



Dean O'Connor with third-year students who were honored for their pro bono work during this week's Law Day Celebration.

## From the Dean

Earlier this week, we co-hosted a Law Day Celebration event with Legal Services of North Florida and Legal Aid Foundation of Tallahassee. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognize area attorneys and judges who give back through pro bono work or who have made significant contributions to legal justice. Many honorees were FSU Law alums – including Judge Nina Ashenafi Richardson ('91) and Judge George S. Reynolds, III ('74). We also recognized many of our graduating 3Ls who completed 40-plus hours of pro bono work. In addition, we presented our annual Blaise Gamba Award to a 2018 graduate who demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to pro bono service – logging more than 300 hours of service! The award will also be presented at our graduation ceremony this weekend and we will announce the winner in next week's newsletter. The Law Day Celebration and honorees remind me what a compassionate law school family we have and make me proud to be a member of this community!

- Dean Erin O'Connor

## Faculty Profile: Jeffrey P. Dambly

Jeff Dambly is an adjunct professor at the FSU College of Law, teaching Law Enforcement & Privacy this spring semester. Dambly serves as a senior attorney for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, where he advises the Office of Statewide Intelligence and the Office of Statewide Investigative Services. In that role, he also serves as the privacy officer for the Florida Fusion Center, where he regularly provides training on privacy, civil rights and civil liberties to law enforcement agencies engaged in intelligence efforts across the state of Florida and the southeast region. He previously served as a criminal prosecutor in the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida. Dambly began teaching as an adjunct professor at FSU Law in 2014, and over the past several years has coached the Jessup International Law Moot Court team and has also taught Counterterrorism Law. Dambly previously taught International Law at the University of Central Florida. He holds a J.D. from the University of Florida, an LL.M. in national security and U.S. foreign relations law from the George Washington University, and is on track to earn a Master of Arts degree this fall in security studies from the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School.



*"It has been a blessing to teach at the FSU College of Law these past few years because it is the best of all worlds. In this role, I get the opportunity to engage students in fascinating areas of the law, while helping to prepare them for what comes next after graduation. I have enjoyed my time working with the law school immensely and look forward to continuing this relationship into the future."*

## Alum Profile: Wendy R. Wiener ('93)

Wendy Russell Wiener is a partner and chairs the regulatory department at Broad and Cassel in Tallahassee. She specializes in regulatory insurance law and regulatory deathcare industry law, representing entities and individuals who interact with administrative agencies that regulate insurance and the deathcare industry. Wiener is a member of the Federation of Regulatory Counsel and contributes to the organization's journal. She is also very active in the Tallahassee community and remains engaged with FSU Law. She serves on the law school's Board of Visitors and recently visited campus to present a professional development workshop for students on call backs and employer visits.



*"My practice allows me to help those businesses that help families during their most difficult times. And, while I often serve as consultant, rather than lawyer, for my clients, the strong foundation I was provided in administrative law while a student at FSU Law is instrumental in the advice I give."*

## Student Profile: 3L Laxavier Simmons

**Desired Practice Location:** Orlando or Tampa area

**Graduation Date:** May 2018

**Field of Law Sought:** Would like to work in the public sector—public policy work, state attorney or federal prosecutor



Laxavier Simmons will graduate from FSU Law this Sunday. Originally from Orlando, Simmons has bachelor's degrees in political science and telecommunication production from the University of Florida. During law school, Simmons has been a student ambassador for the FSU Law Admissions Office. His work experience includes interning with the Public Defender's Office of Florida's Second Judicial Circuit the summer after his 1L year. During the spring semester of his 2L year, Simmons was a communications intern for the Florida House of Representatives Democratic Office. In this position, he worked with the staff director, communications director and deputy communications director on projects such as proposals weekly reports on committee meetings, researching legislative drafts and drafting talking points for members to use during debates and media appearances. During the spring semester of his 2L year and into his 2L summer, Simmons clerked for the Second Judicial Circuit of Florida, where he researched cases and the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, drafted documents and independently worked on writ of certiorari and standard appeals. Currently, Simmons works as a certified legal intern for the Florida State Attorney's Office, Second Judicial Circuit, where he has researched in preparation for motion hearings or trial, written orders and participated in courtroom proceedings. Simmons also clerks at Printy Law Firm, where he has drafted complaints for a variety of different types of suits, researched both state and federal law to support various types of legal documents, and assisted in the preparation of an appellate brief. If you are interested in hiring Simmons after graduation, [visit his LinkedIn profile](#).

*"My time at FSU Law has allowed me to discover an area of the law that I am truly passionate about and experience it firsthand. Through my courses, work experience and opportunities outside of the classroom, I've been able to develop a unique skill set that will be valuable in my legal career."*

**GRADUATION CEREMONY**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018**



*Congratulations*  
*Class of 2018!*

**EXEMPLARY PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER AWARD**  
**NOMINATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018**  
EMAIL NOMINATIONS & QUESTIONS TO:  
**LAWDEAN@LAW.FSU.EDU**

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