

From the Dean



While our spring 2020 commencement ceremony had to be postponed, we still wanted to celebrate our new graduates and all of their accomplishments. To do so, we created a video and digital commencement program in their honor. Both are available at law.fsu.edu/graduation. Our dedicated faculty members were very eager to participate in the video for grads and I am grateful to them for helping us with this special project. Although we all would have preferred to congratulate and celebrate our graduates in person this past weekend, we hope this video and program are small ways to help commemorate this major milestone. The Class of 2020 has persevered through so much during their time at FSU Law—two category-four hurricanes, three grading schemes and a worldwide pandemic—yet they have demonstrated amazing resilience. We are extremely proud of them and have no doubt that they will lead the world to a better place. We are looking forward to celebrating them in person when it is safe for us to come together!

-Dean Erin O'Connor

Alum Profile: Jennifer L. Shelfer ('06)

Jennifer L. Shelfer is a partner in the litigation practice at Amall Golden Gregory LLP (AGG) in Atlanta, where she has practiced since completing a federal clerkship with Judge John Antoon, II ('71) in the Middle District of Florida. Shelfer's practice focuses primarily on employment litigation and counseling, business litigation, and fiduciary litigation. Shelfer also regularly represents tenants pro bono through the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation's Safe and Stable Homes Initiative. Shelfer serves as the assistant general counsel of AGG, co-leads the firm's Women's Initiative and serves on its Diversity Committee. She is also on the board of directors for Ahava Early Learning Center. In addition to her law degree from FSU Law, Shelfer holds a master's degree in forensic psychology from the University of Denver. Shelfer is married to Seam Park ('05), and they have two boys, Alex (7) and Elliot (4).



Student Profile: 2020 Grad Shannon Anderson

Desired Practice Location: Jacksonville, Florida
Field of Law Sought: Medical malpractice law

After graduating from FSU Law last week, Shannon Anderson is now a double 'Nole. Originally from Jupiter, Florida, Anderson also earned a bachelor's degree in finance with a minor in entrepreneurship from FSU. During both the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions, Anderson was a legislative intern for the Florida Justice Association. She drafted position papers and bill proposals, researched proposed bills, tracked legislation, prepared material for daily meetings, and briefed visiting members and attorneys on civil justice issues. During the fall of her 3L year, Anderson was a research assistant for the FSU College of Law, where she helped with several research projects for different faculty members. During the summer after her 2L year, Anderson clerked for Hinkle & Foran. She researched issues that arose in medical malpractice cases, summarized client and expert depositions, drafted motions and memorandums, assisted with the intake of potential new clients, and reviewed medical records. During the spring semester of her 2L year, Anderson interned at the Florida Department of Health in the Emergency Action Unit. There, she reviewed cases and investigative reports, drafted administrative complaints, emergency restriction orders and orders to compel evaluation, and prepared memoranda for probable cause panels and other units. The summer after her 1L year and the fall of her 2L year, Anderson clerked at the Agency for Health Care Administration, where she analyzed legal documents and redacted personal information, researched issues regarding Medicaid and health care facility licensing, and drafted orders and acknowledgment letters.



Anderson served as vice president of Phi Delta Phi from 2018-2020 and the Health Law Society from 2018-2019. She was also a member of Phi Alpha Delta, the Student Bar Association, and Women's Law Symposium. If you are interested in hiring Anderson, [visit her LinkedIn profile](#).

"I am interested in practicing medical malpractice law because I have always been intrigued by the health care field. I was in the Medical Academy in high school, and I have one sister who is a doctor and two sisters who are nurse practitioners."

Student Profile: 2020 Grad Gabriel Lopez

Desired Practice Location: Miami, Ft. Lauderdale area
Field of Law Sought: Environmental law, land use and regulation, or real estate law

Originally from Babson Park, Florida, Gabriel Lopez earned his bachelor's degree from Florida State University in international relations and political science. When he graduated from FSU Law last week, he also earned the Environmental Law Certificate. Last summer, Lopez clerked at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, D.C. There, he participated in enforcement investigations of federal facility compliance, drafted compliance initiatives, and participated in coordination and strategy sessions between federal and regional EPA offices. During his 2L year, Lopez clerked at Hopping Green & Sams, where he prepared briefs and memoranda on various legal issues. The summer following his 1L year, Lopez was a judicial extern at the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings. He drafted preliminary statements, cite checked recommended orders and observed administrative hearings.



This year, Lopez served as the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law*. He was also a member of the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy*. If you are interested in hiring Lopez, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

"I've worked very hard to get where I am, taking the lessons my parents—immigrants starting over in a new country—have taught me to heart. I will always strive to adapt and overcome."



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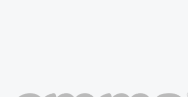
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