



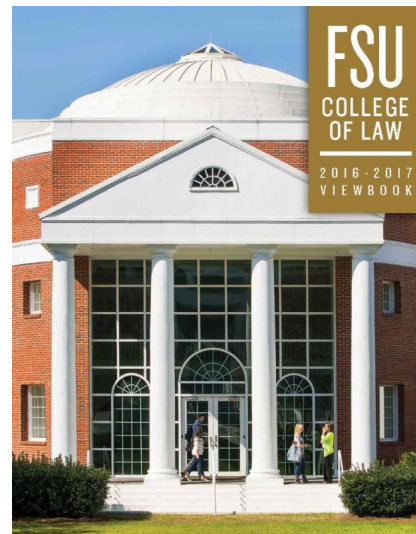
COLLEGE OF LAW

FSU LAW FOCUS

December 16, 2016

From the Dean

This fall semester was extremely busy for our admissions office. Representatives from admissions participated in 87 recruiting events at various colleges and universities across the country. From coast to coast, they met with nearly 2,000 prospective law students. As law schools nationwide are competing for fewer applicants, alumni participation in the recruiting process is extremely helpful. If you know someone who is considering law school, please send them a [link to our Viewbook](#) and encourage them to [contact us](#) to schedule a personal visit to the College of Law. If you would like to contact admitted students, please [volunteer to become an admissions partner](#). Thank you to everyone who is helping us with this important mission!



Also, today marks the end of a busy fall semester for everyone at the College of Law. While students are on winter break, we will not be sending weekly newsletters – look for our next issue on Friday, January 6. I hope you enjoy the holiday season and have a prosperous new year!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

50-Year Anniversary: 1976



Dean Emeritus and Alumni Centennial Professor Donald Weidner joined our faculty in 1976. Under his leadership, the law school climbed into the top tier of U.S. law schools and was consistently recognized as one of the nation's best in terms of job placement. After 20+ years of leading the law school, Dean Weidner retired as dean in June 2016. Also in 1976, funding continued to be an issue for both FSU and the College of Law. In February, a group of about 100 law students marched in peaceful protest to FSU's administration building seeking emergency aid for funding the law school library. University President Stanley Marshall met with law students and said he would support their efforts to secure additional funding for the law school from the legislature and private sources. "I am the chief lobbyist for the university, but that doesn't preclude other people from doing this," the president was cited as saying in a *Florida Flambeau* article. Also in 1976, Carol Ann Turner ('77) was the first woman to serve as editor-in-chief of the *Florida State University Law Review*. She was one of the few women editors-in-chief of law reviews in the country at the time.



Dean Emeritus Donald Weidner

Faculty Profile: Hannah Wiseman

[Attorneys' Title Professor Hannah Wiseman](#) has a new co-authored book that was published by Foundation Press in November. *Energy Law* provides a broad, yet detailed, understanding of the major components of energy systems, energy infrastructure, and energy markets and the laws that guide their development. It covers all major energy policy sectors including oil and gas extraction, electricity regulation, renewable energy development, and regulation of vehicles and transportation fuels. The timely book addresses rapidly changing policy in environmental regulation. Wiseman is a national expert on energy law, especially in the area of hydraulic fracturing – also known as fracking. She is quoted often in the



national media and has testified before members of congress.

Student Profile: 3L James Falls

For third-year student James Falls, a “hometown” is difficult to identify because his mother was in the military most of his childhood. Falls was born in Naples, Italy, and moved around from Chicago to San Diego to Puerto Rico. He attended junior high and high school in Fleming Island, Florida, and then attended FSU for undergrad, where he double majored in political science and sociology. Falls is most interested in criminal law and would like to work at the public defender’s office somewhere in Florida. However, he is also interested in federal clerkships, which would provide him the opportunity to see more than just criminal law.



Falls served as an executive board member for the Black Law Students Association during his first two years of law school and was on the 2016 BLSA mock trial team that placed third in the southern region and advanced to the national competition. He currently serves as a research assistant for Professor Wayne A. Logan and has worked with him on two articles. They are also co-authoring an article forthcoming spring 2017. The summer after his 1L year, Falls interned with Stephen Knight at the Knight Law Firm in Tallahassee. Since August 2015 he has clerked at the Office of the General Counsel for the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco. Next semester, Falls will end his law school career with an externship at the Second Circuit Public Defender's Office in Leon County. If you are interested in hiring Falls for a job after graduation, please [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

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