March 23, 2018

From the Dean

rankings are out and we are the nation's 47th best law school overall and the 24th best public law school! The overall ranking is up one spot from 2017 and keeps Florida State ranked among the nation's top law schools. U.S. News also ranks Florida State's environmental law program the nation's 10th best, up from 14th last year. The overall ranking reflects the school's strong employment and student selectivity numbers. Florida State is the best law school in Florida and 43rd nationally in terms of the percentage of 2016 graduates employed 10 months after graduation in full-time, long-term jobs that require bar passage and were not funded by the

The new U.S. News & World Report (2018)

median GPA of 3.61. We are thrilled that *U.S. News* continues to rank us among the nation's top law schools and that we continue to improve in these rankings. We are also

school. The law school's 2017 entering class has a median LSAT of 159 and a

delighted that the strength and robustness of our environmental program is reflected in the top 10 ranking. - Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty Profile: Steve R. Johnson

Steve R. Johnson, the FSU Law Dunbar Family Professor, is a

nationally recognized scholar in tax litigation and procedure, including legislative and administrative law topics in tax. Among other courses,

he teaches Income Taxation, Taxation of Business Entities, Business Planning, International Tax and Administrative Law. His publications include two casebooks, Civil Tax Procedure (with Jerome Borison & Samuel Ullman) and Tax Crimes (with Scott Schumacher, Larry Campagna & John Townsend), as well as numerous articles and book chapters on tax procedure and tax law. He has been a columnist for State Tax Notes, an associate editor of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation NewsQuarterly and a national co-reporter for the European Association of Tax Law Professors Congress. His work has been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court, many lower federal courts, the U.S. Solicitor General's Office, the IRS and the National Taxpayer Advocate. Johnson



parsing dense statutes; yet she must be able to step back to sense

animating principles. She must understand enough administrative

when narrow interpretation would thwart the tax law's general

law to know when an IRS rule may be invalid because it was improperly promulgated or exceeds the authority delegated by Congress. In the frequent 'gray areas,' she must be able to assess outcome probabilities with sensitivity and precision to correlate her clients' levels of risk aversion, her own professional obligations and moral compass, and bureaucratic and judicial realities. She must grasp both the opportunities and the limits of her roles as planner, drafter, advisor and advocate." Alum Profile: Kathleen Tuohy ('10) Kathleen Tuohy joined FSU Law in 2017 as a

also works with the 1L judicial extern program and advises students interested in judicial

recruiting and information manager in the

job searches, Tuohy is responsible for

Career Services and Professional Development Office. In addition to advising students on their

collecting, managing and reporting data. She

clerkships. Tuohy previously worked for five years at Florida Coastal School of Law, where she gained experience in the areas of preparing students for the bar exam, facilitating experiential learning opportunities and counseling students in preparation for their legal careers. She also previously served as an assistant state attorney at the State Attorney's Office for the Fourth Judicial Circuit in the misdemeanor and felony divisions. "I am excited to be back at FSU Law and a member of a team committed to helping our students launch their careers. Advising students on how to reach their goals is extremely fulfilling."

Student Profile: 3L Lillian Sharpe

Desired Practice Location: Interested in

corporate/business law, whether transactional or litigation based; also interested in real estate

Originally from West Palm Beach, Lillian "Lilly"

law or civil litigation



returning to South Florida or relocating to **Graduation Date**: May 2018 Specialization: Business law Field of Law Sought: Prefers to work in

The commission is responsible for hearing appeals of student government election violation decisions. During her 2L year, Sharpe served as secretary of

Government Association Elections Commission. The 2016-17 FSU Student

the Student Bar Association (SBA) and as vice chair of the Student

J.D. this May and also earn the Business Law Certificate. During her 1L year, Sharpe served as the 1L representative for the Women's Law Symposium and as a member of the Student Government Association Elections Commission.

Sharpe earned her bachelor's degree in sociology and political science from FSU. Sharpe, who is the current FSU Student Bar Association president, will graduate with her

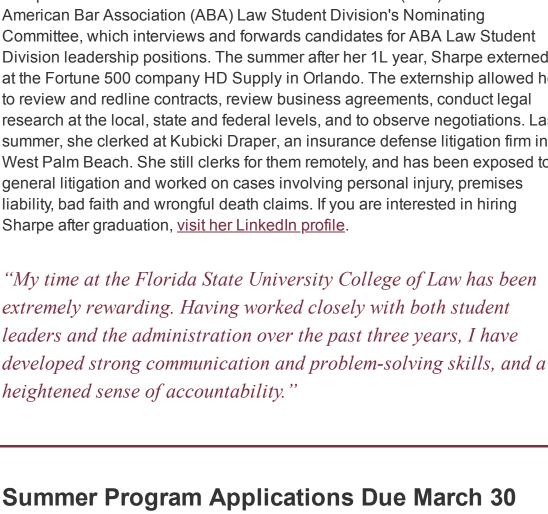
Bar Association was recognized as the nation's top SBA chapter by the American Bar Association's Law Student Division in August 2017. Currently, Sharpe serves as a member of the Law Student Council (LSC) and on the American Bar Association (ABA) Law Student Division's Nominating Committee, which interviews and forwards candidates for ABA Law Student Division leadership positions. The summer after her 1L year, Sharpe externed at the Fortune 500 company HD Supply in Orlando. The externship allowed her to review and redline contracts, review business agreements, conduct legal research at the local, state and federal levels, and to observe negotiations. Last summer, she clerked at Kubicki Draper, an insurance defense litigation firm in West Palm Beach. She still clerks for them remotely, and has been exposed to general litigation and worked on cases involving personal injury, premises liability, bad faith and wrongful death claims. If you are interested in hiring Sharpe after graduation, visit her LinkedIn profile.

heightened sense of accountability."

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