

Alumni Association President's Column

Hello from your [Alumni Association Board of Directors](#)! In an effort to more broadly communicate with our fellow alumni, the board of directors will be "taking over" the *FSU Law Focus* newsletter four times a year. I want to use this first takeover issue as an opportunity to explain the board and our purpose. We are a group of volunteer FSU Law alumni from all over the nation, working in a wide variety of practice areas. Our class years range from 1970–2018 and we work at firms, courts, companies, government entities and universities. Some of us are retired. Every graduate of the law school is automatically a member of the Alumni Association, so we represent all graduates. Our mission is to help promote and advance programs and initiatives of the College of Law. As a working board, we do so through the following board committees: Alumni Awards, Development, Alumni Outreach, Career Services and Student Recruitment. Please read the articles below to find out more about our work and how you can get involved.



- Terry L. Hill ('05), Alumni Association President

October 2019 Board Meeting Highlights



October 2019 board meeting attendees

On October 26, 2019, the Alumni Association Board of Directors met in Tallahassee. Dean O'Connor updated the board on significant achievements and announced upcoming events to which alumni would be invited. Members of the law school's development and alumni affairs team updated the board on FSU Law alumni and student giving details and on national giving trends. Deans for admissions and career services provided details on recruiting and efforts to help students have successful job searches. Standing committee chairs Jason Burnett ('88) (Student Recruitment Committee), Max Dauerman ('12) (Development Committee), Tara Price ('12) (Alumni Outreach Committee), Lauren Purdy ('11) (Career Services Committee) and Jim Spalla ('70) (Alumni Awards Committee) provided timely updates on the work of their committees. The Alumni Outreach Committee's work to cultivate regional alumni chapters was discussed at the meeting and is detailed more broadly in the article below. More than 30 alumni, 10 law school faculty and staff members, and Florida Bar President John Stewart attended the meeting and participated in a robust and informative discussion.

Regional Alumni Chapters

The board recently began establishing regional alumni chapters that allow alumni to network, visit and help one another on a localized level. To date, we have formalized chapters for Atlanta, Florida's First Coast, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, Palm Beach, Southwest Florida, Tallahassee and Tampa. Several chapters have already connected, and planning is underway for future regional events. Our Miami Chapter has an event scheduled for March 26 and will be sending more details to local alumni soon. We encourage everyone to get involved! Please [email me](#) or [Becky Shepherd](#) if you have any questions or want more information about helping with or forming a chapter in your area. For information about specific regional chapter involvement or activities, please contact the following representatives: [Brandon Cathey](#) ('04) (Tampa), [Rochelle Chiocca](#) ('00) (Palm Beach), [Joseph Coleman](#) ('15) (Southwest Florida), [Alex Fumagali](#) ('12) (Miami), [Jessica Gallegos](#) ('11) (Atlanta), [Nina Schmidt](#) ('15) (Fort Lauderdale), [Max Solomon](#) ('17) (Tallahassee) and [Laurel Tallent](#) ('19) (First Coast). Many of our regions are fortunate to have multiple regional leaders, but we list only one contact per region above for simplicity. Thank you to all our regional representatives and alumni who are interested in getting more involved!



- Tara Price ('12), Alumni Outreach Committee Chair



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