

From the Dean



(L-R) Justice Jamie R. Grosshans, Chief Justice Charles T. Canady, Justice Alan Lawson, Salomé García, Zachary Loyed, Keiana Wilkerson, Justice Ricky Polston, Ella Biggins, Justice Jorge Labarga, and Justice John D. Couriel

On Wednesday, November 3, four FSU Law students presented oral arguments at the Florida Supreme Court during the 2021 Moot Court Final Four Competition. The annual event is one of my favorites and this year's competition was very special, as we were able to return to the court after the 2020 competition had to be conducted virtually. The outstanding 2Ls competing were Ella Biggins, Salomé García, Zachary Loyed, and Keiana Wilkerson, and they argued in front of all seven Florida Supreme Court justices. The student advocates argued a case involving a product liability claim against the manufacturer of a vehicle equipped with "autodrive" that included allegations of performance limitations and vehicle defects. Following the competition, students, faculty, and friends of FSU Law gathered to celebrate the competitors at a reception in the Rotunda, where Loyed was named Best Advocate for his impressive oral argument. It was a special treat to have all seven justices join the reception and engage further with our students. Congratulations to all of the talented competitors, and many thanks to the justices for participating in our annual moot court competition!

Erin O'Connor

Dean Erin O'Connor

Professor Ziegler in the Spotlight



Professor Mary Ziegler on BBC World News in October

As a national expert on abortion and the law, FSU Law's Stearns Weaver Miller Professor [Mary Ziegler](#) has appeared in the news frequently in recent months. She has authored opinion pieces for media outlets including The New York Times, CNN, The Atlantic, and The Boston Globe. Additionally, reporters for The New York Times, The Washington Post, Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal, and USA Today have quoted her in news articles. Ziegler also has discussed developments in abortion law on many radio and television programs, including BBC World News and PBS NewsHour. Ziegler is a noted scholar in the legal history of reproduction, the family, sexuality, and the Constitution. She has authored three books on abortion, the first of which won the 2014 Harvard University Press Thomas J. Wilson Memorial Prize for best first manuscript published by the press in any discipline. Ziegler also has two forthcoming books. This spring, Ziegler will be serve as a Daniel P.S. Paul visiting professor of constitutional law at Harvard Law School.

Alum Profile: Marc W. Dunbar ('94)

[Marc W. Dunbar](#) is the managing shareholder of the Dean Mead office in Tallahassee, where he focuses on governmental relations and legislative advocacy, commercial transactions, and gaming. He has extensive experience representing businesses in highly regulated industries. Dunbar handles legal matters and provides lobbying representation for a wide variety of regulated industries, including motor vehicle manufacturing and dealerships, gaming, tobacco, alcohol, healthcare services and providers, and medical cannabis. Dunbar regularly litigates complex statutory and constitutional matters. He has more than two dozen reported appellate cases that he has won on behalf of clients in regulated professions. In addition, he has been very active in assisting regulated entities and private equity firms in exploring and evaluating emerging opportunities in industries in which governments exercise high levels of oversight and law enforcement agencies focus their scrutiny. He twice served in senior executive roles for commercial gaming companies and has successfully led greenfield gambling projects from idea to exit. Dunbar also practices ethics and elections law and has represented statewide campaigns, including the Governors Rick Scott and Ron DeSantis campaigns. He serves in appointed capacity to the Citizens Property Insurance Company Board of Governors and to the board of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association. He remains engaged with the law school, serving on the FSU Law Board of Visitors and regularly teaching as an adjunct professor.



"I thoroughly enjoy giving back to the school which has been such a catalyst in my success as a lawyer and entrepreneur. The caliber of the faculty and student body, as well as the diversity of their ideas are an inspiration to me to stay sharp in the areas that I practice. Over the last 15 years, I have found it very rewarding to teach these future lawyers and see them blossom into respected legal colleagues."

Student Profile: 3L Niakoa "Nia" Anan-Ankomah

Desired Practice Location: Open to any location

Expected Graduation: May 2022

Specialty: Business law

Field of Law Sought: Would like to practice in an area that combines business/corporate law and litigation

Nia Anan-Ankomah is from Accra, Ghana. She earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, and will graduate from FSU Law in May with the Business Law Certificate. During the summer of 2021, Anan-Ankomah worked as a group legal intern with Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI) in Lomé, Togo. ETI is the parent company of the Ecobank Group, which is the leading pan-African bank, operating in 33 African countries with offices in Paris, Beijing, London, and Dubai. During her time there, Anan-Ankomah worked on a \$350 million sustainability bond issued by ETI and listed on the London Stock Exchange. Also during her time with ETI, Anan-Ankomah prepared nomination memos for affiliate board positions for board approval; reviewed and commented on contracts for renegotiation; observed the annual general meeting and transcribed the question and answer section of the meeting; and drafted and reviewed memoranda of understanding between ETI and other firms. In addition to working with ETI, Anan-Ankomah also worked as an intern in the Disputes Department of Bentsi-Enchill, Letsa & Ankomah during the summer. There, she conducted legal research, attended court with associates of the firm, and provided attendance notes after each attendance. She also wrote memos and assisted with closing files, which entailed producing a chronological list of all the documents and processes in each file.

At FSU Law, Anan-Ankomah is secretary of the Multicultural Law Students Association, and she served as vice president during her 2L year. Also as a 2L and now as a 3L, she is a member of the Black Law Students Association Moot Court Team. She is currently a pupil at the William H. Stafford Inn of Court. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Anan-Ankomah after graduation, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#) or email her at mna19b@my.fsu.edu.



"I have been a keen student of the law, a passionate debater and advocate. I enjoy problem-solving and the challenge of unwinding complex issues to find workable solutions. FSU Law has given me the opportunity to explore these skills at an advanced level and equipped me to apply them in a legal career. I work hard, strive for excellence, enjoy learning, and am anxious to thrive and prosper in my prospective legal career and all phases of my life."