Chair Notes and Departmental Update

The semester has come to a close and the Legal Studies Department is preparing for another successful year at the University of Mississippi. Many great things continue to occur within the Department of Legal Studies. I would like to take a little time to share with you some of the major events.

May Graduation

Sixty outstanding students graduated from our programs in May. I am proud of all of our graduates and wish every one of them success.

Endowment: Dr. Quarles continues to direct the Department’s endowment efforts with great success. As a graduate of our program, I can assure you that your contributions to the Department make a difference.

Criminal Justice Students Study in the United Kingdom

Five Criminal Justice students recently were awarded the opportunity to study abroad in Northampton, England. The students Peter Lantz, Elijah Myrick, Beth Graf, Christy Babb, and Clay Shepherd participated in the program which lasted five weeks.
While in the United Kingdom, the students spent a week touring London which included a dusky “Jack the Ripper” tour and trips to the Tower of London and various other famous landmarks. “We went on field trips to cities we wouldn't have otherwise been able to visit like Oxford and Bath. England was beautiful and I will never forget my experiences or the friends I made while I was there,” said Christy Babb, a senior Desoto Center student from Nesbit, MS.

The program at the university was the first in what is hopefully an expanding exchange relationship between Northampton and the University of Mississippi. The student’s coursework included topics focused on the history of criminal justice within the United Kingdom and the worldwide evolution of terrorism. The program also gave students the opportunity to participate in hands on training with Northampton police officers who were attending required instruction at the University. Senior Elijah Myrick commented on interaction with the Bobbies, “It’s amazing how great the differences our between law enforcement procedures in the United States and the UK.”

Beth Graf, senior Criminal Justice and Psychology major from Algonquin, IL, stated that the experience was of the most interesting and rewarding in her life. “I absolutely enjoyed the cultural diversity and the dedication of the professors. The globalization class was unique in that it offered a different prospective concerning international views on terrorism.” The student’s learning experience was centered on open discussion where the students were able to broaden international understanding of the United States culture and justice system.
May 2007 graduate, Peter Lantz, said, “Through class and daily interactions, we learned that although our cultures may be different, we must communicate with one other to better improve our Criminal Justice systems. In this day and age, international communication is vital for preserving free society throughout the world.”

New international programs are just one facet of the ever growing Legal Students Department at the University of Mississippi. Senior, Clay Shepherd, from McComb, MS, believes that this trip to the UK will expand opportunities for students not only in Legal Studies but in other majors as well. “New programs are being offered to students, especially those majoring in Criminal Justice; we’re getting involved and helping in strengthening our department.”

“We all agree that without Dr. McElreath, our faculty, the Legal Studies Department, and the Study Abroad office, this opportunity would have never happened; everyone has been top-notch.”

Dr. David McElreath, Chair of the Legal Studies Department, is excited that students are reaping the benefits of our growing department. “The caliber of student in the department is of the best on campus. Their continued dedication is highly motivating for all of the Legal Studies staff. With the expansion of the Legal Studies Student Association, we are seeing a growth of student investment that is far greater than ever before,” says McElreath.
The Justice Society

In the past, many of our students were unable to get funding as criminal justice majors. The scholarships just were not in our field. Today, criminal justice, homeland security, corrections, and paralegal students are all able to seek scholarships funded by our graduates and our faculty. Almost all of our faculty and our adjunct instructors are currently helping to fund these efforts. We solicit all of our graduates for help. If you want to make a difference in your alma mater, please send a financial contribution restricted for the use of the Legal Studies Department. You can help us make a difference. We need your help and hope that you will respond today.

Dr. Chester Quarles

I want you to help us raise more. Send a pledge or a check to the OLE MISS FOUNDATION and you will help us create more scholarship aid and resource development. Put on the check “For the Exclusive Use of the Legal Studies Department” and send it to me, Chester Quarles, at Legal Studies Department, Odom 205, University, Mississippi 38677. I will insure that your donation is placed in the appropriate departmental account and is used exclusively for criminal justice, homeland security, corrections and paralegal development.

Paralegal Update

Our Paralegal Program continues to grow under the direction of Professor Angie Williams.

Professor Angie Williams

A listserv has been created for all current students and recent past graduates of the Paralegal Studies Program. The purpose of the listserv is to post job announcements and other information of interest to Paralegal Studies majors. To subscribe to the listserv, send an email message to
ATTENTION ALL ALUMNI MEMBERS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS!

The Department of Legal Studies is in the process of compiling a comprehensive database of our alumni members and criminal justice professionals to use as a resource bank and for future mailings. Please send us your business cards so we can begin to organize the database. Send your business cards to Carol Reid, Department of Legal Studies, Room 203 Odom Hall, University, MS, 38677. If you have questions, please contact Carol at 915-7902.

The Legal Studies Student Association wants continuous input from our students, alumni, and other interested persons to make the newsletter an ongoing and valuable resource for its recipients! Let us know what is going on with you and provide us with other items of interest that we could include in the next issue.

Applied Sciences Order/The Justice Society

The Department of Legal Studies would like to encourage our alumni members to join The Justice Society /Applied Sciences Order. By joining such a distinguished group, you will be serving as a vital component in the growth of the Department as well as contributing to an endowment for our students to receive financial assistance. For more information about joining the Order, please contact Dr. Chester Quarles at (662) 915-5413 or via e-mail at cquarles@olemiss.edu.

We proudly recognize our current members of the Applied Sciences Order/The Justice Society and would like to add your name to this list.

1. Dr. William Oliphant (2003)
10. Dr. Angela Dunlap (2005)
18. Dr. Lorri and Mike Williamson (2005)
21. Deborah and Jeff Todd (2005)
22. Lorie and Scott Roberts (2005)
25. Mandy and Danny Hall (JD) (2005)
27. Anne K. Ayles (2005)
31. Laura and Cliff Freeman (2006)
32. Whitney (Cantrell) and Gray Nickels (2006)
34. Joan and Gary Bayens (2006)
35. Lieutenant Catory Bradley (USA) (2006)
41. Bobby Pettit (2007)