



COLLEGE OF LAW

FSU LAW FOCUS

October 21, 2016

From the Dean

One of the most exciting things about the FSU Law community is our dynamic faculty. The professors who comprise our [environmental, energy and land use law program](#) are recognized as some of the best legal scholars. Their articles have been peer-selected as among the nation's strongest pieces each year for the past several years. That translates into a world-class program for students, as faculty members bring their scholarship into the classroom and are as committed to teaching as they are to their research. To read more about the achievements and activities of our environmental faculty, students and alumni, [visit our website to see the program's latest newsletter](#). Our recent Environmental Law Without Courts conference (pictured below) is one of the many items covered in the newsletter.

- Dean Erin O'Connor



Our September 2016 Environmental Law Without Courts conference was an excellent opportunity for students and alumni to learn from and network with scholars from top law schools around the nation.

50-Year Anniversary: 1969



Joshua M. Morse, III, former dean of the University of Mississippi Law School, became FSU College of Law's second dean in 1969. He succeeded Mason Ladd, who launched the new FSU

College of Law, after Ladd retired in July 1969. Ladd had served as dean of the University of Iowa Law School for 26 years before joining FSU. Most of the charter class graduated in June 1969. An additional group of graduates earned their degrees the previous December and March. Everyone from the charter class who elected to take the spring 1969 bar exam recorded passing grades. The 100% pass rate earned FSU the ranking of top law school in Florida and the local media called it the "perfect gift" for the outgoing dean.



Dean Joshua Morse

Alum Profile: Joshua Solomon ('16)

In September, recent graduate Joshua Solomon began a two-year fellowship with Legal Assistance of Western New York as an Equal Justice Works Veterans Legal Corps fellow. Solomon will assist low-income veterans with a wide variety of issues, including housing, child support and consumer protection. In addition, he is responsible for outreach at the local VA hospital. The position is not Solomon's first in the area of public interest law – he participated in the Public Interest Law Center Children's Advocacy Clinic while a law student. Solomon

knew he was interested in work that would allow him to help others even before law school and also served as president of the FSU Public Interest Law Student Association. Solomon believes that his direct client experience through the Children's Advocacy Clinic was invaluable during his job search. Also beneficial was the counseling Solomon received from the College of Law's placement center through JD Advisor Nicole Scialabba, who works in the upstate New York area and helped connect Solomon with potential employers.



" Working with Professor Annino at the Public Interest Law Center confirmed that the best work for me, in order to make a difference, would be working directly with clients that are in real need. "

Student Profile: 3L Charles LeCocq

Third-year student Charles LeCocq took a unique path to law school. Originally from New Mexico, LeCocq earned a BFA in theatre before working as a professional actor and an award-winning theater teacher. He now looks forward to a challenging and exciting new career as a civil or criminal litigator. LeCocq is a member and guest editor of the *Florida State University Law Review*. He served on the executive board for the FSU Law Moot Court Team and was invited to join the First District Appellate American Inn of Court as a Pupil. He is also a national mock trial champion, winning the 2015 National Trial Advocacy Tournament at the University of Florida with his co-counsel team members. Following his 2L year, LeCocq was a summer associate with Burr & Forman LLP in Orlando. After his 1L year, LeCocq worked as an appellate extern at the Second Circuit Public Defender's Office, where he drafted the initial and reply briefs for a major case. These briefs ultimately persuaded the court to reverse the defendant's conviction. If you are interested in hiring LeCocq for a job after graduation, please [click here to visit his LinkedIn profile](#) .



"Somehow, I persuaded my amazing wife to have faith in this crazy adventure. We packed up our stuff, threw our pup and our little boy into the car, and drove across the United States because I was confident that Florida State was the perfect law school for me. I couldn't be happier with the decision. I've loved every minute of studying the law and

arguing cases in court with the best professors and mentors imaginable. I'm so fortunate to pursue a life-long dream and to have my family right here cheering me on in our new home state."

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