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From the Dean



Professor Stern mingles with guests at his retirement reception.

On Monday, April 25, we celebrated John W. & Ashley E. Frost Professor Nat Stern's retirement with a reception in the D'Alemberte Rotunda. Faculty members, students, and alumni attended the event to honor Nat and thank him for his many contributions to the law school. Many of the guests in attendance also acknowledged Nat's impact on their careers and lives. During the celebration, faculty members Don Weidner, Chris Busch, Rob Atkinson, and Mark Seidenfeld made brief remarks that included details about the many ways Nat helped transform the law school. They talked about Nat's ability to bring people together, his successful efforts to raise the stature of our law school through scholarship and faculty recruitment, his creative and engaging teaching methods, and the example he provided to everyone who knew and admired him.

Although we will miss seeing Nat's smile on a daily basis, we were delighted to help him celebrate his much-deserved retirement. We are also thrilled that we will still have many meaningful interactions with Nat, as he will continue to lead and mentor students as FSU Law's Moot Court Team advisor.

Ern O'anna Dean Erin O'Connor

New Fully Functioning Lawyer Class



Professor Krieger leads students in an activity during a class session of The Fully Functioning Lawyer, Principles and Practices.

During the spring 2022 semester, FSU Law offered a new one-credit course cotaught by Professor Larry Krieger, Florida Supreme Court Justice Alan Lawson ('87), and Theresa Revell Krieger, a certified health coach, life habits coach, and meditation trainer. The primary course goal of The Fully Functioning Lawyer, Principles and Practices was to complement and support the traditional law school curriculum by enhancing students' abilities to learn, test, and support overall health and well-being. For this purpose, students were provided tools to help them perform optimally during law school, on the bar exam, and during legal practice. The course assisted student development in several mutually supportive tracks: (1) learning to "live on purpose" through values clarification and the establishment of consistent habits; (2) learning scientifically validated principles and practices to eliminate stress and maximize mental clarity, positive mindset, energy, overall health, and emotional balance; (3) identifying and minimizing life choices that distract from chosen goals or drain personal resources; (4) creating the personal foundations for ideal professional and ethical law practice; and (5) applying all of the foregoing to assist in choosing appropriate career tracks. The timing of the course was fortuitous, in that it addressed American Bar Association standards for law school curricula that were adopted during the semester. Those standards include developing a healthy professional identity and investigating well-being practices to assist attorneys in their work lives. The course was well-received and will be offered again during the fall 2022 semester.

"This is a unique course; the principles and practices are all scientifically supported to maximize health and high mental, physical, and interpersonal functioning," said Krieger. "The practices combine reflection with both traditional and modern techniques of easy movement, breathing, meditation/mindfulness, and energy management. We are looking forward to teaching the course again in the fall, and we are particularly fortunate that Justice Lawson will continue to provide his knowledge and practical wisdom."

Alum Profile: Daniel G. Puente ('13)

Daniel Puente is a trust officer, vice president

with City National Wealth Management. He is responsible for the administration of clients' trusts and guiding them to, and working with, trusted professionals during their estate planning development and review. He also assists clients by completing reviews of their estate plan documents and providing concise summaries for their records. Prior to joining City National, Puente served in a similar capacity at IberiaBank (formerly operating as Gibraltar Bank & Trust), where he was an assistant vice president and trust officer. He started his career in banking at Regions Bank Private Wealth



Management more than eight years ago. His focus has been estate plan administration and review. Puente also served as candidate finance manager for George Sheldon's campaign for attorney general and completed an externship at the North Florida Center for Equal Justice. Prior to law school, Puente received his B.S. in accounting from Florida State University and completed 150 credit hours to receive his C.P.A. eligibility.

Puente is an active member of The Florida Bar, a member of the Bar's Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section, and a founding board member and networking chair of the FSU Law Hispanic Alumni Association.

"The well-rounded education and great professors at FSU Law provided a great foundation that has helped me 'think like an attorney' and problem solve from a different perspective throughout my career. FSU provided me opportunities to work on public speaking and conflict resolution through the Alternative Dispute Resolution Team and many student organizations. FSU also helped instill a strong ability to work with others thanks to the collaborative culture at the law school. FSU Law will really help prepare you for almost any career path, whether as a practicing attorney or an alternate path that takes advantage of your legal knowledge and background."

Student Profile: 2022 Grad Michael Terry

Desired Practice Location: Anywhere in Florida, but especially interested in Tampa, Tallahassee, and Jacksonville

Field of Law Sought: Business law (transactional or litigation) or regulatory law (federal or state)

Michael Terry is originally from Newport News, Virginia, but he has lived in several different cities along the east coast since his undergraduate studies. He attended Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island for his bachelor's degree, earning a B.S. in marketing, and he also holds an A.A.S. in culinary arts. He will graduate from FSU Law on Sunday with his J.D. and the Business Law Certificate. During the fall of his 3L year, Terry was a law clerk for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, where he drafted orders pertaining to a wide array of subject areas spanning civil and criminal topics. He also wrote memoranda and compiled research materials used by the judge and other clerks in forming opinions, performed jurisdictional analysis, provided recommendations to the judge, and reviewed and provided feedback on draft judicial opinions. During the summer before his 3L year, Terry was an enforcement extern with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Atlanta, Georgia. There, he contributed to and edited action memoranda which were presented to the commissioners. Additionally, he created a case review that was used to determine strategy in pending litigation, researched and compiled source materials for pending litigation where no cases on point existed, and identified and tagged useful materials during document review for ongoing litigation. During the summer before his 2L year, Terry worked as a law clerk for Judge J. Lee Marsh of Florida's Second Judicial Circuit, where he wrote memoranda and observed court proceedings, becoming more familiar with civil and criminal procedures. Prior to beginning law school, Terry worked for nine years as an economist for the U.S. Postal Service, and he also worked in pricing for DHL. His work with the Postal Service required extensive knowledge and analysis of detailed federal regulations.



At FSU Law, Terry served as vice president of the Phi Delta Phi honor society, and he received a book award in the Global Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Law course. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Terry, visit his LinkedIn or email him at <u>mterry270@gmail.com</u>.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue a lifelong goal of returning to school to pursue a career in law. After working as an economist in both the public and private sector for over 10 years, it was a transition to come back, but one that I am glad that I made. I look forward to applying my new skills and previous experience to the fields of business and regulatory law."

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