

From the Dean



FSU President John Thrasher ('73) speaks during the Tallahassee ROI networking event for law and business alumni.

On Monday, February 12, we joined the College of Business and the FSU Alumni Association to host an "ROI" networking event for Tallahassee-area alumni. It was a wonderful opportunity for alumni from the law and business schools to connect! FSU President John Thrasher ('73) was the keynote speaker. He earned his bachelor's degree from the College of Business in 1965 and his juris doctor degree from the College of Law in December 1972. President Thrasher shared his thoughts on leadership and addressed the state of the university and his vision for moving FSU forward. The event was part of the Regional Opportunities to Interact (ROI) series that seeks to connect alumni in various geographic areas and provide them with a return on their investment in FSU. I enjoyed talking to many of our alumni in attendance and helping to connect them with alumni from the College of Business. We have several law school alumni events planned for the upcoming months and look forward to seeing many more alumni at those events.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty Profile: Jeffrey Kahn

[Jeffrey H. Kahn](#), the Harry W. Walborsky Professor at FSU College of Law, focuses on the federal tax area in his teaching and scholarship. His tax course topics include personal income tax, corporate tax, partnership tax, international tax and a seminar on tax policy. Outside of the tax area, Kahn has taught Torts, Contracts and Business Organizations. Kahn is the co-author of several treatises including, *Federal Income Tax, Principles of Corporate Income Taxation and Taxation of S Corporations*. He also has published numerous tax articles in both general law reviews and tax journals. Kahn worked for three years as a tax associate in the Chicago office of McDermott, Will & Emery. Prior to joining FSU in 2011, Kahn served on the faculties at Washington and Lee School of Law, Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law and Santa Clara University School of Law. He has also been a visiting professor at Vanderbilt University Law School, Stanford Law School, University of California Hastings College of Law and University of North Carolina School of Law. Kahn holds a B.A. from Duke University in classical studies and Latin and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.



"I want my students to learn more than just tax rules and principles. I realize that not all the students in my class will become tax lawyers. I want to improve their ability at statutory interpretation and critical thinking. Those skills will be used by the students in their professional career no matter what area of law they practice after law school. Tax is the perfect subject to teach those skills since the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations are filled with complex rules that require critical study. My goal is to enable the students to become better lawyers by providing them, not just information, but the qualities and skills that they will use for the rest of their lives."

Alum Profile: Jorge L. Piedra ('96)

[Jorge L. Piedra](#) is the managing partner at Piedra & Associates, P.A., in Coral Gables. He is a trial lawyer and his practice is focused entirely on commercial and construction litigation. He has been recognized by *Florida Super Lawyers* every year since 2007 and was selected for inclusion on *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite list from 2009-2017. In January, Piedra was sworn in as the 44th president of the Cuban American Bar Association (CABA). He has been active in CABA for many years, serving on its board of directors since 2010. In 2003, CABA named Piedra its Outstanding Young Lawyer. Piedra is an active member of the Latin Builders Association, where he served on the board of directors and executive committee from 2002-2011. In his spare time, Piedra is an avid fisherman and the owner of the world and national championship-winning Rock Star Fishing Team.



"CABA has an impeccable record of professionalism, dignity and fairness to all who cross its path. At the same time, CABA takes on just causes with a vigor that is unmatched. This steady and even-handed approach has made CABA one of the most respected institutions in our legal community. It is my privilege and honor to continue to pursue these precious and noble traditions."

Student Profile: 3L Reginald Janvier

Desired Practice Location: South Florida, tri-county area
Graduation Date: May 2018
Specialization: Business law
Field of Law Sought: Primarily interested in commercial litigation or corporate transactional work



Originally from Fort Lauderdale, Reginald Janvier earned his bachelor's degree in history with a minor in business law from Florida Atlantic University. When he completes his J.D. in May, he will also earn the Business Law Certificate. Janvier is the managing editor of the *Florida State University Law Review* and a member of the Trial Team. The summer after his 1L year, Janvier was a judicial intern for the Honorable Stacey Schulman of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida. The summer after his 2L year, he was a summer associate at Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A. in Orlando. There, he worked with the firm's litigation, real estate and corporate practice groups. Janvier gained experience in drafting various agreements in the real estate context and researching issues in preparation for litigation. Last fall, Janvier interned with the Honorable Scott Makar of Florida's First District Court of Appeal. In this role, he conducted extensive research on a variety of procedural, evidentiary and substantive issues related to civil and criminal matters; wrote bench memos for Judge Makar; and worked collaboratively with fellow clerks to resolve complex legal issues. If you are interested in hiring Janvier after graduation, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

"My experience at Florida State University College of Law has provided me with the tools necessary to be a successful attorney. I am incredibly proud to be a member of the FSU Law community. The level of professionalism exemplified by my colleagues, and our outstanding faculty and staff, has truly made my law school experience worthwhile. It is this experience that will carry me forward as I embark on the next chapter of my legal career."

ORLANDO ALUMNI RECEPTION
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018 FROM 5:30-7 PM
AT THE CITRUS CLUB IN ORLANDO
PLEASE EMAIL ALUMNI@LAW.FSU.EDU TO RSVP BY FEBRUARY 27

GET INVOLVED

SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

SHARE MY TORCH MOMENT

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