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From the Dean



Later this month, we will be hosting our 2021 Homecoming festivities and would love for you and your family to join us. Law school events will begin on the afternoon of Friday, October 22, with a parade watch party sponsored by the FSU Law Alumni Association. On Saturday, October 23, all alumni are invited to our Alumni Board meeting, and all alumni and their families are invited to the Law Alumni Tailgate Party on the law school's James Harold Thompson Green prior to the FSU v. UMass football game. On Sunday, October 24, the festivities will conclude with a 50-year Alumni Brunch, celebrating the classes of 1970 and 1971. You can [visit our website](#) to learn more about all of the events and to register to attend. We look forward to seeing you and your families!

Erin O'Connor

Dean Erin O'Connor

FSU SALDF Wins Chapter of the Year Award



(L-R) SALDF 2020-2021 President Catherine Awasthi, Vice President Mallory Lizana, and Treasurer Hope Johnson during a pet supplies drive last year where SALDF collected food and supplies for the Leon County Humane Society.

FSU Law's Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) has been named a 2021 Student Chapter of the Year by the national Animal Legal Defense Fund. SALDF was selected for the honor following a year of many achievements, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. SALDF students created an advanced animal law course available to students for the first time during the spring 2021 semester. Chapter officers secured an expert adjunct professor for the course, created a skills-training-based schedule for real-world experience in animal law, and solicited passionate students who could benefit from practical training in animal law litigation, legislation, and policy. In addition, SALDF assisted Pets Ad Litem Tallahassee with research and writing projects on a pro bono basis, organized a pet food and supply drive remotely to benefit the local humane society—collecting 250 pounds of pet food and many supplies, and hosted several speakers on timely animal law-related topics. SALDF also promoted wellness and student engagement through outdoor, socially distanced events on campus, including an event for dogs to paint art and a “Dogtorate” and “Purris Doctorate” ceremony to celebrate graduating members and their companion animals.

Alum Profile: Wendy Stein Fulton ('00)

Wendy Stein Fulton is now a partner at Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass LLP in Fort Lauderdale. She focuses on insurance coverage issues, commercial litigation, professional malpractice defense, and health law. Fulton has been involved in the litigation of multimillion dollar coverage disputes involving primary, umbrella, and excess policies. She has litigated the defense of class actions and federal cases arising out of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Sherman Antitrust Act, the Lanham Act, the Copyright Act, and the Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organizations Act. Prior to joining Mound Cotton in September, Fulton managed the Fort Lauderdale office of Kiernan Trebach. She was also previously a shareholder at Keller Landsberg in Fort Lauderdale. Fulton instructs Adjuster Law and Policy courses for the Florida Department of Financial Services. She earned a master's degree in forensic accounting from Florida Atlantic University in 2017.



“Mound Cotton is highly regarded by the insurance industry as a talented and sophisticated team and I look forward to contributing to the Florida office's growth. My experience is a great fit for the firm and I am excited for this next chapter of my career.”

Student Profile: 3L Yardley Collett

Desired Practice Location: Tampa Bay area or Tallahassee, and open to other areas in Florida

Expected Graduation: May 2022

Field of Law Sought: Government/government relations, business law, real estate and open to other areas

Originally from Middletown, Indiana, Yardley Collett earned her bachelor's degree in political science and complementary business administration from Anderson University in Indiana. She will graduate from FSU Law in May. This semester, Collett is participating in FSU's Immigration and Farmworker Clinic, where she helps immigrants, farmworkers, and families obtain legal services. From the fall of her 2L year through July 2021, Collett worked as a law clerk with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation in the Division of Pari-Mutual Wagering. There, she drafted administrative complaints, consent orders, and other legal documents. She also conducted statutory and administrative code research relating to pari-mutual wagering and administrative law requirements relating to pari-mutual issues pertaining to the division. Also during the fall of her 2L year, Collett was a teaching assistant for the FSU LL.M. program's legal writing and research class. In this role, she assisted international LL.M. students in developing and polishing their legal writing skills. During the summer (May-June) of 2020, Collett worked as an employer outreach caller with FSU Law's Career Services Office, contacting alumni regarding potential summer employment opportunities for law students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to entering law school, Collett worked for four years, as a press secretary for the Indiana State Senate and as an admissions counselor at Anderson University.



At FSU Law, Collett is a staff editor for the *Florida State University Law Review*. She is also the senior articles selection editor for Volume 31 of the *Journal of Transnational Law and Policy* and served as a staff editor for Volume 30. Collett is currently a student advisory board member for the Career Services Office and a member of Phi Delta Phi, the Student Bar Association, Women's Law Symposium, and the William H. Stafford American Inn of Court. During the spring of her 1L year, Collett served as a student advisor for the Raising the Bar Professionalism+ Program and during her 2L year, she served as the historian of the International Law Students Association. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Collett after graduation, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#).

“I'm so glad I chose FSU Law. The support of the FSU Law faculty and staff is second to none, and I feel more than prepared to step out into the legal realm. I believe my previous experience with the Indiana State Senate and the soft skills acquired while working in university admissions will serve me well as I begin my legal career.”

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