



FAMILY LAW CLINIC - CLINIC CORNER

Anchored in Truth and Service, the Family Law Clinic has served countless underprivileged families in the areas of child custody, divorce, domestic violence and child support. This past semester has truly been a rollercoaster ride, but Clinical Director and Visiting Professor Katrina L. Smith is committed to producing practice-ready practitioners who are sensitive to addressing the needs of people and communities that are traditionally underserved and under-represented by the legal profession.



Attorney Katrina L. Smith

With Associate Dean Nakia C. Davis, Assistant Professor Dana "G." Jones, and Clinical Director/Supervising Attorney of the Juvenile Law Clinic Tenika R. Hall serving as mock judges, the Family Law Clinic students dissected a complicated legal fact pattern and conduct three mock trials in lieu of taking a final exam during the fall semester.

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, students were afforded an opportunity to join Professor Smith at a Domestic Violence and Homeless Awareness Brunch sponsored by Jasmine's S.M.A.R.T. House in Raleigh, NC. The Awareness Brunch featured Drea Kelly, the ex-wife of R. Kelly, as the keynote speaker and Professor Smith provided the attendees with legal strategies on how to successfully obtain domestic violence protective orders. After the event, the students and Professor Smith participated in a private meet-and-greet with Ms. Kelly who expressed a sincere desire to partner with NCCU's Family Law Clinic on additional community-based initiatives in the near future.



In honor of National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, the Family Law Clinic and Professor Smith's Pleadings and Practice class partnered with Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity and donated over 200 of the 400 cans that were provided to the

underserved families at the Durham Rescue Mission. This spring, the Family Law Clinic will be hosting free legal workshops and clinics with the Durham County Attorney's Office and Legal Aid of North Carolina to empower and equip community members on how to represent themselves in family court.

Katrina L. Smith is a Visiting Clinical Professor and Director and Supervising Attorney of the Family Law Clinic



CONGRATULATIONS FALL '22 LAW GRADUATES

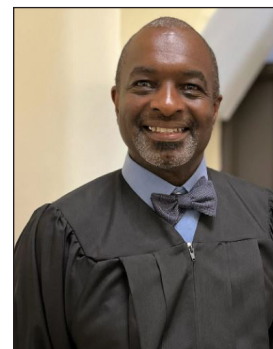


Kendall Alligood • Jordan Anderson • Tyler Chavonne
Caison Clemmons • Kayla Fagan • Mary Hardee • Whitley Lyons •
Tierra Norris • Brianna Randolph • Tyra Slade

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Governor Cooper appoints the Honorable Craig James '96 to serve as District Court Judge in Judicial District 11

The Honorable Judge Craig James '96 has been appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to serve as district court judge in Judicial District 11 (Harnett, Johnston, and Lee counties). Judge James will fill the vacancy created by the election of the Judge Paul Holcombe to superior court judge. Judge James has served as a district court judge since April 2022.



He earned his Bachelor of Arts and his Juris Doctorate from North Carolina Central University.



Q&A WITH STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Brandon Hedgebeth

Hometown/Undergraduate Insitution:

High Point, NC
NCCU BA History and English
MBA/JD

Reason for pursuing a JD -
I wanted to be an attorney from the time I was a kid. I witnessed trials and tribulations in my community that impacted people that looked like me. I want to be a solution for my community and other minority communities. I aspire to address the wealth gap with the expertise I gain.



Plans after Graduation - I plan to work in a corporate law firm after completing the 2023 Uniform Bar Examination (UBE). My areas of practice will include corporate law (mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, venture capital).

Hobbies/Interests - I enjoy spending time with my family. We are extremely close knit. I enjoy spending time with friends that have also become like family. I love music and my oldies playlist is undefeated. I enjoy working out and reading. As an undergraduate historian, I enjoy learning about the African Diaspora.

Why I ran for SBA President? As a soon to be "Triple Eagle" I have an expectation of NCCU. My experience entering the university was exceptional. The culture, activities, and relationships assisted in my molding as a man, alum, and professional. I served in multiple organizations in my undergraduate tenure. One of the positions that taught me a lot about the university and how it operated was Student Government Association President. I wanted to implement some of what I learned overtime within the law school. My hope was that it would enhance the student experience pertaining to the culture, health and wellness, and political action and civic engagement. I enjoy being an ear for my peers, working alongside my executive board and committees, and creating avenues to address their needs while also hosting impactful programming. Lastly, I love my alma mater and will always volunteer myself as a servant leader to leave my institution in better posture.

Greek Founders Day Spotlight

- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. - January 5, 1911
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. - January 9, 1914
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. - January 13, 1913
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. - January 15, 1908

LAW FACULTY PRESENT AT THE 2023 AALS ANNUAL MEETING

Several NCCU Law faculty members presented and participated at this year's Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting. The 2023 Conference "How Law Schools Can Make a Difference," was held January 3-7, in San Diego, California.

Professor Brenda Reddix-Small, Speaker

Topic: Why Do IP Professors Hate the Metaverse

Dean Kia Vernon, Presenter

Topic: What a Difference Makes: Empowering Students through Self Determination Theory

Professor Nichelle Perry, Moderator

Topic: Law Libraries and Legal Information: DEI, Recruitment & The Future of Law Librarianship.

Professor Kevin Lee, Speaker

Topic: Technology, Law & Legal Education

ASSOCIATE DEAN APRIL DAWSON WINS AALS SECTION OF THE YEAR AWARD



Associate Dean April Dawson was the 2022 Chair of the AALS Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education. In recognition of the Section's robust 2022 programming and support of the legal academy, the Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education was named one of the AALS Sections of the Year.

The Section of the Year award is granted to one or two of the 107 AALS Sections each year in recognition of excellence in member support and other activities that promote AALS's core values. "As technology continues to disrupt, influence, and impact the way lawyers practice and what lawyers practice, law schools need to more rapidly adjust law school curricula to ensure law students receive the necessary legal tech training in the form of both law practice technology courses and technology law courses," says Dawson. "The work of the AALS Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education is vital. This year, the Section continued to increase member engagement, provide teaching support to the entire academy, support technology-related legal scholarship, and lead and support efforts to improve legal education. We appreciate the recognition of the important work we do."

Upcoming Events

- January 11: Celebration of Life for Ms. Keshawna Alderman
- January 16: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 20: Deadline for 2023 Of Counsel Magazine Articles
- January 20-22: 1L Mock Trial Competition