

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

### From the Dean

When I reviewed our recently published 2022 Faculty Scholarship Brochure for the first time, I was humbled by the reminder that I work alongside so many prolific scholars. The scholarly output of our faculty is impressive both in range of subject matter and quality. This year's brochure highlights some extraordinary law journal placements. Our professors have recently published articles in many of the nation's top ranked journals, including the *California Law Review*, *Duke Law Journal*, *Michigan Law Review*, *Notre Dame Law Review*, *UC Davis Law Review*, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, and *William & Mary Law Review*. In addition, media outlets and courts regularly feature and cite the impactful scholarship of our faculty. You can [browse our 2022 Faculty Scholarship Brochure online](#) to see a comprehensive list of our faculty's recent publications.



*Erin O'Connor*  
Dean Erin O'Connor

### Alumni Awards Recipients Honored



In September, FSU College of Law presented the 2022 Alumni Awards during a special Zoom session. You can [watch a recording of the inspiring event online](#) if you were unable to attend. Susan Maher ('84) received the Exemplary Public Service Career Award for demonstrating exceptional character, integrity, humility, professionalism, and the highest regard for ethics during her career. Tom Spulak ('82) received the Distinguished Alum Award, which recognizes an alum who is distinguished professionally and who has rendered outstanding service to their community and the College of Law. Salesia Smith-Gordon ('92) received the Alumni Association Service Award, which is presented to a graduate who has rendered distinguished service to FSU Law over an extended period of time. Seth Miller ('04) received the Everyday Hero Award, which recognizes an alum who is a mid-career public servant and enthusiastically uses their legal training to make a more just and equitable society. Professor Emeritus Nat Stern received the Class of '66 Award, which is presented to a non-alum who has rendered distinguished service to the College of Law and to the community.

Congratulations to all the award recipients; the law school is grateful for each of them, their service, and their support of FSU Law students!

### Alum Profile: Ashley E. Gault ('12)

**Ashley E. Gault** practices corporate and real estate law at Tucker Ellis LLP in Cleveland, Ohio. She has extensive experience negotiating commercial real estate deals, including financing, land use planning, and especially REITS and governmental projects. Licensed to practice law in both Florida and Ohio, Gault began her practice at Dean Mead & Dunbar and Pennington, P.A. in Tallahassee, where she focused on Florida real estate law and was a lobbyist. She was recently selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America for 2023* for the third consecutive year in the area of real estate law. Gault is also engaged in many professional and community activities, most notably with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cleveland, where she uses her big heart to make an impact on the housing crisis in a leadership role as treasurer and vice chair to the board of directors.



***“FSU Law built a drive in me to succeed and modeled how a lawyer should be a servant for others first – it’s not until you watch a real attorney in action that you can start to become one. I was blessed to have the great Pete Dunbar as my first mentor and teacher.”***

### Student Profile: 3L Alberto Garcia Marrero

**Desired Practice Location:** Miami, Tallahassee, or Washington, D.C.

**Expected graduation:** May 2023

**Specialty:** Business law

**Field of Law Sought:** Civil business litigation, including fraud, FDUTPA, trade secrets, contract disputes, non-compete, and solicitation; or appellate law

Alberto Garcia Marrero is originally from Cuba but grew up in Miami, Florida, and he earned a BBA and MBA from Florida International University prior to beginning law school. He will graduate from FSU Law in May and will also earn FSU Law's Business Law Certificate. Since December of his 1L year, Garcia Marrero has worked as a law clerk at EPGD Business Law, where he researches legal issues and prepares substantive motions for cases in state and federal court. He has prepared numerous motions to dismiss complaints and summary judgment motions, and he has also prepared memoranda in opposition to motions from opposing counsel. Additionally, he has worked closely on all the appeals the firm has managed during his time there, which involves preparing drafts of all the briefs filed in the cases. He has also attended depositions and evidentiary hearings as second or third chair to assist the attorneys. During the summer before his 3L year, Garcia Marrero was a judicial extern for the Honorable Martin A. Fitzpatrick ('94) of the United States District Court, Northern District of Florida, and the Honorable Bronwyn C. Miller of Florida's Third District Court of Appeal. At the Northern District of Florida, Garcia Marrero drafted routine motions in criminal and civil cases and conducted reviews of section 1983 civil rights complaints and habeas corpus petitions. He also prepared draft reports and recommendations to dispose of cases. At the Third District Court of Appeal, he reviewed briefs and their corresponding records to prepare bench memoranda on the issues on appeal. During his 2L year, Garcia Marrero was a Florida gubernatorial fellow, working in the Division of Emergency Management, Office of General Counsel. There, he conducted legal research on issues of administrative law and rulemaking. He also worked with the division's legislative affairs director to review and track legislation that would impact the division, and he provided legal analysis of the legislation to the general counsel. During the summer after his 1L year, Garcia Marrero was a judicial extern for the Honorable Scott M. Grossman of the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. There, he researched legal questions, many of which were novel at the time due to the COVID-19 pandemic causing a shift to virtual depositions and changes in e-discovery. He also assisted in preparing bench memoranda on issues involving various aspects of the bankruptcy code.



At FSU Law, Garcia Marrero is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Transnational Law & Policy* and president of the Cuban American Bar Association. He also currently serves as a student representative for the Young Lawyers Section of the Tallahassee Bar Association, a board member on the Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society's student advisory board, and an associate justice of the FSU Student Supreme Court. Previously, he served as a member of FSU Law's Raising the Bar Professionalism+ Program's student advisory board, and as treasurer of FSU Law's Student Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, and Business Law Society. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Garcia Marrero after graduation, visit his [LinkedIn profile](#) or email him at [ag19cj@fsu.edu](mailto:ag19cj@fsu.edu).

***“As graduation approaches, I often think about what I have learned about myself in law school. I have learned to appreciate the rule of law for what it is—a fundamental part of our institutional government. My hope now is that I can go into the legal profession and continue to uphold our rule of law and those institutions which my homeland desperately desires.”***

[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.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.