

COLLEGE OF LAW

FSU LAW FOCUS

March 31, 2017

From the Dean



Earlier this month, 13 FSU Law students spent part of spring break participating in the Public Interest Law Center's 10th annual Alternative Spring Break program. As in previous years, FSU Law partnered with Florida Rural Legal Services to assist migrant farm workers with legal issues. Students received training from the organization and visited migrant workers in various neighborhoods throughout Fort Pierce and neighboring communities to conduct outreach and educate workers about their legal rights. Due to the language fluency of some of our participating students, the group was able to speak with workers in both Haitian Creole- and Spanish-speaking communities. Students also attended a "Toxic Tour" with the Farmworker Association of Florida in Apopka, where they learned about long-term pesticide use in the area and the resulting health effects and economic implications, and received human trafficking training from the Fort Pierce Police Department. Thank you to our students for providing valuable legal services through this enriching program and to everyone who made it possible, including alums Amy Parker Martin ('15), of the Public Interest Law Center, and Sara Mangan ('14), of Florida Rural Legal Services.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Pictured above: Alternative Spring Break participants after their human trafficking training from the Fort Pierce Police Department.



50-Year Anniversary: Featuring 1989



In 1989, hundreds of spectators, including judges, state legislators, attorneys and students gathered on the James Harold Thompson Green to formally dedicate the Stanley-Ausley House, the fourth and final historic home to complete the vision of Dean Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte. Modeled after

Thomas Jefferson's famed lawn behind the rotunda at the University of Virginia, his idea was to bring a more intimate setting and historic architectural landscape to the modern brick and concrete buildings of the law school. The Stanley-Ausley House became the home of the *FSU Law Review* in 1989, as it remains today. Dean D'Alemberte left his role as dean and Sheldon F. Kurtz became dean in 1989. The *Tampa Free Press* wrote of his accomplishments, "D'Alemberte has increased the prestige of the school by reducing the student/faculty ratio, adding innovative programs to the curriculum and

attracting faculty and guest lecturers of national reputation." Today D'Alemberte remains an invaluable part of the FSU Law faculty.

Pictured above: The Stanley-Ausley House making its trip from the South Georgia countryside to Tallahassee in August of 1988.

Faculty Profile: President Emeritus and Professor Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte

President Emeritus and Professor Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte recently published a new book, *The Florida State Constitution* (2nd ed., Oxford University Press). The new edition offers in-depth analysis on the Florida Constitution, detailing its history and the major cases construing the Constitution. D'Alemberte is uniquely qualified to publish on this topic – he was a member of the Florida Legislature that proposed the Constitution Revision of 1968 and chaired the House Judiciary Committee that drafted the revision of the judicial article in 1972. In addition, he chaired the first Constitution Revision Commission (1977-1978), has taught FSU Law's Florida Constitutional Law course for 15 years, and has litigated cases dealing



with every article of the Constitution except the schedule. This book is especially timely, as the state's 2017-2018 Constitution Revision Commission began its work this month. In addition to previously serving as dean of the FSU College of Law, D'Alemberte also was president of Florida State University and president of the American Bar Association.

"After years of dealing with the Florida Constitution as a legislator, litigator and drafter, I am grateful to have had a research leave and the time to conduct a review of one of the most important documents in American politics. Florida's Constitution is unique in so many ways and I hope this book will help others learn about its significant features."

Student Profile: 3L Travis Voyles

Travis Voyles is a third-year student from Douglasville, GA. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science with a major in environmental economics and management from the University of Georgia. Voyles also has a Master of City and Regional Planning with specializations in economic development, land use and environmental planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology. When he graduates law school in May, he will also earn the Environmental Law Certificate. This year, Voyles has served as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law. He is an active member of the Environmental Law Society, formerly serving as vice president and now as networking chair. He is also a member of the FSU Fellows Society and the Seminole Torchbearers, and is an FSU College of Law student ambassador. Voyles' impressive resume includes clerking at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 in Atlanta during the summer after his 1L year.



During his 2L year, he clerked for Hopping Green & Sams. Voyles was a real estate fellow at Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. in Atlanta the summer after his 2L year. During his 3L year, Voyles has been a House Legislative Committee Intern as part of the Florida House of Representatives Legislative Intern Program. He was selected to work with the House Commerce Committee and subcommittees, assisting with research, bill drafting and analysis, as well as other regulatory policy and fiscal issues, specifically with energy and utilities. For the last three semesters, Voyles has also been a research assistant for Professor Erin Ryan, the Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor. He has assisted her in critical reads of proposed article drafts, conducted background research on various topics, and independently analyzed issues related to environmental and natural resources law, property and land use, water law, negotiation and federalism. Voyles would like to practice in the areas of environmental, land use, energy or administrative law. He is also interested in public policy-related jobs. He is open to jobs in Washington D.C., Florida or Atlanta. Voyles enjoys traveling, attending college football games and spending time with his dog, Hudson. If you are interested in hiring Voyles for a job after graduation, please visit his LinkedIn profile.

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