
Top Stories

- Kathy Piechura-Couture, professor of education, was quoted in a WJCT article Jan. 2, on single-gender classrooms. In Florida, two lawmakers filed a controversial bill to establish a pilot program for single-gender classrooms in some public elementary schools.
- Jamil Khader, Ph.D., professor of English and completing a Fulbright Fellowship at Bir Zeit University in Palestine, wrote an op-ed for Al Jazeera on Dec. 28, regarding whether Israeli audiences see parallels between the movie “The Hunger Games,” and life in Palestine. The article was picked up by Yahoo! News (UK, Ireland and Maktoob) and New Age Bangladesh.

Other News

- Stetson University was mentioned in an Orlando Sentinel article on Dec. 31 regarding online degree programs. A similar article appeared in EducationNews.org and India Education Guide.
- On Dec. 29, Daytona Beach News-Journal ran an article about Stetson University education majors finishing their internships in Volusia County schools.
- Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine has again ranked Stetson Law among the top 20 law schools for Hispanic students in its December issue.
- News of Stetson's program offering free wills for low income veterans and their spouses age 60 or older has run in the Jan. 2 Tampa Bay Times.
- Adjunct Professor Jennifer Dietz's interview with Carole Baskin of Wild Cat Refuge about animal law is available in this Jan 1 YouTube video.
- Professor Mark Bauer will make a presentation on the role of 55+ housing at the upcoming AALS Annual Meeting in New York according to Dec. 31 Law Professor's Blog Network.

Alumni in the News

- Law alumnus Jesse Berkowitz of the Berkowitz Law Group has written an article on the need for legal aid when injured in an auto for the Dec. 31 WAVE 3 News.
- Law alumnus Tom Leek has become the President of Cobb Cole Law Firm according to Jan. 2 Daytona Beach News Journal.
- Law alumnna Mary Leigh Pirtle has joined the Bass, Berry & Sims PLC law firm, according to a Jan. 2 Nashville Ledger.
- Law alumna Dana Harris has joined the Umansky law firm according to Dec. 31 Financial Content.
- Law alumna Suzanne Boy was sworn in as the 2014 President-Elect of the Human Resource Management Association of Southwest Florida by the Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. according to Jan. 1 PR.com.
- Law alumnus and Brigadier General Mark Bircher is running for the 13 Congressional District of Florida according to a Dec. 31 Save America Foundation.
- Law alumnus Vincent D'Agostino was among 147 students across the country chosen for a three-month internship in the White House according to the Dec. 30 Citrus County Chronicle.
Top Stories

- Chris Ferguson, Ph.D., chair of the psychology department, was quoted in a WDRB.com article on gun violence in movies stating that there is little evidence linking media violence to violence in real life. Ferguson has been quoted in several articles about violence in video games and other media including Buffalo News and a separate article in WDRB.com.
- Law Professor Luz Nagle is quoted in the Dec. 28 ABA Journal article, "Organized crime leaders and terrorists cross paths in cyberspace." Professor Luz Nagle wrote a guest blog post for the Dec. 27 FCPAméricas Blog on "How Lawyers Can Contribute to New Anti-Corruption Laws."
- Law Professor Ciara Torres-Spelliscy is featured in the December Professors of Color on Political Law.

Other News

- Stetson University was mentioned as one of the universities selected by the IIE to participate in the International Academic Partnership Program in Brazil, according to a Dec. 21 article in the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune.
- The West Volusia Beacon ran a story on Dec. 23, on professors Gary and Becky Oliphant, who taught global entrepreneurship for a semester at sea. More than 40 faculty members and 650 students traveled to worldwide destinations during the voyage.
- In a Web Pro News article Dec. 22 about donations, Carol Julian, vice president of University Relations, was quoted as saying that multiyear donations are difficult for people to commit to.
- Ann Small, professor of music, was presented the Wayne Hugoboom Distinguished Service Award for dedicated service leadership and consistent excellence in choral music, according to the Daytona Beach News-Journal, Dec. 22. The award was presented by the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.
- A Dec. 25 blog post critical of the American Studies Association's academic boycott of Israeli universities lists Stetson as an institutional member of the ASA.
- The Tampa Bay Times considered the far-reaching impact of the Stetson Law Symposium on Human Trafficking in the Dec. 24 "Bayshore & Brandon Times: Year in Review."

Alumni in the News

- Nina O'Keefe May wrote, produced and directed the movie "Life Fine Tuned," which premiered at the Athens Theater in DeLand, Fla., on Dec. 20, according to Hometown News and volusiacountymoms.com.


Top Stories

- Chris Ferguson, Ph.D., chair of the psychology department, published a blog post in Time Ideas on Dec. 14, regarding the lack of scientific support for "affluenza" -- the belief that someone lives such an extravagant, materialistic, consequence-free life that they are
unable to understand or control their behavior. Reference to that post was picked up in about a dozen outlets throughout Australia, from Tasmania to the Northern Territories. Additional coverage: Free Republic, Herald Sun News, Manila Standard Today.

- The Dec. 13 JD Journal, Northwest Florida Daily News, WEAR TV, and Dec. 16 Pensacola News Journal ran news of the Stetson University/University of West Florida 3 + 3 program. The Legal Skills Prof Blog also mentioned the new program.
- Kathy Piechura-Couture, Ph.D., professor of education, was interviewed on WGCU Dec. 18 regarding single-gender classrooms. Florida legislators may consider a bill on the subject during the upcoming legislative session.
- Law Associate Dean Michael Allen, director of Stetson's Veterans Law Institute, spoke with the Sun-Sentinel for the Dec. 13 story, “Project offers free legal help for backlogged veterans claims.”

**Other News**

- In a Dec. 13 article in USA Today, regarding FGCU's policy on complimentary sports tickets for student athletes, Stetson is mentioned as a peer institution whose policy clearly spells out that student athletes are not allowed to exchange complimentary tickets for anything of value (an NCAA violation). Additional coverage: LoHud.com
- T. Wayne Bailey, Ph.D., professor of political science, was quoted in a Dec. 16 WFSU article on why Sen. Tom Lee (R-Brandon) might say “yes” if offered the Florida Lieutenant Governor position.
- In a Dec. 18 Orlando Sentinel article Apopka Mayor John Land reminisced about Stetson defeating the Florida Gators in football in 1938.
- Hari Pulapaka, professor of mathematics, wrote a blog post for Hangout Networks on Dec. 19, in which he discusses the sources of food ingredients.
- Viviana Vasiu, an honor student at Stetson, appeared on the radio show Cyber Law and Business Report to discuss cyber bullying. Vasiu has formed an advocacy organization fighting cyber harassment, and is working with leading national advocates such as Jayne Hitchcock of Working to Halt Online Abuse to raise awareness on the Stetson campus.
- Stetson was mentioned in a Dec. 18 West Volusia Beacon article as a potential candidate to manage a business incubator program for the west side of Volusia County.
- Stetson's Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and Special Olympians played in the first Unified Sports' softball game in Volusia County, reported the Daytona Beach News-Journal, Dec. 15.
- Stetson student Matt Gerken was quoted in the SeminoleChronicle.com discussing “Tuba Caroling for a Cause.” The group of 11 tuba players visits neighborhoods in Winter Springs, playing holiday tunes and collecting money for Habitat for Humanity. Gerken said he is very familiar with the charity through his involvement at Stetson.
- Visiting Assistant Professor Rachel VanLandingham is quoted in the Dec. 16 San Antonio Express News article, “Plan gives lawyers more say on military sex cases.”
- Law Professor Luz Nagle is mentioned in the International Bar Association article, “Fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.”
- According to the Dec. 17 Commercial Law Blogspot, Law Associate Dean Kristen Adams is participating in the International Conference on Contracts at St. Thomas University in Miami.
- The Dec. 15 Workplace Prof Blog includes a hat tip to Law professor Jason Bent and former visiting law professor Brad Areheart.

ABC 5 News is Des Moines quoted Chris Ferguson, Ph.D., chair of the psychology department, in an article on movie violence. Additional coverage: Valley News Live, KLKN-TV.

Stetson was prominently mentioned in the Orlando Sentinel's Dec. 16 article announcing DeLand's victory in its "other best downtown" bracket buster competition. DeLand bested Winter Garden -- with the help of an email to Stetson alumni -- to advance to the final round against Mount Dora on Dec. 13. Sentinel-style bracketology earned that newspaper a column on organic vs. created downtowns in The Atlantic Cities, Dec. 12.

Stetson University took second place in the Nonprofit category at the annual DeLand Jaycees Christmas Parade according to the West Volusia Beacon on Dec. 12.

Stetson was mentioned incidentally in articles regarding tours of Stetson Mansion at Christmas time. Bay News 9.

Adjunct professor and Judge Irene Sullivan spoke with the Ledger for the Dec. 19 story, "Testimony Ends in Juveniles in Jail Case Against Sheriff's Office."


Florida Senate Republicans have chosen Sen. Andy Gardiner to take over as Senate president in 2014, according to the Daily Journal Online, Dec. 12.

Aliana M. Payret will handle immigration issues and criminal defense cases at the new LaBelle, Fla., office of the law firm Goldberg, Racila, D'Alessandro & Noone, according to the Visalia Times-Delta, Dec. 11.

Carol Thomas, Ph.D., has published a book of poetry on American culture, "Shards of Light and Hope: In a Darkening Time," according to StreetInsider.com on Dec. 16. Additional coverage: Digital Journal.


According to the Dec. 17 CityBizList, Law alumna Meredith Level has received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

According to the Dec. 16 Naples Daily News, Law alumna Traci McKee has received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

According to the Dec. 16 Watchdog Report, Gov. Scott has announced the reappointment of Law alumnus Mark Turner to the Polk State College District Board of Trustees, effective Dec. 12.

Law alumna Andrea Teves Smith has been appointed circuit judge to fill the 10th Judicial Circuit in Polk, Highlands, and Hardee counties according to Dec. 19 Herald Tribune.

Law alumna Meredith E. Level has received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell according to Dec. 17 CityBizList.

Law alumnus and Florida Circuit Court Judge Gregory P. Holder will speak at the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance 2014 Florida Event according to Dec. 13 Securities Technology Monitor.

Alumni in the News

Dec. 6-12, 2013

Top Stories
Law Professor Ciara Torres-Spelliscy spoke with Al Jazeera America about the SEC and corporate campaign money for the Dec. 6 story, "SEC pushes corporate campaign contributions off agenda." Professor Torres-Spelliscy is also quoted in The Daily Beast for the Dec. 5 story, "Political Corporate Contributions Won't Be Aired in Daylight.

Stetson University president Wendy Libby features a blog in the Huffington Post about expanding and improving studying abroad and how that will affect local campuses.

Professor and chair of psychology Christopher J. Ferguson is quoted in Statesman.com on the effects that female peers have on each other, resulting in stress for women. That article originally ran in the New York Times. Also, in My Fox and the State Journal, Ferguson comments on a study about children who watch violence in movies.

Hari Pulapaka, chair and professor of computer science and mathematics, features a blog in the Huffington Post on what he learned in regards to the sustainability of seafood.

Other News

- According to the Dec. 4 FCPA Blog, the NACDL Stetson White Collar Criminal Defense College at Stetson is scheduled for March 19-22 on the Gulfport campus.
- In WFSU, Professor of religious studies Greg Sapp comments on the expression of religious views in public after a nativity scene was privately funded and placed on the Florida Capitol.
- Former Law adjunct Greg Marks is quoted in the Dec. 3 New Tampa Patch article, "Sarasota Attorney Leaves His Mark on Florida Business Law."
- News of Stetson Law's new fire alarm system has run in the Dec. 11 Security & Life Safety.

Alumni in the News

- Traci Roethel was appointed principal of Woodhull Intermediate School, according to Huntington Patch.
- Andy Gardiner was chosen as the Republican designate for the Senate President, according to The Tampa Tribune and Bay News 9.
- Law alumnus Robert J. Sniffen was recently named Tallahassee Employment Lawyer of the Year, in The Best Lawyers in America 2014. He was also listed among Florida Trend's Legal Elite 2013 and in the U.S. News Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms" for 2013.
- Law alumnus Mark Bircher is vying to replace Bill Young, according to the Dec. 5 Sunshine State News.
- Law alumnus and WWE VP of Talent Relations Geddes is mentioned in the Dec. 11 Miami Herald article, "Women's wrestling: The next big thing?"
- The Dec. 8 Denver Post profiles playwright and Law alumnus Mike Boryla's career in the NFL. While playing football in high school, Boryla won the Denver Post's Gold Helmet in 1968.
- The Dec. 6 Mixergy features an interview with Law alumnus JV Crum III in the article, "Broke at 23, Millionaire By 25."
- Law alumnus M.D. Saperstein, co-author of "Hey They, Delilah," is mentioned in the Dec. 7 Stories & Swag Blogspot.

Nov. 22-Dec. 5, 2013
Top Stories

- **Huffington Post** featured an op-ed by Stetson president Wendy B. Libby about studying abroad and the wider range of experiences universities provide both on campus and across borders.
- Dean Emeritus and Professor of Law Bruce Jacob spoke with the Christian Science Monitor for a Nov. 27 story about O.J. Simpson's appeal for a new trial.
- Professor of English Terri Witek received the Silver 2012 Florida Book Award in poetry for her collection Exit Island. A poem from the collection, "Tomorrow Night, Shake Me," was featured in Slate. According to Orlando Weekly, Dr. Witek had a reading in Orlando with Portuguese novelist Jacinto Pires which was explored in an interview with WMFE. She also appeared on 90.7 News to discuss the strength of the Central Florida's literary scene.
- Professor Luz Nagle joined a panel of experts discussing terrorism and organized crime at the 23rd Annual Review of the Field, ABA Standing Committee on National Security Law, in Washington, D.C. that was picked up by CSPAN3.
- According to the Daytona Beach News-Journal, the staff of Stetson's WORLD International Learning department have been recognized for their strengths within the field. Also, the executive director of international learning Eric Canny was invited to speak on strategic planning and global operations safety at the World Innovation Summit for Education in Qatar.
- Law Adjunct Professor and alumnus Joseph Bodiford wrote the opinion article, "In Murder-Trial Mayhem, Dignified Justice: MY WORD" exclusively for the Nov. 25 Orlando Sentinel. Bodiford also wrote the opinion editorial, "Try rooting for presumption of innocence," for the Nov. 29 Tallahassee Democrat.

Other Stories in the News

- Paul Croce, professor of history and department chair of American studies, features a letter to the editor in the West Volusia Beacon where he describes Halloween has a possible template for children to better understand differences among peers.
- In Scott Maxwell's segment Thanksgiving in Orlando, featured in the Orlando Sentinel, one reader said they were thankful for Stetson University being the state's very first music school.
- Professor of theater arts and play director Ken McCoy is quoted in the Daytona Beach News-Journal about the new play "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940."
- Stacey-Rae Simcox commented about her new position as Stetson University's Veterans Advocacy Clinic director and associate professor of legal skills in The Herald, Hawaii News Now, and other news outlets.
- According to Daytona Times, Luis Paris, a visiting lecturer in the School of Business, will introduce a business program featured in the Deltona Library as part of a host of business workshops.
- Assistant professor of business intelligence and analytics Joe Woodside gave insight into the complexities of the healthcare system in Forward Florida.
- Law Professor Ciara Torres-Spelliscy spoke with Bay News 9 about the Supreme Court hearing regarding campaign finance reform for a Nov. 26 news story.
- News of Stetson Law student Tai Lowry helping her team win the Florida Justice Association Mock Trial Competition has run in the Nov. 28 Gazette.
- According to the Nov. 25 Hindustan Times, the three-day 18th Stetson International Moot Court competition concluded on Sunday at Rajiv Gandhi National Law University.
- News of Stacey-Rae Simcox joining Stetson as the new Veterans Advocacy Clinic director ran nationally across the PRNewswire on Nov. 25 in multiple media outlets.
Alumni in the News

- Debbie Faulkner was featured in the Tampa Bay Business Journal's "Under 30" feature.
- Denise Hines was been named Executive Director of the Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN), according to Market Wired.
- The Nov. 27 Memphis Business Journal features a Q&A with Law alumnus Tom James, executive chairman of Raymond James Financial.
- The Dec. 1 Tampa Tribune/TBO features an interview with Vincent D'Agostino, a Law alumnus who is enjoying an internship at the White House.
- According to the Nov. 22 Tampa Bay Times article "Career makeover: Boomers and more seek something completely different," Law alumna Robyn Featherston is enjoying a third career thanks to her Stetson education and thirst for learning new things.
- The Nov. 22 Tampa Bay Business Journal 2013 Up & Comers features a profile of Law alumna Yova Borovska, who joined Fowler White after graduating.
- According to Elite Tampa Bay, Law alumnus Robert Eckard was published in the October 2013 article, "Did You Sign a Non-Compete Agreement?"
- The Nov. 26 Mail Tribune mentions Law alumna Katie Zerkel in the article, "Life is still good for local Beaver, Duck fans."