



COLLEGE OF LAW

FSU LAW FOCUS

September 22, 2017

From the Dean



Next Friday, September 29, we will host some of the nation's foremost experts on climate change for our [Fall 2017 Environmental Forum](#), *The Psychology of Climate Change: Why Do People Believe What They Believe?* The panel discussion will explore cutting-edge research on the psychology of climate change and the reasons underlying people's beliefs about the existence and

causes of climate change. Panelists will also address attitudes toward climate policy and solutions. The forum is free and open to the public, and we hope that many alumni and students will join us for this timely event, which is approved for CLE credit. If you are unable to travel to Tallahassee, a [live stream of the forum will be available on our website](#) . More information about the event is also available on the site.

Thank you to the following experts who will be serving as panelists and to Shi-Ling Hsu, D'Alemberte Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs, for coordinating and moderating the forum:

- Janet Bowman, Senior Policy Advisor, Florida Chapter of the Nature Conservancy
- John Cook, Research Assistant Professor, George Mason University
- Irina Feygina, Director of Behavioral Science and Assessment, Climate Central
- Janet Swim, Professor of Psychology, Penn State University
- Jerry Taylor, President, Niskanen Center

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Pictured above (clockwise from top left) : Participants Taylor, Feygina, Bowman, Hsu, Cook and Swim

50-Year Anniversary: Featuring 2013



In 2013, FSU Law reached a new high as #48 in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of best law schools. In February, the College of Law co-hosted a timely health care reform conference with the College of Medicine. The conference focused on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on the Affordable Health Care Act and brought together medical students and faculty with law students and faculty. In March 2013, FSU Law hosted its first national mock trial invitational competition.

Teams from across the country competed in the five courtrooms of the new Advocacy Center. Also in March, the law school hosted a national conference for the 100th anniversary of the federal income tax. Tax scholars came from across the nation to present papers and then the *Florida State University Law Review* published a symposium issue with eight major articles presented at the conference. 2013 was also the first year the law school conducted a Spring Break course. The course, Law and Risk Management, was taught by alum Fred Karlinsky ('92) and was designed to bring in many distinguished guest lecturers. This one-week course continues to be taught during spring break. Also in 2013, the College of Law's Public Interest Law Center (PILC) received the American College of Trial Lawyers' 2013 Emil Gumpert Award. The nationally competitive award recognizes programs "whose principal purpose is to maintain and improve the administration of justice." The \$50,000 grant-funded prize associated with the award supported the Miller Resentencing Project, an initiative of PILC's Children in Prison Project.

Pictured above: Members of the American College of Trial Lawyers were in Tallahassee to present the \$50,000 award check associated with the Emil Gumpert Award to Paolo Annino, the Glass Professor of Public Interest Law. In October 2013, PILC and Annino were honored during the American College of Trial Lawyers' 2013 annual meeting in San Francisco.

Faculty Profile: Professor Marcella David

Marcella David, the Betty T. Ferguson Visiting Professor, joined the College of Law in 2017. Before coming to FSU, she was a law professor, provost and vice president of academic affairs at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Previously, David was an associate dean and professor of law and international studies at the University of Iowa College of Law; she also served Iowa as its first chief diversity officer. Before entering academia, David clerked for Judge Louis H. Pollak, of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and was a litigation associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York. A Ford Foundation fellow in public international law in 1991-92, her research interests include the use of economic and other sanctions, international criminal law and questions



related to international organizations. She is teaching Civil Procedure and International Organizations this fall and also teaches Foreign Relations Law. When she is not busy preparing for classes, David is exploring the challenges of incorporating the populist national agendas reflected in many recent national elections into existing international structures.

"I am delighted to again be teaching law, and I am enjoying my interactions with all of my students and FSU colleagues."

Student Profile: 2017 Grad Donna Taylor

Originally from Charleston, West Virginia, Donna Taylor graduated from FSU Law this summer. By attending classes over the summers, Taylor was able to complete law school in two years. She also holds a bachelor's degree in biology from West Virginia State University and an M.B.A. from the University of Charleston. Prior to law school, Taylor worked in hospital administration as a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt. She specialized in risk management and quality improvement. Additionally, she was manager/director of medical imaging for nine years, overseeing seven departments and more than 100 employees. Taylor is interested in practicing health care law or personal injury law and is open to relocate anywhere. Taylor passed the July Bar Exam in West Virginia, which is now a Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) state. She will be sworn in for West Virginia on October 11 and plans to sit for the Florida Bar Exam in February 2018. The UBE's portable score can be used to apply for admission in other UBE jurisdictions. With her science background, Taylor was approved by the United States Patent and Trademark Office to sit for the Patent Bar Exam. During law school, Taylor was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and Phi Delta Phi. She was also a member of the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. In 2016, Taylor worked at the Veteran's Benefits Clinic in Jacksonville, where she assisted veterans in appealing denials for disability benefits for service-connected injuries. She also worked at the Veterans Clinic in Tallahassee. This summer, Taylor completed an externship in the State Attorney's Office for the Second Judicial Circuit, where she was the felony intern for Brian Miller in Wakulla County. The experience allowed her to become a certified legal intern and represent clients in court. If you are interested in hiring Taylor, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).



“With my health care experience I would like to find a position where I can bridge the gap between operations and corporate compliance/risk management.”

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