



COLLEGE OF LAW

FSU LAW FOCUS

December 8, 2017

From the Dean



Homecoming 2017 was a wonderful celebration for the College of Law! On Friday, November 17, our own Professor Emeritus Chuck Ehrhardt rode in the Homecoming parade as the 2017 Bernard F. Sliger Award recipient. The award is the highest honor given by the FSU Alumni Association and was bestowed upon Ehrhardt for his many years of service and dedication to the law school and the university at large. Later that evening and the next day, we celebrated our graduates at the annual alumni reunion reception and annual tailgate party. Thank you to alumnus Fred Baggett ('70) and his wife Lyn for graciously hosting the reception at their home. During the reception, we recognized our

three alumni award recipients: Manuel Farach ('86), Jennifer R. Dixon ('04) and Professor Emeritus John Yetter. More [information about the awards and their recipients](#) is available on our website. You can also [view select photos](#) from our Homecoming events online. Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Pictured above (L-R) : Judge Joseph Lewis, Jr. ('77), Julie Lawson, Justice Alan Lawson ('87), Judge Linda Wells ('77) and Bob Wells, Jr. ('77) at the Homecoming 2017 reception hosted by alumnus Fred Baggett ('70) and his wife Lyn.

Faculty Profile: Jay Kesten

Professor [Jay Kesten](#) teaches Corporations, Corporate Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities Regulation and seminars on corporate governance. His research concentrates on various aspects of corporate law, corporate governance and the financial markets. Representative recent work includes “The Law and Economics of the Going Public Decision” (forthcoming in the *Oxford University Press Handbook on IPOs*); “The Uncertain Case for Appraisal Arbitrage” (*Wake Forest Law Review*); “Adjudicating Corporate Auctions” (*Yale Journal on Regulation*); and “Political Uncertainty and Market for IPOs” (*Journal of Corporation Law* , with Murat C. Mungan). Kesten was one of a group of corporate law professors who filed an amicus curiae brief in the *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* case currently at the Supreme Court of the United States. Kesten holds an LL.B. from the University of British Columbia and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. After graduation from law school in Canada, he clerked for the British Columbia Supreme Court and then practiced in Boston as a corporate and securities litigator. He previously taught at the Wake Forest University School of Law and has guest lectured at Wake Forest’s School of Business. He joined the FSU Law faculty in 2011.



“In my classes, I try to show students the tight connection between the legal and business worlds. I teach them to master the rules and regulations governing business transactions, but I also provide them with the background and vocabulary necessary to effectively communicate with the other professionals they are likely to encounter in practice: entrepreneurs, executives, accountants, bankers and the like. My research helps me stay at the legal cutting edge of what’s going on in the financial markets, and I regularly bring that

knowledge to the classroom to better immerse my students in how corporate law operates in the real world.”

Alum Profile: Roger F. Rozanski ('15)

Roger F. Rozanski is an associate in the Chicago office of Foley & Lardner LLP, where he specializes in intellectual property law. He holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering and is a member of the firm's Mechanical & Electromechanical Technologies Practice, advising clients on intellectual property issues, including U.S. and foreign patent prosecution, and patent risk management. He has experience in a number of technical fields, including mechanical and electromechanical systems, software, business methods, design and financial systems. Rozanski is a former FSU Law student ambassador and still assists the law school with recruiting. In October, he attended a recruiting event in Chicago to talk with prospective students about the benefits of attending Florida State Law.



“I am very grateful for the time I spent at FSU. The College of Law offers a truly unique experience, with exceptional individuals both in the student body and on the faculty. It is why I am always happy to give back to and enhance the experience of current and prospective students.”

Student Profile: 3L Maxwell Stape

Desired Practice Location : South Florida, Orlando or Tampa

Expected Graduation : December 2017

Field of Law Sought : Primarily interested in, but not limited to, civil/business litigation or corporate transactional work

Maxwell Stape is graduating this December with a joint J.D./M.B.A. degree, which he completed in just three years on an accelerated schedule. Stape transferred from Barry University School of Law after his 1L year, where he earned numerous book awards and finished in the top 9% of his class. Originally from Orlando, Stape earned

his bachelor's degree in hospitality management from FSU in December of 2014. Before law school, Stape was a regional management intern with Disney at the Yacht & Beach Club Resort, where he was responsible for the direction and supervision of up to 40 employees per shift. While at FSU Law, Stape earned the Book Award for Health Insurance Markets & Regulation to satisfy his upper level writing requirement. He is a member of the Business Law Society, the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* and the FSU Law Trial Team. Stape was a semi-finalist at the American Association for Justice Mock Trial Regional Competition and a semi-finalist at the Lone Star Classic National Mock Trial Competition, where his team won the Most Professional Team Award.



During his 1L year, he volunteered at the Orange County Legal Aid Society. The summer after his 1L year, Stape clerked for the Honorable Lisa T. Munyon at the Complex Business Litigation Court in Orlando. While at FSU Law, Stape spent nearly a year clerking for Marie A. Mattox, P.A., where he conducted client interviews, provided legal research and drafted various pleadings and motions in the areas of employment law and civil rights litigation. If you are interested in hiring Stape after graduation, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#) .

“The education and experience that I have received from the joint J.D./M.B.A. program here at Florida State University has equipped me with the tools necessary to provide representation at the highest level.”

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