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February 25, 2008 | Vol. XI, Issue 23

Florida's Role In Global Issues Focus of 14th Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference



The University of Florida Levin College of Law's **14th Annual Public Interest Environmental Conference (PIEC)** will be held Feb. 28- Mar. 1, 2008, at the UF Law campus. The theme of this year's conference is "Reducing Florida's Footprint: Stepping Up to the Global Challenge." The conference will focus on Florida's role in global issues on energy, land use, biodiversity, and water. The PIEC will take place in conjunction with the **1st Annual University of Florida Water Symposium**—"Sustainable Water

Resources: Florida Challenges, Global Solutions." On the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 27, the PIEC opens with a pre-conference keynote speech by Sheila Watt-Cloutier, an Inuit climate change and human rights activist and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize nominee. The speech will be held at the Reitz Union Ballroom and is free and open to the public. Doors open at 7 p.m. Co-sponsored by UF Office of Sustainability, the conference is free for all UF students, faculty and staff.

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Career Services: News on Government Internships, Summer Career Fair in New York in *The CCS Buzz*



Read about approaching deadlines for government internships and this summer's career fair in New York presented by the ABA Law Student Division in this week's issue of *The CCS Buzz*, your source for a quick synopsis of programming, recruiting, networking, volunteer, and "SHIP" opportunities available to you. *The CCS Buzz* can be found in *FlaLaw Online*, via a link on your

Symplicity homepage after you log in, or you can pick up a hard copy in Career Services at 244 Bruton Geer Hall. Click below to download *The CCS Buzz*, your weekly guide to what is important to your career and professional development:

- [The CCS Buzz](#)

Career Spotlight: John G. White III



As president-elect of The Florida Bar, John G. White III (JD 83) follows in the footsteps of 32 other University of Florida law grads in the association's 58-year history who have been Bar presidents and is UF Law's first president-elect since 1998. White will take over as Bar president in June 2008. "It has been way too long," said White, who is a shareholder in the firm Richman Greer in West Palm Beach. With the role of leading one of the largest bar associations in the country, White says he's looking forward to the challenge of continuing to improve ethics and professionalism among the more than 80,000 lawyers in Florida. "The

Florida Bar spends more than \$12 million on lawyer discipline every year," White said. "We're really trying to make it a more efficient disciplinary process."

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UF Moot Court Team Takes First Place in Washington, D.C. for Second Consecutive Year



For the second straight year, a University of Florida Levin College of Law team placed first overall in the Henry G. Manne Moot Court Competition for Law and Economics sponsored by the George Mason University School of Law in Washington, D.C. The team of Eric Nowak, Tim Haughee, Lorna Cobb, and Jeffrey Hurcomb took first place, defeating the University of Virginia in an

exciting final round Feb. 16. A second team from UF Law consisting of David Rottman, Meredith Barrios, and Dana Israel, also had a strong showing at the competition.

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To submit news for the upcoming issue of *FlaLaw Online*, email flalaw@law.ufl.edu, call 273-0650, stop by Communications in 287 Holland Hall, or mail to P.O. Box 117633, Gainesville, FL 32611-7633. Deadline is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the following Monday's issue.

College of Law

UF Law Student Awarded Fellowship to Advocate for Developmentally Disabled Offenders



Many University of Florida law students are looking forward to leaving small-town Gainesville to begin work in larger cities after graduation, but Katy DeBriere is excited to have the opportunity to stay in the small town she loves to help seek social justice for developmentally disabled individuals in the criminal justice system. A third-year law student, DeBriere was recently awarded an Equal Justice Works Fellowship to work with Florida Institutional Legal Services (FILS) to advocate for developmentally disabled offenders in Alachua County for two years after graduation in May 2008. While at UF Law, DeBriere has worked with FILS

to help advocate for the rights of prisoners. She has spent the past two years doing informal advocacy, legal research and conducting client interviews in order to address individual client problems as well as tackle general problems within Florida prisons.

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Professor Kenneth Nunn Explores Policy Questions and Concerns as Host of WUFT-TV's 'Law Matters'



It was nearly 10 years ago that Professor Kenneth Nunn appeared as a guest on "Law Matters," a local program broadcasted by WUFT-TV, which eventually led to his interest in production and current role as host. But in truth, it was his college days at Stanford University where Nunn dabbled in communications and hosted his first gig as a radio host in 1979. Fast forward to the present—Nunn now finds himself using those skills learned nearly 30 years ago to present current legal issues to citizens of north central Florida on "Law Matters." "We are mainly topic driven and try to run shows that are focused on current issues affecting those in the area," Nunn said. "My role as the host is to be the traffic cop and make sure no one monopolizes their time on the air."

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Department of Justice's Kenneth Mortensen to Speak on Privacy and Civil Liberties Feb. 27



Kenneth Mortensen, acting chief privacy and civil liberties officer with the U.S. Department of Justice, will speak on privacy and civil liberties in the United States at noon Wednesday, Feb. 27, in the Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom (180 Holland Hall) at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. A reception will follow the event, which is presented by the Law College Council. Within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, he determines appropriate privacy and civil liberties processes collaborating in the development of policy supporting the mission of the department.

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Learn All You Ever Wanted to Know About Clinics at Feb. 27 Information Session in Bailey Courtroom



Interested in counseling clients, advising government agencies regarding policies, or even doing a jury trial? Learn all you ever wanted to know about UF Law's excellent clinic programs at a special information session at noon Wednesday, Feb. 27, in the Bailey Courtroom. Professors will be on hand and pizza will be served. Clinics offer the rare law school opportunity to apply classroom

theory in a practice setting while learning valuable lawyering skills. Students are closely supervised by one of our highly experienced clinical professors/practitioners. In a number of the clinics, students gain valuable experience collaborating with social workers, mental health and family counselors, environmental and land use professionals or dispute resolution experts. For more details about the clinics, please read the "Clinics in a Nutshell" following the online applications for [Summer 2008](#) and [Fall 2008](#).

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Professor Katheryn Russell-Brown Recognized for Scholarship on Race, Ethnicity and Justice



UF Law Professor Katheryn Russell-Brown, director of the Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations, has been awarded the 2007 Coramae Richey Mann Award, for outstanding contributions of scholarship on race, ethnicity, and justice, by the American Society of Criminology, through its Division on People of Color and Crime. Keep up with what UF Law faculty are saying in the media and writing about in scholarly publications in *FlaLaw Online's* weekly updates on Faculty Scholarship & Activities.

• [Faculty Scholarship & Activities](#)

News Briefs

BLSA Teams Take Part in Mock Trial Competition at Regional Convention in Columbia, S.C.



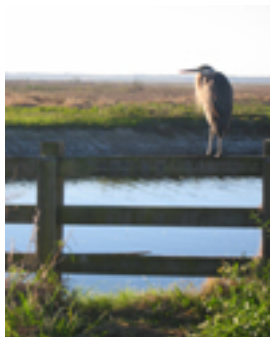
UF BLSA members traveled to the South Regional BLSA Convention in Columbia, S.C., and participated in the Mock Trial competition Jan. 24. The case for the trial competition was about a drug trafficking scheme. The main issue was whether or not both the passenger and the driver were aware of the large quantity of drugs that were in the truck. Two members of the team, Karen Derby and Jonathan Blocker, argued for the prosecution, while their fellow team members, Wayne Atkinson and Kailey Evans, argued for the defense. Both teams presented an excellent case, and though they did not win the competition, they gained invaluable experience and look forward to participating in the competition again next year. BLSA wishes to thank the law firm of Ruden McClosky for providing support for this competition.

Debate Examines Torture and How Far Interrogation Should Go



What is torture? How far should interrogation go? These questions will be the topic of debate in a special presentation sponsored by the University of Florida Federalist Society at noon Monday, March 3, in the Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom (180 Holland Hall) at the UF Levin College of Law. Participating in the discussion will be retired U.S. Army Colonel Michael Pheneger (pictured left), who was deputy director of intelligence for Central Command and director of intelligence for U.S. Special Operations Command, and Ohio Northern University Law Professor Michael Lewis, a graduate of the U.S. Navy's prestigious "Top Gun" pilot school who flew F-14's in Operation Desert Shield and now teaches the Law of War and International Law, among other topics. Moderating the event will be UF Law Professor Diane Mazur, a former officer in the U.S. Air Force and an expert in military law, Constitutional law, and civil-military relations. A reception will follow the event in the Faculty Dining Room and a free lunch will be served. For more information, contact Bobby Long at relong@ufl.edu.

ELULP Informational Meeting March 5



The Environmental and Land Use Law Program offers many opportunities for you to become involved and learn about these important areas of law. There will be an informational meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, in 355D Holland Hall. At the meeting, you'll learn critical information about the ELUL program, including the requirements for earning a Certificate in Environmental and Land Use Law, and details about the curriculum, including the Conservation Clinic, summer externships, Summer Study Abroad in Costa Rica, the Environmental and Land Use Law Society, the Environmental Moot Court Team, and the Public Interest Environmental Conference. Students who attend will also have the chance to meet and talk with some of the ELULP faculty and to get individual advice on course selection for summer and fall and career development guidance. All students with an interest are encouraged to attend, but especially first-year students—this is the ideal

opportunity to get the best possible information to plan your academic program for your second year. This is an excellent opportunity for currently enrolled certificate students to get answers to questions about certificate requirements, course availability, etc.

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