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From the Dean



Prof. Erin Ryan during the memorial



Markell's daughters and wife with his portrait

On Wednesday, January 12, we held a memorial at the law school to honor Professor David Markell and to celebrate his remarkable life. The event was attended by Dave's family, friends, colleagues, and former students, both in person and virtually. Featured speakers included Erin Ryan, our Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson professor and associate dean for environmental programs; Shi-Ling Hsu, FSU Law's D'Alemberte professor; Dave's law school classmate and long-time friend Daniel Sauls; Steve Turner, a local attorney and close friend of Dave's; Hannah Wiseman, a former FSU Law faculty member who now teaches at Penn State Law; and Dave's brother, Jack Markell. Each speaker shared wonderful memories of Dave that exemplified his grace, wisdom, professional accomplishments, sincerity, humility, good humor, and generosity. The contributions Dave made to our community were countless, and the law school, his students, and his colleagues are immensely better because of Dave. You can [watch a recording of the memorial online](#) if you were unable to attend.

During the event, I was delighted to announce the establishment of the Professor David L. Markell Memorial Scholarship, which will provide support for FSU Law students who have shown an interest in, and commitment to, environmental law. I also announced the first two recipients of that scholarship, both of whom are top students immersed in environmental law. The scholarship fund is open for contributions and will serve as a lasting tribute to Dave's outstanding legal scholarship, tireless work ethic, kindness, and mentorship. Gifts can be made online at give.fsu.edu/davemarkellmemorial. In concert with the scholarship fund in Dave's honor, the environmental law suite at FSU Law has been named in his memory, and a portrait of Dave was commissioned to be displayed prominently at the law school in the environmental law suite.

Erin O'Connor

Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU Law Welcomes Director of Bar Success

Tia Gibbs joined the law school as director of bar success in December. In this new position, Gibbs works with members of the administration, faculty, and staff to provide support and direct programming for students and graduates as they prepare for the bar exam. She develops and implements academic initiatives to improve bar passage, oversees required data collection and reporting related to bar passage and bar exam performance, and evaluates data to improve programming. Gibbs has already started meeting with current students to advise them on what they can expect when preparing for the bar exam. She is also working closely with Philip Sandon, who serves as FSU Law's bar support instructor. Gibbs previously served as the director for academic success at St. Thomas University College of Law, where she managed bar exam preparation programs, among other responsibilities. Prior to joining St. Thomas, Gibbs was a mediator with the Temperance Mediation Legal Group and supervising attorney of the mediation/loss mitigation department at Brock & Scott, PLLC. She is a member of The Florida Bar and Georgia Bar, and is a registered mediator in Alabama. She holds a J.D. from Florida A&M University College of Law and a J.M. from Florida International University.



"I'm looking forward to helping students and recent graduates successfully pass the bar," said Gibbs. "There's no such thing as a stupid question, please feel free to reach out."

Alum Profile: Hannah D. Monroe ('12)

Hannah D. Monroe joined LawCite, LLC, in October 2021 as a research attorney. She focuses on research, writing, and trial advocacy consulting at the Tallahassee office, which is comprised of a team of civil trial attorneys dedicated to assisting other trial lawyers throughout Florida. One of the co-founders of LawCite is FSU Law alumna Talley Kaleko ('00). Prior to joining LawCite, Monroe served as an assistant city attorney for the City of Tallahassee. She has also gained valuable experience as an associate with Rumberger Kirk, an assistant public defender in the Second Judicial Circuit, and a law clerk to the Honorable Robert L. Hinkle of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida.



Monroe hails from Waukeelah, Florida, and is a seventh-generation Floridian. She is engaged in her local legal community as an active member of Tallahassee Women Lawyers, where she serves on the board as Immediate Past President. She also serves on the board of Brehon Family Services, which provides housing for pregnant women experiencing homelessness. Monroe enjoys working with families as a certified birth doula (Heart & Hands Doula) and spending time with her own family, husband Patrick Flemming, FSU Law alumnus ('12), and their young daughter. Monroe is the daughter of FSU Law alumnus Lloyd Monroe ('82) and is proud to be a second-generation FSU Law graduate.

"I'm excited to have joined an excellent team of experienced trial attorneys at LawCite, LLC. I look forward to using my skills to assist attorneys throughout Florida in advocating for their clients."

Student Profile: 3L Katherine Hupp

Desired Practice Location: Prefers Northeast Florida but also open to Norfolk, Virginia; Charleston, South Carolina; and California

Expected Graduation: May 2022

Field of Law Sought: Environmental law, specifically in the fields of water law, environmental justice, and natural resources law

Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, Katherine Hupp attended the University of North Florida for undergrad, where she earned her bachelor's degree in political science. She attended the University of Colorado Denver for graduate school, earning a master's degree in public administration.



When she graduates from FSU Law in May, she will also earn the Environmental Law Certificate. In her final semester of law school, Hupp is working as a law clerk with Lewis, Longman & Walker, where she will draft memoranda, conduct research, and assist with discovery for administrative actions and environmental litigation. Last summer, she worked as a research associate with the National Sea Grant Law Center, where she performed legal research on developing ocean and coastal law issues; drafted and edited law review articles, blog articles, and newsletters for dissemination to agencies, local governments, coastal users, and the general public; and drafted internal memoranda on topics related to interdisciplinary research grants.

During the spring of her 2L year, Hupp was a judicial extern with the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings. There, she observed hearings presided over by administrative law judges and consulted with Judge Marie Ffolkes in her chambers. She also assisted with drafting memoranda and orders. During the summer before Hupp's 2L year, she was a legal intern with The Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida, where she developed and suggested rule revisions to Florida's Best Management Practices program for agricultural non-point source pollution and collaborated with relevant state agencies to construct more effective and efficient administration of the program to achieve statutorily mandated state water quality standards.

At FSU Law, Hupp is an article editor for the *Florida State University Law Review*, the competition chair for the Moot Court Team, and a staff editor for the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*. Hupp also currently sits on the Florida Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources' Marine Resources Committee as an articles co-vice chair. Hupp is an inaugural recipient of the Professor David L. Markell Memorial Scholarship. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Hupp after graduation, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#) or email her at klh19h@my.fsu.edu.

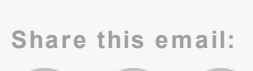
"Throughout law school, I've gained hands-on, real-world experience working in a diverse range of environmental law settings while also expanding my subject-matter knowledge through FSU Law's environmental law courses."

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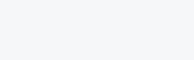
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