

From the Dean



Barbara Andrade ('20) is externing at the Denver Immigration Court this summer.

As we are making final preparations to welcome students back for fall classes, many of our students are completing summer associate positions, clerkships, internships and externships. These jobs are extremely beneficial to students in gaining hands-on, practical experience that employers desire and in helping students determine areas of law they want to pursue post-graduation. This summer's externs worked at a wide variety of locations, including federal, state and immigration courts, public interest organizations, large corporations, public defender and state attorney offices, federal government offices in Washington, D.C., and state and local government agencies. Twenty-three students who had just completed their first year of law school participated in judicial externships around the nation through our popular 1L Judicial Externship Program. These summer externs are among 140 students who externed at 79 placements in 30 cities during the 2018-19 academic year! We are very proud of their accomplishments and look forward to watching them continue to flourish.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

American Law Institute Names Professor Bayern Adviser for a Restatement of Torts Project

In July, the American Law Institute (ALI) appointed [Shawn Bayern](#), FSU Law Larry and Joyce Beltz Professor of Torts, as an adviser for one of its Restatement (Third) of Torts projects beginning in the spring of 2020. The project, "Concluding Provisions," focuses on a variety of topics, including medical liability, vicarious liability, wrongful death and survival actions.



The American Law Institute is the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize and otherwise improve the law. The Institute's mission is "to promote the clarification and simplification of the law and its better adaptation to social needs, to secure the better administration of justice, and to encourage and carry on scholarly and scientific legal work." Bayern has been an elected member of ALI since 2017.

"I'm thrilled to be getting more involved in the work of the ALI," Bayern said. "The ALI's collaborative spirit and its dedication to improving our understanding of the law through collective scholarship have inspired me since I was a law student."

Alum Profile: Joseline Jean-Louis Hardrick ('09)

Joseline Jean-Louis Hardrick recently joined Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Tampa as a visiting professor teaching Constitutional Law. She also is the founder and director of Diversity Access Pipeline, a nonprofit organization with the mission of promoting diversity, creating access and feeding the legal pipeline with talented students of diverse backgrounds. Hardrick's previous experience includes practicing at Bush Ross and clerking for the Honorable Charlene Edwards-Honeywell and the Honorable James Moody, Jr., of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. In June, Hardrick received The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division's 2019 Diversity Award for her work with Diversity Access Pipeline. The award is presented to people or entities that respect and promote diversity in the profession and recognizes those who encourage more gender, racial, ethnic, religious and other minority participation in law schools and the practice of law.



"The goal of the Diversity Access Pipeline program is to create lawyers who will lead, mentor and inspire...one student at a time. We want students to know that no matter their backgrounds or challenges, they have value to the legal community. We want to show them how to recognize that value, articulate that value and add that value into every space they enter."

Student Profile: 2019 Grad Bianca Báez Pearson

Desired Practice Location: Tallahassee, Orlando, Washington, D.C., but open to other opportunities

Field of Law Sought: Primary interests are family law, immigration law, government law and policy, and public interest law; also open to non-traditional law positions



Originally from the Dominican Republic, Bianca Báez Pearson earned her J.D. from FSU Law in May 2019. She earned her LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers from FSU in 2017. Before coming to FSU, Báez earned a Bachelor of Law from the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and her first master's degree in international business at the American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C. As a licensed attorney in the Dominican Republic, Báez worked as an attorney there for several years. Her areas of experience included transactional, corporate, litigation and international law. As an FSU student, Báez worked at the Florida House of Representatives in the spring of 2017. She worked with policy research, bill research/tracking, grant research and appropriations tracking. While there, she developed an interest in the legislative process and policy work. During the summer of 2017 and after the completion of her LL.M., Báez transferred to the FSU Law J.D. Program, where she entered as a 2L. During that summer, Báez interned at the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. Among other responsibilities, she worked as the lead intern in charge of her member's interactions on the Small Business Committee, drafting memos and statements, and researching topics of the committee meetings, hearings and markups. The member selected her to assist the chief of staff with organization of the Small Business Summit, which took place in the member's district office in New York City. Báez also represented the office in briefings and meetings with caucuses, preparing memos for staff. During her time in D.C., Báez led bilingual tours of the U.S. Capitol for constituents and high-ranking authorities of the Dominican Embassy. During the fall semester of her 2L year, Báez clerked at Florida's Second Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office, where she researched and drafted memos and motions. Last summer, Báez was named a Legal Aid Summer Fellow by The Florida Bar Foundation and worked at LatinoJustice PRLDEF in Orlando. In this role, Báez worked closely with the Puerto Rican community displaced after Hurricane María. She was part of the legal team that worked on the intakes for the class action brought against FEMA. She also worked on intakes with farm workers and was part of a committee that phone banked in support of Amendment 4. As a 3L, Báez participated in the Immigration and Farmworker Project at the FSU Public Interest Law Center. She worked directly with clients, doing intakes and completing forms and research related to different types of immigration procedures.

Báez is a fellow of the Innovative Community Engagement Foundation (ICE Foundation), where she was part of several community-based projects in Tallahassee. As an FSU student, Báez served as LL.M. representative to the International Law Students Association, and secretary and later president for the American Civil Liberties Union Student Association. She was also a mentor at Griffin Middle School and volunteered with Legal Services of North Florida. Báez is fluent in Spanish and passionate about public interest law and social justice, family law, immigration law, politics and civil rights. She also loves to network. If you are interested in hiring Báez, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

"There is no doubt in my mind that the best decision I made was to enroll at FSU Law and continue to pursue my legal career in the United States, especially here in Tallahassee. The FSU Law community was welcoming since day one. Every professor and staff member always made sure to help in every way—from the open-door policies of the professors, to Dean B. and Morgan resolving every existential issue that a law student could have. Classmates quickly became friends and then family. And how can I forget the times alumni have stopped me in the streets to share some words of wisdom or memories of their time at FSU Law? It's definitely one big law family which I'm grateful to be a part of."



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