From the Dean

March 18, 2021

Dear FSU Law Students,

I am pleased to announce that FSU Law’s Mock Trial Team, consisting of 3L Luc C. Mazzini, II; 2L Lauren Steinberg; and 1L Genevieve Lemley, won the national moot court competition—their fourth championship of the 2020-21 season. The national competition, which featured a constitutional law problem, was held online through a virtual space. Winning team members are third-year law students Rachel Duffy and Alexander Thompson, both representing Mephisto, and two Florida State University students, with support from the law school. The team’s oral arguments were exceptional, and the judges were impressed by their keen legal reasoning and effective communication. Congratulations to the winning team and their coaches on this outstanding achievement. We look forward to seeing how well they and their coaches have adapted to the challenges of COVID-19 in the future.

Sincerely,

Erin O’Connor
Dean

Student Profile: Luc Mazzini

Luc Mazzini is from Naples, Florida. He earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from FSU and will become a double ‘Nole when he graduates from FSU Law in May 2021. Mazzini was a member of the Student Bar Association (SBA) and the Phi Alpha Delta Mock Trial Team. Between the two teams, he has gained hands-on experience in expert witness preparation, court procedures, and witness interviewing, arraignments, pre-trial discovery, plea negotiations and trial advocacy. Mazzini is currently working as a certified legal intern at the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office.

Field of Law Sought

Mazzini enjoys litigation; his ideal career path includes state government, most likely with individuals and other institutions that helped him along life’s way.

For more information, visit his LinkedIn profile.

Student Profile: Anthony James “Jim” Spalla

Jim Spalla has spent approximately half of his legal career with state government, most recently as the director of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Office of Right of Way. He has served as the general counsel for the Florida Department of Transportation, Office of Right of Way, as a committee staff director for the Florida Senate, and in the past as an attorney and board member on the FSU Law Student Council from 2019-2020 and has served as a member of the Business and Eminent Domain Committees and as chair of The Florida Bar’s Government Lawyers Section’s Nominating Commission, as chair of The Florida Bar’s Government Lawyers Section’s Professionalism Committee and Eminent Domain Committees and as chair of the Outdoor Advertising Committee and as chair of The Florida Bar’s Government Lawyers Section’s Professionalism Committee.

Spalla spent approximately the other half of his career in private practice. He worked as a legal intern for the Tampa office of GrayRobinson, P.A., where he conducted legal research, prepared pleadings, depositions, and legal memoranda. He also served as a logistical engineer for a high-profile patent infringement trial in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware. He researched issues as they arose and prepared documents for trial.

In April 2021, Mazzini is currently working as a certified legal intern at the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office. He handles a variety of cases, including traffic and criminal cases. Mazzini is currently working as a certified legal intern at the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office.

Spalla is a member of The Florida Bar and the American Bar Association. He has served as the general counsel for the Florida Department of Transportation. He has served on the board of directors. He currently chairs the Awards Committee.

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From the Treasurer

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Jim Spalla
Treasurer

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