

From the Dean



(Left to right) Professor Annino, Dean O'Connor and Professor Sevier at the University Teaching Awards Ceremony.

Congratulations to Paolo Annino ('83), our Glass Professor of Public Interest Law, and Justin Sevier, our Charles W. Ehrhardt Professor of Litigation, who each received one of only eight 2017-18 University Graduate Teaching Awards from FSU! They were honored earlier this month at a university ceremony to recognize excellence in teaching. The awards are another testament to the strong and dedicated faculty we have at the law school. Every year, award recipients are nominated by students and alumni and must be outstanding in the many aspects of teaching which contribute to successful teaching and learning. Annino and Sevier join a distinguished group of educators at the law school who have earned the prestigious University Graduate Teaching Awards. Since 1993, 17 law professors have received the honor, with Professors Nat Stern and Steven Gey receiving two each.

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty and Alum Profile: Rob McNeely ('93)

Rob McNeely has been an adjunct professor at the FSU College of Law since 2004, teaching a popular course in Entertainment Law in the spring semester. McNeely practices at Messer Caparello, P.A., one of Tallahassee's oldest law firms. He has enjoyed a diverse statewide practice in his career. In addition to entertainment law, he has worked, lectured and published on topics in the areas of complex family law litigation and policy, legislative practice, civil litigation and transactions, intellectual property, land use and appellate practice. He has litigated civil and family law matters throughout Florida and litigated intellectual property law issues involving copyright and trademark law in federal courts in Florida, Nevada and Pennsylvania. He served as lead attorney for the band Creed from 2000-2004 and is a former award-winning journalist, mostly in public radio. McNeely serves as vice president of business and legal affairs, and an executive producer of Liner Notes Production, LLC, where he is instrumental in content and program creation, artistic vision, legal affairs, business development and strategic planning. He has also worked with Florida local governments navigating issues relating to beach access and customary use. McNeely is a triathlete, finishing more than 50 triathlons since his first one in November 2009, including Ironman Florida (2012) and Ironman Mont Tremblant (2014). He is past-president of the 300-member Gulf Winds Triathletes triathlon club in Tallahassee, is an ordained deacon at Faith Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, and is married with four children and a stepdaughter. McNeely holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Kansas (1981) and a J.D. with high honors from the Florida State University College of Law, where he served on the Moot Court Team and as an executive editor of the *Florida State University Law Review*. He can be reached at rmcneely@lawfla.com.



"I truly enjoy teaching at the FSU College of Law. Year after year, the students are bright, engaged and eager to learn. Having sat nearly 30 years ago in the same classrooms in which I now teach is an extra bonus and a wonderful way for me to support this law school that has done so much for so many of us."

Alum Profile: Kathleen J. "Kat" Klepfer ('14)

Kat Klepfer has been the research and access services librarian with the FSU College of Law Research Center since August 2017. Klepfer supervises the circulation department, teaches legal research courses, and assists with faculty and student research. She is a member of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries and currently serves as secretary and is chair of the Government Relations Committee. Prior to joining the FSU Law Research Center, Klepfer was the reference and research services librarian at the University of Richmond School of Law, where she taught legal research in the 1L Lawyering Skills Program, co-taught Public Policy Research & Drafting, provided extensive research support to faculty, and managed the library's archives and special collections. In addition to earning her J.D. *magna cum laude* and her M.S. in library and information science from FSU in 2014, she has a B.A. from the University of Florida in classical studies.



"Keeping up with the research needs of students and faculty of FSU Law's caliber is an exciting challenge. I always tell students that we are a working law library, not just a study space, and the use that our collection sees from attorneys, students, pro se patrons, and our incredibly productive faculty puts that idea to the test daily."

Student Profile: 2018 Grad Alyson Morelli

Desired Practice Location: Ormond Beach, Tampa or Orlando

Field of Law Sought: Probate and estate planning, real estate law, business law

Alyson Morelli graduated *cum laude* from FSU Law in May 2018. She earned the Business Law Certificate in addition to her J.D. Originally from Ormond Beach, Morelli earned a bachelor's degree in economics from FSU. During law school, she was a member of the *Florida State University Law Review* and also served as assistant articles and notes editor for the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. Morelli served as 1L representative, vice president and president of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Society. During her term, Morelli implemented networking events and a mentorship program for members. During her first two years of law school, Morelli also served in leadership roles for the Women's Law Symposium and earned the distinguished pro bono certificate for her involvement with FSU Law's Alternative Spring Break Program. Morelli participated in the Oxford Study Abroad Program the summer after her 1L year. That summer, she also clerked at Vukelja Law in Ormond Beach. During the spring semester of her 2L year, Morelli clerked at Brooks Law in Tallahassee. Last semester, she clerked at the Florida Office of the Attorney General, Antitrust and Complex Enforcement Division. In this position, Morelli performed high-volume document review on Everlaw, led a quantitative research review to evaluate economic data in preparation for litigation, and conducted other factual research and document production projects at different stages of litigation. She also contributed to drafting complex multiparty complaints. During her 3L year, Morelli clerked at King & Wood, P.A., where she conducted legal research on probate law, conflicts of law and business law matters. She also drafted and customized LLC operating agreements and numerous estate planning, probate and guardianship pleadings. If you are interested in hiring Morelli, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).



"Recently, our graduating 3L class was asked to reflect on the past three years and choose one word to describe our experience at FSU Law. I chose 'adventure' because these three years have truly been an adventure of a lifetime. I am very fortunate to have attended FSU Law, which afforded me so many unique opportunities to immerse myself in new experiences, cultures and fields of law, to challenge myself to learn and grow as a student, and to mold me into the person I am today. Go Noles!"

2018 ANNUAL FLORIDA BAR CONVENTION
AT THE HILTON ORLANDO BONNET CREEK

6/13: FSU LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING
6/14: FSU LAW ALUMNI RECEPTION

FOR MORE INFO OR TO RSVP:
ALUMNI@LAW.FSU.EDU
OR 800.788.7097

GET INVOLVED

SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

SHARE MY TORCH MOMENT

MAKE A GIFT

[ABOUT US](#) | [ACADEMICS](#) | [ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID](#) | [OUR FACULTY](#) | [ALUMNI](#) | [CAREERS](#) | [STUDENTS](#)



If you unsubscribe from the FSU Law Focus, you will only be unsubscribed from the newsletter and not other emails from FSU Law.

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

425 West Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL | 32306 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.