This leaves us at the last and most important number: 26. We are extremely proud, ready to officially induct 12 new advisor/organization. The number 26 is striking to averaged less than half of this number

R&D Update:

Sandrerilla

UJ Newest Leaders

A Publication of the University Judiciary

Morehead welcomed our new members with words of encouragement as well as a reminder of the important role Judiciary serves at the University of Georgia.

Throughout the past semester our members have also been hard at work to fulfill their mission to proactively educate the University community. Led by our Judicial Outreach Team, and with the guidance of our wonderful advisor Cara Simmons, Judiciary recently held a day-long conduct awareness program. Entitled “Conduct Matters,” this program provided information regarding a multitude of conduct-related issues to hundreds of UGA students and incorporated the cooperation of several outside organizations including the UGA Police Department, Center for Violence Prevention, and the Fontaine Center for Alcohol Awareness and Education.

Judiciary’s dedication to serve the University and its surrounding community is evident in the excellent work we have accomplished in the past year. Our organization is eager to embrace the future and to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to us by the University of Georgia.

Thank you for your continued interest in University Judiciary. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jmlukacs@gmail.com.

Jerrod Lukacs
Former Executive Director

It is again my pleasure to bring news of the activities of University Judiciary at the University of Georgia to our network of dedicated alumni and supporters.

After the past few months spent adjusting to our new space on the 5th floor of Memorial Hall, Judiciary and the Office of Judicial Programs has finally acclimated ourselves to our permanent home. There was no time to waste as our offices handled the move in the midst of an especially busy year. All in all, after the completion of the spring semester Judiciary will have held in the past year nearly 110 formal hearings of alleged violations of the UGA Code of Conduct.

However, our organization has also been hard at work on activities outside our formal hearing responsibilities. With the spring comes the extensive training of the new class of Justices and Advisor/Advocates, and I was recently proud to swear in 26 extremely well-prepared and eager new members. We were honored at our Induction ceremony by the attendance of Provost Jere Morehead and Vice-President for Student Affairs, Dr. Rodney Bennett. Professor

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Carlye Norton and Tyler Pate

Directors of Recruitment & Development

Looking back at the year that’s been, it’s hard to believe that we’ve made it this far. For those of you who are not familiar with the Recruitment and Development process, it has been extensive. We started off fresh and excited- with lots of flyers, a strong showing at the activities fair, enough handouts to please even our most avid member, and some pretty nifty buttons. With general body’s support, our application successfully reached 70 future leaders.

From there, we invited 52 of these impressive applicants to our two-part interview process. 13 hours of interviews later, we selected our 28 new members.

Since this selection, we have engaged in our often-quoted 50 hours of training. We have heard from 13 incredible speakers, taken 4 quizzes, filled the Police Station with enough Judiciary members to get stares, hosted and graded 17 mock hearings, and reviewed 420 pages of final exams in one crazy 5-hr session.

And lastly, instead of 26 newly active members, we see a mass of excited, qualified, and determined individuals who have without a doubt earned their place within Judiciary’s dedication to serve the University and its surrounding community is evident in the excellent work we have accomplished in the past year. Our organization is eager to embrace the future and to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted in us by the University of Georgia.

Looking forward to next year, we are excited about the prospect of bringing in even more great leaders from the University community. We are also looking at revamping our training program to make our new members even more prepared as they enter into our organization, including increasing the diversity of our applicant pool and making our training program more applicable to actual hearing procedures. After a year of hard work and great experiences, we can look back not only on the memories we’ve created but also on the experiences we’ve gained that we can use to continue to improve our program in the future.
After several years of advocacy from OJP, UJ, the Student Government Association (SGA), and the Office of the Vice-President for Student Affairs, the President’s Cabinet passed a resolution revising the minimum sanctions policy at UGA to return the discretion of sanctioning back into the hands of OJP and UJ. The revised policy, developed through the collaboration efforts of both student leaders and UGA staff and administrators, retains the use of probation for all 1st violations of the University AOD policy but no longer requires the use of suspension in all cases of subsequent violations while on probation. In other words, students who violate the University’s AOD policies for the second time could still likely face suspension, but the revised policy allows the hearing panel or conduct officer the freedom of judgment to develop a set of sanctions that best fits the nature of each individual violation. President Adams, the Office of the Vice-President for Student Affairs, UJ and OJP are very careful to point out that his new policy is not designed to allow students a “free-pass,” but rather will return an element of flexibility to the conduct process.

The recent steps taken by the President’s Cabinet in regards to the UGA Code of Conduct illustrate the University’s willingness and desire to find the best solution to address and prevent violations of the AOD policy. It serves as a testament to the school’s dual mission to care for the well-being of its students and also keep the University community safe. Furthermore, UJ and OJP were very pleased to be brought in as an integral part of the development process for this policy due to its direct influence on the process we administer. The University has shown its faith in the professionals in OJP as well as the highly-trained educational programs at UGA, resulting in a dramatic spike in formal resolution hearings and a lengthy backlog and delay in the education process.

A revision to the University of Georgia (UGA) Code of Conduct will affect certain ways the Office of Judicial Programs (OJP) and University Judiciary (UJ) resolve violations of the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Policy at the University. Several years ago the University implemented a policy of “minimum sanctions” for violations of this nature, which included mandatory probation for all 1st violations and mandatory suspension for all 2nd violations of AOD policies while on probation. The Office of Judicial Programs at UGA commended the University for their efforts at attempting to deter students from violating the Code, but over the course of a few years OJP and UJ recognized several complications that arose under this policy. Most notably, Judicial Programs felt minimum sanctions prevented conduct officers and hearing panels from using their discretion in assigning tailored, educational sanctions based upon the merits of each individual case. The loss of discretion was especially troublesome in cases of more minor infractions of the University’s alcohol and drug regulations, which under the minimum sanction policy were at minimum held to the same standard as more egregious violations that further endanger oneself and the University community. Additionally, OJP and UJ saw the mandatory minimum sanction policy encouraged an atmosphere of student resistance and dishonesty throughout the conduct process at UGA, resulting in a dramatic spike in formal resolution hearings and a lengthy backlog and delay in the education process.

The new staff members, Jeananne Tiffany and Bill McKenney, explain their work with the University Judiciary and the Office of Judicial Programs.

My primary responsibility involves serving as a judicial officer for cases assigned to the Office of Judicial Programs. I also coordinate the community service hours for any students assigned service hours as sanctions. Further, I work with University Judiciary as an advisor to the Judiciary Outreach Team and the Social Chair.

Currently, I am enrolled in UGA’s College Student Affairs Administration Masters program in the College of Education. The program presents me with the knowledge and skills helping me both, interact with the college students passing through OJP, as well as, assist students through their college student development. Each student is different and presents their own challenges and strengths. Yet, I find that my passion for OJP, working with UJ, and student affairs comes from the energy and excitement each student possesses.

Dr. Brandon Frye and I are working on a study entitled “Assessing the Learning of Community Service Issued as a Sanction by the Office of Judicial Programs.” The purpose of this study is to determine what students are learning from the community service sanction, if anything. The conversation began back in the fall of 2009 when discussing developing learning outcomes for each of the sanctions issued by the Office of Judicial Programs (OJP) and/or University Judiciary. Dr. Frye and I decided to begin with the community service sanction. In trying to develop learning outcomes, we quickly realized that we first needed to determine what students are currently learning and what we want them to learn from the experience. From this study, we hope to develop more structure for the community service sanction and create a more intentional learning experience for students who are issued community service as a sanction.
Case Overload
Zachary Goolsby
Former Director of Case Administration (Justice)

Over the past academic year, University Judiciary has held over one hundred formal hearings and more are being scheduled every day. This means that UJ is on average holding at least three hearings a week. However, there have been many times this year that we have scheduled a hearing on every day of the week and sometimes more than one hearing in a single day. The case load also means that on average each member of UJ has participated in at least seventeen hearings. However, the members of UJ have not backed down from this growing case load. They have used the hearings to become more experienced and to create a more efficient hearing process. This was seen during the fall semester when there were no appeals filed and only in the spring. Another trend that UJ has noticed in the case load is that over ninety percent of the hearings deal with either drugs/alcohol or computer use allegations. To address this trend we have had several continuing education training on the computer use policy and alcohol related issues. We had an officer from the UGA Police Department come speak at a General Body Meeting and the training class got to tour the police department during a training session. UJ has also moved the morning hearings to 8am to accommodate more hearings. The case load is not the only thing growing either. In fact, UJ just inducted the biggest training class in UJ history. They are all participating in their first hearings and are doing great. In conclusion, UJ has had a big year of growing and we are all looking forward to next year and what it has in store for us.

Parking Wars: UGA’s $40 Terror
Timothy Reed


With these numerous fees that students have to pay each semester, the “fee” that receives the most criticism from my experience is the price of on campus parking tickets. Each semester of reviewing appeals, we come across those students that contest the $40 price for violating the sacred Parking Rules and Regulations. Their reasons are varied but one thing unites them all, students don’t have the money to pay $40 for one parking ticket. There has been some recent discussion from the Student Government Association about establishing a graduated fine scale for violations. Working as the Director of Parking Appeals this year, I can attest to that fact that we have reviewed approximately 1500 appeals, with an average of 60 appeals every two weeks from April ’09-April ’10, and the $40 fine isn’t reducing the number of violations. The rate of the fine is meant to be a deterrent for violators and as we currently have a 75% denial rate on appeals that is increasing with each day, a graduated fine scale is unrealistic. Parking Services is working on moving a large portion of the violators (moped and scooters) parking areas outside the main campus in hopes to reduce violations. In the coming year, I charge the University Judiciary to increase the proactive education geared toward parking awareness. I know that we will succeed with the continued support of Susan Weirauch and Linda Norton in Parking Services and our awesome membership. It has been an honor to serve as the Director of Parking Appeals this past year; I look forward to working with the new Director, Nigel George in the coming year.

Alumni Spotlight
Timothy Toler

Q: What were some issues that you faced in UJ?
A: As student justices, we were asked to make decisions that could have and did have serious and lasting consequences for our fellow-students. I found academic dishonesty cases to be the most difficult. When someone was found to have violated the Honor Code, the challenge as a justice was to impose a punishment that was fair not only to the offending student, but also to the student body and the University.

Q: What did you learn from being in UJ … did being a member prepare you for other things you encountered in life?
A: All decisions have consequences, and many of those consequences become known only in the fullness of time.

Q: Any advice for current UJ members?
A: “Whoever undertakes to set himself up as a judge of Truth and Knowledge is shipwrecked by the laughter of the gods.” Albert Einstein.
Conduct Matters

Timothy Reed, 2010-2010 Director of Parking Appeals

On March 19th, 2010, the University Judiciary held a conduct awareness event in the Tate Plaza titled Conduct Matters. Patrick Dever and I, along with our amazing Graduate student Bill McKenney, Patrick’s assistant Lindsay Worsham, and our ever lovely advisor Cara Simmons, worked collectively to put this program together, utilizing our unique perspectives and expertise to make Conduct Matters successful. Through this program, we partnered with numerous offices that we work with on regular basis to educate the University community on how they could be compliant with the Code of Conduct. We had a tremendous amount of support from Parking Services, The Fontaine Center for Alcohol Education, UGA Police Department, Housing Judicial, and the Office of Violence Prevention to host this program and we look forward to continuing this in the Fall ’10 and Spring ’11 semesters. This program is just one of the numerous new series that UJ will be hosting in the coming academic year to get the community aware, nay, excited about code compliance. If you have any suggestions for programming, please contact me at timreed@uga.edu, and make sure to look out for our Public Affairs update in the fall.
Dear Alumni,

Cara Simmons
University Judiciary Advisor

It’s shaping up to be another great academic year and semester for University Judiciary (UJ) and the Office of Judicial Programs (OJP). Earlier this month OJP and UJ received Parents & Families Association grants totaling over $4000. It is great to know that they value the work we do to provide resources for the students and their families. The support of our programs and initiatives with non-state money is increasingly important during the current budget climate.

In March, UJ and OJP sponsored “Conduct Matters.” The event was held on a lovely afternoon on Tate Plaza. The purpose of the event was to let students know that conduct matters no matter where you are. We wanted to provide education and resources to students but in a less intimidating atmosphere. There are a lot of myths surrounding the departments that participated and we wanted to dispel as many as possible. We received a lot of great feedback and developed new ideas to revamp the programs and are currently planning to hold a Fall 2010 “Conduct Matters” in September or October. Participating departments included units in University Housing, the University Health Center, University Police and Parking Services.

We also inducted 26 new members and elected a new council! This time of year is always bittersweet for me. I am sad to see members graduate, but at the same time excited for the upcoming year and possibilities.

University Judiciary donated over $700 to Relay for Life and the Office of Judicial Programs welcomed a new staff member – Elizabeth Hancock. She serves as the Administrative Assistance and has been a great addition since her arrival in February.

If you haven’t taken a look at the OJP website in a while, it is has totally been redesigned. After reading the newsletter, take a look around the new website by visiting - http://uga.edu/judicialprograms/. I promise you won’t be disappointed.

One of the last big events to take place this year for us is the Annual Recognition Banquet. It is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and look forward to the upcoming year. I hope that each of you received the invitation. It will be held at the new Trumps Facility on Milledge Avenue on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at twelve o’clock in the afternoon.

The semester is quickly coming to an end, but the work doesn’t stop with the last final. We will continue to meet with students who have allegedly violated the Code of Conduct, conduct formal hearings, and do presentations to First Year and Transfer students and their families this summer and begin preparation for the fall semester.

Donate to UJ!
For more information, see page 17.

As my time with the University Judiciary ends, I asked myself ‘was the 50 hours of training, studying for the final, and then advising/coordinating hearings all worth it? Without question, the answer is ‘Yes!’ My time with University Judiciary has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my collegiate schooling. I feel truly blessed to be part of such a unique and profound organization. Most importantly, I feel honored to have worked with such an amazing group of people. Every single person in this organization is not only brilliant but passionate and truly kind. I am so thankful for the relationships I have made through this organization and I only hope that future members are able to make the same type of relationships. As I leave the University Judiciary, my advice to future members is to spend time in the office, make an effort to know the people in this organization, and always remember to act in the spirit of service.

Tara F. Mostatab

It is my firm belief that the University of Georgia Judiciary is beyond all, the best organization at the University of Georgia! I first joined UJ during my Junior year, and I wish I would have done so sooner. Through serving as the Alumni Relations Chair, I have witnessed the passion that the alumni still have for this organization, which attests to the profound impression UJ has had on its membership.

Serving as an Advisor/Advocate has afforded me the opportunity to gain insight on the judicial process as well as enabled me to serve my university community. UJ has had a profound impact on my life and for that reason, I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to be a part of such a esteemed organization.

Imani Newborn
I have only been a member of University Judiciary for one year, yet my limited experience has in no way lessened the impact that the organization has had on my life. It has been a wonderful experience to work with the Office of Judicial Programs in addition to the many students I have met in our organization. More than anything, it has been a pleasure to meet and get to know a group of such intelligent and capable individuals. I know that I have learned a lot from each person in UJ, and will benefit from the relationships I have formed for the rest of my life.

-Michael Sullivan

I will never forget my time in UJ. The students in this organization are granted more responsibility than any other organization on campus and what is amazing is that the members find a way to shoulder that burden so well. Every hearing is a new experience with a new twist or headache. I have met people and seen things that have shocked, touched and amazed me. Yet despite this unpredictability and incredible burden, the people in the organization are always cheerful and friendly. The people are what make the organization and I have made friendships that will last forever. I will never forget getting done at 10:30pm with a sexual harassment hearing only to rush over the UJ tent at Relay for Life in my suit so that I could be line dancing only 2 hours later.

-Patrick Dever

University Judiciary has possibly been the single greatest thing I've undertaken while at UGA. As I graduate in May and learn about the next steps I'll take in my life, I realize how beneficial UJ has been to me. In today's economy, many students will take jobs that are completely unrelated to their major in college. For me, studying economics and geography has given me a greater understanding of how the world works, but I'm not sure that I've ever use the specifics taught in those programs. However, I will always take with me the skills learned in UJ. Once a shy and nervous public speaker, I now conduct hearings confidently. I also learned how to efficiently read and motivate a team of student justices. Now, I understand the need for a responsible organization and teamwork in efforts to uphold the greatest amount of integrity. These are all traits we hear a lot about in our lives, but a person can never grasp their importance until they experience them. And lastly, I will always remember that I had the pleasure of working with some of the greatest students at UGA.

-Kyle Thompson

When I look back on my time in Judiciary I realize how much I gained from this amazing opportunity. When I was going through the fifty hours of training, my friends would always ask me why I was putting myself through this and at that time I really didn't have a good answer. But now I can say that I did it because I wanted to make a difference. Some students have a stigma against us because of the responsibility we are given and the magnitude and importance of the work that we do. These are the students that don't understand that we have been trained extensively to do this and are perfectly placed to give them the fairest chance when dealing with an alleged violation. Most schools send these types of problems straight to the administrators that are probably too busy and too far removed to handle it. My time on Judiciary wasn't always easy, whether it was seeing students around campus from a hearing where I was the advocate for the university or preparing for a hearing when I had three tests and two other meetings and a multitude of other obligations but I never saw it as a burden. It was a challenge and one that I am glad I had the opportunity to learn and grow from. The most important lesson I have learned from UJ is no action is too small to make a difference. Everything is an opportunity to teach the university community and to help it grow and develop, even something that seems minor like parking appeals. Working with the other members of UJ has taught me so much. It is such a strong, highly motivated group of people and I can't help but be inspired by the dedication that these students put into the organization.

-Brian Stolz
On the beautiful spring day of April 17, 2010, the University Judiciary Recognition Banquet commenced at Trumps Ballroom on Milledge at noon. A multitude of University officials, Office of Judicial Programs staff, new and old members and their proud parents were all in attendance to celebrate the organization’s accomplishments made within past 2009-2010 academic year. The program began with the State of Judiciary address from Jerrod Lukacs, the 2009-2010 Executive Director. He gave an enthusiastic synopsis of the progress made by the organization, thereby calling attention to our handling of over 100 hearings, over 1500 Parking Appeals, and the successful revision of Minimum Sanctions. Jerrod concludes his speech delighting in his opportunity of, “Working with greatest, intelligent, and caring students I’ve ever met.”

Next, our featured speaker, Kyle Wingfield gave an inspirational reflection. Kyle Wingfield is a 2001 graduate of the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications. While in college, served as a Student Justice. He is currently a columnist for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. In his speech, he emphasized incorporating the pillars of the arch: Wisdom, Justice, and Moderation, into not only our work with the University Judiciary, but also in our future endeavors.

Following this short reflection by Mr. Wingfield, the Recognition of New Members. A short congratulatory speech was given by the Directors of Recruitment and Development- Carlye Norton and Tyler Pate. The new members are as follows:

- Rebecca Arnall
- Anelise Cimino
- Shreya Desai
- Stephen Flowers
- Chelsea Fullerton
- Caitlin Heaton
- Elizabeth Madani
- Naomi Martin
- Peter McDonough
- Charles Spalding
- Corbin Aiken
- Daniela Belton
- Jordan Cleare
- Jeremy Dailey
- Wells Ellenberg
- Alex Foster
- Helen Harris
- Jessica Hellenfant
- Edward Kenna
- Alan Lee
- Natasha Lemmens
- Ashley Miles
- Kelsey Shearman
- and Victoria Staples.

Continuing with the program, Cara Simmons facilitated the Recognition of Outgoing Council. Recognition was given to the following council members: Jerrod Lukacs (Executive Director), William Patrick Dever for all of his exemplary work for UJ. Moreover, Awards of Commitment and Excellence were given to Ellis Liu and Alison Law.

Next, special recognition was given to individuals who have given their all to the University Judiciary and made significant contributions to the organization. Mr. Bill Bracewell presented the Bracewell Award to a deserving individual, William Patrick Dever for all of his exemplary work for UJ. Moreover, Awards of Commitment and Excellence were given to Ellis Liu and Alison Woodworth.

Nearing the banquet’s closing, the newly elected Executive Director, Geales Goodwin gave her address concerning the future of UJ and her plans to reignite the passion for this organization, through challenging all members, both new and old, to remember the reason for joining the organization. Lastly, and certainly not least, Mrs. Kim Wingfield, the Associate Dean of Students for Judicial Programs, gave an eloquent, metaphorical speech about life as a scavenger hunt. As Mrs. Kim explained, when embarking on our scavenger hunt, “Look for learning opportunities, meaningful relationships, reasons to celebrate, and smile and laughter along the way.”
We, the University of Georgia Judiciary, seek to foster respect with the university community through the adherence to the code of conduct, by utilizing proactive education and a fundamentally fair judicial process.

If you are interested in donating to the University Judiciary, please copy and paste the link below. Donations are tax deductible and will go towards University Judiciary outreach initiatives and the annual banquet.

https://www.externalaffairs.uga.edu/os/makegift?extacc=30982100&amount=50

Congratulations to the New 2010-2011 Council: Executive Director- Geales Goodwin, Director of Recruitment and Development for A/As)- Anelise Cimino, Director of Recruitment and Development for Justices- Tyler Pate, Director of Public Affairs- Tim Reed, Director of Parking Appeals- Nigel George, Director of Case Administration for A/As- Harsh Patel, and Director of Case Administration for Justices- Alison Woodworth.

Note from the Editor
Imani Newborn, Alumni Relations Chair

As the 2009-2010 Alumni Relations Chair, it has been an honor and a privilege to produce another edition of the Pinnacle Alumni Newsletter. I have truly enjoyed serving in the capacity of this position. As Alumni Relations Chair, my goals were to establish and maintain close relations between the University Judiciary’s current members and the alumni. One of my main objectives was to also increase alumni giving as well. The University Judiciary is an extraordinary organization progressing significantly each year and making a great contribution to the university community. This organization has had a profound impact on me, and I’m sure it has had a profound impact on your life as well. It is my hope that you all will give back to UJ, because this organization needs your support to survive and fulfill its purpose and initiatives. Lastly, I have enjoyed serving as the Alumni Relations Chair, and I’m proud to announce the newly appointed 2010-2011 Alumni Relations Chair- Paige Pipes. I hope you have enjoyed this newsletter and it is my wish that it has rekindled your interest in this great organization. God Bless and Go Dawgs!