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From the Dean



Our 2022-2023 annual fund campaign is coming to a close, and the last day to make a gift to the campaign is Friday, June 30. If you have not yet contributed, we hope you will consider making a gift in any amount. You can make a donation now through our [online giving form](#), where you will have the option to earmark your gift to support specific causes, groups, and programs at the law school that you deem most important. We would especially appreciate donations to any area of student support, including scholarships, student organizations and activities, career and professional development programming, and our emergency fund. If you have already given to this year's campaign, thank you very much! Your support of the law school and our students is extremely important as we endeavor to prepare the next generation of lawyers.

Erin O'Connor
Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty Profile: Brian G. Slocum

Brian G. Slocum is joining the FSU Law faculty this summer. Professor Slocum's research and teaching experience lie in legislation/statutory interpretation, language and law, administrative law, and contracts. He comes to FSU Law from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law, where he held the titles of distinguished professor of law and associate dean for scholarship. Professor Slocum has also served as a visiting professor at Stanford Law School, University of California Berkeley School of Law, and University of California Davis School of Law. He is the author of "Ordinary Meaning: A Theory of the Most Fundamental Principle of Legal Interpretation" (University of Chicago Press, 2015), the editor of "Inference, Intention and 'Ordinary Meaning': What jurists can learn about legal interpretation from linguistics and philosophy" (University of Chicago Press, 2017), and a co-editor of "Justice Scalia: Rhetoric and the Rule of Law" (University of Chicago Press, 2019). He also has published numerous articles in top law journals, including the Columbia Law Review, Georgetown Law Journal, University of Pennsylvania Law Review, Yale Journal of International Law, and New York University Law Review. Professor Slocum has won numerous awards for his teaching and scholarship. Prior to entering academia, Professor Slocum worked at the U.S. Department of Justice and clerked for the Honorable Frank Magill, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in linguistics from U.C. Davis, his J.D. from Harvard Law School, and his B.B.A. from Pacific Union College. He will teach Language and Legal Interpretation at FSU Law in the fall.



"I am currently working on projects in the field of experimental jurisprudence, where I help obtain empirical evidence about how ordinary people understand the language of rules. One current paper (written with Professor Kevin Tobia from Georgetown Law) examines whether ordinary people incorporate normative values like 'fairness' into their understanding of statutes. The paper questions the prevailing legal view that normative values are irrelevant to determining the linguistic meaning of a statute."

Alum Profile: Susan Stucker ('85)

Susan Stucker is general counsel and a member of the Senior Leadership Team at White Cap, North America's leading distributor of specialty construction supplies and safety products for professional contractors. In this role, Stucker manages the company's legal functions and provides strategic leadership and coordination for all legal matters. Stucker previously served as vice president of legal at HD Supply, where she led the company's litigation, employment law, and risk management teams, and as senior counsel at Sprint. Stucker has also assisted more than 100 children in more than 50 cases as a guardian ad litem, for which she has twice received The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for the Ninth Judicial Circuit.



"After separating from our former parent company, HD Supply, White Cap has been on a journey of growth that has offered many exciting career opportunities for myself and our legal department. We have not only grown the legal function and the general counsel role at White Cap over the past three years, but we have also developed a strong company culture thanks to our people. Together, we have created an inclusive culture where everyone feels welcome, all voices are heard, and differences are celebrated, and I am incredibly proud to be a part of this culture."

Profile: Celebrating 2023 Grad Katie Weaver

2023 FSU Law graduate Katherine "Katie" Weaver has accepted a position as an associate in the Jacksonville office of Wicker Smith O'Hara McCoy & Ford P.A.! During law school, Weaver was a certified legal intern at the State Attorney's Office of the Second Judicial Circuit, where she maintained a caseload and conducted various proceedings in court, including eight jury trials. Weaver was also member of the FSU Law Triang Team and competed in the 2022 Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition in Buffalo, New York. She was a 1L, 2L, and 3L representative for FSU Law's Student Bar Association, and she served as administrative editor for the Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law and executive editor for the Journal of Transnational Law & Policy. Additionally, Weaver was a law student representative with the Tallahassee Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. She earned the distinguished pro bono service award for lawyering more than 40 hours of pro bono work during law school, and she received FSU Campus Recreation's Leaps and Bounds Award for her work as a coordinator with their group exercise program. Weaver is seeking to be barred in Florida and Tennessee, as she hopes to practice in both states. We wish her all the best in her new role and look forward to celebrating her future accomplishments!



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