

#### E. Law School Programs

Several professionalism centers assist in developing programs designed to contribute to the law schools' efforts to integrate elements of professionalism into the curriculum or into extra-curricular programs. For example, the Multnomah Committee has reported success with a law school program it developed. During first year students' orientation, lawyers meet with the law students to discuss the book, *A Civil Action*, by Jonathan Harr. Thereafter, throughout the academic year, faculty refer to the book in their classes and members of the Committee participate in panel presentations on the subject of professionalism as well as in regular classroom instruction. With an eye toward promoting discussions of professionalism in the upper class years, the Committee's law school subcommittee has proposed organizing a professionalism retreat for graduating law students where the students would spend as much as a day and a half with professors and experienced lawyers to discuss professionalism and ethics.

Along similar lines, the Georgia Commission joined the State Bar's Committee on Professionalism to develop "Orientations on Professionalism," which received the ABA/Information America Client Relations Project Award in 1994. The programs are presented with the cooperation of the law schools, the organized bar, the practicing bar, and the judiciary. An expanded version of the orientation program, conducted at Emory Law School, received the ABA Gambrell Professionalism Award in 1999, and includes two sessions held during the first year of law school. One aspect of the program is a series of hypothetical questions that focus solely on the law school experience to re-enforce the notion that lawyers' professionalism begins with their experiences as law students.

The Georgia Commission has also created pilot professionalism programs for second and third year law students in response to requests by students and group leaders to expand the professionalism programs. One program uses the video *The Case of the Silent Alarm* to stimulate discussion. Another program uses the text *Lives of Lawyers* by Georgetown Law Professor Michael Kelly to explore the link between legal academia and the profession. The Commission has found it useful to continue discussions of professionalism beyond the first year of law school because students express increasing concern as they near graduation and the beginning of practice.

The North Carolina Commission assists with implementing a Professionalism Orientation Program at its North Carolina law schools for first year students. The program includes volunteer lawyer and judge alumni leading discussion groups on hypothetical situations related to professionalism and ethics. Some of the law schools prefer to conduct the orientation during the Orientation Week, while others present the program between the first and second semesters.

The North Carolina Commission has also provided grants to the law schools to assist with developing and implementing other professionalism programs in order to supplement their professionalism curriculum. Duke University's Blueprint program, Campbell University's Professionalism Lecture Series and Wake Forest University's professionalism efforts have each received the ABA Gambrell Professionalism Award. Due to the grants, North Carolina Central University, Campbell University and Elon University have been able to establish professionalism dinners, where students are invited to participate with judges and lawyers in speaking about a professionalism and ethics hypothetical. In addition, the University of North Carolina was able to expand its already successful Witt Professionalism Roundtable

and hold a professionalism dinner for its Charlotte area alumni. All of these dinners are modeled after the Witt Professionalism Roundtable at the University of North Carolina.

In Ohio, the Commission has a Law School Committee that works to develop professionalism initiatives for Ohio's law schools. In past years, the Law School Committee assisted Ohio's law schools with their orientations by helping develop scenarios that address professionalism issues for students to discuss and suggesting language for a law school student oath. In more recent years, the Commission on Professionalism hosted Ohio's law school deans at its December 2009 Commission meeting and held a Student to Lawyer Symposium in December 2010. The purpose of the Student to Lawyer Symposium was to bring together law school deans and academics, experienced practicing attorneys, judges, law school students, and new lawyers to discuss how law schools and the rest of the legal community may better prepare students to be exemplary legal professionals. Several of Ohio's law school deans, as well as Justices of the Supreme Court of Ohio, were in attendance. For more information about the Student to Lawyer Symposium or to view a video of the event, please see <http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/Boards/CP/symposium.asp>.

In South Carolina, the Commission has appointed a subcommittee to assist the two law schools in the state in developing law school courses on professionalism. The Commission has also appointed a subcommittee on Judicial Internships wherein qualified law students have the opportunity to work with state court judges during the summer.

In Illinois, drawing upon models from other states and as developed by the Southern Illinois School of Law, the Commission coordinates orientation programs in most of the Illinois law schools that consists of a speech on the importance of professionalism by a Supreme or Appellate Court Justice, administration of a Pledge of Professionalism to matriculating 1L students, and facilitated small group discussions with practicing lawyers. The law school orientation programs are designed to introduce law students to some of the myriad of professionalism issues that will challenge them when they begin to practice.

In 2010, the Illinois Commission collaborated with some law schools to introduce professionalism programming beyond the orientation of new students. For example, at the John Marshall Law School, the Justice Anne E. Burke Professionalism Series brought together lunch time panels of practicing lawyers and judges that gave students perspectives on topics such as considerations for starting your own practice and courtroom demeanor, and scenarios designed to address issues of civility, diversity and inclusion.

The orientation for first year students at each of New Jersey's three law schools includes a professionalism component featuring an address by the state bar president, who concludes by administering The Lawyers' Pledge to the students. The Lawyers Pledge was developed by New Jersey's Commission as a supplement to the statutory oath administered to newly admitted members of the bar. The Lawyers' Pledge stresses adherence to the noble ideals of the profession.