

## From the Dean

A new study was released last week and we are proud to announce that our FSU Law faculty ranks first in Florida and 29th nationally in terms of scholarly impact! We are the only Florida law school ranked among the nation's top 50 schools and moved up 10 spots from the previous list released in 2015. The 2018 study ranked the scholarly impact of law faculties at schools in the top third of all ABA-accredited law schools. The "scholarly impact score" for a law faculty is calculated utilizing the mean and the median of total law journal citations over the past five years for tenured faculty members. Impactful scholarship is important because it increases the visibility of our school and faculty, career prospects for our students and the value of an FSU law degree. It is my honor to work with such dedicated, influential colleagues!



- Dean Erin O'Connor

## Faculty & Alum Profile: Judge Terry P. Lewis ('76)

Judge Terry P. Lewis is teaching Evidence at FSU Law this fall. He served as a Leon County Court Judge from 1989-1998 and as a Circuit Court Judge for the Second Circuit since 1998. Lewis, who is perhaps best known for overseeing the Florida recount during the 2000 U.S. presidential election, is retiring from the bench at the end of this year. Lewis has been involved in judicial education for many years, serving as faculty for the Florida Judicial College and the College of Advanced Judicial Studies, where he recently completed a stint as dean. His professional awards include Judge of the Year in 1993 and 2015 from the Florida Legal Education Association, and Trial Judge of the Year in 2000 from the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. Lewis is also the author of three legal thrillers—*Conflict of Interest* in 1997, *Privileged Information* in 2003 and *Delusional* in 2013. His novels draw from his legal experiences and explore the grey area between the law and morality. Lewis is a 1976 graduate of FSU College of Law.



*"I am in my 11th year of teaching as an adjunct at the law school and have enjoyed every class. I believe that teaching has helped make me a better judge, and it is a great feeling to see my former students doing well as they make their way in our noble profession."*

## Alum Profile: Jennifer R. Dixon ('04)

Jennifer R. Dixon is a shareholder at Lowndes in Orlando, where she presently leads the firm's appellate law practice, having served as counsel of record in more than 60 appeals in state and federal appellate courts. Dixon also litigates cases in both state and federal courts. Her litigation experience includes complex real estate and commercial disputes, shareholder disputes, copyright, trademark and trade dress infringement claims, workplace injury claims, and wrongful termination claims. In the family law arena, Dixon frequently represents high-net-worth individuals and families in prenuptial agreements, marital dissolutions and post-dissolution modifications. She is also a mediator certified by the Florida Supreme Court to conduct both circuit and appellate court mediations. Dixon is an active member and past president of the FSU Law Alumni Board of Directors. She also serves as a J.D. Advisor, providing advice to our students on their job searches.



*"I have been so privileged, as an alumnus, to continue to engage with the law school, whether it's been working with law students as a J.D. Advisor or moot court panelist, working with the administration as an OCI employer, or engaging with alumni through networking and development events. As someone whose life was quite literally transformed by her law school experience, I embrace any opportunity to see someone else realize positive results from their legal education."*

## Student Profile: 2018 Grad Ashley Miller

**Desired Practice Location:** Tampa or Jacksonville

**Field of Law Sought:** Interested in family law, based on previous experience in the field; also open to other opportunities such as criminal law, real estate and probate

Ashley Miller is a May 2018 graduate of the FSU College of Law and sat for the July 2018 bar exam. Originally from Tampa, Miller double majored in psychology and sociology at the University of North Florida. During law school, Miller was active in the Black Law Students Association and was the financial secretary for the 2016-2017 year. The summer after her 1L year, she externed with Legal Services of North Florida, where she was exposed to various areas of civil law and especially enjoyed working in family law. During the spring of her 2L year, Miller was a legislative intern in the Senate Minority Office during the legislative session. She worked under the staff director, where she helped comprise committee notes and notes for senators to use while on the floor. During this same semester, Miller participated in the FSU Family Law Clinic, where she was able to handle her own family law cases and was given an in-depth look at the various components of a dissolution of marriage case. The summer after her 2L year, Miller externed at the State Attorney's Office, Second Judicial Circuit, where she worked in the juvenile division and was able to take on a heavier caseload than what is usually expected. As a certified legal intern, Miller was able to manage her own caseload and made daily courtroom appearances, something Miller says was "an amazing experience." If you are interested in hiring Ashley Miller, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).





*"I am so grateful to have been able to spend the past three years at FSU Law. I came to law school to learn about the justice system and the law, but I left learning much more about myself. The opportunities I've had during my time at FSU have been endless. Thankfully, I have been able to connect with many individuals in the legal community, and I've made some lifelong friendships. Some of the best opportunities I've been afforded since starting law school are from taking externships and clinics. For me, the many lessons I was taught in the classroom came to life when I was able to apply them to real cases."*

The Florida State University College of Law and Upchurch Watson White & Max present:

**ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION/MEDIATION CME/CLE**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018 - 7:30 AM-5 PM  
@ THE FSU COLLEGE OF LAW

A detailed schedule and registration forms are available online.

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