June 29, 2018

## From the Dean

It is my great honor to announce alumna Kristine "Kris" Knab ('78) as our inaugural Exemplary Public Service Career Award recipient. One of 49 nominees, the award committee selected Knab for her decades of service at Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. (LSNF), where she worked from 1978 until retiring in 2016. Knab's last 22 years at LSNF were as executive director. Her nominators called Knab a "champion for the underprivileged," and submitted evidence of her skillful leadership of LSNF, especially during times of limited resources. The Honorable Claudia Isom ('75) wrote, "Because this award honors FSU graduates who have given their life, or the



better qualified than Kris Knab." "Not only is Kris undeniably deserving, but her selection as the first recipient of

this award would set an appropriately high bar for all future nominees," wrote nominator Tom Powell ('76). "To the listed criteria for this award – exceptional character, integrity, humility, professionalism and ethics – I would add dedication, selflessness, generosity, and unfailing respect for others, and say that she exceeds all conceivable expectations in every category." We will recognize Knab during our 2018 Homecoming Reception on Friday,

October 19, and hope many of you will attend to help us honor her that evening. Knab also will be honored with an oil portrait displayed prominently at the law school. Thank you to the award committee members for their hard work in establishing criteria for this new award and selecting Knab as our first recipient. She is an inspiration for us all! - Dean Erin O'Connor

Faculty and Alum Profile: Sally C. Gertz

Sally C. Gertz is a clinical professor and codirector of externship programs at FSU Law, where she supervises judicial, government, inhouse corporate, public interest and international externships. She teaches Civil Pretrial Practice and seminars related to her students' externships (Judicial Perspectives, State and Local Government Law Practice, Poverty Law), and taught Employment Law as an adjunct. Before joining the faculty, she was a commissioner on the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission for four years and was inhouse counsel to a labor union for 12 years. Gertz is a proud double Nole, graduating *cum* laude from FSU Law and cum laude with a bachelor's degree in English (and she dreams of writing spec scripts for her



and labor law, her research focuses on workplace issues. Gertz cares deeply about ensuring that all members of the community have access to the justice system. She is a past president and long-serving board member of Legal Services of North Florida. "My job is to create fruitful, educational work experiences for our students at courts, companies, government entities and nonprofits.

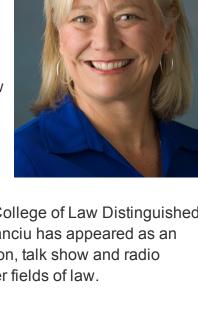
After 19 years here, what still inspires and energizes me daily is the generosity, wisdom and sincere desire to pay-it-forward of the judges and lawyers who volunteer to teach our students at their field placements. I've seen them help thousands of students develop the knowledge, skills, professional habits and confidence to take the next step toward their career goals. What a wonderful group of people to collaborate with and to count as friends and colleagues."

## attorney and has practiced family law for more than 30 years. She specializes in private adoption, as well as reproductive law, including

<u>Charlotte H. Danciu</u> is a board certified adoption

Alum Profile: Charlotte H. Danciu ('80)

surrogacy, paternity, egg donation, sperm donation and embryo adoption agreements, contracts and legal proceedings. Charlotte H. Danciu, P.A. is located in Delray Beach, Fla. Danciu has a worldwide clientele, having handled more than 2,000 adoptions and hundreds of reproductive law matters. In addition, Danciu has successfully influenced Florida's strong adoption and surrogacy laws. She has won numerous awards for her work, including the Congressional Angels in Adoption Award and The Florida Adoption Council Star Award. She also received the FSU College of Law Distinguished Alumni Award in 2008. Throughout her career, Danciu has appeared as an expert on local, national and international television, talk show and radio programs as a result of her outstanding work in her fields of law.



difference; differences in the world will be made." – Kellie Ellmore

"When you stop believing one person in the world cannot make a

## Originally from Sarasota, Thomas Buchan earned a B.S.B.A. in accounting from the

Student Profile: 2018 Grad Thomas Buchan

FSU Law in May 2018 and was a member of the Business Law Society. The summer after his 1L year, Buchan clerked for Lancaster & Eure in Sarasota. He reviewed client cases to ensure correct billing demands following the Florida Supreme Court decision of Castellanos v. Next

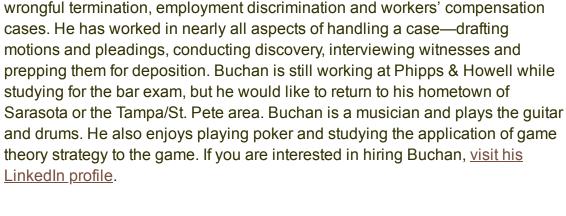
developing civil litigation skills; open to practice

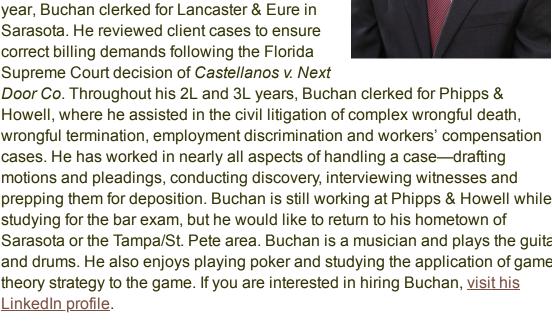
University of Central Florida. He graduated from

**Desired Practice Location:** 

area subject matter

Sarasota/Tampa/St. Petersburg area Field of Law Sought: Hopes to continue





brought me and for the experience I have gained at Phipps & Howell. I realize how fortunate I am to have had these experiences and am truly excited for what the future holds." PLEASE HELP US REACH

**OUR 31% ANNUAL FUND** 

BY JUNE 30.

**ALUMNI PARTICIPATION GOAL** 

"I am thankful for my time here at FSU Law, the opportunities it has



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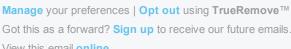


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