

THE MAGAZINE OF THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Spring 2005

FSU LAW



**ALEX
VILLALOBOS**
Senate Majority Leader

More Great News!

It is great fun to be at Florida State's law school these days as recognition of the quality of our program keeps pouring in.

Earlier this month, *U.S. News & World Report* issued the 2006 edition of its widely read rankings of 179 accredited law schools. I am delighted to report that we jumped 11 slots this year—to 56 from 67. No one factor is responsible for the increase. We made progress on most of the specific factors that enter into the computation of the overall ranking. This year, we placed higher than last year both on the reputational ranking by lawyers and judges and on the reputational ranking by academics. Most of us here are saying, "It's about time," knowing that it takes a long time for an increase in the quality of a school to be reflected in its reputational ranking.

We also ranked higher than last year on the credentials of our entering students, on job placement of our recent graduates, and on student/faculty ratio.

U.S. News also ranks law schools by specialty areas of legal study, and we are now ranked 14th in the nation in environmental law (and are the only Florida law school in the top 20 in environmental law).

Finally, *U.S. News* also listed us as one of the most diverse law schools in the country—this year, we have a 25 percent minority enrollment in our first-year class.

We believe that, even after the 11-rank overall increase, we still are significantly under-ranked. We are a much stronger school than many of the schools ranked higher than we are. Here, again, informed third parties agree with us. Almost immediately after the new *U.S. News* rankings were published, Professor Brian Leiter, of the University of Texas law school, who publishes the *Educational Quality Rankings of U.S. Law Schools*, said that one of the "obvious injustices" of

the *U.S. News* rankings is that Florida State is ranked too low. Professor Leiter's *Educational Quality Rankings* differ from those of *U.S. News* in that his contain much more information about the output of faculty, particularly their scholarly output. While we cannot expect a dramatic rise in the rankings every year, we believe that, over time, we will be recognized as one of the nation's top 15 public law schools.

Our phenomenally productive and engaged faculty is one of our greatest strengths. It is wonderful and critical that the job they do—and the reputation they are helping to build for the school—is paying big dividends in the form of job offers for our students. The placement results are now in on the May 2004 graduating class. Within nine months of graduation, 99 percent of the May 2004 graduates were placed, either in private law firms, businesses, government agencies, judicial clerkships or graduate programs. Employers know that we have an exceptional student body that receives a first-class legal education.

Our student competitors are also helping to build our reputation. In the short time since I last wrote this introductory column to you, we have won two more first-place awards in national moot court competitions. In March, we won first place in the Luke Charles Moore Civil Rights Invitational in Washington, D.C., and in February we won first place in the Domenick L. Gabrielli Family Law Competition in Albany, New York. This has been quite a year for the Moot Court Team! You may recall that we started off the year by winning first place in the 2004 Robert Orseck Memorial Competition in Boca Raton, Florida.

Needless to say, our alums also play a critical role in advancing our reputation for excellence. This issue of *FSULaw* features, on the cover, Alex Villalobos, our first graduate to become majority leader of the Florida Senate. It also features Jim Whisenand, Andy Dogali, Charlotte Danciu and many other alums whose successes are an important part of our increased recognition.

In short, congratulations to everyone on a job well done! It is a personal privilege for me to be a part of this law school.

Thank you.



Don Weidner

Dean, College of Law



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Senate Majority Leader **ALEX VILL**

1988 College of Law Graduate Poised to Take Over As Senate President in 2008

In the rough and tumble world of Tallahassee politics, three years can be an eternity. But if his support holds until 2008, and the Republican Party maintains its grip on the Florida Senate, Alex Villalobos of Miami will become the first lawyer to hold that office in 12 years.

It's an exciting prospect for the 1988 Florida State University College of Law graduate who sits comfortably in the highest circle of Senate leadership as Majority Leader, chief herdsman of the 26 GOP members.

For now, Villalobos is staying out of the spotlight, supporting and advising Senate President Tom Lee of Brandon. "It's a long way off and right now is Tom Lee's time," is Villalobos' often repeated refrain. Republican Ken Pruitt already has been tapped for the top position in 2006.

As leader of the Republican caucus, Villalobos helps to develop collective positions on issues and is concentrating his efforts on working with other members to "make sure that their agendas see the light of day."

Under the time-honored tradition of the Florida Legislature—especially when term limits have greatly accelerated the scramble for leadership—future leaders begin consolidating their power long before they take office. Villalobos began testing the waters in 2003.

Villalobos, who served for eight years in the House of Representatives understands this, and isn't shy about sharing his legislative philosophy.

"I tell new members, 'Don't box yourself in' and, 'You don't have to take a position on anything before you vote. Just listen to the debate or listen to the public testimony.' Why box yourself in? To me, that's like the jury making up their minds before they listen to the evidence."

Villalobos has a reputation for working quietly behind the scenes to build consensus and to get what he wants for his constituents in District 38.

The *Orlando Sentinel* described his style as, "focused, intellectual and hard working," and says he is "trusted by Republicans and Democrats."

While lawyers across the country are chaffing over Congressional and legislative rebukes of the judiciary, Villalobos sees room for healing.

He has served as chairman of the Judiciary and Criminal Justice committees, and says the experience has strengthened his faith in the autonomy of all branches of government, especially the judiciary.

"I am a strong believer in independent branches of government," he said. "We should not interfere in their ability to do what they do. Our system works."

He says he wants the Legislature to work more closely with the Florida Supreme Court and the Florida Bar, opening up the process so that lawmakers will have a better idea of how legal concepts translate to the courtroom and the street.

"The courts are jammed packed with cases and part of the reason is because we don't spend the proper amount of time or we didn't get the proper testimony on the law that's being discussed up here. If we had spent more time and gotten better advice on what to do here, we wouldn't have all of these cases in litigation.

A LOBOS!



'They prepared me to think quickly on my feet,' he says of law school.

“We try our best,” he says of his fellow citizen legislators. “But the Bar has folks who are experts in very narrow sections of the law and who help us when those issues come before committees. They can come to the committee meeting and say, ‘That sounds great, but in real practice, that’s not the way it works’ and ‘Why don’t you try this approach?’ Those people are an invaluable tool for the Legislature.”

‘The Best Job in the World’

Villalobos is proud of his legal training, and says he gets to apply it every day he is in the Legislature. “Law school for me was a great experience. I realized it teaches you a different way to analyze things and to think. They prepared me to think quickly on my feet. That is the best thing law school does for you, and that’s why I believe I am successful today.”

After he graduated from law school, Villalobos and his wife Barbara settled in Tallahassee, where he took a job as an assistant state attorney and she went to work for the legislature. “We were both very happy here and had pretty much settled down, thinking this is what we were going to do,” he said.

But when Barbara’s mother died shortly afterward, they moved back to Miami to be with family. He went into practice with his father Jose Villalobos, with whom he still works. When reapportionment created new seats in the House of Representatives, Villalobos decided to run. “I’ve been blessed because that was my only campaign,” he said. “I’ve been unopposed since 1992.”

Villalobos has had several major legislative accomplishments during his eight years in office.

“In my second year in the Senate, President McKay asked me to chair Education and I agreed to do it, but that was before I knew we were going to do the education code rewrite. It was the single biggest bill ever passed in the Legislature.”

He was given the task of rewriting the state’s education code two years ago, the gargantuan chore of shaving 4,000 pages of eye-glazing dictum down to 1,776 pages. Sparks flew between the chambers over issues such as school prayer and school choice. It was not an assignment any lawmaker or politician would relish. But Villalobos is proud of the achievement.

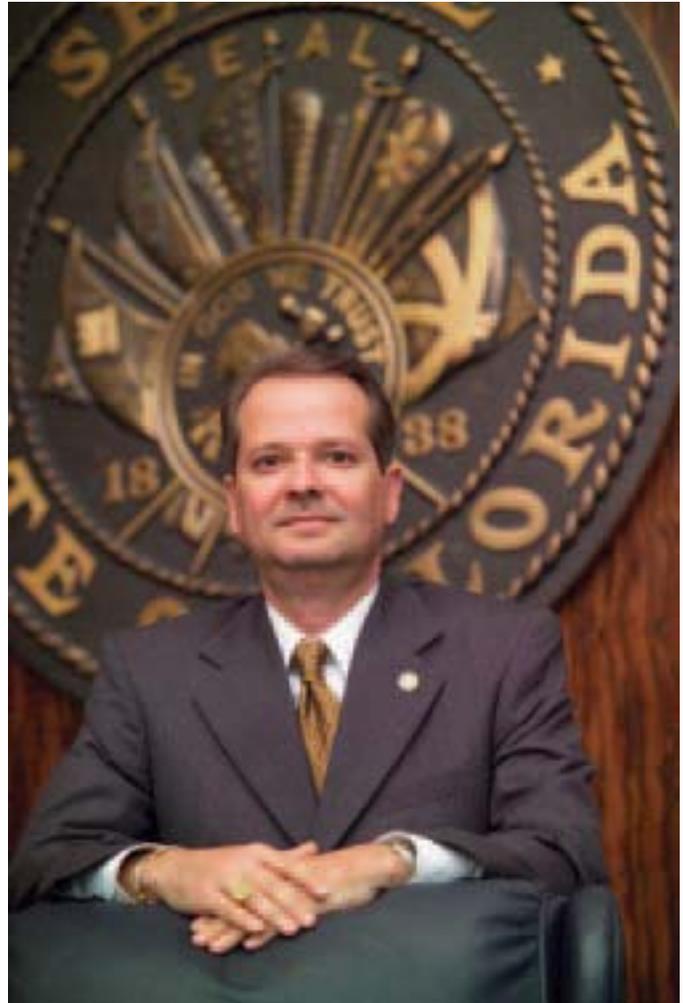
In 1998, responding to the murder and dismemberment of a 9-year-old Miami boy, Villalobos championed the Jimmy Ryce Act. It originally called for the forced hospitalization of sexual predators after they completed their prison terms, but has since been toughened to include indefinite prison stays.

When the Republicans wrestled control of the House in 1996, former House Speaker Dan Webster handed Villalobos a plum assignment: the chairmanship of the judicial appropriations committee. It was an interesting turn since he had worked as an assistant state attorney under Leon County State

Attorney Willie Meggs and had been a student of Public Defender Nancy Daniels, who taught at Florida State. “All of a sudden, I got to handle the funding for the Supreme Court and the state attorneys and public defenders, and Willie Meggs comes over and says, ‘I sure hope I was nice to you!’”

After his election to the Senate in 2000, Villalobos was named Majority Whip and served in that position from 2001-2002. Today, in addition to his role as Senate Majority Leader, he serves on the a number of committees, including Community Affairs, Criminal Justice Appropriations, the Select Committee on Medicaid Reform, Rules and Calendar, and Ways and Means. He also serves as vice chair of the Judiciary Committee.

“This is the best job in the world,” he said. “I really feel like I found my calling. It’s an honor to be able to serve with my colleagues, and knowing that that the people back home put their trust in me is an awesome responsibility. I feel I’m the luckiest person in the world to be granted this experience.”





JIM WHISENAND

**International Lawyer Pursues
His Passion for Polo**

Jim Whisenand's international law practice may have made him a citizen of the world, but his heart never strays far from South Florida.

Though a typical business week often entails travel to Sao Paulo, Madrid, London, or New York, Whisenand makes a point to be home on weekends to pursue his passion: polo and polo ponies.

He not only plays professional polo with some of the sport's most renowned stars, but also has built an equestrian facility for his 10 horses on his 25-acre property in Wellington, home of the International Polo Club Palm Beach.

Whisenand, who grew up in Iowa, began riding when he was 8, competing in equestrian trials as a member of the U.S. Pony Clubs. He later concentrated on breeding and riding Arabian horses. These days, he immerses himself in every aspect of the "sport of kings."

"It would not bother me to quit what I'm doing and do nothing but take care of my horses," he says. "I'd rather do that than anything else."

In Miami business circles, Whisenand, a partner in Whisenand & Turner, is legendary for helping pave the way for the city to become an international banking center. In 1980, he successfully orchestrated the acquisition of a Miami bank by a Spanish-owned financial institution after convincing the State Comptroller's Office and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System that a Florida bank with a national charter was not subject to the same regulations as a state-chartered bank.

When *Euromoney*, a leading international business magazine, established list of the top 1,000 international law firms, Whisenand's firm was one of only 77 U.S. firms among them. It's been on the list ever since.

After leaving FSU in 1973 with an MBA and a law degree, Whisenand was on a fast track. Just two years out of law school, he was appointed as Florida's deputy attorney general. By the late 1970s, he was in Miami working with clients on complex transactions involving international business, banking, and investments. While the 1980 banking deal solidified his reputation in Miami, his subsequent success in international and emerging market activities brought him increasing acclaim and respect worldwide. He is much sought after as a speaker and consultant and serves on numerous boards and committees in a dozen countries.

Tumultuous political events in the 1980s changed the world map and also created business opportunities. And as new nations emerged, whether from the former Soviet bloc countries or as the result of changing governments in places like Vietnam and Latin America, Whisenand was there. He is considered one of the foremost experts on expanding markets in Cuba.

His counsel has enabled governments in emerging nations to structure their debt, charter their banks, and privatize investments. Private clients have sought his representation for acquisitions and financing and a wide range of business and real estate development projects. Counted among his former clients and "persons with unique involvement" have been Johnson & Johnson heiress Barbara Piasecka Johnson and the Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

On the International Polo Club Palm Beach polo field, Whisenand hobnobs with an altogether different set of luminaries. His teammates during a recent U.S.A. vs. U.K. International Charity Day event to benefit the British Fighting Forces and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society included U.S. polo great Adam Snow, actor Tommy Lee Jones and Outback Steakhouse co-founder Tim Gannon. Visiting team players at the club have included international polo stars and royalty, including Britain's Prince Charles.

In 2002, Whisenand put the finishing touches on his Wellington equestrian facility, including a polo field and stables in a building inspired by the architecture of Tuscany.

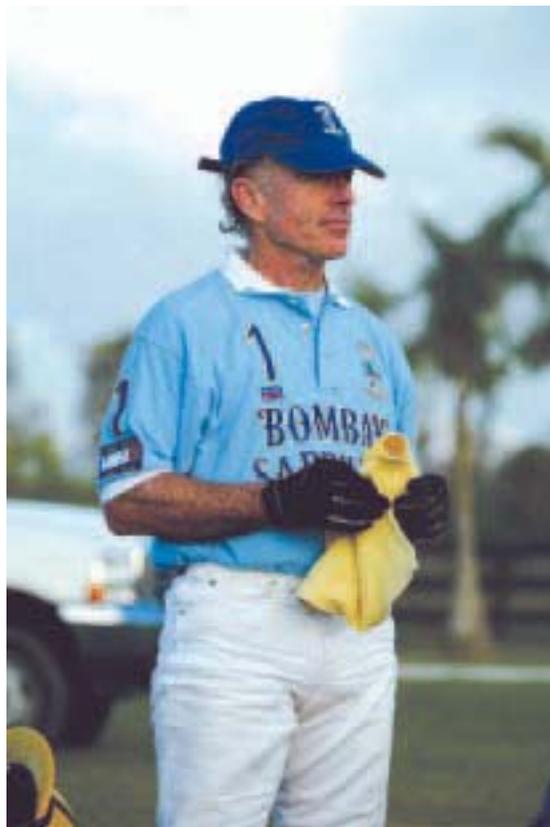
Wellington also serves as headquarters to Equus Events, Inc., his latest enterprise. Equus develops corporate sponsorships of professional polo teams among brands that he says are "commensurate with sophistication and good taste." Among sponsors whom he already has engaged are Bombay Sapphire and Berenberg Bank, Germany's oldest bank.

He also is a director and shareholder in the Wellington-based Polo Gear, Inc., a major manufacturer and marketer of polo apparel and accessories.

"In one sense, the sport of polo is much like the professional advisory services we provide," Whisenand says. "It's a col-

lective team effort, premised on a high level of individual expertise and performance, in response to the particular environment and without the ability to truly control what is happening. It's creating a physical presence in a very competitive arena with a sense of anticipation of what will happen, and a focus on a course of action that is subject to constant modification as the environment develops around you."

This is why, whether negotiating and structuring cross-border corporate transactions in Latin America and Europe or astride one of his magnificent polo ponies, Whisenand is totally at home. He has worked smart and hard to earn success in the things he cares about, in the larger world of international law and business and in the more exclusive world of polo and horses. His cosmopolitan air has served him well in both arenas, and the life he has fashioned for himself is exactly the one he wanted.



'It would not bother me to quit what I am doing and do nothing but take care of my horses.'



Charlotte Danciu:

'A Beacon of Hope' in the World of Adoption and Reproductive Law

Charlotte Danciu is one of those fortunate people for whom her work not only is a passion, but a labor of love. She has practiced family law in South Florida for more than 22 years in the areas of private adoption, gestational and traditional surrogacy, paternity, egg and sperm donation contracts, and all aspects of reproductive law. She has attended more than 50 births and handled more than 2,000 adoptions.

The 1980 College of Law graduate has been called a “beacon of hope” to people who dream of having a baby, but for whatever reason, can’t, as well as for women caught in “crisis pregnancies.”

Danciu is recognized as an information source and an expert in her field, and has been on the cover of *The New York Times* and featured in *People* and *maire claire* magazines, among other publications. She has appeared on the “Today Show with Katie Couric,” “The Phil Donohue Show,” “NewsNight With Aaron Braun,” “The John Walsh Show,” and on all the major television networks and cable stations as a result of court appearances dealing with issues related to her specialized practice.

She has represented hundreds of clients in the United States and abroad, and has successfully influenced Florida's legislation resulting in some of the most progressive adoption and surrogacy laws in the world.

Two famous adoption cases in the Florida Supreme Court and the Fourth District Court of Appeals earned her worldwide recognition and sealed her reputation as an aggressive advocate for women and children's rights.

The first, in 1995, was the "Baby Emily" case, in which Danciu represented a birth mother who wanted to let a family adopt her daughter. The adoption was blocked by the birth father, a convicted rapist, who sought custody of the child. The three-year battle reached the Florida Supreme Court, which established that birth fathers have no rights in cases of "pre-natal abandonment."

In the second case, she fought for the repeal of the "Scarlet Letter Law," an experience she refers to as "the battle of my life." The state Legislature in October 2001 passed a law making it mandatory for birth mothers wishing to give a child up for adoption to place ads in local newspapers giving their sexual histories and names of the possible fathers. Representing six women, Danciu challenged the law, saying it was a violation of their constitutional right to privacy. The Fourth District Court of Appeal agreed and a month later, the Florida Legislature and Gov. Jeb Bush repealed the law, instead establishing a paternity registry where men who think they have fathered a child can enroll to be contracted if the child is offered for adoption.

Handling Adoptions a 'Natural'

Danciu earned a bachelor's degree in exceptional child education childhood at Florida Atlantic University. While interning in elementary schools, she became frustrated with the system, and decided she could better advocate for children as a lawyer than as a teacher.

While waiting to begin law school, she trained as an Emergency Medical Technician. For leisure, she says, she reads *William's Obstetrics* and any assisted reproduction article she can get her hands on. They have helped her gain a better understanding of pregnancy and reproduction.

Danciu arrived at the College of Law in 1977 and calls her time at the law school the "some of the best years of my life." As a first-year, she was the class representative to the Student Bar Association, and in her second and third years, served as vice president and president of the organization.

In 1982, she successfully handled one of the first battered women syndrome cases in Palm beach County and a number of DUIs before taking on her first adoptions.

"Handling adoptions was a natural for me because I was a support to women in crisis, and I was helping people who wanted children," said Danciu, who, as a single woman adopted a special needs child in 1984.

She estimates that in the early 1980s and 1990s, she handled 75 percent of the adoptions in Florida. In the 1990s, she began focusing on other legal options to traditional adoption: surrogacy, gestational surrogacy, egg/sperm donation and embryo adoption.

"Reproductive law is cutting-edge, and there are new technologies available that allow people to have their own biological child," she said. "Being infertile is a terrible thing and it's heartbreaking for couples and individuals. But traditional and gestational surrogacy offer additional options to those who have been trying unsuccessfully to have a child. Surrogacy is a wonderful thing—if you have the right contract."

About 75 percent of her practice now involves reproductive law, and she devotes much of her time keeping up with medical technology and creating increasingly better contracts for an increasingly complex issue. "My contracts are evolving every year because there is little precedent and new issues keep coming up. We need to address those issues by putting into writing the intentions of the parties and what the law provides as their legal rights. This is so important and hopefully avoids problems in the future."

In addition to the numerous surrogacies and egg and sperm donation contracts Danciu is writing, she is also handling the "adoptions" of embryos that would have otherwise been stored indefinitely or destroyed. She says that the embryos that are "adopted" are "extras," remaining after fortunate couples have completed their families through in vitro or other assisted reproduction methods.

"Everyone should be able to have a family of their own, if possible. Our goal is for our clients to have the biological or adopted child they've so desired. I'm here to insure that they achieve their dream smoothly through a competent medical and proper legal process."



'Everyone should be able to have a family of their own, if possible.'



Jim Towey with President Bush at the White House.

Another Promotion for **JIM TOWEY**

President Bush Calls Him 'A Tireless Servant for Those in Need'

Jim Towey's high-level, high-powered public service career has been driven by his passion to do well by doing good. Since 2002, the 1981 College of Law graduate has led the U.S. Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Earlier this year, the White House elevated him from deputy assistant to an assistant to President George W. Bush. In announcing his promotion, the president called Towey "a tireless servant for those in need" and praised him for "helping to empower the armies of compassion in America to solve some of our nation's most pressing problems."

Establishing the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives was one of the president's first acts after taking office in 2000. Its mission—to remove roadblocks that prevent faith-based organizations that provide services in their communities from receiving federal grants—has not been without controversy. "A lot of people were angry after he was elected in 2000, and cast it as a partisan matter. It was clear that the Democrats wanted to block it," says Towey, who

House as "very disciplined, very structured," Towey also says that the president has been "pretty accessible."

"The president likes a 'horizontal' structure. He doesn't like to be shut off from people. I meet with him when I need to, some weeks more than others. During the Iraq war, we wouldn't talk as often."

When the president's schedule includes events related to the Faith-Based and Community Initiative, Towey travels with him. Towey also promotes the initiative and explains the grant process to groups around the country, and meets with people running successful programs.

It has been important, he says, to limit his travel to about once a week. Despite a hectic schedule, he has insisted on making time for his family. "One thing I'm proud of is that my marriage and family haven't suffered from neglect. My five kids and wife still love me!"

Towey spends much of his time in Washington, meeting with lawmakers, and says that his office is in the process of asking Congress for support. In early March, Bush reaffirmed his support of

'The president doesn't like to be shut off from people.

I meet with him when I need to, some weeks more than others.'

describes himself as a "pro-life Democrat."

Now that the president is no longer up for election, Towey says he believes the opposition has slackened somewhat. "We're seeing more opportunities to work on a nonpartisan basis," he says. He pointed out increasing support among some Democrats, including senators Hillary Clinton and Joe Lieberman, and the governors in 10 of the 24 states that have opened faith-based offices to help distribute funding.

Faith is the cornerstone of Towey's life as well as his job. A devout Roman Catholic who was personally inspired by Mother Teresa to work with the poor and ill, and who served as her attorney, he starts his typical day by attending early morning mass.

"Afterward, I arrive at the White House at 7:15, park (a few spaces from the vice president's limo), and then I walk in at 7:30 and meet with Andrew Card (the president's chief of staff) and about 20 senior staff in the Roosevelt Room." He also attends weekly meetings with Karl Rove, White House deputy chief of staff. Towey acknowledges that in this administration, little is left to chance.

"I have lots of scheduled meetings to prepare for various events," he says. "This White House likes things nailed down in advance."

Towey reports directly to President Bush. "My life in this office is built around supporting the president." While describing the White

his faith-based initiative in a speech to 300 religious leaders, and listed a series of steps toward "advancing a culture of compassion." Generally speaking, Towey says, the steps are aimed at eliminating barriers in the form of "hostile regulations" that for many qualified faith-based organizations currently reduce their access to federal grants.

Towey fully supports the president's program, and is hopeful of seeing their efforts succeed, of "changing the culture," so that, in the president's words, faith-based groups would be judged "by results and not by their religion."

"I'd like to give this initiative some permanence, and I believe it will happen," Towey says. "I think it resonates with most Americans. People realize that things had gone too far, that the pendulum had swung too far away from religion."

Meanwhile, as the man who, the president has said, "works full-time to help others feed the hungry," Towey finds a great deal of fulfillment in his job.

"The most exhilarating thing has been to see the legions of hidden souls doing this great work, day in and day out, with no recognition," he says. These are the "armies of compassion" across America who help others, who stand to benefit from Jim Towey's commitment and devotion to service.

at the White House

ANDY DOGALI:

A Generalist Among Specialists

In a profession that he sees as clearly divided between corporate defense lawyers and those who represent individual plaintiffs, Andy Dogali is an increasingly rare breed of attorney who relishes work on both sides of the courtroom.

On the defense side, Dogali has represented such corporate giants as Lloyds of London in insurance coverage disputes, U.S. Steel in commercial matters, and HOK Architects (one of the world's largest designers of airports and stadiums) in construction litigation. On the other side of the aisle, he has advocated for victims of economic and insurance fraud in individual lawsuits and class actions.

"When I started my firm (in 2000), I didn't believe the maxim that you can be really good at only one thing, and I wanted to do several different things," says the 1986 graduate of the College of Law and managing partner in the Tampa-based firm of Forizs & Dogali. "I didn't want to give up all of my hourly clients to become a pure plaintiffs' lawyer and I didn't want to just do defense or corporate representation."

Dogali laments the fact that "there aren't many of us generalists around anymore."

"I've been in cases with lawyers who have been practicing for 15 years and are dyed-in-the-wool corporate defense lawyers who have

never done plaintiffs' work nor have they ever had to be accountable to an individual for whom their performance is the most important thing in their lives."

By the same token, he says he just as frequently runs into plaintiffs' lawyers who "have never billed a client by the hour and don't know what it's like to report to a fourth-level manager down from somebody who can truly make a decision, and so they have no idea why it takes a very long time to answer a question or get authority from a client.

"Their lack of sympathy for each other is understandable, but it's a bit of a shame that it's causing us all to become so polarized. Folks on both sides of the courtroom used to understand what their opposing counsel was going through. I'm not sure that's the case anymore."

To Dogali, both types of work offer distinct challenges and rewards.

"Large corporations tend to offer very complex and intellectually stimulating issues and have the resources to allow you to chase rabbit trails to nowhere in large disputes," he says. "You're up against some of the brightest legal minds in the country and I wouldn't give up that kind of opportunity for anything in the world."

'Folks on both sides of the courtroom used to understand what their opposing counsel was going through. I'm not sure that's the case anymore.'

On the other hand, he says, though individuals usually don't have the resources to fund that kind of litigation, "I've never had a corporation give me a hug."

An Expert in Construction Law

Dogali came to national attention in 1996 when he was named a national spokesperson for several thousand senior citizens who opted out of a national class action against Prudential Life Insurance Company in connection with claims regarding the company's life insurance sales practices.

"I thought that the class action was very well-represented, but there were individuals who I thought were better off suing on their own," he says. "I had a large collection of those folks and because I had more of those clients than anyone else, I was named national liaison counsel.

"I was impressed by all the attorneys on all the different sides, and that type of work was fun," Dogali says of the experience, which became the platform for his accepting additional plaintiffs' work, including handling class actions on the defense side. "Class action representation takes plaintiffs' work to a whole different level." Though he is selective about the number and types of class actions he takes on, he says those cases bring together all the elements of the law that he most enjoys.

"This is the place where my two practice areas come together. The cases are very big, like representing a Fortune 500 company in a large dispute, so you get the opportunity to address very sexy, trendy, challenging, compelling legal issues. The cases are complicated to manage, and I like that aspect of it. By the same token, you're also accountable to individuals, and you do get the satisfaction of helping a great many individuals who would never be in the position to bring one of these lawsuits on their own if there weren't somebody willing to step up for them."

Although he considers himself a generalist, Dogali is regarded as an expert particularly in construction law and insurance coverage disputes. He has lectured on legal issues relating to architectural and engineering services and has held seminars on construction law and the economic loss doctrine. He has handled numerous commercial usury disputes and lectures and writes on the subject. Dogali also enjoys keeping abreast of law firm management techniques and trends, and sits on the Executive Council and is past chair of the Florida Bar Practice Management and Development Section.

Forizs & Dogali is based in Tampa and has offices in Orlando and St. Petersburg. It's a tight group that Dogali says is comprised of "folks I've practiced with for a least 10 years, and we wouldn't want to practice with anyone but each other." All, he adds, are "reluctant to get pigeon-holed into one practice area." Still, he admits, "It's very difficult to be a litigation-only firm anymore, so we decided to diversify some." The firm added three new practice areas last year—real estate development, transactions and land use; labor and employment; and intellectual property and trademark protection. Another area opened up when one of the attorneys already on staff wanted to practice aviation law. "If somebody comes to me with a plan,"



Andy Dogali

Dogali says, "I'll hear him out." The 19-lawyer firm continues to expand, especially into new practice areas and markets.

Dogali is married to Hope Grunnet Dogali, whom he met during their first semester in law school at FSU. She practiced real estate law before stopping her full-time practice to raise their two sons, Scott, 15, and Nick, 13. She now handles occasional real estate closings through Forizs & Dogali.

For now, there seems to be plenty of demand for the kind of general practice that Dogali favors, as long, he says, as one is willing to accept both institutional and individual representation.

"Also, as a partner who manages many extremely talented associates, I have the luxury of being able to choose my own course more than most," he admits. "I do get the opportunity to parachute into cases that are fun or especially challenging. In other cases I can often delegate more. For most practitioners, that opportunity is very rare."

If at some point, he decides to concentrate his practice on one type of representation, the decision will be made by choice, not by default, he says. "I think that's true of my colleagues at Forizs & Dogali as well. It is unusual to run into folks like us, who are actually having fun practicing law."

Michael Jackson:

Making History in Selma as
First African-American District Attorney



Michael Jackson at left

Alabama has seen many changes in the 40 years since March 9, 1965, when the Selma to Montgomery March signaled a milestone in the civil rights struggle. Today, the election of African-American officials, like Michael Jackson, is a result of the Voting Rights Act that came out of that historic march.

In January, Jackson, a 1988 graduate of the College of Law, became the first African-American to be elected district attorney in the Fourth Circuit in Selma, the state's largest circuit. Alabama Congressman Artur Davis, speaking at Jackson's inauguration, called the event "a big moment" for the state, saying, "The Alabama that Dr. Martin Luther King dreamed about is a little bit closer."

Among well-wishers at Jackson's swearing-in was friend and 1986 FSU law grad, the Honorable Herman Thomas of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Alabama, who introduced him.

Jackson campaigned as a crime-fighter. "I decided to run for office because of a long crime spree that had gone on here for a couple of years," he said. "Something needed to be done, and fortunately, I won." He described how the level of activity had deteriorated to the point where a convicted murderer, not yet sent to jail, was still out on the street and was shot, the victim of a multiple homicide.

Also, in Jackson's estimation, punishments were not fitting the crimes. "A murderer might get a 20-year sentence while a thief convicted of stealing a bike might get 15." His idea is simple: "Bring common sense to the justice system and make the punishment better fit the crime."

Particularly distressing to Jackson and others concerned with the rising crime rate is the fearlessness exhibited by so many young people. "They were seeing fairly light sentences for murder and weren't deterred in the slightest," he said.

Jackson, an experienced criminal attorney, former city judge and assistant district attorney, already has put his mark on the

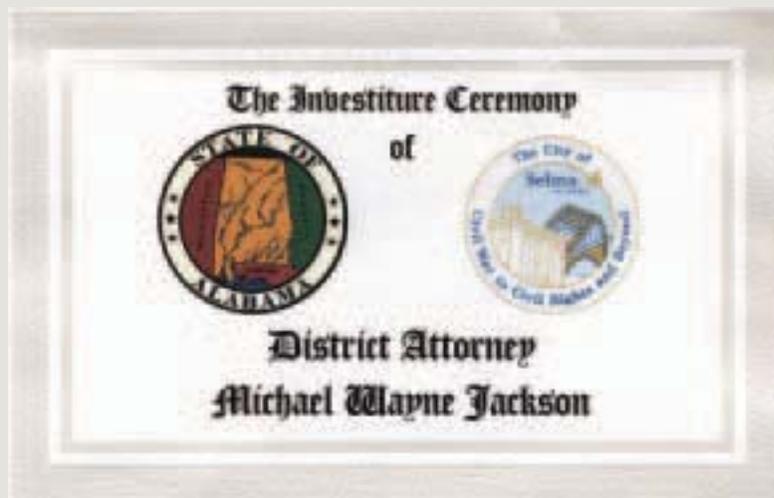
system. Since taking office, he has taken steps to ensure that violent and nonviolent offenders are being served justice more appropriately. He has met with numerous judges, including Judge Thomas, agency heads, and others to find better approaches and new solutions to the application of justice.

"Violent crime seems to have slowed down since I took office," said Jackson. "After so many murders happening, there hasn't been a single one." He believes that part of the reason is the example already being set of harsher sentences for crimes of violence.

On the other hand, Jackson is advocating for a different approach with younger, nonviolent first-time offenders. He says he is a believer in "second chances" and is willing to explore alternative punishments, including treatment. Instead of prison, some are being sent to adult boot camps. Other alternatives may include assignments to newly established programs such as a drug court for first-time offenders and a family court. The number of child molestation cases led to the formation of a child advocacy center to work with abused children. "I'm writing grants right now to get more funding," added Jackson, acknowledging that money is tight.

The Fourth Circuit is the state's largest region. Including five counties, it stretches 128 miles from top to bottom. Jackson has hired nine assistant D.A.'s and is working toward seeking greater inter-agency cooperation across the region to work with his office in reducing crime and increasing fairness of justice.

As Jackson joins the ranks of African-American legal advocates seeking equitable justice in the state, he acknowledges the size and scope of the job ahead. "This is a time for new ideas and a new beginning," he says, "and so far, everything is going fine."



FSU Faculty

As Visiting Professors

A Fresh Setting for Teaching and Scholarship

Florida State University College of Law faculty members are in demand as visiting professors at some of the nation's most prestigious public and private law schools.

Over the years, several faculty members have been invited to spend a semester at various law schools, where they have the opportunity to teach, lecture and present their scholarly papers, participate in the intellectual life of their host institution, and interact with colleagues in different parts of the country.

Being invited to teach at other law schools is an honor and an acknowledgement of our faculty's standing in the broader academic community, and few professors like to pass up the opportunity.

"Faculty who visit elsewhere broaden their professional network and bring new insights back to FSU," says Jim Rossi, the Harry M. Walborsky Professor and associate dean for research. He has visited at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and at the University of Texas School of Law. "That helps them to better their own scholarship and teaching, which ultimately benefits FSU students."

of Texas School of Law. "That helps them to better their own scholarship and teaching, which ultimately benefits FSU students."

'Visiting professors are envoys for us at other schools.'

While visiting another law school may be a perk for the law professors, their home institutions also reap the benefits, says J.B. Ruhl, the Matthews & Hawkins Professor of Property and associate dean for academic affairs.

"Faculty members frequently lecture and present scholarly papers at other law schools, but when they're teaching and interacting with faculty on a day-to-day basis, that helps to showcase their strengths and benefits us because it extends our reputation beyond the state and region," Ruhl says. "Visiting professors are envoys for us at other schools."

How peers perceive their colleagues at other law schools also has a direct impact on reputational rankings by *U.S. News & World Report* and the Educational Quality Rankings of U.S. Law Schools by Brian Leiter of the University of Texas.

While Florida State faculty members are elsewhere, the College of Law welcomes visiting professors from other law schools or from practice and clerkships. (Host institutions pay the salaries of their visiting professors.) Their visits to Florida State have helped them to launch tenure-track teaching careers at other institutions.

During 2005-06 academic year, visitors to Florida State from other law schools will teach a diverse array of courses, including Evidence, Sales & Leases, Insurance Law, Federal Courts, and Discrimination Law.

Though the school does not make offers to visitors while they are on campus, many past visitors to Florida State College of Law have joined the permanent ranks of the faculty, including Mary Crossley, The Florida Bar Health Law Section Professor; Joseph Dodge, the Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson Professor; Elwin Griffith, The Tallahassee Alumni Professor; and Associate Professor Tahirih Lee.

FSU Visiting Professors at ABA-Accredited Law Schools Since 2000:



FREDERICK ABBOTT
University of California at Berkeley
(regular, short-course visitor)



ROB ATKINSON
University of Alabama School of Law
(Spring 2006); Cornell Law School
(Spring 2002)



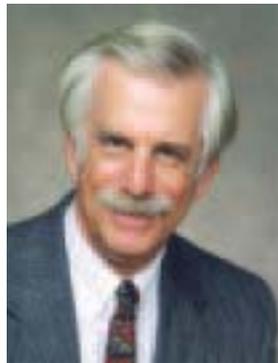
AMITAI AVIRAM
University of Illinois
School of Law
(Fall 2005)



DEBRA LYN BASSETT
University of California-Davis School of
Law (2005-06 academic year)



DONNA CHRISTIE
Santa Clara University School of Law
(2000-01)



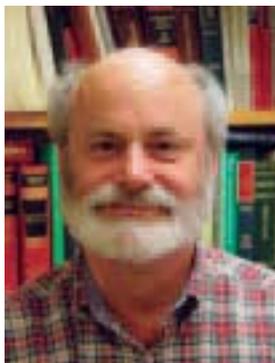
CHARLES EHRHARDT
University of Georgia School of Law
(Fall 2001)



ADAM HIRSCH
Boston College School of Law
(Fall 2005);
SMU School of Law
(2003-04 academic year)



GREG MITCHELL
University of Virginia School of Law
(Spring 2005); Vanderbilt Law School
(Fall 2004)



DAVID POWELL
University of Miami Law School
(Spring 2005)



JIM ROSSI
University of North Carolina Law School
(2002-03 academic year); University of
Texas School of Law
(2000-01 academic year)



LOIS SHEPHERD
Wake Forest University School of Law
(Spring 2004)

Knowles & Randolph Gift

Awards Outstanding Graduates of Summer for Undergraduates Program

With a \$50,000 gift to the College of Law, law partners Harold Knowles and Roosevelt Randolph have established the Knowles & Randolph Diversity Enhancement Endowed Scholarship.

Income from the scholarship will go each year to an outstanding graduate of the College of Law's Summer for Undergraduates

“While Clayton found the program exceptionally challenging, it really stimulated his interest in the study of law,” Knowles says. “It occurred to me that there would likely be a number of students who might successfully complete the Summer for Undergraduates Program but have no financial means of attending law school. By establishing a scholarship of this type, my law

The Summer for Undergraduates Program is designed to familiarize students from groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession with the study of law. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors enrolled in all majors at two- and four-year institutions across the country are eligible. The program helps participants direct their remaining time in college to best prepare for law school.

“This signature program to enhance the pipeline of talented minorities to law school is now being studied and copied by other law schools across the nation,” says Dean Don Weidner. “We are thrilled that Harold Knowles and Roosevelt Randolph are giving so generously to it.”

Each year, 60 students are selected to participate. More than 400 students have completed the program since it was established in 1992.

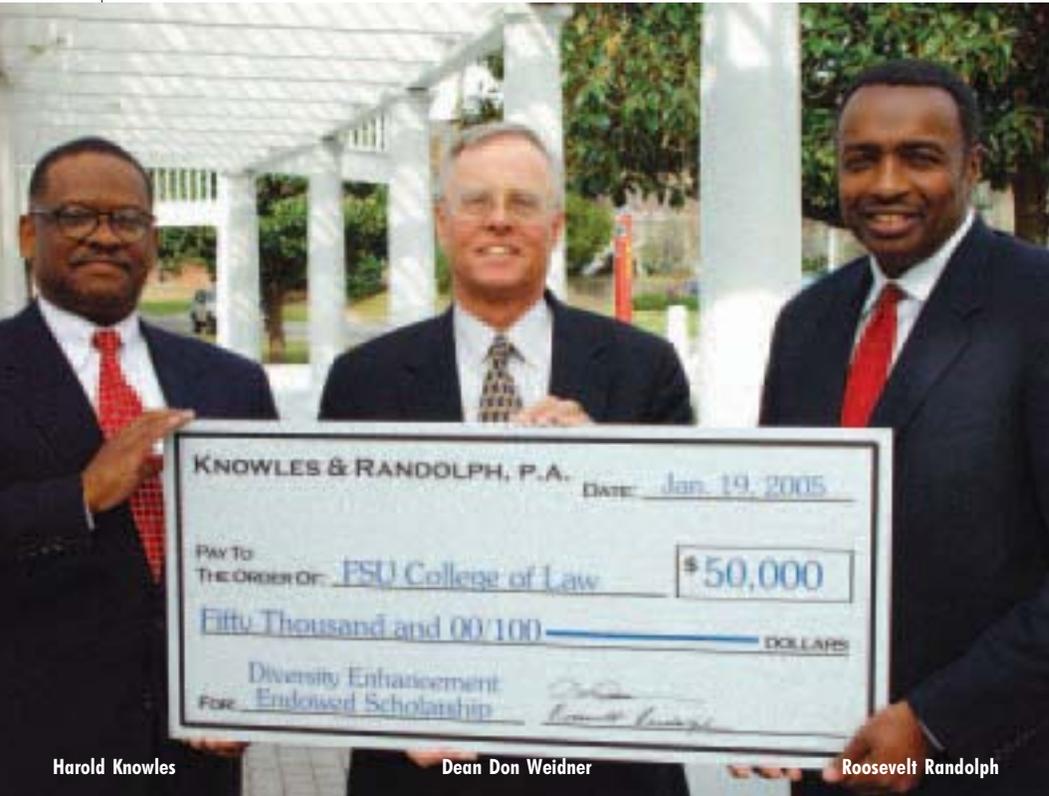
“During the past 14 years, we have seen so many promising students come through the summer program and it's fantastic that the Knowles & Randolph scholarship will make law school a reality for an outstanding student who wants to become a lawyer,” says Nancy Benavides, associate dean for student affairs and the program's director.

Knowles & Randolph, established in 1979, is the oldest African-American law firm in the Big Bend and North Florida. The firm also has an office in Quincy, Fla. Practice areas include personal injury, general civil litigation, real property law, bond finance, state and local government law, administrative law, lobbying, and probate.

Program who ultimately enrolls in law school at Florida State. The recipient will be known as the Knowles & Randolph Scholar.

“I was profoundly impressed with Dean Weidner and his staff's commitment to enhance diversity at the Florida State University College of Law,” says Knowles, who became acquainted with the Summer for Undergraduates program when his son, Clayton, participated.

partner and I felt we could facilitate greater diversity in the student body at the College of Law, while at the same time ensuring that academically deserving, but financially challenged, students would have the opportunity to undertake the study of law.”



Harold Knowles

Dean Don Weidner

Roosevelt Randolph

Jeff and Aggie Stoops' Gift Establishes Professorships at the Law School and School of Social Work

Florida businessman and 1984 College of Law graduate Jeff Stoops says he is keenly aware of the need for quality business lawyers.

“As a former practicing corporate and securities lawyer, I was thrilled with the opportunities available for business lawyers, but I also witnessed a large amount of work from Florida corporations going to out-of-state lawyers,” Stoops said.

In part to “facilitate the further development of corporate and securities lawyers in Florida” Stoops and his wife Aggie have established the Jeffrey A. and Agnes Flaherty Stoops Endowment at Florida State University. One half of the earnings from their \$700,000 commitment will go toward the Jeffrey A. Stoops Professorship at the law school. It will be used to attract or retain a highly productive professor specializing in corporate, business, or securities law.

The other half of the earnings will fund the Agnes Flaherty Stoops Professorship at the School of Social Work, and will be awarded to a professor whose work focuses on child welfare. Aggie Stoops received her master’s degree from the School of Social Work in 1983.

Once the commitment is fulfilled, the gift will be eligible for a 70 percent match from the State of Florida, bringing the total endowment to \$1,190,000.

Jeff Stoops, who serves on the College of Law’s Board of Visitors, said the gift, which will be made over a period of time, is a way to express appreciation for the “wonderful and enriching experiences” he and his wife had at Florida State. “FSU has meant so much to us and it laid the solid foundation for where our family is today,” he said. The two met at Cawthon Hall on the main campus when they were undergraduates in 1980.

Jeff Stoops is president, chief executive officer and a director of SBA Communications Corporation, based in Boca Raton, Florida. Before joining SBA in 1997, he was a partner in the Florida-based law firm of Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, where he prac-



ticed for 13 years in the corporate, securities and mergers and acquisitions areas.

With more than 3,000 wireless communications towers, SBA Communications is a leading independent tower owner and operator, as well as one of the nation’s largest providers of professional network development services to companies in the wireless communications industry. SBA generates revenues from its two businesses, site leasing and site development. The company leases antenna space to wireless service

providers on towers and other structures that they own, manage for, or lease from others. Since it was founded in 1989, SBA has participated in the development of over 25,000 antenna sites in the United States. It also offers wireless service providers assistance in developing and maintaining their wireless service networks. SBA is a publicly traded company, listed on the NASDAQ National Market System, under the symbol “SBAC.”

A Hero in Our Midst

For Tom Equels, It's Not the Honor, but the Service That's Important

Orlando litigator Tom Equels, a two-time recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism during the Vietnam War, has another honor to add to the many he has garnered over the years. He recently was inducted into the elite Distinguished Flying Cross Society, which is comprised exclusively of war heroes who have received the highest honor for military flying.

The military has awarded the cross to only a select few since it was created in 1926. Charles Lindbergh received it in 1927 for his solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean and it was awarded to Naval Commander Richard E. Byrd for flying over the North Pole in 1926.

Equels was awarded his first Distinguished Flying Cross in 1972 for a successful rescue mission under fire when five divisions of the North Vietnamese Army invaded South Vietnam. He was the co-pilot of a Cobra helicopter gunship flying behind enemy lines. That same year, he received a second Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery during a battle near Tian Phuoc, South Vietnam.

In addition to that prestigious honor, Equels, a 1980 College of Law graduate, was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, 15 air medals, including three with "V" device for valor, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

Fortunately for the legal profession, Equels' military experience heightened his dedication to service. "In serving my country, I realized there were certain ideals—political ideals, what kind of country we have—that I could best serve as a lawyer." Equels, managing partner in the firm of Holtzman Equels, also has been recognized for his professional service. He received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Award in 1995, the Guild of Catholic Lawyers' St. Thomas Moore Award in 1991, The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award, and the Federal Bar Association's Public Service Award in 1987. He also recently began



serving as a member of the law school's Board of Visitors.

Equels decided early on that he wanted to become a lawyer after getting to know lawyers and judges at the Western Pennsylvania courthouse where he visited a friend who ran the snack bar. But he put his plans for college and law school on hold and, right out of high school, enlisted in the Army, eventually signing up for the Army helicopter flight training program. He enlisted, he says, because he "wanted to become a pilot, but also was attracted by the benefits of the GI Bill."

The challenges of daily combat in Vietnam provided important tools for success, Equels says. He credits his experience as a Cobra helicopter gunship pilot for instilling in him "a strong work ethic and discipline" and providing skills he later would use as a trial lawyer. "The pace is rigorous and preparation requires clear thinking and attention to detail. Being a pilot was good training."

After leaving the military, Equels took advantage of the GI Bill, which allowed him

to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees (summa cum laude) from Troy State University before heading to Florida State to, finally, pursue his law degree.

Equels also has had a number of notable professional achievements during his legal career. He obtained a \$44-million judgment against former Panamanian President Manuel Noriega for money he misappropriated from the Republic of Panama. He gained release for a wrongfully convicted man who spent 10 years on Florida's Death Row. And he successfully represented a naval reservist in a suit against a company that broke a law requiring employers to re-hire reservists and members of the National Guard who have served in the military for less than five years.

As someone who has been honored many times—for service to his country and to his profession—Equels says the satisfaction is not about the honor but about the service.

Nina Ashenafi:

Leading By Example, Making a Difference

This month, Nina Ashenafi is winding up her yearlong presidency of the Tallahassee Bar Association on a high note. Fresh on her mind is her list of achievements and successes. Driven by an ambitious agenda, the accomplishments are in keeping with the organization's tradition and Ashenafi's personal dedication to service.

The purpose behind every goal that the 1991 College of Law graduate pursues is simple: Make a difference. Her leadership at the Tallahassee Bar is no exception. Her commitment to pro bono work has been recognized by The Florida Bar Association, which honored her with its Pro Bono Service Award for the Second Judicial Circuit. She also has served the Tallahassee Women Lawyers as pro bono coordinator and president. It is no surprise, then, that one of TBA's membership requirements is a source of great pride to her: "Ours is the only bar association in the nation with mandatory pro bono service as a condition of membership," Ashenafi says.

Although every bar association promotes professionalism, TBA's approach constitutes a somewhat unique membership benefit. This year, TBA initiated a first-ever Judkins CLE Series which allows members to do free CLE courses for other members. "This is so important to our profession, and TBA has an amazing CLE program," she says, adding that during the past year, many of the courses focused on the importance of ethics and professionalism in all legal specializations and cases.

Practically speaking, Ashenafi says she likes to respond to immediate challenges. As Tallahassee Bar president-elect, she organized a long-range planning committee retreat, during which members learned how the Article V revisions in the Constitution had drastically affected local court services. To explore ways TBA members could support the judiciary in real ways, one of her first acts as president was to create Call to Action Committees. "We determined ways to increase our legal assistance to the community and provide some valuable services

to the public," Ashenafi says. For example: "TBA members found lawyers to represent children involved in family law disputes who formerly were served by the Guardian Ad Litem program."

Another TBA public service initiative of which she is particularly proud stemmed from the Terri Schiavo case. In May 2004, Ashenafi helped to organize a Law Week program with the Elder Law Section of The Florida Bar that focused on living wills and advanced directives. Following the program, volunteers from the Tallahassee Bar helped prepare living wills for members of the community.

Building Relationships

Several other TBA achievements Ashenafi says are close to her heart involve "building bridges with other bar and civic organizations," strengthening TBA's relationship with the College of Law, and promoting diversity. Under her watch, TBA redoubled efforts to establish relationships with a variety of local organizations, such as the League of Women Voters, sharing newsletters, programs and invitations to special events, and seeking ways to co-sponsor activities. With the election year, came the obvious opportunity for a political forum, Ashenafi says.

Ashenafi's interest in politics also is personal. She is married to Florida Representative Curtis Richardson. Both are known as tireless volunteers who support numerous community causes and organizations.

Since graduating from law school, Ashenafi has served as staff counsel for the Florida Education Association. She

refers to her mission there as "fighting the good fight," and a way of honoring her father Ashenafi Kebede "for his lifelong dedication to education." He was a professor at FSU until his death several years ago.

Ashenafi maintains a personal relationship with the College of Law through her involvement as a placement mentor, by serving on numerous panels and interacting with students during the Summer for Undergraduates Program.

Says Ashenafi: "I always try to show students the value of using their law degree, not only to make a difference in the lives of their clients, but in making a positive contribution to their respective communities and the legal profession. And, of course, I tell them about the benefits of joining their local bar association."



Nina Ashenafi recently was selected by Tallahassee Community College as one of its Ten 'Women Change America' finalists.

Frank Hugg Is At Home in California and in Maritime Law

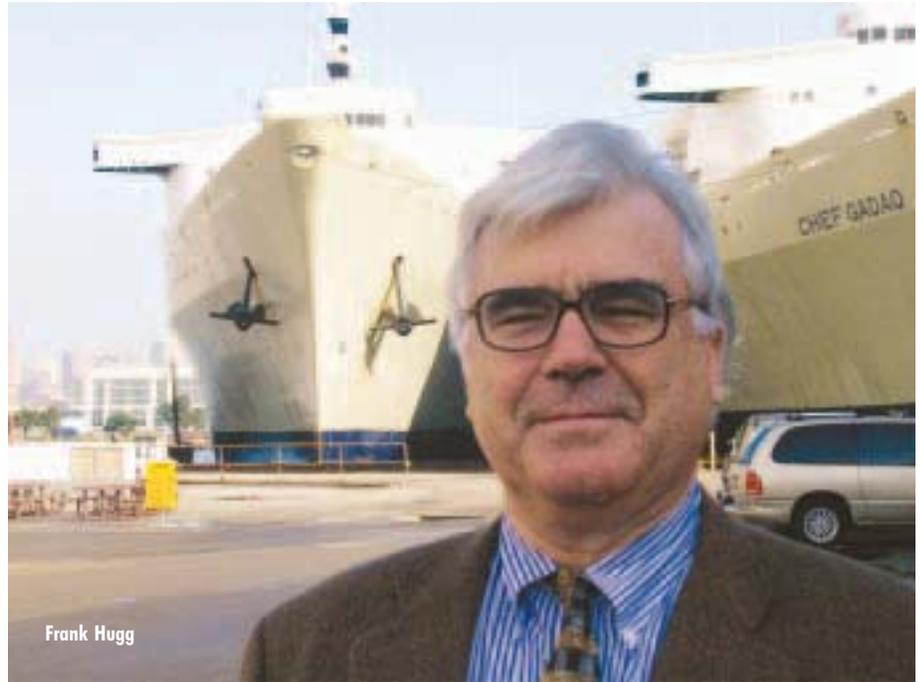
Franks Hugg found a niche for himself early in his career and has developed a dynamic practice around what may be one of the most narrowly focused areas of his maritime law profession.

He specializes in the shoreside extension of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, representing shipbuilders, shipping companies and ship-breakers in claims by maritime employees injured 10 feet off shore to a quarter of a mile inland.

Hugg estimates that there are only about 15 lawyers in California and fewer than 150 in the United States engaged in that particular field.

His cases are related to waterfront activities and involve personal injury claims resulting from simple slip-and-falls to major explosions. "Since 90 percent of the cases are resolved through workers' comp, I end up getting the messy ones, which also happen to be the most interesting ones," he says.

A native of Panama City, Fla., Hugg says he fell in love with the San Francisco Bay area while on a visit after graduating from Dartmouth College and before enrolling at the College of Law. He got a taste of workers' comp law when he clerked for the Florida Industrial Relations Council. After graduating in 1974, he headed straight to California and eventually launched his career in maritime law. His first longshore case reached the United States Supreme Court, something



Frank Hugg

he says is not all that unusual in his line of work.

"What makes the Longshore Act particularly interesting is that it's governed by federal law, so appeals go to the federal courts and the Supreme Court." And because decisions have a nationwide impact, Hugg adds, admiralty law has a nationwide following.

"It also has a certain intellectual cachet," he says. "My colleagues are statewide instead of local, and we're part of a network around the country."

The "urban setting and dynamic life of

the city" that drew Hugg to the San Francisco Bay three decades ago are still as compelling today. His life and his work are happily centered there. "Full-time parents" of a son and daughter, both in high school, the Huggs also are "heavily involved in the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco." At the museum, which, he notes, "houses the largest single collection of Asian art in this country," he and his wife both are active on the museum's Korean Art and Culture Committee. "Between work, the kids, and the museum, my days are pretty full."

Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund Establishes Real Estate Professorship

The Florida State University College of Law received a gift of \$150,000 from Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund, Inc., the nation's first Bar-related title insurance underwriter. The gift, made in February, will establish Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund Professorship in Real Estate, which is designed to attract or to retain an exceptionally productive legal scholar in real estate law.

The endowment is one of five—totaling \$1 million—that The Fund is establishing at Florida-based law schools.

“This gift from The Fund will allow the law school to continue to recruit and retain the best professors in an effort to provide our students with a superb real property law education,” said Dean Don Weidner.

“As one of Florida’s premier law schools, Florida State University College of Law has a solid record of providing high-quality education to tomorrow’s real estate attorneys,” said Charles Kovaleski, president of The Fund. “With this gift, we are carrying out The Fund’s mission to preserve and facilitate the practice of real estate law.

“Real estate drives Florida’s economy and this endowment represents The Fund’s reinvestment in the legal foundation on which that critical piece of Florida’s economy stands.”

This gift is the latest in The Fund’s commitment to enhancing the practice of real estate law. For four decades, The Fund has provided preeminent law schools with an annual endowment to promote real property education. Beyond this most recent gift, The Fund has provided FSU’s College of Law with more than \$20,000 in curriculum grants over the past 40 years.

In addition to The Fund’s expansive continuing education program for real estate attorneys, the company conducts a title examination workshop for students at law schools across the state. The workshop provides students with the methods to help them accurately examine titles in an orderly and effective manner. It also helps them easily identify problems when issuing title insurance as real estate attorneys.

To further support students’ interest in real estate law, The Fund conducts an annual awards competition that is open to law students across the state. It provides grant money to the student submitting the best legal paper on the topic of real estate law.

Attorneys’ Title Insurance Fund, Inc. has been providing extensive support for the real estate practices of Florida attorneys since 1948.

Rob Faigin Takes on Exercise in His New Book

Rob Faigin, a 1996 honors graduate of the College of Law and author of the 343-page *Natural Hormonal Enhancement*, has completed a new book, *Hormonally Intelligent Exercise*. “It’s accurate to call it a sequel, with focus shifted from diet and lifestyle to exercise,” says Faigin.

After graduating from law school, Faigin worked as a legal placement consultant in Boca Raton. “I managed to put a few thousand dollars in the bank, and gave myself six weeks to write a health book while living with my parents.” Six weeks later, Faigin says he was pleased with what he had created, but it was a fraction of what three years later would become the first book.

About the time he was running out of money with the manuscript completed, spiral-bound, and photocopied at the local copy center, he met his future partner Kjell Anderson at a health food store. Faigin says he always intended to self-publish, but until he met Anderson he says he had no concrete idea how he would get the book printed and marketed.

“Kjell was the perfect guy because he supported my commitment to publish the truth, not just another quick, easy, hare-brained diet book,” he says.

The second book started out as a script for an audio tape. “Exercise has always been a part of my life,” Faigin says. “My grandfather bought me a weight set when he had cancer and no money. It never occurred to



me not to workout. After the first book I felt I hadn’t done exercise justice.”

Once he scrapped the audio tape idea, he decided to go all out and try to write “the authoritative book on exercise, one that corrects the widespread misinformation on the subject, and provides meaningful direction on how to train effectively.” Law school helped tremendously, he says, because “once you understand the fundamentals, there’s not much difference between analyzing cases and clinical trials.”

“I’ve always been interested in physiology,” the author says, “but I didn’t revere doctors; I revered my Uncle Ken, and he was critical of doctors. Ken preached nutrition in the early 1970s before the dietary supplement industry got started. The unwillingness of the medical community to accept nutritional supplementation was an early signal that something was amiss. They wouldn’t listen to him, even though he was right,” Faigin says.

Faigin lives in Winter Garden, where he has begun a fitness e-newsletter and “mini-book” on nutrition. His website is www.extique.com.

FACULTY

News, Publications & Activities

Faculty Launches Law and Economic Working Papers Series

Florida State University College of Law's faculty has launched a working papers series in law and economics. Florida State is the only law school in the state with a law and economics focus, offering one of the most prominent law and economics programs in the Southeast, where only the University of Virginia and Vanderbilt and Emory universities provide a comparable environment for graduate study and research.

"With a critical mass of faculty writing and teaching in the law and economics field, this new series is intended to highlight faculty research and make it accessible to policymakers, courts, and scholars, as well as the private business community" says Professor Jim Rossi, the Harry M. Walborsky Professor and associate dean for research. The Florida State University Law and Economics Series features the forthcoming publications of faculty focused on the economics analysis of legal issues, including behavioral and empirical approaches – two areas in which the College of Law has built research strengths. It also features the work of

faculty from the university's Economics Department.

The series includes the economic analysis of private law (corporate/commercial and transactions) and public law (administrative and environmental law). It is edited by Jonathan Klick, who teaches corporate law-related topics at the law school and is a courtesy professor in FSU's Department of Economics. The series is online at <http://www.ssrn.com/link/florida-state-law-econ.html>.

In addition to the new Law and Economics Working Paper Series, the law school sponsors a working paper series in Public Law and Legal Theory, available online at <http://www.ssrn.com/link/florida-state-public-law.html>. Florida State law school faculty papers in that series have been downloaded more than 13,000 times over the past four years.

The Social Science Research Network ranks Florida State 21st among all U.S. and foreign law schools in the number of downloads of faculty papers in the past 12 months.

Greg Mitchell Named the Sheila M. McDevitt Professor

Dean Don Weidner announced in early April that Gregory Mitchell has been named the College of Law's Sheila M. McDevitt Professor of Law.

The professorship, which is awarded based on scholarly productivity, was established by Sheila McDevitt, a 1978 College of Law graduate and senior vice president-general counsel and chief legal officer for TECO Energy in Tampa. She is former chair of the law school's Board of Visitors and in 2003 was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the State University System.



Sheila McDevitt

"Greg Mitchell exhibits the characteristics important to a well-rounded faculty member and fundamental to every high-quality law school—scholarship and teaching ability," McDevitt said.

Mitchell, an associate professor, earned his law degree and a Ph.D in psychology at the University of California, Berkeley. He joined the College of Law in 2002, and was selected First Year Class Teacher of the Year and Co-Teacher of the Year for Academic Year 2003-2004.

Weidner called Mitchell "a phenomenally productive scholar who also is a superb classroom teacher."

"We are thrilled to use this professorship to draw Greg back to Tallahassee from visiting professor posts at Vanderbilt and the University of Virginia," Weidner said.

Mitchell teaches courses in civil procedure, evidence and employment discrimination.



Greg Mitchell

Faculty News

Spring 2005

(includes items received between publication of the Winter 2004 issue of *FSU Law* through March 2005)

FREDERICK M. ABBOTT

EDWARD BALL EMINENT SCHOLAR IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Articles: *Intellectual Property Rights in Global Trade Framework: IP Trends in Developing Countries* (Remarks), 98 AM. SOC'Y INT'L L. PROC. 95 (2004); *Are the Competition Rules in the WTO TRIPS Agreement Adequate?*, 7 J. INT'L ECON. L. 687 (2004). **Presentations:** Keynote address, *The Cycle of Action and Reaction: Latest Developments and Trends in IP and Health* (Bellagio, Italy, Third Bellagio Dialogue on Development and Intellectual Property, Policy Options for Assuring Affordable Access to Essential Medicines, October 2004); *China in the WTO 2004: Strategic Implementation of WTO Commitments* (New York, Columbia Law School Joint Trade Law and China Law Seminar, November 2004); *The Geo-Politics of TRIPS and Its Implications for India's Industry* (Mumbai (Bombay), India, Executive Council of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, November 2004); *India at the Crossroads: The Patents (Amendment) Bill 2003 and the Future of Public Health* (Mumbai (Bombay), India, IndiaChem 2004 Conference, November 2004); *Implementation of Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health* (Geneva Switzerland, Ambassador Level Meeting Convened at the World Trade Organization Commonwealth and Secretariat, Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation (AITIC), Geneva Office of the ACP Secretariat Meeting on Implementation of the WTO Decision, October 2004); *Battling HIV-AIDS: A Decision-Maker's Guide to the Procurement of Medicines and Related Supplies* (Washington, D.C., World Bank, September 2004); *The Implications of Intellectual Property Provisions of Regional Trade Arrangements on the Supply of Medicines* (Geneva, Switzerland, Ethical Globalization Initiative (EG1) Working Group, September 2004). **Notable Service Activities:** Served as a Member of the Expert Consultative Group of Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva, where he addressed a meeting of WTO delegates on future work program of WTO TRIPS Council (Jongny, Switzerland, September 2004).

PAOLO ANNINO

CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Article: *The Revised IDEA: Will It Help Children With Disabilities?* 29 A.B.A. MENTAL & PHYSICAL DISABILITY L. REP. 11 (2005). **Presentation:** Children in Florida's Prisons: Clemency Advocacy (Nashville, Tennessee, American Bar Association Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, October 2004).

AMITAI AVIRAM

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Presentations: *The Placebo Effect of Legal Actions* (University of Florida-Levin College of Law Faculty Colloquium, November 2004); *The Placebo Effect of Corporate Compliance Programs*, Midwestern Law & Economics Association Annual Meeting (University of Iowa College of Law, October 2004); *Network Responses to Network Threats: The Evolution Into Private Cyber-security Associations*, Critical Infrastructure Protection Project Annual Meeting (Warrenton, VA, October 2004).

ROBERT ATKINSON

RUDEN, MCCLOSKEY, SMITH, SCHUSTER & RUSSELL PROFESSOR

Article: *Growing Greener Grass: Looking from Legal Ethics to Business Ethics, and Back*, 1 U. ST. THOMAS L.J. 951 (2004).

TAMARA BLENKHORN

LEGAL WRITING INSTRUCTOR

Presentations: *Legal Research and Citation* (Nashville, Tennessee, Certified Bankruptcy Assistant Seminar and Exam, October 2004); *Legal Research and Citation* (Charleston, South Carolina, Certified Bankruptcy Assistant Seminar and Exam, October 2003).

DONNA CHRISTIE

ELIZABETH C. AND CLYDE W. ATKINSON PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Article: *It Don't Come EEZ: The Failure and Future of Coastal State Fisheries Management*, 14 J. TRANSNAT'L L. & POL'Y 1 (2004). **Presentation:** *Next Steps in Moving Toward an Ecosystem-Based Management of Marine Living Resources* (Newport, Rhode Island, Marine Law Symposium, September 2004).

MARY CROSSLEY

THE FLORIDA BAR HEALTH SECTION PROFESSOR

Presentations: *Discrimination Against the Unhealthy in Health Insurance* (St. Louis University, Center for Health Law Studies Distinguished Speaker Series, October 2004); *Dimensions of Equality in Regulating Assisted Reproductive Technologies* (University of Iowa College of Law, Journal of Gender, Race & Justice Symposium on "Creating Life? Examining the Legal, Ethical and Medical Issues of Assisted Reproductive Technologies).

DEBRA LYN BASSETT

LOULA FULLER AND DAN MYERS PROFESSOR

Articles: *Implied "Consent" to Personal Jurisdiction in Transnational Class Litigation*, 2004 MICH. ST. L. REV. 619 (symposium contribution); *Foreword to Symposium: Multi-Jurisdictional and Cross-Border Class Actions*, 2004 MICH. ST. L. REV. 615 (symposium contribution).

VALENCIA DAVIS

Articles: *African American History in Nebraska: A Tribute to Two Exemplars of Courage*, THE NEBRASKA LAWYER, February 2005, at 6.

JOSEPH DODGE

STERN'S WEAVER MILLER WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON PROFESSOR

Articles: *Of Course Recoveries for Nonphysical Injuries Are Taxable!*, TAX NOTES, February 21, 2005, at 26 (Letters/Commentary); *Inflated Tax Basis and the Quarter-Trillion-Dollar Revenue Question*, TAX NOTES, January 24, 2005, at 453 (with Jay A. Soled). **Presentation:** *The Gift Tax Portion of the Task Force Report on Reform of the Federal Transfer Taxes* (Orlando, ACTEC Annual Meeting, Transfer Tax Study Committee Meeting, February 2005). **Recognition:** *Inflated Tax Basis* article featured in a story on the front page of the Business Section of the January 24, 2005 *New York Times* (url: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/01/24/business/24tax.html?oref=login>), as well as in other news media.

CHARLES EHRHARDT

MASON LADD PROFESSOR

Presentations: *The Deadperson's Statute: It's Time for Repeal* (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida Bar 2005 Trusts and Estate Symposium, January 2005); *The Deadperson's Statute: It's Time for Repeal* (Tampa, Florida Bar 2005 Trusts and Estate Symposium, January 2005); *Crawford v. Washington and Other Emerging Issues* (Panama City, Florida, Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Annual Education Meeting, November 2004).

STEVEN G. GEY

DAVID AND DEBORAH FONVIELLE & DONALD AND JANET HINKLE PROFESSOR

Articles: *Unity of the Graveyard and the Attack on Constitutional Secularism*, 2004 B.Y.U. L. REV. 1005; *More or Less Bunk: The Establishment Clause Answers That History Doesn't Provide*, 2004 B.Y.U. L. REV. 1617. **Presentations:** *Free Will, Religious Liberty, and the French Prohibition of Religious Paraphernalia in Public Schools* (University of Houston Law Center, Ninth Annual Houston Law Review Frankel Lecture, November 2004) — to view Professor Gey's lecture and the responses, click through *Developments in First Amendment* www.law.uh.edu/news/Frankel2004.wmv; *Jurisprudence* (Boca Raton, Florida, Ohio State Bar Conference, October 2004).

ADAM HIRSCH

DAVID M. HOFFMAN PROFESSOR

Article: *Default Rules in Inheritance Law: A Problem in Search of Its Context*, 73 *Fordham L. Rev.* 1071 (2004).

JONATHAN KLICK

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Article: *The Institute of Medicine Report: Too Quick to Diagnose Bias*, 48 *PERSPECTIVES IN BIOLOGY & MEDICINE* S15 (Winter 2005) (with Sally Satel). **Presentations:** *Is There a Crisis in Medical Malpractice: New Evidence from Texas* — discussant (Washington, D.C., American Enterprise Institute, March 2005); *Does Medical Malpractice Reform Help States Retain Physicians and Does It Matter* (University of West Virginia Department of Economics, January 2005); *Using Terror Alert Levels to Estimate the Effect of Police on Crime* (New Orleans, Louisiana, Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, November 2004); *The Determinants of Health Outcomes* (panel discussant) (New Orleans, Louisiana, Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, November 2004); *Performance of Bond Pooling: An Efficiency Argument for Insurance Steering* (Tucson, Arizona, International Society for New Institutional Economics, Panel on Radio Payola Revisited: The Law and Economics of Third Party Payments, September 2004).

LARRY KRIEGER

CLINICAL PROFESSOR & DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

Presentation: *Changes in Values and Motivation among Law Students: A Model for Empirical Evaluation of Undergraduate Values Training* (Florida State University Institute for College Student Values Annual Conference, February 2005).

TAHIRIH LEE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Article: *The United States Court for China: A Triumph of Local Law*, 52 *BUFF. L. REV.* 923 (2004).

CHARLENE LUKE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Presentation: *Individual Taxation* (Florida Bar Tax Law Section, Tax Bar Certification Review Course, February 2005).

DAVID MARKELL

STEVEN M. GOLDSTEIN PROFESSOR

Article: *The North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation After Ten Years: Lessons about Institutional Structure and Public Participation in Governance*, 26 *LOY-LA INT'L & COMP. L. REV.* 341 (2005). **Presentation:** *The CEC Citizen Submissions Process: On or Off Course?* (North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation, Symposium on "U.S.-Mexican Relations: Bridging Borders or Burning Bridges?," February 2005).

GREGORY MITCHELL

SHEILA M. McDEVITT PROFESSOR

Article: *Empirical Legal Scholarship as Scientific Dialogue*, 83 *N.C. L. REV.* 167 (2004). **Presentation:** *Libertarian Paternalism Is an Oxymoron* (New York University Department of Economics Colloquium on Market Institutions and Economic Processes, November 2004).

JIM ROSSI

HARRY M. WALBORSKY PROFESSOR & ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

Article: *Debilitating Doctrine: How the Filed Rate Doctrine Wreaks Havoc on Energy Markey Development and Policy — And What Courts Can Do About It*, *PUB. UTIL. FORTNIGHTLY*, NOVEMBER 2004, AT 16. **Presentations:** *Disclosure and Independent Market Monitoring: Addressing the Tension Between the APA's Ban Ex Parte Communications and the Need for Active Regulation of the Exercise of Market Power in Deregulated Power Supply Markets* (Deal Mar, California, Harvard-Kennedy School Electric Policy Group Conference, March 2005); *The Cross Key Cable as a Case Study of the Tension Between State Environmental Regulation and Interstate Competition: Congress Won't Act, But Where Can Courts Go From Here?* (Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum Conference on Market Power and Environmental Regulation in the Deregulated Electric Power Industry, November 2004); *Failures in Federal-State Regulatory Bargaining* (Emory Law School Faculty Workshop, October 2004); *Recent Developments in Judicial Review* (Des Moines, Iowa, Iowa Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Conference for Administrative Law Judges, October 2004).

J.B. RUHL

MATTHEW & HAWKINS PROFESSOR OF PROPERTY & ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Articles: *Prescribing the Right Dose of Peer Review for the Endangered Species Act*, 83 *NEB. L. REV.* 398 (2004); *Past, Present, and Future Trends of the Endangered Species Act*, 24 *PUB. LAND & RESOURCES L. REV.* 15 (2004); *Endangered Species Act Innovations in the Post-Babittian Era—Are There Any?*, 14 *DUKE ENVTL. L. & POL'Y E.* 419 (2004). **Chapters:** *Endangered Species*, in 2004 *YEAR IN REVIEW* (ABA Press 2004); *The Endangered Species Act*, in *ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS* (ABA Press 3rd ed. 2004). **Presentations:** *Forum on the Endangered Species Act and Federalism* — participant and moderator (Stanford Law School, February 2005); *Cooperative Environmental Federalism and the Endangered Species Act* (Tampa, University of Florida Conference on Alternative Grounds: Defending the Environment in an Unwelcome Judicial Climate, November 2004); *The Disturbing Effects of Regulatory Peer Review* (Notre Dame Law School faculty workshop, October 2004); *Science and the Endangered Species Act* (Austin, Texas, CLE International Conference on Endangered Species, October 2004).

MARK SEIDENFELD

PATRICIA A. DORE PROFESSOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Article: *"The Friendship of the People": Citizen Participation in Environmental Enforcement*, 73 *Geo. WASH. L. REV.* 269 (2005) (with Jenna Satz Nugent). **Presentation:** *Agency Decisions to Regulate* (University of San Diego School of Law & University of California at San Diego, Department of Political Science and Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies Conference, "Administrative Law and Process in the U.S. and Abroad: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives," January 2005).

LOIS SHEPHERD

D'ALEMBERT PROFESSOR

Presentations: *An Exploration of Secular and Religious Bioethics Methodologies* (Center for Biotechnology, Law and Ethics at the Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, March 2005); also moderated a panel on *Alternative Reproductive Technologies* at the same conference.

NAT STERN

JOHN W. AND ASHELY FROST PROFESSOR

Article: *Creating a New Tort for Wrongful Misrepresentation of Character*, 53 *U. KAN. L. REV.* 81 (2004).

FERNANDO TESÓN

TOBIAS SIMON EMINENT SCHOLAR

Article: *On Trade and Justice*, 104 *THEORIA* 192 (2004).

JOHN YETTER

ROBERTS PROFESSOR

Article: *Wrestling With Crawford v. Washington and the New Constitutional Law of Confrontation*, *FLORIDA BAR J.*, October 2004, at 26. **Presentation:** *Crawford v. Washington and the Constitutional Law of Hearsay* (Amelia Island, Florida Appellate Judges Educational Meeting at Amelia Island Plantation, December 2004) (two hour lecture).

DONALD J. WEIDNER

DEAN & PROFESSOR

Presentations: *Changes in the Legal Profession* (Dothan, Alabama, Houston County Bar Association, March 2005); *Establishing A Culture of Philanthropy* (San Francisco, California, AALS Section on Institutional Advancement at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, January 2005); *Changes in Legal Education* (Tallahassee, Florida Government Bar Association, October 2004).

Lois Shepherd Is Guest on NPR's Science Friday

ra Flatow, host of National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation-Science Friday*, called on Lois Shepherd in April for insight into end-of-life issues stemming from the Terri Schiavo case.

Shepherd, the D'Alemberte Professor of bioethics and



Lois Shepherd

health law who has been following the case for a number of years, was invited to be a guest on the show when it broadcast live from Florida State University on April 8. During the first segment of the two-hour show, Shepherd, a representative from Hospice, and two faculty members from FSU's College of Medicine discussed the impact of the case on end-of-life care. The show's average weekly listenership in the United States is 2.6 million, as well as listeners worldwide who tune into more than 140 foreign stations that carry the program.



Professor Lois Shepherd, second from right, was a guest on *Science Friday* in April.

FSU College of Law Faculty Continue to Garner National Media Attention

Over the past six months, faculty continued to grab national and international media headlines with their scholarship, expertise and opinions. They regularly are quoted in Florida newspapers, including the *St. Petersburg Times*, *Miami Herald*, *Sun-Sentinel*, and *Tampa Tribune*. Their interviews in media outside of Florida illustrate their national and international stature in their fields of specialization.

For example, major stories in the Jan. 24, 2004, edition of the *New York Times* and the Jan. 30, 2005, edition of the *Washington Post* featured the scholarship of Professor Joseph Dodge. His scholarly work on the calculation of tax basis and its implications for the federal deficit appeared in the professional journal *Tax Notes* in January. His article also was mentioned in the Feb. 13, 2005, *New York Times* business section and was featured in other newspapers across the country.

Our faculty also has been featured in international newspapers. Professor Fred

Abbott published an editorial on India's draft patent law in the March 12, 2005, edition of *The Hindu*, India's national newspaper. The Nov. 14, 2004, edition of *Business World*, India's leading business magazine, featured an interview with him on patent law issues.

Additional national media 'hits' by law faculty include the following:

Professor Steven Gey was quoted on the Schiavo case in the Feb. 25, 2005, *Bloomberg News*; the Dec. 2, 2004, *Miami Herald*; and the Dec. 1, 2004, *Kansas City Star*. Gey also was quoted on the 2004 presidential election in the Oct. 28, 2004, edition of *USA Today*, and in the October 13, 2004, edition of *USA Today* on challenges to display of the Ten Commandments before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Professor Adam Hirsch was quoted on proposed national bankruptcy reforms in the March 2, 2005, edition of the *New York Times* and the March 3, 2005, edition of the *International Herald Tribune*.

Professor Jonathan Klick was quoted in the March 4, 2005, edition of the *Washington Times* on the economic concerns behind the obesity crisis.

Clinical Professor Larry Krieger was quoted in the Jan. 31, 2005, edition of the *Texas Lawyer* on the addictive behaviors of lawyers.

Professor B.J. Priester was quoted in March 18, 2005, edition of the *Kansas City Star* on the burden of proof in murder trials.

For additional faculty media quotes, visit the FSU College of Law faculty media hits page, at http://www.law.fsu.edu/events/faculty_news.php.

AROUND THE

Law School Raises its Own Bar in *U.S. News & World Report* Rankings

Florida State University College of Law jumped 11 slots in the latest edition of the influential national rankings of law schools by *U.S. News & World Report*. The magazine's 2006 edition of *America's Best Graduate Schools* also ranks the College of Law as one of the most diverse in the country.

In addition, the magazine ranked the law school's Environmental Law program the 14th strongest in the nation. Florida State is the only Florida school in the top 20. This is the third of the past five years that the school has been ranked in the top 20 for environmental law. Florida State ranks ahead of programs at Yale University, the University of Texas at Austin and the University of California at Los Angeles and directly behind Duke University, the University of California at Berkeley and Georgetown University.

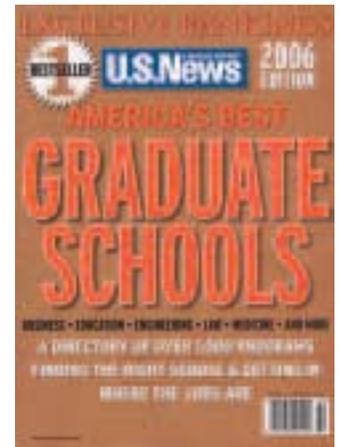
"We are thrilled that the outside world recognizes that we have made great strides, but we also believe that the rankings still understate the level of our excellence," said Dean Don Weidner.

Compared to last year, Florida State's law school increased its overall standing in a number of ways. Its reputational rankings rose, both among judges and lawyers and among academics. The figures also reflect a much stronger entering class, an improved student-faculty ratio, and an increased job placement rate.

U.S. News' ranking of 179 accredited law schools lists only three of Florida's law schools in the top 100: the University of Florida, 41; Florida State University, 56; and the University of Miami, 73.

After seeing the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, Brian Leiter, the University of Texas professor who publishes the *Educational Quality Rankings of U.S. Law Schools*, said, "There are the obvious injustices from the standpoint of academic merit (i.e., actual faculty and student quality) in the overall rankings: Numerous schools are ranked too low..." He listed Florida State among the schools that fall into that category.

Provost Larry Abele added: "Our law school is, by many measures, among the best in the nation, and, because reputation often lags behind performance, we expect that this is only the beginning of the national recognition of the quality of our faculty and students."



'The magazine also ranked the Environmental Law program the 14th strongest in the nation.'

Moot Court Team Makes Great Showing At National Competitions

The Moot Court team has been on the road and continuing its reputation as strong competitors in national competitions. Here are some of the team's latest successes:

- Jeff Timmerman and Clay Adkinson took first place at the Dominick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition held Feb. 23-26 in Albany, New York. Clay was named Best Oralist at the competition. Judge Edwin Browning of the First DCA and Professor JoLen Wolf served as coaches.
- Sharmin Hibbert and Charlyne "Khai" Patterson finished first in the Luke Charles Moore Civil Rights Invitational held in Washington, D.C., March 7-9. Sharmin was named Best Oralist and Khai, Second-Best Oralist. Professor Meg Baldwin served as their

coach. In addition, our other team entered in the competition, Bret Permesly and Joe Tegerdine, finished runner-up in the all-FSU final; they were coached by Segundo Fernandez of the Tallahassee firm of Oertel Fernandez & Cole.

- The team of Nathan Chapman and Christian Turner finished in second place in the Craven National Constitutional Law Competition held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Feb. 23-26.
- Melinda Parks and Lee Sanderson competed in the Pace Environmental Moot Court Competition held in White Plains, New York, Feb. 23-26. They made it to the quarterfinals (top 8) out of 67 teams. The team was coached by Professor David Markell.

LAW SCHOOL

Mary Crossley Named Dean of University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Mary Crossley will head to Pennsylvania in July to take over as dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. She will be the first woman to hold the position since the school was founded in 1895.



Crossley arrived at The Florida State College of Law in 2000 as a visiting professor and joined the faculty as The Florida Bar Health Law Section Professor in 2001. She has been a courtesy professor at the FSU College of Medicine since 2002.

“Mary is an excellent scholar and a charismatic classroom teacher, and I’m sure she’ll do a superb job as dean,” said Dean Don

Weidner. “Her departure is a great loss for the law school, but her new appointment reflects the fact that our faculty are very much in demand nationally.”

Crossley is widely recognized for her scholarship in disability and health law and teaches Health Law and Policy, Family Law, Torts, and a seminar on Health Care & Civil Rights.

Before coming to Florida State, she was a professor at University of California Hastings College of the Law, where she also served as associate academic dean. She was a law clerk for the Honorable Harry W. Wellford of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and practiced health care and corporate law in San Francisco and Connecticut.

Crossley received a bachelor’s degree in history from University of Virginia in 1984 and her J.D. in 1987 from Vanderbilt Law School, where she served as editor-in-chief of the *Vanderbilt Law Review* and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

“While I am excited about the opportunity to play a leadership role at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, I am sad to be leaving FSU. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be part of this vibrant community of learning, and I will miss my colleagues, my students, and the staff who make it all possible.”

Meg Baldwin to Lead Domestic Violence Center in Tallahassee

After 18 years as one of the College of Law’s most popular professors, Meg Baldwin will close one important chapter in her professional life and begin another.

She announced in April that she will leave the law school in May to become executive director of The Refuge House, which provides services and advocacy for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in Tallahassee.

Author of important articles on prostitution and feminist jurisprudence, and an advocate in social justice efforts on behalf of women, Baldwin has taught Criminal Law, Constitutional Criminal Procedure, Civil Rights, Women and the Law, Federal Jurisdiction, and Prostitution and Pornography.

She has been a favorite of students, who streamed into her office daily. “Professor Baldwin has always been approachable and available,” said Leslie Porter, who took five classes with Baldwin during her three years as a student at the school. “She never minded meeting with students after class or having you call her at home. We’re all going to miss her, but I’m proud of her for following her dream and encouraged to know that you can do many things with a law degree besides practice law.”

Dean Don Weidner said: “Meg has been an influential teacher and scholar whose work has touched the lives of many. Although she will be greatly missed as a member of our law school community, I hope you all will join me in congratulating her as she enters this next phase of her critically important work.”

Before coming to the College of Law in 1987, Baldwin clerked for the Honorable Donald P. Lay of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the Honorable Rosalie E. Wahl of the Minnesota Supreme Court. She served on the board of directors of the Refuge House for six years. She also has been a member of the Florida Gender Bias Implementation Commission and the National Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

She is a magna cum laude graduate of University of Minnesota Law School. She received her bachelor’s degree in English literature in 1976 from Reed College.

Baldwin, whose resignation is effective May 6, said: “I treasure my relationships with my students, my colleagues and the staff at the law school and the university. I hope those relationships will only deepen as my role in the community changes in this new way.”



Spring Symposium Addresses Default Rules

More than 15 leading national legal scholars joined the College of Law faculty on March 25 and 26 for an intense discussion of the analysis of default rules in various areas of the law, ranging from contracts and commercial law, to family law, corporations and constitutional and environmental law. Presenters included Ian Ayres of Yale Law School, Dan Farber from the University of California at Berkeley, Eric Posner from the University of Chicago, and Robert Scott of the University of Virginia.

Participants presented cutting-edge scholarship on the use of “default rules,” or gap-filling devices used by courts when parties have failed to specify the terms of their relationships in law. Several participants explicitly compared the significance of the FSU conference to previous landmark events in the field at Columbia Law School and the University of Southern California. Professor Eric Maskin, an economist with the Center for Advanced Studies at Princeton University, delivered the keynote address.

Attendees included: Robert Ahdieh (Emory), Scott Baker & Kim Krawiec (University of North Carolina), Oren Bar-Gil (Harvard), Omri Ben-Shahar (Michigan), Margaret Brinig (Iowa), John Ferejohn (Stanford), Tamar Frankel (Boston University), Bradley C. Karkkainen (Minnesota), Jody Kraus (Virginia), Alan Schwartz (Yale), and Eric Talley and Mark Weinstein (University of Southern California). College of Law professors who served as commentators on papers, included: Amitai Aviram, Barbara Banoff, Curtis Bridgeman, Mary Crossley, Steven Gey, Jonathon Klick, and Mark Seidenfeld. Students from *FSU Law Review* also participated. The papers and comments from the conference will appear in a symposium issue of *Florida State University Law Review*.

Spring 2005 Environmental Forum

Environmental experts participated in a panel discussion titled “After the Storms: Florida’s Response to the 2004 Hurricanes” during the Spring Environmental Forum at the



law school. The event was sponsored by the College of Law and the Environmental and Land Use Section of The Florida Bar.

Presenters included:

- **Linda Brown**, Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Preparedness and Response, Florida Department of Community Affairs
- **Doug Buck**, Florida Homebuilders Association
- **Gene Chalecki**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- **Kent Spuhler**, Florida Legal Services and Governor’s Hurricane Housing Work Group
- **Paden E. Woodruff III**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Donna Christie, the Elizabeth C. and Clyde W. Atkinson Professor, moderated. Melinda Parks, president of the school’s Environmental Law Society, welcomed participants and Joseph Ullo and Brian Showman of the school’s Environmental Certificate Program presented conclusions.

Recent Lectures at the Law School

- Philip Alston, an international lawyer whose teaching focuses on human rights law and the law of international organizations, presented the 2005 Lillich Memorial Lecturer in March. His lecture was “Reforming the Un-Human Rights Commission: Moving Towards Member State Accountability.” He is a law professor and director of the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at New York University School of Law.
- Horacio Spector, a leading Latin American scholar and dean of the Torcuato Di Tella University in Buenos

Aires, Argentina, delivered the 2005 Tobias Simon Distinguished Lecture in January. His lecture was titled “Philosophical Foundations of Labor.”

- Seana Shiffrin, an associate professor of philosophy and law at UCLA, delivered a second Simon Lecture also in January. Her lecture was “What’s Really Wrong With Compelled Association?”

■ Robert Cooter, law professor and director of the Program in Business, Law and Economics at Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, gave the Mason Ladd Lecture in January. The talk was titled “Innovation, Information, and the Poverty of Nations.”



Professors Curtis Bridgeman, Jim Rossi, Robert Cooter and Jonathan Klick

Rosanna Catalano Is Our New Placement Director

The Office of Career Planning and Placement has a new director. Rosanna Catalano, who most recently worked as an assistant attorney general in Tallahassee, joined the College of Law in January.

Catalano is a 1997 graduate of the University of Florida College of Law who began her career as an assistant state attorney in Fort Lauderdale. Her criminal law experience included jury trials, appeals, and mental health court hearings. For several years, she served as an assistant general counsel in the Florida Department of Health, where she focused on health care compliance and regulation issues. As an assistant attorney general, she represented licensure boards including the Florida Board of Nursing and the Florida Board of Medicine, Credentials Committee in litigation and appeals. She also provided advisement to the Office of the Attorney General on HIPAA issues. She is an active member of The Florida Bar; U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; the Government Bar Association; Tallahassee Women Lawyers; and The District of Columbia Bar. Since law school, she has taken graduate level courses in lobbying and political campaign management and finance.

“Rosanna is a dynamic lawyer who brings substantial legal experience and new energy to our Placement Office,” said Dean Don Weidner. “She now is putting her extensive networking experience to work for our students.”

While Catalano spends the majority of her time working directly with students, she also is building on her office’s past success with student focused programs. Since her arrival, the Office of Career Planning and Placement has hosted a panel on anti-trust law, a lunch with the Honorable Bruce Selya of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, resume workshops and interviewing seminars. She has expanded her office’s programs to include monthly lunches for small groups of students and attorneys. She hopes the intimate setting will foster lasting connections.

Catalano says her goals for the office include cultivating new employers throughout the state and nation, creating more networking opportunities between students and alumni, and promoting the value of judicial clerkships.

The office launched new job placement software called eCampusRecruiter recently. The software will automate on-campus in-



terviewing and allow students and alumni to search job postings along with networking event announcements. The software will permit employers to conduct searches of student and alumni profiles with specific criteria variables. Rosanna hopes to complete the transition to eCampusRecruiter by the end of the spring 2005 semester.

“We are deeply committed to helping students launch their legal careers,” she says. “Our office is excited about making the connections between students and employers.”

Placement Office Launches Luncheon Series

A new “Networking Nosh” luncheon series kicked off in mid-March. The lunches bring legal and business leaders together with small groups of law students. The intimate setting allows students the opportunity to interact with these accomplished attorneys on a more personal level. Topics discussed at the lunch will vary depending on the attorney’s area of practice and interests. So far, Networking Nosh has featured Ronald Flury, a 1993 graduate and an assistant state attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit, and 1982 grad Thomas Stahl, who is with the Florida United Business Association.

Please let us know if you would like to participate in the luncheon series by contacting the Office of Career Planning and Placement at 850-644-4495, or via e-mail to rcatalan@law.fsu.edu.

Scholars’ Day



Professor J.B. Ruhl met with admitted students on Scholars’ Day.

In an effort to attract some of our top admitted students to the FSU College of Law’s entering Class of 2005, the Admissions Office hosted 48 participants at the law school’s Third Annual Scholars’ Day in mid February. The daylong program was designed to introduce a select group of

admitted students to the College of Law by providing them the opportunity to meet and talk with faculty, students and administrators and learn more about the law school and why it is a great choice. Over the past two years, an average of 45 percent of the attendees enrolled as first-year students.

The program included several faculty presentations; a mock law class; a career placement session; a luncheon with students; in-depth law school tours with student ambassadors; and a closing reception and dinner with faculty.

ALUMNI

Recognitions

1971

Richard G. Payne has been re-elected chief judge in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. He sits in Key West and "circuit rides" to Marathon. Assigned to circuit civil and criminal cases, he also serves as Family Court judge in Marathon.

1972

Steven A. Rissman was selected for inclusion in the 2005-2006 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He practices workers' compensation law at Rissman, Weisberg, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue & McLain in Orlando.

1973

William W. Corry received the 2004 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award from the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates at its annual reception. He practices personal injury law at his Tallahassee law firm. He can be reached at 318 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-3730.

1976

William D. Preston has relocated his office to 4832-A Kerry Forest Parkway, Tallahassee, Fla. 32309; Tel., 850-668-4986; e-mail, bill@wprestonpa.com. He practices in the areas of administrative/regulatory and environmental/land use law.

1978

Mary Lou Rajchel has joined Florida TaxWatch as senior vice president for research and development. Her address is P.O. Box 10109, Tallahassee, Fla. 32302.



Randall O. Reder received the Brian Weakland Award for his "energetic leadership" of the Carrollwood Community Bar Association. Reder is the outgoing

president of the association. He practices corporate and business law at his Tampa firm. He can be reached at 1319 W. Fletcher Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33612; Tel., 813-960-1952; e-mail, reder@gte.net.

The Honorable W. Matthew Stevenson has been unanimously elected to become chief judge of the Fourth District Court of Appeal beginning July 1, 2005. He is the first African-American in the Fourth District to be elected chief judge.

1980

Bruce D. Lamb, a partner in the Tampa office of the Ruden McClosky law firm, has been appointed by the Florida Supreme Court to serve as a member of The Florida Bar's Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee. He is a member of the law firm's Health Care and Litigation Practice Group. He also is one of only two attorneys to serve on the Florida Commission on Excellence in Health Care.

1981

Howard Eugene Adams is now a partner with Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Dunbar & Bell, where he practices administrative/regulatory and government law. He can be reached at 215 S. Monroe St., Second Floor, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-3533; e-mail, gene@penningtonlaw.com.

1982

Thomas J. Spulak is a partner in the Government Relations Practice Group at King & Spalding's Washington, D.C. office. He can be reached at 1700 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006; Tel., 202-661-7948; e-mail, tspulak@kslaw.com.

1984

Francis H. Sheppard was named managing partner in the firm of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, where he practices in the areas of litigation and labor and employment relations. He can be reached at P.O. Box 1873, Orlando, Fla. 32802; Tel., 407-872-7300; e-mail, fsheppard@rumberger.com.

Belle B. Schumann, a senior assistant attorney general in Daytona Beach, was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to the Volusia County Court.

Robin Hassler Thompson of Robin H. Thompson and Associates is the program director at the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights at FSU. She works to improve national, state and local responses to violence against women. She consults with a wide range of clients including universities, state and national public policy and human rights advocacy groups, and an international law firm. Her work includes domestic and sexual violence law and policy analysis, Violence Against Women Act implementation, adult domestic violence fatality reviews, workplace violence law and policy, health care issues and human trafficking. Services provided by her firm include policy development and analysis, meeting planning and organization, public speaking, strategic planning, and program evaluation.



Joshua Whitman of Milton, Leach, Whitman, D'Andrea, Charek & Milton in Jacksonville participated in the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers' Tampa seminar, "Discovery through Trial in the 21st Century." His topic was "High Voltage Cross Examination."

He can be reached at 815 S. Main St., Suite 200, Jacksonville, Fla. 32207; Tel., 904-346-3800; e-mail, whitman@miltonleach.com.

1985

Mark E. Holcomb is a partner with Holland & Knight LLP, where he practices in the area of state and local taxation law. He can be reached at 315 S. Calhoun St., Suite 600, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301.

1986

Cynthia Brarczak Lane, a journalist and college instructor, teaches Civil Procedures and Litigation and the Florida Sunshine Law at Manatee Community College in Bradenton, Fla. She has published articles in the online version of the *American Bar Association Journal* on the White House counsel Harriet Miers, restructuring the U.S. Supreme Court, and a federal appeals court ruling favoring First Amendment rights over the Homeland Security Act.

1987



Anne-Marie Lindsey Bowen has been elected to the board of directors of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association for a three-year term. She will serve as programs chair. She has been practicing in her own firm for the past 11 years. She lives in Orlando with

her husband Hugh and 12-year-old son Alexander. She can be reached at Anne-Marie Bowen, 1516 E. Hillcrest St., Suite 103, Orlando, Fla. 32803; Tel., 407-228-1300; e-mail, ambowen@bowenbankruptcy.com.

1988

Rick A. Buchwalter recently opened a law office in Clearwater, Fla. His practice focuses on securities arbitration, mediation and litigation; corporate and commercial transactions; and criminal defense. He can be reached at 2508 N.E. Coachman Road, Suite 2, Clearwater, Fla. 33765; Tel., 1-866-879-2600; website, www.rickbuchwalterlaw.com.

Lisa Polak (George) Edgar has been appointed to the Florida Public Service Commission by Gov. Jeb Bush for a four-year term. Prior to this appointment, she served as deputy secretary for planning and management for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She can be reached at 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, Fla. 32300; Tel., 850-413-6044; e-mail, Lisa.Edgar@psc.state.fl.us.



Cynthia G. Imperato, Circuit Court Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, participated in The Florida Bar's Judicial Nominating Commissioner training session in Orlando. She took part in the panel discussion, "Judicial Selection: From Start to Finish." She also spoke at the National Association of Bunco Investigators Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Her topic was titled "A Judicial Perspective."

1989

Miguel M. de La O has been honored with the Young Hispanic Leadership Award 2004. The award, which is sponsored by the Union Planters Bank and the Hispanic Heritage Council, is presented to the young Hispanics who have distinguished themselves through their work and community involvement. He also was named Boss of the Year for 2004 by the Miami Dade Legal Support Association. He is managing partner in the law firm of de La O & Marko and can be reached at 3001 S.W. 3rd Ave., Miami, Fla. 33129; Tel., 305-285-5555.

Donald R. Jones can be reached at 4914 S.W. 72nd Avenue, Miami, Fla. 33155.

Dr. Gemma Santos is working at The English Center, 3501 S.W. 28th St., Miami, Fla. 33133; Tel., 305-445-7731, Ext. 4362.

1990

Susan Elsass is a lung cancer survivor. She currently serves as plan documents administrator for Capital Health Plan in Tallahassee.

Rafael Gonzalez presented a seminar in Tampa on February 18 at Stetson University College of Law. His talk was titled "Reasonable Consideration of Medicare's Interests in Personal Injury, Liability, and Workers' Compensation Settlements."

1991



Tim Center is the director of the Florida Home Builders Foundation, the charitable arm of the Florida Home Builders Association, in Tallahassee. The foundation is a 501C3 non-profit that promotes housing-related educational activities to youth throughout Florida. He can be reached at 850-224-4316 or tcenter@fhba.com.

Tammy de Soto Cicchetti, senior trial attorney at the Cicchetti Law Firm in Tallahassee, has been nominated as Businesswoman of the Year by the National Republican Congressional Committee. She was nominated as a business leader who contributes to ethical and economical health of the community.

Clemente J. Inclan is a founding partner at McCumber, Inclan, Daniels, Valdez, Buntz & Ferrera and practices in the firm's Jacksonville office. His areas of practice include insurance defense, and nursing home, hospital and medical malpractice litigation. He is the recipient of the first Annual Dr. Gaston Acosta-Rua Young Professional Service Award for the National Conference of Community Justice for the Jacksonville region. He was selected for this humanitarian award for his leadership, dedication and contribution to the community as an advocate for children and justice.

1992

Mark E. Kaplan has been named chief of staff to Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings. He can be reached at Office of Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings, PL-05 The Capitol, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399; Tel., 850-488-4711.

1993



Ileana M. Almeida has been appointed a member of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission. She practices criminal and family law at Ileana Maria Almeida, 600 N.E. Third Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33304; Tel., 954-522-7171; e-mail, ileanalaw@aol.com.



Alex Caballero, a partner in the Tampa law firm of Sessums, Mason & Black, P.A., has become board certified in marital and family law. He also was appointed to the Florida Board of Bar Examiners by the Florida Supreme Court. He can be reached at 307 S. Magnolia Ave., Tampa Fla., 33606; Tel. 813-251-9200; e-mail, alex@smlawoffice.com.

Joseph Barry Schimmel was listed as one of 42 best Up-and-Coming attorneys in *Florida Trend's* edition of Florida Legal Elites. He is with the firm of Cohen, Chase, Hoffman & Schimmel, P.A., and can be reached at 9400 S. Dadeland Blvd., Suite 600, Miami, Fla. 33156; Tel., 305-670-0201; e-mail, jschimmel@miamitaxlaw.com.

1994

Allen G. Belluccio has joined the firm of Keller, Keller & Caracuzzo in West Palm Beach, Fla. Reach him at Tel., 561-655-3133; e-mail, abelluccio@cs.com.

Ryon McCabe was one of 42 best Up-and-Coming attorneys in *Florida Trend's* edition of Florida Legal Elites. He practices in the areas of business litigation, class actions, professional liability litigation and securities litigation at Ackerman Link & Sartory. He can be reached at 220 Lakeview Ave., Suite 1250, West Palm Beach, Fla. 333401.

1995



Wendy D. Brewer, an attorney with Barnes & Thornburg LLP, has been elected vice-chair of the Commercial and Bankruptcy Law Section of the Indianapolis Bar Association for 2005. She is a member of the Creditors' Rights and Litigation Departments at the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg in Indianapolis, Ind.

Erin Elizabeth Schaden has joined Atkinson & Kelsey, P.A., in the practice of divorce and family law. She will focus on domestic relations, domestic violence, family law and marital bankruptcy law. Schaden practiced law in the District of Columbia and Maryland before moving to New Mexico. She is a member of the Family Law Section of the American Bar Association. Reach her at Tel., 505-883-3070; e-mail, atkinsonkelsey.com

1996



Ronald A. Christaldi has been selected to serve on the board of directors of The Tampa Club. He is a shareholder in the firm of de la Parte & Gilbert in Tampa, where he practices in the areas of business law and transactions with a focus in corporate, health care and real estate matters.

David Doyle Jr. has joined GrayRobinson in Orlando as a shareholder and will continue to practicing medical malpractice defense litigation and health care law.

Russel Lazega has published a new version of his book from West's Florida Practice Series, *Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault: Personal Injury*, 2005 Edition. He also was named one of *Florida Trend* magazine's Florida Legal Elites in the area of insurance law. He can be reached at 13499 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 107, N. Miami Beach, Fla. 33181.

Jennifer Ruth Beltz-McCamey is a partner in the firm of Beltz, Ruth, Magazine & Newman, P.A., where she practices in the areas of litigation, medical malpractice and personal injury. She can be reached at 150 2nd Ave. N., 15th Floor, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701; Tel., 727-327-3222; e-mail, attorneys@beltzandruth.com.

Andrew James Schutt was elected a partner in the firm of Arnall Golden Gregory LLP. He can be reached at 171 17th St., Suite 2100, Atlanta, Ga. 30363; Tel., 404-873-8778; e-mail, Andrew.schutt@agg.com.

1997

Charles "Chad" Crabtree accepted a position as director, real estate counsel with Brooks/Eckerd Corporation in Warwick, Rhode Island. He is responsible for handling all legal and real estate matters for the 1,900 drug stores in the chain. He can be reached at Avalon at Center Place, 50 Park Row West, No 416, Providence, R.I. 02903; e-mail, chadc@tampabay.rr.com.

Tracey L. Ellerson has joined Baker & Hostetler LLP in Orlando. She can be reached at 200 S. Orange Ave., Sun Trust Center, Suite 2300, Orlando, Fla. 32802; Tel., 407-649-4000; e-mail, tellerson@bakerlaw.com.

Jeffrey L. Kaplan has joined the firm of Scott D. Clark, P.A. He can be reached at 655 W. Morse Blvd., Suite 212, Winter Park, Fla. 32789; Tel., 407-647-7600; e-mail, jkaplan@scottclarkpa.com.

Christopher S. Polaszek has joined Milberg Weiss Bershad & Schulman in Boca Raton, Fla. He specializes in securities litigation. He can be reached at Tel., 561-361-5023; e-mail, cpolaszek@milbergweiss.com.

Shawn M. Willson Shepard has joined Bunting Sanchez Hayes. He practices corporate and business law. He can be reached at 1640 Powers Ferry Road, Building 11, Suite 250, Marietta, Ga. 30067; Tel., 770-552-8655; e-mail, sshepard@buntinglaw.com.

Juli Simas-James has been elected a partner in the Orlando law firm of Shutts & Bowen, P.A., where she is a member of the Real Estate Department. She concentrates her practice in commercial real estate transactions, representing local and national developers, homebuilders and financial institutions in real estate sales and acquisitions, multi-family developments, residential developments, multi-use developments and real estate financing. She also represents clients in matters pertaining to land use, zoning, permitting, environmental and regulatory issues. She can be reached at Tel., 407-835-6774; e-mail, jjames@shutts-law.com.



Michael Ufferman has opened a law firm in Tallahassee. His firm concentrates on state and federal criminal appeals, criminal post conviction motions and family law. He can be reached at 660 E. Jefferson St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-386-2345; e-mail, Ufferman@uffermanlaw.com.

Richard F. Woodford Jr. was appointed as an associate counsel with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Inspector General, Washington, D.C. He is responsible for investigating allegations of waste, fraud, abuse and employee misconduct. He formerly served as a scientific attorney at the National Science Foundation, in the Office of Inspector General, Investigations Division, where he received the Inspector General's award for Investigative Excellence. He retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve in 2004 after twenty years of service, including active duty in the Persian Gulf and in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. E-mail him at rwoodfor@nsf.gov.

Chanta Combs has joined the Governor's Legal Affairs Office in Tallahassee. She can be reached at 850-488-3494; e-mail, combst@eog.state.fl.us.

1998

Kevin Bond is with KB Homes in Tampa. He can be reached at 3450 Buschwood Park Dr., Suite 250, Tampa, Fla. 33618; e-mail, kbondAkbhomes.com.

Elizabeth P. Perez has joined the law firm of Shutts & Bowen LLP in Miami as an associate. She can be reached at EperezEsq@aol.com.

Jerel C. Dawson has joined Shutts & Bowen in their Miami office and is a member of the firm's Insurance Practice Group.

1999

Timothy Franklin has joined Franklin Legal, PL, at 418 Seagate Ave., Neptune Beach, Fla. 32266; Tel., 904-465-2208; e-mail, tim.Franklin@att.net.

Gerald Thomas has joined the firm of Trenam Kemker as an associate in the Real Estate Department in Tampa, Fla.

2000

Rosalyn Baker-Barnes was elected to the board of directors of the Young Lawyers Section of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, and also was elected secretary of the F.Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association. She is with Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart & Shipley, P.A., in West Palm Beach.

Ginger L. Barry has joined the Tallahassee office of Broad and Cassel as an associate and is a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group.

Keisha Bell, who practices in the area of family law in Fort Myers, has written a book titled *Emerging...Free*. Published by Kei-Vision, Inc., the book examines the issue of parental abandonment through the eyes of two teen-agers. Visit her website at www.keishabell.com.

Rochelle Birnbaum Chiocca and her husband John A. Chiocca, welcomed their son Camber Birnbaum Chiocca into the world on February 9, 2005. Rochelle and John are law partners at the firm of Chiocca & Chiocca in West Palm Beach. The family lives in Wellington.

Christina M. Rexroat O'Brien is with the firm of Curtright C. Truitt, P.A. She can be reached at 7780 Cambridge Manor Place, Suite B, Fort Myers, Fla. 33907; e-mail, christymobrien@yahoo.com.

Jeffrey M. Schumm has joined Regeneration Technologies, Inc. as in-house counsel. He can be reached at 11621 Research Circle, Alachua, Fla. 32616; Tel., 386-418-8888; e-mail, jschumm@rtix.com.

Michael B. Stein is with the firm of Butler Pappas Wehmuller Katz Craig LLP, where he practices in the areas of insurance defense, first party property, arson and fraud. He can be reached at 3000 Bayport Drive, Suite 1100, Tampa, Fla. 33607; Tel., 813-281-1900; e-mail, mstein@butlerpappas.com.



Jason G. Williams is an associate in the Business Law Department of Foley & Lardner in Orlando, where he specializes in real estate law. He can be reached at 407-244-3234; e-mail, jgwilliams@foley.com.

2001

Darby Lee Duncan Robinson now is with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, 300 North Hogan St., Suite 14-150, Jacksonville, Fla. 32202; T el., 904-301-6610

Nicholas Iarossi is with Capital City Consulting at 101 E. College Ave., Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-222-9075; e-mail, niarossi@capcityconsult.com.

Marcelo Llorente, who was re-elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2004 and represents District 116 in South Florida, has joined the board of directors of Pacer Health Corporation. Pacer is a Miami-based operator of acute care hospitals, medical treatment centers and residential care facilities. His legislative activity includes membership on the House's Committee on Affordable Healthcare.

Melissa Engle Peat is with Gilbert Turner Coomber. She can be reached at 188-190 Hoe St., Walthamsow, London, E17 4QN, United Kingdom; Tel., +44 0208 509 6804; e-mail, melissapeat@gtclaw.co.uk.

James Cameron Thurber is with the Federal Election Committee Office, where he practices in the area of enforcement of election law. He can be reached at 999 E. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463; Tel. 202-594-1650; e-mail, jthurber@fec.gov.

2002

Dan Dalesandro and his wife Jamie celebrated the birth of their first child, Abigail Dalesandro, born October 4, 2004, in Fort Myers. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long. Dan practices personal injury law at Associates & Bruce L. Scheiner, Personal Injury Lawyers, P.A. He can be reached at 4020 Evans Ave., Fort Myers, Fla. 339901; Tel., 239-939-2900; e-mail, ddalesandro@swfla.rr.com.

Timothy Dennis has joined the Law Office of David A. Theriaque in Tallahassee. He can be reached at 1114 E. Park Ave., Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-224-7332.



Pam Ellen Hudson has joined the Naples firm of Roetzel & Andress as an associate in the firm's business litigation group. She focuses on litigation in the areas of business, intellectual property and technology, proprietary rights and labor and employment law. She can be reached at Tel., 239-649-2731.

2003

Frederick L. Aschauer Jr. has joined Rose, Sandstrom & Bentley in Tallahassee. He can be reached at 2548 Blairstone Pines Drive, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel., 850-877-6555; e-mail, faschauer@rsbattorneys.com.

Diane M. Barnes has joined the firm of Butler Pappas in Tampa.

Ryan M. Barnett is an associate with McConnaughay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope & Weaver. Reach him at 316 S. Baylen St., Suite 500, Pensacola, Fla. 32502; Tel., 850-434-7122; e-mail, rbarnett@mcconnaughay.com.

Aaron Bates has joined the Tennessee law firm of Hale & Lyle. He can be reached at 126 Edgemont Ave., Bristol, Tenn. 37620; Tel. 423-989-6555.

Toni Funaro, has joined Radey, Thomas, Yon & Clark, where she specializes in insurance, administrative law, commercial litigation and estate planning. She can be reached at 313 N. Monroe St., Suite 200, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301; Tel. 850-425-6654.

Jon J. Hernan has joined the firm of Cabaniss, Smith, Toole, & Wiggins, PL, where he practices litigation and products liability law. He can be reached at P.O. Box 945401 Maitland, Fla. 32794; Tel., 407-246-1800; e-mail, jhernan@cabaniss.net.

Benjamin G. Snipes has joined Equant as legal counsel. He can be reached at 2355 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon, Va. 20171; Tel., 571-643-7971; web, <http://www.equant.com>



Toni L. Wortherly of the The Law Office of Toni L. Wortherly in Jacksonville, Fla., has started Artistic Esquire Publishing, LLC, and published her first book, *Pray While You're Prey*. It is a book about the blessing of singleness and Christian courtship. The book was released in February. Visit www.artistic-esq.com for details.

2004



Jeffrey N. Berman has joined Rumberg, Kirk & Caldwell. He practices products liability, premises liability and asbestos defense litigation. He can be reached at 80 S.W. 8th St., Suite 3000, Miami, Fla. 33130; Tel., 305-358-5577; e-mail, jberman@rumberger.com.

Thomas Burch has joined King & Spalding in Atlanta. He can be reached at 191 Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30303; Tel., 404-572-4600.

Nicole A. Butera is with the Law Office of Peterson Bernard. She can be reached at 1550 Southern Blvd., Suite 300, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33406; e-mail, nicolebutera@wpb-law.com.

Leila Elizabeth Chamblee is an associate at Holland & Knight. Reach her at One Atlantic Center, Suite 2000, 1201 W. Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta, Ga., 30309; Tel., 404-898-8193; e-mail, beth.chamblee@hklaw.com.

Carolyn J. Chinn has joined the Committee on Judiciary as a legal analyst. She can be reached at The Florida Senate, 404 S. Monroe St., 515 Knott Building, Tallahassee, Fla. 32399; T el., 850-487-5198.

Matthew M. DeLeo is a law clerk for the Honorable Virginia M. Hernandez Covington in Fort Myers. You can reach him at the Middle District of Florida U.S. Courthouse & Federal Building, 2110 First St., Fort Myers, Fla. 33901; Tel., 239-461-2050; e-mail, mmdeleo9@hotmail.com.

Scott A. Elchert is an associate with the law firm of Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C. He can be reached at 1940 Duke St., Alexandria, Va. 22314; Tel., 703-413-3000.

Kristina Gotera has joined the Public Defender's Office, 20th Judicial Circuit, in Fort Myers. She can be reached at 1700 Monroe St., Fort Myers, Fla., 33901; Tel., 239-335-2532; e-mail Kristinag@pd.cjis20.org.

Sheila Herring is with the Office of Financial Regulation. She practices administrative/regulatory law. She can be reached at 200 E. Gaines St., Suite 526, Fletcher Building, Tallahassee, Fla. 2399; Tel., 850-410-9896; e-mail, sheila.herring@fldfs.com.

David Kaplan has joined the Public Defender's Office, 19th Circuit in Fort Pierce. He can be reached at 2254 Bella Vista Way, Port St. Lucie, Fla. 34952; Tel., 772-336-9982; e-mail, dkpalkanlaw@yahoo.com.

Kimberly Killan has joined Fowler White Boggs Banker in Jacksonville as an associate practicing in the firm's Securities, Financial Services and White Collar Practice Group in the Litigation Department. She can be reached at 50 N. Laura St., Suite 2200, Jacksonville, Fla. 32202; Tel., 904-598-3121.

Ashley McLaughlin is with the law firm of Smith and Cannon. He can be reached at 403 W. 1st Street, Vidalia, Ga. 30474; Tel., 912-538-0900; e-mail, Ashley-mclaughlin@hotmail.com.

Danica Little has joined the law firm of Wishart, Norris, Henninger & Pittman, P.A., in Charlotte, N.C., where her practice focuses on business law, estate planning, and administration and taxation and personal planning. She can be reached at 6832 Morrison Blvd., Charlotte, N.C.; Tel., 704-364-0010.

Daniel Christopher Norris has joined the law firm of Alston & Bird. He can be reached at 1201 W. Peachtree St. Atlanta, Ga. 30309; Tel., 404-881-7826; e-mail, dnorris@alston.com.

Peter J. Sweeney Jr. has joined Clem, Vocell & Berg at 3333 20th St., Vero Beach, Fla. 32960; Tel., 772-562-8111.

In Memoriam

Sandra McLean Anderson, '78, died February 22, 2005, in Key West. She was 63. Most recently, she was employed by Morgan Keegan of Palm Beach. The family has asked that any memorial contributions be made to the Sandra M. Anderson Single Parent Endowment Scholarship at Florida State College of Law.

Roger Allen Coe, '74, of Pickerington, Ohio, died October 21, 2004. He was the chief operating officer for Jefferson Savings Bank in West Jefferson, Ohio, and an adjunct professor at Columbus State University. He was 58.

Charles H. McQuillan, '71, died in October 2004.

Mark Pleshkewych, '01, died on October 3, 2004, in Coral Gables, Fla.

Charles A. Salerno Sr., '83, died on February 24, 2005, in Tallahassee. He was 70. He retired as a lieutenant for the Miami Police Department.

Richard E. Scherling, '74, died in November 2004. He was with the State Attorney's Office in Pace, Fla.

FSU Law Alumni Want to Know

From all surveys, the most avidly read section of the *FSU LAW* magazine is "Class Action." The Law School's more than 6,000 alumni want to know what their classmates have been doing – awards they have received, high-profile cases they have won, law firms or cities they have moved to, pro bono activities they have undertaken, births, marriage announcements and more.

It's easy to get your news into the communications network. Just fill out the form at right and send it (along with a photograph of yourself, if you like) to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Florida State University College of Law, 425 W. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601.

NAME: _____ CLASS YEAR: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ HOME FAX: _____

JOB TITLE: _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS: _____

EMPLOYER/FIRM: _____

PRACTICE AREA: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ BUSINESS FAX: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

INFORMATION FOR "CLASS ACTION":



6

Jim Whisenand, right, on the polo field with teammates: Outback Steakhouse's Tim Gannon, actor Tommie Lee Jones, and world-ranked Adam Snow

- Michael Jackson is Selma's first African-American district attorney **14**
- Florida State raises its own bar in *U.S. News & World Report* rankings **28**
- Find out what your classmates are up to in Class Action **32**

FSU LAW

College of Law
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601



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