

From the Dean



Lee Fennell, the Max Pam Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School, presented the Fall 2020 Distinguished Lecture to more than 120 students, professors and practitioners.

On Wednesday, October 21, Max Pam Professor of Law Lee Fennell, of the University of Chicago Law School, presented FSU Law's Fall 2020 Distinguished Lecture. The event was hosted by our nationally ranked environmental law program. Her lecture, *Visibility and Indivisibility in Resource Arrangements*, shed light on dilemmas in which valued resources, such as highways, bridges, pipelines and wildlife corridors, only retain value if left undivided. Fennell specializes in property, land use and housing law, as well as state and local government law, torts, social welfare law and public finance. She is the author of two books, most recently publishing *Slices and Lumps: Division and Aggregation in Law and Life* (University of Chicago Press 2019), and many articles and essays. Before joining the University of Chicago law faculty in 2007, she taught at the University of Texas and the University of Illinois. Her lecture is one of many scholarly events that has taken place at FSU Law this semester in areas including environmental law, business, human rights and many more. Despite COVID-19, we have held numerous virtual enrichment events for students and alumni hosted by the law school and by our resilient student organizations. We are proud that the intellectual life of our community continues to thrive!

-Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU Law Hosts Jurist in Residence Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer



Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer addressed students virtually through our Jurist in Residence Program.

On Tuesday, October 20, the College of Law hosted the Honorable Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, chief judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, as our second jurist in residence this semester. Via Zoom, Judge Pallmeyer commented on the significant anniversaries of our times, including her court's 200th anniversary, the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, and the 100 years since the Spanish flu. She also discussed how looking at the past can help us to imagine the future and suggested that current students will be particularly well equipped to handle the changes.

"You have grown up with cell phones and texting and FaceTime," said Judge Pallmeyer. "The idea of coming to court when a quick video exchange will do, will probably seem antiquated to you. And that may ultimately be a good thing. You will feel comfortable with virtual proceedings likely long before we older lawyers and judges have gotten used to them."

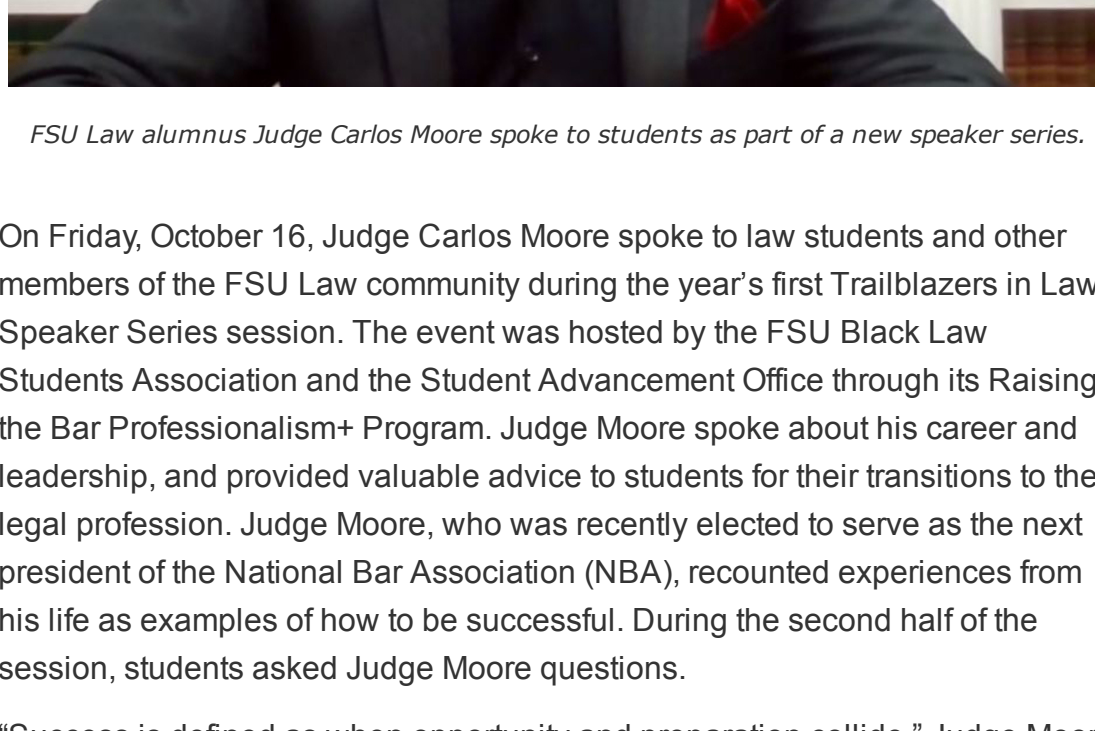
As a footnote to her predictions on the long-term effects COVID-19 might have on the practice of law, including day-to-day court proceedings, pre-trial discovery, split-time schedules and where people work, Judge Pallmeyer offered students some advice.

"The best lawyers have been and will be good writers and that, my friends, will not change," she said. "If anything, moving to electronic communication will make good writing more important than ever. Writing has always been the most important skill for any lawyer in any practice area. And although you may be accustomed to short text messages, tweets and emojis, let me assure you that grammar, spelling and precise language all count."

Judge Pallmeyer was nominated to the U.S. District Court by President Bill Clinton, where she has served since October 1998. She was sworn in as chief judge for the Northern District of Illinois on July 1, 2019. Previously, she was a United States magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and an administrative law judge with the Illinois Human Rights Commission, a quasi-judicial agency responsible for enforcement of the state's anti-discrimination laws. Judge Pallmeyer holds a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School.

Tuesday's discussion and student Q&A were moderated by Judge Pallmeyer's former law clerk, FSU Law Professor Mark Spottswood.

Alumni Event: Trailblazer in Law Carlos Moore ('02)



FSU Law alumnus Judge Carlos Moore spoke to students as part of a new speaker series.

On Friday, October 16, Judge Carlos Moore spoke to law students and other members of the FSU Law community during the year's first Trailblazers in Law Speaker Series session. The event was hosted by the FSU Black Law Students Association and the Student Advancement Office through its Raising the Bar Professionalism+ Program. Judge Moore spoke about his career and leadership, and provided valuable advice to students for their transitions to the legal profession. Judge Moore, who was recently elected to serve as the next president of the National Bar Association (NBA), recounted experiences from his life as examples of how to be successful. During the second half of the session, students asked Judge Moore questions.

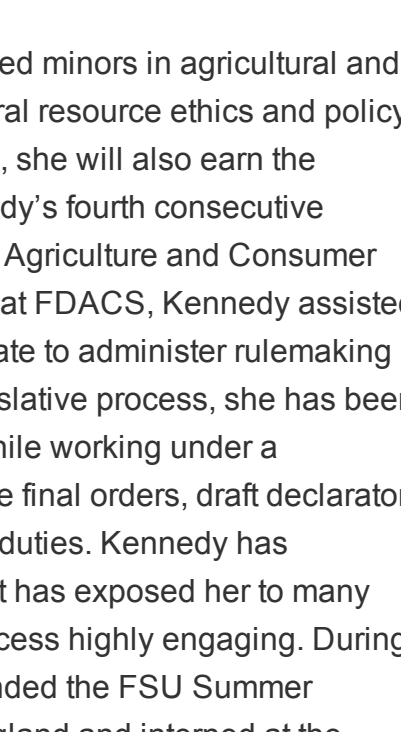
"Success is defined as when opportunity and preparation collide," Judge Moore said during his remarks about leadership. "You have to have both preparation and opportunity to be successful. What you're doing now is preparing. The connections you make, not only with your classmates but also with alumni, are very important and they could bode you well in the years to come."

Judge Moore discussed how his connections with fellow alumni including Ben Crump ('95), Darryl Parks ('95) and Sean Pittman ('94), provided mentorship and helped him win the NBA presidency. When Judge Moore becomes president next year, he will be the third FSU Law alum to serve as NBA president in the past 10 years, following in the footsteps of Parks and Crump.

In addition to his bar leadership, Judge Moore is managing partner at The Cochran Firm Mississippi Delta in Grenada, Mississippi, and serves as a municipal judge pro tem for the City of Grenada. He discussed how he grew his firm from 2006 until merging with The Cochran Firm in 2019, and how he became the first Black judge in Grenada. He has earned numerous awards for his work and recently was named one of the top 100 African American most influential leaders in the nation in the November 2020 issue of African Leadership Magazine.

Student Profile: 3L Kelly Ann Kennedy

Desired Practice Location: Tallahassee
Expected Graduation: May 2021
Specialization: Environmental law
Field of Law Sought: Agricultural law; open to other practice areas



Kelly Ann Kennedy is from Tallahassee, born and raised in a neighborhood near the Miccosukee Greenway, where she rode her horse and developed a passion for environmental conservation. Kennedy earned a bachelor's degree in forest resource conservation from the University of Florida. She concentrated on environmental pre-law and earned minors in agricultural and natural resource law and in agricultural and natural resource ethics and policy. When she graduates from FSU Law in May 2021, she will also earn the Environmental Law Certificate. This fall is Kennedy's fourth consecutive semester clerking with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS). During the fall of her 2L year at FDACS, Kennedy assisted with the Hemp Bill legislation and traveled the state to administer rulemaking workshops. Aside from being involved in the legislative process, she has been immersed in the Administrative Procedure Act while working under a supervising attorney to prepare for litigation, issue final orders, draft declaratory statements and conduct various other regulatory duties. Kennedy has especially enjoyed working at FDACS because it has exposed her to many areas of law and she finds the administrative process highly engaging. During the summer following her 1L year, Kennedy attended the FSU Summer Program in Law at the University of Oxford in England and interned at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.


Kennedy is an active member of the Environmental Law Society (ELS), serving as 1L representative and then president during her 2L year. While she was president, ELS hosted an environmental leadership mentorship program, numerous "lunch and lecture" meetings, a law school "Lake Day" at the FSU Rez and a camping trip on St. George Island. Kennedy is also a law school representative for the Young Lawyers Section (YLS) of the Tallahassee Bar Association. As a student representative, she sits on the YLS board of directors and acts as a liaison to the law school. She is also an active member of LitiGators. If you are interested in connecting with Kennedy or hiring her after graduation, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

"I have learned that agricultural law is so much more than just farming and horse feed. Today, I know that to effectively implement Florida's agriculture laws a smart lawyer must dig into their interplay with other laws governing natural resources, the environment, water, land use and tax code, to name a few. Building on my undergraduate degree in forest resource conservation, I have found it rewarding to contribute my scientific knowledge in support of FDACS's legal analyses and regulatory actions. I believe that the combination of my love for the natural world, educational focus and working knowledge of Florida's Administrative Procedure Act will serve as a strong foundation for my career in law."

Event Reminders



'Notes to the Polls: From the Bench to the Ballots with the Honorable Laurel Lee, Florida Secretary of State
 October 23, 2020, 12 pm
[Zoom Link](#)
 Meeting ID: 977 0699 9975



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We need your support for student scholarships!

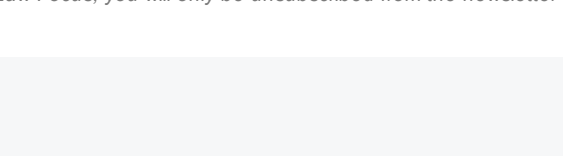
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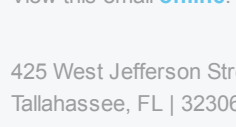
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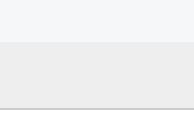


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