



## COLLEGE OF LAW

# FSU LAW FOCUS

December 9, 2016

### From the Dean

Congratulations to the following members of the classes of 2015 and 2016, who have been invited to join the Order of the Coif. The prestigious organization is an honorary scholastic society designed to encourage excellence in legal education by fostering a spirit of careful study. Order members are all in the top 10% of their class. We are all very proud of you!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

#### **2015 Graduates:**

*Alicia M. Bandoli*  
*John V. Barraco*  
*Kristen Elizabeth Bond*  
*Chelsea Morgan Cramer*  
*Anna Kathryn DeCerchio*  
*Kristen Candice Diot*  
*Andrew C. Downs*  
*Lauren Michelle Gentry*  
*Edward A. Grodin*  
*Sarah Elizabeth Haston*  
*Scott J. Kalish*  
*Adrienne C. Kendall*  
*Kevin C. Kostelnik*

#### **2016 Graduates:**

*Alexandra Eileen Akre*  
*William J. Anderson*  
*Sarah Logan Beasley*  
*Andrew M. Bennett*  
*Ernest Arthur Cox*  
*Kamryn Marie Deegan*  
*Barron F. Dickinson*  
*Meredith Fee*  
*Robert B. Fredeking*  
*Joseph Edward Hart*  
*Melanie C. Kalmanson*  
*Andrew B. King*  
*Daniel Krumbholz*

*Jonathan Anthony Martin*  
*Andrew R. Missel*  
*William Austin Nilson*  
*William J. Repko, III*  
*Christopher L. Roberts*  
*Carrie E. Rosato*  
*Roger Rozanski*  
*Ellen C. Ryan*  
*Keith L. Savino*  
*Glenn J. Shidner*  
*Sheena Danielle Smith*  
*Austin S. Turner*

*Taylor M. Onik*  
*Meghan Pieler*  
*Brittany Marie Pinson*  
*Stephanie Ann Schwarz*  
*Ashley A. Tinsley*  
*Courtney N. Walmer*  
*David J. Yaffe*

## 50-Year Anniversary: 1975



In 1975, FSU Law Professor Ken Vinson was named the head coach of the FSU men's tennis team. Vinson (pictured above, front row on the left) joined the faculty in 1969, but he was also a well-known and respected tennis player-instructor. He coached the team for two seasons and continued to teach at the College of Law until 2003. Also in 1975, the College of Law faced contentious issues such as changes to curriculum requirements, faculty cuts and a lack of funding. During this same time, however, United Way of Leon County awarded FSU Law's Legal Services Clinic with an additional \$10,000, citing the "first-rate job" they were doing to provide services for low-income residents. The clinic, located in the Lincoln Neighborhood Center on West Brevard Street, allowed law students to provide legal counsel on cases dealing with domestic relations, landlord-tenant relationships, consumer affairs, insurance law and probate court matters.

## Alum Profile: Nancy M. Wallace ('95)

[Nancy M. Wallace](#) is a partner in the Tallahassee office of Akerman, LLP. She is a member of the firm's litigation practice group, focusing on appellate work. Wallace recently made a pledge of \$25,000 to supplement the existing Nancy Wallace Endowed Scholarship for Summer Program Alumni. The new pledge will bring the endowment to \$50,000. The income distributed from the endowment will be used to award at least one scholarship each year to recruit a graduate of the law school's [Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program](#) who also is a graduate of a historically black college or university. In recognition of her commitment, the law school has named a faculty office the Nancy M. Wallace Faculty Office. The office is occupied by Professor Jennifer LaVia, who teaches during the Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program.



*“My family was benefitted by my daughter receiving a full scholarship to an HBCU. Through this scholarship I am able to both give back to law school and help an HBCU student pursue a legal career with less of a financial burden.”*

## Student Profile: 3L Tiffany Oliver

Third-year student Tiffany Oliver will be graduating in May with an Environmental Law Certificate in addition to her J.D. degree. A native of Southwest Ranches, in Broward County, Oliver received her bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from FSU with a minor in Urban and Regional Planning. Oliver was an accomplished collegiate swimmer at FSU and holds five current school records and four individual ACC championship titles. Oliver's achievements continued during her law school career. She currently serves as an articles and notes editor for the *Journal of Land Use &*



*Environmental Law* and a subciter for the *Florida State University Business Review*. She is a student representative of the law school's Career Advisory Board, a pupil/member of the William H. Stafford American Inn of Court and the past community service chair of the Black Law Students Association. During the spring of her 2L year, Oliver served as a legal intern for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of General Counsel. Last summer she externed for the Office of General Counsel at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She is currently a consortium researcher on the National Law School Farm Bill Research Consortium and a clerk at the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation Office of General Counsel, Construction Industry Licensing Legal Unit. Oliver would like to begin her career practicing in a government capacity, preferably as a transactional attorney. If you are interested in hiring Oliver for a job after graduation, please [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

*“My parents have always told me, ‘Every task you take on should be completed to the best of your ability.’ It’s a simple phrase that I have always kept in mind, and it has helped me reach accomplishments I previously thought unattainable.”*

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