



## COLLEGE OF LAW

# FSU LAW FOCUS

September 1, 2017

### From the Dean



The fall 2018 semester began this week and we are delighted to have classes underway and to welcome all of our students to campus! I have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new 1L class, as this is the first class that I've seen progress through the application process from start to finish during my tenure as dean. This new class, which represents 54 undergraduate schools and 47 different majors, is extremely impressive! The Class of 2020 has the highest percentage of women (52.8%) and the highest median GPA (3.61) of any entering class in the law school's history! The class also is 31.1% diverse in terms of race and ethnicity. We have already been struck by their collective energy and excitement. Everyone here at the law school looks forward to watching them and all of our other accomplished students flourish this year!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

*Pictured above: The FSU Law Class of 2020, taken at last week's 1L Orientation.*

## 50-Year Anniversary: Featuring 2011



In 2011, FSU Law broke into the *U.S News & World Report* top 50 law schools. The law school remains a top 50 school and currently is ranked #48. Also in 2011, Dean Weidner was named one of the decade's most transformative law school deans by influential legal blogger and University of Chicago Law School

Professor Brian Leiter. In March 2011, four members of the Florida Supreme Court visited the College of Law for Florida Supreme Court Day. Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Canady and Justices Barbara Pariente, Ricky Polston ('87) and Peggy Quince spent several hours at the law school for a question-and-answer session and reception. In 2011, FSU Law began utilizing state-of-the-art technology to host live video conferences with out-of-town alumni during Networking Noshes (now called "Food for Thought" luncheons) and interviews for summer associate positions, allowing employers to reduce both expenses and time related to recruitment travel. Also in 2011, Larry Krieger, Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs, was one of 26 law professors featured in *What the Best Law Teachers Do*, a book detailing best practices used by professors in their teaching. In October 2011, the FSU Law Moot Court Team accomplished an unprecedented feat. They won an international advocacy competition – the World Finals of the 2011 Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition in Cape Town, South Africa. After a long battle with ALS, Professor Steven G. Gey passed away in June 2011. Nearly 200 alumni, students and friends attended a memorial for him at the law school in September.

*Pictured above: 2011 Moot Court Team members (from left to right) Anne Marie (Rossi) Williams ('11), Tanya L. Cronau ('12) and Lynn E. Guery ('12) won the North American*

Space Law Competition in Washington, D.C. and went on to win the world title in South Africa.

## Faculty Profile: Lauren Scholz

Assistant Professor Lauren Scholz joined the College of Law this summer and is teaching Sales & Leases during the fall semester. Her research interests include contracts, torts, commercial law, information privacy and intellectual property. Before joining FSU, she was a fellow at the Project on the Foundations of Private Law and the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, both at Harvard Law School. Previously, she was a postdoctoral fellow at Yale Law School's Information Society Project. Prior to entering academia, Scholz was a law clerk for the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts and the Center for Democracy and Technology. She earned her J.D. at Harvard and a B.A. in Ethics, Politics and Economics at Yale.



*“I am fascinated by how the law influences corporate and individual behavior outside the courtroom. I hope to illustrate and share that interest in the classes I teach.”*

## Student Profile: 2017 Grad Alyssa Hartmann

Originally from Port Richey, Alyssa Hartmann graduated from FSU Law in May 2017. She also earned a bachelor's degree in English and political science from FSU. During law school, Hartmann was a member of the Women's Law Symposium, the Association for Criminal Justice and the Christian Legal Society, where she was the treasurer and secretary during her 3L year. Hartmann also participated in Teen Court and the Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative. During her 1L summer, Hartmann was a research intern at the State Attorney's Office, Second Judicial Circuit. During the spring semester of her 2L year, Hartmann was a research assistant for Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs Larry Krieger, where she researched and updated the textbook used in his Criminal Litigation Skills course. The summer after her 2L year, Hartmann completed a litigation externship at the State Attorney's Office, Second Judicial Circuit. In this position, she managed



approximately 100 cases for her supervising attorney, Assistant State Attorney Janelle Surace. During her 3L year, Hartmann worked for the College of Law's Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, where she assisted with event planning, alumni communications and the annual fund campaign. Hartmann recently relocated to Nashville and would like to practice criminal law or human rights law in Nashville or the surrounding area. She sat for the Tennessee Bar Exam in July. Hartmann received a certificate from the International Bar Association for completion of the International Human Rights Law course taught by President Emeritus and Professor Sandy D'Alemberte and Adjunct Professor Mark Ellis ('84). She also completed extensive research on human trafficking during Courtesy Professor Terry Coonan's Human Trafficking course and Adjunct Professor Mark Schlackman's Immigration Law course. If you are interested in hiring Hartmann or helping her make connections in the Nashville area, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

*“My time at FSU Law helped me find and develop my passion for litigation and being in the courtroom. It also opened my eyes to human rights issues occurring around the world, as close as our own backyards. My hope is to use my passion and the skills I've acquired to impact those in desperate situations and change their lives for the better. Although I have planted new roots in Music City, my time at FSU Law will always be close to my heart. ”*

**PROFESSOR  
CHUCK EHRHARDT'S  
50-YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**Friday, September 22, 2017**  
5:30-7:30 PM  
Dunlap Champions Club

Please RSVP by Friday,  
September 15, 2017

Alumni Office | 800.788.7097  
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