

From the Dean



Florida Supreme Court Justice Ricky Polston ('87) welcomed new 1Ls to campus during orientation.

Last Friday, we started officially welcoming new students to campus with our orientation for LL.M. students. Joining us this semester are foreign-trained lawyers from countries including Bangladesh, China, Ghana, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, and Spain, who are pursuing the LL.M. in American Law degree. This Monday, we began our one-week orientation for new 1Ls. Tropical Storm Fred forced us to meet virtually on Monday, but we were able to gather in person during the rest of the week. The 1L orientation schedule included a welcome from Justice Ricky Polston ('87), Contracts classes, faculty panels featuring the 1L professors, sessions that allowed new students to meet 2Ls, 3Ls, and members of the administration, behind-the-scenes tours of the Florida Supreme Court, professionalism panels, and an "Inclusion & Civility in Law School and the Legal Profession" session. The 1L class is extremely impressive and I am looking forward to bragging about them in next week's issue of the newsletter. Today, we are hosting our final orientation with special programming for new transfer students. Many thanks to all of the faculty and staff members who helped orient our new students. We are delighted to welcome everyone to campus and are looking forward to an excellent year!

Erin O'Connor

Dean Erin O'Connor

Employers Interview FSU Law Students



Employers are recruiting FSU Law students through the fall 2021 interview program.

During the first week of August, FSU Law began hosting employers for the fall 2021 interview program. More than 80 employers have already signed up for the program to recruit students virtually and in person for summer clerkships and post-graduation positions. Participating employers include large and small law firms, state attorney and public defender offices, businesses, and government agencies. During the first few weeks of the interview program, the Career Services Office has received very positive feedback from employers about students they have interviewed, and students have already been scheduled for second interviews. The interview program runs until November 5, so there is still time to sign up to recruit FSU Law students. Employers can [visit the FSU Law website to register](#) and can contact the Career Services Office at careerservices@law.fsu.edu with any questions. Prime dates for interviews typically fill up fast, so the Career Services Office recommends registering as soon as possible.

Alum Profile: Jack C. McElroy ('89)

Jack C. McElroy was recently named managing partner of Shutts & Bowen. In this new role, McElroy will work alongside the firm's Executive Committee in the administration and growth of Shutts & Bowen's eight Florida offices. McElroy is a commercial litigation partner in the firm's Orlando office. A member of the Business Litigation Practice Group, McElroy has more than 30 years of experience as a commercial litigator. His clients include national and statewide companies, including financial institutions, property management companies, health care organizations, and one of the world's largest entertainment companies.



McElroy focuses on commercial litigation related to contract disputes; lender liability defense; commercial landlord/tenant litigation; real estate-related litigation; commercial collections and replevins; commercial mortgage foreclosures; general lender representation; and bankruptcy litigation. He also has significant litigation experience in partnership disputes and shareholder disputes.

"I cherish the education and opportunities that I received at Florida State University College of Law. I remember the first steps I took into the building on my first day of law school, but didn't realize then that those steps would be the first in a long journey that would lead me to my current role at Shutts. Our firm has a rich history dating back to its founding with a retainer from our first client, Henry Flagler, 111 years ago. I'm greatly honored to be chosen as managing partner by the firm and I'm eternally grateful to the College of Law for providing the opportunities that led me here."

Student Profile: 3L Marin Donnelly

Desired Practice Location: Tampa
Expected Graduation: Spring 2022
Field of Law Sought: Open to any practice area, but particularly interested in family law

Marin Donnelly is from Tampa, Florida, and she earned her bachelor's degree in telecommunications from the University of Florida. She will graduate from FSU Law in the spring of 2022. Donnelly is currently working as a summer law clerk at DSK Law in Tampa, where she attends depositions, mediations, and hearings, drafts various motions and answers to discovery, and performs legal research. During the spring of her 2L year, Donnelly served as a legislative fellow intern for the Majority Office in the Florida House of Representatives. There, she assisted the office throughout the 2021 legislative session and the committee weeks leading up to session by creating informational graphics about the bills being worked on in the committees, preparing information for representative lunch-and-learn presentations, and assisting with social media. She also helped create a session "yearbook" summarizing session highlights for representatives to make available to their constituents. The summer before her 2L year, Donnelly held a remote externship with HD Supply in Tallahassee, where she worked closely with their in-house counsel and performed employment law research.



At FSU Law, Donnelly is a student ambassador for the Admissions Office. She also served as president of the LitiGators during her 2L year and will serve as their 2L/3L representative for the 2021-2022 academic year. If you are interested in connecting with or hiring Donnelly after graduation, visit her [LinkedIn profile](#).

"As I am entering my final year of law school, I can't help but look back with immense gratitude for the education I received from faculty and fellow students. During my time at FSU Law, I learned not only what kind of lawyer I want to be but also how I can use my services to make a positive impact. I look forward to applying these lessons throughout my legal career."