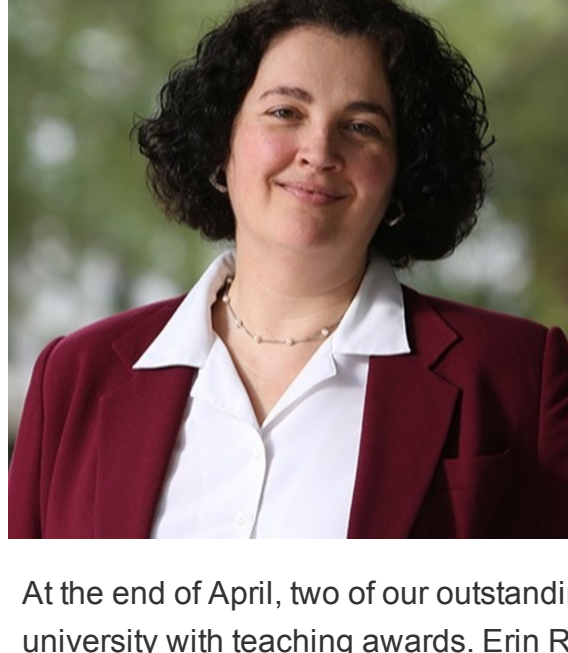


[Get Involved](#) | [Submit a Class Note](#) | [Share My Torch Moment](#) | [Make a Gift](#)

From the Dean



At the end of April, two of our outstanding faculty members were honored by the university with teaching awards. Erin Ryan (pictured left), our Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson professor and associate dean for environmental programs, received the 2021-22 University Teaching Award for Innovation and Teaching at the graduate level, and Clinical Professor Darby Scott (pictured right) received the 2021-22 University Teaching Award for Community Engaged Teaching at the graduate level. Erin was honored for her unique Negotiations seminar, which has a dynamic, interactive, and empowering structure that differs from most traditional law school courses. Students in the course participate in weekly negotiation simulations that help them improve their individual negotiating skills, while also developing a framework for ongoing self-learning, so they can continue expanding these skills throughout their lives. Darby's selection was based on the many strong relationships she has formed with community partners in concert with her teaching in our Public Interest Law Center. These partnerships allow our students to hone their advocacy skills and expand their legal knowledge, while providing much needed legal services to community members. As students engage in hands-on, experiential learning in the community, they also develop an appreciation for service, which will stay with them during their legal careers. Please join me in congratulating Erin and Darby on their much-deserved awards!

Erin O'Connor

Dean Erin O'Connor

Peraza Receives Pro Bono Award

On May 3, recent graduate Trinidad Peraza received the 2022 Blaise Gamba Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award during the 2022 Law Day Celebration, which was co-hosted by Legal Services of North Florida, Legal Aid Foundation of Tallahassee, and FSU Law. Peraza was recognized for her extraordinary interest in, and commitment to, public interest work and pro bono service from her first days as a student at FSU Law. She performed nearly 400 hours of pro bono work at a variety of organizations, including Legal Aid Service of Broward County, the Office of the State Attorney for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, and the FSU Law Gender & Family Justice Clinic. Peraza also was a dedicated student leader during law school, serving as president of the Women's Law Symposium and vice president of the Public Interest Law Students Association. She also volunteered as a mentor to undergraduate students in the FSU Women in Prelaw Society. The Blaise Gamba Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award is presented annually to a graduating 3L who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to pro bono service. The award was established in honor of 2006 graduate Blaise Gamba, who practiced at Carlton Fields and was a leader and champion for the firm's pro bono efforts.



Alum Profile: Douglas Helling ('06)

Douglas "Doug" Helling is associate general counsel for global market access and pricing at UCB, an international biopharmaceutical company based in Brussels, Belgium. Helling and his team of in-house attorneys are located at the U.S. headquarters in Atlanta. His primary focus is on pharmaceutical pricing, government price reporting, and contracting with payor and supply channel customers (e.g., pharmaceutical benefit management companies, wholesalers, specialty pharmacies, others). He and his team also advise on state drug price transparency laws and support the company's state and federal government affairs teams. Helling also has experience as a product lawyer, applying FDA law and regulations in supporting the advertising and promotion of FDA-approved prescription pharmaceuticals. Prior to his time at UCB, Helling was an attorney at Pfizer and at Fowler White Boggs Banker in Tampa. Before attending law school at Florida State, he had a career on the commercial side of the pharmaceutical business. In addition to his full-time job, Helling is an adjunct professor for the FSU Law Juris Master Program, teaching Drug Regulation and Compliance. Helling previously taught Drug Regulation to FSU Law J.D. students during the spring 2020 semester. He also officiates Georgia high school football as a referee, plays golf, and hangs out on the beach.



"I had a great experience at FSU Law and am delighted to be given the opportunity to give back as an adjunct professor. I feel deep satisfaction knowing I am helping a body of students improve their knowledge in healthcare because it is complex in the United States and highly regulated. The more people who understand the laws and regulations, the better the integrity of healthcare delivery and patient outcomes will be."

Student Profile: 2022 Grad Victoria Scotti

Desired Practice Location: Seattle, Washington

Graduation: May 2022

Field of Law Sought: Business or employment law

Victoria Scotti grew up in Spring Hill, Tennessee and Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She earned her bachelor's degree in international affairs, magna cum laude, from Florida State University. She became a double 'Nole when she graduated from FSU Law earlier this month with her J.D. and the Business Law Certificate. During the spring of her 3L year, Scotti was a legal extern with the Florida Commission on Human Relations. In this position, she analyzed investigation reports, complaints of alleged employment discrimination, and violations of the Florida Civil Rights Act. She also prepared investigatory determinations, final orders, bench summaries, legal research, and memoranda; developed competency in fact gathering and field investigation; and observed administrative hearings and settlement negotiations. During the summer before her 3L year, Scotti was a law clerk at Kubicki Draper in Tallahassee, where she performed legal research pertaining to first- and third-party insurance defense litigation, specifically regarding workers' compensation, premises liability, and products liability. In addition, she prepared written analyses of case law for motions and memoranda, and she observed depositions, mediations, and settlement negotiations. In the spring of her 2L year, Scotti was a law clerk at Young Qualls, P.A., in Tallahassee. There, she conducted legal research and analysis while composing memoranda regarding the tax deed process, premises liability, and liability of elected officials. She also drafted motions and observed court hearings. During the summer after her 1L year, Scotti was a legal extern at the Superior Court of Fulton County in Atlanta, Georgia, where she drafted case analyses and proposed orders for Judge Kimberly M. Esmond Adams; observed court hearings, including proceedings on sentencing, bail, criminal, and civil cases; and conducted legal research.

At FSU Law, Scotti was a staff editor for the *Florida State University Law Review*. She also served as vice president and 1L representative for the Business Law Society, and was a member of the Student Bar Association, Women's Law Symposium, and Multicultural Law Students Association. Additionally, Scotti was a teaching assistant for the Juris Master Program's Employment Law and HR Compliance course for one semester. She is also conversational in Spanish. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Scotti, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#) or email her at victoriascotti106@gmail.com.

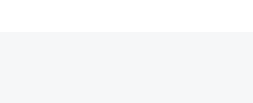
"My time at FSU Law provided me the opportunity to develop expertise in a variety of fields, allowing me to become a versatile legal professional. My business-focused coursework, along with my real-world work experience in employment law, has given me the practical tools I need to be an effective and diligent advocate in my future career in Seattle, Washington. I look forward to applying my research skills, communication abilities, and legal knowledge in my future employment."

[ABOUT US](#) | [ACADEMICS](#) | [ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID](#) | [OUR FACULTY](#) | [ALUMNI](#) | [CAREERS](#) | [STUDENTS](#)



If you unsubscribe from the FSU Law Focus, you will only be unsubscribed from the newsletter and not other emails from FSU Law.

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

425 West Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL | 32306 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.