

Spring 2004

FSU LAW



'I CAN DO IT!'

Alum Kelly Overstreet Johnson's motto will serve her well as The Florida Bar's new president

PLUS
LAW SCHOOL LOOKS TO ALUMNI
To Fill Role of Placement Mentors

A Major Placement Initiative

In recent years, our student outcomes have been truly extraordinary. Our students pass the bar exam and get placed in law jobs at very high rates. Last summer, our students were, once again, number one in the Florida Bar passage rate and 95 percent of them were placed within nine months of graduation.



Nevertheless, we need to work harder than ever to continue our enviable record at job placement. In effect, five new law schools have come on line in four major markets: FIU in Miami, FAMU and Barry in Orlando, Florida Coastal in Jacksonville and Stetson's new night school in Tampa. However superior we believe our students and our program, students at these new schools will gain an advantage by having after-school jobs clerking at firms in these important legal markets. This issue of FSULaw tells the story of our effort to anticipate this challenge and stay at the top of our game.

The bottom line: We need our alums to help our students get the jobs they merit. We are asking all our alums to do two things, one of which will benefit our students and the other of which will benefit our students and our alums.

First, we are asking alums to sign up to be Placement Mentors. As a Placement Mentor, you identify yourself as someone who is willing to spend a small amount of time informally advising students who contact you on steps they can take to secure employment in your community or in your specialty. Placement Mentors will be designated in the Alumni Directory. To sign up as a Placement Mentor, simply go to our home page, <http://www.law.fsu.edu>, and click on either "Career Planning and Placement" or "Alumni and Friends." Then click the button that says "Sign up as a Placement Mentor."

Input your name, class year, and email address and click submit. Or, send our Placement Director, Brittany Adams Long, blong@law.fsu.edu, or me, dweidner@law.fsu.edu, an email indicating the community and/or specialty about which you would be pleased to offer advice.

Second, we are asking every alum to update his or her entry in the on-line Alumni Directory. We at the school want to facilitate an alumni network to refer business and to assist both in initial and in lateral job moves. The Alumni Directory will only be valuable as a job search and business referral engine if more alums who are listed add one or two fields of specialty. Both students and other alums will be better able to seek you out. In order to update your information on line, please follow these simple steps: 1. Click on the law school home page, <http://www.law.fsu.edu>; 2. Click on "Alumni and Friends;" 3. Click on the oval button that says: "Click Here for Online Alumni Directory;" 4. At the top of the page, click "Get My User ID & Password;" 5. When you receive your User ID and Password, return to the Alumni Directory web page (<https://www.law.fsu.edu/alumni/directory>), and click "Update My Info;" and 6. Enter your User ID and Password to access and update your information.

The task is simpler if all you want to do is search the on-line Alumni Directory to refer business or to search out other alums. You do not need to get a User ID and Password for these purposes. Just click on the Alumni Directory and fill in the key blanks to search, for example, for corporate lawyers in Tampa.

Thanks in advance for your help. If you have any suggestions on how we can better serve you, please let me know.

Thank you.

Don Weidner
Dean, College of Law

CONTENTS

DEAN

Donald Weidner

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FSU Law is published by

the Florida State

University College of Law,

and is distributed to

alumni, faculty, students,

staff and friends of the

College. Please send

editorial contributions,

including Class Notes and

changes of name and

address to FSU Law,

Office of Development

and Alumni Affairs,

College of Law, Florida

State University,

Tallahassee, FL 32306-

1601, e-mail:

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Law, please call the

College of Law. FSU Law

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2



16



20

FEATURES

ALUMNI FOCUS

2 Kelly Overstreet Johnson, '82, eager to lead The Florida Bar
The third College of Law alum to be elected president of the bar is set to tackle a full—and challenging—agenda.

BY BARBARA ASH

6 College of Law turns to alumni to serve as placement mentors
The law school is stepping up its efforts to help students find jobs, and is counting on alumni to lend a hand.

BY BARBARA ASH

FACULTY FOCUS

12 Fred Abbott emerges as a leading scholar in international law
He is helping to successfully negotiate international trade agreements that protect and promote access to affordable medicines for the poor around the world.

BY PATRICIA PARKER

16 The law of the land, sea and air
A seasoned faculty in the Environmental and Land Use Law Program shares priceless insight into the inner workings of environmental regulation, policy, implementation and enforcement.

BY PATRICIA PARKER

STUDENT FOCUS

20 Non-traditional students bring experience, insight to law school
From a pediatrician to a plumber and a Wall Street executive, law students enrich the law school experience for their classmates.

BY PATRICIA PARKER

DEPARTMENTS

24 NOTEWORTHY
Alumni Profiles, Philanthropy, Events

28 CLASS ACTION

38 FOR THE RECORD
Faculty News, Publications, and Activities

46 AROUND THE LAW SCHOOL

53 PARTING VIEW





College of Law's third alum to serve as president of The Florida Bar

KELLY OVERSTREET JOHNSON

BY BARBARA ASH

WHEN KELLY OVERSTREET JOHNSON ASSUMES THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA BAR IN JUNE, IT WILL BE WHAT SEEMS A NATURAL PROGRESSION IN THE STRING OF SUCCESSES AND HONORS SHE HAS ATTAINED THROUGHOUT HER 22-YEAR CAREER.

Colleagues regard Johnson, a 1982 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, as a lawyer with exceptional competence, committed to the highest ideals of professionalism and ethical conduct, and as an enthusiastic champion of and inspiration to women in the legal field. They expect that Johnson, who ran unopposed for the presidency, will be as competent, committed, and enthusiastic in leading the more than 74,000-member Bar.

“Kelly has an impeccable reputation as a first-rate lawyer, and is well-deserving of this honor,” says Dean Don Weidner. “We are especially proud that she is an alum of our law school. She is a great role model for our students and for lawyers all over Florida.”

Johnson is the third Florida State University law school graduate in 10 years and the third woman to lead the Bar. Terrence Russell, a 1969 graduate, served as Bar president for 2001-2002, and John Frost, a 1969 graduate, was president for 1996-1997.

“Kelly understands the issues, has a firm grasp on what is best for the Bar, and she is determined, which will serve her well,” says Alan Bookman, president-elect designate. “I have no doubt that she will make an excellent advocate for the Bar membership.”

Bookman, a partner in the Pensacola law firm of Emmanuel, Sheppard & Condon, has known Johnson for 15 years, and says he is looking forward to working with her in their new leadership roles. He will be sworn in as president-elect in June.

“There have been issues on which we have been passionately at odds, and each of us has won and lost, but when the day is done, we respect each other for taking our positions,” Bookman says.

Kelly O’Keefe, a 1992 graduate of the law school who works with Johnson at Broad & Cassel in Tallahassee, says Johnson continually has strived to be the best in each role that she holds.

“She has succeeded because of her motto, ‘I can do it.’ It’s a motto she has passed on to countless women lawyers. Kelly has provided support and encouragement to those in whom she sees the drive and potential to succeed.”

Colleagues say Johnson has worked hard to achieve her status as an AV-rated lawyer, a partner in Broad & Cassel, and the next head of The Florida Bar.

“Kelly has achieved consistently positive results for her clients in a difficult practice area, attesting to her overall legal ability, preparation, and persistence,” says Mary Sweet, of counsel at Waldoch & Associates in Tallahassee and a 1979 graduate of Florida State University law school.

Johnson, who practices commercial litigation, employment law, and class-action litigation, has been involved in complex and high-profile cases. She represented developers in a lawsuit filed against a large corporation for defective building materials that they provided to construction sites in six states, as well as a group of property owners who were defrauded in foreclosure cases and won a \$2.1 million in a class-action settlement. Her work with the Florida Benevolent Association resulted in the recovery of money embezzled from their employees’ pension fund.

A triumph of which Johnson is especially proud was her role in the negotiation of a \$26.2 million settlement in a class action suit filed by blind vendors who operated vending machines and snack bars in government buildings, after winning a summary judgment on liability. The vendors sued the State of Florida, arguing that they, like other government employees, were entitled to have the state fully fund their retirement accounts and that the state had failed to do so for 21 years.

“Her clients were not only happy with the result, but were impressed with her willingness to take the time to explain complicated legal issues to them,” says O’Keefe.

A Role Model

Over the years, Johnson has won a cadre of admirers, particularly among women in the profession, who say that her success has led other women lawyers to set goals and pursue paths that they might not otherwise have considered.

“Kelly relies on her ability and not her gender to open doors to opportunities that once might have been reserved primarily for men,” says O’Keefe, adding that Johnson was instrumental in seeking out qualified women and encouraging them to join Broad & Cassel as civil litigators. “She has created an atmosphere that allows young women lawyers to flourish. She has emphasized the importance of self-confidence, diligence, preparedness, and professionalism. These qualities have led to Kelly’s success, and have made her a role model for all attorneys.”

Sweet says Johnson has been an inspiration to her and to other women practitioners who have watched and admired her progress to the top of her profession.

“She is committed to every endeavor in which she engages because she believes that her work with these organizations will improve the profession and opportunities for those within the profession, including new and expanded opportunities for women and minorities,” Sweet says.

Leon County Judge Judith Hawkins, '84, says Johnson "significantly contributed to my success by initiating interest in me as a person and as a lawyer."

Hawkins says Johnson encouraged her to become involved in the Tallahassee legal community and pushed her to run for a seat on the Tallahassee Bar Association Board, which Hawkins won. In 1996, when a county judge seat opened, Johnson supported her over nine other better-known candidates.

"Kelly experienced negative feedback for casting her lot with my candidacy, but cast her support for me she did," Hawkins says. "Her extensive networking and involvement in the legal community, as well as in the Tallahassee community at large, yielded wonderful support and supporters. In great measure, my successful election grew out of Kelly's willingness to help Leon County elect its first black judge, and female at that."

Friend Nina Ashenafi, a 1991 graduate

of the College of Law and in-house counsel for the Florida Education Association, met Johnson through their involvement with the Tallahassee Bar, the Tallahassee Women Lawyers, and the Barristers, the African-American Bar. They also worked on a number of judicial campaigns, including Hawkins'.

"There is not an attorney who is not going to meet Kelly Johnson if they decide to get involved in any of the bars, because she is the go-to person," says Ashenafi.

Johnson was on the committee that nominated Ashenafi for the presidency of the Tallahassee Bar. Ashenafi is the first African-American woman to hold that position.

She says she is "amazed" at Johnson's efficiency and ability to "multi-task."

"I'm in awe that she can juggle so many things at once," Ashenafi says. "In one day, she can deal with bar activities, her caseload and a team of lawyers at the law firm, and all the issues that come with being a mom to two toddlers, including planning a play day."

Johnson has been married to Hal Johnson, general counsel to the Florida Police Benevolent Association, for 24 years, and they have 3-year-old twin daughters, Haley and Alex. The two met a few months before she entered law school.

"Kelly is goal-oriented, and I'm very proud of her," he says. "I knew she was extremely capable when I met her, but I think she is even more capable than I probably give her credit for. Even though she is a partner in a major law firm and involved in bar activities, she still takes care of a lot of the household responsibilities, and it doesn't seem to faze her."

In 2003, the Florida Association for Women Lawyers presented Johnson with the Rosemary Barkett Outstanding Achievement Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievements, efforts to promote the status of women lawyers, and women who have been successful in overcoming stereotypes, and then go on to great accomplishments,

"Kelly has provided support and encouragement to those in whom she sees the drive and potential to succeed." —Kelly O'Keefe



while giving back to the legal profession.

"Kelly is the epitome of this award," says FAWL board member Frances Grace Cooper, a partner in the Sarasota law firm of Napolitano & Cooper. "She strikes a rich balance between family, career and leadership. What is perhaps so amazing about Kelly is that her personal life has flourished along with her career."

New President's Priorities

Since she was sworn in as president-elect in June 2003, Johnson has had time to set her agenda for the coming year.

High on her list of priorities are to ensure adequate funding for Florida's courts, judicial nominating commission appointments, and rules governing lawyer advertising. In addition, she plans to work with the Florida Medical Association on a public service campaign promoting a discussion of end-of-life issues and Living Wills, and to promote better communications between the Bar and its members.

Gov. Jeb Bush has called for the legislature to provide \$104 million to fund courts, while courts have asked for \$170 million. Inadequate funding, Johnson says, will result in fewer new judges, a backlog of civil cases, and a reduction or elimination of law libraries, legal aid funding, drug courts and programs, such as Guardian ad Litem in counties receiving decreased state funding. Florida's courts already are a good example of efficiency and service, Johnson says. The courts handle more cases and operate with fewer judges than most other states, yet consume less than 1 percent of the overall state budget.

"This continues to be a very important issue, and the Bar is very involved with educating the legislature and public about the ramifications of an inadequately funded system," Johnson says. "This will impact the average Joe Smith on the street, who won't be able to get a hearing in court, and that's a real problem."

Johnson says she also will continue to talk about the need for an independent judiciary and judicial nominating commission (JNC) process. Until 2001, the Bar and the governor had three appointments each to the JNC and those six people selected three non-lawyers. When the legislature changed the JNC process three years ago, it resulted in the Bar's losing its direct appointments and, instead, vested all nine appointments with the governor. The Bar gets to nominate people for four of the nine positions, but for each of the four appointments, the Bar must send three names and the governor ultimately selects the person who will serve.

"The screening process is important because it ensures that we have fair and qualified judges on the bench," Johnson says. Because the governor makes all of the appointments to the JNC, and then appoints the person from the slate of names sent to him from the Commission, it gives the appearance of a lack of independence, whether in actuality or not, that is unfortunate.

"We must continue to fight for a judiciary that is free from partisan politics, a judiciary that acts on the basis of what is right and just—not what is popular—a judiciary that protects ordinary citizens from politicians, big government and, sometimes, even from each other. The judicial nominating process is an important piece of that puzzle."

Lawyer advertising remains a thorn in the side of many lawyers, who say advertising adversely affects the public's perception of the

Bar's credibility and professionalism. Earlier in the year, Johnson appointed a committee to take another look at the Bar rules governing advertising to ensure that rules are consistent and enforced.

"Most lawyers do some type of advertising in the yellow pages or by means of sponsorships, but billboard ads or ads on TV or radio are what can create the problem," Johnson says.

"Many of the offensive ads do not comply with our rules. The advertising rules need a comprehensive review, which they have not had in a while. My goal is to make sure that the rules are written clearly so that lawyers who advertise will be able to comply, require that the ads be approved in advance of being used, and ensure the consistent application of the rules. Then, if a lawyer is violating the ads, the Bar should take the appropriate action."

In January, Johnson and the FMA launched a public service campaign to encourage Floridians to discuss end-of-life issues and educate people about the benefits of preparing a Living Will and designating Health Care Surrogates. A Living Will gives instructions or expresses an individual's wishes about many aspects of his or her future medical care.

"Media coverage of the Terry Schiavo right-to-die case prompted members to call about what the Bar was doing about this very sensitive subject," says Johnson. "It seemed like the appropriate time to encourage the public to discuss the issue with their families and to execute Living Wills, if desired."

Johnson also is proposing a specialty license plate that, if passed by the legislature, will provide an ongoing source of funding for children's legal services programs.

"There will likely be other issues that will come up during my term, so flexibility will be needed," she says. "One thing I do want to do, though, is be available to fellow members of the Bar and open the lines of communication. We have an outstanding Bar, but some of our members are not aware of the many benefits and services that are available."

Leadership Role Began Early

A native of Tallahassee, Johnson graduated from Florida State University in 1979 with a bachelor of science degree in Real Estate and Pre-Law.

Following graduation from law school,

she went to work in the Attorney General's Office, and then moved over to Ervin, Varn, Jacobs, Odom & Kitchen. She practiced law on her own before joining Broad & Cassel in 1990.


"When Kelly joined our law firm in 1985, she quickly demonstrated that she was an outstanding lawyer," says Tom Ervin, a former member of the Board of Governors whose uncle, Bob Ervin, is a former Florida Bar president. Ervin says his firm encouraged her involvement in the Bar, and she never missed a beat in her Bar activities. "Kelly does everything with excellence. She does nothing halfway—nothing."

Johnson's commitment to improving the legal profession has led her to attain leadership roles in local, state and national Bar organizations early in her career. In 1984, she was named president of Tallahassee Women Lawyers. In 1988, she was treasurer of the Florida Association of Women Lawyers. In 1986, she went on the Board of Governors of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar. In 1987, she joined the Tallahassee Bar Association Board of Directors. She became the Tallahassee Bar Association president-elect in 1989, and the next year, she served as the association's first woman president. In the 1990s, she had four-year terms on the Second Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission and the First DCA Judicial Nominating Commission, and a two-year term in the American Bar Association House of Delegates. She is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

She was elected to serve on the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar in 1997, the first woman lawyer from the Second Circuit. She has chaired the Communications and Disciplinary Review committees, and has served five years on the Executive Committee.

Says Johnson, "I have always enjoyed my many hours of Bar service and felt it was a way to give back to a profession that has been very good to me. The people I have met have become close friends, and it has been an overall rewarding experience."

Ashenafi says that when Johnson take over at the helm, Florida Bar Board of Governors "had better hold onto their hats."

"Kelly knows how to accomplish a lot in a limited amount of time and mobilize those around her to action," she says. "They are in for an exciting ride. And the Florida lawyers are going to benefit tremendously from her leadership. She is such a dynamo." 



PLACEMENT MENTORS

**Law School Looks to Alumni to
Champion Cause of Graduates in Job Search**

BY BARBARA ASH

With 10 law schools in Florida, including four recently—or soon to be—accredited, competition for legal jobs is becoming increasingly stiffer for graduates who want to work in major Florida markets like Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville, Pensacola and South Florida.

The message is not lost on the Florida State University College of Law. The college is stepping up its already intensive efforts to help students find the jobs that they want in a market saturated with entry-level lawyers.

Like other law schools, the Florida State University College of Law offers students the traditional job-seeking tools—on- and off-campus interviewing, job fairs, job-postings, and resume referrals. And its graduates have been successful in their searches. The school consistently ranks at the top in national placement rankings. For example, 97.7 percent of the class of 2002 was employed (or in graduate school or not seeking employment) nine months after graduation, compared to the national average of 94 percent, according to the National Association for Law Placement.

Now, Dean Don Weidner wants to raise the bar. And although alumni always have played a major role in the placement effort, the school is counting on them more than ever to serve as placement mentors who will be liaisons between students and potential employers.

Students learn quickly that searching for a first-time job in the legal profession can be daunting. The law school's Office of Career Planning and Placement is an important and effective resource, matching graduates with employers.

"Even beyond that, we're here to give them the skills they need to conduct a successful job search, not just for now, but for the future," says Brittany Adams Long, placement director.

Those skills pay off immediately for many students who find jobs through fall and spring on-campus interviews. Still, only 30 percent of students receive job offers as a result of OCI. A smaller percent find jobs through website listings hosted by the college and The Florida Bar, or by attending job fairs. Most students find positions through networking, a point that Long tries to drive home.

The Placement office counsels students early and reminds them often in their law school careers to take the initiative to network

"Alumni are invaluable in helping students get a feel for the market, who is hiring, where they're hiring and what kind of people they're hiring."

with potential employers—particularly alumni—and to search out job opportunities on their own. They soon discover that well-situated alumni provide not only important insights and perspectives on the legal profession, but also contacts that can tip the scales in their favor on the job front.

Alumni a Key Resource

"Alumni are invaluable in helping students to get a feel for the market, who is hiring, where they're hiring and what kind of people they're hiring," says Long. "And potential employers are more willing to talk to students if they've been referred by someone the employer knows."

The law school's reputation for excellence in training lawyers, the growing national recognition of the strength of its faculty, and its impressive record of firsts in passage of The Florida Bar exams (No. 1 in three of the four most recent exams) contribute in large part to students' success in finding jobs.

"We are producing well-educated lawyers with a liberal arts background who have very high credentials for a very learned profession," explains Weidner. "We're hearing from employers that they are very impressed with our students because they are well-rounded, very polished, and have good people skills. These things enhance the perception of the value of a law degree from Florida State."

These also are among the points that Weidner believes alumni can call upon to bolster their case when persuading colleagues to consider a candidate from Florida State. Even more important, however, is for an employer to see first-hand the caliber of lawyer coming out of the university.

"If we can get them as a summer associate, the high quality of their work comes through, and those people get offers," says Mark Williamson, a 1991 graduate of the Florida State law school (now on the college's Board of Visitors) and a partner in the Atlanta-based Alston & Bird.

Williamson was one of two Florida State alumni at the law firm when he arrived in 1995 as a lateral hire from Foley & Lardner. Now, the firm employs six, thanks to his efforts at lobbying colleagues to give FSU law grads a shot. With the firm's emphasis on prestigious feeder schools (particularly Southeastern schools like the University of Virginia and Vanderbilt), hiring strategies that sometimes rely on school-by-school "quotas," and other attorneys in the firm pulling for candidates from their alma maters, Williamson has

Opposite page: Tallahassee Public Defender Nancy Daniels, '77, talks with 3-L student Walter Hunston during spring On-Campus Interviewing.



BEDOUIN JOSEPH
(J.D. 2001), Associate,
Litigation Practice Group,
Adams and Reese, LLP,
New Orleans

Bedouin Joseph still is reaping the benefits of his clerkship at the New Orleans-based firm of Adams and Reese, LLP, during his second and third years in law school.

"I was fortunate to have a great mentor during my clerkship," Joseph says of Charles Cerise, a partner at the firm. "He and other influential attorneys knew my work, and they believed I would be successful at the firm. That is why a good first impression is paramount; it determines your career at a particular place and stays with you as long as you're there."

The impression Joseph made with Cerise and others landed him a position on the firm's Litigation Practice Group in 2001, working on one of the firm's largest environmental cases. Cerise continues to mentor him.

A graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Joseph had expected to practice maritime law. Now, however, he finds himself defending large contamination cases on behalf of Fortune 10 oil companies, and enjoying the challenge and complexities of environmental law.

Still, his academy background and a stint as a logistics officer and student pilot in the New York Air National Guard have worked in his favor at Adams and Reese. "There are senior people here from the academy who have shown that they have the ability to be leaders, so their reputation has benefited me," he says. "All I have to do is live up to that reputation."

Joseph considers himself fortunate to be with the New Orleans-based firm, which employs 260 lawyers in seven offices in Louisiana, Washington, D.C., Alabama, and Texas. Although some young lawyers shy away from large firms right out of law school because of the pressure of raking up billable hours, Joseph sees it as an invaluable opportunity.

"If you have a question, you don't have to spend 10 hours figuring it out by yourself," he says. "At a large firm, there is always someone who can answer your question or help you find a solution to your problem."

Joseph credits Florida State for laying the foundation for his success.

"I got a first-rate education at Florida State" he says. "I would put my legal education against anyone from any other law school and I am inclined to believe that I could not have been better prepared than I was at Florida State. If I had to do it over again, I would choose FSU again."

to be convincing and persistent.

"These people come from some of the top schools and they're excited about bringing in their own people, so there is a lot of competition for the same turf," Williamson says. "If you have an FSU alum on the hiring committee, then every year you can push for at least one or two more. We have to take baby steps and the trick is to get quality people so they get the jobs. It grows from there."

Irene Baker, a 2002 graduate, benefited from having former classmate Parker Miller at Alston & Bird. She was working for a federal judge when she began her job search in the fall. Even though she had not been a summer associate at the firm and applied toward the end of the hiring season, the process moved along quickly after Miller hand-delivered her resume to Williamson.

"Mark (Williamson) brought my resume to the appropriate people and spoke on my behalf," says Baker, adding that the firm interviewed and hired her as an associate before other law firms to which she had applied called her.

"I didn't come in through the traditional channels, so would not have been on the radar screen especially at a large firm in a large city if I hadn't known someone. I would have been just one more resume in a big pile of resumes."

Based on the feedback from alumni with whom he's broached the topic of championing the cause of Florida State law students, Weidner is optimistic that they will step forward to help.

"Everyone I've spoken to is delighted to take time out of their day to help guide a student's job search in their community," he says. "It's in the best interest of all of us. The more alumni who get jobs through the law school or other alumni, the more likely they are to extend help to others. It makes for a more powerful and influential network, including a network that refers business to other alumni."

The Role of Mentors

To help match students with alumni, Long is compiling a directory of alumni willing to fill the role of placement mentors. Ideally, these mentors will assist students with myriad career-related issues, from guiding them in the selection of specific practice areas to helping them build a network of potential employers and promoting their cause. The directory will allow students to structure their job search by pinpointing people working in the practice and geographic areas in which they have an interest. Mentors will be designated as such in the College of Law Alumni Directory, and students will initiate contact with them.



Brittany Adams Long, director of the law school's Office of Career Planning and Placement, helps 3-L student Peter Sweeney prepare for a job interview.

Looking back, most successful lawyers can point to at least one or two people who positively influenced their professional development. Their mentors generally were experienced attorneys who took an interest in them as students and young associates. They provided the students with introductions to other influential professionals, gaining students visibility and opening doors to new opportunities. In many cases, they served as sounding boards and offered support and encouragement. Some mentors also helped to socialize their protégés into the legal culture.

Rafael Gonzalez, a 1990 graduate and a partner at Barrs, Williamson, Stolberg, Townsend & Gonzales in Tampa, recalls the people who, beginning when he was a law student, made a significant impact on where he is and how he comports himself today.

MICHAEL GRAY (J.D. 2002), Appellate Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Not many lawyers less than two years out of law school have the opportunity to write briefs and argue cases in front of the federal courts of appeal. But that's what Michael Gray is doing.

A member of the U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division, Appellate Section, Gray represents the United States in environmental litigation throughout the appellate process. His job includes participating in appellate mediations, writing the appellate briefs and orally arguing the cases. The section routinely handles cases in all of the federal courts of appeals, as well as some matters in state Supreme Courts.

It's a job that Gray calls "challenging, exciting and daunting."

Gray had his eye on the prize while in law school, participating in student organizations and activities, such as the *Law Review*, The American Inns of Court, Partnership in Professionalism program, and the Placement Office's Panel on Clerkships, among others. He also took advantage of an internship with DOJ between his second and third year of law school.

"All of these things helped me to know justices and influential attorneys, and gave me a feeling for how to talk to these types of people," he says.



After graduation, Gray landed a plumb one-year clerkship with Judge Edward Carnes of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Montgomery, Ala., who has hired graduates from FSU for three consecutive years. "FSU is respected in the southeast for its students' high quality of work," Gray says.

"You get out of Florida State what you put into it. All the resources that open up doors are open to you. Professors have connections that you can take advantage [of], and they wrote letters of recommendation for me. You have to take the initiative to seek out a job, but the resources at Florida State helped me get it."

Among his mentors, he counts former Judge Charles McClure of the 2nd Judicial Circuit, whom he met as a student, and Gerald Kogan, a former Florida Supreme Court Justice for whom he clerked. From McClure, he learned how to forge relationships with judges and opposing lawyers based on respect and dignity and from Kogan, the importance of being of service to the bar and venturing out

into arenas outside of his practice area of workers' compensation. "To this day, I use their advice, and pass it on to young associates at my firm," says Gonzalez, president of the College of Law Alumni Association and a member of several bar committees. Gonzalez, who frequently presents talks at seminars sponsored by the Florida Workers' Compensation Institute and The Florida



MELISSA ZELNIKER
(J.D. 2002), Legal Aid of
Broward County

Melissa Zelniker says she always figured she would go into children's law.

"I knew I had the heart for it, I just didn't know what area," she says.

She credits Professor Paolo

Annino, director of the law school's Children's Advocacy Center for steering her in the right direction. It was at the CAC that she discovered the dual problem of children involved in dependency and delinquency cases.

"Paolo gave me the foundation to be able to find my niche," she says.

Today, Zelniker is working at the Legal Aid Service of Broward County Inc. in Fort Lauderdale—and loving it.

Her project, The Bridge, provides representation to children in the foster care and criminal justice systems. By representing children in these "crossover" cases, Zelniker is a legal advocate for them and, at the same time, helps to develop an appropriate treatment and a life plan for them. She also offers judges, social workers, teachers and probation officers a broad glimpse of her clients' lives, helping them understand the "whole" child.

Her experience at the CAC and with public service projects that deal with at-risk children during law school, prompted her to develop the project that earned her the 2002 Equal Justice Works Fellowship, sponsored by The Florida Bar Foundation. One of her other current projects is The Suit Bank, for which she solicits attorneys for donations of suits that her clients can wear to court. "It helps them preserve a sense of dignity," she says.

Zelniker acknowledges that she's not making the kind of money that many of her peers in private practice are even though she's working the same 15-hour days. But that's a small price to pay for the satisfaction she derives from her job.

"I work with a lot of warm-hearted people, the kind that are here for the right reasons," she said. "I love coming in here. I believe that you should love what you do, and I definitely have my dream job."

Placement Programs

The Office of Career Placement is pro-active in preparing students for job searches, and offers numerous opportunities for them to interact with practicing lawyers. One example is the first Annual Legal Careers Expo, initiated in February. The Expo brought in dozens of lawyers who participated in panels designed to familiarize students with various areas of the law and help them choose a career path. A networking reception following the expo allowed students to talk informally with the lawyers, and in some cases, pass along their resumes. The office also conducts well-attended workshops on resume-writing, interviewing skills and job-search strategies. The school maintains memberships in legal placement organizations, such as the National Association for Law Placement and Equal Justice Works, as well as a database of information on law firms and state and federal agencies. It also posts job listings on its website and provides employers with resume referrals. The services are available to alumni, seeking lateral moves, as well as to students.

Additionally, the office coordinates on-campus interviews with representatives from dozens of these firms and agencies each fall and spring, and off-campus interviews in Atlanta and Miami in the fall. It also pays registration fees for students who participate in a variety of job fairs, such as the Patent Law Job Fair and the Southeastern Minority Job Fair.

For more information on placement programs, or to post a job, sign up for off-campus interviews, resume referral, or as a mentor, call **Brittany Adams Long at 850-644-4495, or e-mail her at blong@law.fsu.edu. Visit the Office of Career Placement website at www.law.fsu.edu/placement.**

Most successful lawyers can point to one or two people who positively influenced their professional development.

Bar Academy of Trial Lawyers, says his “biggest joy” is when young lawyers, who hear him speak, later call him.

“They may call to talk about job openings or to kick around ideas on a particular case they’re working on,” says Gonzalez. “I love when they think of me to do that, and that they actually do call.”

MATT REARDEN

(J.D. 2001), Associate General Counsel, International Speedway Corporation, Daytona Beach, and Associate Legal Counsel for Grand American Road Racing Association

If he were in a contest for coolest job out of law school, Matt Rearden definitely would be in the running.

He has a bird’s-eye view of the Daytona International Speedway from his desk in the corporate offices of International Speedway Corporation, attends races such as the Daytona 500 and the Rolex 24 at Daytona, rubs shoulders with athletes and celebrities such as Dale Earnhardt Jr., Paul Newman, Ben Affleck and Warren Sapp and gets to do what he loves best—practice corporate law.

Rearden’s job with ISC involves writing and negotiating sponsorships with major corporations such as Pepsi, General Motors, America Online, and DeWalt Tools, and overseeing all contracts for promotions and sweepstakes.

ISC, a leading promoter of motor sports in the United States, operates 12 race tracks across the United States and more than 25 subsidiaries, including Motor Racing Network, the nation’s largest independent sports radio network and DAYTONA USA, the official attraction of NASCAR.

“I never dreamed of this type of job when I was in law school,” says the former Mock Trial president. “I thought I’d be a litigator because of my Mock Trial involvement, however all the cards fell into place, which allowed me to secure a job that I really, really enjoy. Coming to work each day is exciting because of all the different issues that I get to tackle.”

Rearden says “no magic potion” helped him land his job.

“I didn’t know anyone inside—in fact, I’m the only FSU grad in the legal department,” he says. “I selectively sent out my resume, interviewed with several law firms and eventually received a call from ISC desiring to fill a position requiring both financial and legal knowledge. The combination of my B.S. in Finance and J.D. made it the right fit. I had a quality legal education at FSU. Some of the things I learned in class I find myself applying almost daily.”





Fred Abbott

Fluent in the Global Language of Law

Law professor emerges as a leader in international law

BY PATRICIA PARKER

Reaching consensus within any legislative body, let alone a conglomerate of countries, can be daunting. But Florida State College of Law Professor Fred Abbott, one of the world's leading international law scholars, is helping to successfully negotiate international trade agreements that protect and promote access to affordable medicines for the poor by reconciling intellectual property rights with the health needs of the public.

Abbott, the Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Chair in International Law, is particularly concerned about patent protection on pharmaceutical products in third-world countries, and is immersed and well-versed in the challenge of obtaining essential medicines. He has served as an expert consultant to the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development regarding trade and intellectual property issues. In 2001, under the auspices of the Quaker United Nations Office, which provides support for developing-country negotiators, Abbott helped to convince international trade leaders from 150 countries to adopt the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. The agreement affirms the right of countries to protect public health and promotes access to medicines for all. The Declaration "marks a watershed in international trade," according to the WHO.

Intellectual property has become increasingly important over the past two decades as international institutions seek to

promote economic development and social well-being in all countries. Intellectual property protection is made possible through, for example, patent, trademark, and copyright. Technological inventions, films, books and other works of art are transformed by intellectual property rights into commercial "assets." Intangible intel-

lectual assets have surpassed physical assets as the most important corporate assets in some industries and are significant in enabling nations to compete in today's knowledge-based, high-tech environment, according to the World Intellectual Property Organization.

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Abbott, who in January returned from a joint World Trade Organization-WIPO Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, says that economic development and globalization can—and must—occur in conjunction with reducing inequity, di-

minishing hunger and improving health.

Working toward a better quality of life for all

"If you look at development statistics over the past decade, you'll see globally much of the same phenomenon seen within the U.S.," Abbott says. "Just as

differences between the rich and poor have grown within this country, there is an ever-widening gulf between standards of living in the industrialized countries and those in the developing countries, particularly the poorer of the developing countries.

"The theory that industrialized countries would provide an engine of growth to which everyone else could be attached and make great progress through beneficial trading arrangements with the U.S. and Europe has worked well in some places, like China, but has worked poorly

in many other places.”

In addition to health pandemics, such as HIV/AIDS in Africa and elsewhere, countless developing nations are plagued with unsafe water, poor sanitation and deficient hygiene. Many of those countries also are unstable, embroiled in conflict and lacking in funding, in part because of heavy external debt.

“The result, especially for the poorest people, is less access to essential services, unaffordable out-of-pocket expenses, and further exposure to the diseases of poverty,” says Dr. LEE Jong-wook, director general of the WHO. “This perpetuates the cycle of poverty.”

For years, WHO members have sought to alleviate human suffering, working toward access to affordable, safe, effective and high-quality medicines for everyone.

Although Abbott doesn’t purport to be a human rights lawyer in the classical sense of defending civil liberties or freedom of expression, the byproducts of his expertise ultimately raise the quality of life for underserved populations.

“For people involved in trade and economics from the development side, I think it’s almost necessarily an interest in the human condition that causes you to work in that area—for the betterment of the human condition and the large majority of people in the world who are not as well off as those of us in the U.S.,” Abbott says.

Reiterating Abbott’s philosophy on the subject is Boston College international law professor Frank Garcia, an investigator in a multi-year Trade and Human Rights project co-chaired by Abbott and Thomas Cottier of the World Trade Institute. He says their endeavor combines “expertise from both the

trade and human rights communities in seeking strategies for mutual reinforcement and minimizing doctrinal and institutional conflicts between these two vital regimes.”

Interest in international law developed early

At age 18, Abbott left his native Miami and headed to the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied with renowned legal scholars in the international arena. Influenced by his father, a general business law attorney, and mother, who worked in real estate, he quickly discovered his forte in trade and development issues. As an undergraduate, he landed a graduate-level opportunity to study under German scholar Stefan Riesenfeld—the world-revered humanitarian and legal mastermind. Riesenfeld became Abbott’s academic advisor and invited him to assist in trade-related research pertaining to developing countries.

After graduating summa cum laude in 1974 with “Great Distinction in the Major” of International Trade and Development, Abbott moved on to Yale University Law School. There, he tapped into the energy of leading international law figures such as Myres McDougal, the father of “Configurative Jurisprudence,” and W. Michael Reisman, now the Myres S. McDougal Professor of International Law.

“When Fred Abbott arrived at Yale Law School, he had studied with Stefan Riesenfeld at Berkeley and, despite his youth, was already a seasoned international scholar,” Reisman says. “It was clear, from the outset, that Fred had great gifts for international law and was going to emerge as a significant scholar and player in the field.”

By 1977, Abbott had earned his J.D. and returned to California where he practiced law and became a partner in Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro (now Pillsbury Winthrop). In 1989, he attained an LL.M. at Berkeley. On entering academia, he and Riesenfeld collaborated again, co-authoring a book on treaty-making, published in 1994 and awarded the American Society of International Law Certificate of Merit.

“It was a great experience to be able to work further with Steve (Riesenfeld),” Abbott says. “He was not only one of the great legal minds of the 20th century, but was very much a humanitarian. He was deeply involved in some of the major human-rights related cases that had come up through the courts in the 1980s and 90s.”

They continued working together on projects until Riesenfeld’s death in 1999 at the age of 90. Abbott says the loss was important to him personally and professionally. Reconnecting with his past, Abbott also teamed up with previous Yale mentor, Reisman.

“Fred has more than fulfilled the expectations of his teachers at Yale, who take great pride in his accomplishments,” Reisman says.

Emerging as an international consultant

Now, governments and organizations across the globe seek the counsel of Abbott, who has vigorously challenged the pharmaceutical industry and its demand to protect patents on medicines in developing countries in order to recoup current and future research and development costs. Through extensive outreach to trade colleagues, Abbott called attention to the imminent threat to existing international trade and intellectual property rules, which he says were “essentially being abused” and

“For people involved in trade and economics almost necessarily an interest in the human

would impede the provision of low-cost access to medicines, particularly for HIV/AIDS victims so prominent in Africa.

In 2001, after 39 pharmaceutical companies filed suit against the South African government's medicines legislation, which called for parallel import of medicines, generic substitution and price controls, Abbott responded to a WHO request and traveled to Pretoria to bolster the government's defense team. The pharmaceutical coalition withdrew its case in the face of a vigorous public campaign by non-governmental organizations and a challenge by a strong legal team showing that the industry case was untenable. The widely publicized victory reflected a pivotal point in efforts by developing countries to defend their interests. Still, the struggle continues. Today, many of the ideas behind the legislation in South Africa are entering the U.S. debate on affordable health care.

"The trick really is to figure out how to balance the need for research on new medicines, while allowing the people who need those medicines to afford them," Abbott says. "What may be an interesting and important policy question in the U.S. can be an immediate life-or-death question in Uganda or Kenya. In the United States, we have money, and we need to decide how to best use it to provide access to medicines. We may not make the best decisions, but we have a choice.

"This is not true in much of the world. In many countries, people cannot afford to pay high prices for medicines by taking the money from somewhere else in their budget. There is no other money in the budget. The idea that we might make medicine unaffordable in the interest of future R & D in the U.S. is highly problematic. The people need medicines now. It won't help



them to have better R & D when they're dead."

Abbott spends much of his time advising governments on policy development that could assist the "literally billions of people without adequate access to medicines." He recently was appointed chair of the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee of the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics, based in Geneva. Through work with international institutions and NGOs, such as Doctors Without Borders, he reaps personal fulfillment as part of a larger, dedicated group that he says is "making some progress in this area, albeit, not nearly as fast as any of us would like."

Esteemed by his colleagues, Abbott has taught and lectured throughout the world, imparting a hands-on perspective to international law students and trade-related organizations. And he has written an array of books and articles for peer journals in addition to serving on numerous international committees and panels.

"Fred is a gifted scholar who knows how to make the business of academia—finding and promoting new ideas and new scholarship—work for the benefit of many communities—NAFTA, the WTO, WIPO,


the developing world," Garcia says. "He can take projects from the idea stage to the edited volume stage, in addition to offering his own top-drawer work as a scholar."

While teaching at Chicago-Kent College of Law four years ago, Abbott received an invitation to meet with Florida State law school's search committee regarding the Edward Ball Chair vacancy. Former Florida Governor and U.S. trade representative Reubin Askew co-chaired the committee with Donna Christie, the college's associate dean of international programs and the Elizabeth C. and Clyde W. Atkinson Professor of Law. Abbott says Askew and Christie provided a "positive and welcoming experience." Impressed by the law school's accomplishments and Dean Don Weidner's commitment to excellence, Abbott embraced the attractive post.

"There are probably just a handful of very, very top people in the country with not just national but international reputations and huge portfolios such as Fred Abbott has," says Christie. "He was one of the most attractive candidates we could have possibly lured to FSU. He's a very special person, and we're very lucky to have him."

Having traversed the world and instructed at prestigious universities, Abbott values his position at Florida State, and believes "students can get as good of an education in international law at FSU as they're likely to get anywhere."

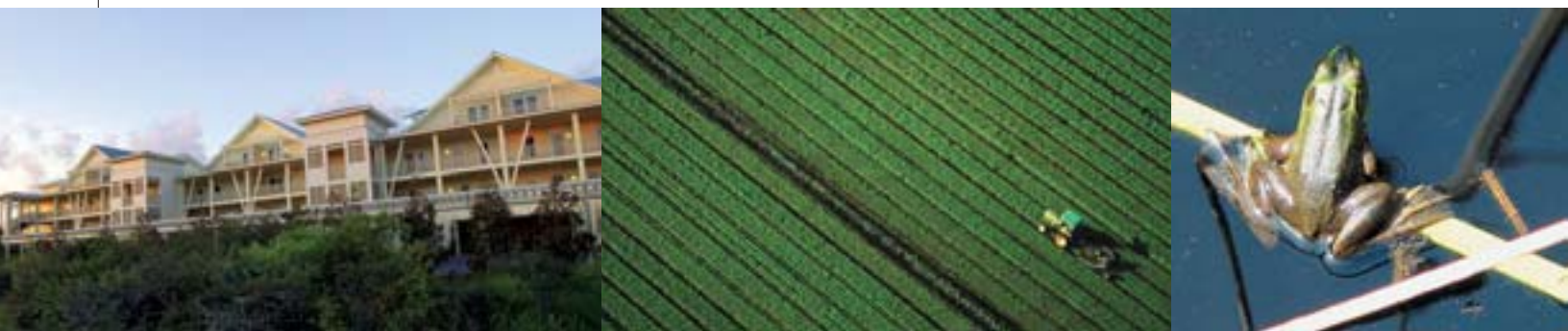
As the need for globally aware attorneys continues to expand, he says the job market looks promising for international law students. And practicing attorneys will soon be able to sign up for FSU's International Law Certificate program to broaden their knowledge in an ever-growing global marketplace. Such lawyers are essential not only in commerce but also within governments and nonprofit organizations both here and abroad, Abbott says.

"Fred doesn't just produce a bunch of articles and books," Christie says. "He's out there on the front lines in Africa and in the international intellectual property groups, and he's really making changes in the world." 

**from the development side, it's
condition that causes
you to work in that area."**

The Law of the La

BY PATRICIA PARKER



A distinguished faculty garners growing national respect for the law school's Environmental & Land Use Law Program

As communities across the country grapple with intense growth management dilemmas, one thing is certain. Lawyers play an ever-expanding role in developing, defining, defending and defying the framework which governs the use—and abuse—of our land, water and air.

From local comprehensive plans and state-wide regulations to federal mandates, environmental attorneys operate in a multifaceted and complex field of study. That

requires an understanding of the law and a basic comprehension of the physical sciences such as chemistry, biology and physics.

A well-seasoned faculty in the Environmental and Land Use Program at Florida State University's College of Law brings years of hands-on experience to the classroom. This distinguished crew has been in the trenches and shares priceless insight to the inner workings of environmental regulation, policy, implementation and enforcement.

“Some schools have programs with faculty members focusing on a particular area

nd



From left to right: Professors David Markell, Donna Christie and J.B. Ruhl are among the nation's top experts in environmental law.

of environmental law, whereas all of us have different areas of expertise, giving a broad scope to our program,” says Donna Christie, associate dean for international programs and the Elizabeth C. and Clyde W. Atkinson Professor of Law.

Over the past few years, the faculty's strength has garnered national attention. *U.S. News & World Report* rated Florida State's environmental law program among the Top 20 in the nation—and 3rd best in the Southeast, trailing only Duke and Tulane. The highly regarded 2002-2003 Educational Quality Rankings placed the Administrative and Environmental Law program among the Top 18 in the category of Top Choices by Specialty. And in the category of Most Cited Law Faculty, J.B. Ruhl, the Matthews & Hawkins Professor of Property, ranked 9th in environmental law.

“It was very satisfying to learn that our peers—other law professors in the field—have developed this level of respect for the program,” Ruhl says.

From the Ground Up

In 1981, Christie joined the law faculty as an assistant professor, hoping to instill in future lawyers a sense of appreciation for the natural environment. Not one Florida law

school had established a program addressing coastal management issues—ironic for a rapidly developing peninsular state.

But she was intrigued that the college had previously been home to Gil Fennell, one of the early coastal law scholars, during America's grassroots environmental movement in the 1970s. He had since moved on, but she knew Florida “was a state that begged for that kind of person.”

With a passion for international issues, Christie previously worked as one of the first legal researchers at the University of Georgia's Center for International and Comparative Law in 1976. She immediately immersed herself in ocean resource issues and discovered an aspiration for environmental law and soon became a postdoctoral fellow at the renowned Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, examining policies in coastal zone management and wetlands mitigation.

Arriving to FSU as an international and environmental legal scholar, Christie taught ocean and coastal law as well as courses unrelated to the natural environment, such as commercial code law. Through persistent lobbying over the years, however, she gradually weaved environmental courses into the law school's curriculum, and applauds Dean Don Weidner and the law

school faculty for their continuous support.

Incrementally, Christie convinced a few leading FSU law scholars to apply their skills in the environmental arena. With Jim Alfini's expertise in dispute resolution, Mark Seidenfeld's administrative law specialty, and Jim Rossi's insight into energy law, the stage for success was nearly set.

“But we really needed somebody who was going to be a real full-time environmental land-use law person—someone who could focus all their energies in this area and pull together a program,” Christie says.

Having followed the impressive career of Ruhl for years, Christie lured him to FSU in 1999. He was a perfect match for land use law and had represented public and private land owners in Austin, Texas, during its high-tech development boom of the late 1980s and early 90s. Also an endangered species and wetlands expert, he had previously taught environmental law at the University of Texas, Southern Illinois University and George Washington University law schools.

“It just seemed like a really good fit,” says Ruhl. “My gut instinct was that FSU was going to be progressing, building, and finding new energy, and in retrospect, I made the right decision.”

Once Ruhl settled in, FSU officially

launched its environmental law program. Christie's perseverance started to pay off, creating a driving force that Florida State desperately needed. Well on its way, this expanding endeavor marked another milestone in 2002 when Dave Markell introduced a new dimension—environmental enforcement.

"I talked to some professors around the country, and the buzz was that FSU is on the move upward," says Markell, now FSU's Steven M. Goldstein Professor of Law.

After practicing law in private firms, Markell worked as assistant regional counsel to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1984 and assisted in America's first Superfund toxic-waste trial. He subsequently served as an environmental enforcement trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice until recruited by New

York State's Department of Environmental Conservation as enforcement director. By 1992, he had started teaching at Albany Law School but took a two-year leave to work with the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation in Canada. There, he directed a process that empowers citizens to file claims when they believe any North American country is failing to effectively enforce its environmental laws.

eral first-year law courses, they must undergo a "rigorous, but very stimulating" three-semester seminar, which consists of a series of lectures presented by professionals nationwide working in the environmental network, Ruhl says. Upon graduation, they receive a certificate along with their J.D. degree, indicating special competency in their chosen environmental tract.

"It's a practical way of refining students' skills in understanding and analyzing environmental problems as well as developing solutions to them," Ruhl says.

Enriching the Curriculum, Scholarship

A menu of more than a dozen courses exposes students to a range of topics, including

laws. Many of these award-winning law review articles and case books have drawn national and international recognition.

Students also can enhance their skills by working on FSU's *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*. The most recent rankings by Most Cited Periodicals placed the journal 19th among 54 environmental journals nationwide.

Originated by students under Christie's supervision 19 years ago, this student-edited publication raised its own funds for two years until the faculty sanctioned its academic accomplishments. Ruhl, who serves as the journal's advisor along with Markell and Christie, says it gives the students an opportunity to work with legal issues in an intense way that they wouldn't get in the classroom.

When starting up a new journal, it is



'Our alums were very important from the beginning and were willing to jump in and push this'

Inspired by FSU's strong commitment to scholarship and community outreach, Markell now shares his hands-on experience with students while serving as a bridge between academia and government, public interest groups, regulated parties and others.

Environmental Law in Business Transactions, Ocean and Coastal Law, Natural Resources Law, and Growth Management. Acquiring real-world insight, students learn "how to think less abstractly and see how the law is actually applied," Markell says.

As part of a larger effort, environmental law professors are collaborating with faculty from various disciplines to get the entire environmental and science faculty thinking about how they can project FSU nationally as a center of learning in the field, says Ruhl. He and Markell recently teamed up with political science professor John Scholz, requesting funds from the National Science Foundation to study the role of citizens in environmental issues. That kind of university integration benefits both law and political science students in addition to the public.

Students also benefit from the law faculty's scholarship, which reflects cutting-edge research, examines public policy questions, advances debate, and influences

sometimes "hard to establish your credentials and readership," Christie says. That's why she initiated the Distinguished Lecture Series early on, whereby FSU hosts leading environmental law figures on campus to discuss their scholarship and interact with students and faculty. After presenting a major public lecture, each speaker develops a related article for the law school's journal. "Virtually every top person in the 'Who's Who' of environmental law throughout the country has been published in our journal," Christie says. With Weidner's support, what had been an annual lecture now occurs twice a year.

Another student-managed group, the Environmental Law Society—under Markell's advisement—sponsors a brown-bag luncheon series on specific issues and participates in community clean-up days. Students also invite local professionals from private practice, government agencies, and public interest groups to share insight regarding their careers.

Certificate of Distinction

Soon after Ruhl came to the law school, the faculty created an innovative certificate program recognizing students who concentrate on environmental law or land use law—or both. After completing the gen-

Getting Their Feet Wet

Located in Florida's capital city, the law school enables students to interact with legislators, policymakers, developers, the Florida Supreme Court, appellate courts, public interest organizations and others involved with influencing, developing and implementing laws and policies.

Christie says that when she arrived at the college, "Environmental law was not considered important." But the winds shifted during her first week after a call from alumnus Terry Cole, then general counsel for the Department of Environmental Regulation, now the Department of Environmental Protection. He and colleagues Mary Smallwood and Silvia Alderman invited Christie to tour their agency and were eager to set up an externship program.



"Our alums were very important from the very beginning and were willing to jump in and push this," Christie says. "From that point forward, if I ever needed anything, such as speakers or information...they were there."

Since then, the faculty—especially professors Sally Gertz and Larry Krieger—has significantly bolstered opportunities for student externships. Plans are under way to extend beyond Tallahassee to venues such as Washington, D.C.

Give and Take

Alumni ties to Florida State have opened a world of ideas for students and faculty.

"Because they're out there dealing with this on a day-to-day basis, they're such a fantastic source of support for us," says Ruhl. "When you look at where our alumni are working, it's so impressive. We've got people in every different kind of position for which you could practice in this field,

and they're very helpful to us in thinking about what we could do better."

Since Markell joined the faculty, his fervor has generated incredible strides in connecting with alums. In less than two years, he has formed the Environmental Alumni Group to provide input to the faculty, created a speakers bureau, organized a roundtable series of major environmental players in Florida, helped to strengthen the law school's relationship with The Florida Bar, prepared an articles collaboration directory for alumni and students wanting to co-author articles, compiled a mentoring directory, developed an e-mail list to communicate regularly with alums, and is working with the Placement Office to build a job bank, mutually benefiting both students and alumni.

"The alumni are very supportive of the school and are interested in giving back and helping the students," Markell says. "So we tried to explore some very practical ways to make that happen."

Open to Discussion

Public awareness also ranks high on the priority list of FSU's environmental educa-

tors. Markell's previous success with public forums in Albany, New York, led him to work with Christie and Ruhl in developing similar gatherings at FSU. Each semester, citizens, policymakers and students are invited to meet in a neutral setting and discuss timely environmental issues that could influence public policy outcomes.


The first forum in April 2003 focused on protection of the manatee and featured panelists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida's Fish and Wildlife Commission, the Save the Manatee Club, and the Marine Industries Association. November's forum highlighted concerns regarding the water flow levels within the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river system, which impact Florida as well as Georgia and Alabama.

"We're trying innovative ways of reaching the public, so we co-sponsored the most recent forum with The Florida Bar's Environmental Law and Land Use Section," says Markell. "I tend to be a problem-solver in

approaching things, so if there's some public policy issue, I'm happy to work with other folks to try to understand the issue and develop ideas for addressing it."

Branching Out

Looking back, Christie derives great satisfaction from law school faculty for coming together and allocating essential resources to support the environmental program. "It feels really good to know that they think it's worth doing," she says. Christie says there has been an "unbelievable response" from students wanting to enroll in the program.

"I share the same vision as J.B. and Dave," she says. "Over the years, I was spread so thin that I never really had enough time to reach out to the rest of the university. Now we're trying to get the word out that FSU as a university, along with its environmental law program, is worthy of national recognition. I think we're easily in the Top 10 environmental programs throughout the country." 

ENVIRONMENTAL ALUMNI GROUP CO-CHAIRS:

THOMAS PELHAM Partner,
**Fowler, White, Boggs,
Banker Law Firm**

MARY SMALLWOOD
Partner, **Ruden, McClosky,
Smith, Schuster & Russell
Law Firm**

VIVIAN GARFEIN Regional
Director, **Department of
Environmental Protection**

If you're interested in helping out with any aspect of the Environmental Law Program, please contact Professor Dave Markell at: dmarkell@law.fsu.edu.

BY PATRICIA PARKER



Non-traditional Students

Bringing a Wealth of Work and Life Experiences to the Study of Law

When Phil Taylor decided to relinquish his high-powered 30-year career with the National Security Agency in pursuit of law school, a long-lost high school friend retorted, “My God, are you still talking about that?”

Older students with successful careers behind them are vying for and attaining acceptance to law schools around the nation. Florida State University College of Law and law schools at universities like Yale, Columbia, Notre Dame and Vanderbilt are among those welcoming these “nontraditional” students. New York University even organized a special group dubbed the “Older (Wiser) Law Students Organization.” Admissions committees realize that such students introduce a valuable mix to the legal education process.

“They normally bring factors that we consider plus factors like work experience or just general life experience,” says Sharon Booker, director of admissions at the law school. “It really enriches the environment.”

It’s not easy getting into the Florida State University law school. Out of nearly 3,500 applicants for the 2003 entering class, only 242 made the cut. The number of applications surpassed the previous year’s by 21 percent and is increasing every year. Interestingly, 62 accepted students were older than 25—representing a fourth of the student body, which speaks volumes.

“I am old enough to be the mother of most of my fellow students,” says 42-year-old Barbara Demby Abrams, M.D., and a 2L. “But because there are so many older returning students, I really don’t feel isolated. And the younger students treat me like a peer.”

But some nontraditional applicants do express concern about “not fitting in be-

cause they’re not 21 years old,” Booker says. That’s why she can’t say enough about FSU’s “ambassadors” program where second- and third-year law students voluntarily take these newcomers under their wings, easing their transition. Some of Booker’s exemplary volunteers happen to be nontraditional students themselves.

The commitment to diversity at the law school culminates every spring with Diversity Week, when assorted student organizations celebrate their differences—from age and gender to race and religion. It’s a weeklong event unveiling the tapestry of personalities behind the law books.

“There’s an environment here that is a little bit different, I think, from a number of schools,” says Nancy Benavides, assistant dean for student affairs. “We have very high-caliber students, but we’re not cut-throat. We have a close-knit community where the faculty is very accessible and very engaged in the lives of the students.”

Contrary to ruthless tactics within some law schools to undermine fellow students, Florida State strives to instill camaraderie. By its very nature, law school creates a “pressure-cooker environment” in

competing for top-tier rankings, but Benavides notes that FSU students from all walks of life and all ages generally appreciate each other.

First-year law student Erin Wilmot, 21, welcomes the blend because “you learn so much that you can’t learn just from books.” She recalls an instance when classmate Aaron Bauldree, 70, shed light on contract and bid development based on his direct experience as a business owner. The entire class benefited “because he actually had done it” in real life.

Bauldree recently found himself encouraging a classmate who had been accustomed to earning “A’s” prior to law school—like all the younger students—and was now struggling with “being average.” Second-year law student Khai Patterson says she has “become the mother figure” at 37, with five children of her own at home, and younger students confide in her.

Older students also bring insight to pivotal events from earlier eras, such as the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War.



Older students bring insight to pivotal events from earlier eras, such as the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War.



And many have owned homes, formed businesses, managed employees, served clients, signed contracts, raised kids, cared for elderly parents, and, well, weathered the roller coaster of life. Consequently, they become “stabilizing or grounding forces” for less-experienced students, Benavides says.

But it’s a symbiotic relationship—“a mutual, win-win situation”—for all students, Abrams says. She relishes being able to tap into the younger minds, especially regarding technology.

The law school ranks 13th among the most-wired law schools nationwide, meaning e-mail is the primary channel for communication outside of class. Laptop computers seem almost an extra appendage on students as they move from classrooms to lounge areas and from the library to the cafeteria. High-tech whizzes capitalize on capabilities such as scanning diagrams from the blackboards into their laptops in seconds.

Abrams admits that she’s “not the most computer-literate person.” Bauldree feels the same way, using the computer more often now but still hand-writing his exams. He and Abrams appreciate the younger generation’s eagerness to help them go beyond word-processing and learn creative processes such as developing high-resolution graphics and PowerPoint presentations.

“Those kids are wonderful, and they are more than willing to share any information,” says first-year student Bonnie Wilmot, 55, (Erin Wilmot’s mother) who says she particularly values the study groups.



“Actually, the highlight of law school for me has been my fellow students,” says Phil Taylor, now a 2-L student. “They are gems, and they are superior in every way to my generation. They’re better educated, better adjusted...more able to embrace new ideas. They are not yet jaded.”



Taylor’s wife, first-year student Carol Taylor, 57, lauds the “brilliance” of her younger peers and marvels at their dedication and work ethic. She feels younger and thinks faster by just being around them.

“There is no reason you have to stop thinking at 55,” she says. “Phil and I have always felt that way. Now that we’re living it, we absolutely believe it!”



Carol and Phil Taylor

PHIL AND CAROL TAYLOR

After years of working toward a secure nation, Phil Taylor, 59, is now securing his future in the profession of his dreams. Inquisitive since childhood, he recalls jumping out of bed at 5 a.m. to watch “Sunrise Semester”—a televised program of college courses, including law.

“I would watch these things, and I was wrong so much,” says Phil, a second-year student. That ignited a desire to acquire the specific body of knowledge essential for resolving legal problems. But life took a different course.

Now almost five decades later, he has blissfully thrust himself into that legal arena, and the harried academic pace doesn’t rattle him. During his 30 years at the National Security Agency, he implemented and facilitated the first federal doctrine outlining requirements for computer security. He also worked for the Department of Defense, advising top commanders and drafting policies addressing network systems and security, software assurance, and hardware protection.

“Law is basically managing the

business of society...and law school teaches you the rules, but the application is not unique,” says Phil, who spent nearly 40 years as a manager in the government, military and private sectors. “I like to mix together the technology, law, history and computer science, all of which touch each other.”

Phil’s study companion happens to be his wife, Carol Taylor, whom he met at the National Security Agency. She shared an equally fascinating career as lead software engineer on high-profile projects such as STAR WARS. That involved briefing higher-ups, including the U.S. Defense Secretary.

The couple also teamed up as consultants, managing their own information security business. Now financially secure after raising eight children, they “have the pure joy—and the woe—of just studying,” says Carol, a first-year.

Legally bound in marriage, academics and life goals, “We want to open our own shop—probably a small civil law/family law practice in Florida,” Carol says. However, they intend to keep their hands in the information assurance world, knowing that “the law is just forming with respect

to technology,” and Phil feels “obligated” to continue with a legal role after playing an integral part in security issues since the very beginning.

KHAI PATTERSON

Academics always came easy for native New Yorker Khai Patterson, a second-year student. Graduating from high school at 16, she fast-tracked to Howard University in Washington, D.C., then attended FSU briefly before returning to her hometown. Just a few courses shy of an undergraduate degree, she landed a high-paying position in New York’s insurance industry, followed by a lucrative career selling stocks on Wall Street.

Years later with five children to feed, Khai and her husband, Ian, moved to Tallahassee—a more family-friendly environment. In 2000, she picked up where she left off at FSU while juggling a full-time position at Florida’s Department of Children and Families, followed by a job in victims’ compensation advocacy at the Attorney General’s Office. She loved interacting with law enforcement and the courts, propelling her forward to complete her English degree and apply for law school.

Khai Patterson and family



“I could not see myself being this focused at any other time in my life,” Khai says. “I appreciate it so much more.”

Now, this energized 37-year-old finds herself expanding the parameters of multi-tasking. If she’s not in class or at the library, Khai can be seen at her kids’ sports events, plays and band performances—with law books in tow. Her children, ages 4 to 17, don’t get as much one-on-one time as they did previously, but she’s “promised and reassured them” life will become normal after law school. Khai praises Ian, who “took over absolutely everything” from cooking and cleaning to keeping the house quiet so “mommy can study” at home.

Although Howard University offered Khai a full-merit scholarship, she chose FSU because she enjoys Tallahassee and did not want to uproot her family. In May, she begins a summer externship focusing on workers’ compensation and insurance defense with McConnaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope and Weaver, P.A.

Khai also voluntarily mentors incoming students regarding priorities. And her recurring mantra echoes across campus: “I’m the poster child for ‘If anybody can.’ ”

AARON BAULDREE

Currently the oldest FSU law student, 70-year-old Aaron Bauldree exudes unbridled determination, drawing admiration from his fellow students and own grown children. Raised on a farm in southern Alabama, he and his family worked as sharecroppers. Out of necessity, he evolved into a jack-of-all-trades.

Pining for higher education in his early 20s, Aaron moved his wife and children to Tallahassee in 1956 and enrolled at FSU. He stopped and started periodically, however, while juggling a plethora of part- and full-time jobs—even constructing his own home.

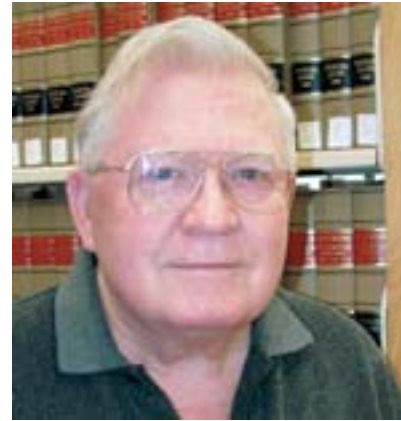
That intrepid spirit led to an education degree in 1963, followed by a teaching stint in the Leon County public schools while completing a master’s of industrial arts and education administration. By 1968, he had earned his doctorate in education. He then taught business administration at Florida Atlantic University until 1972.

Being a self-starter, Aaron started a business as a general contractor three years later. In 1975, he gained valuable insight writing administrative procedures for the first building code in Florida as a specialist with the state’s Department of Community Affairs. After a year there, he successfully expanded his own business and developed spin-off companies specializing in home-repair services such as plumbing and electrical wiring.

So why law school, and why now?

“I don’t ever want to retire, and I figured the law was something I could do so long as my mind works well,” replies Aaron, now a 1L student. “In the home-repair business, I never hesitated to crawl through somebody’s attic or under the house. But I’m getting too old for that kind of stuff.”

Obviously, he’s not too old to learn. Aaron applied to four law schools and was accepted by three and placed on a waiting list for the fourth. His alma mater topped that list.



Aaron Bauldree

Aaron’s latest quest? To guide and educate small business owners regarding legal matters such as worker’s compensation, debt collection and liens. He’s also interested in developing wills and trusts for the elderly while dedicating “a fair amount of time to pro bono work for people who need it and can’t afford it.”

BARBARA DEMBY ABRAMS

Believing that everyone should have access to quality healthcare, pediatrician Barbara Demby Abrams, M.D., says she is frustrated that many health-related laws nationwide have been formulated by people lacking experience in healthcare itself. She says some of the existing and “ridiculous” laws actually made her job “much more difficult” during her 16 years of practicing medicine. Encouraged by her supportive spouse, David Abrams, assistant public defender in juvenile criminal defense with Leon County, law school has become her springboard to launch change and “take her medical training to a higher level.”

Having seen her share of people in need, including residents in the coal-mining country of Appalachia, where she spent her winter holiday, Barbara underscores that America is “the only first-world country” not providing



Barbara Demby Abrams

healthcare to its entire populace.

"If you're a 5-year-old kid, and all you need is a pair of eye glasses so you can learn to read and succeed in school, you can't get them," says Barbara, 42. "If I can work in an area of health policy, legislative work or lobbying, I have the potential to be able to help thousands of people at a time, and that's a very exciting idea to me."

As an Orlando resident wanting to take advantage of in-state tuition, Barbara applied to both FSU and the University of Florida law schools, but FSU was her first choice because of previous ties to Tallahassee while working as a pediatrician at Capital Health Plan. Now in her second year in law school, she already has been immersed in the law's practical application. Last December, she served as part of a team for the Children and Prison project via the Children's Advocacy Center to argue a clemency petition before Florida Governor Jeb Bush and his cabinet.

Recently, this ambitious student landed an externship with the Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell & Dunbar law firm in Tallahassee. Barbara simultaneously works in emergency care at FSU's Thagard Health Center, volunteers as Medical Officer for the local Civil Air Patrol, and teaches Hebrew classes. She even manages to squeeze in work as a medical/legal consultant in collaboration with David. As a self-proclaimed overachiever, Barbara attributes this delicate balancing act to her organizational skills and an extremely helpful husband.

BONNIE AND ERIN WILMOT

Every generation has something to teach the next and vice versa. But mother-and-daughter team Bonnie and Erin Wilmot are learning side-by-side—as peers.

"It's really nice to have another member of the family who knows exactly what you're going through," says Bonnie, 55.

Even though she and Erin have shared only one class as first-year law students, this inseparable pair studies the same ideas but with different instructors. They compare notes, discuss concepts, and enjoy meeting for lunch.

"I love it! It's great to have her there and know I can share all my fears and apprehensions with her," says 21-year-old Erin.

Bonnie's affinity for the law originated in high school as the debate club's president. She started college but set school aside after marrying and having six children, now ages 12 to 29. When Erin was a year old, Bonnie and husband Paul developed a home-based business, Capital Alu-



Bonnie and Erin Wilmot

"It's a crazy life, but we love it."

minum Products. This arrangement enabled her to be with their children while managing not only the legal aspects of their business but also the day-to-day operations, including customer relations and even hands-on labor at job sites—not to mention running a household of eight and serving on community boards.

Over the years, daughter Amy Schrader, who is an FSU law school alumna and Tallahassee attorney with Huey Guilday Law Firm, coaxed her mom to finish college and go to law school. So Bonnie took the plunge and completed her undergraduate degree. She then pursued a master's and interned at the Governor's Office, obtain-

ing a bird's-eye view of lawmaking. That confirmed Bonnie's enthusiasm for and "connection with the subject matter" she's absorbing now.

"I think my mom is an inspiration for people who want to go back to school. She works so hard. I don't know how she does it all," says Erin, who also was inspired by her sister.

Because the Wilmots are such a close-knit family, Erin hopes to stay in Tallahassee after graduation, depending upon job opportunities. She's currently interested in the business side of law while her mom is contemplating family law.

"It's a crazy life, but we love it," Bonnie says. 

A Novel Approach

ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF HIS FIRST TWO NOVELS,
JUDGE TERRY LEWIS IS AT WORK ON A THIRD

BY PHILLIP M. POLLOCK

Leon County Circuit Court Judge Terry Lewis often starts his day writing. Though you might expect him to be churning out court orders and decisions, he's hard at work on his third murder mystery.

"It's a long and tedious process, so I try to fit writing in every day," says Lewis, a 1976 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law. "This morning, I wrote for 20 minutes before going to court, and it resulted in a couple paragraphs. Tomorrow, I could end up with two pages. You have good and bad days when you write."

Lewis' work-in-progress centers on a paranoid schizophrenic charged with murdering a psychologist. His second mystery, *Privileged Information* was released in late 2003, and focuses on lawyer Paul Morganstein, who obtains privileged information that leads him to believe that his client murdered Morganstein's brother 30 years earlier. His debut novel, *Conflict of Interest*, is set in Tallahassee and centers on Morganstein's law partner Ted Stevens. Stevens is appointed to defend a young woman charged with murder. The defendant is a former client and a secret lover, which for Stevens presents a "conflict of interest." The book sold 4,500 hardbacks and 45,000 paperbacks.

Lewis' realistic portrayal of Stevens as a down-on-his-luck alcoholic lawyer garnered praise from the executive director of the Florida Lawyers Assistance Program, which works with those in the legal profession who are dealing with alcoholism, drug abuse and psychological problems.

Says Lewis, "One of the best compliments I was ever paid as a writer was when Michael Cohen asked me if he could use a passage from my book in his program. He told me: 'You just nailed the description of an alcoholic lawyer in denial.' Even though I am not alcoholic, nor do I have friends or family who are, you will certainly meet a lot of alcoholic types if you spend any time in the legal justice system, so it's possible to write about it effectively without having lived that sort of life."

While working on *Conflict of Interest* in 1992, Lewis enrolled in two creative writing courses at Florida State University. One was on narrative technique taught by the late Jerome Stern, the other Professor Pam Ball's novel and fiction writing workshop.

"This was when I really increased my writing output, because we had to submit chapters for critique. Prior to this, I was writing mainly by intuition," he says. "As a result of Jerry's course, I realized that, in fact, I was utilizing some narrative techniques that were identifiable. It helped to be able to put a name to what I was doing."

Lewis says his work is "slightly autobiographical."

"I describe Ted Stevens as being a lunchtime athlete, kind of scruffy with hair that is a bit long, and someone who is able to bend the rules a little bit now and then—well, quite a lot in Ted's case," he says. "And, with the exception of the latter, this is pretty true of me. I am a bit scruffy now and then, and I suppose I could use a haircut. I even bend the rules a little from time to time. Everyone has a Dr. Jekyll, Mr. Hyde aspect to their personality. If you can't imagine that, I would worry about you."

Lewis says he gave a copy of his first book to his mother for Mother's Day when it first came out and had to reassure her that it was fiction.

"She read it and was, of course, very proud, but she said, 'Now, son, I sure hope you don't talk like that!' I assured her, that, no, I don't, but there are people like my character in the real world who do."



Judge Terry Lewis



Lewis says there is a great sense of pride when you first see your name in print on the cover of a book. He attended his first book signing in Tallahassee at the now defunct Black Cat Books.

"Of course, there are all these images that come into your mind, like the limo that will pick you up and take you to the book store and the long lines of people standing out front waiting for you to sign their book copies," he says. "When I did the signing at Black Cat, I knew a lot of people in town, so there was a good turn out. On the other hand, a book signing away from

home can be a pretty lonely affair."

Appointed in 1998 by the late Governor Lawton Chiles to the Second Judicial Circuit Court in Tallahassee, Lewis gained national attention for his role in the presidential election cases of 2000. *Newsweek* magazine labeled him "The Steady Trial Judge." He also is known for presiding over other high-profile cases, including a ruling against enforcement of a law that required physicians to notify parents of minors who seek abortions.

Lewis says he has no target date for the completion of his third book.

Tommy Warren, Kathy Villacorta Gift

FSU'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN FOOTBALL PLAYER HONORED

Tommy Warren and his wife, Kathy Villacorta, have endowed a \$100,000 scholarship that pays tribute to Florida State University's first African-American football player.

Warren, a prominent Tallahassee civil rights lawyer who graduated in 1974, and Villacorta, a 1977 graduate, have established the Calvin Patterson Civil Rights Endowed Scholarship to enrich the College of Law. Specifically, the scholarship will provide support for students who have demonstrated significant interest in and commitment to civil rights in general and, in particular, the rights of African-Americans in the areas of employment, voting, education, or housing, and who are committed to practicing law in those areas.

The scholarship honors Calvin Patterson, who broke a significant racial barrier at Florida State when, in 1968, he became the first African-American football player. Patterson died in 1972. The scholarship is to be used to further civil rights similar to those championed by Patterson.

Like many other African-Americans who led the fight for equal rights for African-Americans in the 1960s, Patterson broke the color line and endured insults, threats, and intimidation, said Warren, a teammate who came to Florida State in 1966 on a football scholarship

and roomed with Patterson in the football dorm.

"His efforts allowed other African-Americans to follow in his footsteps by attaining equal access to and scholarships from FSU and its football program," Warren said.

"Calvin helped me to broaden my outlook on race issues at a crucial point in my life," said Warren in a column he wrote for *FSU Voices: An Informal History of 150 Years*, published in 2002.

"Kathy and I have long been committed to the elimination of racial discrimination," he said. "It is our hope that this scholarship will guarantee that there will continue to be attorneys committed to fighting discrimination until it is eliminated from our society."

Dean Don Weidner thanked Warren and Villacorta, saying: "Tommy and Kathy are committed to education and law practice that makes life better for all members of our community, and we are extremely grateful."



Calvin Patterson

ALUMNI RECEPTION SPONSORS

The College of Law would like to thank the following sponsors who made our fall 2003 Alumni Receptions such a success. If you are interested in sponsoring a reception in your area, please contact Kelly Wardrop at (800) 788-7097, or by e-mail at kwardrop@law.fsu.edu

Miami

September 24, 2003

Gene and Diana Stearns
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler
Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

Fort Myers

October 29, 2003

J. Michael Coleman, Esq.
Steven G. Koepfel, Esq.
Smoot Adams Edwards Doragh
& Brinson, P.A.
Mark B. Yeslow, Esq.

Homecoming Reception

November 14, 2003

Lance and Carol Block
Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart
& Shipley, P.A.

Tom Conroy

CREATES SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTRACT TOP STUDENTS



As a longtime member of the Friends of 440 Workers' Compensation Scholarship committee, Tom Conroy has helped to disburse thousands of dollars to college-bound students in financial need. In most cases, he considered the money was well-spent. In others, he felt the award had been a mistake because the recipients fell short academically.

The experience led him to create the Thomas W. Conroy Scholarship with a \$150,000 gift to the Florida State College of Law. The scholarship will be awarded to students who excel academically, says Conroy, a 1974 graduate of the law school and a partner in the Hollywood-based law firm of Conroy, Simberg, Ganon, Krevans & Abel, P.A.

"Often scholarship standards are too lenient, and some students may meet the minimal requirements for the scholarship based on financial need, but fall short of what is required of them to succeed academically," says Conroy. "This award is for students who we are confident will become good lawyers."

Conroy, who practices in the area of workers' compensation law and taught at the law school as an adjunct professor in 2003, says he also views the establishment of the scholarship as an opportunity to give back to his alma mater.

"I've seen what is going on at the law school—the growth and the strong faculty—and I'm very pleased at the direction in which the law school is headed," he says. "I've had the opportunity to make a great career for myself as a lawyer, and I'm happy to be able to be in a position to establish this scholarship that I hope will help strengthen the school's reputation."

Said Dean Don Weidner: "We are all extremely grateful that Tom has stepped forward to help us take the law school to the next level."

Two Alumni Work Side by Side to Save Lives

It's not unusual for Florida State University College of Law alumni to work in the same office or to go into practice together. But Peter Cannon, a 1997 graduate, and Daphney Gaylord, who graduated in 1996, have taken that scenario a step further.

The two are colleagues in Tampa at the Office of the Capital Collateral Regional Counsel, the state agency that represents death row inmates. They most recently teamed up on behalf of a client who was scheduled for execution February 4, and were in Tallahassee in late January to present oral arguments before the Florida Supreme Court.

"Working in the death penalty arena, you already have this comradeship and mutual feeling of trust for each other," says Cannon, "but being both graduates and classmates adds a whole new level to our relationship."

Immediately after graduation, Cannon joined the Public Defender's Office in Tampa. Gaylord went to work for a solo



practitioner in Tallahassee and then had a stint with the Office of the Public Defender in Lake City, Florida. Years later, the two found themselves at the Department of Children and Families representing the state in dependency cases involving abused and neglected children when they discovered they had been classmates. Then, they both ended up at CCRC.

"It was a new and challenging experience for me," says Gaylord. "Here, you have a real opportunity to make an impact not only on the lives of your clients but on the entire criminal justice system."

When Gaylord talks about lives, she's not exaggerating.

CCRC attorneys deal with life and death issues as they defend those who have been convicted and sentenced to death.

"It truly is the brain surgery of the law," Cannon says. "It is very complicated and one mistake could mean the life of your client. It also is one of the most important and vital areas of law because you deal with all of the issues dear to us as attorneys."

There was no better example of this than the case that the two classmates recently completed. Not only did they challenge the facts of their client's case, they had to litigate issues dealing with the constitutionality of Florida's death penalty statute and issues of racism.

The two describe their work like reading straight from a script in a Hollywood movie: The frantic last-minute work of a team of investigators and attorneys. Late-night brief writing. Running from court to court. Traveling to various cities, counties, and states in an attempt to locate witnesses.

Late night preparation of witness and expert testimony.

"It's a very emotionally draining job sometimes, especially during a warrant," Cannon says. "But knowing deep down inside that you are doing good work keeps you going."

Says Gaylord, "At the end of the day what counts is not billable hours or whether we made countless dollars for our client, but whether we did what we could to save a life from a system that is disparate in its application. It's dealing with people at their worst and at their best. We like to think it is law at its best."

Their client was executed as scheduled on February 4. He was only one vote away from the United States Supreme Court issuing a stay of execution after granting an almost two-hour delay in his execution. And although both deal with the loss of their client individually, they are grateful that they can sympathize with one another as colleagues, alumni, and friends.

UF alumnus creates Broad and Cassel Scholarship at Florida State University College of Law

Stephen Turner views the scholarship his law firm recently created as an investment not only in the Florida State University College of Law and the students who receive it, but also in the legal profession as a whole.

“We want to help FSU law school attract the highest level of students with the long-term intent of elevating the practice of law in the state and public confidence in our legal system,” says Turner, Tallahassee managing partner in the law firm of Broad and Cassel. “If the caliber of students is better, lawyers are better, judges are better, legislators are better, professional relationships are better and analytical thinking is better.”

The Tallahassee office of Broad and Cassel established the Broad and Cassel Scholarship with a gift of \$105,000 over seven years (\$15,000 per year) to attract top students to the law school and increase the

school’s academic excellence. Once selected, individual recipients will remain Broad and Cassel scholars during their three years in law school, and each will receive an annual scholarship of \$5,000. Recipients also will be offered the opportunity to clerk during the summer at one of the firm’s seven locations.

“Steve’s commitment to excellence is an important resource for us and we are extremely grateful for his firm’s generous and innovative scholarship/clerkship opportunity,” says Dean Don Weidner.

In addition to displaying outstanding academic performance, scholars are expected to have established a reputation for high moral character and professional ethics, and display those characteristics during law school, Turner says.

“We believe that top law students tend to be fine lawyers and that their performance is a good indicator of how dedicated they will be to the profession. We want to encourage future lawyers who are high-minded and thoughtful, and who display maturity, good judgment and leadership,” Turner says.

Though a graduate of the University of Florida College of Law, Turner has established strong ties with the Florida State University law school and considers it his “adopted home.” He says he is impressed with the quality of the Florida State law alumni working at Broad and Cassel and students he has encountered as an adjunct professor.

Stephen Turner



Michael Atter’s

GIFT ESTABLISHES MENTORING SCHOLARSHIP

Possessing the power to recommend sentencing for defendants can be daunting for a prosecutor right out of law school. But as an assistant state attorney in Duval County in the early 1980s, Michael Atter could turn to a long-time friend and seasoned attorney to help him gain a fresh perspective on tough cases.

“When you’re a young attorney, you don’t have the real-life experience to flesh out what should be done in certain circumstances, so it’s helpful to have someone help you analyze the situation,” says Atter, a 1979 graduate of the Florida State University College of Law, and now a partner in the Jacksonville firm of Wood, Atter & Associates. His daughter, Lenorae Atter, is a 2003 graduate of the law school and works in his firm.



Atter is hopeful that because of his recent \$100,000 gift to the law school, students will have the opportunity to find the type of mentoring that helped him. The Atter Family Mentoring Scholarship will provide a summer stipend for students to be taken under the wings of distinguished litigators in the Jacksonville area. While law school teaches students the history and theories of the legal profession, mentors can help them with real-life aspects of the job, such as balancing time among clients and running a business. Atter points to another issue he considers equally important: professionalism.

“The traditional notion of professional courtesy seems to have been diluted, and that’s a big mistake,” he says. “Vigorous advocacy for your client doesn’t have to deteriorate into warfare with your counterpart. You might be effective for your client, but that’s not the way to engender good will with the other side. Lawyers tend to have good memories if you burn them, and you will need them to extend courtesies to you in the future.”

Atter said he formed the idea for the mentoring scholarship after judging mock trial competitions involving Florida State law students.

“I was impressed with their preparation, how they presented themselves, their verbal and non-verbal skills, and their well-thought-out arguments,” he says. “Students who have developed those skills will be invaluable to a law firm. But when you argue aggressively for a client, it can be easy to fall into the trap of forgetting about professional courtesy. The manner in which you go about doing your job doesn’t have to be offensive. That does a disservice to the attorney and to the law profession as a whole.”

Dean Don Weidner said, “There is widespread recognition in the profession that there needs to be mentoring of young lawyers. Mike is taking a concrete step toward ensuring better mentoring of young lawyers in his community, and I hope this will serve as a model.”

Atter says he is grateful for the education he received at Florida State. “It was a great environment,” he says. “There is so much angst in law school, but FSU is committed to making you successful, rather than weeding you out.”

ALUMNI

Recognitions

1970

A. Wayne Rich has been named Orlando City Attorney by Mayor Buddy Dyer. Rich is co-founder of Victoria Equities Inc., a residential land development and management company.

George L. Waas has been named special counsel to the attorney general. During his 17 years with the Florida Attorney General's Office, he has been a senior assistant attorney general and an assistant attorney general. He has been a government lawyer for 26 years.

1971

The Honorable Zebedee Wright was honored by the Fort Lauderdale branch of the NAACP with the President's Award at the annual Freedom Fund Gala in Davie, Fla. He served as Broward County's first African-American county judge on the 17th Judicial Circuit from 1983 until his recent retirement.

1972

Kenneth L. Connor resigned from his position as president of the Washington, D.C.-based Family Research Council, where he served for three years.

Judge William L. Gary, presiding in Gadsden County, won first prize in the Judge Edward R. Finch Law Day Speech Contest, sponsored by the American Bar Association. He gave his speech at the Tallahassee Bar/Legal Aid Foundation's "Law for all in the Courthouse" event in May.

1973

Frank A. Kreidler, a JAG commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, has received the Director's Award for Outstanding Service and Support as a U.S. Naval Academy Information Officer. He has served as a candidate guidance officer for the Naval Academy in Palm Beach County since 1983. He can be reached at the law office of Frank A. Kreidler, 1124 S. Federal Highway, Lake Worth, Fla. 33460-5244.



Mel Martinez

Mel Martinez, former Secretary of HUD, has joined the law firm of Akerman Seterfitt in Orlando, where he specializes in government issues. He also is a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate.

1974

James Loper of the law firm James B. Loper, Attorney at Law, in Tampa, has been elected a member of the Carrollwood Community Bar Association board of directors.

Harold McLean was appointed in November by the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee to head the Florida Office of Public Counsel. The office represents consumers in utility issues. He formerly was general counsel for the Florida Public Service Commission.

Joseph H. Richardson, formerly president and chief executive officer of Florida Power Corp., has been named president of Allegheny Power, the company's energy delivery business.

1975

Roy L. Glass of the Law Offices of Roy L. Glass, P.A., has been appointed chair of The Florida Bar Clients' Security Fund Committee. He specializes in medical malpractice, personal injury and insurance disputes. He can be reached at 5501 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710; Tel., 727-384-8888; e-mail, lroyglas@tampabay.rr.com.

Eleanor Hill has rejoined the Washington, D.C., law firm of King & Spalding as a partner in the firm's Special Matters and Government Investigations Group. She will focus on corporate internal investigations, congressional and other governmental investigations, white-collar criminal matters, legislative matters, compliance, and issues pertaining to homeland security and intelligence. Hill was staff director of the joint congressional inquiry related to the events of September 11, 2001.

1976

Willie Meggs, state attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit since 1985, began his two-year term as president of the Florida Prosecuting Attorney's Association in July.

1977

Edwin P. Krieger Jr. has joined the firm of George, Hartz, Lundeen, Fulmer, Johnstone, King & Stevens. He can be reached at 600 N. Westshore Blvd., Suite 1000, Tampa, Fla. 33609; Tel., 813-282-9700; e-mail, edwinkrieger@georgehartz.com.

Bruce Minnick is with the Minnick Law Firm, where he is a litigator and focuses on labor and employment discrimination. He can be reached at 3116 Capital Circle N.E., Suite 10, Tallahassee, Fla. 32317; Tel., 850-386-9444; Web, www.lawyers.com/minnicklaw.

1978

Jim Bacchus is a visiting faculty member for the spring 2004 semester at Vanderbilt University Law School. He recently published a book titled *Trade and Freedom*, which is a collection of essays on his thoughts as chair and longest-serving member of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland.

Randall Reder of the Law Offices of Randall Reder, P.A., in Tampa was elected president of the Carrollwood Community Bar Association.

Karen Kinkennon Specie has joined the law firm of Scruggs & Carmichael, P.A., at One South-east First Ave., Gainesville, Fla. 32601; Tel., 352-376-5242.



Sheila McDevitt, senior vice president-general counsel and chief legal officer for TECO Energy, was appointed in December by Governor Jeb Bush to the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the State University System.

1979

Melanie Ann Hines has joined the business law firm of Berger Singerman in its Tallahassee office. She focuses on risk assessment, prevention and defense litigation involving business crime. She is chair of the Criminal Law Section of The Florida Bar and president-elect of the William H. Stafford American Inns of Court. She can be reached at Tel., 850-561-3010; e-mail, mhines@bergersingerman.com.

George Sheldon has been named associate dean for student affairs at St. Thomas University School of Law. His new address is 16400 N. W. 32nd Ave., Miami, Fla. 33054; Tel., 305-623-2354; e-mail, gsheldon@stu.edu.

David W. Wilcox has relocated his office. His firm concentrates on real estate and land use, banking, entertainment and the arts, business, contracts, and estate planning. He has served as the governor's attorney, president of the Bradenton Kiwanis Club, and as chair of the Board of Coast Bank of Florida. He can be reached at 308 13th Street W., Bradenton, Fla. 34205; Tel., 914-746-2136; e-mail, dwilcox@wilcox-law.com.

1980

Thomas K. Equels, managing director of the Holtzman Equels law firm, has been inducted into the Distinguished Flying Cross Society. The society comprises war heroes who have received the highest honor for military flying. A former U.S. Army aviator, Equels was honored seven times for heroism during the Vietnam War. He was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, 15 air medals and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. The Holtzman Equels law firm has offices in Miami, Orlando and Tallahassee.

David W. Spicer has joined the law firm of Montgomery & Larson. He can be reached at 1016 Clearwater Place, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33401; Tel., 561-832-2800.



John Frost Shows His Generosity—Again—With New Gift

In 1993, John Frost, a graduate of the College of Law's 1969 charter class, endowed a professorship with a \$100,000 gift. The endowed professorship was the first established by a graduate of the college and enabled the college to reward and retain Nat Stern, one of the college's most popular professors. In 1997, Frost established a scholarship in the amount of \$25,000. In addition, he created the \$100,000 Frost Moot Court Endowment in appreciation for his moot court experiences while he was a student at the law school.

In January, 11 years after his first gift, Frost stepped up to the plate again, this time with another gift of \$100,000 to enhance the John W. and Ashley E. Frost Endowed Professorship.

"Don Weidner has put the school on the map, and I'm hopeful that this gift will take the school to the next level where it will continue to attract great students and professors like Nat," says Frost, a past president of The Florida Bar, the first Florida State University law graduate to hold that office. "Nat is a tremendous professor, one with legal acumen and pedagogical skills, a professor looked up to by the legal community and revered by his students."

Stern teaches constitutional law, American legal history, and a Supreme Court Role-Playing Seminar. He serves as the faculty advisor and coach to the college's nationally competitive and award-winning Moot Court Team. Before joining the faculty, he was an associate in the Atlanta law firm of Arnall, Golden & Gregory.

"I already felt greatly honored to hold the John W. and Ashley E. Frost Professorship, and deeply grateful for the Frost Endowment, which enables the Moot Court Team to participate in national competitions," says Stern. "The enhancement of the professorship, on top of John's myriad other contributions to the law school, is an act of extraordinary generosity. It will now be an even more daunting challenge to try to live up to the standards of the professorship."

Frost, who is on the College of Law Board of Governors and is a partner in the Bartow law firm of Frost Tamayo Sessums & Aranda, says the gift is his way of showing appreciation for the education he received at the law school and because he is proud of his alma mater. His daughter, Ashley Frost Bedell, is a 1994 graduate of the school.

Frost's firm, which he formed in 1981, is a statewide civil trial firm concentrating on personal injury, medical malpractice, commercial litigation and family law issues.

Loula Fuller, Dan Myers Endow Professorship



Tallahassee attorneys Loula Fuller and her husband, Daniel Myers, both 1985 graduates of the Florida State University College of Law, presented the law school with a \$150,000 endowment.

The gift will be used to establish the Loula Fuller and Dan Myers Professorship, which allows the law school's dean to recruit or retain an exceptionally productive legal scholar for a five-year term.

"The law school has defined my adult life and provided opportunities I never dreamed of for myself and my family," Fuller said. "Being able to practice law and

develop as an attorney in an area that is challenging and allows me to litigate major cases has put me in the financial position to be able to give back to the law school. My hope is that others will have similar opportunities."

The Myers & Fuller law firm is a nationally known boutique that represents car and truck dealers in more than 40 states in litigation against auto manufacturers in state and federal courts and in administrative proceedings.

Since its inception in 1987, the firm's practice has focused primarily on motor vehicle franchise law, and the representation of motor vehicle dealers in more than 40 states. The firm has played a major role in representing state motor vehicle dealer associations before state legislatures and has drafted numerous state statutes regulating the franchise relationship between manufacturers and dealers.

In addition to motor vehicle franchise law, the firm's practice includes representing clients in commercial litigation, environmental regulation, and appeals before both state and federal courts.

"We are grateful for all Loula and Dan have done for us, from being guest lecturers to creating this wonderful endowment," said Dean Don Weidner.

1981

Howard E. (Gene) Adams has joined the firm of Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell & Dunbar, P. A., in Tallahassee. He previously worked for the Florida Association of Realtors. He can be reached at 215 S. Monroe Street, 2nd Floor, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-3533; e-mail, gene@penningtonlaw.com.

Frederick H. Kent, III, has joined the law firm of Marks Gray, P. A., 1200 River Place Blvd., Suite 800, Jacksonville, Fla. 32207, Tel., 904-398-0900; Fax: 904-399-8440; e-mail, fkent@marksgray.com.

Robert Wise of the law firm of Robert S. Wise, P.A., in Tampa, was elected to the board of directors of the Carrollwood Community Bar Association.

1982

Robert Cohen has been appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush as executive director and chief administrative law judge at the Division of Administrative Hearings. He served as past president of the Tallahassee Bar Association, representing the Second Judicial Circuit and is the recipient of the 2004 Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award. The award is presented annually in conjunction with the Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award given by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, and recognizes lawyers in each of Florida's judicial circuits who have made significant contributions in the delivery of legal services to the poor.

Margaret "Molly" Parker Feldman is vice president of business development for Verizon Wireless in Bedminster, N.J.

Steve MacNamara has been named associate vice president for academic affairs at Florida State University.

F. Robert Santos is a partner in the new firm of Santos & Lynott, P.A. He can be reached at 1509 W. Swann Ave., Suite 240-A Tampa, Fla. 33606; Tel., 813-229-1111

1983

Sam N. Masters is with the firm of Landis Graham French, P.A. His new address is 444 Seabreeze Blvd., Suite 1001, Daytona Beach, Fla. 32118; Tel. 386-4717.

Cari Roth is with the firm of Bryant Miller & Olive P.A. She can be reached at 201 S. Monroe Street, Suite 500, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-8611; e-mail, croth@bmlaw.com.



Tom Scarritt has been certified as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. He specializes in catastrophic damages cases involving wrongful death, medical negligence, products liability, civil rights, nursing home abuse, and business torts. His firm, Scarritt Law Group, is at 1509 W. Swann Ave., Suite 280, Old Hyde Park Village, Tampa, Fla. 33606-2257; Tel., 813-258-2300; Web, www.scarrittlaw.com.

C. Michael Sunderland has been named president and COO of Advantage Sales & Marketing Inc. He had been chairman and CEO of Budd Mayer Company and Advantage Mayer Inc. since 1990. With the consolidation of its 12 member companies, Advantage Sales & Marketing now is one of the largest agencies in the consumer packaged goods industry. He is a member of The Florida Bar, The Georgia Bar and the U.S. Supreme Court Bar associations.

1984

Mark S. Ellis, executive director of the International Bar Association in London, England, published an article in the *New England Law Review* (Vol. 37, No.4). The article is titled: "The Evolution of Defense Counsel Appearing Before the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia."

Leon County Judge Judith W. Hawkins received the 2003 Harvey Ford Award during the 30th anniversary of the Conference of County Court Judges held in Marco Island, Fla. The award recognized Hawkins for dedicated service to the community, the legal profession and the conference. The crystal award was signed by Beth Bloom, the first female president of the Conference of County Court Judges.



R. Bruce McKibben Jr. was honored in the fall by the Florida Coalition for Children with the Ann Bowden Child Advocate of the Year Award. He was recognized for championing the cause of foster parents in Tallahassee and for helping foster children find permanent homes. He is married to the Reverend Candace McKibben of East Hill Baptist Church. He can be reached at 1435 E. Piedmont Drive, Suite 214, Tallahassee, Fla. 32308; Tel., 942-8585; e-mail, rbmlaw@earthlink.net.

1985

Sandra K. Ambrose has joined the law firm of Stenstrom, McIntosh, Colbert, Whigham, Reichmann & Partlow as "of counsel," practicing



Stephan A. Pendorf

in the areas of family law, general civil litigation and municipal law. She also was elected to the Board of Directors for the Seminole County Bar Association for 2003-2004. Her e-mail is AKAmbrose@stenstrom.com.



Daniel M. Soloway of Pensacola was selected by the Association of Trial Lawyers of America to appear before the U.S. Supreme Court as ATLA's designated representative on two cases involving HMO liability in America.

Doug Wilde has opened a law office in the West Park area of Peachtree City, Atlanta. His focus is on civil trial practice with an emphasis in auto accidents. Wilde formerly was a partner at Carlock, Copeland, Semler & Stair in Atlanta. He and his family live in Peachtree City. His address is law office of Douglas A. Wilde, LLC, Suite 275, 200 W. Park Drive, Peachtree City, Ga. 30269; Tel., 678-364-0055; e-mail, daw@wildelaw.net.

1986

Jeffrey P. Bassett is a senior attorney with the Attorney General's Office, where he is the administrative lead for Fort Lauderdale's Children's Legal Services Appeals Division. He can be reached at Office of the Attorney General, 110 S.E. 6th Street, 12th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33301.

Daria Burgess Diaz has joined the litigation section of Stone Pigman Walther Wittman as special counsel.

Susan W. Fox has formed the law firm of Fox & Loquasto, P.A., with Wendy S. Loquasto. The firm concentrates in appellate practice and has offices in Tallahassee and Tampa.

Michelle M. Heldmyer, an assistant U.S attorney in the Northern District of Florida, Pensacola

Division, was presented a Director's Award for Superior Performance by an assistant U.S. attorney. The ceremony, held on November 14 in Washington, D.C., was attended by U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. In addition, she appeared in the December issue of *Smart Money Magazine*, which ran a story about a case she prosecuted in Pensacola. The article, "Take the Money and Run," is about a multi-million dollar Ponzi scheme centered in Northwest Florida.

James R. Klindt was honored in November in Washington, D.C., by U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft with a Director's Award for Superior Performance by an assistant U.S. attorney. A 15-year veteran of the U. S. Attorney's Office, he is the First Assistant U.S. Attorney in Jacksonville, Fla.

Stephan A. Pendorf has received his pilot's license and twin-engine rating and now has a twin-engine Cessna 310. He recently purchased property in Eleutera, Bahamas, and plans on building a house there. He is practicing as a patent attorney in Tampa.

1987



Amelia "Mel" Rea Maguire has joined the firm of Steel Hector & Davis, LLP, as a partner in the Corporate Securities and Finance Group. Previously, she was at Holland & Knight, where she headed the firm's National Client Development and Partnering Program and founded the firm's Women's Initiative. She can be reached at Steel Hector & Davis, LLP, 200 South Biscayne Blvd., 41st Floor Miami, Fla. 33131-2398; Tel., 305-577-7060, 305-577-7000; e-mail, amaguire@steelhector.com.

Thomas M. Ramsberger of the law firm of Trenam, Kemker, Scharf, Barkin, Frye, O'Neill &

Mullis in St. Petersburg, Fla., has graduated from the Leadership Tampa Bay Program. Leadership Tampa Bay provides regional learning experiences and networking for leaders and future leaders of the Tampa Bay area. The program's mission is to offer study, review and discussion of major issues that impact the entire region.

1988

The Rev. Matthew M. Carter II has written the book *The 90% Rule: How to Get Out of Debt and Prosper and Why It's Important*. The book was published by Carter Ministries and is available at The Christian Book Store in Tallahassee. Rev. Carter is employed as a policy coordinator for the Speaker of the House for Business and Commerce and is a pastor and teacher in Tallahassee.

Circuit Court Judge Cynthia G. Imperato gave a presentation on diversity to newly appointed members of the 20 Judicial Nominating Committees at The Florida Bar's Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee training session in Orlando.

Todd Kocourek has been honored by the National Notary Public Association with a \$1,000 scholarship in his name at the College of Law. He also was honored by the association with the 2003 Mark Fong Eu Achievement Award and was cited for his contributions toward the establishment of the nation's first Civil Law Notary system to exist in parallel with a traditional U.S. Common Law system in the State of Florida.

Reginald Luster has formed the firm of Luster & Davis, Attorneys at Law. He can be reached at 255 Liberty Street, Suite A, Jacksonville, Fla. 32202; Tel., 904-354-0104/904-354-0122.

Susan Welch has joined the Private Bank at Bank of America in Sarasota as a senior trust officer. She has been with the company for six years. She practiced law in the Bradenton/Sarasota area for seven years before entering banking. She recently passed the certified financial planner exam and holds the CFP designation.

1989



Marianne Lloyd Aho has been named a shareholder in the law firm of McConaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope & Weaver. Her address is 8381 Dix Ellis Trail, Suite 100, Jacksonville, Fla. 32256; Tel., 904-363-1950; e-mail, mlaho@mcconnaughay.com.

Angela B. Green is at the firm of Angela B. Green, P.A., 9281 S.E. 70th Terrace, Ocala, Fla. 34472; Tel., 352-347-9038.

1990

Susan Sapoznikoff Foltz is with The Foltz Law Firm, P.A., where she practices in the area of appellate and workers' compensation. She can be reached at 1906 Buford Blvd., Suite 2, Tallahassee, Fla. 323088-4443; Tel., 850-671-3529; e-mail, ssf@gsmh.com.



Rafael Gonzalez of Barrs, Williamson, Stolberg, Townsend & Gonzalez, P.A., in Tampa has been reappointed by Governor Jeb Bush to the Florida Rehabilitation Council. He also has published two articles in the *Florida Bar Journal*. The first, published in June 2003, is titled "Vocational Rehabilitation in Florida Workers' Compensation Cases: A Comprehensive Review of Statutory and Case Law." The second article, published in November, is titled "Reasonable Consideration of Medicare's Interests in Workers' Compensation Settlements: A Comprehensive Analysis of Significant Developments Effecting Injured Workers', Employers, Carriers, Physicians, and Their Attorneys." He serves as president of the FSU College of Law Alumni Association.

Robin J. Scher is at the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc., 423 Fern Street, Suite 200, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33410; Tel., 561-655-8944; e-mail, rjscher@legalaiddpbc.org.

1991

Tim Center has been elected chair of the board of directors of the North Central Division of the Children's Home Society, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing high quality community-based solutions to needs of individuals, families and communities.

Joseph D. Lane is an attorney with the Cochran Firm, which recently merged with Cherry, Givens, Smith & Sistrunk, P.C., where he has worked since 1991. He focuses on product liability, representing clients in numerous jurisdictions across the Midwest, South, and eastern United States. He also has handled civil appeals in the U.S. Supreme Court, Federal Tenth and Eleventh Circuits, the Alabama Civil Court of Appeals and the Alabama Supreme Court. He can be reached at Cochran, Cherry, Givens & Smith, 163 W. Main Street, Dothan, Ala., 36302.

1992

Mark D. Hobson has been elected partner in the law firm of Shutts & Bowen, LLP. He is a member of the firm's Corporate Transactions Practice Group in Miami, and concentrates on corporate, securi-



ties, secured lending (including Export-Import Bank of the United States insured and guaranteed transactions), and international transactional matters. He can be reached at 201 S. Biscayne Blvd., 1500 Miami Center, Miami, Fla. 33131; Tel., 305-358-6300; e-mail, mhobson@shutts-law.com

1993

L. Michael Billmeier Jr. is at the Florida House of Representatives 402 S. Monroe Street, Suite 308, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399-1300; Tel., 850-488-7024.

Laverne L. Gaskins is in-house counsel for Valdosta State University. Her address is Office of Legal Affairs, West Hall 125, 1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, Ga. 31698-0275; Tel., 229-333-5351; Fax, 229249-2687.

Victoria E. Heuler has started her own law firm. She specializes in elder law, guardianship, probate and litigation. Her new address is 1347 E. Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, Fla. 32308-5107; Tel., 850-656-9370.

Kenneth E. Spahn has been appointed Assistant General Counsel of Kin Properties, Inc., a national commercial real estate developer, headquartered in Boca Raton, Fla. His e-mail address is kspahn@kinproperties.com.

1994



Jean-Jacques A. Darius has opened the law office of J. Jacques A. Darius, P. A., at 7211 N. Dale Mabry Highway., Suite 228, Tampa, Fla. 33614; Tel., 813-930-2222; e-mail, jdarius@tampabay.rr.com; web site, www.dariuslaw.com.



Kelly O'Keefe is a partner at Broad and Cassel in Tallahassee. Her clients include major banking and governmental entities and healthcare associations. She is involved in Guardian ad Litem, mentoring programs, and the Lincoln High School Mock Trial Team. She is president of various legal associations and is on The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors.

1995

Jennifer A. Goldman's new address is the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, 2600 Loan Star Drive, LB 22, Dallas, Texas 75212.

1996

Derek Brett joined the Orlando law office of Horwitz & Fussell as an associate attorney in November. The firm is located at 17 E. Pine Street, Orlando, Fla. 32801.

Ronald A. Christaldi, a shareholder at the Tampa firm of de la Parte & Gilbert, P.A., has been selected to serve on the board of directors of CreativeTampaBay, Inc. His practice focuses on corporate, health care and real estate. CreativeTampaBay is a not-for-profit grassroots economic development initiative dedicated to attracting and maintaining creative workers in the Tampa Bay area.



Karla D. Ellis recently accepted the position of chief attorney at the Office of Bill Drafting Services at the Florida Senate in Tallahassee. Before joining the Senate, she was a senior staff attorney for the Honorable Leander J. Shaw Jr., senior justice at the Florida Supreme Court. She is secretary of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers and a legal research and writing teaching assistant at Florida A & M University for the Honorable Judith Hawkins.

Peter P. Hargitai has been elected a partner in the law firm of Holland & Knight. Previously, he was an associate. He is a member of the Litigation Section and practices in the areas of commercial litigation and intellectual property. He can be reached at 50 N. Laura Street, Suite 3900, Jacksonville, Fla. 32202.

Malinda Lugo is with the law firm of Gunn Merlin, P.A., at 777 S. Harbour Island Blvd., Suite 950, Tampa, Fla. 33609; Tel., 813-229-1000; e-mail, mlugo@gunmerlin.com.

Susan Neely Marks, a partner in the law firm of McConaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope & Weaver, P.A., in Pensacola, Fla., has been elected president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Escambia/Santa Rosa Bar Association. Her practice is devoted to workers' compensation defense. She represents clients in retail department stores, defense contractors, newspapers, postal services, restaurants, construction, and employee leasing and insurance.

1997

Diane G. Cassaro has joined the law firm of O'Hara Spradley & Waters, P.A., 4811 Beach Blvd., Suite 303, Jacksonville, Fla. 32207-4867; Tel., 904-346-3166; Fax: 904-346-5445; e-mail, dcassaro@oharalawfirm.com.

Larry Kellogg Endows Scholarship to Aid Law Students Who are Raising Children



Jason and Larry Kellogg

Lawrence Kellogg, a 1981 Florida State University College of Law graduate, has established a \$100,000 scholarship to help students who have worked their way through college and who are supporting children while attending law school at Florida State.

"I wanted to create a scholarship that I could have used when I was in law school," said Kellogg, who raised his son, Jason, during his years at Florida State law school. "This is to help people who are working hard, are

motivated to better themselves, and who are raising children. I knew a lot of people in that situation, and I know how hard that can be, and how rewarding it can be. These are the people who ought to be lawyers."

Kellogg is a partner in the Miami law firm of Tew, Cardenas, Rebak, Kellogg, Lehman, DeMaria & Tague. Throughout his 22-year career, he has specialized in complex commercial litigation matters in State, Federal and Bankruptcy Courts, as well as arbitration forums. Jason Kellogg is a 2002 graduate of the Florida State University law school and is with the law firm of Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson in Miami.

"I am grateful to the FSU law school for providing me and my son with an excellent education," Kellogg said. "I hope that the scholarship will attract outstanding students to the school, and that future recipients will contribute to society, to the legal profession, and to the community."

In expressing his appreciation for the gift, Dean Don Weidner said, "Larry and Jason were both elegant members of our community, and it is wonderful that Larry has created this endowment to help other students who sacrifice so much to come to law school."

FSU College of Law Alumni Association Awards Program

NOMINATION FORM

The FSU College of Law Alumni Association Awards Committee is requesting nominations for the 2004 College of Law Alumni Awards. These awards were established to honor outstanding alumni and community leaders who have made a significant contribution to the FSU College of Law and their respective communities.

The awards will be announced during the FSU College of Law Alumni Association meeting at the Florida Bar Meeting in June.

Check one box below to indicate which award category is appropriate. Please make additional copies of this form if you wish to submit more than one award nomination.

Distinguished Alumnus Award: The FSU College of Law Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes an alumnus who has distinguished himself/herself professionally and who has rendered outstanding service to the community as well as the Florida State University College of Law. Good citizenship, significant contributions benefiting community, state and nation, and humanitarian services and contributions to society will be considered in selecting a recipient. Eligibility is limited to living FSU College of Law graduates.

Distinguished Service Award: The FSU College of Law Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award recognizes an alumnus who has rendered distinguished service to the Florida State University College of Law. The recipient should have distinguished volunteer service to the FSU College of Law over an extended period of time. Eligibility is limited to living FSU College of Law graduates. Full-time College of Law employees (faculty or staff) can be considered provided there is a distinction made between the duties that lie within the employee's job description and service that is above and beyond the employee's job description.

Class of '66 Award: The Class of '66 Award recognizes a non-FSU College of Law graduate who has rendered distinguished service to the FSU College of Law and the community. Political success and/or philanthropic support is not to be considered sole justification for selection. Each recipient is inducted into the Class of '66 to commemorate the year the Florida State University College of Law was founded. Full-time College of Law employees (faculty or staff) are not eligible until after the employee's retirement or resignation.

Nominee's Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Reason for Nomination (Please provide a description of the candidate's accomplishments on a separate page)

Recommended By: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Note: Please attach any articles, publications or other information that may be useful to the Awards Committee.

To nominate someone for an award, please complete this form and return it to the address below. Include with your nomination form a description of the candidate's accomplishments along with supporting materials such as newspaper clippings, articles or other publications. For further information, please call (800) 788-7097 or write to the following address:

The Alumni Association Awards Committee
c/o Kelly Wardrop

Florida State University College of Law
425 W. Jefferson Street

Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601

Submission Deadline: May 15, 2004

Holly Ashby Dincman has become a shareholder in the Tallahassee firm of Coppins & Monroe, P.A. Her areas of practice include employment law, commercial litigation, insurance defense, and general civil litigation.



Gabriel F. Jimenez has joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law as an adjunct professor. His course, "Representing the Latino Client," introduces American lawyers to Latino culture and to Spanish terminology in a legal forum. He can be reached at 3737 Glenwood Ave., Suite 100, Raleigh, N.C. 27612; Tel., 919-573-6109; e-mail, gjimenez@jimenezlaw.com.

Darshana Thakkar Lele is the assistant editor of the American Bar Association Center for Professional Responsibility. She can be reached at 541 N. Fairbanks Court, Chicago, Ill. 60611; Tel., 312-988-5309; e-mail, thakkard@staff.abanet.org.

Steve Millsap has joined Continental Tire North America, Inc. in Charlotte, N.C., as in-house counsel on the litigation team. Contact him at Continental Tire North America, 1800 Continental Blvd., Charlotte, N.C. 28273; Tel., 704-583-8811; e-mail, steve.millsap@conti-na.com.

James H. Wyman is with the firm of Hicks & Kneale, P.A. He can be reached at 799 Brickell Plaza, Suite 900, Miami, Fla. 33131; Tel., 305-374-8171 ext. 144.

1998

Kurtis T. Bauerle is a partner in the new law firm of Harris, Harris, Bauerle & Sharma, P.A. His address is 250 Orange Ave., Suite 100, Orlando, Fla. 32801; Tel. 407 843-0404; e-mail, kurt@hhbslaw.com.

James R. Daughton Jr., has been elected a partner in the Holland & Knight law firm. Previously, he was senior counsel. He is a member of the Government Section and represents several business clients before the legislative and executive branches of Florida government, with an emphasis in financial services, technology, and health care. He can be reached at 315 S. Calhoun Street, Suite 600, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301.

William J. Orr's new address is Bovis, Kyle & Burch, LLC, 53 Perimeter Center E., 3rd Floor, Atlanta, Ga. 30346; e-mail, WJOrr@bovisky.net.

Joseph J. Ward and his wife Jennifer, a pediatrician, just welcomed their first child, Peter. Joseph is on the law school's alumni association board of directors. He can be reached at 222 Lakeview Ave., Suite 1000, West Palm Beach, Fla.

33401; Tel., 561-833-2000; e-mail, joseph.ward@hkllaw.com.

C. Lane Wood announced the formation of his new law firm, Salvatori & Wood Attorneys at Law. His practice focuses on real estate development, transactions and finance, as well as the purchase and sale of business enterprises. His address is 4001 Tamiami Trail N., Suite 330, Naples, Fla. 34103; Tel., 239-263-1480; Web, www.SalvatoriAndWood.com.

1999

William B. Bracken Jr. has joined the law firm of Sidney M. Crawford, P.A. He can be reached at P.O. Box 5947, Lakeland, Fla. 33807-5947; Tel., 863-644-8929; e-mail, wbraken71@msn.com.

Paul E. Bueker has joined the law firm of Marks Gray, P.A., in Jacksonville, Fla., where he focuses on civil litigation, including malpractice. Before moving to Marks Gray, he was chief of the felony division of the State Attorney's Office for Florida's 10th Judicial Circuit headquartered in Bartow.

Alton E. Drew has co-authored (with Allison Hift) an article published in the *NATOA Journal of Municipal Telecommunications Policy* (Fall 2003, Vol. 11, Issue 3). The article is titled "Determining Appropriate Municipal Policy Initiatives." His new address is County of Fairfax Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 433, Fairfax, Va. 22035-0048; Tel., 703-324-5903; e-mail, alton.drew@fairfaxcounty.gov.



Tim Franklin, formerly with the Tallahassee office of Young, van Assenderp, Varnadoe & Anderson, P.A., has moved to Jacksonville, where he is an Assistant General Counsel to the City of Jacksonville in the office's Land Use and Legislative Division. He can be reached at Tel., 904-630-1725; e-mail, timothy@coj.net.

Neil B. Mooney is practicing international law at The Mooney Law Firm. His practice involves matters concerning the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. His clients include foreign and domestic airlines and steamship companies, bonded warehouses, importers, exporters and shipping companies. He can be reached at 524 College Ave., Suite 1, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301.

Jason Peery has transferred to the Arizona office of American Tower Corporation, 220 N. William Dillard Drive, Gilbert, Ariz. 85233; Tel., 480-926-4194; e-mail, jason.peery@american-tower.com.

2000

Sean T. Desmond has formed the law firm of Desmond & Maceluch, P.A., with offices at 249 East 6th Ave., Tallahassee, Fla. 32303; Tel., 850-488-6701.

Scott A. LaPorta has joined the Abel, Band, Russell, Collier, Pitchford & Gordon law firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution Practice Group. His practice focuses on securities law, restrictive covenants, commercial litigation and arbitrations.

Andrea White of the law firm of McConaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope & Weaver, P.A., has been elected secretary of the Young Lawyers Division of the Escambia/Santa Rosa Bar Association. She is a member of The Florida Bar, The Alabama Bar and The Ohio Bar. Her practice focuses on the defense of insurance companies, servicing agents and employers in workers' compensation claims. Her clients include restaurants, hotels and construction companies.

2001

Heather Lyn Darden is at the law firm of Hartman, Simons, Spielman & Wood, LLP, where her focus is on commercial real estate. Her business address is 6400 Powers Ferry Road N.W., Suite 400, Atlanta, Ga. 30339; Tel., 770-951-6574; e-mail, HDarden@hssw.com. Her home address is 4465 Northside Pkwy. N.W., No. 396, Atlanta, Ga. 30339; Tel., 404-869-1878.

Michael G. Howell, is with the law firm of Casagrande & Associates, P.A. He can be reached at: 100 2nd Ave. N., Suite 240, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701; Tel., 727-822-5757, e-mail, mhowell@casagrandelaw.com.

Analyn Megison has been appointed as Special Assistant to the Governor of Louisiana on Women's Policy, which includes women's health care. She can be reached at: Executive Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 94004, Baton Rouge, La. 70804-9004.

A. Yvonne Sanford is with the firm of Aylstock, Witkin & Sasser, P.L.C. She can be reached at 55 Baybridge Drive, Gulf Breeze, Fla. 32561; Tel., 850-916-7450.

Robert S. Swaine is with the law firm of Swaine Harris & Sheehan, P.A. He co-authored an article titled "Halfway Houses and Mental Health Treatment Facilities—Establishing a Duty in Tort," in *The Florida Bar Journal* (LXXVII, No. 6, June 2003). He can be reached at 424 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Fla. 33870-3702; Tel., 863-385-1549; e-mail, bob@heartlandlaw.com.

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University College of
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and update your
personal information.

This is a great
reference tool for
classmates to get in
touch with one
another, to network
and to refer business
to fellow alumni.

2002

Matthew Blackshear has joined the law firm of Lowndes, Droskick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A. He can be reached at 215 N. Eola Drive, Orlando, Fla. 32801.

David E. Contos, associate attorney at the Orlando office of the law firm of Bush, Augspurger & Lynch, P.A., was recently appointed by Mayor Buddy Dyer to serve on the City of Orlando Certification Board for a term of two years. He can be reached at 411 E. Jackson Street, Orlando, Fla. 32801; Tel., 407-422-5319; e-mail, dec@BushLawGroup.com.

Frank P. Mayernick Jr. has been appointed director of legislative affairs for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

John K. Shamsey is at the law firm of Dooley & Drake, P.A., 1432 First Street, Sarasota, Fla. 34236; Tel., 941-954-7750; e-mail, jshamsey@dooleydrakelaw.com.

Matt Schultz recently co-authored and published an article with Professor Charles Ehrhardt titled "Pulling Skeletons From the Closet: A Look Into the Work-Product Doctrine as Applied to Expert Witnesses," 31 *Florida State University Law Review* 67 (2003). He is working as a judicial clerk to the Hon. Robert L. Hinkle, U. S. District Court, in Tallahassee. In late April, he will join the Pensacola firm of Levin, Papantonio, Thomas, Mitchell, Echsner & Proctor, where he will specialize in civil trial work.

2003

Frank B. Arenas has published an article in the May 2003 issue of the *Iowa Law Review* (Vol. No. 5). The article is titled: "Cyberspace Jurisdiction and the Implications of Sealand."

Laura C. Atlee is pursuing a master's degree in law and economics at the World Trade Institute in Berne, Switzerland. She is working on her thesis and with the program director on a project for the Swiss government, evaluating the EU, NAFTA and WTO labeling and traceability regulations that apply to genetically modified organism. She can be reached at Room 302, Kanonenweg 12/14, 3012 Bern, Switzerland; e-mail, laura_atlee@yahoo.com.

Alissa Blank is with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She can be reached at The Douglas Building, 3900 Common Wealth Blvd., M.S. 35, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399; Tel., 850-245-2242.

Bruce S. Bullock Jr. is with the firm of Bullock, Childs, Pendley, Reed & Seelie. He can be reached at 1551 Atlantic Blvd., 2nd Floor; Jacksonville, Fla. 32207; Tel., 904-396-3007.

John T. Cardillo is with the law firm of Cardillo, Keith & Bonaquist, P.A., in Naples, Fla.

Jeffrey A. Cooper is a registered patent attorney and an associate in the Intellectual Property Group of the Alston & Bird law firm in Atlanta, Ga. He focuses on solicitation of patents in the mechanical arts and related technologies as well as patentability opinions, infringement studies, and due diligence evaluations of patent portfolios.

Shawn Demers is now at the State Attorney's Office, 9th Circuit. He can be reached at 4856 E. Michigan, No. 5, Orlando, Fla. 32812; e-mail, fsulaw03@bellsouth.net.

A. Mireille Fall has joined the Bill Drafting Services Office at the Florida House of Representatives. She can be reached at 1501 The Capitol, 402 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399; Tel., 850-922-2949; e-mail, fall.mireille@myflorida.com. Her home address is 2006-C, E. Park Ave., Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-942-2072; e-mail, amf9648@garnet.acns.fsu.edu.

Danielle Feuer is with the law firm of Webster, Chaires & Partners, P.L., P.O. Box 2310 Winter Park, Fla. 32790-2310; Tel., 407-691-0500, 407-679-2409; e-mail, dsf125@juno.com.

Toni Funaro is now at the law firm of Radey, Thomas, Yon & Clark. She can be reached at 313 N. Monroe Street, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-425-6654.

Jon J. Hernan is with the firm of Cabaniss, Smith, Toole & Wiggins, P.L. He can be reached at Maitland Promenade One, 485 N. Keller Road, Suite 401, Maitland, Fla. 32751; Tel., 407-246-1800; e-mail, jhernan@cabaniss.net.

Amanda R. Keener has joined the law firm of Matthews & Hawkins, P.A., at 475 Legendary Drive, Destin, Fla.; Tel., 850-837-3666; e-mail, amanda@destinlaw.com.

Owen L. Kohler is with the State Attorney's Office. He can be reached at 301 S. Monroe Street, Suite 475, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399-2550; Tel., 850-488-6701; e-mail, kohlero@mail.leon.co.fl.us.

Christine Maitin is with the Florida Department of Children & Families at 532 W. Lake Mary Blvd., Sanford, Fla. 32773; Tel., 407-328-5656.

Kristina Niederlehner has joined Tomson West (Westlaw) as a law firm account representative. She can be reached at 128 Sea Hawk Lane, Co-

lumbia, S.C. 29203; e-mail, kris.niederlehner@thomson.com

John Patti is with the Carr Law Firm in Dallas, Texas, where his areas of practice include patent prosecution and litigation. He can be reached at 1400 W. Valley Ridge Blvd. Apt. 6-302, Lewisville, Texas, 75077; e-mail, john_j_patti@hotmail.com.

Nicolas Porter is with the firm of de la Parte & Gilbert. He can be reached at 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 3400, Tampa, Fla. 33601-2350; Tel., 813-229-2775.

Kirk Perrow is with the law firm of Stiles, Taylor & Grace. He can be reached at 317 N. Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-2229.

Nicolas Q. Porter has joined the Tampa law firm of de la Parte & Gilbert, P.A., as an associate. His

primary areas of practice include litigation, business transactions, health care, corporate, and administrative law. He can be reached at de la Parte & Gilbert, P.A., Bank of America Plaza, 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 3400, Tampa, Fla. 33602; Tel., 813-229-2775.

Toni Sturtevant is with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She can be reached at Douglas Building, 3900 Common Wealth Blvd., M.S. 35, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399; Tel., 850-245-2242.

Jennifer A. Sullivan is with the firm of Bozeman, Jenkins & Matthews, P.A. She can be reached at 114 E. Gregory Street, Pensacola, Fla. 32502; Tel., 850-434-6223; e-mail, jsullivan@bjm-law.com.

Tracy Webster has joined the law firm of Groelle & Salmon, P.A., 2925 Tenth Ave. N., Suite 302,

Lake Worth, Fla. 33461; Tel., 561-963-5500; e-mail, TWebster@GSPALAW.com.

Michael Willard is at the Office of the State Attorney, 7th Judicial Circuit, Volusia County Justice Center, 251 N. Ridgewood Ave., Daytona Beach, Fla. 32114; Tel., 386-239-7710.



Toni L. Wortherly has established the Law Office of Toni L. Wortherly at 1650-7 San Pablo Road S., Suite 125, Jacksonville, Florida, 32224. She also has had

an article published in the *Virginia Sports and Entertainment Law Journal* (Vol. 2, Issue 1, Winter 2002), titled "There's No Business Like Show Business: Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Entertainment Industry." She also performed in "Black Nativity" at the Ritz Theatre in Jacksonville in December 2003.

FSU Law Alumni Want to Know

From all surveys, the most avidly read section of the *FSU LAW* magazine is "Class Notes."

The Law School's more than 6,000 alumni want to know what their classmates have been doing – awards they have received, high-profile cases they have won, law firms or cities they have moved to, pro bono activities they have undertaken, births, marriage announcements and more.

It's easy to get your news into the communications network: Just fill out the form at right and send it (along with a photograph of yourself, if you like) to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Florida State University College of Law, 425 W. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601.

NAME: _____ CLASS YEAR: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ HOME FAX: _____

JOB TITLE: _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS: _____

EMPLOYER/FIRM: _____

PRACTICE AREA: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ BUSINESS FAX: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

INFORMATION FOR "CLASS NOTES": _____

FACULTY

News, Publications & Activities

Ruth Stone Wins Top Award for Faculty Professionalism



The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism in January selected clinical law Professor Ruth Stone as the winner of its 2004 Faculty Award for Professionalism.

Each year, the award recognizes one faculty member from Florida's accredited law schools who—through teaching, scholarship and service—best exemplifies the mission of the

Bar. The Bar strives to promote the fundamental ideals and values of professionalism within the legal system and to instill those ideals of character, competence and commitment in students.

Stone was nominated for the award by Dean Don Weidner. Nominations were made by deans of each of Florida's accredited law schools.

"It is a tribute to Ruth and to our law school that she has won this prestigious award," Weidner said. "Since arriving at Florida State University, she has made enormous contributions to advancing the cause of professionalism."

In a letter informing Stone of her selection, Katherine Silverglate, chair of the committee, said: "Your unanimous selection by the subcommittee is a tribute to your scholarly lectures and publications, and the success you have had with students and programs at Florida State University College of Law. Your efforts in promoting

professionalism in the State of Florida and at the Florida State University College of Law are to be applauded."

Said Stone, "It is a privilege and an honor to be working at the College of Law, where I graduated, and to receive this award from my peers. My children, lawyers and judges in this community, my students, and the administration and staff at the law school challenge me on a daily basis to be a better parent, lawyer, teacher, and co-worker. To me, professionalism is aspiring to meet those expectations."

A member of the clinical faculty since 1995, Stone teaches and is a supervising attorney in the Children's Advocacy Center and is a faculty advisor for the Mock Trial Team.

She has practiced with Legal Services in Alabama and Florida, has served as an assistant state attorney in the juvenile division of the State Attorney's Office, and was the managing attorney for the Gadsden Region of Legal Services Corporation of Alabama. She graduated with honors from Florida State University College of Law in 1976.

This is the second time since the award was created in 1999 that a Florida State University College of Law professor has won. In 2002, Rob Atkinson, the Ruden, McClosky, Smith, Schuster & Russell Professor of Law, was honored.

The award will be presented on June 24 in Boca Raton at the Judicial Luncheon that will be held in conjunction with The Florida Bar's Annual Meeting.

Stephanie Williams Promoted to Associate Dean at Law School

Florida State University College of Law Dean Don Weidner in January named Stephanie Williams associate dean for administration.

Williams practiced law with the Tallahassee law firm of Ausley & McMullen as a litigation associate for several years before coming to work at the law school in 1999 as director of career planning and placement. She had served as assistant dean for academic affairs since 2000.

The Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar recognized Williams in 1997 as Florida's Most Productive Young Lawyer. She serves on the Judicial Nominating Commission for the Second Judicial Circuit and on several standing committees of The Florida Bar.

Williams graduated with honors from the law school in 1995. She was a member of the editorial board of the *Florida State University Law Review*,

and received the Meritorious Service Award for her contributions. She also was a member of the school's *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* and the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*.

"Stephanie Williams is a phenomenally bright and productive young lawyer whose energies and dedication have helped us make the law school the dynamic place it is today," Weidner said.



Edwin Schroeder

AFTER MANY 'FIRSTS,' LIBRARY DIRECTOR RETIRING

BY PHILLIP M. POLLOCK

In 1969, the same year the Florida State University College of Law's first dean, Mason Ladd, congratulated the school's first graduates, he welcomed Edwin Schroeder as the first director of the law library. In May, 35 years later, Schroeder will retire.

"We all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Ed, who from his very first years here, blazed the trail to excellence," Dean Don Weidner said.

"First and foremost, I am going to miss my colleagues here at the library," says Schroeder, reflecting on his pending retirement. "We have become a family. Many of these people have given long years of service. I've always maintained that when you hire good people, you end up with a solid foundation for organization and professionalism.

"Obviously, through the years, I have been close to many of my colleagues on the faculty, as well, and I will miss them. Chuck (Professor Charles Ehrhardt) arrived just before I did, so you develop lasting friendships with people like that, as well as friendships with the faculty who have arrived more recently."

Schroeder came to Florida State from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law, where he was assistant law librarian at the Tarlton Law Library. He received his Ph.D. from Gregorian University in Rome, Italy, in 1959, and his law degree from Tulane University in 1964.

He taught at Boston College and University of Connecticut before heading to UT. In addition to his serving as director of the law library and as president of the Order of the Coif at Florida State, he has taught accounting and the law among other courses, and has served as financial advisor to three student-edited journals. He also has been director of the Summer Program in Law at Oxford University, England, since 1981.

"I certainly take a lot of pride in how we've shaped the Oxford Program over the past 23 years. It's been a very important part of my career," Schroeder said. "When you are at Oxford, you develop relationships with students that would never be possible at the law school. You have breakfast together, you're with them during class and trips to the courts in London, and you might meet up at a pub from time to time, and then find yourself in the dormitory late at night telling them to keep quiet because it's getting so late. I still communicate with many students who participated in the Oxford Program."

Said law student Hunter Pfeiffer about the summer 2003 Oxford experience: "It was one of the most enjoyable things I've ever done, due in no small part to all the effort Professor Schroeder has put into making this what it is today. I felt privileged to have attended during his final year. He's a very kind and gracious person, and I enjoyed getting to know him."



The law library was dedicated in 1985 during Schroeder's administration. "Building the library was a wonderful accomplishment. I was involved in the library addition from the earliest planning stages through the formal dedication."

Schroeder says he also is proud of the library's use of technology. "Our online listings of Supreme Courts Briefs and Opinions set us apart from almost all other law schools in terms of their just being there, then consider the number of opinions and briefs available and how often they are referred to, and you realize their importance."

Schroeder's retirement plans include travel and concentrating on projects at home. "All three of my children live in the northeast and retirement will allow my wife and me more time with each of them when we visit. When I'm at home, I want to convert my garage into a display area and set up for my HO-gauge model trains. I'm going to have some fun," he said.

Faculty News

FREDERICK M. ABBOTT

EDWARD BALL EMINENT SCHOLAR
IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Chapters/Reports: "WTO Dispute Settlement Practice Relating to the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights," in *The WTO Dispute Settlement System 1995-2003*, at 421 (eds. F. Ortino and E.U. Petersmann 2004) (Kluwer Law International); "Bob Hudec as Chair of the Canada-Generic Pharmaceuticals Panel – The WTO Gets Something Right" in "Tribute to Robert E. Hudec," 6 *J. of International Economics Law* 733 (2003 Oxford); "The Future of IPRs in the Multilateral Trading System," in *Trading in Knowledge* 36 (eds. C. Bellman, G. Dutfield and R. Meléndez-Ortiz 2003) (Earthscan); "Dispute Prevention and Dispute Settlement in the Field of Intellectual Property Rights and Electronic Commerce, U. S.-Section 211 Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998" ("*Havana Club*") in *Dispute Prevention And Dispute Settlement In The Transatlantic Partnership: Case Studies, Analyses and Policy Recommendations* (with Thomas Cottier) (E.U. Petersmann and M. Pollack, eds.) (Oxford University Press 2003); "Trade Diplomacy, the Rule of Law and the Problem of Asymmetric Risks in TRIPS," Quaker U.N. Office, Occasional Paper 13, Sept. 11, 2003, (<http://www.quno.org>), published in excerpt as "The Rule of Law and the Problem of Asymmetric Risks in TRIPS," *Bridges*, Sept.-Oct. 2003, No. 7, at 22; "Non-Violation Nullification or Impairment Actions under the TRIPS Agreement and the Fifth Ministerial Conference: A Warning and Reminder," Quaker U.N. Office, Occasional Paper 13, July 2003 (<http://www.quno.org>); Chapter 6.4, "Transitional Provisions, UNCTAD/ICTSD," *TRIPS and Development: Resource Book* (January 2004) (<http://www.iprsonline.org>); **Presentations:** "Options for Negotiation on Amendment of TRIPS Agreement to Implement Paragraph 60 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health," QUNO Workshop, Jongny, Switzerland, November 2003; "The Competition Provisions in the TRIPS Agreement: Implications for Technology Transfer" (Geneva, WIPO-WTO Workshop on International Property and the Transfer of Technology, November 2003); "Intellectual Property Rights in Medicines Procurement" (Washington, D.C., World Bank's Human Development Week, November 2003); "Reformulating American Foreign Health Policy" (Washington, D.C., National Institutes of Health Globalization, Justice & Health Conference, November 2003); "Canada & the Decision on Implementation of Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement

& Public Health (Ottawa, Canadian Parliament, October 2003); **Appointment:** Named chair of the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee of the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND), Geneva, Switzerland (2004)

MARGARET A. BALDWIN

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Presentation: "Legal Interventions on the 'Demand Side' in Prostitution and Sex Trafficking" (Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill., DePaul U. International Human Rights Law Institute and Captive Daughters' Conference "Demand Dynamics: The Forces of Demand in Global Sex Trafficking," October 2003)

BARBARA ANN BANOFF

PROFESSOR

Article: "Gatekeeper Liability Under Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933: So Why Isn't the Grass Growing on Wall Street?," 55 *Administrative Law Review* 267 (2003)

MARY A. CROSSLEY

THE FLORIDA BAR HEALTH
LAW SECTION PROFESSOR

Presentation: "Evenhanded Inequality: Reclaiming the Civil Rights Foundations of the ADA" (U. of Florida College of Law Faculty Workshop, October 2003); "Supreme Court Legislative Preview" (Amelia Island, Fla., AALS Annual Meeting, July 2003)

JOSEPH M. DODGE

STEARNS, WEAVER, MILLER, WEISSLER,
ALHADEFF & SITTERSON PROFESSOR

Article: "The Story of Glenshaw Glass: Towards a Modern Conception of Gross Income," in *Tax Stories* (Foundation Press 2003) (Paul Caron, ed.)

CHARLES W. EHRHARDT

MASON LADD PROFESSOR OF EVIDENCE

Article: "Pulling Skeletons from the Closet: A Look into the Work Product Doctrine as Applied to Expert Witnesses," 31 *FSU Law Review* 67 (2003) (with Matthew D. Schultz); **Presentations:** "Admissibility of Expert Testimony under the Frye Standard" (Naples, Fla., Florida Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges Annual Education Program, September 2003); "Evidence Issues and the Government Lawyer," (Florida Government Bar Association, February 2004.); "Recent Evidence Developments" (Tallahassee, Florida Department of Health, November 2003); "Hearsay In Administrative Proceedings" (Orlando, Fla., National Association of Administrative Law Judges Annual Meeting, October 2003); "Evidence in Criminal Cases" (Orlando, Fla., Office of the Public Defender, Ninth Judicial Circuit, October 2003); "Emerging Evi-

dence Issues" (St. Petersburg, Fla., Florida Department of Transportation, July 2003)

SALLY C. GERTZ

CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Article: "Civil Service Reform in Florida State Government: Employee Attitudes One Year Later," 23 *Review of Public Personnel Administration* 286 (2003) (with J. Bowman, M. Gertz and R. Williams)

STEVEN G. GEY

DAVID AND DEBORAH FONVIELLE & DONALD
AND JANET HINKLE PROFESSOR

Article: "Under God," The Pledge of Allegiance and Other Constitutional Trivia," 81 *N. Carolina Law Review* 1865 (2003); **Presentations:** "One Nation Under God? Unity, Diversity, and Neutrality Under the Religion Clauses" (Atlanta, Ga., AALS Annual Meeting Law and Religion Section, January 2004); "Affirmative Action and General Constitutional Law" (Amelia Island, Fla., Circuit Court Judges Conference, December 2003); "Religion and Law" (U. of San Diego Institute for Law and Philosophy, November 2003)

ELWIN J. GRIFFITH

TALLAHASSEE ALUMNI PROFESSOR

Articles: "The Truth and Nothing But the Truth; Confronting the Challenge in the Truth and Lending Act and Regulation Z," 40 *Houston Law Review* 345 (2003); "The Search for More Fairness in the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act," 37 *U. of Richmond Law Review* 511 (2003); also published in 12 *J. of Bankruptcy Law & Practice* 151 (2003)

LAWRENCE S. KRIEGER

DIRECTOR OF THE EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

Article: "Taking Inventory: The Science of Happiness" *GPSolo*, April/May 2003, at 66; **Presentation:** "Empirical Evidence of the Eroding Foundations of Well-Being and Professionalism in Law Students" (Atlanta, Ga., Professional Responsibility and Student Services Program, AALS Annual Meeting, January 2004)

TAHIRIH V. LEE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE
DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presentations: "A Triumph of Local Law: The United States Court for China" (U. of Connecticut Law School Faculty Workshop, November 2003); "Contemporary Society in Shanghai," Yale U. Council for East Asian Studies on Contemporary Society, November 2003); "The Relationship Between Democracy and Federalism in Greater China" (U. of Pennsylvania, Conference on Democratization (And Its Limits) in Greater China:

Faye Jones

New Law Library Director Named

Faye Jones will join the Florida State University College of Law in the summer as its new law library director. She has served as library director at the McGeorge School of Law at the University of the Pacific since 2000. She will replace Edwin Schroeder, who retires in May after 35 years.

"Faye Jones has a proven track record of success in managing academic libraries, as well as a diverse range of experiences in the law librarian community," said Dean Don Weidner on announcing her appointment. "She is full of energy and ideas, and will serve as a catalyst for moving our law school forward



toward excellence in the information age."

Jones is a graduate of Nova Southeastern University School of Law and holds a master's degree in library science and a bachelor of arts degree from Florida State. Before

heading to McGeorge, where she taught a course on Internet law, she served as associate director of Hastings College of Law Library from 1994-2000. She also has served as associate director and assistant librarian/head of Public Services at the University of Puget Sound Law Library.

Before beginning her career as a law librarian, Jones was a Judge Advocate General in the U.S. Navy and retired as a commander from the U.S. Navy Reserves.

She is an active member of the American Association of Law Librarians, and is admitted to practice by The Florida Bar. She has published articles and reviews in the *Journal of Internet Law*, the *Hastings Law Journal*, *Law and Politics Book Review*, the *San Francisco Daily Journal*, and in the *Nova Law Journal*.

Implications for Governance and Security in East Asia, September 2003)

DAVID L. MARKELL

STEVEN M. GOLDSTEIN PROFESSOR

Articles: "Improving State Environmental Enforcement Performance Through Enhanced Government Accountability and Other Strategies," 33 *Environmental Law Report* 10559 (2003) (with Cliff Rechtschaffen); **Presentations:** Moderator, "Adaptive Governance and Florida's Water Conflict" (FSU DeVoe L. Moore Center Critical Issues Conference, November 2003); "America's Trade and Sustainable Development Forum" (Miami Trade Ministerial, November 2003)

GREGORY MITCHELL

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Articles: "Experiments Behind the Veil: Structural Influences on Judgments of Social Justice," 22 *Political Psychology* 519 (2003) (with Philip E. Tetlock, Daniel G. Newman & Jennifer S. Lerner); **Presentations:** "Case Studies, Counter-factuals, and Causal Explanations" (Amelia Island, Fla., Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting Young Scholars Workshop, July 2003); "Construing Science in Context: What Do Judges Need to Know" (Amelia Island, Fla., Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting Roundtable, July 2003)

DAVID F. POWELL

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Presentation: "Advanced Estate Planning Tax Considerations" (Tallahassee Regional Estate Planning Council, May 2003)

JIM ROSSI

HARRY M. WALBORSKY PROFESSOR

Chapters: "Judicial Review," in *Developments in Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice: 2002-2003* (ABA Section on Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice, 2004) (with Mark Seidenfeld & Keith Rizzardi); **Presentations:** "The Fiction of State Separation of Powers Barriers to the Enforcement of Federal Programs" (College of William & Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law, Conference on State Constitutionalism and the Enforcement of Constitutional Norms, November 2003); "Recent Developments in Judicial Review" (Washington, D.C., ABA Section on Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice, November 2003); "Default Rules for the States in an Incomplete Contracts Theory of Regulation" (Pepperdine Law School Distinguished Speaker Series, October 2003); "Law Review Publishing" (Amelia Island, Southeastern Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, July 2003)

Continued on page 43

Professor Paul LeBel Looks Forward to Leading University of North Dakota School of Law

BY PHILLIP M. POLLOCK



After seven years at the Florida State University College of Law, Professor Paul LeBel will head for the northern plains in May to take over as dean of the University of North Dakota School of Law.

Along with congratulatory messages from colleagues and students, he's had his share of good-natured teasing about the move.

"A few of my students have given me photographs of folks having fun out in the snow with captions like, 'Having a great time in Grand Forks on the fourth of July,'" LeBel says, laughing.

"From an academic point of view, I can't wait to get started. Starting the new position in May gives me the summer to tour the state and meet the alumni. It will also let us ease into our first North Dakota winter."

LeBel, who came to Tallahassee as dean of the law school in 1997, teaches Torts, Products Liability, Mass Tort Litigation, and Workers' Compensation at Florida State.

Don Weidner, who followed LeBel as dean, says, "Although we hate losing Paul, who is one of our great stars in the classroom, we are all excited about this wonderful new adventure for him."

LeBel says he had considered becoming a dean as early as 1991, but because of family considerations, did not realize that ambition until coming to Florida State. "I've never wanted to be a dean simply for the sake of being a dean, then or now," he says. "Being a dean is about making a difference—it's a leadership responsibility I take very seriously. The role is about stewardship, and I welcome the chance to serve in that capacity at Grand Forks."

In the classroom, LeBel approaches teaching with respect for students and subject matter. He says he strives to create an atmosphere in which he and his students push beyond the subject matter at hand. "Along with the respect, there is a friendship with the students. They have been the delightful part of being here at Florida State University. I'm going to miss them. Actually, I'd like to take some of them with me, and that has nothing to do with the out-of-state tuition they would provide."

LeBel says he also will miss the law school's alumni.

"They are such an important part of the law school," he says. "It's been a real treat to work with them. They have been extremely supportive, both when I was dean and in the more recent years."

LeBel says he looks forward to the challenges that he will face at North Dakota.

"The school (North Dakota) has been fortunate in the past to have received substantial public funding, but now, that isn't enough by itself," he says. "We'll need to nurture private-funding support to take us to a higher level of excellence, to recruit and retain highly talented and dedicated faculty, and to secure financial support for students and to fund programs that enhance the quality of the education of the students and the service to the state."

"In addition to increasing financial support, we've got to hang on to the positive spirit within the school that adds to the attraction and keeps people there. I think the school is well-situated to build on its impressive history and accomplish even more in the future."

LeBel received his J.D. degree from the University of Florida in 1977, and he is a highly regarded tort scholar. Before coming to Florida State, he taught at the College of William and Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law and the University of Alabama. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Illinois and the University of Richmond, and is author of *John Barleycorn Must Pay: Compensating the Victims of Drinking Drivers* (University of Illinois Press, 1992).

Faculty News (continued)

J.B. RUHL

MATTHEWS & HAWKINS PROFESSOR OF
PROPERTY

Chapters: "Endangered Species Act" in *2002 Year In Review* (ABA Press 2003); **Articles:** "Proposal for a Model State Watershed Management Act," *37 Environmental Law* 929 (2003) (with Christopher Lant, et al.); "Mozart and the Red Queen: Regulatory Accretion in the Administrative State," *91 Georgetown Law J.* 751 (2003) (with James Salzman); "Equitable Apportionment of Ecosystem Services: New Water Law for a New Water Age," *19 J. of Land Use & Environmental Law* 47 (2003); "Is the Endangered Species Act Eco-Pragmatic," *87 Minnesota Law Review* 885 (2003); **Presentations:** "Water Wars in the Southeast—Florida's Perspective," (Atlanta, Ga., Natural Resources Section Program at AALS Annual Meeting, January 2004); "Endangered Species Act Innovations in the Post-Babbitonian Era—Are There Any?" (Duke University Conference on Natural Resources Policy Under the Bush Administration, November 2003); "Past, Present, and Future Innovations Under the Endangered Species Act" (Washington, D.C., ABA Section of Environmental Law Annual Meeting, October 2003); "The Battle over Endangered Species Act Methodology" (Lewis & Clark Law School Symposium on the Endangered Species Act at 30, October 2003); "Radical Openness in Complex Legal Systems" (Indianapolis, Society for Evolutionary Analysis of Law 6th Annual Workshop Conference, October 2003); "The Law and Policy of Ecosystem Services" (Indiana University-Bloomington Faculty Workshop, October 2003)

MARK SEIDENFELD

PATRICIA A. DORE PROFESSOR
OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Chapters: "Judicial Review," in *Developments in Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice: 2002-2003* (ABA Section on Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice, 2004) (with Jim Rossi & Keith Rizzardi); **Presentations:** moderator, "Legislative Oversight" (Atlanta, Ga., Administrative Law Section Panel, AALS Annual Meeting, January 2004); "The Friendship of the People: Citizen Participation in Environmental Enforcement" (American U., Washington College of Law Faculty Workshop, November 2003); "The Impact of Guidance Documents on ALJ Decision-making" (Orlando, Fla., National Association of Administrative Law Judges Annual Meeting, October, 2003)

LOIS L. SHEPHERD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Articles: "Face to Face: A Call for Radical Responsibility in Place of Compassion," *77 St. John's Law Review* 445 (2003); "Prenatal Genetic Testing and Narrative," *3 American J. of Bioethics* (4): W15 (2003) (with Aline H. Kalbian); **Presentations:** "Compassion and Responsibility" (Widener U., Am. Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics, 24th Annual Health Law Teachers Conference, June 2003)

HAROLD P. SOUTHERLAND

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Article: "Law, Literature, and History," *28 Vermont Law Review*, (February 2004)

FERNANDO TESÓN

TOBIAS SIMON EMINENT SCHOLAR

Articles: "International Legal Scholarship," in *Oxford Handbook of Legal Studies* (Oxford U. Press 2003) (M. Tushnet & P. Cane, eds.); **Presentations:** "Presentation, Customary Law and Game Theory" (U. of Lund, Sweden, XXI World Congress of the International Association for the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy, August

2003); "Free Speech and Freedom of Religion in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights" (Paris, Cornell Summer Program, July 2003)

DONALD J. WEIDNER

DEAN AND PROFESSOR

Book: *The Revised Uniform Partnership Act* (West Group 2003) (with Robert W. Hillman and Allan W. Vestal) (also 2002 and 2001 editions);

Articles: "Academic Freedom and the Obligation to Earn It," *32 J. of Legal Education* 445 (2003);

Presentations: "The Common Cause of Professionalism" (Sarasota, Fla., 12th Judicial Circuit Bench/Bar Conference on "Ethics, Professionalism and You," November 2003); moderator, Young Scholars Workshop (Amelia Island, Fla., Southeastern Association of Law Schools, July 2003); "Academic Freedom and the Obligation to Earn It" (Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla., Institute for Academic Leadership, May 2003)

JOHN YETTER

ROBERTS PROFESSOR OF LAW

Presentation: *The Retroactivity of Judicial and Statutory Changes in the Law: Legal Doctrine and Constitutional Limits* (Naples, Fla., Florida Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges Annual Education Program, September 2003)

PROFESSOR GREG MITCHELL, J.D., PH.D., STUDIES LEGAL JUDGMENT AND DECISION-MAKING, THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE, AND LAY CONCEPTIONS OF JUSTICE.



College of Law to Welcome Four New Faculty Members

THREE BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LAW SCHOLARS TO START IN THE FALL

The Florida State College of Law's business and commercial law faculty will be joined by three new tenure-track professors in the fall.

"This is an energetic young team, with impressive credentials, experiences, and approaches that draw on legal doctrine as well as cognate fields," says Dean Don Weidner. "With these new professors, FSU College of Law will be able to offer its students a curriculum in business law that rivals the excellence we have achieved in the public law area, where our environmental and administrative law program is regularly recognized as one of the nation's best."

Other FSU College of Law faculty in the general area of business law include Professors Frederick Abbott, international trade and intellectual property; Barbara Banoff, securities law; Joseph Dodge, general taxation; Charlene Luke, business taxation; and Don Weidner, agency and partnership law.

Professor Brian Leiter of the University of Texas, a leading commentator on law faculty quality, describes the Florida State law school as one of the most impressive among U.S. law schools in terms of faculty

hiring over the past decade. Since 1998, 15 new tenure-track faculty members have joined the ranks of the law school, including lateral hires from the University of Texas at Austin, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of California-Hastings, Arizona State University, Michigan State University, Albany Law School, Southern Illinois University, and Chicago-Kent College of Law-Illinois Institute of Technology.

The new business faculty include:

PROFESSOR AMITAI AVIRAM is an established scholar with practice experience in corporate, antitrust and securities law. He currently is a visiting assistant professor teaching corporations and antitrust at George Mason University Law School. He has a J.S.D. and an LL.M. from the University of Chicago Law School and an LL.B. from Tel Aviv University. Before entering academia, he served at the Israeli Antitrust Authority and at the law firm of Wachtell, Kipton, Rosen & Katz. He also was an officer in the Israeli Judge Advocate General Corps and was involved in the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations. He is a member of the Israeli and State of New York bars.

PROFESSOR CURTIS BRIDGEMAN is a commercial law scholar currently clerking for the Honorable Gilbert Merritt of the Sixth Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals in Nashville, Tenn. He has a J.D. and a Ph.D. in philosophy from Vanderbilt University and a bachelor's of science degree from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. While at Vanderbilt, the faculty voted unanimously to honor him with the Bennett Douglas Bell Memorial Award and the Myron Penn Laughlin Recent Development Award for his Student Note. He served as articles editor for the *Vanderbilt Law Review*.

PROFESSOR JONATHAN KLICK is a law and economics scholar, who currently is associate director of the Liability Project at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. He holds a J.D. and a Ph.D. in economics from George Mason University, and a bachelor's of science degree from Villanova University. Trained as both a lawyer and an economist, he has served as a research fellow/economist for the Department of Defense, Council of Economic Advisors and Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Mercatus Center. While at George Mason, he won the Whitney Writing Prize and was a Robert Levy Fellow.

AMITAI AVIRAM



CURTIS BRIDGEMAN



JONATHAN KLICK



DEBRA LYN BASSETT



Debra Lyn Bassett to Join Florida State in the Fall

DEBRA LYN BASSETT, an associate professor at Michigan State University-DCL College of Law, will join Florida State University as an associate professor with

tenure in fall 2004. Bassett will teach Civil Procedure, Federal Jurisdiction, Professional Responsibility, and Complex Civil Litigation.

Bassett clerked for the Honorable Mary M. Schroeder, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and practiced law with Morrison Foerster in San Francisco.

She graduated from the University of California Davis School of Law, where she was senior articles editor of the *U.C. Davis Law Review*. Her scholarship is focused largely in the areas of federal litigation and legal ethics. In addition to her frequent law journal publications, Bassett is co-author of two popular professional responsibility casebooks, *Problems in Legal Ethics* (6th ed., West Group 2003) and *California Legal Ethics* (4th ed., West Group 2003).

"Professor Bassett is an established and highly productive legal scholar, and we are delighted to welcome her to the College of Law, where she will broaden course offerings and professionalism," says Dean Don Weidner.

Bassett is the 15th new tenured or tenure-track faculty member to join the ranks of FSU College of Law faculty since 1998.

Other lateral hires in recent years include:

FREDERICK ABBOTT, international intellectual property law, from

Chicago-Kent College of Law-Illinois Institute of Technology

MARY CROSSLEY, health law, from the University of California-Hastings

JOSEPH DODGE, tax law, from the University of Texas at Austin

TAHIRIH LEE, Chinese law, from the University of Minnesota

DAVID MARKELL, environmental law, from Albany Law School

GREGORY MITCHELL, behavioral analysis of law, from Michigan

State University-DCL College of Law

JIM ROSSI, regulated industries/administrative law, from the University

of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

J.B. RUHL, environmental law, from Southern Illinois University

FERNANDO TESÓN, international human rights/legal philosophy, from

Arizona State University

AROUND THE

Board of Visitors Discusses Helping College of Law Graduates Network

"Maximizing Placement Opportunities for Our Students" was the theme of the February 8-9 College of Law Board of Visitors meeting at which Career Placement Director Brittany Adams Long discussed her office's efforts to place graduates.

Dean Don Weidner kicked off the weekend with a discussion titled "Taking the Law School to the Next Level."

Students were encouraged to interact with board members during a full-day of breakout sessions. Topics included, "Choosing a Practice Area," "Breaking Into Business/Corporate Law," "Strategies for Job Seeking Outside of Florida: Atlanta and Beyond," "Conversations With

Partners: How to Interview for the Job You Want," and "So You Think You Want to Be a Litigator?"

"This is a visit we look forward to each year—it's a very significant two-day session," said the dean. "The board represents a very impressive cross-section of the legal community. When they take time out of their busy schedules to listen to what the school is doing and, in turn, give us their reactions, we pay close attention."

Each year, the Board of Visitors meets with faculty, staff and students to discuss trends in the legal profession, current happenings at the law school and the school's future. The board is made up of 46 members, most of whom are Florida State University College of Law



Above, student Moin Kahn kicks off a panel discussion on the role of litigators. Below left, BOV member Roosevelt Randolph. Below right, Professor David Markell addresses panelists and students on the topic of administrative law.

graduates. They represent some of the most outstanding lawyers in the United States, reflecting a broad spectrum of practices both in the legal profession and the corporate arena. The board was enthusiastic about its support of the school, and

the members expressed their optimism about what a College of Law degree can mean to graduates. The meeting provides an opportunity for students to network with some of the law school's most successful graduates.



LAW SCHOOL

Law School Hosts Distinguished Lecturers

Each year, distinguished scholars from across the nation deliver lectures at the College of Law. In addition to engaging faculty at the highest levels, speakers frequently interact with students, making presentations to classes. Many of the lectures are open to the public. Recent lectures include:

MASON LADD LECTURE

Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University delivered the 2004 Annual Mason Ladd Lecture on February 16. The event honored the law school's founding dean, Mason Ladd. Roberts' lecture was titled "Black Club Women and Child Welfare: Lessons for Modern Reform." She is the Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law at Northwestern, where she holds a joint appointment with the law school and the Institute for Policy Research. She is a frequent speaker and prolific scholar on issues related to race, gender, and the law and has published more than 50 articles in law reviews and books.

TOBIAS SIMON DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Robert Keohane, the James B. Duke Professor of Political Science at Duke University, was the Tobias Simon Distinguished Lecturer on January 8. His talk was titled "Preventive War: A Cosmopolitan Institutional Proposal." He wrote *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*, for which he received the second annual Grawemeyer Award in 1989 for Ideas Improving World Order. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and has held a Guggenheim Fellowship as well as fellowships at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and the National Humanities Center.

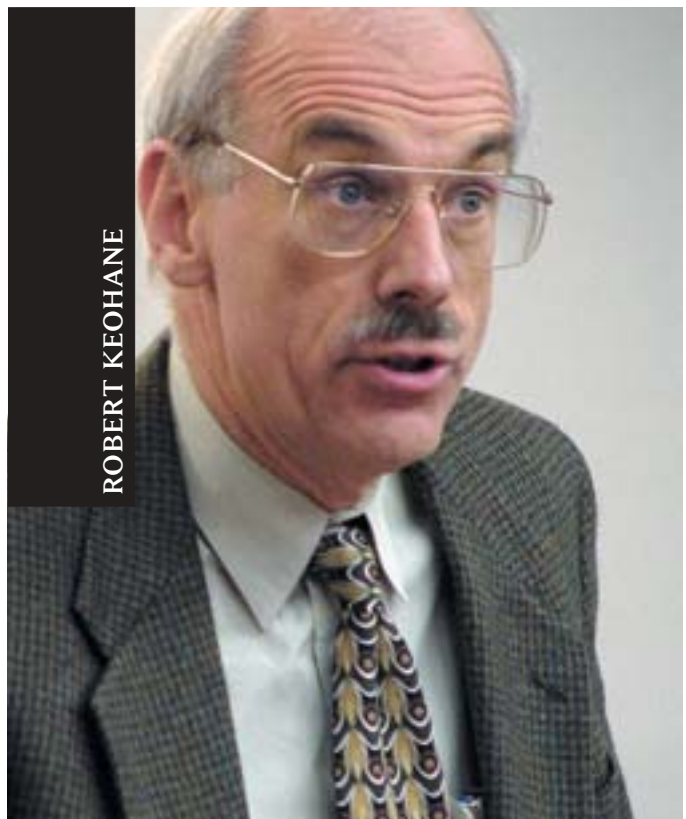
DISTINGUISHED LECTURES IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Dan Tarlock of Chicago-Kent College of Law delivered the 17th Annual Distinguished Lecture in Environmental Law on October 16. The event was hosted by the FSU *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*. His talk covered the principles that define environmental law and whether environmental law is a discrete area of the law. Tarlock is an internationally recognized expert in environmental law and the law of land and water use. He has published a treatise titled "Law of Water Rights and Resources" and is a co-author of four casebooks, *Water*

Continued on next page.



Professor Meg Baldwin, left, introduces Mason Ladd lecturer Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University. Behind them is portrait of the college's first dean, Mason Ladd.



Resource Management, Environmental Law, Land Use Controls, and Environmental Protection: Law and Policy. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute. Tarlock is one of three U.S. special legal advisors to the North American Free Trade Agreement Commission on Environmental Cooperation.

Lee Breckenridge of Northeastern University School of Law was The *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* Distinguished Lecturer on February 23. Her talk was titled "Can Fish Own Water?: Envisioning Nonhuman Property in Ecosystems."

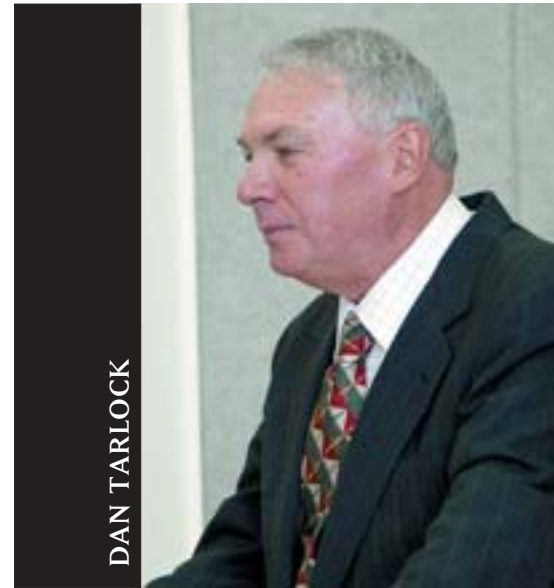
Breckenridge specializes in environmental and natural resources law and has worked as an attorney with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., where she was involved in the agency's initial regulatory efforts to implement the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. She teaches environmental law, wildlife and ecosystems law, and land use zoning and planning.

RICHARD B. LILlich LECTURE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

David Caron, the C. William Maxeiner Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California at Berkeley School of Law, delivered the inaugural Richard B. Lillich Lecture in International Law on October 23. The event was sponsored by the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. His talk was titled "The Search for Practical Justice: The Work

of the United Nations Compensation Commission for Claims Arising from the 1991 Gulf War." The lecture series honors former Florida State University College of Law Professor Richard B. Lillich, a highly regarded international scholar, known for his work in human rights law and international claims and investment.

Caron has been commissioner of the Precedent Panel of the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva, Switzerland, since 1996, and is a member of the Department of State Advisory Committee on Public International Law.



DAN TARLOCK

Mock Trial Teams Excel in Competitions

Florida State's Mock Trial teams competed in November at the Honorable E. Earle Zehmer Memorial Mock Trial Competition in West Palm Beach. The competition was sponsored by the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers. The teams reached the semi-finals. One of the teams included Tor Jensen-Friedman, Jonathan Zaifert, Ebony Tucker, and Jake Kiker. The other team consisted of Bryan Slogick, Joshua Machlus, Cameron Kennedy, and Genevieve Hall. Coaches for the AFTL team were 2003 alumna Diane Barnes, an associate with the Tallahassee law firm of Myers & Fuller; and 2001 alumna Erica White, a senior attorney with the Florida Department of Children and Families; and Professor Ruth Stone.

In October at the Lonestar Classic in San Antonio, Texas, the Mock Trial team of Kelly Parsons, Bryan Slogick, Min Cho, and Christopher Branton placed second in a competition among 28 teams. The team was coached by Professor Ruth Stone and 1995 law school alumnus Matt Foster, a partner at Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney, P.A., in Tallahassee.

Matt Foster, far left, of Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney, coached Christopher Branton, Min Cho, Bryan Slogick, and Kelly Parsons at the Lonestar Classic. Faculty coach Ruth Stone is at right.



Schiavo Case

TOPIC OF INTERDISCIPLINARY PANEL DISCUSSION

The Terri Schiavo right-to-die case, which has created a constitutional crisis in Florida and provoked intervention by Gov. Jeb Bush and the Florida Legislature, was the subject of an interdisciplinary panel discussion held at the law school on November 6. Four Florida State University professors participated in the discussion, covering three perspectives.

Mary Crossley, The Florida Bar Health Law Section Professor of Law, laid out the factual and legal history of the case and moderated the discussion. Lois Shepherd, associate professor of law, addressed the Florida statutes regarding end-of-life care that have governed the dispute, as well as arguments based on the rights of liberty and privacy found in the federal and Florida constitutions. Aline Kalbian, an assistant professor in the Department of Religion, who teaches courses on religious ethics and bioethics and writes about Catholic moral theology, discussed religious views on end-of-life decisions. College of Medicine Associate Professor Jeffrey Spike focused on defining and diagnosing a persistent vegetative state, addressing the use of feeding tubes, and distinguishing starvation from the dehydration and malnutrition that result from the removal of tubes.

Crossley, Shepherd and Steven Gey, the David and Deborah Fonvielle and Donald and Janet Hinkle Professor of Law, were quoted extensively on the issue in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Jacksonville Times-Union*, *Newsday* and *The Tallahassee Democrat*, among other publications.



Professor Mary Crossley

of Law, laid out the factual and legal history of the case and moderated the discussion. Lois Shepherd, associate professor of law, addressed the Florida statutes regarding end-of-life care that have governed the dispute, as well as arguments based on the rights of liberty and privacy found in the federal and Florida constitutions. Aline Kalbian, an assistant professor in the Department of Religion, who teaches courses on religious ethics and bioethics and writes about Catholic moral theology, discussed religious views on end-of-life decisions. College of Medicine Associate Professor Jeffrey Spike focused on defining and diagnosing a persistent vegetative state, addressing the use of feeding tubes, and distinguishing starvation from the dehydration and malnutrition that result from the removal of tubes.

Professor Aline Kalbian talks about religious ethics and bioethics during panel discussion at the law school.



Lisa Scoles, Christian Turner, Jeff Timmerman and Joe Tegerdine at the Broad & Cassel Moot Court Final Four Competition in November.

A Series of Recent Successes for Moot Court Team

The College of Law Moot Court Team of Kelly Klein and Jeff Timmerman was named Best Overall Team and won Best Brief at the Telecommunications Competition held in Washington, D.C. The competition, hosted by Catholic University Columbus School of Law was held in mid-February.

■ Todd Englehardt and Chris Mellott were runner-ups for Best Brief at the Mardi Grad National Sports Law competition held at Tulane Law School in New Orleans.

■ Christian Caballero and Peter Sweeney were semi-finalists at the Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Competition held at American University College of Law in Washington, D.C.

■ Lisa Scoles was presented with the Outstanding Advocate Award at the Broad and Cassel Moot Court Final Four in November. Other team members were Joe Tegerdine, Jeff Timmerman and Christian Turner. Broad and Cassel has sponsored the competition since 2002, pledging a \$60,000 gift of support over six years.

■ Don Freeman, Taysha Lesnock, and Janeia Daniels won the first-place Overall Award at the 2003 Florida Workers' Compensation convention in Orlando in August. In the finals of the E. Earle Zehmer Moot Court Competition, FSU defeated Stetson University. Daniels and Freeman were named Best Oral Advocates. The team also won Overall Best Brief. Professor Paul LeBel served as coach.

2003 College of Law Homecoming



Maury Kolchakian, '78, Sheila McDevitt, '78, and Lee Willis, '71, enjoy Homecoming festivities. Below, alumni gather at the law school.



Celebrating at home of Lance and Carol Block are, from left, Emerson Thompson III, the Honorable Emerson Thompson, '73; the Honorable Jose Rodriguez, '77; Jiji Weidner, Phil Blank, '75, and wife Rita.

The law school hosted two events over the 2003 homecoming weekend. More than 200 alumni and guests attended a party on November 14 at the Tallahassee home of 1984 alumnus Lance Block and his wife, Carol. Special

recognition was given to the classes of 1973, 1978, 1983 and 1993. The party was sponsored by Block's law firm, Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.

During the evening, Dean Don Weidner presented awards to two alumni: U.S. senatorial candidate and former HUD secretary, Mel Martinez, '73, and Jim McConnaughay, '69. The dean congratulated Martinez, a former president of the College of Law Alumni

Association, on being named the 2003 Distinguished Alumnus. The award recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves professionally and rendered outstanding service to the community and to the law school. The dean presented the Distinguished Service Award to McConnaughay of McConnaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope & Weaver, P.A. This award honors alumni who have rendered distinguished service to the law school over an extended period. McConnaughay was co-recipient with Steve Rissman, '72, of Rissman, Weisberg, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue & McLain, P.A., in Orlando. Rissman was not on hand for the presentation.

The following day, more than 300 alumni, their families, faculty and students had another opportunity to mingle at a tailgate party, hosted by the law school, on the James Harold Thompson Green, before the afternoon football game with N.C. State.



Professor Tesón Discusses Bringing Saddam Hussein to Justice

Fernando Tesón, the Tobias Simon Eminent Scholar, Professor of Law, tackled such questions as, “Which courts should try former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein?” and “What are the implications for the Middle East problem and the war on terrorism?” on January 14, in a law school lecture. The event was open to the public. His presentation, titled “The Capture of Saddam and International Law,” covered alternatives

for bringing Saddam Hussein to justice for his crimes, and the different legal and political implications of the eventual trial. Tesón is widely known for his scholarship relating political philosophy to international law, and, in particular, his defense of humanitarian intervention.



Judge Nikki A. Clark, an adjunct professor and judge on the Second Judicial Circuit, gave a presentation on opportunities and challenges for minorities during Minority Law Day in November.



FSU Law Grads No. 1 in Passage Rate of Florida Bar Exam—Again

Graduates of Florida State University College of Law again passed the summer general bar exam at a rate higher than peers from other Florida law schools.

FSU graduates passed the 2003 Florida Bar Exam by a rate of 85.4 percent, according to statistics released by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners. This is the third of the last four bar exams in which FSU grads out ranked other Florida law school graduates. Last year, FSU alumni passed the exam at a rate of 90.2 percent.

The exam was administered in July in Tampa to 2,091 first-time takers, including 178 from FSU and 884 from non-Florida schools.

“This is a wonderful accomplishment in itself,” said Dean Don Weidner. “It is even more impressive that we have been No. 1 in the passage rate for three of the last four Florida Bar exams.”

The University of Miami and the University of Florida tied for second place, with 83.3 percent of their graduates passing the general bar exam. Passing percentages for other Florida law school alumni were: Stetson University, 82.6 percent; Florida Coastal, 75.8 percent; Nova Southeastern University and St. Thomas University, 60.2 percent; and Barry University of Orlando, 43.6 percent. The passage rate for the graduates of non-Florida law schools taking the exam was 75.2 percent.

Candidates who passed the bar exam were sworn in as members of the Florida Bar on October 7 at the Supreme Court of Florida and the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth District Courts of Appeal.

Justice Raoul G. Cantero

INSPIRES FALL GRADUATES

Forty-six students received their law degrees on December 13 during the fall 2003 commencement ceremony, at which Florida Supreme Court Justice Raoul G. Cantero III was the speaker.

His message to students: "You don't necessarily have to do great things. It will be the small things that make a difference."

Cantero was appointed to the Court in 2002 by Gov. Jeb Bush. Before his appointment, he was a shareholder and head of the Appellate Division of the law firm of Adorno & Yoss in Miami.

"The career you choose in life will be defined by choices that you make along the way—choices that are both personal and professional. Don't compromise yourselves by making poor decisions,"

Cantero told graduates. "You will have ample opportunity to take that bribe or cut that corner, believe me. It happens. You'll say to yourself, 'no one will notice,' though, I always knew inside that I would notice. Your career will be a very satisfying one by making the good choices in life."



Raoul G. Cantero



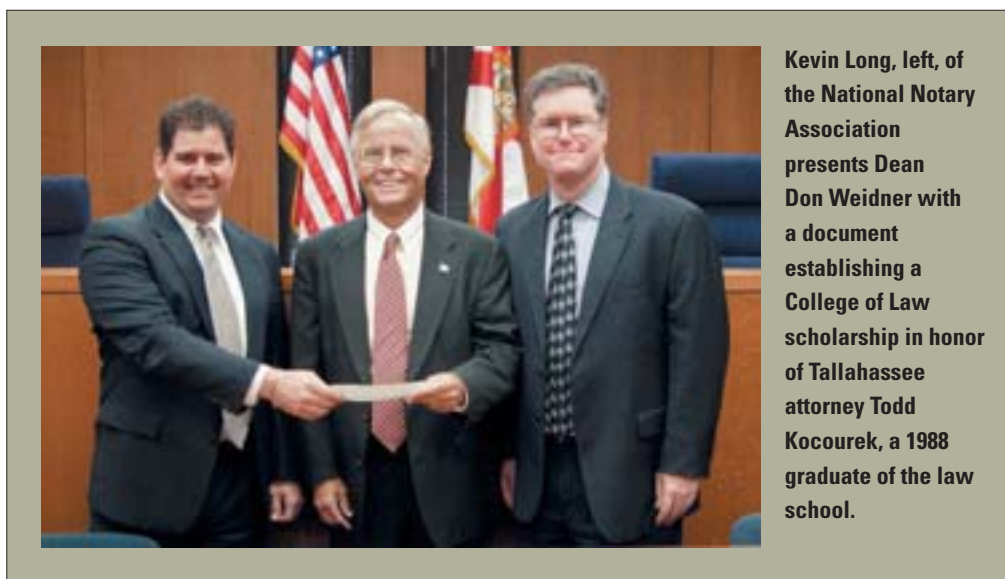
Professor Nat Stern hoods Christina Bach, during the December 2003 commencement ceremony.

Environmental Forum Tackles Future Health of ACF River System

A standing-room-only crowd was on hand in the D'Alemberte Rotunda on November 5, when experts discussed the future of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System, one of the world's "hotspots" of biodiversity. The forum, sponsored by the law school and the Environmental and Land Use Section of The Florida Bar, focused on legal, policy and scientific topics.

Professor J.B. Ruhl, the Matthews & Hawkins Professor of Property, moderated the discussion. Ruhl is a nationally regarded expert in the fields of endangered species protection, regulation of wetlands, ecosystem management, environmental impact analysis, and environmental resources law. The panel included Jon Blanchard of The Nature Conservancy, Lee Edmiston of the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Helen Light of the U.S. Geological Survey's Water Resources Division. Second-year law student Danielle Appignani, president of the school's Environmental Law Society, welcomed guests, and third-year students Bridget Kellogg and David Milam made closing comments.

The forum drew an audience of representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection, the Leon County Growth Management Department, and the DEP Bureau of Beaches and Wetland Resources, among others. Donna Christie, the Elizabeth C. and Clyde W. Atkinson Professor of Law, and David Markell, the Steven M. Goldstein Professor of Law, helped coordinate the event.



Kevin Long, left, of the National Notary Association presents Dean Don Weidner with a document establishing a College of Law scholarship in honor of Tallahassee attorney Todd Kocourek, a 1988 graduate of the law school.

parting view

the green

The brilliant lattice and column walkway, or colonnade, serves as an architectural thread connecting four 19th-century white frame houses to the D'Alemberte Rotunda. This structural network has been loosely termed The Village Green, though it was officially dedicated the James Harold Thompson Green in 1993. The Green is based on models of the English Inns of Court and Thomas Jefferson's famous rotunda and lawn at the University of Virginia.



Calling all alumni to be Placement Mentors for College of Law grads.

Non-traditional students bring wealth of experience to law school. 20

Judge Terry Lewis hard at work on his third mystery. 24

Find out what your classmates are up to in Class Action. 28

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