



## COLLEGE OF LAW

# FSU LAW FOCUS

December 1, 2017

### From the Dean



During this season of thanks, we would like to express our gratitude to the many alumni who give generously of their time. Among them are those serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, a working board comprised of graduates from a wide variety of classes, cities and practice areas. Through their service, they help us promote and advance the programs and initiatives of the College of Law. We would not be nearly as successful without their support and contributions. Thank you to the alumni listed below who currently serve on the board as officers and directors. To see a full list of the board, including all emeritus members and judicial section members, please [visit our website](#) .

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- Jacquelyn A. Thomas ('14)

- Dean Erin O'Connor

*Pictured above: FSU Law Alumni Board of Directors officers (left to right) Cathey, Van Wyk, Chiocca and Hill.*

## Faculty Profile: Erin Ryan

Erin Ryan, the Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor, teaches in the areas of environmental and natural resources law, property and land use, water law, negotiation and federalism. She has presented widely in the United States, Europe and Asia. Last month, she traveled to London to share *Dynamic Federalism as Legal Pluralism* at a Queens University conference among contributing authors to the *Oxford Research Handbook on Legal Pluralism*. Last summer, she



presented her forthcoming book, *The Public Trust Doctrine, Private Water Allocation and Mono Lake*, at a conference at the University of Michigan. She also shared *Negotiating Environmental Federalism* at Arizona State University and the University of Wisconsin, and she presented on the structure of Chinese environmental governance at an international natural resources law conference at Banff National Park in Canada. Ryan is frequently consulted by the press and has appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*, the *London Financial Times*, the *Associated Press*, *Thomson-Reuters Beijing*, *Xinhua*, *Bloomberg BNA*, the *Huffington Post*, *National Public Radio*, *Capitol Update*, and *NBC* and *CBS* local television news. She is the author of many scholarly works, including *Federalism and the Tug of War Within* (Oxford University Press 2012). Prior to law school, she served as a U.S. Forest Service ranger on the Mono Lake District of the Inyo National Forest. She holds a bachelor's degree in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard-Radcliffe College, a master's degree in Ethnomusicology from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Harvard University. Ryan served as a Fulbright Scholar in China, where she taught American law, studied Chinese governance and lectured throughout the country. She joined FSU Law in 2015.

*“A law school classroom can be a thrilling place—at its best, it moves beyond the space in which doctrine is introduced to become a laboratory for intellectual growth and discovery. It can also be an intimidating place, and supporting students through that experience is important. Whatever subject I’m teaching, my core pedagogical goals are always the same: to inspire my students to take risks, push beyond their comfort zones and engage with the material critically, creatively and with a spirit of problem-solving.”*

## **Alum Profile: Mary L. Pankowski ('02)**

Mary L. Pankowski opened her private practice in 2013, specializing in helping young people who have made mistakes. Prior to that, she was an assistant state attorney at the Second Judicial Circuit for 11 years, where she was a prosecutor working with juveniles. Before receiving her J.D. at FSU in December 2001, she was a vice president at Florida International University from 1994-1999. Pankowski also was previously associate vice president of academic affairs at FSU and a professor of educational leadership. She received her Ph.D. in adult education from FSU in 1972. Pankowski remains very involved on campus, serving on the law school's board of visitors, teaching a juvenile justice course at the FSU College of Law, serving as a J.D. Advisor for students considering criminal law careers and offering her assistance in many other ways. She is also very involved with Tallahassee Community College, serving



on the TCC Foundation board for 14 years and serving two terms as president of the board.

*“Florida State University's College of Law is a very special place. Not only do our students receive a first-rate legal education, but they are in the midst of a diverse group of intelligent and caring people who will help them achieve their goals in life.”*

## Student Profile: 3L Julianne Ference

**Desired Practice Location :** Destin/Panama City area

**Expected Graduation :** December 2017

**Specialization :** criminal law, civil litigation

**Field of Law Sought :** criminal prosecution, victim advocacy



Originally from Navarre, Fla., Julianne Ference is a graduate of the University of West Florida, where she earned a bachelor's degree in international studies. She transferred to FSU Law from Ohio Northern University College of Law and will graduate with her J.D. this December. Ference has been a member of the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* since transferring to FSU last fall. She is also a member of the Transfer Student

Organization. Before coming to law school, Ference worked at a personal injury firm in Pensacola and specialized in transvaginal mesh litigation. The summer following her 1L year, Ference interned with the Office of the State Attorney, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida in Panama City. She worked with Assistant State Attorney Christa Diviney who led the Minor Crimes Section of that office, which involved prosecuting crimes that had been committed against minor children. Since February 2017, Ference has been clerking at the Florida Office of the Attorney General in the State Programs Division. In this position, she has been able to work through every stage of the e-discovery process, as well as write complaints and research for new cases and issues. Ference is seeking a job in the Destin/Panama City area because her husband is a U.S. Air Force pilot stationed at Tyndall Air Force Base. If you are interested in hiring Ference or helping her make connections in the Destin/Panama City area after graduation, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#) .

*“I am so grateful for the skills I have developed and the confidence I have gained in my time at Florida State Law. I am looking forward to being challenged by a new opportunity and am eager to put all my practical and educational experiences to use in a few short months!”*

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