



WELCOME TO THE NEST, NEW LEGAL EAGLES

By Interim Dean Malik C. Edwards



Welcome back Legal Eagles! And to those of you entering the Nest for the first time, welcome home! We are a family here, and I hope you will find this a warm and welcoming home, as you study under some of the greatest legal scholars in the nation.

As Interim Dean, I want to take a moment to say thank you for the communications of support that I have received. I am honored and humbled to serve in this period of transition. I know that we are all

still processing the loss of Dean Lewis, and I will do my best to honor her legacy as we move forward with the appointment of a permanent Dean.

We're excited to begin introducing the work of our new Social Justice and Racial Equity Institute (SJREI) and our Tech Law and Policy Center (TLPC). The SJREI intends to build collaboration between experts in a variety of disciplines to develop a comprehensive analysis of social problems and systems rooted in the history of racism and develop policy proposals, solutions, and legal strategies driven by data and contextualized by that history in order to repair and reverse the harm of racial injustice.

We continue to find new ways to live our mission, educate our students and advance our work by making strategic investments in technology. On October 14-15, we will convene our Inaugural Law and Technology Summit. The Law School is committed to preparing students for the increasing technology-driven legal industry and, in support of that mission, has established the Law and Technology Certificate Program made possible through our partnership with Intel. The Law and Technology Certificate recognizes a student's successful completion of a focused course of technology and law study. For more information about the Technology, Law and Policy Center and the upcoming Summit, visit law.nccu.edu.

Lastly, we recognize that as you matriculate through law school, your commitment and dedication to personal and academic excellence will be tested. But it is also part of what is going to make you who you are. It will contribute to your resilience, and you will be incredibly proud of yourselves for your ability to thrive. I know you are up to this task. I believe in you. In choosing law, you have chosen a noble profession dedicated to serving those in need, and you have all made a life-long commitment to legal education. I hope to meet each of you as the year progresses. Wishing you a successful semester!

RESET, RESTART AND EMBARK!

August is National Wellness Month

By Director Brett Bowers, Office of Wellness



National Wellness Month is here! Apt or ironic (depending on your point of view) for those of us so connected to the pulse of academic life. But either way, this is a time of new beginnings—as we reset, restart, and embark on our next cycle. What better time to move forward with a spirit of wellness for ourselves?

For many, the term “wellness” implies basic human maintenance items: getting enough rest, or square meals, or physical movement. And for others, it may mean successfully managing or attending to factors that are impacting us negatively. These are important! And just as well, we each have wellness needs in a more nuanced and individualized way—needs around connection to ourselves and others, needs around our sense of security, needs around our sense of growth and progression. We have the need to experience our life, in our own ways, as adequate and meaningful.

How do you experience your own sense of wellness at this point-in-time? Do you feel something missing, skewed, over-amplified, or disconnected? Is it in the past, the now, or something anticipated? How might you describe and give context to that sense you have? Or maybe you already know exactly what it is and represents. How might you attend to that identified area in a way that is centric to yourself?

As we begin our new season, all the best in your personal wellness!

Upcoming Events

- August 31:** Dean Search Listening Sessions
- September 9:** NCCU School of Law Board of Visitors Meeting
- September 16:** Constitution Day
- October 14-15:** Law and Technology Summit
- October 20:** Social Justice and Racial Equity Institute Event
- October 30 - November 5:** NCCU Homecoming

To share your good news, career promotions, recognitions, or other points of pride, email us at: ncculawdevelopment@nccu.edu



WELCOME NEW FACULTY AND STAFF



Major Coleman
Assistant Professor



Tenika Hall
Visiting Professor



Kristen Covington
Career Services



Kevin P. Lee
Tech Law & Policy Center



Dana Jones
Assistant Professor



De'Erricka Green
Tech Law & Policy Center



Samantha Thorne
Law Library



Timothy Cousin
Tech Law & Policy Center



David G. Williams
Registrar



Laura Matthews-Jolly
Assistant Professor

LEGAL LEGENDS

Oral History Pilot Video Series

The Faculty Development Committee has embarked on a pilot project to help preserve the Law School's history by creating an oral history video series. The digital collection is comprised of audio and video recordings of extensive interviews with some of NCCU Law's most esteemed faculty and alumni, with a focus on their time at the Law School, what makes it unique and the way it has influenced their legal career. The Law School is working collaboratively with University Communications to roll out the video series via the web, LinkedIn Live and other platforms beginning in September.

Thank you to the following faculty members for participating in the spring pilot: Charles Smith (retired professor), Professor Phylliss Craig-Taylor, Fred Williams (retired professor), Professor Irving Joyner, Professor Lydia Lavelle, Professor David Green, Cheryl Amana (retired professor) and Associate Dean April Dawson.

The Law School will also work with University Archives to make this footage accessible for historical reference.



LEGAL LEGENDS

Watch this Oral History Video Series about NCCU Law
Coming Fall 2022



Charles Smith



Phylliss Craig-Taylor



Fred Williams



Irving Joyner



Lydia Lavelle



David Green



Cheryl Amana



April Dawson



CLINIC CORNER

The NCCU School of Law Civil Litigation Clinic (CLC) is excited this year to build on the community work of the class from last year and previous years. The CLC will continue defending Durham residents facing eviction and who live in uninhabitable conditions. In these cases, students will learn the law of leases, breach of contract, Fair Housing law, and summary ejection procedures. They will apply the rules of civil procedure as they draft and file answers, counterclaims, and serve discovery requests. They will defend motions for summary judgment and conduct trials. They will learn how to communicate with clients, court personnel, and opposing counsel, and maintain case files electronically. Last year, the clinical students handled more than 80 evictions, resulting in a 90% dismissal rate.

This year we will continue to dispense justice for tenants and hope for an even greater outcome. CLC students will also continue our work on a high-profile case of police excessive force and another case involving the violation of protesters' First Amendment rights. In these cases, students will learn how to litigate civil rights actions under 42 U.S.C. Sec 1983. They will get some experience with complex federal litigation, drafting a complaint, taking depositions, and responding to claims of qualified immunity.

CLC will learn what it means to be a community lawyer. Collecting data, working with community organizers, advocating for policy changes, and representing clients, the CLC students will continue our tradition of community lawyering in Durham and in North Carolina. The CLC welcomes donations designated to the Clinic for litigation costs to pay for depositions and expert testimony in these cases.



Professor Scott Holmes
Senior Clinical Professor and
Director of the Civil Litigation Clinic
Co-Director of the Social Justice and
Racial Equity Institute (SJREI)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Julian T. Pierce Memorial Art Scholarship Dinner



Left to right: Atty. Joshua Malcom '04, Judge Greg Bullard '00, Atty. Kelvin Jacobs '13, NCCU Law School Interim Dean Malik C. Edwards, NCCU Law Professor Dorothy D. Nachman and Director Brett Bowers

Pierce helped low-income residents get much needed health and legal services and helped found Lumbee River Legal Services now known as NC Legal Aid and Robeson County Health Care Corporation. He was instrumental in the movement to integrate Robeson County's inequitable school systems into one school system to provide quality education for all. In 1988, Pierce was assassinated while running for election as a Superior Court judge. He was 42. If elected he would have been the first American Indian to hold the position of Superior Court judge in North Carolina.

The scholarship proceeds support students from NCCU School of Law where Pierce earned his law degree, UNC Pembroke and Robeson Community College.

Law School faculty, administrators and alumni attended the 9th Annual Julian T. Pierce Memorial Art Scholarship Dinner on August 6. Julian Pierce was an attorney and civil rights activist in Robeson County.

A 1976 graduate of NCCU School of Law, Pierce fought for education, equality and justice for all people. He is remembered for his work to inspire social change in the community.



JULIAN T. PIERCE
MEMORIAL ART DINNER