attorney and respected jurist. There were many other academic influences at NCCU who I can credit for my passion for justice and equality as well as the understanding that hard work does and will pay off. I am truly blessed to have experienced such a stellar legal education coupled with the closeness of a law school community who cared about the students and the shaping of our moral perspectives and the responsibility of our success.

Needless to say, I left NCCU School of Law wearing a cap and gown...and I never got the chance to tell Dean Westerfield that he was right...

Congratulations to Of Counsel Magazine and the entire team of Contributors for keeping NCCU’s strong legacy of training great legal minds and shaping the world as a result.

To the upcoming graduates, never underestimate all of those who came before you who paved the way for you to study law and to make your contribution to the world.

Honorable Lori A. Dumas
NCCU School of Law ‘92

WILL BREEZE (CONTINUED)

I also interned at the USPTO where I was able to see how the patent prosecution process works from the perspective of a patent examiner. This gave me an appreciation for the volume of cases an examiner handles and the value of clear and concise communication from patent attorneys.

The in-house patent counsel externship at Glaxo Smith Kline gave me an opportunity to work in a fast-paced environment with

balancing competing priorities. I was also able to build great relationships with practicing attorneys in the field which helped me secure an in-house patent attorney position at TTI Floor Care North America Corporation.

I cannot stress enough how beneficial working in the NCCU Patent Clinic was for me. My training and exposure to inventions in a wide range of field has prepared me to practice in the IP field.



**HONORABLE
LORI A. DUMAS**

**Judge, Court of
Common Pleas
Philadelphia County**

The Honorable Lori A. Dumas has been serving in the First Judicial District since 2002. She is a graduate of Duke University and North Carolina Central University School of Law.

Judge Dumas’ commitment to children and families is personified through her tireless efforts on and off the Bench. Judge Dumas has been assigned to preside over many specialized court programs; but the one of which she is proudest, is the human trafficking pilot program of the Philadelphia Family Court, which she created to address the significant needs of children who have been commercially sexually exploited. She has worked tirelessly to build a “Dream Team” of professionals who recognize the complexities of these children’s situations in order to provide them the holistic and restorative treatment that they deserve as victims.

Judge Dumas is a member of the First Judicial District’s Elder Justice Resource Committee which was created to address local issues which are crucial to the legal well-being of Seniors in Philadelphia.

Currently, Judge Dumas presides in the Civil Division.



NCCU Trustee (1989-1995), Franklin R. Anderson

It is extreme sadness that we announce the passing of former North Carolina Central University Trustee, Franklin R. Anderson.

Throughout his life, the accomplished businessman has left a profound impact while serving in leadership roles within corporations and organizations. Despite not having an undergraduate degree, Anderson graduated with an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1971 and in 1997, the Harvard Business School named a classroom in his honor.

In addition to Anderson's successes, he always desired to give back and impact the lives of others. Among his higher education institutions, was his donation of \$ 1,000,000 in NCCU to establish the Charles Hamilton Houston Endowed Chair in the School of Law. Anderson along with his wife, Susie R. Powell, former NCCU Law faculty member and award-winning screenwriter, established the endowed chair to honor the famed civil rights attorney who served as the director of litigation of the National for the Advancement of Color People (NAACP), where he played an instrumental role in the dismantling of Jim Crow laws across the nation.

Anderson received an honorary degree from NCCU in 1996. He is also the retired chair of the board of Custom Molders, Inc. in Durham.



Joseph Edward Anthony

Joseph Edward Anthony, age 71, died on August 7, 2019. He was born on December 10, 1947 to Butris Pete Anthony and Margaret Zaden Anthony.

Joe grew up in Laurinburg, North Carolina. After graduating from Laurinburg High School and then East Carolina University in 1972 with a double major in psychology and philosophy, he obtained his teacher certification in special education and taught behaviorally and learning-disabled students for fourteen years. Upon completion of a master's degree in school administration from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 1980, he worked as an assistant principal at Scotland County High School in Laurinburg, where he later was appointed to administer a dropout-prevention program for high-risk students.

Motivated by his continuing desire to serve his community, Joe decided to attend law school, earning a juris doctor from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1987 with distinction and was a recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award. Over the course of his legal career, which spanned more than thirty years, he represented thousands of people who were injured, sometimes seriously, by the negligence of others. As an attorney, he was an active member of numerous legal organizations, including the Durham County Bar Association, for which he



Benjamin Adrain Currence '76

Benjamin A. Currence, of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, passed away on February 25, 2019, at the age of 67. He is survived by three children: Ameera W. Currence, Christopher R. Currence, and Kari E. Currence.

Ben, as he was affectionately known, possessed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from East Carolina University in Grccnville, North Carolina; a Juris Doctor (cum laude) from North Carolina Central University in 1976; and an LLM in International Business Law from The London School of Economics and Political Science. He was a staff attorney with the North Central Legal Assistance Program in Durham, North Carolina before moving to the Virgin Islands in 1979; and a staff attorney and managing attorney/director of litigation at Legal Services of the Virgin Islands before becoming an associate with Pallme Mitchell in St. Thomas. He was then managing partner of Mitchell & Currence, before becoming, in 1989, a solo practitioner concentrating in international business, civil litigation, commercial, corporate, personal injury and bankruptcy matters



Marjorie Sibley Canaday

Marjorie Sibley Canaday, of Gorge View Drive, Blowing Rock, passed away on Friday, September 13, 2019. Born on January 9, 1950, in Hammond, Louisiana, Marjorie lived in North Carolina for almost forty years.

Trained as a violinist, Marjorie was a graduate of Florida State University's music program. She performed with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and as a freelance artist. Later in life, Marjorie graduated from the North Carolina Central University School of Law, class of 1987. She served the people of North Carolina in the Office of the Attorney General and later the people of the High Country in private practice.

Marjorie is survived by her husband, Arthur Canaday; her son, Jeffrey Canaday; and her beloved step-children, Karen Canaday Whitlock, Clifford Canaday, and Lynn Canaday Black.

JOSEPH E. ANTHONY (CONTINUED)

served on the Local Rules Committee, and local American Inns of Court. In addition to the courts of the State of North Carolina, Joe was an admitted member of the bar of the United States Supreme Court.

Joe is survived by his wife of 46 years, Ivy Snow Anthony; son, Joseph ("Joey") Edward Anthony II and wife Courtney, and their son Declan Khalil; daughter, Laura Anthony Denton and husband Alec.



DONOR HONOR ROLL

The **Donor Honor Roll** is NCCU School of Law's opportunity to thank alumni, friends, and partners who have demonstrated their support of the law school's mission *to provide a high quality, personalized, practice-oriented and affordable legal education to historically underrepresented students from diverse backgrounds in order to help diversity the legal profession.* Your generosity increases scholarships offerings for students, provides funds to support scholarly endeavors for faculty, augments academics programs, and enhances current facilities. Your contributions are crucial to maintaining and enriching the NCCU Law experience.

The **Donor Honor Roll** list reflects annual gifts made July 1, 2018- Sept 30, 2019

DEAN'S CIRCLE
\$10,000 & Up

Norflot Progress Fund
Smith/Shaver Law School
Scholarship, Inc.
The Farrington Foundation
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Law Office of John L. Burris
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Mr. John T. Caldwell
Mr. Maurice R. Smith '05

BOND CIRCLE
\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mr. Atiba D. Adams '96
Judge Monte D. Watkins '84
The Hon. Milton A. Tingling '82
Atty. Marvin D. Genzer
Mrs. Jeannine M. Quick-Frasier

1930 CLUB
\$2,500 - \$4,999

Ms. Yolonda Joiner '15
Atty. Irving Joyner
Mr. Gregory W. Clinton Sr.
Mr. Ronald S. Douglas '82
Atty. Phyllis V. Craig-Taylor
rving Joyner, Attorney At Law
Ms. Candace B. Ewell '00
Mrs. Danielle T. Bennett JD '99
Atty. Dara M. Kendall '97
Atty. LaToya C. Merritt '00
Ms. Stephanie Jones
1st Atlantic Surity Co.

BARRISTERS
\$1,000 - \$2,499

Atty. David A. Green
Mr. Julian T. Pierce
Trustee James S. Walker '88
Mr. Grayson Cheek JD '08
The Hon. Lawrence C. McSwain
Triangle Community Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Jawara K. Lumumba
Ms. Lynn M. Burke '10
Attys John Burris and Cheryl
Amana-Burris
Atty. Carolyn B. O'Garro-Moore '87
Atty. Kelvin J. Atkinson '03
Mr. Aaron L. Spaulding '64
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
Mrs. Finesse G. Couch
Mrs. Nichelle Perry '97
Mrs. Kia D. Hardy-Vernon '93
Atty. Grady Jessup '74
Mr. Mark D. Locklear '96
Ms. Sonya M. Allen '99
Dr. Bruce L. Ballard
Ms. G. Caldwell Miller
Mr. Malik C. Edwards
Judge James M. Webb '76
Dr. Mary E. Wright
National Christian Foundation
Ms. Renee L. Bowser '82
Mr. Bert Collins Sr. '70
Atty. Anthony Fox '82
Atty. Curtis T. Brown '90
Mrs. Betty A. Green '69
Mr. William C. Johnson Jr. '97
Minority Television Project, Inc.
K&L Gates, LLP
Farris and Farris, P.A.
Atty. Allen K. Robertson
Ms. Julia H. Macrae
Atty. John B. Carter Jr.

EAGLE'S COURT
\$500- \$999

Eventbrite

Mrs. Kimberly C. Grainger
Atty. Pamela S. Glean '80
Mrs. Dorothy H. Mitchell '99
Ms. Sonny S. Haynes '10
Atty. Fred J. Williams
Ms. Susan E. Hauser
Mr. Tyrone R. McClean
Ms. Susan L. Hester
Atty. Adrienne L. Meddock '91
Mr. Devon E. White JD '02
Atty. Lawrence M. Campbell Esq '89
Ms. Latrice N. Lee '12
Atty. Robert H. Bembry III '88
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Hill-Jefferson '84
Mrs. Julia W. Taylor '09
Atty. James D. Williams Jr. '76
Dr. Samuel T. Rhoades III '67
Atty. Nathan T. Garrett Sr. '86
Atty. Dorothy G. Hunt '09
Mr. Gerald L. Walden Jr. '01
Atty. Kenneth D. Snow '00
Ms. Tammy D. Nicholson '99
Atty. Harry L. Southerland '94
Mrs. Anitra D. Royster '99
Ms. Karen G. Darlington Phelps '99
Mrs. Kimberly R. H. Stahl '04
Mrs. Dedria Kolb '08
Durham Chapter Jack & Jill
Law Office of Oscar Blanks III PLLC
Ms. Phyllis Kotey
North Carolina Bar Association
-Foundation
Mr. Aaron Tropmann, DDS,PA
Mr. Eugene Soar '05
Mr. Erogers Stinson '72
Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton
Lavish Hair Spa

MARON & GREY CLUB
\$100- \$499

Ms. Sommer J. Murphy '08
Gen. Regina R. Parker
Mr. Robert Waters
Mr. Aubrey W. Turner Jr.
Mr. Chimezie T. Okobi '11
Atty. Victor J. Boone '75
Mr. Frederick C. Hutchinson
Ms. Janice P. Paul
Mrs. Staris B. Powell '93
Mr. William V. Lucas '98
Atty. Ulysses C. Taylor '92
Mrs. April G. Dawson
Mrs. Deria P. Hayes '93
Mrs. Pamela M. Thombs '99
The Honorable Dale G. Deese '89
Ms. Brenda D. Gibson JD '95
Mrs. Jane F. Finch '78
Atty. Judith E. Washington '77
Mr. Robert Davis, III '17
The Law Offices Of Gregory Reynald
Williams, PLLC
Ms. Shelly B. DeAdder JD
Ms. Lydia E. Lavelle
Mrs. Dorothy D. Nachman
Ms. Gennell R. Curry '97
Mrs. Lisa A. Kamarchik '06
Mr. Christopher Greenidge '15
Ms. Karen L. Prus '95
Atty. Arien P. Cannon '11
Mr. Jared R. Rice '04
Mr. Harry N. Daniels '10
Ms. Arlene D. Hanks '96
Ms. Cindy Bembry '07
Ms. Ortharine Williams '94
Mr. Andrew Ritchie
Ms. Barbara J. Smith
The Hunt Law Firm, PLLC
Atty. Sheryl T. Friedrichs '98

Ms. Kimberly A. Herrick '02
Mr. Frederick W. Fleming '01
Ms. Anna M. Davis '10
Atty. Brian O. Beverly '95
The Hon. Michael R. Morgan '79
Ms. Debra McNeil '85
Mr. Hugo A. Owens Jr. '82
Lt. Col. Edward M. Anderson Sr. '76
Judge James H. Faison III '84
Atty. Tonnie R. Villines '88
First Chronicles Community Church
Mr. Ulysses B. Leverett
Mr. Michael Frazier
Teague, Campbell, Dennis & Gorham,
L.L.P.
Mrs. Katherine Dingle
Atty. Donald Wright
Ms. Angela D. Gilmore
The Jernigan Law Firm
New Direction Family Law
Mr. Ruffin Poole
Southeast Asian Coalition API Fund
Hatch, Little & Bunn L.L.P.
IBM Matching Grants
Senator Allen H. Wellons
Law Office of Bryant & Brown, PLLC
Mr. Benjamin A. Brewington III '92
Ms. Kathryn V. Bumgardner '88
Mr. Nathan K. Prather JD '97
Mrs. Gale M. Adams '84
Atty. William A. Dudley Sr. '76
Atty. E. Yvonne Pugh '70
Atty. Michael J. McCrann '76
Atty. A.R. Edmondson '76
Atty. Steven W. Fowler '99
Mr. Jay J. Chaudhuri '99
Atty. Joseph H. Mitchiner '76
Mr. Jonathan D. Shaw '08
Atty. Raymond Sitar '72
Atty. Pamela T. Young '85
Mr. Hugh A. Harri '03
Mr. John M. Logsdon '95
Mr. Omololu Edun
Sandlin Family Law Group
Mr. William Pittman
Mr. Neil Camak '95
Ms. Sarah Brooks '10
Frasier & Griffin PLLC
Mrs. Laura Martin '08
Mr. Phillip Cowan '06
Ms. Karen L. Lander '11
Judge Benjamin G. Alford '78
Ms. Chassidy N. Hinton '14
Mrs. Hayes J. Finley '14
Mrs. Kristina Thompson '08
Mr. William C. Bowie III '85
Ms. Stacey A. Phipps '99
Mr. David Sherlin '04
Mr. T. G. Doucette '12
Mr. Patrick T. Buffkin '12
Mr. Chadwick E. Boykin '15
Ms. Natasha A. Adams JD '01
Atty. Lonnie G. Albright III '86
Ms. Gizette Webb '71
LW Steven D. Forbes '16
Mr. Juan A. Arreola '17
Ms. Helen L. Parsonage '06
Ms. Nina E. Olson '91
Mr. Morris T. Billingslea '74
Atty. Sarah J. Farber '08
Jack and Jill of America Inc-
Durham Chapter
Atty. Charles E. Smith
Ms. Stacey L. Carless
Ms. Lisa White
Ms. Jennifer D. Best
Mr. Elias E. Brown II
Ms. Mauranda O. Elliott

Ms. Krishnee V. Coley '00
Ms. Ariel E. Harris Roberson '13
Law Office of John A. Waller Jr.
Mr. Walter Gibson
Mrs. W. Gale Crews
Ms. Kia Vernon
Atty. Charles L. Becton
Ms. Christina Llewellyn
Ms. Elizabeth S. Gold
Mrs. Iris O. Gilchrist
Mr. Chikaoilili E. Anyikire '16
Mr. Timothy L. Coggins '84
Mr. Kevin G. Montgomery
Mrs. Betty Levett
Ms. Sara W. Trexler '17
Mr. Raymond C. Pierce
Mr. Christopher F. Peffley '04
Mrs. Fenita T. Morris-Shepard '92
Ms Suzanne J. Wasiolek '89
Mr. Clayton J. Jones Jr. '03
Mr. Charles C. Blanton JD '11
Mrs. Tracy H. Barley '93
Ms. Missy M. Phelps '02
Atty. Matthew P. Sperati '99
Atty. Hassan T. Kingsberry '04
Mr. Stephen B. Walker '06
Ms. Samantha L. Cox '15
Mr. William G. Pagan '14
Mrs. Pearla M. Alston '04
Ms. Melanie E. Bates '11
Ms. Dawn Y. Baxton '98
Atty. Braxton H. Bell '89
Mr. Phillip J. Parker, Jr. '10
Atty. Pauline Hankins '94
Ms. Constance T. Foster '92
Atty. Lori B. Warlick '07
Mr. William L. Redd '76
Mr. John E. Stephenson '09
Atty. William Dudley Jr. '08
Mr. Timothy J. Peterkin '01
Atty. Paula K. McGrann '01
Ms. Shamiaka Rhinehart '01
Mrs. Brenda G. Branch '01
Ms. Vanya G. Allen Esq '02
Mr. Albert M. Benshoff '93
Atty. Amos Granger Tyndall '92
Mr. Michael A. Robinson '81
Atty. Michael W. Willis '81
Atty. Kimberly A. Moore '91
Mr. Charles H. Holmes '75
Mr. Nathaniel E. Green '86
Ms. Rosa M. Scarborough '75
Mr. Ira L. Foster '88
Atty. Keith O. Gregory '94
Ms. Wanda E. Allen-Abraha JD '91
Mr. Ulysses Bell '76
Atty. Dedrick Brittenum Jr. '82
The Honorable Wanda G. Bryant '82
Mrs. Tonia D. Butler Perez '76
Mr. Stephen O. Russell '76
Ms. Detrece A. McMillon '85
Atty. Floyd M. Lewis '72
Atty. Deborah M. Mayo-Jefferies '76
Trustee Garland K. Chadwell
Mr. Floyd L. Reeves
Schwab Charitable Fund
Sincerely Yours Salon
Alase Center For Enrichment II, Inc.
Ms. Tonya Boykin
Custom Gas Solutions
Ms. Lu Yang
Dr. W. M. Thornton Jr.

SUPPORTER
\$1- \$99

Ms. Jennifer Lee '01
Ms. Tia M. Brown '01
Ty Ink Promotions

An Invitation For Trans4Mation
Ms. Vallie M. Washington
Ms. Fiona Colin '17
Mrs. Phyllis Cuffie
The Cuffie Law Firm
Ms. Shirley Simmons
Ms. Joy Clark
Ms. Arminta D. Foushee
Ms. Patricia Jeter
Ms. Bernita Cooper
William L. Redd Attorney At Law
Mr. James W. Smith '69
Ms. Kinna N. Clark '14
Ms. Idriisa A. Smith '06
Mr. Sidney O. Minter '11
Ms. Nicole Y. Drew '11
Atty. Trasha N. Hickman '02
Atty. Nancy Mayer '06
Atty. Beverly A. Scarlett '93
Mr. Eric C. Williams '09
Atty. Teresa Mason '90
Mr. Victor Motley JD '81
Atty. LeRoy W. Etheridge '84
Atty. Percel H. Brown '70
Mrs. Althia R. Scriven '79
Atty. Michele Allison-Davis '81
Mrs. Constance A. Walker '64
Mr. John K. Stokes '81
Atty. Leslie O. Wickham Jr. '83
Mrs. Edith L. Williams '75
Mr. Patrick A. Lesane
Law Office of Keisha D. Bluford
Atty. T. Mdoana Ringer, Jr.
Mr. Brett Bowers
Ms. Monique E. Tuset
Mr. Joseph White
Mr. John Hicks
Mr. Bryan J. Moreno
Mr. Luke C. Bradshaw
Ms. LaKeshia S. Banks '08
Mr. Andre T. McDavid '12
Ms. Markyshia K. Reynolds
Mr. John Lofton III
Ms. Jo Ann Reeves
Mr. Tyrone McLean '13
Mr. Thomas A. Dykers '12
Mr. Khalil C. Eaddy '16
Ms. Brittany K. Brown '13
Mr. Adam P. Mincher '14
Ms. Elizabeth A. Moore '14
Ms. Heidi Stewart JD '95
Ms. Saleisha N. Aeverhart '09
Ms. Oneshia S. Herring '10
Ms. Lisa Kirscht '98
Mr. T. M. Shuford, Jr. '73
Mrs. Carolyn G. Boone '01
Mr. Daron D. Satterfield '98
Mr. Thomas J. Neagle '02
Mrs. Carolyn T. Walker '71
Atty. Keith A. Bishop '92
Mrs. Rosada A. Davis-Layne '69
Mrs. Janet W. Brown Esquire '85
Mrs. Janie V. Harrell '87
Mr. J. Allen Smith
Ms. Niccoya D. Dobson '11
Mrs. Jocelyn R. Wright '12
Atty. Stanley B. Sprague '74
Ms. Lisa McDow '93
Ms. Meredith R. Stone
Mr. Matthew R. Banks '08
Mr. Kaj Gumbs
Ms. Khaliyah Waters
Ms. Chana M. Powell '17
Mr. Selby A. Lo JD '16

DONOR HONOR ROLL

To the best of our knowledge, the information in this Honor of Donors accurately reflects our record of all gifts made July 1, 2018- Sept 30, 2019. However, we acknowledge that omissions or errors, while regrettable may occur. If you discover any inaccuracy, please notify the Office of Development at (919)-530-7400 or email ncculawdevelopment@nccu.edu



We would like to share some exciting news about the decision to enhance our planned giving program through our agreement with N.C. Gift Planning, LLC. Under this new agreement, N.C. Gift Planning, LLC will issue life income gifts such as Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT's) and Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA's) on behalf of NCCU School of Law. This will be a major addition to our fundraising program.



Other Ways to Give

Remainder Trust

A charitable remainder trust (CRT) is an irrevocable trust that generates a potential income stream for you, as the donor to the CRT, or other beneficiaries, with the remainder of the donated assets going to School of law or other favorite charities.

Gift Annuity

A charitable gift annuity is a way to make a gift to support North Carolina Central University School of law. You simply transfer cash or property to NCCU School of law and in exchange, we promise to pay fixed payments to you for life. The payment can be quite high depending on your age, and a portion of each payment may even be tax-free.

Bequest

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make. with the help of an attorney, you can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift to be made to family, friends or North Carolina Central University School of law as part of your estate plan, or you can make a bequest using a beneficiary designation form.

Our Areas of Greatest Need

Annual Fund

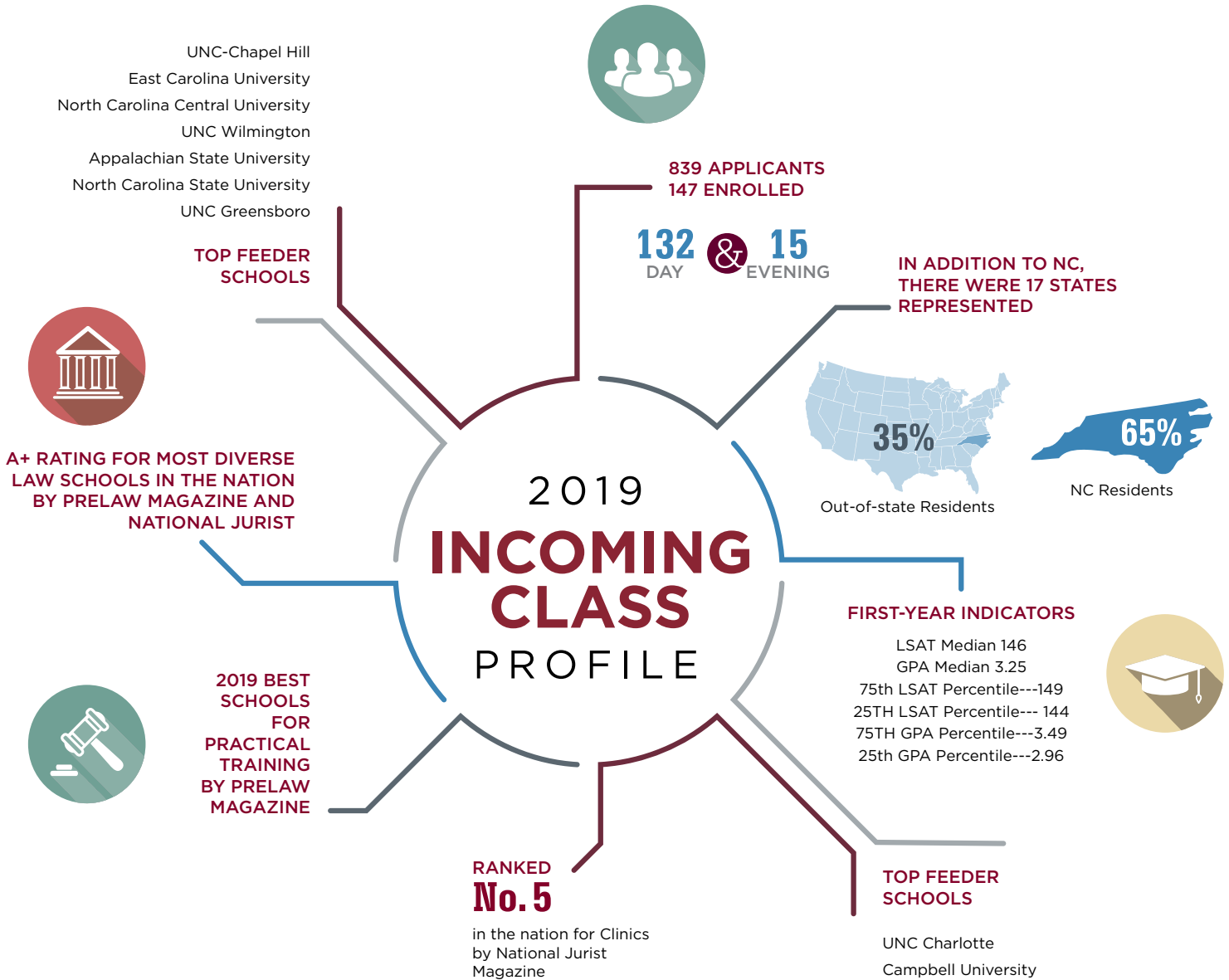
The School of law's annual fund enables alumni and friends to support academic programming, scholarships, fourteen clinics and student life. The cumulative impact of our generous donors is staggering. Giving to NCCU School of law every year ensures that the annual fund impact is continuous and consistent.

Scholarship

The ability to attract and support the best and the brightest students, regardless of their financial circumstances, is of the utmost importance to the law school. In the past year, we have doubled the amount of money raised for scholarships, and we will continue to do even more. To help create scholarships for these deserving students, please make a gift today.

Please give us a call at 919-530-6365 if you would like further information about these exciting giving opportunities.

For more information, contact the NCCU School of Law Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at 919.530.5244 or you may also give online at www.nccu.edu/donation/



Office of Admissions

- Anthony J. Ervin**
Director of Admissions
- Sandra Brown Bechtold**
Director of Enrollment Management
- LaToya M. Burt**
Admissions Coordinator





NC Central
UNIVERSITY

School of Law

640 Nelson Street
Durham, NC 27707

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.359
Durham, NC