International Programs Flourish  CONTINUED

Stetson Community Hears Views on Terrorism

TWO WEEKS AFTER THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 ATTACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND THE PENTAGON, STETSON STUDENTS AND FACULTY GATHERED AT THE COLLEGE OF LAW TO HEAR EXPERTS SPEAK ON FIGHTING TERRORISM.

COLIN HOWGILL, FORMER CHIEF of Staff and Joint Warfare Attache at British Defense Staff in Washington, D.C. was an instructor at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre, a flight commander in the 848th Naval Air Commando Squadron and a Royal Marines Reservist. He later served as a counter-terrorist base commander in Northern Ireland, and was appointed chief of staff of the Commando Forces Royal Marines, retiring as a one-star officer in 1989.

Howgill advocates that the media be restrained from reporting details of missions against terrorism until after the missions are concluded. “Secrecy is essential to surprise and success,” he said, adding that military forces should have prior legal and political clearance to act without informing the press.

“The enemy has thrown the rulebook away,” Howgill said. “We need new laws to pursue and prosecute terrorism.” In Northern Ireland, for example, evidentiary rules of admissibility were relaxed and due process was waived, he said, and judges and juries became targets of retaliation when terrorists were prosecuted.

Other problems unique to prosecuting terrorists include deciding what crimes to charge them with, said Ken Lawson, a former U.S. Marine Corps judge advocate who now works as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Special Prosecution Unit of the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Tampa. For example, money laundering, drug dealing and other crimes often accompany terrorist activities, he said.

New tactics may include allowing law enforcement officials to follow suspects from place to place to wiretap them using a single subpoena, and keeping jurors’ identities secret for their protection, he said.

“We’ll still be more free than any other country in the world,” Howgill said. “But we’ll have to be more careful.”

GRANADA, SPAIN

Three Stetson law professors and 32 American law students traveled to Granada, Spain during June and July for Stetson’s inaugural Summer Abroad Program on International Dispute Resolution.

Dean Gary Vause, Program Director and Professor Royal Gardner, and Professor Darryl Wilson joined Francisco Bossini, professor of law at the University of Granada, to teach classes on resolving international business, environmental and intellectual property disputes, as well as the workings of legal institutions in Spain and Europe.

“It’s a great opportunity for students to focus on international issues in a unique setting,” said Professor Gardner, the law school’s Director of Graduate and International Programs. He added that Spain was chosen because of Florida’s historical connection with Spain and the large number of Spanish-speaking Florida residents.

Female students participating in the Granada, Spain inaugural summer program pose on July 4th in the Salon de Actor in the historic Colegio Mayor de San Bartolome.