Black America in Transition: Obama, Race, and American Democracy
To Be Discussed In Speakers Series, Feb. 7

Jeremy I. Levitt, Distinguished Professor of International Law at Florida A&M College of Law, will speak on “Black America in Transition: Obama, Race, and American Democracy,” in the second lecture of the 2012-2013 SULC Speakers Series on Thursday, February 7.

The lecture will be held at noon Thursday in 129-130 A. A. Lenoir Hall.

Levitt is a public international lawyer and political scientist with expertise in the law of the use of force, human rights law, African politics, democratization, state dynamics and regional collective security. Levitt is the author or editor of more than 50 articles and four books, including *Illegal Peace in Africa: An Inquiry into the Legality of Power-Sharing with Warlords, Rebels, and Junta*.

As a scholar and practitioner, Prof. Levitt works around the world to address the most pressing and controversial issues confronting global society. He was recently a Fulbright Research Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice for the Human Rights Research and Education Center (HRREC) at the University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON (Canada).

Prior to entering law teaching, Levitt served as special assistant to the managing director for global human and social development at the World Bank Group. He was recently appointed as senior member of the International Technical Assistance Committee (ITAC) of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Liberia.

He earned a Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Cambridge-St. Johns College; a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and B.A. in political science at Arizona State University.

Opening of Court, Memorial, and New Members Ceremony Featured SULC Participants

Candle-Lighting—Chancellor Pitcher, LSU Law Center Chancellor Jack Weiss, and LSBA President John Musser.

Judge Michael McDonald and Tavares Walker, SULC Career Services counselor, who led the pledge of allegiance.

Information to be published in E-NEWS should be e-mailed (Remanuel@sulc.edu), faxed (771-6257), or submitted to the Office of Communications and Development Support, (Suite 242).

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In honor and observance of Black History Month, the National Black Law Students Association (BLSA) at SULC has planned several events for SULC and the Baton Rouge community. This year’s theme: “At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington” celebrates the anniversary of two important turning points for African Americans—the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation and the 1963 March on Washington.

From panel discussions on topics in the African-American community to an evening of jazz in New Orleans, this month’s celebration events include:

- **Evolution of a Black Woman’s Hair: Natural and Relaxed Hair and the Legal Profession**
  Panel discussion on appearance and professionalism in the legal field
  Panelists: Prof. Shenequa Grey and Claudette Brown, Oliver B. Spellman Law Library, Wednesday, February 6, 129 A. A. Lenoir Hall, 12:15 p.m.

- **Southern University Museum of Art: Tour**
  Southern University’s Hidden Gem
  Tuesday, February 19, Southern University Museum of Art (SUMA), 1 p.m.

- **We Have Arrived: Or Have We?**
  Panel discussion on equality, education, and the African-American community
  Date, Place, Time: TBA

- **Soul Food Sunday: Celebration of African Foods and Traditions**
  Date, Place, Time: TBA

For more information, contact Taryn Branson at tbranson@sulc.edu.

**Year-End Recent Developments CLE Seminar Drew Participants from North and South Louisiana, Dec. 14 and 15**

**Presenters were Judge Alvin Batiste (1), Frank Brown (2), Prof. Herbert Brown (3), Antonio “Tony” Clayton (4), retired Judge Luke A. LaVergne (5), Prof. Donald North (6), Cynthia N. Reed (7), and Prof. Alvin Washington (8).**
Third-year student Adam Credeur’s article, “Haynesville Shale: Those Frackin’ Alt. Wells,” was published as the lead article in the February edition of the Baton Rouge Bar Association’s monthly journal, Around the Bar. The article is available online at http://www.brba.org/Images/AroundTheBar/february2013_ATB.pdf.

Credeur Published in Around the Bar

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SULC Alumni To Participate In LA Judicial Council NBA Meeting, Feb. 14-17, in Baton Rouge

SULC alumni will be among presenters at the 15th Louisiana Judicial Council National Bar Association (LJC/NBA) Annual Meeting and CLE Seminar 2013, to be held February 14-17 at the Belle of Baton Rouge.

The meeting, “Advancing Justice Through Public and Personal Accountability,” is being held in conjunction with the Region V NBA meeting. Judges and lawyers are being invited to participate in the nine hours of CLE, said Alejandro “Al” Perkins, ‘04, president of the State-wide Louis A. Martinet Legal Society.

Presenters of one-hour CLE sessions are Judge Herbert Cade, ‘76; Anderson Dotson, ‘00; Monique Edwards, ‘86; Judge Marc E. Johnson, ’89; and Dwayne Murray, ’87.

For more information, contact Judge Luke LaVergne, (Retired), @ 225-324-5665 or Judge Trudy M. White @ 225-772-7546.

In photo at left, Chancellor Pitcher is pictured with NAACP State President Ernest L. Johnson, ’76, during the civil rights group’s 2013 Annual Awards Program. Pitcher received the A. P. Tureaud Black Citizenship Medal, the highest honor given by the organization. To date most of the recipients of the award, like Pitcher, have been pioneers or “historic-firsts” in breaking down the walls of racism and discrimination; Johnson is pictured with Carol Septs, administrative assistant for Southern University Law Review, who was one of the recipients of the Emmitt J. Douglas Memorial Award, named for a former State Conference president and a national NAACP vice president.

Alumni Panel for Law Students to Kick off 2013 SULC Alumni Round-Up, April 10

Law students are invited to a panel conducted by SULC alumni to kick off the 2013 SULC Alumni Round-Up, April 10-13.

The Round-Up, celebrating the Law Center’s 65th Anniversary, includes an expanded schedule of activities, including the panel, “What is Your Brand?—Developing Your Professional Image,” from 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 10.

Confirmed panelists are Prof. Monique Edwards, ’86; Judge Terri Fleming Love, Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal; and Nicole Kleinpeter, director of marketing and communications, Baton Rouge General Hospital.

The panel will be followed by a Students and Alumni Meet and Greet from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Law Center Atrium.

For more information, contact Michelle Jackson, director of career services, Mjackson@sulc.edu or (225) 771-2142.

E-NEWS

SULC: ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

Celebrating 70 years—NAACP Louisiana State Conference Honor SULC Administrators during Annual Awards Program

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SU System President Ronald Mason Hosts First Virtual Chat

The first SU System President’s vChat video hosted on January 31 is available on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3xf1UaOxCU&feature=youtu.be

The next quarterly SUS President’s vChat is scheduled for April 25, 2013.

Save the Date: April 10-13, 2013 2013 SULC Alumni Round-Up

Join us as we celebrate our 65th Anniversary with an expanded schedule of activities, including...

Alumni Panel and Students & Alumni Meet and Greet CLE Symposium Distinguished Alumni Reception Judicial Wall of Fame Unveiling Chancellor’s Scramble SULC Alumni Association Meeting and Mixer Hall of Fame Banquet

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Chancellor Freddie Pitcher, Jr., visited the Alabama A&M University campus, on Sunday, February 3, 2013, to speak to the Honors Program about “Law School Preparedness and Opportunities to attend Southern University Law Center.”


Vice Chancellor John Pierre and Michelle Jackson, director of career services, will accompany seven second-year students to Dallas, Texas, for the American Bar Association Judicial Clerkship Program (JCP), February 6-9. The JCP is a collaboration of the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline and the ABA Judicial Division. It will give students the opportunity to network with judges and former law clerks from across the country, as well as the skills, contacts and confidence necessary to secure a clerkship. Students participate in panel discussions, a research and writing exercise, and informal social events to develop networking skills and opportunities. The program simulates the clerkship experience, exposes students to what judicial clerks do on a daily basis, broadens their career options, shows how to apply for a judicial clerkship, and demonstrates the benefits of clerking. Student participants are Brittany Bryant, Ashley Butler, Skyla Johnson, Kendra Joseph, Linda Pham, Johanna Posada, and Jazmine Torres.

Kiki Bergeron, ’07, has become a partner in the firm of Taylor Porter in Baton Rouge. Bergeron specializes in the areas of construction law and commercial litigation. She represents local, regional, and national clients in their disputes involving private and public construction projects. She regularly advises clients of their lien rights under the Private Works Act and Public Works Act, and she also represents contractors before the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors. The magna cum laude SULC graduate was a member of the Southern University Law Review. She received her B.S. from Sam Houston State University in 1997 and was an English teacher prior to attending law school. Bergeron is admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Louisiana and is a member of the Baton Rouge, Louisiana State, and American Bar associations.

Col. Anthony M. Henderson, ’93, is currently serving as Special Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff for Warrior and Family Support. Henderson formerly served on the Joint Staff, J3 as a Current Operations Planner for Europe and NATO; Operations Officer, 2nd Marine Regiment; command of 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Current Operations Officer, 7th Marine Regiment; Executive Officer, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Twenty-nine Palms, California; and Officer Assignments, Manpower & Reserve Affairs, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia. His personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with “V” for valor, gold star in lieu of second award; Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; and Navy Commendation Medal with “V” for valor, gold star in lieu of second award. For more information on Henderson, see http://www.jcs.mil/biography.aspx?ID=164.

Denise Wallace, ’90, is the new general counsel at Dillard University, New Orleans.