

From the Dean



Students participate in a session at the Florida Supreme Court during the 2019 Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program.

We are currently accepting applications for our 2020 Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program and need your assistance in promoting the opportunity to outstanding undergraduate students who are rising sophomores, juniors and seniors. Winter break is the perfect time for students to work on their applications, so as you engage with college students during the holiday season, please encourage them to apply as soon as possible. The deadline is April 1, but applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and we are already reviewing submissions. More than 1,300 students have participated in our ABA award-winning summer program since its inception in 1992. In June 2020, we will welcome another 60 students to FSU Law for this month-long immersion into legal study. Thanks to the generous support of alumnus Wayne Hogan ('72) and his wife, Patricia, the program is tuition-free and provides each participant with meals, residence-hall accommodations, course materials and a stipend. Participants have the unique opportunity to engage with current students and faculty, and to learn about law school admissions, law school, the legal profession and more! [Additional information and the application are available on our website.](#) Thank you for helping us spread the word about this life-changing program!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

Dean Emeritus Weidner Provided Keynote for 2019 LLC Institute

On November 7, FSU Law Dean Emeritus and Alumni Centennial Professor [Donald J. Weidner](#) delivered the keynote address at the 2019 LLC Institute in Tampa. The event, sponsored by the American Bar Association Business Law Section, offered nine CLE programs on the latest developments in LLCs, partnerships and other unincorporated entities. Weidner's address, "LLC Default Rules Are Hazardous to Member Liquidity," critiqued the shift to current LLC rules, which lock members in to perpetual entities, deny them liquidity rights and limit their access to judicial remedies. "My basic point is that current default rules fail to reflect the presumed intent of the thousands of small groups of entrepreneurs who form LLCs," said Weidner. "They are unwittingly locking themselves in to corporate-type entities with no market for their shares."



Weidner was the reporter for the Revised Uniform Partnership Act (1994) (RUPA), and gave the RUPA perspective on choosing default rules for small business. He explained how LLC law has moved away from LLP law on the two key issues of member liquidity and easy access to member remedies.

Weidner is a recognized authority on partnerships, limited liability companies and real estate finance. He is co-author of *The Revised Uniform Partnership Act* and has written on law firm breakups, limited liability companies and complex leasing arrangements. Weidner served as dean of the FSU College of Law for almost 25 years, returning to the full-time teaching faculty in 2016.

Alum Profile: Ginger Barry Boyd ('00)

[Ginger Boyd](#) represents clients in business disputes. She has a statewide practice and handles a variety of commercial litigation matters including: multi-claim and class action, RICO, unfair and deceptive trade practices, real estate, partnership, contract, foreclosure, employment defense, intellectual property and general business litigation. She has first chair jury trial experience in both state and federal court. Boyd also has appellate experience and has argued before the First and Second District Courts of Appeal. She started her career in the Office of the State Attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit, where she prosecuted both misdemeanor and felony cases.



Boyd was recognized as a Florida Association for Women Lawyers Leader in the Law in 2017 and was an Okaloosa Women's Wall of Honor Honoree in 2014. She is a member of several professional and community organizations, including the Rotary Club of Tallahassee. Boyd is a member of The Florida Bar Code & Rules of Evidence Committee and has served on the College of Law's Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2016. As a board member, Boyd serves on the student recruitment committee.

"The experiences I had at FSU's College of Law, which included competing on the Mock Trial Team and completing a criminal justice externship, served as the foundation for my career as a civil trial attorney. At FSU, I learned to be a zealous advocate while also maintaining a professional, courteous and civil attitude. Staying engaged in the law school keeps me anchored to the lessons I learned as a student and mindful of the need to incorporate those lessons into my law practice."

Student Profile: 3L Malasia McDuffie

Desired Practice Location: Tampa
Expected Graduation: May 2020
Field of Law Sought: Employment law and civil litigation generally



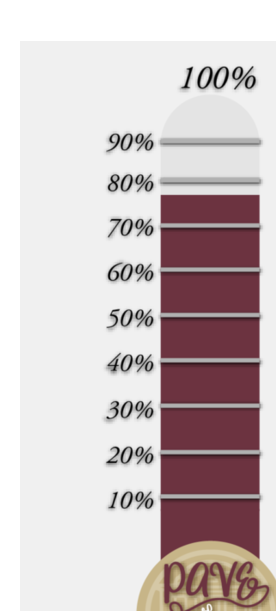
Originally from Tampa, Malasia McDuffie earned a bachelor's degree in applied science with concentrations in criminology and philosophy from the University of South Florida. When she graduates from FSU Law in May 2020, she will also earn the Business Law Certificate. Currently, McDuffie is a student counselor with the FSU Business Law Clinic. She drafts contracts such as shareholder agreements, licensing agreements, nondisclosure agreements and business organizational documents, and she conducts client intake and interviews for client start-up companies. The summer after her 2L year, McDuffie worked as a housing investigator for the Florida Commission on Human Relations. She gathered and recorded information through interviews and correspondence with parties involved in investigations, analyzed complex housing discrimination complaints, and wrote investigative memorandum reports, settlement agreements and agency determinations. From August 2018-August 2019, McDuffie was also a research assistant for Professor Kelli Williams, where she researched and edited corporate law projects. During her 2L year, McDuffie clerked for Sniffen & Spellman, P.A., a boutique employment defense firm in Tallahassee. There, McDuffie researched, labor and employment issues, prepared and edited briefs, articles, memoranda and pleadings, and analyzed issues in Title VII and state discrimination claims involving race, age and religion discrimination and retaliation.

McDuffie is a member of the Moot Court Team and currently serves as an intramural competition co-chair. She competed in the National Moot Court Competition in Child Welfare and Adoption Law in Columbus, Ohio, in March 2019, where she was awarded fifth place "best advocate" and shared second place team overall honors. McDuffie is also a student ambassador for the FSU Law Admissions Office and is involved with the Black Law Students Association. She regularly volunteers with the Leon County Teen Court. If you are interested in hiring McDuffie after graduation, [visit her LinkedIn profile.](#)

"My best days are those spent in the courtroom. Moot Court has always been my favorite part of law school. It has taught me how to quickly speak clearly and effectively before an audience. I am eager to use the skills I have developed through Moot Court in practice."

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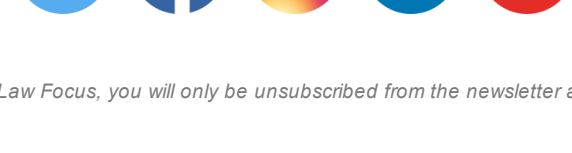
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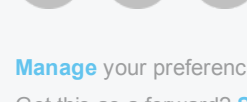
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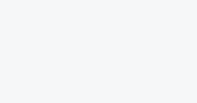


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