



## COLLEGE OF LAW

# FSU LAW FOCUS

### From the Dean

We are looking forward to seeing many alumni, students and friends at our Homecoming 2016 events next week! I hope you will be able to join us as we celebrate FSU and the College of Law's 50th anniversary. You can find more information about the festivities on the [homecoming page of our website](#). All alumni and their guests are invited to the Friday evening reception; the Saturday tailgate is open to all alumni and students and their friends and families. It has been a pleasure to meet so many wonderful alumni and students since joining FSU Law and I look forward to meeting many more during Homecoming!

- Dean Erin O'Connor



### 50-Year Anniversary: 1967



1967 was an exciting year in FSU Law's history. On May 1, the College of Law and local bar associations sponsored the first annual Law Day at FSU. The event featured a speech by former Florida Governor LeRoy Collins. We doubled our teaching faculty that year by adding three new faculty members, including

longtime professor and evidence authority Chuck Ehrhardt. In addition to teaching thousands of law students during his tenure, Ehrhardt served as the university's representative to the NCAA and the ACC for almost 20 years. Although he retired from full-time teaching in 2007, he still teaches and is actively involved on campus. He can often be found in the halls talking with students and other professors. Our student body also grew substantially in 1967. Approximately 260 students enrolled in classes that fall, compared to 116 the previous year.



Professor Chuck Ehrhardt during his first few years at the law school.

## Alum Profile: Judge Suzanne Van Wyk ('94)

Judge Suzanne Van Wyk ('94) has served as an administrative law judge with the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings since 2012 and also currently serves as president of the FSU College of Law Alumni Board. Before her appointment to the bench, Van Wyk was a shareholder with Bryant Miller Olive in Tallahassee, in their Local Government, Land Use, and Litigation practice groups. She also previously served as assistant general counsel to the Florida Department of Community Affairs. Van Wyk is extremely engaged with the law school, helping to recruit prospective students, mentoring current students, and attending networking events. Her involvement is an invaluable resource to our students. Van Wyk also has a long history of service to local and statewide legal organizations—she currently serves on the board of The Florida Bar Foundation.



*"I came to the law school over 20 years ago with a mind to 'make a difference,'" Van Wyk said. "Recruiting and mentoring the best and brightest for FSU Law is fun. And it keeps me young!"*

## Student Profile: 3L D. Bailey Howard

D. Bailey Howard is a third-year student from Santa Rosa Beach and a graduate of New College of Florida. He has an impressive resume with a variety of co-curricular and hands-on experiences. Howard is the Executive Article Selection Editor for the *Florida State University Law Review* and a member of the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law* and Moot Court Team. His Moot Court experience includes participating in the 2015 Final Four competition before the Florida Supreme Court and placing second at the Craven Constitutional Law Moot Court Tournament in 2016. Howard has served as a judicial extern to Chief Judge M. Casey Rodgers, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida, and clerked for the Gunster Law Firm as the 2015 Gunster Environmental Law Scholar. He also served as a law clerk in the insurance defense litigation practice of Wicker Smith O'Hara McCoy & Ford in Ft. Lauderdale. If you are interested in hiring Howard for a job after graduation, please [click here to visit his LinkedIn profile](#).



*“Ever since my externship with Chief Judge Rodgers, I have known that a career in litigation was the right choice for me. I enjoy the constant creative and strategic thinking that good advocacy demands, and being at the cutting edge, so to speak, of solving legal problems is both exciting and very satisfying.”*

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