

**Stetson University
Academic Affairs
Student Highlights
October 2015 – February 2016**

Melissa Abransom and **Marisa Gomez**, both class of 2016 Computer Science majors, attended the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing conference in Houston, TX, in October and received travel grants to do so. The Grace Hopper Conference is the world's largest gathering of women technologists. It is produced by the Anita Borg Institute and presented in partnership with the Association for Computing Machinery.

Gisela Alvarez, class of 2016 Art History major, presented a paper entitled “The Market Is Always Right: Jeff Koon's Made in Heaven (1989-91)” under the Special Interests section for Undergraduate Research at the 2016 Annual Florida Conference of Historians at UCF in Orlando.

Christopher Aprim J.D. '15, **Christie Alisca**, **Joshua Harris**, and **Bryan “Wes” Reynolds**, all third year law students, were semifinalists at the Buffalo-Niagara Moot Court Competition. The team was coached by alums **Erika McArdle** J.D. '12 and **Joseph Murray** J.D. '08.

Stephanie Baker, **Leon Hunter**, **Kyle Ross**, and **Allison Stevenson**, third year law students, were semifinalists at the National Institute for Trial Advocacy Tournament of Champions. The team was coached by alumni **Sara Mieczkowski** J.D. '10 and **Shaun Cummings** J.D. '14.

Vanna Blaszczak, class of 2017, **Tracy-Lynn Cleary**, class of 2016, and **Adam Cooper**, class of 2017, published “The Detection of Chlorinated Herbicides at Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge and Their Effects on Waterfowl,” *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Research and Innovations*.

Erin Brennan and **Giovanni Giarratana**, third year law students (team one), and **Correy Karbiener**, third year law student, and **Taylor Ryan**, second year law student (team two) participated in the National Veterans Moot Court Competition. Erin Brennan and Giovanni Giarratana were Finalists in the competition and received Best Oralist; Correy Karbiener, and Taylor Ryan, were Champions of the competition and received Best Respondent Brief. The team was coached by **Mike Allen**, Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and alum **Jason Stearns** J.D. '08.

Brandon Breslow, third year law student, placed his article, “Signs of Life in the Supreme Court’s Uncharted Territory: Why the Right to Effective Assistance of Counsel Should Attach to Pre-Indictment Plea Bargaining,” in *62 Federal Lawyer Magazine*, Issue 9, the magazine for the Federal Bar Association.

Brandon Breslow, third year law student, **Colby Connell**, second year law student, **Kaitlyn Dugas**, second year law student, and **Tamara Williams**, third year law student, were champions at the Florida Justice Association Honorable E. Earle Zehmer Memorial Mock Trial Competition. Brandon Breslow received Best Overall Advocate. The team was coached by **Trina Hearn** J.D. '11 and **Colby Hearn** J.D. '10.

Hayley Brew, third year law student, **Nicole Brunswick**, third year law student, **George Koulianos**, second year law student, and **Lara McGuire**, third year law student, were semifinalists and placed third at the ABA Law Student Division Arbitration Regional Competition. The team was coached by **Kristen Adams**, Professor of Law, and **Roberta Flowers**, Professor of Law.

Victoria Buffkin, class of 2016, was named the winner of the 2015 Stetson University Concerto Competition.

Victoria Buffkin, class of 2016 (clarinet), **Cole Bushman** (clarinet), **Omar Lawand**, class of 2016 (trombone), **Ashley Maingrette**, class of 2018 (trombone), **Ryan Morrison**, class of 2016 (horn), **Daniela Restrepo**, class of 2016 (percussion), **Christian Ricketts**, class of 2019 (bass clarinet), **Jeremy Rumsey**, class of 2017 (tuba), **Erich Schwarz**, class of 2016 (trombone), all members of the Stetson University Symphonic Band were selected to perform in the 2016 Florida Intercollegiate Band during the Florida Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference held in Tampa, January 13-16, 2016

Angeliz Bula, class of 2018, was one of 14 freshmen and sophomore vocalists selected from across the country to compete in the national semi-final round of the National Association of Teachers of Singing Student Auditions held in Greensboro, NC, July, 2015. Angeliz is a soprano studying with **Lloyd Linney**, Professor of Music.

Darnesha Carter, third year law student, **Adriana Foreman**, second year law student, and **Albert “Evan” Dix**, second year law student, were quarterfinalists and received the Best Oralist Award in the Mercer University College of Law Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition. The team was coached by **Brooke Bowman J.D. ‘02** Professor of Legal Skills, and **Roberta Flowers**, Professor of Law.

Brooke Charlan J.D. ‘15, **Zachariah Wade**, **Silvia Amador**, and **Harold Velez**, third year law students, were semifinalists at the National Civil Trial Competition. The team was coached by alums **Julia Metts J.D. ‘04** and **Khalil Madani J.D. ‘14**.

Katie Coulter and **Gaby Warrensford**, both class of 2016 Mathematics majors, have been accepted to give talks at the National Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics early this spring in Nebraska. These talks are based upon joint student-faculty research being done in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science with **Will Miles**, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, and **Michael Branton**, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, respectively. This trip is being funded by the Dean’s Office, the Department, and awards given to the students by the conference for outstanding research potential with their projects.

Courtney Cox, third year law student, won the Custom and International Trade Association’s Vance Memorial Writing Competition. Her paper will be published in the *Loyola University Consumer Law Journal*. She also will receive \$1,000 for her submission.

Courtney Cox and **Courtney Chaipel**, third year law students, placed their Honor's Program paper in the *Texas Review of Entertainment & Sports Law*. This is a publication of University of

Texas Law School. They wrote about the use of film, specifically five popular animated films (e.g. Lion King), for law teaching and community outreach coordinators.

Jason Cruz, class of 2016, **Lauren Davids**, class of 2018, **Sarah Dean**, class of 2016, **Nicole Padgett**, class of 2016, **Nickolas Saffan**, class of 2017, and **Caroline Williams**, class of 2016, represented Stetson at the National College Media Convention in Austin, TX, Oct. 28-Nov. 1, 2015.

Liz Dohney, third year law student, and **Carolina Sauzo**, second year law student, placed third at the ABA Negotiation Regional Competition, with **Nathan Bruemmer**, second year law student, and **Anabella Rojas**, third year law student, placing fifth, followed by **Kara Rogers**, second year law student, and **Ciara Willis**, third year law student, in tenth place. The team was coached by alumna **Emily Van Oosting** J.D. '12.

Kasey Feltner, **Sterling Lovelady**, second year law students, and **Jeremy Rill**, third year law student, were semifinalists in the Ninth Annual Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition. The team was coached by **Brooke Bowman** J.D. '02 Professor of Legal Skills, and **Roberta Flowers**, Professor of Law. **Kristen Adams**, Professor of Law, also traveled with the team.

Erik Ferguson, class of 2016, was honored with an invitation last summer to attend the annual "June in Buffalo Summer Music Festival." The gathering is a meeting of selected young composers from all over the world, giving each and all an opportunity to discuss, rehearse and perform each other's work under the guidance and tutelage of some of the world's leading contemporary artists.

Alex Ferko, class of 2016, having been selected through a competitive regional process, officiated in the National Intramural Recreation Sport Association (NIRSA) Regional Flag Football Tournament.

Amber Finnicum-Simmons, class of 2016, was honored as the Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow for 2015 at the Florida Campus Compact Annual Awards Banquet in November. This award honors inspiring college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment for finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.

Cherilyn Hansen, third year law student, argued in a hearing before the Board of Veterans Appeals in the summer and received a decision this fall that awarded benefits for her client based on Agent Orange exposure. This Marine combat Vietnam veteran had been fighting an uphill battle with the Department of Veterans Affairs since November 2008 to get a proper diagnosis of a heart condition. This case allowed the first collaboration between the Veterans Advocacy Clinic and USF's Morsani College of Medicine Department of Cardiology which helped the veteran to receive an appropriate diagnosis and began the process of awarding him the benefits he has earned.

Cherilyn Hansen, **Hannah Ibanez**, and **Katrina Womble**, third year law students, researched and prepared a policy brief on the criminalization of homelessness, in collaboration with the high-profile public interest law firm Southern Legal Counsel as a capstone project for the Social Justice Advocacy concentration. As part of this work, they developed and conducted

a survey of attorneys, police officers, and others who work regularly with the homeless population, and proposed better and more cost-effective alternatives to criminalization measures.

Ryan Hedstrom, third year law student, **Marissa Cioffi**, second year law student, and **Greg Pierson**, third year law student, (team one) and **Brittany Cover**, third year law student, **Anna Kirkpatrick**, and **Natalie Yello**, second year law students, (team two) participated in the Region V of the 66th Annual National Moot Court Competition. Ryan Hedstrom, Greg Pierson, and Marissa Cioffi were Finalists in the competition and received the Best Brief Award. This Team will also compete in the National Finals in New York City in February. Brittany Cover, Anna Kirkpatrick, and Natalie Yellow were Quarterfinalists in the competition. The team was coached by **Mike Allen**, Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and **Louis Virelli**, Professor of Law.

Patrick Iampayala, third year law student, had a hearing before the Board of Veterans Appeals and won benefits for a Vietnam veteran who had been guarding an ammunition dump in Vietnam when it was blown up by the Viet Cong. This veteran had been attempting to receive benefits for six years.

Omar Lawand, class of 2016, **Ashley Maingrette**, class of 2018, and **Erich Schwarz**, class of 2016, all students from the studio of **David Schmidt**, Associate Profess of Music, were chosen to play in the Florida Intercollegiate Band this January at Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA).

Lindays McGrath, class of 2017, is studying abroad in Russia this spring as part of the School of Russian and Asian Studies at the St. Petersburg State University of Economics. In addition to intensive Russian language instruction, she will take a wide range of classes that will benefit both of her majors, Political Science and Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies.

Ian Morin, class of 2016, was invited to audition for Rice University, Juilliard, Yale and Cleveland Institute of Music.

Kathryn Nathenson, class of 2016 and Environmental Studies and History double major, made a presentation entitled "The Hetch Hetchy Valley: The Failure of Western U.S. Water Policy" at the Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Conference in Buena Vista, FL, in January.

Sarah Overton, class of 2016, enjoyed her Internship with the Orlando Philharmonic this summer as well as the Beaumaris Festival in the UK.

Brittany Peterson and **Holly Saulsbery**, both class of 2016, co-presented a poster entitled "Determining the Optimal Growth Conditions of the Florida Strain of *Cylindrospermopsis Raciborskii*" at the annual meeting of the American Society of Microbiology SE in Kennesaw, GA.

Joenise Province, class of 2017, and **Joseph Rainville**, class of 2016, competed at the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management's 13th Annual Collegiate Ethics Case Competition in October 2015.

Zachary Rosson, class of 2016 Physics major, has had his computational-based senior project entitled, “Orbital Behavior around a Non-uniform Celestial Body,” accepted for presentation at the 28th Annual Workshop of the Center for Simulational Physics at the University of Georgia. He has received a student travel grant from the conference organizers to attend the workshop.

Matthew Samuels, M.B.A. student, earned the SAS Institute Certificate of Achievement for successful completion of the Joint Certificate Program in Business Intelligence and Analytics.

Kristen Stetson, class of 2016 Elementary Education major, presented a paper entitled, “I Didn’t Learn This in School,” at the Professional Development Schools National Conference in Orlando, FL.

George Winsten, class of 2018, attended the SE Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit in Key West, FL, in December. Together with Jason Evans, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Studies, and Clay Henderson, Executive Director of the Institute for Water and Environmental Resilience, he represented Stetson at the Summit.

Recent Graduates in Graduate Programs and Industry Positions

Dylan Bateh B.B.A. ‘15 interviewed with Intrappi, Jacksonville, FL.

Mallory Brooks B.A. ‘15 is the newly appointed Coordinator for Project H2O, a consortium of universities, not-for-profits, and governments working together to address some of east-central Florida’s biggest water issues.

Mark Burton B.A., B.S. ‘15 is now a Software Engineering Specialist with General Electric, where he is developing software for rail transportation.

Karen Coleman B.A. ‘15 is spending a year teaching in orphanages around the world. She is currently in Cambodia but has provided educational support in the following countries since last May: South Africa, Swaziland, Mozambique, India, and Nepal. She will spend the next six months in Guatemala, Honduras, and finally, Nicaragua.

Catherine Coston B.A. ‘15 accepted a full-time position with USA Volleyball.

Leonard Novati B.S. ‘15 is now working as a programmer with FIS Global.

Joe Palermo B.A. ‘15 is currently working as a freelance sound designer in Chicago, IL.

Benjamin Rakus BBA ‘15 is a baseball player.

Amanda Roy B.A. ‘15 had her Psychology Senior Research project published in a peer-reviewed scholarly journal. Ms. Roy’s project examined the impact of playing video games either cooperatively or competitively on stress reduction.

Roy, A. and Ferguson, C.J. (in press). “Competitively versus cooperatively? An analysis of the effect of game play on levels of stress.” *Computers in Human Behavior*.

Mitch VanSumeren B.B.A. '15 graduated as Sport Business Major of the Year, ran the Stetson Sport Business Spotlight Event, accepted a full year internship with Embry-Riddle University's Athletic Marketing Department.

Alex Wall B.B.A. '15 accepted full-time employment with the Orlando Solar Bears after completing Fall 2014 internship. He worked full-time during his last two semesters at Stetson and graduated this December.

Nicole Wohn B.B.A. '15 is interning with Deloitte in Tampa during Spring, 2016.

Notable Work by Stetson Student Groups

Students enrolled in ***BSAN 360 – Project Management***, instructed by **Shahram Amiri**, Chair of Decision and Information Sciences, successfully earned their Stetson Project Management Certificate.

Students enrolled in ***BSAN 494 – Business Analysis***, instructed by **Joseph Woodside**, Assistant Professor of Decision and Information Sciences, successfully earned their International Institute in Business Analysis Academic Certificate.

The **Department of Mathematics and Computer Science** sent two computer science teams to the state-level programming competition at the Florida Institute of Technology in November. The teams won second and third place respectively.

The **Food Law Society** planted its organic garden on the Gulfport campus in October, and the event was covered by the Tampa Bay Times:

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/humaninterest/standalone-hed-goes-here/2249252>

Student in the ***FSEM 100 - Fans, Football and the Southeast Conference*** course, instructed by Ben Goss, Associate Professor and Director of Sport Business, wrote stories for publication consideration on Saturday Down South, a digital publication based in Longwood, Fla., that covers SEC football as the culmination of their progressive writing assignment. Saturday Down South CEO Drew Roberts and VP Connor O'Gara were guest speakers for the class during the semester.

All of the **Master of Accountancy** students have secured employment with CPA firms and will begin employment upon graduation in Summer, 2016. The firms include James Moore and Company, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and EY.

MKTG 318 - Marketing Research students, in a market awareness study with instructor **Carolyn Nicholson**, Professor of Marketing, did marketing research projects for Stetson's Center for Community Engagement on social media and communication use, for the DuPont Ball Library on student use and satisfaction with the new Hollis Family Student Success Center study resources in the library, for Housing and Residential Life on student satisfaction in student housing, and for Trideck, a start-up firm with an innovative new skateboard.

Students in ***MKTG 417 - Marketing in the Supply Chain***, instructed by **Carolyn Nicholson**, Professor of Marketing, conducted business analyses of local firms: Persimmon Hollow Brewing Company, Domino's (local franchise unit), Doug and Lil's Potato Patch, and DeLand Meat Market.

The **Sport Business Association (SBA)**, led by President **Meyrick Lamb** has increased their enrollment to over 40 members. SBA took a trip to the Atlanta Falcons/Hawks career fair. They met with alumnus Rick McKay J.D. '84, President of the Atlanta Falcons, and toured team facilities. SBA also traveled to Auburn University where they toured facilities and met with senior administrators. Lastly, SBA travel down to the Orlando Magic and met with team officials.

The ***SPTB 436 - Sport Properties & Sponsorships*** students with instructor Ben Goss, Associate Professor and Director of Sport Business, presented sponsorship marketing plans to Geoff Birnie and Matt Birnie of Sportsanity, a sports shop in downtown DeLand, and Erick Reasoner and Cain Yarbrough of Stetson Athletics on December 1 and 3. The presentations were part of an exercise involving the creation of activation and integration for a hypothetical \$5,000 sponsorship of Stetson Athletics by Sportsanity.

The ***SPTB 440 – Contemporary Sport Media*** class, instructed by Ben Goss, Associate Professor and Director of Sport Business, met with PGATour officials and accepted the task of developing a program to increase golf consumption by the millennial generation. After six weeks of research, the students presented a program deck to PGATour officials.

Students in the ***SPTB 450 – Sport Event Management*** course, instructed by Ben Goss, Associate Professor and Director of Sport Business, designed, developed, and implemented the inaugural Hungry Hungry Hatters food-eating contest on November 20, 2015, which fed over 300 attendees for free, attracted 12 corporate sponsors, and generated \$1,200 for the Neighborhood Center of West Volusia's food bank in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. The students bootstrapped the event from a budget of exactly \$0.