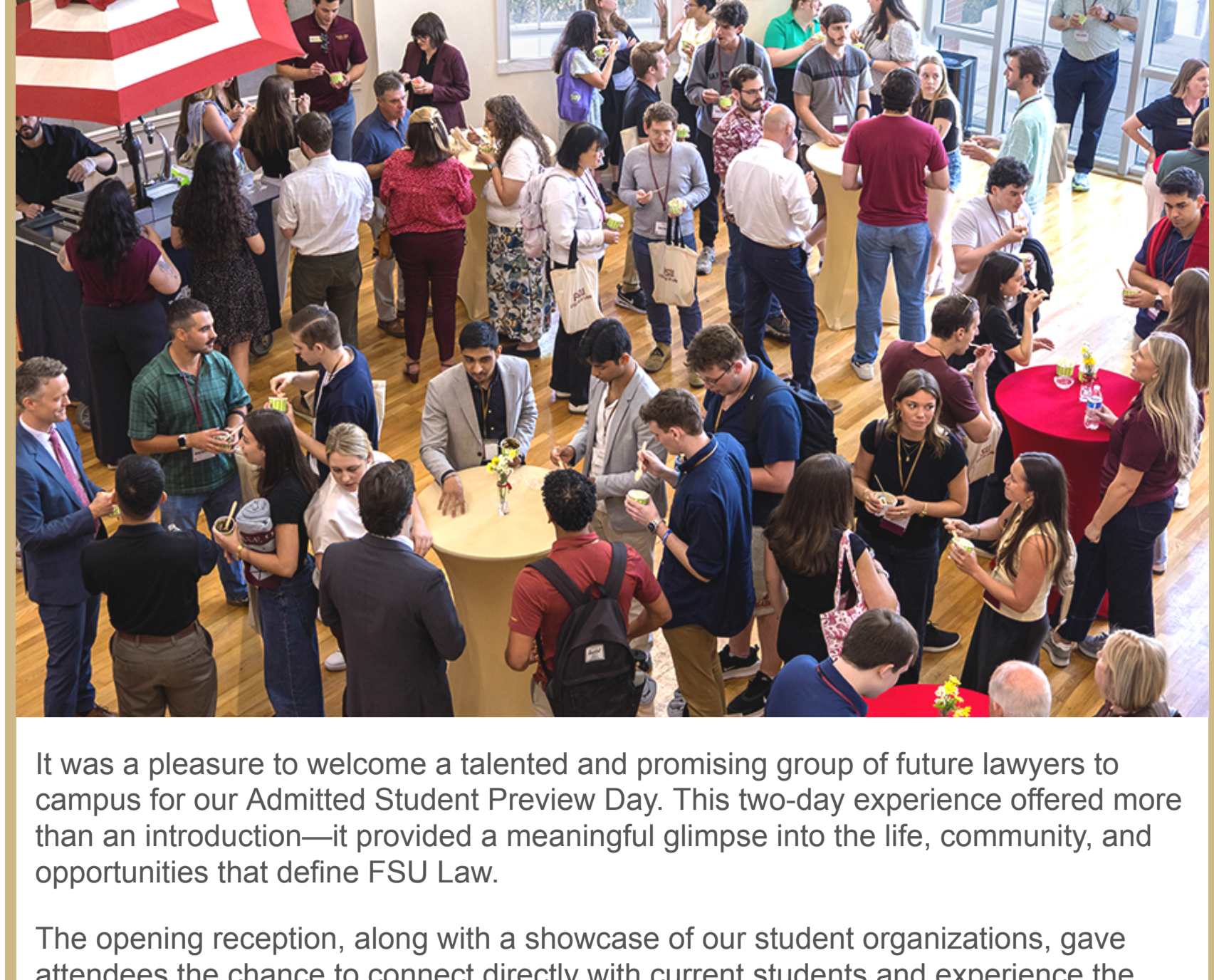


[Get Involved](#) | [Submit a Class Note](#) | [Join FSU Law Connect](#) | [Make a Gift](#)

From the Dean



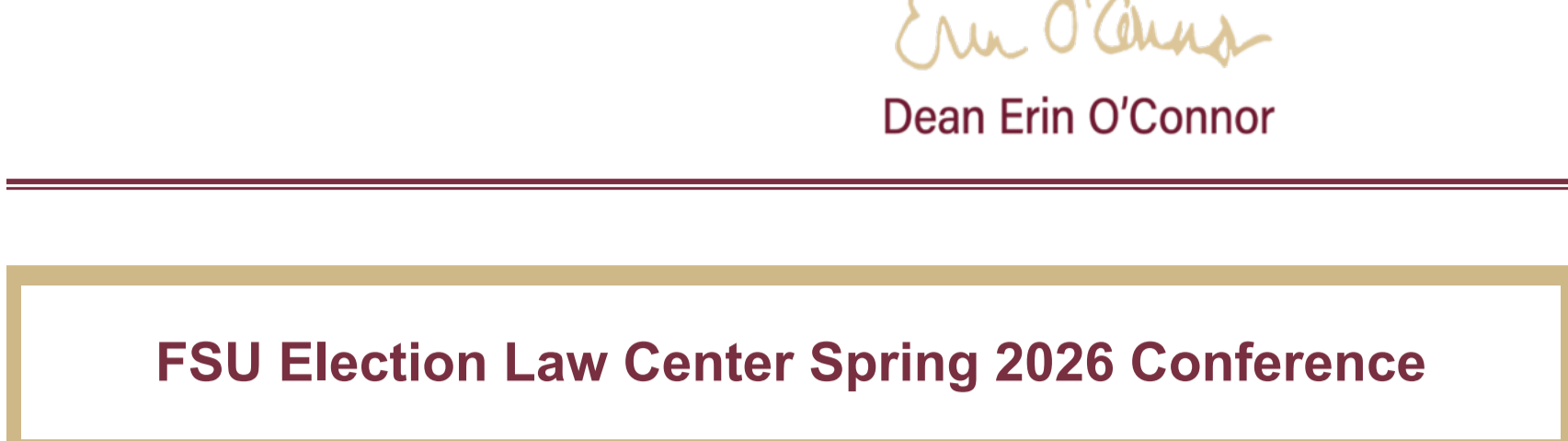
It was a pleasure to welcome a talented and promising group of future lawyers to campus for our Admitted Student Preview Day. This two-day experience offered more than an introduction—it provided a meaningful glimpse into the life, community, and opportunities that define FSU Law.

The opening reception, along with a showcase of our student organizations, gave attendees the chance to connect directly with current students and experience the energy and engagement that set our community apart.

The second day featured a full slate of programming designed to highlight both the rigor and support that shape the FSU Law experience. Guests heard from our Admissions team, participated in a candid student panel, and observed mock classroom sessions and faculty discussions that brought our academic environment to life. The program concluded with a "Meet Your Class" gathering, where admitted students began forming early connections, further strengthened by remarks from SBA President Garrison McDaniel.

We are proud to host events like this that reflect the strength, character, and collaborative spirit of our College. Most importantly, it was an opportunity for admitted students to begin building relationships and envision their future here.

I enjoyed meeting so many impressive individuals and look forward to welcoming them to campus this fall.



Erin O'Connor
Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU Election Law Center Spring 2026 Conference



FSU ELECTION LAW CENTER
Spring 2026 CONFERENCE
April 16 & 17, 2026
Washington D.C.

Hilton Washington, D.C. - Capitol Hill
525 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

We are thrilled to announce the FSU Election Law Center Spring 2026 Conference, bringing together the nation's most preeminent election law scholars, leading policymakers, top litigators, election regulators and administrators, and other experts to tackle the most pressing issues affecting elections across the United States.

Confirmed speakers include a Member of Congress currently serving on the House Committee on Administration – Election Subcommittee, two FEC Commissioners (one former), a sitting EAC Commissioner, leadership from the Department of Justice, Electronic Registration Information Center, and Federal Voting Assistance Program, and twenty of the country's leading scholars in law and political science.

Panel discussions will cover voting rights, election administration, election litigation, campaign finance, and institutional structures in a post-*Callais* world, among other critical topics.

This is a unique opportunity to engage with the thought leaders and decision-makers shaping election law today. Don't miss your chance to participate in this landmark event.

Presentations will be eligible for a total of 11 Florida CLE credits, including 1.0 ethics, 1.0 technology, and board certification credits in State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice.

This event is in-person only. There will be no virtual attendance option.

[Learn more.](#)

Register

FSU Law Events

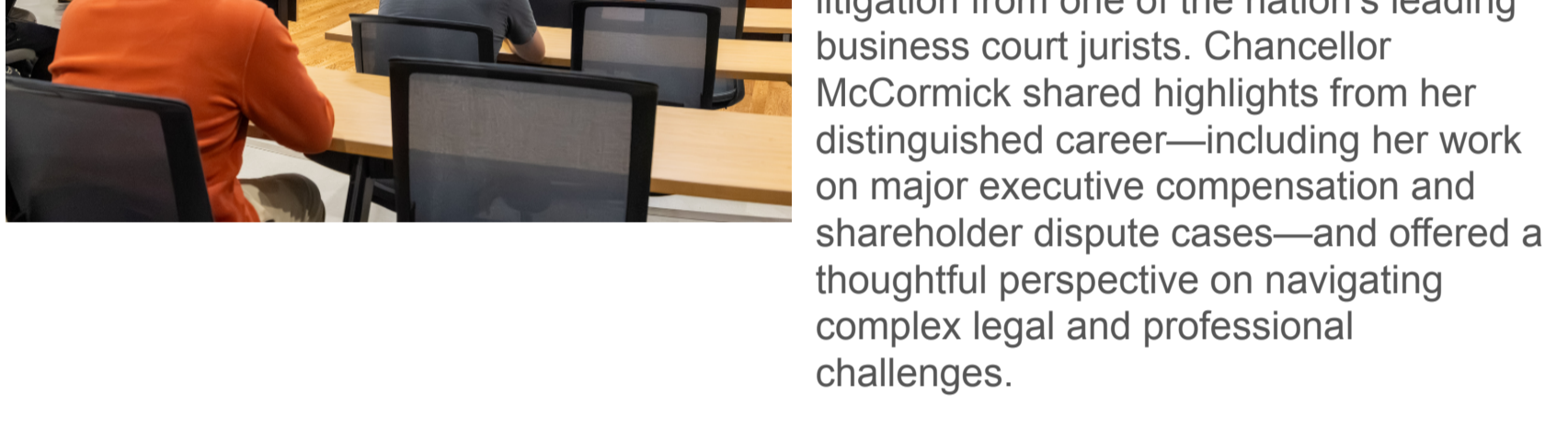


FSU College of Law recently hosted its annual **Lillich Lecture in International Law**, presented by the **Journal of Transnational Law & Policy**. The lecture honors the legacy of Richard B. Lillich, former Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Chair, and reflects his enduring commitment to rigorous scholarship in international law.

This year's featured speaker, **Professor Steven R. Ratner** of the University of Michigan, delivered a thought-provoking lecture to a full house in the D'Alemberte Rotunda titled, "**Can – and Should – the UN Charter be Saved?**" A leading scholar in public international law and human rights, Ratner examined the continued relevance of the United Nations Charter and the legal framework it established. Drawing on his experience working with international institutions and human rights bodies, he explored how scholars and practitioners can strengthen the system to address today's global challenges better.

Watch the Recording

Business Law Society Q&A Session



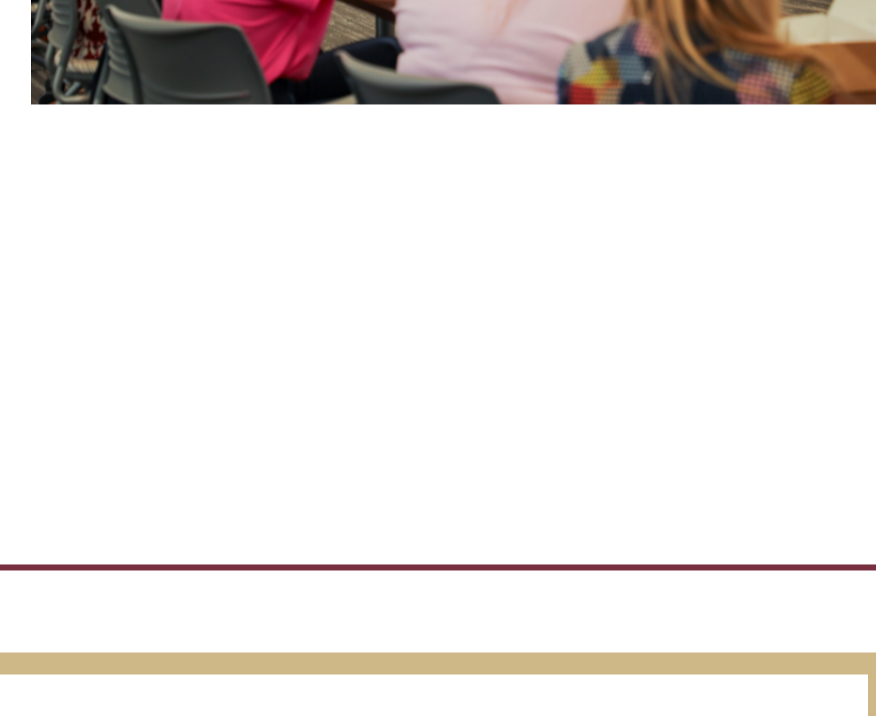
Last week, the **Business Law Society** hosted an exclusive Q&A session with **Chancellor Kathaleen McCormick** of the **Delaware Court of Chancery**.

Students gained valuable insight into corporate governance and high-stakes litigation from one of the nation's leading business court jurists. Chancellor McCormick shared highlights from her distinguished career—including her work on major executive compensation and shareholder dispute cases—and offered a thoughtful perspective on navigating complex legal and professional challenges.

Constitutional Commandeering

The College of Law recently welcomed **Professor Andrew Appleby** of the University of Tennessee to present his forthcoming article, "**Constitutional Commandeering**," as part of the **Faculty Enrichment Speaker Series**.

His work explores the evolving role of the anti-commandeering doctrine in modern federalism, particularly as federal and state authority increasingly overlap in areas like taxation and emerging technologies. Focusing on state taxing power as a core element of sovereignty, Professor Appleby examined recent federal efforts to limit that authority and proposed new frameworks to help courts better navigate these constitutional tensions.



FSU Law Faculty in the News

Yulya Guseva, Kevin Wood and Mary Jo Peed Professor, was featured in **Bloomberg**, providing expert commentary on a novel strategy by Michael Saylor to fund Bitcoin purchases through high-yield perpetual preferred shares issued by his company, **Strategy Inc.**

Professor Guseva cautioned that the model depends heavily on sustained investor demand and warned that such crypto-focused treasury strategies may be approaching "bubble territory," highlighting potential risks for investors and the broader market.

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

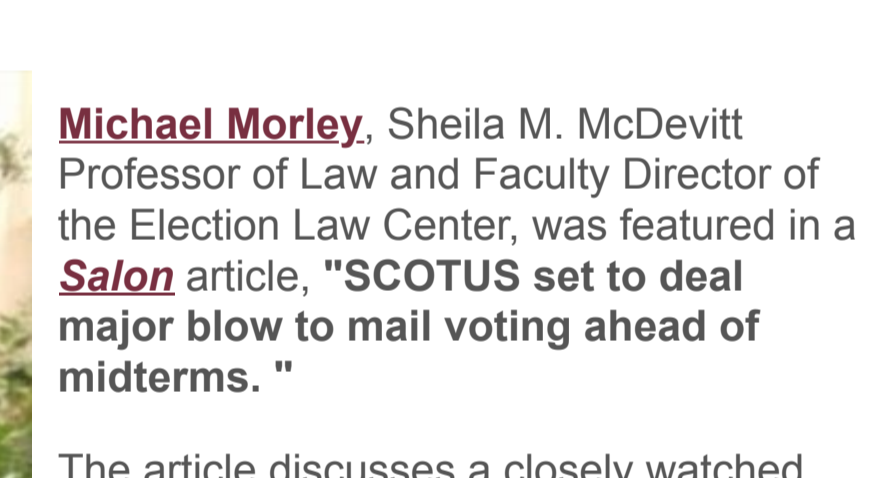


Michael Morley, Sheila M. McDevitt Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Election Law Center, was featured in a **Salon** article, "**SCOTUS set to deal major blow to mail voting ahead of midterms.**"

The article discusses a closely watched U.S. Supreme Court case that could significantly impact mail-in voting ahead of upcoming elections.

In the article, Professor Morley emphasized the legal complexity of interpreting long-standing federal election law, noting that statutes governing Election Day contain "vagueness and ambiguity" that the Court may need to clarify. His insights highlight the broader constitutional and statutory questions at stake, as well as the potential nationwide implications of the Court's decision for election administration and voter access.

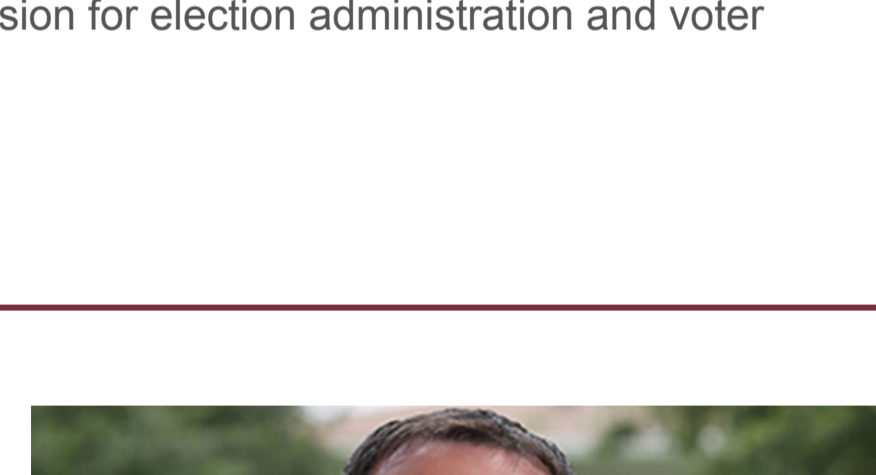
[Click here](#) to read the article.



Justin Sevier, Charles W. Ehrhardt Professor of Litigation, was featured in a **WCTV video** discussing the landmark social media addiction trial, in which a California jury found major tech companies liable for designing platforms that negatively impact young users' mental health.

In the interview, Professor Sevier provided insight into the significance of the verdict and its potential implications for ongoing and future litigation, including thousands of similar lawsuits and questions surrounding consumer claims for damages.

[Click here](#) to view the video.



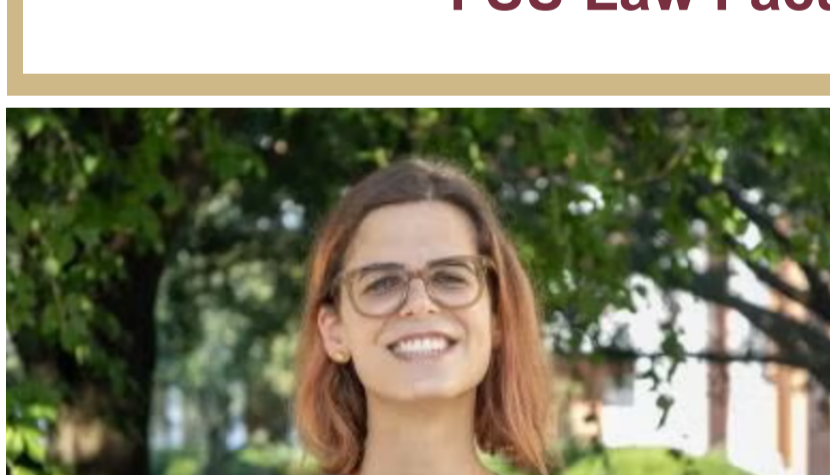
In a recent **WTXL report**, **Michael Markham**, Director of the **Bankruptcy Pro Bono Clinic**, weighed in on the complex legal situation facing families displaced from Terra Lake Heights following foreclosure and Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

Professor Markham explains that while tenants may have legal avenues to pursue claims, such as recovering security deposits or relocation costs, navigating the process can be challenging, especially when notice of the bankruptcy isn't always provided.

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



FSU Law Faculty Scholarship



Congratulations to Visiting Assistant Professor **Arieli Decoster**, who received the **Best Article of 2025** award from **Feminist Legal Studies** for her influential scholarly article, "**Men Inland: Developing 'Critical Legal Studies of Men and Masculinities.'**"

In the piece, Professor Decoster calls for the further development of **Critical Legal Masculinities Studies** as a unified field of inquiry, arguing that a deeper understanding of how law shapes and is shaped by men and masculinities can illuminate the connections between law, gender, and power.

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

Kelli Alces Williams, Matthews & Hawkins Professor of Property, has a forthcoming article, "**You'll Be Sorry When I'm Gone: On Spiteful Wills and Equity**," in the **Wake Forest Law Review**.

Her work examines the legal and equitable limits of so-called "spiteful wills," exploring how courts respond when testaments intent conflicts with broader principles of fairness.



FSU Law Student News



Congratulations to 3L **Sheldon Burnell**, who has accepted a prestigious judicial clerkship with **Judge Wendy Berger (93)** of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida in Jacksonville.

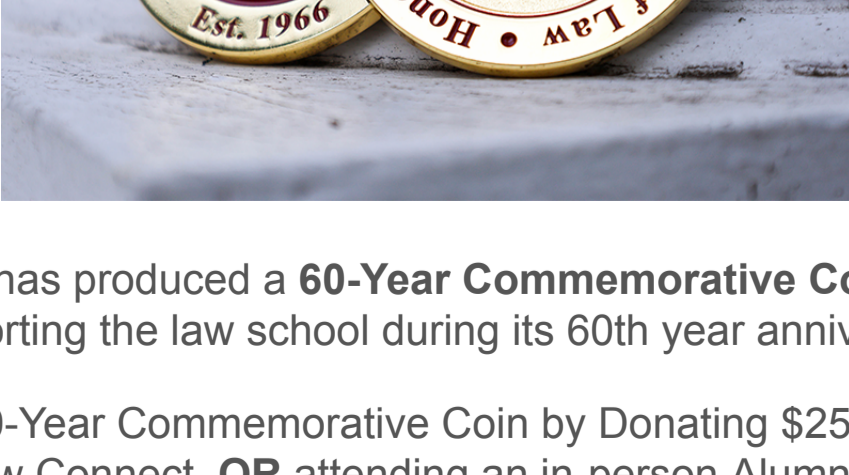
Judge Berger, an FSU Law alumna, serves on the federal bench and offers clerks the opportunity to work closely on complex federal cases.

Social Spotlight



This week, we kicked off our **60th anniversary series** by celebrating the deans whose vision helped lay the foundation for the FSU College of Law.

From past to present, their leadership has shaped generations of legal minds and guided our legacy. **Follow us as we continue to share 60 years of milestones, memories, and the people who made it all possible.**



FSU College of Law has produced a **60-Year Commemorative Coin** to recognize participation in supporting the law school during its 60th year anniversary.

Alumni can earn a 60-Year Commemorative Coin by Donating \$250+ **AND** joining and engaging on FSU Law Connect, **OR** attending an in-person Alumni Event. These actions must be taken **between January 1 and December 31, 2026** to be eligible for the coin.

[Find Details on Eligibility Requirements for FSU Law's 60-Year Coin.](#)