

From the Dean



FSU College of Law recently welcomed Professor **Richard Pildes**, the Sudler Family Professor of Constitutional Law at New York University School of Law, as the speaker for our Third Annual Distinguished Public Lecture in Election Law.

During his visit, Professor Pildes met with students in Professor Morley's 1L Legal Regulation course. In a full-circle moment, the class was studying a case for which Professor Pildes had drafted the opinion while clerking for Justice Thurgood Marshall. Reflecting on that experience, he shared with students that he ultimately came to disagree with the Justice's reasoning—offering a candid and deeply engaging discussion about the evolution of legal thought and the realities of judicial decision-making that left a lasting impression.

Later that day in the D'Alemberte Law Rotunda, Professor Pildes delivered his lecture, "Institutional Realism and Judicial Review in the Trump Era," exploring the relationship between law and political institutions. The program was presented by the **Election Law Center** and introduced by **Michael Morley**, the Sheila M. McDevitt Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Election Law Center.

[Watch the Recording](#)

Erin O'Connor
Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU's Great Give

We invite you to make an impact on our law students by supporting **Florida Bar Exam Lunches** as part of FSU's Great Give, a 24-hour, university-wide giving campaign dedicated to uplifting our students and strengthening their success.

This year's campaign takes place next week on March 4, 2026, and runs for just 24 hours.



As our graduates sit for the Florida Bar Exam, they face one of the most important milestones of their legal careers. A simple lunch on exam day provides more than a meal; it offers encouragement, relief from added expenses, and a reminder that their Florida State University College of Law community is behind them. Your gift will help fuel their focus and confidence as they take this important step toward becoming licensed attorneys.

Please consider making a donation. Your support will have a lasting impact on the lives of tomorrow's legal professionals.

[Click here](#) and bookmark the page to donate to the College of Law Bar Exam Fund this March 4.

FSU Law Faculty in the News



In a recent **WCTV interview**, "FSU Professors Weigh in on Supreme Court Decision to Toss Trump's Tariffs", Professors **Frederick Abbott**, the Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International Law, and **Jacob Eisler**, the James Edmund and Margaret Elizabeth Hennessey Corry Professor, offered legal analysis on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to strike down President Trump's imposed tariffs.

The professors weighed in on the President's use of the **International Emergency Economic Powers Act** (IEEPA), with Professor Abbott explaining that although the Court rejected the broad use of tariffs under the statute, it did not specify next steps, leaving the matter to lower courts.

Professor Eisler underscored Congress's constitutional authority over tariffs, noting that the ruling reinforces the balance of powers and limits on executive action. Their commentary underscores FSU Law's engagement in national legal conversations and its role in helping the public understand the real-world impact of major Supreme Court decisions.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



Professor Nadia Banteka, Gary & Sallyn Pajcic Professor, was recently interviewed on **True Bill Talk**, a podcast from the Vanderbilt Project on Prosecution Policy. In the episode, she discusses when and how local prosecutors can investigate federal agents, exploring questions of federal immunity, jurisdiction, and key cases shaping this complex area of constitutional criminal procedure.

[Click here](#) to listen on Spotify.

Professor Erin Ryan, the Associate Dean for Environmental Programs and Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor of Law, was recently quoted in a **Bloomberg Law article** titled, "California's Sable Pipeline Suit Tests 'Energy Emergency' Reach."

In the piece, she offered insight on how the case highlights growing tensions over federal authority and environmental federalism, as state attorneys general push back against perceived federal overreach.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



Fourth Annual Business Review Symposium

**2026 FSU Business Review Symposium:
Behavioral Perspectives on
Corporate Law**



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Craig Glidden (83)

CLE Credit Available
Free and Open to the Public
In-Person and Virtual Attendance

Florida State University
Business Review

FSU COLLEGE OF LAW

Join us for the Fourth Annual Business Review Symposium on Friday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. as we explore this year's topic, Behavioral Perspectives on Corporate Law.

We are honored to welcome FSU Law alumnus and recently retired auto industry executive **Craig Glidden (83)** as this year's symposium Keynote Speaker. Attendees will also witness live commentary and panel discussions of new articles published by Professors **Jessica Bregant** (Houston), **Jay Kesten** (Florida State), **Tim Samples** (UGA), and **Jennifer Robbenolt** and **Verity Winship** (Illinois).

The event offers in-person and virtual attendance options and is **free and open to the public**.

The Florida Bar has approved 5.5 CLE (including 2.5 Ethics and 1.0 Technology) for this event.

[Register](#)

FSU Law Events



(L-R) Clinical Supervising Staff Attorney Sheena Kelly, David French, Sarah Isgur, and Clinical Professor and Director of the First Amendment Clinic Denise Harle

This week, the **First Amendment Clinic**, in partnership with the **FSU Institute for Governance & Civics**, hosted a live recording of the hit legal podcast **Advisory Opinions (The Dispatch)**.

Hosts **Sarah Isgur** and **David French**, both with deep backgrounds as attorneys and political commentators, brought their wide-ranging experience in law, government, and journalism to the College of Law. Isgur is a former U.S. Department of Justice spokesperson, published author, and former editor of SCOTUSblog. French is a columnist for *The New York Times*, a visiting professor at Lipscomb University, and a longtime constitutional litigator and writer.

Introduced by **Denise Harle**, Clinical Professor and Director of the First Amendment Clinic, the event offered students and attendees a behind-the-scenes look at how a legal podcast is produced.

[Watch the Recording](#)



(L-R) 2nd Lieutenant 2L Andrew Olanes, U.S. Army Reserve, Educational Delay Officer, President of JAG Student Association; Captain Robert Schaff, U.S. Army, JAG, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, 3d Infantry Division; Captain Tyler Patrick, U.S. Marine Corps, JAG; Captain, William Hughes, U.S. Marine Corps; Lieutenant Junior Grade, Megan Emmer, U.S. Navy, JAG; Captain Andrew Jordan (21), U.S. Air Force, JAG, Chief of Military Justice

The College of Law recently hosted JAG Day in the D'Alemberte Law Rotunda, presented by the **Judge Advocate Student Association**. The event welcomed representatives from each branch of the U.S. military to campus, offering students a valuable opportunity to explore careers in the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.

Throughout the event, students connected directly with JAG officers to learn about pathways to military legal service, the responsibilities of serving as a judge advocate, and the unique professional experiences available across the armed forces. The program provided insight into public service careers that combine the practice of law with leadership and national service.

The **Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)**, in partnership with the **34th Congress of Graduate Students**, recently hosted a Judiciary Panel featuring the **Honorable Robert J. Luck** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the **Honorable James R. Wolf**, retired judge of Florida's First District Court of Appeal.

The program provided students with a unique opportunity to hear directly from distinguished members of the judiciary about their professional journeys, the responsibilities of appellate judging, and the role of the courts in shaping the law.



(L-R) Judge Robert Luck and retired Judge James Wolf

Students had the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the panelists, making for a memorable experience that strengthened their understanding of the judicial process and the many pathways within the legal profession.

Student Feature: 3L Katherine Hernandez

Desired Practice Location: Tallahassee or Miami
Expected Graduation: May 2026
Field of Law Sought: Insurance Defense Litigation or Family Law



A native of Miami, Florida, Katherine Hernandez graduated magna cum laude in 2020 from the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College at Florida Atlantic University with a B.A. in Law and Society and minors in Interdisciplinary Ethics and Women's Studies. There, as a **Henry H. Flagler Scholar**, she received the **Outstanding Thesis Award** for her thesis examining moral legal status and reproductive rights.

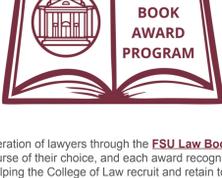
At FSU Law, she has been an active member of the **Moot Court team**, earning **Second Best Brief** at the **Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition** and advancing to the quarterfinals in oral argument. This year, she will compete in the **Frank A. Schreck Gaming Law Moot Court Competition**, arguing a First Amendment commercial speech issue. She also served as Secretary of Outlaw, supporting programming and community-building efforts for LGBTQ+ students and allies.

She currently works as a Law Clerk at **Conroy Simberg**, assisting with liability matters and first-party property claims, drafting motions, handling discovery, and participating in mediations. Previously, she clerked at **Luks, Santaniello, Petrillo, Cohen & Peterfreund**, where she drafted dispositive motions and supported case strategy and management. Prior to law school, she worked extensively as a paralegal in insurance defense, family law, and probate and estate planning.

A bilingual, first-generation law student fluent in English and Spanish, she is proud to bring cultural awareness and accessibility to her work.

If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Hernandez after graduation, visit her **LinkedIn profile** or email her at kh22be@fsu.edu.

"As a first-generation college and law student, reaching this point has been both challenging and deeply meaningful. I am very grateful and blessed for the opportunities and growth that law school has provided. It has encouraged me to develop not only academically but also professionally and personally, strengthening my confidence, discipline, and advocacy skills for both myself and others."



Support the next generation of lawyers through the **FSU Law Book Award Program**. Sponsors select a candidate of their choice, and each award recipient student achievement while helping the College of Law recruit and retain top talent. Contributions are fully tax-deductible.

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