Top Five Alumni Donor Counties in North Carolina & Top Five Donor States

Our goal is 20% alumni giving for fiscal year 2011-2012. To date, Guilford County, North Carolina leads in the category of North Carolina alumni who have donated to the law school since July of 2010 with 26%. Rounding out the top five are Mecklenberg, Wake, Durham and Orange counties.

The District of Columbia leads in the number of alumni who donated to the law school in a State/District category with 32%. Rounding out the top five in the State/District category are Washington D.C., Maryland, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia. The percentage of alumni giving is calculated by dividing the total number of NCCU Law alumni in the geographic area by the number of alumni from that area who actually contributes to the law school.

For a complete look at the alumni maps click here. To donate right now click here.

Mark your Calendar for the March 31, 2012 Law Week Class Reunion Celebration!

Alumni interested in participating in the celebration as class agents should contact Sharon D. Alston, Assistant Director of Annual Giving, at 919-530-5386 or sdalston@nccu.edu

Information about the reunion celebrations will be emailed to alumni at a later date.
NCCU Law Featured in *The Princeton Review’s “Best 167 Law Schools”*

North Carolina Central University School of Law is one of the nation’s most outstanding law schools according to Princeton Review ratings. The education services company features the school in the new 2012 edition of its book, *The Best 167 Law Schools.* “Our law school appreciates the continuous national recognition we are receiving with regard to the quality of our program of legal education,” says Raymond C. Pierce, Dean of NCCU School of Law. Read more here.

2011-2012 NCCU School of Law Legal Writing Scholars Announced

Congratulations to this year’s recipients of the North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law Legal Writing Scholarship — Hannah Autry, Brittany Brown, Cheri M. Hamilton, and David Jimerfield. Thanks to the generous donations of NCCU Law alumni and the leadership of the NCCU Legal Writing Director, Brenda D. Gibson, the NCCU Legal Writing Program offers one student from each of the four class sections at the law school, an opportunity to serve as the Legal Writing Scholar for that section. A second year law student who has performed well in his/her first year legal writing courses is selected each year by the legal writing faculty. Read more here.

NCCU School of Law Students Win Abrams Mediator Competition

Leah Leone ’12 and Valerie Hanson ’12 took first and second place, respectively, in the Jeffrey S. Abrams National Mediator Competition, held November 10 – 12, 2011, at the University of Houston Law Center in Houston, Texas. Sponsored by Jeffrey Abrams, an accomplished Houston mediator, the competition is one of the only contests in the country where students are judged on their mediation skills. Leone and Hanson also participated in the Law Center’s Tom Newhouse Mediation Advocacy Competition during the same two days. After five rounds of mediation, they prevailed over a field that included student mediators from Cardozo Law, UC-Hastings, Seton Hall, Thurgood Marshall, Quinnipiac and others. Read more here.

NCCU Law Students Launch Blog Radio Show

In the fall of 2010, Professor Brenda Reddix-Smalls’ Constitutional Law II – First Amendment class launched a blogtalk radio show entitled “iSpeak First Amendment Blog Radio.” The purpose of the show is to facilitate robust discussions by Constitutional Law scholars and the public, on issues relating to the First Amendment Freedom of Speech. Read more here.
Evening Program 30th Anniversary Celebration

The Evening Program 30th Anniversary Celebration was held on Saturday, November 5, 2011, in the Great Hall. **Shelia Chavis ’00** welcomed the Evening Program alumni, professors, and other invited guests. **Ms. Roenitia Steward** performed musical selections during dinner. After dinner, several guests were invited to the podium to reveal how the Evening Program enriched their lives.

The speakers included Assistant Dean of the Evening Program **Adrienne Meddock ’91**, **Professor Thomas Mlodana Ringer, Jr.** (retired), **Gwendolyn Walker ’96**, **Brenda Martin ’00**, and **Kyle Brazile 2L**.

Toward the close of the evening’s celebration, **Professor James P. Beckwith** read an essay he wrote entitled, “Reflections on the River.” The essay encompasses the long and arduous history of the NCCU School of Law Evening Program and the continued significance of the Evening Program for those seeking to “reinvent” themselves.

More from the Evening Program 30th Anniversary Celebration

For a full transcript of Professor Beckwith’s keynote speech, click [here](#). For a full photo album of the event, click [here](#).
**Bill Gardner ’76** is assistant rugby coach and manager of the Belmont Shore RFC Team based in Long Beach, California. His team is the current USA Men’s Club national champions. In mid-November of 2011, Gardner’s team participated in the Safari 7s games which is a three-day, 16-team mens/women/youth rugby 7s tournament in Nairobi, Kenya, featuring nine national teams including Samoa, the number one team in the world. Gardner’s team took ninth place, losing to Samoa and Spain and then winning four straight games against Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Mwamba, Kenya’s club champions. In addition to his work with the Belmont Shore RFC Team, he is also a rugby referee in the Washington, D.C. area. Gardner has his own law practice in Fairfax, Virginia. The practice specializes in Creditors’ Rights and Landlord/Tenant issues.

**Craig Hemmens ’88** recently published “Kentucky v. King: The Supreme Court Invites Unwarranted Police Entry” in Volume 4, Number 24 of Criminal Justice Studies.

**Keith E. Bell ’91** was sworn in as a U.S. Administrative Law Judge for the Social Security Administration (SSA) on August 15, 2011. Currently, he is serving in SSA’s Office of Disability, Adjudication & Review in Columbia, Missouri. Just prior to his appointment, Judge Bell served as trial counsel for the Mine Safety and Health Administration in Washington, D.C. at the Department of Labor where he litigated cases before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for 16 years. Judge Bell began his legal career as a criminal prosecutor in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office.

**Wanda Allen-Abraha ’95**, Human Relations Department Director for the City of Winston-Salem, was named as one of 12 outstanding women leaders by the City of Winston-Salem and Southern Community Bank and Trust. The award was based on her work to combat discrimination and to improve race relations in Winston-Salem. As the City’s Human Relations Director, one of her functions is to enforce the Fair Housing Act by investigating claims of housing discrimination.

**Toni T. (Moore) Cameron ’01** has written a literary courtroom thriller entitled, *Travel Check*. Read more here.

**Alex Gomes ’06** was one of two men sworn in a council member to the North Carolina Council for Women, an advocacy agency that is a part of the state’s Department of Administration. Read more here.

**William S. Eubanks II ’07** was recently invited to join Vermont Law School’s (VLS) summer faculty in the school’s globally recognized Environmental Law Center. In August 2011, Eubanks taught the Public Health Implications of U.S. Agriculture and Food Policy at VLS, which focused on the environmental and health effects of our nation’s farming and food system. Eubanks is an attorney at the nation’s leading public interest environmental law firm of Meyer Glitzenstein & Crystal.

**Takeisha Redd ’03** and **Sarah J. Farber ’08** were selected by N.C. Lawyer’s Weekly as 2011 Emerging Legal Leaders. *Lawyer’s Weekly* magazine selected its Emerging Legal Leaders – 10 in all – based on their contributions to the legal profession and to their communities. Nominated by colleagues, clients, firms and friends, finalists had to have less than 10 years of legal practice. An awards ceremony was held in Charlotte, N.C. on November 3, 2011.

**DeWarren K. Langley ’11** was awarded the 2011 Student Pro Bono Public Service Award by the North Carolina State Bar during the 2011 Fifty-Year Lawyers Luncheon held at the Marriott Raleigh City Center Hotel in Raleigh, N.C. on Thursday, October 20, 2011. The award was in recognition of dedicated and selfless service while a student at the School of Law. Langley was recommended for the award by the law school. Langley says: “Service is an integral part of my life. I firmly believe public service should not be something practiced if extra time permits, rather it is an obligation and a responsibility owed to my community. I prescribe to the mantra, to whom much is given, much is expected and required.”

**Clarissa Halks ’11** opened the Law Offices of Clarissa Halks, PLLC in Durham, N.C. Halks’ new practice will focus primarily on family law services. In addition, Halks will also accept a limited number of simple will drafting, litigation, negotiation of misdemeanor criminal cases, and personal injury cases.

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**Made a change, made partner, or just made good?** Contact the Development Department to share the good news with your fellow NCCU School of Law alumni. For news submissions or address changes, email sdaiston@nccu.edu or call (919) 530-5386. To reconnect online, click here. Please feel free to send a digital photo of yourself with your news stories. Low-resolution photos are acceptable for electronic publications and webpage postings; however, for images to be included in the School of Law print publications, high-resolution images are required (e.g. 800kb, 300 dpi).
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