



Ravenel Wins Professionalism Award

Sean Ravenel, a third-year student at Stetson University College of Law, won The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism's First Annual Essay Contest.

Ravenel received the \$1,000 award from Florida Supreme Court Justice Major B. Harding in May, and was presented with a one-of-a-kind traveling trophy named "The Lion of Justice," donated by the West Palm Beach law firm of Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.

Ravenel's paper, *Sowing the Seeds of Professionalism: An Essay on the Problem of Professionalism in Legal Education*, encourages law schools to offer additional training in ethics and professionalism. The essay appeared in the June 15, 2001 issue of *The Florida Bar News*.

"We emphasize professionalism throughout our curriculum at Stetson and are proud that one of our students took the initiative to write such an outstanding essay on the topic," said Associate Dean Darby Dickerson, who attended the Tallahassee award ceremony. "Sean is a true leader on campus and we hope to implement some of his ideas."



Supreme Court Justice Major B. Harding presents trophy to Sean Ravenel.

Champagne Wins ABA Award

The American Bar Association Law Student Division honored Laguerra Champagne with the Student Bar Association President of the Year Award for the Southeast Region at the ABA convention in Chicago in August.

A member of Stetson's Trial Competition Team, the December 2001 graduate and 2000-2001 SBA president also attained the highest position possible for a Student Bar Association president when she was sworn in as the Vice Chair/SBA for the American Bar Association Law Student Division.



Laguerra Champagne



Student Center Under Construction

A \$2.8 million Student Life and Recreation Center is expected to open by August 2002 at the corner of 15th Avenue South and 62nd Street South on the Gulfport campus, providing new space for student organizations and activities.

The two-story, 13,500-square-foot building will feature a student lounge, swimming pool, weight room, game room and meeting rooms on the first floor, and offices for the assistant dean, career services, student organizations and job interviews on the second floor. It will replace the swimming pool and weight room complex dedicated to Harvey Firestone, III, who died shortly after his graduation from the law school in 1959. Firestone's memorial will be reinstalled at another site on campus when the complex is demolished.

Student Bar Association President Justin Hosie said he will be delighted to see the center completed, adding that several SBA presidents have been involved in plans for the center.

"The facilities will be first rate, and will help enhance recruitment of students and the atmosphere of the school as a whole," he said. "And the planned inclusion of an office for use by SBA executive officers will enhance the effectiveness of our student government."

Stetson students are excited about the new center, said Erica Neyer Kramer, vice president of the Student Bar Association. "The center will be a wonderful addition to our campus that will help draw new students as well as serve the current students. It demonstrates the Stetson administration's continued commitment to the needs of the student body and the overall betterment of the school," she said.

"I think that the Student Life and Recreation Center will serve as a great place for students to converse, a great place for alumni to return to Stetson and interact with the students, and a great place for organization leaders and members to plan events," said Ya'Sheaka Campbell, secretary of the Student Bar Association.

Roger Curlin, III, the president of the Entertainment and Sports Law Society, agreed, saying, "We will use it for meetings and will stage events there."

Stetson Hosts Regional Research and Writing Conference

Stetson University College of Law hosted the Southeastern Regional Legal Research and Writing Conference in September. Fifty-eight participants from 13 states attended a plenary session on "Teaching Editing Techniques" by Professor **Terri LeClercq**, a prolific author from the University of Texas.

They also attended sessions that included "Grading with Power and Meaning" by Professors **Clifford Zimmerman** and **Judy Rosenbaum** of Northwestern University School of Law, "Real World Research and Writing" by Stetson Professors **Stephanie Vaughan '91**, **Ann Piccard '85** and **Kelly Feeley '95**, and "Approaches to Designing Advanced Legal Writing Courses" by Professor **Michael Smith** of Mercer University School of Law.

The goals of the program were to help train newer professors and allow more experienced professors to share ideas about teaching and scholarship.

New Honors Program Is Launched

Stetson University College of Law now offers an honors program for students who have demonstrated exceptional ability and achievement in their first and second semesters.

Those selected for the program must earn a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or a 3.25 GPA and the nomination of a faculty member.

Members of the program are **Addie Asay**, **Kristi Bergemann**, **Dustin Deese**, **Michael Germain**, **Robert Gualtieri**, **Christopher Kaiser**, **Kelly Keller**, **Andrew Knopf**, **Kelly Kuljol**, **Richelle Marsico**, **Brittan Mitchell**, **Kristen Parker**, **Monique Parker**, **Michele Pittman**, **Lindsey Smith**, **David Walz** and **Natasha Wolfe**. Professor **Peter F. Lake** is the coordinator.

The program is designed to teach talented and motivated students the historical and theoretical background of the Anglo-American legal tradition in a semester-long, non-credit colloquium.

Members also may opt to take a for-credit Jurisprudence Honors Seminar that will provide the opportunity for in-depth discussion and creative thinking, and the chance to meet and work closely with several faculty members.

Those who complete both the colloquium and the honors seminar will receive a certificate at graduation signifying their participation in the honors program.

The program's aims are to provide support and encouragement for outstanding students, to retain outstanding students who might otherwise transfer after their first or second semesters and to attract top students to attend the law school.



Professor Robert Bickel leads the Honors Program Colloquium on "Introduction to Civil Rights."

Honors program students are encouraged to apply for federal judicial internships early in their law school careers to increase the opportunities for judicial clerkships following graduation.

They also are eligible to take part in special programs such as works-in-progress presentations by faculty, talks by prominent scholars from other schools and meetings with members of the bench and bar.

Assistant Dean Howell Earns ABA Awards

Assistant Dean **Lynn Howell** earned two top honors at the American Bar Association conference held last August in Chicago.

She received the Section Chair's Award from **Amy Boss**, chair of the ABA's Section of Business Law, "for her faithful and professional execution of services to her profession and to the Section of Business Law, and whose commitment and dedication has strengthened the programs and activities of the Section and encouraged the educational and professional development of business lawyers." Dean Howell was chosen from 53,000 section members for the award.

She also was one of five to be selected for the ABA Young Lawyers Division "Star of the Division" award for her exemplary contributions to the work of the Young Lawyers Division. **Brian Melendez**, Chair of the Young Lawyers Division, presented the award to Dean Howell, who has been an active member of the division and serves as one of its liaisons to the ABA's Section of Business Law.

Dean Howell was recently appointed to serve as the ABA's Standing Committee Representative to the Advisory Committee for the Carlos Morris Fund, and the Standing Committee on Membership's Subcommittee on E-Communications.

Dean Howell has also been elected to the Council of the ABA Section of Business Law.

Stetson Alumni Named as Officers of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners



C. Jeffrey McInnis '85 of Fort Walton Beach has been elevated to the position of Chair of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. Chair McInnis is a shareholder in the firm of Anchors, Foster, McInnis & Keefe, P.A. located in Fort Walton Beach. The Supreme Court selected McInnis as a member of the Board in November 1997. In October 2000 he was elected to Vice Chair of the Board. His term of office will extend through October 31, 2002.



Michael J. Keane '78, a shareholder in the firm of Keane, Reese & Vesely, P.A. of St. Petersburg was elected to the position of Vice Chair of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners by his fellow Board members at a meeting of the Board held on October 11, 2001. His term of office will extend through October 31, 2002, at which time he will be elevated to the position of Chair of the Board and will serve through October 31, 2003.

