Thriving in a down economy

Stetson alumni speak on how their practices are succeeding in tough economic times

Also:
Resources for job hunters | Family tradition | Alumni book authors | Hall of Fame and other awards
The Docket

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1-3 National Pre-Trial Advocacy Competition, Gulfport Campus
9 Family and Friends Day
16 Stetson Lawyers Association Advisory Council Meeting, Gulfport Campus
21 Nichols Foundation Distinguished Lecture, Gulfport Campus
24 2009 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Retirement Celebration for Professor Ruth Thurman ’63, Gulfport Campus

NOVEMBER 2009
13 Elder Consumer Expo, Gulfport Campus
14 Stetson Law Information Day for Prospective Students, Gulfport Campus
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16 Holiday Open House, Gulfport Campus
18 Fall 2009 Honors and Awards Ceremony, Gulfport Campus
19 Fall 2009 Commencement Ceremony, Gulfport Campus

JANUARY 2010
25 Inns of Court Banquet, Mirror Lake Lyceum

FEBRUARY 2010
12 Minority Youth Pre-Law Conference, Tampa Law Center
20-23 31st Annual National Conference on Higher Education Law and Policy, Caribe Royale, Orlando

MARCH 2010
4-6 Bankruptcy Conference with American Bankruptcy Institute, Hyatt Regency Tampa
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Transitions

Greetings!

The 2009–2010 academic year has already been one of largely positive transitions. I hope you will take a few moments to read about some of the changes at the College of Law.

New University President: Stetson University’s new president, Wendy B. Libby, Ph.D., assumed office in mid-July 2009. She is an experienced, dynamic leader who is already working with the College of Law on several major projects. You can learn more about her from the interview across this page. Wendy has already joined us for several alumni, student, and faculty events. She will be a visible and strong leader for us, and we look forward to working with her closely.

Dr. Libby succeeds Dr. H. Douglas Lee, who served as president for 22 years. Doug, who was a great friend for the College of Law, died suddenly and tragically on August 25. We are saddened for his family, and for the fact that — after working so hard for so long — he had only a few short weeks to enjoy his retirement.

New University Provost: A new University provost, Elizabeth Paul, Ph.D., also started in mid-July. She is the first University provost in more than a decade. We are excited to draw upon Beth’s expertise as the University’s chief academic officer as the faculty embarks on an important curriculum review this year. An interesting fact is that Stetson is one of only three universities nationwide with a female president, provost, and law dean.

Faculty Updates: Our most senior professor, Ruth Thurman, retired in May 2009. Ruth, a 1963 Stetson Law alum, was the first tenured female professor at the College of Law. An elected member of the College of Law’s Hall of Fame, Ruth was an accomplished scholar and teacher, and will be missed.

We were, however, able to attract three outstanding new professors to our ranks: Assistant Professor Blake Hudson, Associate Professor Susan D. Rozelle, and Professor Judith A.M. Scully. We are thrilled to have attracted such talented individuals to our school; I hope you will read more about them on page 16.

New Associate Vice President for College Relations: This summer, we are quite fortunate to attract F. Mark Whittaker back to Stetson as our Associate Vice President for College Relations. Mark had previously served Stetson for 22 years — 15 as the Vice President for University Relations based in DeLand. He has a proven track record of fundraising that will help advance the College of Law’s priorities in this most challenging of economies. In just a few short months, he has helped us tremendously. A new initiative is the launch of a new Law Loyalty Program and Leadership Donor Societies. We hope that many of you will support us through at least one of these programs, which are designed in large measure to provide scholarships for new and returning students.

Fall-Only Admissions: Due to shifting admissions patterns, the College of Law now accepts students to start only in August. Although we attracted many outstanding students for spring entry, that pool has declined steadily and significantly since 2005 — about the time Florida’s two new state law schools were accredited. Our studies have shown that students, both traditional and non-traditional, prefer to start in fall. And our recent applications bear that out. For Fall 2009, we received more than 2,700 full-time applications — up more than 13% from the prior year; and that year was up more than 9% from the year before. We also received about 650 part-time applications for Fall 2009, an all-time high for that program. By comparison, we received only 260 applications for the Spring 2009 entering class.

Please continue to refer your best student candidates — for August! Alumni recommendations are seriously considered in the admissions process.

New Veterans Clinic: Through the generosity of The Florida Bar Foundation, the College of Law has started its first live-client clinic. The focus of this clinic is to represent veterans who have been denied benefits on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. We are excited to offer our students this unique educational opportunity that also helps the heroes among us.

New Professionalism Initiative: Ethics and professionalism are core values of the College of Law. In a past article, we described our First-Year Professionalism Series, which is based on the Inns of Court Model. This year, we are launching a new professionalism initiative: Legal Community in Action Day. On this day, instead of attending their regular classes, students will attend one of three special programs. Third- and fourth-year students will participate in a “graduation retreat” that will focus on transitioning from law school into the profession. Second-year students will attend faculty-run workshops that focus on scholarship and how scholarship impacts the practice of law. First-year students will participate in a “pro bono day,” during which we have community service activities arranged at more than 15 service providers, many of whom serve our veterans.

Entering Year Seven: It’s hard to believe, but I’m now in my seventh year leading the College of Law. I am so proud of the progress we have made — and that I know we will continue to make. We are a stronger, more prominent institution, thanks in large measure to the hard work, dedication, and faith of our faculty, students, staff, alumni, friends and community partners. Thanks for all you do for Stetson!
A conversation with President Libby

Dr. Wendy B. Libby officially began her first day as president of Stetson University on Monday, July 13, succeeding Dr. Doug Lee, who had been Stetson’s president since 1987. Formerly president of Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., Dr. Libby is the ninth president in Stetson’s 125-year history and the first woman to ever hold the post. She spoke with Stetson Law Executive Director of Communications Frank Klim about her first days in office.

As president of Stetson University, what message do you have for current students and graduates of the College of Law?

I am looking forward to meeting the students and alumni and learning from them how their College of Law experience was unique or special. I want to know why they chose Stetson and how can we improve. And, I want to ask the alumni to consider giving back to an institution that has had a major impact on their lives.

What is your vision for the relationship of the College of Law within the larger university structure?

On July 29, I held the first meeting of my Presidential Cabinet. As one of Stetson’s vice-presidents, Dean Dickerson is on my senior team. It was a pleasure having her with us on the DeLand campus. She is extraordinarily bright and was right on the mark with her insights and perspectives. We are looking for meaningful ways to unite the Gulfport and DeLand campuses for the benefit of our students, faculty and alumni.

You have a broad academic career that includes a very strong financial background. What do you see as financial priorities for the university and the Law School?

It is a little early on for me to have set clear priorities. I have a lot of listening to do before that happens. However, I do know that whatever we do will have to constantly be tested against whether it is the right choice for students. The current economy will put more stress on the university, and we have a special responsibility to make choices that will make a difference to all of our constituencies and to the overall financial strength of the university.

How would you describe your leadership style as university president?

I am extremely open to participation and influence, but when the time comes to make a decision, I will make it. In any important discussion, there is a time for feedback and a time for thinking through the implications of various choices. However, I have limited patience with that time being unusually extended, forcing critical decisions to wait for action.

Dr. Elizabeth L. Paul joins your staff as Stetson’s new provost and vice president for academic affairs. What do you see as the initial priorities of this new provost?

From the university’s point of view, it was my assessment that Stetson could benefit from a more centralized way at looking at the breadth of our academic programs and the strategies for their future. Dr. Paul’s chief role is to bring together into one office the academic strategy and planning for the university. The College of Law is unique in the sense that it operates in many ways as a full-spectrum, small, private unit. For this reason, Dean Dickerson will report to both Dr. Paul and me. We have many opportunities to create synergies between Gulfport and DeLand. Working as a team, we can make this happen.
You are the first woman to serve at the helm of Stetson University. In fact, Stetson is one of only three schools nationwide to have a female president, provost and law school dean. Thoughts/comments?

I am proud that we are among the three institutions nationwide that have women serving as president, provost and law school dean. But it is just a coincidence. I’ll bet every single one of the three of us would prefer to be known as the most competent person in our jobs rather than “the woman” in the job.

What is something interesting about you that is not on your bio or resume?

I would say that in my next life (chuckles) I would really like to come back as an interior designer. I just love thinking through the interplay of color and texture and how important the environment is to what you are trying to get accomplished. It does more than just set the right mood for people. The right design can create environments for study, problem solving and creative thinking.

What else should we know about Wendy Libby?

I feel like I’m in exactly the right place at exactly the right time. I’m getting to know Stetson, and I’m energized by her people. My motivation comes from working with people dedicated to success. I’m committed to doing the best job I can for Stetson and all the people she touches.

Faculty Pioneers and Lees Honored

Professors Dorothea Beane, Luz Nagle and Ruth Fleet Thurman were recognized this spring for being pioneering educators at Stetson Law. Stetson Chancellor H. Douglas Lee and his wife Margaret were also honored for their commitment to social justice.

Thurman is the first tenured female law professor, Beane is the first tenured African-American law professor, and Nagle is the first tenured Hispanic law professor. A bronze relief of the three women now hangs at the Gulfport Law Library.

Lee retired in May after 21 years in the university presidency. In honor of the Lees, Stetson Law made donations to non-profit micro-credit organizations in countries where Stetson has study-abroad and social justice programs.
Mourning H. Douglas Lee

Chancellor and recently retired university president dies unexpectedly at age 66

Dr. H. Douglas Lee, who retired after 22 years as Stetson University president, died of complications following surgery Aug. 25 at Florida Hospital-DeLand. He was 66.

A native of Danville, Va., Dr. Lee served as president of Stetson from June 1987 to May 2009, when he retired and was named the university’s chancellor. He started at Stetson as vice president for development in 1978.

His visionary leadership strengthened academic quality and transformed Stetson into a more diverse and socially responsible institution. He led Stetson through its separation from the Southern Baptist Convention in the 1990s, moving Stetson forward into the 21st century as an internationally respected university.

“This is a huge loss to Stetson and the larger community, and our hearts go out to his wife Margaret and the rest of his family,” said Nestor de Armas BBA ’73, chair of the University’s board of trustees. “Doug was a man of integrity who dedicated the last 30 years of his life to Stetson. Under his leadership, we distinguished ourselves by rolling up our sleeves and doing the work of faith without letting theology get in the way.”

Lee’s presidency focused on a commitment to academic excellence, the integration of values into the teaching-learning process and active forms of social responsibility. Stetson lowered the student-faculty ratio to 11 to 1, significantly increased the university’s overall endowment, completed numerous capital projects, added satellite centers in Tampa Bay and Celebration, and boosted enrollment.

Lee was well-known and respected as a leader in higher education, and with wife Margaret Easley Lee, as an active member of First Baptist Church of DeLand and as a supporter of the arts and charitable causes.

Lee was recognized with countless awards for his passionate commitment to the community and social justice. Dr. Lee earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Richmond, Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees from Wake Forest University and his doctorate in religion from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Lee and his wife of 44 years, Margaret, have two children and five grandchildren.
Stetson Ranks #1 in Advocacy, #5 in Legal Writing, #16 in Part-Time Programs

U.S. News & World Report has again ranked Stetson University College of Law first in trial advocacy among law schools across the country in its 2010 rankings. U.S. News also ranked Stetson Law fifth for legal writing and 16th for part-time law programs.

Stetson has consistently ranked at the top in the nation for trial advocacy since the rankings began in 1995. Stetson has ranked within the top six programs in legal writing since that specialty was added. In the first-ever ranking of part-time programs, Stetson, which started a part-time program in 2002, placed 16 out of 68 among ranked accredited law schools.

“Stetson is very proud to continue to be recognized as the best law school in the country for trial advocacy and legal writing,” said Vice President and Dean Darby Dickerson. “Effective advocacy and writing are critical skills for all lawyers, and we’re committed to providing students the best possible training and experiences in these areas.”

“We look forward to expanding our advocacy programs to share the Stetson method of ethical advocacy with more students, professors and attorneys around the nation,” said Professor Charles H. Rose III, director of Stetson’s Center for Excellence in Advocacy.

Stetson University Names New Provost

Stetson University has named Dr. Elizabeth L. Paul provost and vice president for academic affairs. Paul joined Stetson from the College of New Jersey, a public residential college of 6,000 undergraduate and 600 graduate students, where she served as vice provost and professor of psychology.

As provost, Paul will work closely with President Libby, senior staff and the university’s academic leadership on strategic planning and educational policy issues at Stetson. She will play a central role in faculty recruitment, promotion, professional development and college-wide curriculum assessment programs. She was selected following a national search that drew nearly 120 candidates.

“The Council of Deans, which has led Stetson’s academic program for more than a decade, and I are delighted that Dr. Beth Paul will be joining us this summer at Stetson,” Libby said. “The Stetson community looks forward to having a chief academic officer enhance the Council of Deans’ work on academic programs and planning across the university.

“Beth Paul has significant experience in strategic planning and in working with an institution that values academic quality and has a strong commitment to community-based service learning,” Libby said. “Her analytical abilities and thoughtful approach will be assets to Stetson. She will bring national attention to our academic program with her focus on excellence. She’s the right match for Stetson.”

Paul has worked as a consultant, focusing on student learning outcomes assessment, strategic planning and change management. She previously served on the faculty of Wellesley College and as a research assistant at Harvard University.

“I have long been inspired by Stetson’s mission and core values, an inspiration that deepened throughout the search process,” she said. “I am excited by the commitment and energy that I felt as I engaged with members of the Stetson community. I am eager to work with President Wendy Libby and the full Stetson community to lead Stetson in defining anew its aspirations and achieving its goals.”

Lewis to grads: “Get in trouble, good trouble”


“So I say to you as young lawyers, you must find a way to get in the way,” said Lewis, a lifelong advocate of civil liberties who played a leading role in passing the Voting Rights Act and in ending segregation in America.

“You must find a way to get in trouble. Good trouble, necessary trouble to make our country and our world a better place. You must do it.” Watch an excerpt from his speech at youtube.com/stetsonlaw.
Stetson Law has named a rising third-year student, Rickisha Hightower-Singletary, as the inaugural recipient of its Public Service Scholarship. This annual full-tuition scholarship will fund the final year of law school for a student with a history of public service who commits to follow that path after graduation.

After graduating from Stetson Law in 2010, Hightower-Singletary plans to work in the greater Tampa Bay area as a civil rights advocate for low-income and homeless families.

“I think that public service is required of us as individuals,” said Hightower-Singletary. Over the past decade, this new mother has volunteered as a tutor for low-income youth and interned with the Victim Witness Assistance Program in the Albany-Dougherty County District Attorney’s Office in Albany, Ga.

“Countless individuals need assistance and voices that will advocate for them and change society,” Hightower-Singletary said.

Hightower-Singletary received a Florida Bar Foundation fellowship to work with the Community Law Program this summer. She has completed more than 120 pro bono hours with the Southern Legal Counsel advocating for the homeless. As a member of Stetson’s Black Law Students Association, she has helped restore the voting rights of felons through voter registration drives. Through Stetson’s Amnesty International chapter, she has worked to increase awareness of both the crisis in Darfur and women’s legal rights. Hightower-Singletary also has served as a Teaching Fellow, Public Service Fellow, and Guardian ad Litem volunteer at Stetson Law.

“Stetson’s unique scholarship recognizes the importance of public service and rewards the student who has demonstrated a prior commitment and dedication to a career in public interest,” said Director of Career Development Cathy Fitch.

The scholarship will be awarded annually to a law student in his or her final two semesters. Scholarship recipients are expected to work in full-time public service for at least three years following graduation.

Voss ‘08 Wins Burton Award

Elizabeth Wood Voss ’08 was honored with a prestigious 2009 Burton Foundation Award for Legal Achievement in Washington, D.C., on June 15.

Voss received the award for her article, “The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006: A Violation of the Criminal Defendant’s Sixth Amendment Rights to Confrontation and Compulsory Process,” which was published in the Spring 2008 issue of the Stetson Law Review. Voss joined 14 other recent law school graduates from across the country who received this honor.

“We are extremely proud of Elizabeth’s achievement,” said former Burton Award-winner Dean Darby Dickerson, who attended the black-tie awards ceremony along with hundreds of America’s most respected judges, attorneys and law professors. “Over the years, Stetson has won four Burton Awards, which is a tribute to our outstanding program in legal research and writing.”


Meet the 2009 Class...

In 2009, 395 new J.D. students and 28 LL.M. students enrolled at Stetson University College of Law. “This class has the highest median LSAT in Stetson history,” said Laura Zuppo, executive director of admissions and financial aid. Here are the J.D. statistics:

- 50% women
- 21% minority
- 142 colleges/universities
- 33 states
- 156 median LSAT
- Age range: 20-58
- 9 countries (JD and LLM)
- 18 students from Stetson University’s DeLand campus

Stetson's first in-house clinic opens

Through the support of a Florida Bar grant, Stetson is opening its first in-house clinic, which will allow students to represent veterans making their final appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in Washington, D.C.

“About two-thirds of veterans make these appeals without representation,” explained Professor Charles Rose, director of Stetson’s Center for Excellence in Advocacy and a retired U.S. Army officer. “Tampa Bay has one of the largest concentrations of veterans in the United States, so there is a real need that no one else has the ability to address.”

Students in the program will provide lower-income Florida veterans with free representation. Under the direction of Stetson faculty, students will conduct intake interviews, select clients, develop the case file, and present their arguments before the court in Washington.

Stetson hosts national, international competitions

Stetson continues to host interscholastic competitions, including two founded by Stetson faculty: the National Pre-Trial Competition and International Environmental Moot Court Competition.

“The National Pre-Trial Competition is the first of its kind and accurately reflects what many advocates actually do in practice,” said Professor Rose. The second annual pretrial competition will take place at Stetson in October 2009.

Stetson’s 14th annual International Environmental Moot Court Competition will host its international finals March 11-14, 2010, at Stetson’s Gulfport campus. The competition has grown to include regional qualifying rounds in Africa, Europe, Latin America, North America and Southeast Asia. The event will coincide with the International Wildlife Law Conference on March 12-13, also at the Gulfport campus.

Educating advocacy educators

Stetson’s commitment to advocacy education continues to grow through a variety of programs.

Stetson’s third annual Teaching Advocacy Skills Workshop is scheduled for May 26-28, 2010, at the Gulfport campus. This experiential workshop has continued to attract attorneys and professors from top law schools, and some have gone on to coach national champion teams.

Stetson’s Advocacy Resource Center (available at www.law.stetson.edu/arc) continues to provide dozens of free online videos to public service attorneys on topics from the pre-trial through appellate stages.

New LL.M. program graduates first classes

Twelve students have graduated from Stetson’s LL.M. in Elder Law program, the only online program of its kind in the field. Sixteen new students started the program in fall 2009, and partial scholarships are now available to qualified applicants.
Elder Consumer Protection Program

Stetson is partnering with national organizations to protect seniors against abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The Financial Scam and Fraud Elder Awareness Project, funded in part by the U.S. Administration on Aging, is a regional effort to inform elderly individuals on how they can avoid becoming victims of fraud.

Stetson has also worked with the National Center for the Prevention of Elder Abuse over the past two years to update materials on state and federal adult protection statutes and respond to senior citizen inquiries related to consumer protection issues.

Educating students and attorneys

Stetson continues to educate law students and attorneys who specialize in serving seniors. Seven J.D. students are enrolled in the elder law concentration, and Stetson's Special Needs Trust conferences continue to attract around 200 attorneys annually.

“The there are a lot of changes taking place in programs and services for the elderly,” said Boston Asset Management Chair in Elder Law Rebecca C. Morgan ’80, center director. “It’s really important to keep abreast of these changes in the law, and our programs are helping students and conference attendees now more than ever.”

The 11th Special Needs Trusts conference will take place Oct. 15–16, 2009, at the Don CeSar Beach Resort in St. Pete Beach.

Inaugural William A. Kaplin Awards presented

Dr. Michael Olivas and Professor Robert O’Neil received Stetson’s inaugural William A. Kaplin Award for Excellence in Higher Education Law and Policy Scholarship at the 30th annual National Conference on Law and Higher Education in Orlando this spring.

The award is named for William A. Kaplin, research professor at Catholic University of America and distinguished professorial lecturer at Stetson. Professor Kaplin has authored or co-authored nine books on higher education law and policy, including The Law of Higher Education.

Olivas is the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law and director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance at the University of Houston. O’Neil is director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Freedom of Expression in Charlottesville, Va., and past-president of the University of Virginia.

Certificate in Student Affairs Law and Policy

Eighteen students from 16 different institutions attended Stetson’s inaugural certificate program in student affairs law and policy, co-sponsored by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. The class, which included 10 students at the vice president or dean levels, completed online and on-site components and a final examination.

University of Granada: New Stetson JD/Grado dual-degree program, special honor awarded

Pending approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Stetson will offer a four-year, dual-degree program starting fall 2010 with the University of Granada for students interested in earning a U.S. Juris Doctor degree and Spanish Grado law degree. Students must speak fluent Spanish to be considered for admission to this program.

The University of Granada School of Law also honored Stetson with its historic Medalla de la Facultad de Derecho this spring. “We were recognized for our commitment to international education and willingness to enter into partnerships with law schools in other nations,” said John Cooper, associate dean of international and cooperative programs.
Sarah Cohen: Ugandan Supreme Court Intern

Third-year student Sarah Cohen experienced an up-close view of justice absent democracy as an intern for Ugandan Supreme Court Justice John Tsekooko.

“I learned a tremendous amount about another country's judiciary and the situations that can arise with a very powerful executive,” said Cohen, referring to the un-elected Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, who has been in power since 1987. With only four justices active on the court and a constitutional requirement for at least five justices to hear any issue, Cohen described the court's position as “difficult.”

In her role, Cohen and her fellow interns updated the court's Web site with summaries of decisions made in the past 10 years to increase access to the country's lawyers. “There isn't a database like Westlaw or Lexis there, and the courts up-country by the Sudan border are very removed from the system,” she explained.

Cohen enjoyed meeting with the justices to review smaller issues they were hearing and discussing the political situation. In the 1970s, Justice Tsekooko was a member of the team that prosecuted Idi Amin's military leaders - a position that led him to flee to Kenya for safe harbor until Amin's reign ended. “I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to work with such a man,” said Cohen.

During the trip, Cohen also traveled around the region, going on safari at Murchison Falls, rafting at the head of the Nile, exploring Mt. Elgon, and visiting the genocide memorial in Kigali, Rwanda.

Stetson wins silver in Hong Kong

Stetson Law won second place in the Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot competition in Hong Kong this spring.

Kristen Chittenden, Erik Detlefsen, Matt Ransdell and Hazel Turner competed at the Vis East Moot on March 19. Stephanie Kwan aided them in writing two honorable mention memoranda.

Sixty-four teams from 17 countries around the globe competed in Hong Kong. “These students were our ambassadors to the world,” said Professor Stephanie Vaughan '91. “They helped bring Stetson to the forefront as a leader in advocacy on a global scale.”

Professors Marco Jimenez, Joseph Morrissey and Jason Palmer co-coached the team along with Vaughan.

The Vis team for the Vienna competition advanced to the second round of finals, with students Pat Causey and Joe Etter earning individual best oralist awards.

National and state trial championships

Stetson won the American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition in West Palm Beach in the spring.

Nelson Baez, Derrick Connell, Sara Mieczkowski and Aaron Watson defeated teams from Loyola of Los Angeles, University of Maryland, Loyola of Chicago, and Samford University. The competition began with a staggering 248 squads from 147 law schools.

Judge David A. Demers, Adjunct Professor Susan Demers and Professor Roberta Flowers coached the team.

Stetson also won the Florida Bar Chester Bedell Memorial Mock Trial Competition for the 18th time this spring. This is Stetson's third win in four years against Florida's nine other law schools, who each sent two teams to the competition.

Stetson's team of Jamie Grant, Katelyn Knaak, Christian Radley and George Root were coached by Professor Lee Coppock '96 and Matt Easterwood '07. Grant was named best advocate for the competition.
Moot court takes first and second place

Stetson University College of Law began the academic year by winning first and second place in the E. Earle Zehmer Workers’ Compensation Moot Court Competition in Orlando, Aug. 16-17.

Two teams of Stetson students advanced to compete against each other in the final round, beating 12 teams from law schools around the country. This is the second consecutive year that Stetson has won the competition, sponsored by the Workers Compensation Section of The Florida Bar.

Derrick Connell, Amie Patty and brief writer Pamela Vergara narrowly defeated the team of Joseph Herbert, Brice Zoecklein and brief writer Kristen Chittenden, who came in second place. Fourteen teams competed. Professor Michael Allen, Jennifer Card Kennedy ’01 and Nancy Slack Meyer ’98 coached the teams.

Colbert elected ABA-LSD circuit governor

For the second year in a row, a Stetson student was elected 5th Circuit Governor of the American Bar Association Law Student Division. Tiffany Colbert was sworn in as the 2009-2010 circuit governor at a ceremony during the spring board of governors meeting in St. Petersburg.

Colbert replaced Louis Brown ’09. A Stetson student has held the governor position three times in the past five years.

Chris Sprowls ’09, the first Stetson student to chair the ABA Law Student Division and a former division delegate to the ABA House of Delegates, presided over the meeting.

“Stetson Law has a long tradition of leadership in the ABA Law Student Division, and we are excited that Tiffany will continue to represent Stetson both regionally and nationally,” said Michael Farley, Stetson’s assistant dean.

The Stetson ABA Law Student Division chapter was also recognized with the Bronze Key award for membership.

Honoring leaders in the profession

Stetson presented attorney Gregory K. Showers ’92 with the Wm. Reece Smith Jr. Award for Public Service during the Inns of Court Banquet. A partner in the firm of Kwall, Showers & Barack P.A., Showers has volunteered hundreds of pro bono service hours for Gulfcoast Legal Services and has mentored at-risk students. He has served as a leadership volunteer for the YMCA, Willa Carson Health Resources Foundation, Greenwood Community Health Resource Center, Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services and Leadership Pinellas. Showers is past president of the Clearwater Bar Association, co-founder of the Clearwater Bar’s Student Legal Intern Program, and a member of the Fred G. Minnis Bar Association and the NAACP. He mentors minority law students at Stetson and lectures at St. Petersburg College.

Professor Thomas A. Mauet and Judge Warren D. Wolfson were presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Advocacy by Stetson during its Educating Advocates Conference.

Mauet is the Milton O. Riepe Professor and Director of Trial Advocacy at the James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona. Wolfson has been an appellate judge in the 1st District of Illinois since 1994 and has directed the Trial Advocacy Program at the Chicago-Kent College of Law at the Illinois Institute of Technology since 1971.

The late professor Liviu Librescu of Virginia Polytechnic University, Linda Major of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Professor Thomas Workman of the University of Houston-Downtown and Baylor College of Medicine, each received this year’s Facilitator Award from Stetson at the 30th annual National Conference on Law and Higher Education in Orlando, Fla.

Librescu sacrificed his own life to save his students by throwing himself in front of Virginia Tech shooter Seung Hui Cho on April 16, 2007, when Cho attempted to enter his classroom. Librescu was fatally shot, but most of his students escaped to safety through a window.

Major serves as the project director for NU Directions, a coalition initiative at the University of Nebraska designed to reduce high-risk drinking among college students. Workman also worked at Nebraska with NU Directions, but now works with the Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Houston-Downtown, where he co-directs the Center for Public Deliberation. Together, Major and Workman developed and implemented a signature program that has reduced high-risk drinking at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus and has positively and permanently impacted the academic community.
Recent publications, presentations, awards and activities by Stetson faculty

Kristen David Adams
Professor of Law
Professor Adams published the Nevada Law Journal article “Do We Need a Right to Housing?” which she presented at Samford University in January; “Homeworship: American Dream or Illusion of Empowerment?” in the South Carolina Law Journal; and “Promise Enforcement in Mortgage Lending: How U.S. Borrowers and Lenders Can See Themselves as Part of a Shared Goal” in the Review of Banking and Financial Law. She was a panelist at the joint meeting of General Scope and Provisions Subcommittee and Sale of Goods Subcommittee, the ABA Business Law Section Uniform Commercial Code meeting, and the Southeastern Association of Law Schools annual meeting. Professor Adams presented “Using External Law to Supplement (and Sometimes Supplant) the UCC: Some Guidelines on Applying Section 1-103(b)” for the ABA General Scope and Provisions Subcommittee in August in Chicago, and “Principles of the Law of Software Contracts” for the St. Petersburg Bar Association in February. She was a guest blogger for the American Law Review of Banking and Financial Law. She was a panelist at the joint meeting of General Scope and Provisions Subcommittee and Sale of Goods Subcommittee, the ABA Business Law Section Uniform Commercial Code meeting, and the Southeastern Association of Law Schools annual meeting. Professor Adams presented “Using External Law to Supplement (and Sometimes Supplant) the UCC: Some Guidelines on Applying Section 1-103(b)” for the ABA General Scope and Provisions Subcommittee in August in Chicago, and “Principles of the Law of Software Contracts” for the St. Petersburg Bar Association in February. She was a guest blogger for the American Law

Michael P. Allen
Professor of Law
Professor Allen co-authored Federal Courts: Context, Cases and Problems, and its companion teacher’s manual. He published “The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims at 20: A Proposal for a Legislative Commission to Consider its Future” in Catholic University Law Review, “A Limited Defense of (at Least Some of) the Umpire Analogy” in Seattle University Law Review, and a review of Mark Tushnet’s The Constitution of the United States of America: A Contextual Analysis in Law and Politics Book Review. Professor Allen presented his “Umpire Analogy” article in January at a Seattle University conference and moderated a discussion for the Remedies Section of the AALS at its annual meeting. Also in January, he spoke before the St. Petersburg law firm Engander & Fischer P.A. on the “Federal Courts Under President Obama” and a St. Petersburg College/Clearwater Bar Association program on “The Importance of an Independent Court System.” He spoke at the monthly litigation lunch of Tampa law firm Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP on “Cutting Edge Issues in Federal Civil Procedure” in March, and the West Coast Chapter of the American Jewish Committee in Sarasota in June. He testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs on the future of appellate review of veterans’ benefits matters in July. He presented to Tallahassee high school teachers on the U.S. Constitution as part of a recent state commitment to increase the teaching of civics in elementary and secondary schools in the state. Professor Allen was awarded the Dickerson-Brown Award for Excellence in Faculty Scholarship in May. He co-coached teams in the ABA’s Appellate Advocacy Competition in March in St. Louis and the Workers’ Compensation Moot Court Competition in August in Orlando.

Linda S. Anderson
Associate Director of Legal Research and Writing and Associate Professor of Legal Skills
Professor Anderson published “Adding Players to the Game: Parentage Determinations When Assisted Reproductive Technology is Used to Create Families” in the Arkansas Law Review. She served as an assistant editor for Legal Writing: Journal of the Legal Writing Institute.

Robert Batley
Professor of Law
Professor Batley published “Categorical Bars to Execution: Civilizing the Death Penalty” in the Spring 2009 Houston Law Review. In January, he was elected to the executive committee of the AALS

Wilson named to endowed professorship
Darryl C. Wilson, professor of law and co-director of Stetson’s Institute for Caribbean Law and Policy, has been selected as the Attorneys’ Title Insurance Fund Professor of Law.

Professor James J. Brown, who was the first law professor named to the position, will assume the title Attorneys’ Title Insurance Fund Professor of Law Emeritus.

Professor Wilson will continue to focus his teaching and scholarship on matters related to real property. “This appointment is a great opportunity to continue the work started by Professor Brown in integrating the academic aspects of property law with the very practical issues addressed by the Fund and its members on a daily basis,” Professor Wilson said. “I look forward to also extending opportunities for our students in the property field both while they are attending Stetson and after their graduation.”

Wilson also directs the Intellectual Property Law Internship Program and is the faculty adviser for several student organizations He has taught in the Caribbean, Estonia, the Netherlands, Spain and Zambia.

Thurman ’63 retires
Ruth Fleet Thurman ’63 retired from her full-time position at Stetson this spring, leaving behind a legacy that began almost five decades ago.

As her son began kindergarten in 1960, Professor Thurman began her legal studies at Stetson. “It was a lifelong dream to go to law school,” said Thurman. “We studied the Supreme Court when I was in the sixth grade, and that’s when I decided that I’d like to be a lawyer.”

After graduation, she practiced law for nearly 13 years and was the first woman to serve as assistant state attorney in the 6th Judicial Circuit of Florida. In 1975, she joined the faculty and has the distinction of being Stetson’s first tenured female law professor. Thurman has written extensively on professional responsibility and family law. She visited at Wolfson College and Cambridge University in England, and she earned her LL.M. from Columbia University. Thurman also held many leadership positions in national, state and local bar and community organizations.

“I feel that I’m leaving the school in good hands. I’m really proud of the law school, and I’m happy about my contribution to it.”
Criminal Justice Section. In March, he presented on *Herring v. United States* to the Herbert G. Goldberg Criminal Law American Inn of Court in Tampa.

**Mark D. Bauer**  
Associate Dean of Academics and  
Associate Professor of Law  
In June, Dean Bauer spoke to Florida's appellate judges and Supreme Court justices on current issues in consumer protection law for the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies in Ft. Myers. Professor Bauer has been elected chair of the AALS Education Law Section, and has joined the Loyola University Chicago Consumer Law Review Advisory Board.

**Dorothea Beane**  
Professor of Law and Co-Director, Institute on Caribbean Law and Policy  
Professor Beane has been working on the constitution for the U.S. Virgin Islands through Stetson Law’s Institute of Caribbean Law and Policy.

**Robert D. Bickel**  
Professor of Law  
Professor Bickel presented “Constitutional Law and the Civil Rights Movement: The Historical Basis for Generational Justice in the Civil Rights Movement” and “Visiting History and Heroes” at the 2009 National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys meeting in Washington. He also presented his documentary on the civil rights travel and experiential learning course at Stetson University in DeLand to a group of faculty, students and Thurman Center board members.

**Joan Catherine Bohl**  
Professor of Legal Skills  

**Paul Boudreaux**  
LeRoy Highbaugh Sr. Research Chair and  
Professor of Law  
Professor Boudreaux presented at the 2009 SEALS conference on integrating the teaching of new urbanism within the first-year property course and spoke on ocean acidification at a roundtable sponsored by the Waves of Change Campaign of the International Ocean Institute.

**Brooke J. Bowman ’02**  
Associate Professor of Legal Skills  
Professor Bowman published "Research Across the Curriculum: The Road Must Continue Beyond the First Year" in the *Oklahoma Law Review* in 2008. In March, she presented “Researching Across the Curriculum: The Why and How” at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference and “What Courts Cite ...” at the ALWD Scholars’ Forum in Tempe, Ariz. Also in March, she presented “Citation Celebrations, Not Citation Frustrations: Teaching Associates to Use Citation Manuals” and served as a panelist on “Why Use ALWD for Your Law Review?” at the National Conference of Law Reviews in Baton Rouge, La. In August, Professor Bowman served as a moderator on “Facebook, Blogging, Discussion Boards — OH MY! Opening the Classroom Doors to Technology and Using It Wisely” at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools in Palm Beach. She edited Professor Peter Lake’s book *Beyond Discipline — Managing the Modern Higher Education Environment*. Professor Bowman was volunteer evaluator for Scribes: The American Society of Legal Writers Best Brief Award, the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition, and the National Most Court Competition in Child Welfare and Adoption Law.

**Catherine J. Cameron**  
Associate Professor of Legal Skills  
Professor Cameron published “Teaching Every Student: A Demonstration Lesson that Adapts Instruction to Students’ Learning Styles” in the Spring 2009 issue of Perspectives, and “Jumping off the Merry-Go-Round: How the Federal Courts Will Reconcile the Circular Deference Problem between HIPAA and FOIA” in the *Catholic University Law Review* in April. She presented “Legal Writing De-tox: How to Shake off Those Bad Habits that Bog Down Your Writing” at Phelps Dunbar LLP in Tampa. She also spoke in Washington at the Global Legal Skills Conference on “Negotiating and Mediating in a Global Environment.”

**Bruce Carolan**  
Visiting Professor of Law  
Professor Carolan wrote the second edition of *EU Law for Students in Ireland*. He also published an opinion piece, “In Ricci, A Flawed Supreme Court Decision,” in June in *Forbes Magazine* and presented a paper at the Academy of Legal Studies in Business in Denver on the potential impact of California’s anti-gay marriage initiative Proposition 8 on the state’s tourism industry.

**John Cooper**  
Associate Dean for International and Cooperative Programs and Professor of Law  
Professor Cooper co-edited *Overview of U.S. Law*. He was reappointed to the executive boards of the AALS Sections on International Legal Exchange and Graduate Programs for Foreign Lawyers. He also spoke about “The Changing Role of U.S. Graduate Programs for Foreign Lawyers” at the 2009 AALS meeting in San Diego, Calif.

**Kirsten K. Davis**  
Associate Professor of Law and Director of Legal Research and Writing  
Professor Davis spoke at the Law and Rhetoric Seminar sponsored by Mercer University in conjunction with the AALS in January. She also presented on “Political Advertising in the Legal Writing Classroom: Introducing Persuasion by Analyzing Presidential Campaign Ads” in March at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference at Arizona State University. Professor Davis served as a plenary speaker for the Association of Legal Writing Directors Conference in Kansas City, Mo., in July and as a panelist for the SEALS conference in August.

**Darby Dickerson**  
Vice President, Dean and Professor of Law  
Dean Dickerson authored “What Is Cyberbullying?” for the March issue of *NASPA Leadership Exchange* and “Prescription for Disaster: The Problem of ‘Hidden Harms’ and Hazing,” for NACA’s *Campus Activities Programming*. Her book chapter on “Professor Dumbledore’s Wisdom and Advice” appears in *Harry Potter and the Law*. Her speaking engagements have included presentations for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency (U.S. Department of Justice), the Council of Higher Education Management Associations, The Network, Partners in Prevention, Bacchus, Meeting of the Minds, Stetson’s 30th annual National Conference on Law and Higher Education, NACA, NASPA, Florida Southern University, the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the AALS’s Education Law Section. Also, Dean Dickerson spoke on “Professionalism and Legal Writing” at St. Louis University in March. Also in March, Dean Dickerson was invited by the ABA’s Rule of Law initiative to speak in Doha, Qatar, at a conference for law deans and senior administrators from 13 countries in the Middle East and Northern Africa. In August, she was invited to speak about “Communicating with the Administration” for the ABA’s Law Student Division at the annual meeting in Chicago. In December 2008, the Tampa Bay chapter of the Federal Bar Association presented Dean Dickerson with the prestigious George Carr Memorial Award, and she was nominated for the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce “Woman of Distinction” Award. Dean Dickerson was reappointed to the editorial board of *Journal of College and University Law* and was appointed as a member of the ABA Section of Legal Education’s Communications Skills Committee.

**Kelly M. Feeley ’95**  
Associate Professor of Legal Skills  
Professor Feeley spoke in Washington at the Global Legal Skills Conference on “Negotiating and Mediating in a Global Environment.”

**Michael S. Finch**  
Professor of Law  
Induced Fibromyalgia” in Psychological Injury in Law. In April, he was the keynote speaker at USF Health’s 9th Symposium on Bioethics and spoke on “Conflicts of Interest in Medical Research.” He was a speaker at the Association of Psychological Injury in Law in Toronto, Canada, in August.

**Peter L. Fitzgerald**
Professor of Law
Professor Fitzgerald presented “Professional Responsibility in a Transactional Practice” to the Barney Masterson Inn of Court in March. He was also a panel organizer and moderator for “Service and Emotional Support Animals as a Reasonable Accommodation,” an ABA TIPS Section “Equal Access to Justice” program co-sponsored by Stetson’s Elder Law Center in May. Professor Fitzgerald edited and co-authored four casebooks: International Business Transactions: A Problem-Oriented Coursebook; International Business Transactions: Contracting Across Borders; International Business Transactions: Foreign Investment; and International Business Transactions: Trade and Economic Relations. Three entirely new titles were released, along with a new edition and major update of the widely adopted casebook, to create a series of offerings addressing the growth and diversification of the International Business Transactions field. His article on “The International Contracting Practices Survey Project” was published in the Journal of Law and Commerce. Professor Fitzgerald continues to participate in the Therapy Dog International program, and Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida awarded him their “Top Dog” award for his transport team and foster services during 2008-2009.

**Robert K. Flowers**
Wm. Reece Smith Jr. Distinguished Professor of Law
Professor Flowers conducted training for the Department of Children and Families’ trial attorneys in Fort Myers in April.

**Clark W. Furlow**
Associate Professor of Law and Associate Dean, Tampa Law Center
Dean Furlow’s published “Reflections on the Revlon Doctrine” as the lead article in the Spring 2009 University of Pennsylvania Business Law Journal and “‘Good Faith,’ Fiduciary Duties, and the Business Judgment Rule in Delaware” as the lead article in the Fall 2009 Utah Law Review.

**Royal C. Gardner**
Professor of Law and Director, Institute for Biodiversity Law and Policy
Professor Gardner was the lead author of “Compensating for Wetland Losses under the Clean Water Act (Redux): Evaluating the Federal Compensatory Mitigation Regulation” in the Stetson Law Review, and “African Wetlands of International Importance: Assessment of Benefits Associated with Designations under the Ramsar Convention” in the Georgetown International Environmental Law Review. He was also the guest editor for Wateland Ecology and Management's special issue on North American wetland mitigation and restoration policies. He spoke at the National Ecosystem Banking Conference in Salt Lake City, the Society of Wetland Scientists International Conference in Madison, Wis., and the Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment at Florida Atlantic University. This summer, Professor Gardner and several Stetson students advised the Rwanda Environment Management Authority on a draft marshlands law.

**Cynthia G. Hawkins-León**
Professor of Law
Professor Hawkins-León was the lead author of "10 Years Out of Step & Out of Line: Florida’s Statutory Ban of “Lesbi-Gay Adoption” Violates the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA)," which was published in the University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender and Class as the lead article in 2008.

**Carol Henderson**
Professor of Law and National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law Director

**Bruce Jacob**
Dean Emeritus and Professor of Law
Dean Jacob served on the National Right to Counsel Committee of the Constitution Project, which has recently released its report “Justice Denied: America’s Continuing Neglect of our Constitutional Right to Counsel.” The report has generated news coverage in newspapers, radio, legal publications and online media nationwide.

**Darryll K. Jones**
Professor of Law
Professor Jones was a featured speaker at Washburn University’s Tax Law Colloquium in March. He has also been appointed to the ABA Professionalism Committee.

**Timothy S. Kaye**
Professor of Law
Professor Kaye authored “Divided by a Common Language: Why the British Adoption of the American Anti-Discrimination Model Did Not Lead to an Identical Approach to Age Discrimination Law” in Stetson’s Journal of International Aging Law and Policy.

**Peter F. Lake**
Charles A. Dana Chair and Center for Excellence in Higher Education Law and Policy Director
Professor Lake’s book Beyond Discipline: Managing the Modern Higher Education Environment has been published by Carolina Academic Press. His article “Student Discipline: The Case Against Legalistic Approaches” appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education. In February, he co-chaired Stetson’s 50th annual National Conference on Law and Higher Education in Orlando. He also served as a featured speaker on “Beyond Discipline” and moderated a post-conference workshop on student suicide prevention. Professor Lake also gave presentations on campus Threat Assessment Teams for the Virginia Center for School Safety.

**Lance N. Long**
Assistant Professor of Legal Skills
Professor Long presented “Using Media Clips to Enhance Student Learning and Your Evaluations” at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference in March. In August, he presented “Rethinking Our Claims about Legal Writing; Can Good Writing Change the Outcome of an Appeal?” at the Northwest Legal Writing Conference in Oregon.

**Janice K. McClendon**
Professor of Law
Professor McClendon was elected chair of the AALS Employee Benefits Section. She also spoke at the 2009 AALS Annual Meeting regarding employee benefits.

**Jeffrey J. Minneti**
Director of Academic Success
Lizabeth A. Moody  
**Distinguished University Professor and Dean Emeritus**

Dean Moody has been announced as a 2009 inductee to the Stetson University College of Law Hall of Fame. She served as chair for the “Task Force to Revise the Model Nonprofit Corporation Act,” which has now been adopted and published. Dean Moody also presented on the act at the ABA Section of Business Law Luncheon in April.

Rebecca C. Morgan  
**Boston Asset Management Chair in Elder Law and Director, Center for Excellence in Elder Law**

In February, Professor Morgan co-presented a case law update on Special Needs Trusts for a University of Texas conference. She also co-presented at the NAELA spring meeting in April on significant cases for 2008-2009. She hosted a webinar on Special Needs Trust administration in April. Professor Morgan published updates to *Tax, Estate and Financial Planning* and its companion forms book, as well as to *Planning for the Elderly in Florida*.

Joseph F. Morrissey  
**Associate Professor of Law**

Professor Morrissey spoke on “So You’re a Law Professor ... Now What?” at the 2009 AALS annual meeting in San Diego, Calif., in January, and he was elected chair of the AALS New Law Professors Section. At the Southeastern Association of Law Schools annual meeting in July, he was an invited speaker for the Business Roundtable, as well as a panelist speaking on contract law pedagogy.

Luz Estella Nagle  
**Professor of Law**

Professor Nage spoke to a Russian delegation of government officials, lawyers and lawmakers in May, and to a delegation of Iraqi high officials in July; both events were sponsored by the U.S. State Department and the International Council of the Tampa Bay Region. She was keynote speaker for the Rule of Law Conference at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. She was invited by the Danish Human Rights Institute to participate in a day-long briefing of its activities, tour its facilities, and discuss potential internship opportunities. She spoke in April at South Texas College on “Confronting Sex Slavery in the 21st Century,” and was a panelist at a symposium at Santa Clara University in March. In May, Professor Nage was among a select gathering of global leaders in law and business invited to Doha by the Qatari government and the Institution Quraysh for Law and Policy to attend the inaugural convocation of the Qatar Law Forum: The Rule of Law in the Global Context. Professor Nage was recently named to a three-year term on the ABA’s Criminal Justice Council, and was appointed to the ABA’s Task Force on the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. She is also co-chair of the International Law Committee of the ABA’s Criminal Justice Section, and co-chair of the Criminal Law Section of the International Bar Association. She was honored by the Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston for excellence in pro bono work, and she recently received a 2009 Freedom Award from the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking. She published “Colombia’s Incursion into Ecuadorian Territory: Justified Hot Pursuit or Pugnacious Error?” in the Spring 2008 *Journal of Transnational Law and Policy*, and “U.S. Narcotic Kingpin List Snare Innocents in Its Impersonal Web” in the June 2009 *International Enforcement Law Reporter*.

Jason Palmer  
**Assistant Professor of Legal Skills**

Professor Palmer served as a panelist for the ABA and Florida Bar program on the “Pathways to Employment in International Law” at Stetson in February.

Ann M. Piccard  
**Associate Professor of Legal Skills**

Professor Piccard wrote “Teaching to Different Levels of Experience: What I Learned about Teaching from Being a Student (Or: There Really Is More Than One Way to Skin That Cat),” which appeared in the Winter 2009 volume of *Perspectives*.

Ellen S. Podgor  
**Professor of Law**

Professor Podgor co-edited the *Overview of U.S. Law*. Her book *White Collar Crime in a Nutshell* is in its fourth edition and her co-authored book *Criminal Law: Concepts and Practice* is in its second edition. She authored “Race-ing Prosecutors’ Ethics Codes” in the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Review*. Professor Podgor spoke on “Fraud and Theft Offenses” at the 18th annual national seminar on Federal Sentencing Guidelines in May in Clearwater Beach; on “Muder, Drugs, Money, and Goat Hair” at the May Judicial Conference of the 5th Circuit in New Orleans, La.; on “Prosecutors and the Road to Justice” at St. Thomas University in March. Her law school presentations also include symposia at Harvard University, the University of Louisville, and lectures at Georgetown Law Center and Northwestern University. She spoke at the ABA’s 23rd annual National Institute on White Collar Crime in San Francisco, Calif. She also presented multiple programs at the 2009 AALS annual meeting in San Diego, Calif., on electronic education, international law and criminal law. She continues to serve as the editor of the White Collar Crime Prof Blog, and she is on the executive committee of the AALS Criminal Justice Section.

Theresa J. Pulley Radwan  
**Professor of Law**

Professor Radwan participated in the Fowler White Boggs roundtable discussion on “Too Big to Fail Bankruptcies” in April, and has been invited to serve a three-year term on the advisory board for *American Bankruptcy Institute Law Review*. She also presented “Bankruptcy and the Elderly” to the NAELA Council of Advanced Practitioners meeting in Chicago in August.

Charles H. Rose  
**Associate Professor of Law and Center for Excellence in Advocacy Director**

Professor Rose co-authored the third edition of *Evidence: Practice Under the Rules*. In February, he was a speaker on “Center-Driven Teaching” and “Advocacy Techniques” at Chase Law School. In April, he spoke on “Using Centers of Excellence to Transform Legal Education” at John Marshall Law School in Atlanta, Ga.

Susan Rozelle  
**Associate Professor of Law**

Professor Rozelle is chair-elect of the AALS Section on Criminal Justice.

Judith Scully  
**Professor of Law**

Professor Scully joined the Stetson faculty as a tenured professor and was elected to the executive committee of the AALS Criminal Justice Section.

Stephanie Vaughan ’91  
**Professor of Legal Skills and Associate Director of International Programs**

Professor Vaughan’s most recent article, “Persuasion Is an Art ... But It Is Also an Invaluable Tool in Advocacy,” appeared in *Baylor Law Review*. She received the Dean’s Award and served as the director for Stetson’s programs in Grand Cayman and Freiburg, Germany. Professor Vaughan coached Stetson’s Willem C. Vis (East) International Arbitration Moot Team in Hong Kong, where the team came in second overall and won awards in every category.

Louis J. Virelli III  
**Assistant Professor of Law**

Professor Virelli presented “Scientific Peer Review and Administrative Legitimacy” at the Texas Wesleyan Faculty Workshop in February in Fort Worth, Texas. His paper “Evolutionary Due Process” was published as part of the Conference Proceedings for the International Association of Law Schools Conference on Constitutional Law in Washington in September.

Candace Zierdt  
**Professor of Law**

Professor Zierdt presented jointly on the concept of notice as it appears in various articles of the Uniform Commercial Code at the ABA’s Section of Business Law meeting in Vancouver. She also moderated a very well-received panel on “Non-Uniformity — the Spice of Life or a Recipe for Disaster?”
Meet the new and visiting faculty

Coleen M. Barger is a visiting professor from the University of Arkansas, where she won awards for teaching and service. She is developments editor of the Journal of Appellate Practice and Process and co-editor of the Legal Writing Prof Blog. Barger has served on the boards of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, Legal Writing Institute and the SSRN Legal Writing eJournal. She wrote Arkansas Legal Research and is working on a practice book to accompany the ALWD Citation Manual.

Visiting Professor Bruce Carolan is on leave from the Dublin Institute of Technology in Ireland. He has visited at Washburn University and the University of Florida. Carolan clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Frederick B. Lacey, and practiced law in California before emigrating to Ireland in 1992. His academic interests include business law and international trade, and he authored EU Law for Irish Students.

Christine Cerniglia, visiting assistant professor of legal skills, served as a law clerk for three years for the 6th Judicial Circuit. Her interests include class action toxic tort litigation, plaintiff product liability suits and offshore maritime personal injury defense litigation. In law school, Cerniglia was in the Phi Delta Honor Society and was a finalist in the Final Four Moot Court Competition.

Visiting Assistant Professor William Grignon's academic interests include complex commercial litigation. The only blind attorney at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Grignon has advanced issues on disability and the legal profession from the local to international levels through his scholarship and service. Grignon has served on the National Association of Law Students with Disabilities advisory group, ABA Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law, and the ABA Business Section.

Blake Hudson joins Stetson as an assistant professor after practicing at the Houston firm of Baker Botts. He holds a master’s degree in environmental science and policy and a law degree from Duke University, where he was an editor for the Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum. Hudson’s research considers how property, land use, and natural resources law and policy are affected by overlapping environmental and constitutional law considerations.

Visiting Assistant Professor Michael B. Kent comes from the John Marshall Law School in Atlanta. He served as articles editor for the Georgia Law Review and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. A fellow of the National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism, Kent was a law clerk for U.S. District Judge J. Owen Forrester and U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Emmett Ripley Cox. His research focuses on eminent domain, regulatory takings and land use issues.

Visiting Professor Edward J. Kionka is from Southern Illinois University, where he is a founding faculty member and past associate dean. Kionka has taught at the University of Illinois, University of Georgia, Washington University in St. Louis, Emory University, University of San Diego and Saint Louis University. He is a past executive director of the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education, author of Torts in a Nutshell and Torts Black Letter, and co-author of Evidence: Teaching Materials for an Age of Science and Statutes.

Visiting Assistant Professor Jonathan Rosenbloom earned degrees from the Rhode Island School of Design, New York Law School and Harvard University. Rosenbloom is the chair and co-founder of Ecolibrium Group, a non-profit organization focused on helping local governments become more sustainable, efficient and effective through environmentally friendly and socially responsible initiatives.

Susan D. Rozelle joins Stetson as associate professor of law after serving at Capital University. Rozelle clerked for the Massachusetts Appeals Court and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court before working in private practice. Her research interests include criminal responsibility and death qualification. Her scholarship has been cited by the New York Governor’s Council on Capital Punishment and the Law Commission for England and Wales. She has presented at scholarly conferences across the country and has appeared on the ABC evening news and Oregon Public Radio.

Michael L. Rustad is Hugh C. Culverhouse Visiting Chair at Stetson and the Thomas F. Lambert Jr. Professor of Law and co-director of the intellectual property law concentration at Suffolk University. A leading academic and business lawyer, his publications have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court and many state supreme courts and federal courts. Rustad has testified before both houses of Congress and has been interviewed by The Economist, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, ABA Magazine and other national publications. He has authored or co-authored three amicus briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutionality of punitive damages.

Visiting Professor Nancy E. Shurtz specializes in taxation and estate planning and is Bernard Kliks Professor of Law at the University of Oregon. She wrote Education Planning: Taxes, Trusts and Techniques and co-authored Corporate Tax, and is a book review columnist for Estate Planning magazine and a senior editor of the ABA Books and Media Committee of the Real Estate, Trust and Estate Law Section. She co-founded Asian Women and Children Village Centers, where she helped build an orphanage in India, and founded Early Start, a non-profit organization that grants art and music scholarships to high school students.

Visiting Assistant Professor Kathryn Webber joins Stetson after a 10-year career as a litigator in New York City, where she represented plaintiffs in high-profile discrimination lawsuits. Webber has commented in a wide range of national publications and broadcasts, and her academic interests include employment law, civil procedure, pre-trial practice, and the impact of local and state legislation on individual employee rights.

Professor Judith Scully, who served as a visiting professor in 2008-2009, joined Stetson as a tenured professor in Fall 2009.
Distinguished International Fellow: Chief Justice of Canada

Rt. Hon. Beverley McLachlin, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada and the first woman to hold the position, visited Stetson in March. Chief Justice McLachlin taught an Advanced Comparative Tort Law course, met with faculty, and participated in informal discussions with students as Stetson’s Distinguished International Fellow, a role she will continue to hold for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Justice McLachlin fielded questions from students about some of the landmark interpretations by the Supreme Court of Canada that have shaped social justice in the country. She also advised Stetson students on the importance of collegiality, legal analysis and the ethic of honest service.

“It’s a license to serve the people. That’s why you are given your privileges,” McLachlin responded to a student’s inquiry about why character should be important to aspiring lawyers. It is a lesson that is sometimes forgotten in rushing about, she said. “When you talk to lawyers who have had happy professional careers … what they remember is how they were able to help people or how they were able to do something that was good for society.”

McLachlin discussed the importance of balance in the legal profession. “A good lawyer has to think not only about her side of the case, but the other side of the case, and assess its strength,” McLachlin shared. “You have to see both sides, whether you are a lawyer or a judge.” McLachlin stressed the importance of stepping into the shoes of the person before the bench, and trying to see the matter as that person sees it.

“Every nation’s law has to be true to its culture and its people and it’s a unique social emanation,” McLachlin said of providing context to legal tradition.

After World War II, social policy in Canada focused on developing ways of helping marginalized people, McLachlin said. The chief justice added that Canada provides strong protections for disabled individuals at provincial and federal levels. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, similar to the American Bill of Rights, contains a provision outlining Equality Rights that prohibits discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability. In 2005, Canada became the fourth country in the world to recognize same-sex marriage.

Canada’s Supreme Court is composed of nine elected justices, currently four women and five men. McLachlin became a member of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1989 and ascended to the role of chief justice in 2000.
THE HONORABLE DAVID A. DEMERS BA ’68, JD ’72

Judge David Demers has served as a judge for more than 27 years and sits in the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida. During his six years as chief judge, he helped pioneer the use of computer research and technology in the courtroom. He served as a county judge for 13 years before his appointment to the circuit bench in 1994.

Demers is frequently referred to as a “scholarly judge” for his work as an adjunct professor at Stetson and his scholarly articles. He is the author of the critically acclaimed Florida DUI Handbook, a book that most traffic judges keep with them on the bench and refer to as the “traffic law bible.”

Judge Demers and his wife, Susan, helped coach Stetson’s 2009 first-place team in the American Association for Justice’s National Student Trial Advocacy Competition.

ROBERT K. DOWNS ’65

Robert Downs is founding partner, with wife Barbara, in the Chicago law firm of Downs Law Offices P.C., which deals with all aspects of family law.

Downs has been long been active in politics and the legal community. Early in his career, he was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives. He spent the early part of his career involved in civil rights issues and consumer cases. He worked with the American Civil Liberties Union, creating legal clinics that later became the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services Foundation.

An active member of the Illinois State Bar Association, Downs was the first family lawyer in 20 years to be elected president of the organization. In 1995, he was one of only four recipients of the ABA’s Family Law Pro Bono Services Award. He also received awards from the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

MICHAEL C. MAHER ’65

Michael Maher has served his alma mater in many ways, including membership on the College of Law’s Board of Overseers. He is one of the nation’s outstanding client advocates, with an impressive list of precedent-setting settlements and verdicts. One of his most notable accomplishments was chairing a group of 11 legal firms appointed by the State of Florida in the long-term recovery of more than $25 billion from the tobacco industry. Maher has received numerous awards and accolades over the years, and has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America every year since 1983.

Founding partner of the Maher Law Firm, he is a past president of the American Association for Justice, fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, American College of Trial Lawyers inductee, and past Florida Trial Lawyer of the Year.

Maher has written extensively on future trends and challenges affecting individual rights and free access to our court system. He is a highly sought-after lecturer on those topics.
Six new members will be inducted into the Stetson University College of Law Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 24. Now in its sixth year, Hall of Fame inductees have had a profound impact on the legal profession and on Stetson University College of Law.

“All of these individuals have reached the pinnacle of their professions and have effected a profound positive influence on Stetson University College of Law,” said Dean Darby Dickerson.

**Bernard J. McCabe Jr. BA ’69, JD ’72**

After graduating from Stetson, “Bernie” McCabe began working as assistant state attorney, eventually moving up the ranks to St. Petersburg Division Director. In 1993, he was elected State Attorney of the 6th Judicial Circuit, a role he has held ever since.

McCabe has earned a reputation as a diligent prosecutor with a concern for his community, creating divisions and programs to address misdemeanor domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, truancy and juvenile dependency.

McCabe has served his alma mater as an adjunct professor and overseer. He is active in state, local and national legal organizations, including leadership positions in the First Step Corporation, Pinellas County Substance Abuse Advisory Board, Juvenile Justice Board, S.A.V.E. Advisory Board, State Advisory Board for the Network for Severely Emotionally Disturbed Students, and the Florida Sentencing Commission.

**Dean Lizabeth Moody**

Lizabeth A. Moody was one of seven women in her class of 160 Yale Law graduates. Despite the historic glass ceiling, Moody became a partner at a prominent Cleveland law firm and was one of the first women rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell. She rose to leadership positions in state and local bar before joining the Cleveland State University faculty, later serving as interim dean. As president and CEO of Law School Admissions Services, Moody founded the Access Loan Program, which provides billions in student loans.

From 1994 to 1999, Moody served as the vice president and dean of Stetson Law. Under her direction, Stetson earned its first top-100 ranking in U.S. News, opened the new library and laid the foundation for part-time and international programs. Moody has remained heavily involved in the American Bar Association, American Law Institute and American Association of Law Schools throughout her career. Her professional recognitions include the Ohio State Bar Medal, Josephine Irwin Award, ABA Glass Cutter and the Author’s Award by the ABA Business Law Section.

**The Honorable Thomas E. Penick Jr. ’72**

Judge Penick is a nine-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving in Vietnam and receiving the Bronze Star, among other commendations, for his military service.

Penick attended Stetson Law after his release from active duty. He was appointed to the Pinellas County bench in 1978 and later elevated to the circuit level, where he served in a variety of leadership posts at the circuit and state levels. He is best known for his work in the probate and guardianship divisions. He has been honored with many awards for outstanding justice by various legal organizations, including Stetson’s Ben C. Willard Award for distinguished humanitarian achievements.

Penick retired in 2004 after serving 26 years on the bench in Pinellas County.
Lawyers turned storytellers
If you thought a legal education was only useful for a career in law, think again. The study of law encompasses sociology, politics, even literature. Being a good advocate often includes being a good storyteller, a good researcher and a good listener. Several Stetson Law alumni are challenging themselves to craft compelling stories outside of the courtroom, and many are even working on their second or third books.

- **Craig Crawford ’81** is a reporter and columnist and a former lawyer who has authored *Attack the Messenger: How Politicians Turn You Against the Media*, *The Politics of Life: 25 Rules for Survival in a Brutal and Manipulative World*, and co-authored this fall’s forthcoming *Listen Up, Mr. President: Everything You Ever Wanted Your President to Know and Do* with dean of the White House press corps Helen Thomas.

- **William G. Crawford Jr. ’75** is a lawyer and historian and author of *Florida’s Big Dig: The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway From Jacksonville to Miami 1881 to 1935*.

- **Bonnie Glover ’94** is a full-time novelist, former mediator and the author of *Going Down South* and *The Middle Sister*.

- **Robert E. Jagger ’58** is a lawyer and author of *Murder Voodoo Hypnosis and the Jag*.

- **Michael “Lionel” Lebron ’83** is a radio host and author of *Everyone’s Crazy Except You and Me … And I’m Not So Sure About You: America’s Favorite Contrarian Lets Loose*.

- **Byron A. Lorrier ’03** is a lawyer and the author of *Murder in the Magick Club*.

- **James Sheehan ’77** is an adjunct law professor, lawyer and the author of *The Mayor of Lexington Avenue* and *The Law of Second Chances*.

- **Matt Towery ’87** is a political analyst and the author of *Paranoid Nation: The Real Story of the 2008 Fight for the Presidency* and *Powerchicks: How Women Will Dominate America*.

The list could go on. Here are a few of the stories behind the storytellers.

**James Sheehan**

“I wanted to write about a lawyer who wanted to make a difference,” James Sheehan ’77 explains in an interview about his two books, *The Mayor of Lexington Avenue* (2005) and *The Law of Second Chances* (2008). Sheehan’s fictitious protagonist in both books, Jack Tobin, finds his calling representing a character named Henry Wilson on death row in *The Law of Second Chances*. Much of Sheehan’s work in fiction draws from real life. “I wanted to take a real case and tell the audience at the end of the book — this is a real case — this really happened,” Sheehan explains. Wilson’s character is based on Juan Roberto Melendez-Colon, a man who was wrongly convicted of murder in real life and spent more than 17 years on death row. He was granted a new trial by Justice Barbara Fleischer ’78 and was released from prison in 2002. Sheehan met Fleischer while they were both attending Stetson Law.

“Being an attorney in a case, as I was a plaintiff’s attorney in a civil case, you are a director telling a story through your witnesses,” says Sheehan, who has been a trial attorney in Tampa Bay for more than 30 years and teaches a trial advocacy course at Stetson. “The only truth is what you present in the courtroom.”

Sheehan says he wanted to write about all of the issues surrounding the death penalty. His latest book gave him the opportunity to do just that, and to also explore his ideal concept of justice. “I wanted Jack to be pure,” Sheehan says. “As a lawyer, sometimes you spend your whole life striving to make a living to support people. I wanted my character to be beyond all that. He is beyond worrying about money. He just needs to do what he needs to do.”

Sheehan, who seems to have found his niche writing compelling legal thrillers, has just completed a new book, tentatively entitled *Alligator Man*. The book has an entirely fresh set of characters and
is set in northwest Florida and the Everglades. The story begins as a man loses his job of 20 years when his company downsizes. He loses his retirement and insurance, and his wife, who has cancer, loses her life because she lacks access to good doctors. His best friend commits suicide. The man finds out the CEO of his company retired a year before the corporate collapse and took a $100 million golden parachute, so he decides it’s the CEO’s time to die. “Characters really do take on a life of their own,” Sheehan says. “They fill in the rest of the book.”

William G. Crawford Jr.

“I had to teach myself to be a writer,” historian and author William G. Crawford Jr. ’75 shares during a telephone interview. “And I was not a person who liked to write. I had to teach myself the historical method. Everything happens in context with something else.”

Crawford was a featured author at this year’s 2009 Florida Heritage Book Festival in St. Augustine on Sept. 12. Now in its third printing, his 2007 book, Florida’s Big Dig: The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from Jacksonville to Miami 1881 to 1935, is the first comprehensive history of the waterway and the winner of the Florida Historical Society’s 2008 Rembert Patrick Award for the best book on Florida history. The book tells the story of how the Intracoastal Waterway turned a largely undeveloped backwater state into the tourist’s paradise that is modern-day Florida. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway became toll-free in 1929.

“Legislation permitting the incorporation of railway and inland waterway corporations and subsequent laws allowing the state to pay for railway and inland waterway construction with public land, made it possible for the cash-strapped State of Florida to build a transportation infrastructure after the Civil War,” Crawford explains. Crawford spent 10 years pouring over thousands of pages of correspondence from the people who financed and built the waterway from Jacksonville to Miami between 1881 and 1935.

Extensive research led Crawford to a resource as far away as Dublin, Ireland, to find background on an important Irish engineer who worked on the waterway project. He dug up details in Ontario, Canada, on a group of Canadian engineers and investors who both dredged and invested in parts of the waterway, encouraging land development in Florida in the late 1800s. Resisting the advice of a few academics who urged him to limit the scope of his research, Crawford says he read everything he could get his hands on about dredging, politics, engineering, finance, surveying, construction and the Progressive Era in American history.

“Most professional historians rely on primary sources like letters and correspondence for a lot of historical information and overlook sources from public legal records like deeds, mortgages, plats, and corporate and business entity records on microfilm, mainly because historians are not trained to use these sources,” Crawford says. “As a lawyer with many years of experience, I was trained to look at and analyze legal documents. A lot of the information I gathered came from legal sources like wills, trusts, deeds and plats. I could not have written the book I wrote without my legal education.”

The result of this monumental task is a tightly woven history of the Atlantic Intracoastal that is enjoying some significant attention. Crawford was tapped as a leading expert on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway to provide commentary for a “Modern Marvels” episode for the History Channel that originally aired in 2006. He is frequently invited to speak around the state of Florida. The University of North Florida has expressed interest in using his book as part of a history course. Crawford’s book has also led to professional engagements as a waterway expert, assisting other lawyers in real estate litigation and questions involving the waterway’s history.
Crawford, who has spent 20 years as the unofficial historian of the Broward County Bar Association, has been practicing law in Broward County for more than 34 years, concentrating in trust, guardianship and probate litigation, family law litigation and construction litigation. Still busy in his practice, Crawford has been general counsel to the Deerfield Beach Housing Authority for more than 16 years. He received The Florida Bar's President's Pro Bono Service award in 1989. On June 10, 2008, the Board of County Commissioners of Broward County designated "William G. Crawford Jr. Appreciation Day" for his contributions to state and local history.

Bonnie Glover

During a telephone interview in July, Bonnie Glover '94 shares that she has just returned from New York City, where she appeared in the NAACP author's pavilion. Nominated for a prestigious NAACP Image Award for literature this year, Glover has also appeared at the St. Petersburg Times Festival of Reading. Now a full-time novelist, Glover has authored The Middle Sister (2005) and Going Down South (2008), and is working on a prequel to her second novel. Going Down South is listed on the July 2009 Essence Best-Seller List as the No. 3 paperback.

The mother of two sons in real life, Glover's first two novels explore the emotional complexities of family, especially the bonds between sisters, mothers and daughters. Glover credits her dynamic descriptions of sisters to bits of stories originally told to her as a child by her mother and her aunt. "A good novelist is a people-watcher," Glover says. "I want my characters to be true. I listen to conversations and look at movements." Visceral scenes and compelling dialogue propel the stories of stubborn, proud and resilient mothers and daughters in Glover's best-selling novel.

Going Down South weaves the story of generations. When Daisy's daughter Olivia Jean becomes pregnant as a teen in New York in the 1960s, her parents steal her away Down South to have the baby. Daisy is estranged from her mother, Mama Birdie, who forces all three generations to live together and to get along. Daisy herself was a teen mom who left home with her new husband and never looked back until her own daughter became pregnant years later and she needed her mother's help.

Glover explains one of the life-lessons of the novel: "Part of why we have a dysfunctional society is that we have dysfunctional families," she says. "There are kids having babies who have no support system. There are kids going into the system. But a system isn’t friendly and it can’t love."

Employment disputes can erode a business, just like misunderstandings can erode a family. Until two years ago, Glover worked as the administrator for the Veterans Administration mediation program in Florida and Puerto Rico, as well as a trainer, mentor and mediator for the program. The role of a mediator is to open communication and help resolve disputes, and Glover's job included listening to staff, helping facilitate discussions, and ultimately urging her clients to decide what they needed to do to find a solution. "I facilitated communication," she explains. "I was a neutral."

What started as a fledgling program at the VA grew into a far-reaching network, with Glover training other mediators across the country. She explains that she initially struggled to convince some medical directors and staff to work with unions. She says she learned to be a great listener.

"As a mediator, I got to see peoples' anger, sorrow and hurt across the table."

Even then, perhaps she was watching with the careful eye of a novelist. The same dialogue that propels communication also moves a story along. Glover, it turns out, like other alumni authors, is already working on her next book.

These alumni are only a few of the graduates who demonstrate that the art of research and writing transcends legal application.
On responding to the recession:

Over the years, the firm has been selective regarding the clients we have taken. We have not changed our client retention process given the economic times. We are fortunate to have a good, healthy client base.

In periods of uncertainty, clients place value on dealing with a stable law firm. We have promoted our firm as a longstanding, reliable organization that has provided litigation and appellate services in the Tampa Bay area for over 25 years. We intend to be here in the future, doing the same work, in the same place, and hopefully at a recognized high level.

On using technology to increase efficiency and reduce costs:

Over the last five years, we have digitized our client and bookkeeping files. The electronic files have significantly reduced many firm expenses. For example, our postage expense has gone down by approximately $35,000 per year, and we have saved storage expense on closed matters by as much as $20,000 per year.

The digitizing of the files has also made them easier to work with. Each member of the group having responsibility for a particular client file can access any piece of informa-
Despite the economic recession, some law firms still manage to thrive. Several successful Tampa Bay lawyers shared their insights and tips for maintaining successful practices.

We continually evaluate whether we can do our work quicker, better or with less expense.

On reducing rates to help financially struggling clients:

The heart of our practice is the defense of individuals, organizations and insurance companies in litigation, appeals and workers' compensation matters. The two dozen lawyers in this firm, and their staff, focus on doing a large volume of what we do best. In good economic times, this value-driven model works on relatively low margins. We have not reduced rates to help financially struggling clients, as there is little “fat” to cut, and given the financial stability of our clients, we have yet to encounter a significant client who has difficulty paying for our services.

Rhea Law '79
CEO and Chair of the Board, Fowler White Boggs

On client communications:

There are many things that are problematic for our clients that we can help with if we just know what to look for, and that's where the communication comes in. If we don't understand clients' needs, then we can't provide value to them. We need to understand what keeps them awake at night.

We ask, “Where do you think your industry is going? Where do you see yourself and your business in five years? What do you think your clients, customers and suppliers are going to look like in five years?”
You identify emerging practice areas by talking to your clients and then acting on that information. You
find the people who have the expertise to move into those areas. So when clients show up and say, “Hey, what do I do about this?” you’ve got someone already in place to help them.

On emerging trends:

We have industry teams, not client-specific but relating to particular industries, that allow us to look at trends — what’s happening in that field, how is it going to impact clients, and how do we get that information out. We have various educational programs for our clients, for example, where we will go to their place of business and conduct seminars for them. We also send them e-newsletters that keep them up to date on changes that affect them and their businesses.

When our clients identify a need, we strive to meet it, whether it requires enhanced expertise or new technology. When people started investing significant amounts of money in new technology systems, there was a whole practice area that grew up around technology acquisition, contracting and litigation. The practice grew because people needed these systems to be competitive.

The economic downturn has turned what was a banking representation business into a workout business, and we immediately put significant resources towards that practice because we represent a number of banks, and they need to know what their options are. We do much more than just help foreclose a piece of property. We provide an in-depth analysis of what is necessary to identify and maintain or enhance value, and what’s the best strategy for moving forward on distressed properties.

On educational outreach and environmental sustainability:

About 16 months ago, we started a television segment on green law (“Live Green”) in partnership with Channel 10, the CBS affiliate in Tampa Bay. Our purpose was to educate our community on sustainability. We felt this was important for our clients, as well as our community, to understand the new rules and regulations, benefits and the incentives that are currently available for various sustainable practices.
Some of our clients have appeared on the program, which has made it possible for us to assist them in getting the word out about their green products and services. I believe there are potential opportunities for them in the future as there are governmental incentives for environmental initiatives. It’s one of the places that we are making an investment in our clients.

Jose Toledo  
Attorney, Toledo P.A.

On being accessible to clients:
There is a lot of advertising out there for attorneys, but people can find it very difficult just to meet with an attorney. A lot of my clients like to pop in. They want me to be accessible, and I think that’s one of the things clients like about me. I think that’s a key to success in this economy.

I think that if you’re representing consumers, which is what I do, you have to be accessible. You have to give your cell phone number out to people. If you take the time and you’re not looking at every case from a business standpoint, and you’re just trying to help somebody out, it leads into business.

What happens is you help people, and then through word of mouth, or circumstance, there are others who actually turn into business clients. I’ve been at the courthouse representing a person in a pro bono case, and then other people recognize me, they’ve seen me there before, they’ve heard about me, they’ll approach me, and then those people become clients for new business. I know that you can just start chasing a bad case and you have to use a lot of discretion, but really when you give, you get.

On earning loyalty and retaining clients:
You’ve got to be hands on with people. You’ve got to roll up your sleeves a little and get into it with them, and they appreciate that. Last week, somebody came in with a question about whether they were an employee or an independent contractor. I just sat next to them and we pulled up the statute and went through it. We used the formula; we did it together. And then that person, who could be described as a little bit cynical, completely let down his guard and hired me.

I think retention is also a big key, because all of those people that you represent and do a good job for, those are the people who go out into the community and recommend you. If you don’t build a foundation with clients, then how do you expect them to become repeat clients?

With a personal injury client, you may want to start by working on expectations. You may have a client with unreasonable expectations. I show them the jury verdict reporter, or some other source. That way they have a better idea of what a jury verdict looks like. The client now becomes part of the process. They’re a player here, and you’re really a counselor. You’re not just a person who is making decisions for them. I think that’s key, to build trust. They remember that.

On diversifying services:
In the beginning of ’08, when I saw what was happening, I began a bankruptcy practice to diversify. Instead of waiting for something to hit me and reacting to it, I was proactive. It’s small, but we’ve developed that, and it’s a great thing, because it’s a service I wasn’t doing before.

But I think that it’s important to not be bogged down with so much work that you can’t service your client, because at that point you’re just going to start losing people. So diversify, but be careful. Just find three or four things that you can do. Like with everything, you need balance.
Bringing the Dalí

by Frank Klim

On the morning of Jan. 18, 1980, attorney James Martin ’74 was in his new law office in the St. Petersburg’s Plaza Building. After working for others for six years, he was now his own boss.

Over a cup of coffee, he reached for the mainstay of any business law firm, the Wall Street Journal. After reading the headlines, an article caught his eye—one that would change his life forever.

It was a story about a Cleveland industrialist who wanted to donate his extensive collection of art by the world-renowned Salvador Dalí. Martin was familiar with Dalí’s work, making the article even more intriguing. Reynolds Morse and his wife, Eleanor, had been friends with Dalí, and over the years had amassed the world’s largest private collection of Dalí art. They had housed the collection for years, but now wanted to find a permanent home for these stunning pieces.

Martin put the paper down and looked out the office window. He knew one thing was certain, it belonged in St. Petersburg. Thus began what would be a journey that would change his life forever.

The Salvador Dalí Museum opened its doors to the public in March 1982. Philanthropy Magazine called the Morse donation to St. Petersburg as one of the top 100 gifts in American history.

Martin has remained active with the Salvador Dalí Museum ever since, currently serving as secretary on the board of directors. He was there last December when ground was broken for a larger facility to house the museum. Martin hopes that he will forever be involved with the museum that was not only a rewarding personal achievement, but also one that was significant to the city that he loves.

A tall, slender man with a quick smile and matching wit, Martin’s relaxed style belies his tenacity to solving challenges for his clients and the community. His thriving law practice is a complex blend of real estate and corporate work, estate planning, wills and trusts.

Not quite the type of work he envisioned in his youth. Born in 1949, Martin moved often, living in 11 cities in 14 years. His father was in insurance and each promotion meant a change in venue. He graduated from high school in Winter Haven.

Growing up, he savored analytical thinking and intellectual pursuit. Problem solving was in his blood. He imagined life as a mathematician or perhaps an electrical engineer. Georgia Tech in Atlanta seemed a natural fit for the bright student. As an added benefit, the college’s co-op program allowed him to work two years at the National Security Agency in Fort Meade, which housed the world’s largest computer installation at the time.

While he found the experience intellectually challenging, he realized that he didn’t enjoy engineering.

Returning home, he discussed his future with his father. His dad convinced him that there was an interesting private university down the road that might be a good fit. That college was Stetson University in DeLand.

Martin remembers an early meeting at the school. “I was thinking about becoming a psychology major, but my advisor was dean of the math department. He took one look at my Georgia Tech transcript
and said, "You are going to be a math major."

Martin spent the next two years studying math, ultimately graduating with a math degree. He has fond memories of his days at Stetson, "I loved going to school at Stetson; it was very student centered."

When it came time for grad school, Martin had acceptance letters from five schools to study mathematics — but had no fellowship offers. He smiles, "Without a fellowship, there was no money to pay grad school tuition."

Unsure of his future, he celebrated with friends at his undergraduate commencement ceremony. His parents drove from Winter Haven and began talking with a DeLand admissions counselor. Martin recalls how his dad stepped in again to help. "My father and the admissions counselor hatched a plan together. They said, ‘you belong in law school.’"

His father offered to co-sign a loan for law school. "At the time, my wife and I were expecting our first child. I didn’t have any better plans at the time, and my family was growing; I needed to do something."

He took the LSAT, and he and his wife packed up and moved to St. Petersburg. The day before law school was to start, he didn’t know his LSAT score. He walked into the registrar’s office and asked if they had the exam results. The person at the desk left and came back with the Registrar. It was now-retired Judge Susan Schaefer.

She looked at Martin a bit incredulously and said, "Didn’t they tell you?"

He asked hesitantly, "Tell me what?"

Smiling, she said, "You had the second-highest LSAT score!"

Martin realized that this was probably the path he was meant to follow. He has many great memories of his days at Stetson. He speaks highly of the school and particularly of professors who now reside in the Stetson University College of Law Hall of Fame.

"There were a number of outstanding professors at Stetson.” Martin reflects, “Retired Judge Susan Schaefer taught two of my first-year classes: personal property and agency. And Dean Dillon taught real property. I liked that they were both very analytical and clear in their instructions. They really gave a sense of where the law fit into everyday things and set forth a matrix at how to look at things. The professors gave me the confidence that I needed to practice law."

“The types of courses that I enjoyed in law school are the areas of law that I practice today. The property classes, the wills and estate planning, real estate, pleading and procedure, they all played an important role in shaping my career as a lawyer,” he smiles, “I enjoy it all.”

Martin has written six volumes of books for West Publishing, including books on real estate, business organizations and miscellaneous forms. He has also written extensively on non-profit organizations.

This semester, Martin is back in the classroom — not as a student, but as an adjunct professor. Most likely, an analytical approach to the law will be a fundamental part of the class.
Long before any of the four Kapusta children even heard of Stetson University College of Law, they learned something about the legal profession from their father, an attorney who was a general practitioner in Milford, Conn.

Robert Kapusta brought his lawyerly ways home with him from the office, a fact that was not lost on his children.

“We all got a little tired of being cross-examined at the dinner table,” recalled Mark Kapusta, the third of the four children who grew up to become practicing lawyers, as well as graduates of Stetson University College of Law.

While it may not be particularly unusual for siblings to become lawyers, Stetson seems to have a knack for attracting — and graduating — all sorts of families, and all types of family members. A little research turned up not only the Kapustas, but a number of other families in which brothers, sisters, children, spouses and others found themselves attracted to what Stetson had to offer.

Mark Kapusta recalled that he, his sister and two brothers didn’t know a lot about Florida until his older brother, Robert Kapusta Jr., was admitted to Stetson in the 1980s. That led to a virtual parade of Kapusta grads.


All four not only graduated from Stetson, but all of them remained in Florida to practice.

Robert Jr. does corporate tax and estate planning, Caroline practices family law, Mark specializes in insurance defense work, and Kevin does insurance coverage.

While all four Kapusta lawyers settled in Florida, they were introduced to the law in Connecticut by working at various times for their father’s firm.

“All at various points in our childhoods, we all worked at the firm,” Mark said. “Up there, they still do title searches by going to the land records in the various town halls. We all got involved in that — understanding what a title deed was, tracing it back. That’s what started it for all of us, I think.”

Russell J. Ferraro Jr. didn’t realize he was starting a minor dynasty when he enrolled at Stetson in the early 1970s. A native of Buffalo, N.Y., a low Selective Service number was the biggest reason why he decided to leave New York and head to St. Petersburg and Stetson.

“I went to college in Buffalo, but I decided to go into the National Guard when the draft lottery resulted in a low number for me,” he said. “That meant I would have to spend six months on active military duty, and Stetson said I could start school a year later without re-applying once I finished active duty.”

Ferraro graduated from Stetson and got a job as a public defender in Stuart. After a few years, he started a firm with two other lawyers, then moved on to another firm before starting his own practice in 1994.

What he didn’t know, however, was that his family’s connection to Stetson was about to grow — a lot. Son Russell J. Ferraro III decided to pursue a law
career, and he selected Stetson, graduating in 2001. Another son, Joshua D. Ferraro, made a similar choice, graduating cum laude from Stetson in 2004. And a third son, James T. Ferraro, graduated from Stetson last May.

And there’s more. Nina Mings Ferraro, wife of Russell III, also graduated from Stetson, class of ’01.

Now, Russell III and Joshua work with their father at Ferraro Law Group in Stuart. James may well join the firm once he gains some legal experience elsewhere.

Working together in the same firm “is a great experience with not too many downsides,” said the senior Ferraro.

“We seem to work well together — perhaps we are family looking out for one another more than we are a regular partnership,” he said. “Maybe it is a little harder to be critical of your kids than an associate or partner, but we seem to work well together. Knock on wood.”

Harley K. Look didn’t know much about Stetson University College of Law until the school contacted him back in the 1970s, attracted to the young Colorado student by his LSAT score.

“I went to college in my native Colorado, but a lot of my friends went to college out of state,” he recalled. “When it came time for postgraduate work, I thought Stetson might be the place to go.”

Look applied and was accepted. It was a decision that worked out very well.

“I’m very glad I made that decision,” he said. “My undergraduate days were spent locally in Colorado, and it was easy to live at home with free room and board. I didn’t meet a lot of fellow students.

“But at Stetson we were poor, starving law students, and we always looked for free entertainment. We learned to play foosball, played soccer and softball, and I met a lot of nice people. It was just a very positive experience.”

Look went on to do more postgraduate work at New York University before returning to Colorado to specialize in tax law, wills and trusts.

He never urged his two children to study law, but he wasn’t terribly surprised when they decided to follow in his footsteps.

“I never told them to go to law school,” he said. “But there were stories around the dinner table, and I think my children were influenced by that. My father gave me an opportunity to go as far as I wanted to go, so I also wanted to give that to my children.”

His son, Harley Kamins Look, applied to Stetson and graduated in 2007. Daughter Krista took a somewhat longer route to the law school.

“My daughter graduated with a degree in humanities, and she told me she wanted to pursue a master’s degree in philosophy,” he said. “I told her I didn’t think I wanted to pay for that — I suggested she look up ‘Philosophers’ in the phone book. There is no competition, but not much employment, either. So she came back a little later and said she had changed her mind and wanted to go to law school. I told her I’d pay for that.”

She, too, applied to Stetson and was accepted. She graduated this spring.

And there is one more Stetson grad in the Look family. Harley Look’s wife, Tanja W. Leung, also graduated in 2007.

Not every Stetson legacy story is exactly the same, but everyone agreed that a Stetson education was an easy recommendation to make.

“I told [my son and daughter] that they couldn’t do better, that Stetson is a great school,” Harley Look said. “I believe that Stetson prepared me very well.”

For Russell Ferraro, Stetson’s education quality and the experience it offers continues to improve over time.

“Stetson has always been great to us,” he said. “I enjoyed my experience there, and my boys enjoyed their experiences, as well. It is a great environment for learning the law. They just keep improving on it. We think we could have our own little alumni section.”

Mark Kapusta said he has always been pleased at how well he and his sister and brothers were prepared in the law by Stetson.

“It was simply a great education,” he said. “I got the Trial Practice Award when I was there, and I think Caroline did, too. It prepared us well for the bar exam in particular and also how to research and represent clients.”
Giving in a time of change

It is a pleasure to return to Stetson University College of Law at a time of great excitement and change. As an honorary alumnus with five Stetson alumni family ties, I welcome the opportunity to lead the Office of College Relations in developing a Comprehensive Development Program that will address the important needs of Stetson Law.

Having served on two occasions as a fundraising consultant during the last three years, and as the former Vice President of University Relations, coming home to Stetson Law presents a wonderful opportunity to launch a new and aggressive fundraising program.

There is no question that the College of Law, like many institutions, has experienced a decline in the number of alumni annual donors compared to previous years. As a Certified Fundraising Executive and one who has survived three previous recessions, I have been asked repeatedly, “How will the College of Law and Stetson University raise significant philanthropic support during this great recession?”

While there are no easy answers, the College of Law, like many institutions, has experienced a decline in the number of alumni annual donors compared to previous years. As a Certified Fundraising Executive and one who has survived three previous recessions, I have been asked repeatedly, “How will the College of Law and Stetson University raise significant philanthropic support during this great recession?”

While there are no easy answers, the College of Law must stay in touch with our alumni and other contributors while always presenting a positive and proactive case for support. Now is not the time to decrease our communications with alumni, but rather to find more efficient and meaningful ways to stay in touch.

It is critical that we say “thank you” in the most sincere way to every donor, no matter the size of the contribution. In this issue of the Stetson Lawyer, you will find the names of all donors to the College of Law. Your donations have made an enormous difference here and we are most grateful!

During any recession, it is important for not-for-profit organizations to find ways to reorganize and refocus limited resources on the right priorities. Towards this end, the College of Law and Stetson University will unveil a new strategic plan that will provide direction for Stetson. We will offer new and exciting giving societies, donor recognition and participation opportunities, and ways to include the College of Law in your will and estate plans. We look forward to arranging alumni events that will bring all of us together on and off campus.

Finally, we want to talk with our alumni and donors about the importance of estate planning during these difficult times. Since many of our donors are not familiar with planned giving opportunities, we must provide more information to them. For example, a 65-year-old who purchases a gift annuity from the College of Law will receive a 5.3 percent annual income payment guaranteed for the rest of their life. Karen Griffin, director of development, has included a summary of planned giving opportunities in this magazine. I urge you to contact us if you have any interest in supporting Stetson Law while increasing your annual income.

Thank you again for your support. Visit us whenever you can. A warm welcome always awaits you!

With every good wish,

F. Mark Whittaker, CFRE
Associate Vice President for College Relations
Planning for tomorrow can equal tax savings today

by Karen A. Griffin

It is definitely an interesting time in our economy to say the least. The recent problems in our country, including the housing market and unemployment, are legends of today and most Americans are finding it more difficult to see the glass half full. While some of you may have the idea that this is not a good time to support Stetson, I believe that it is the best time for you to consider a gift. It is time for thinking ahead and planning for a strong future, and that is exactly what we are doing as an institution. I urge you to do the same for yourself, and your family and friends, by considering the advantages of a planned gift. It is a great time to help Stetson financially and become a member of the prestigious Stetson Society — a group recognizing individuals who provide for our future by naming Stetson in their wills or estate plans.

The staff in the Office of College Relations has a renewed spirit in our mission of planned giving at Stetson this year. Energized by our new Associate Vice President for College Relations, we are excited to work with donors to find ways to make large and impactful gifts to the College of Law. Different planned giving avenues offer a variety of significant advantages to you and your family (e.g., steady lifetime income payments, current year income tax deductions, reduction of inheritance taxes). It just makes good sense in today’s world to think about the possibilities. The following are some planned giving options you may want to consider, along with the benefits of each:

• **Bequests** – Wills provide many donors with an excellent opportunity to support our organization’s mission. By providing for Stetson University College of Law in your will, your assets are not diminished during your lifetime, and taxes to your estate may be reduced by the amount of the charitable gift.

• **Charitable Gift Annuities** – Donors may make gifts to Stetson University College of Law and receive a guaranteed income for life. For a minimum gift of $10,000 (in cash or appreciated securities), a Charitable Gift Annuity can be established with our organization. The donor receives a current income tax deduction which produces current tax savings, and also receives a portion of guaranteed income as tax-free income for the rest of his/her life. Today, these rates are much higher than most other investments, and they provide a direct benefit to Stetson.

• **Charitable Trusts** – Donors may work with their professional advisors to consider creating a trust, which provides for current benefits to the donor and/or the donor’s family, with future benefits to Stetson University College of Law. These gifts often provide current income tax savings, capital gains tax savings, and they frequently save estate taxes as well. There are a several types of trusts that can be tailored to your specific needs, such as cash flow and estate priorities.

• **Life Insurance** – Donors may make gifts of life insurance policies to Stetson University College of Law. By naming Stetson University College of Law as the primary, partial or contingent beneficiary of your life insurance policy, a donor retains ownership of the policy. While there is no income tax deduction, the donor’s estate may receive a charitable deduction. When Stetson University College of Law is named owner and beneficiary of a policy, the donor gives up ownership of it, gives up the right to change the policy beneficiary, and waives the right to assign or borrow against the policy. If the policy is new or partially paid, a donor receives an income tax deduction for its value; and if the policy is new or partially paid, a donor receives an income tax deduction for the annual premium payments. Naming Stetson University College of Law as a beneficiary of your life insurance is a simple way to impact our future, and depending on how it is done, it can offer wonderful benefits to you now.

Now is the perfect time for you to take on the mission of giving and envision how a gift from you can have a positive and lasting (and perhaps transformative) impact on the College of Law. As you plan for your own financial future, I encourage you to find ways to help Stetson plan for ours — it is truly a win/win situation. If you would like more information on what giving options might be right for you, please contact the Office of College Relations at (727) 562-7818 or plannedgiving@law.stetson.edu.
We would like to thank the following alumni, faculty, staff, friends, firms, companies, corporations and foundations for their assistance and continued support of Stetson Law during the 2008-2009 academic year, running from July 1 through June 30. Your gifts make the critical difference in the life of the College of Law and our students. Your financial contributions help us to maintain Stetson’s well-deserved reputation for superior teaching, scholarship and service to the profession. Thank you for helping us succeed.

If we have overlooked anyone, please forgive us and allow us a chance to correct our records by contacting the Office of College Relations at (727) 562-7818 or alumni@law.stetson.edu.

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Stetson University College of Law honored football legend Lee Roy Selmon for his years of community service with its inaugural Tower Award during a scholarship gala on May 2.

The Tower Award recognizes those who reached the pinnacle of their careers and have made outstanding contributions to the Tampa Bay community. “I am humbled to be selected as Stetson’s first Tower Award recipient,” said Selmon, the first Tampa Bay Buccaneer inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame. “With all of the joys I have had in life, I did not get here alone. This award represents those very special people who help us to become the very best that we can be.”

The event was held to raise funds for law student scholarships. As the Tower Award recipient, Selmon also designated a portion of the proceeds to the preferred charity, the USF Foundation Partnership for Athletics.

“I was the recipient of a student athletic scholarship at Oklahoma University, and I can attest that it made a big difference in my life,” Selmon said. “Scholarships make a big difference in the lives of young people.”

Selmon has been recognized as NFL Defensive Player of the Year, Bucs’ Rookie of the Year, and the team’s Most Valuable Player. He was named to the College Football Hall of Fame, the GTE Academic All-America Hall of Fame, and the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. In 1999, the Crosstown Expressway was named in his honor. Selmon was a three-time All-American at the University of Oklahoma, where he devoted an average of 10 hours per week to volunteer projects.

Selmon rose to the position of athletic director at the University of South Florida and now serves as president of the USF Foundation Partnership for Athletics. He also founded the Lee Roy Selmon’s restaurant chain.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers General Manager Mark Dominik served as guest speaker, and the emcee for the evening was Fox 13 anchor Cynthia Smoot.

Hundreds of alumni named to annual Super Lawyers list

Hundreds of Stetson University College of Law alumni were recognized in this year’s Florida Super Lawyers list.

A total of 244 Stetson University College of Law alumni were mentioned in the 2009 Florida Super Lawyers list and 84 alumni were listed in the 2009 Florida Rising Stars list.

Eight Stetson University College of Law alumni were mentioned in the Florida Super Lawyers top 100 list and five Stetson Law alumnae were mentioned in the Florida Super Lawyers top 50 women list for 2009.

Jeptha Barbour ’82, Stephen Busey ’69, Robert Freedman ’90, Mark Hanley ’80, Steven Mezer ’77, Luis Prats ’81, Christian Searcy ’73 and Marian McCulloch ’79 were mentioned in the top 100 list.

Marian McCulloch was also mentioned in the top 50 women list, along with Caroline Black ’84, Tracy Raffles Gunn ’93, Linda Hartley ’92 and Lorena Ludovici ’89.

Super Lawyers is a list of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Rising Stars is a list of the top up-and-coming attorneys in the state — those who are 40 years old or younger, or who have been practicing for 10 years or less.

For more information, visit www.superlawyers.com.
**1960s**

Hon. John R. Blue ‘63 of Carlton Fields was honored with the 2009 Chief Justice’s Distinguished Judicial Service Award as a former judge who has given outstanding service through pro bono legal assistance.

Hon. Rom Powell ‘63 has moved to Geneva, Fla., and is working at the Seminole County Civil Courthouse doing senior judge work, special magistrate refunds and arbitrations.

W.L. Kirk ‘65 of the Orlando office of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for personal injury litigation.

Dr. Carl Kuttler Jr. ‘65 announced his retirement as president of St. Petersburg College after 30 years in the position.

Michael C. Maher ‘65 was appointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission.

Elliott C. Metcalfe Jr. ‘70 has retired as Sarasota Public Defender after 32 years of service.

Thomas F. Panza ‘71 was appointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission.

David P. Carter ‘72 was appointed to the Judicial Qualifications Committee.

Joseph I. Davis ‘73 was named among the “Top Lawyers in South Florida.”

Richard Nail ‘73 was certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a family mediator. Nail has practiced law for 36 years, mostly in family law.

Christian D. Searcy Sr. ‘73 has been appointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission.

Hon. Stephen Sheridan ‘73 has retired after almost 18 years on the Allegan County District Court bench in Michigan.

Timothy Hains ‘74 from the Naples office of Quarles & Brady LLP has been selected as a 2009 Florida Super Lawyer.

William Grimm ‘75 of GrayRobinson P.A. in Orlando was named to Florida Trend’s 2009 Legal Elite list. He primarily practices technology and business law.

Harry Thomas ‘75 was named to Florida Trend’s 2009 Legal Elite list in the area of commercial litigation. Along with this honor, Thomas has been named to Florida Super Lawyers for 2009. Thomas is a shareholder for the Tallahassee firm of Rady Thomas Yon & Clark P.A.

John “Jack” Helinger ‘76 was appointed to the 6th Judicial Circuit bench by Gov. Charlie Crist. He presented at the Clearwater Bar Association’s Luncheon Seminar Series.

Hon. Carol W. Hunstein ‘76 has been elected the Georgia Supreme Court’s new chief justice in a unanimous vote by her fellow justices.

**1970s**

Hon. Elsie O’Laughlin ‘48


Hon. Robert E. Hensley ‘50

March 11, 2009, Bradenton

Joseph Scarlett ‘52

June 28, 2009, DeLand

Hon. James B. Clayton ‘54

May 30, 2009, DeLand

Hon. Vincent E. Giglio ‘61

Nov. 18, 2008, Tampa

Raymond M. Cass ‘71

Aug. 31, 2008, Daytona Beach

Earl H. Archer III ‘73

Feb. 27, 2009, Mandeville, La.

Layne Shroder ‘76

May 23, 2009, Sarasota

W. Michael Allen ‘81

July 30, 2009, Jacksonville

Glenn M. Burton ‘83

June 23, 2009, Tampa

Stewart L. Colling ‘85

April 28, 2009, Maitland

Charles E. Monty Jr. ‘95

Nov. 20, 2008, Germany

**In Memoriam**

Sincerest condolences are extended to the families and friends of alumni who are no longer with us.

Chancellor H. Douglas Lee

Aug. 25, 2009, DeLand

Harold A. Boire ‘40

Jan. 14, 2009, Tampa

Hon. Robert E. Hensley ‘50

March 11, 2009, Bradenton

Joseph Scarlett ‘52

June 28, 2009, DeLand

Hon. James B. Clayton ‘54

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June 23, 2009, Tampa

Stewart L. Colling ‘85

April 28, 2009, Maitland

Charles E. Monty Jr. ‘95

Nov. 20, 2008, Germany
Stetson University College of Law presented its annual alumni awards at the Stetson Lawyers Association Annual Meeting and Reception on June 24 in Orlando.

Rebecca Harrison Steele ’95 received the Ben C. Willard Award for her distinguished humanitarian achievements that benefit Florida citizens. She is the outgoing president of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and director of the ACLU of Florida’s West Central Florida regional office. Steele frequently lectures and writes about civil rights issues. She has served as an adjunct professor at Stetson Law and University of South Florida.

J. Brent Walker ’76 and James L. Wilkes ’83 received Distinguished Alumnus Awards for service to the College of Law and the legal profession. Walker is the executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee based in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the Supreme Court Bar, Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and is a past member of The Florida Bar. Wilkes is the co-founder of Wilkes & McHugh, P.A. He founded Families for Better Care, a non-profit citizen’s advocacy group to improve the quality of care in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.

Richard A. Harrison BA ’83, JD ’86 received the Paul M. May Meritorious Service Award for his continuing support of the College of Law through contributions of time and gifts. Harrison serves as an adjunct professor and as a Stetson Law overseer.

Michele Leo Hintson ’02, E. Jenay Iurato ’00 and Clinton Paris ’00 each received Stetson Law’s Outstanding Alumni Representative Award for dedication and service to the Stetson Lawyers Association and for encouraging fellow alumni to be involved in community activities. Iurato and Hintson co-chaired Stetson Law’s inaugural Scholarship Gala and serve in the Stetson Lawyers Association. Paris is secretary of the Stetson Lawyers Association and has served on the Advisory Committee since 2007. He has volunteered significant time as a judge of Stetson’s International Environmental Moot Court Competition and participates in Stetson’s Survival of the Fittest Workshop.

Homer J. Hand and Judge Mary S. Scriven each received the Distinguished Service Award for their lifetime of contributions to Stetson Law. Homer Hand and his wife Dolly ’49 have given generously of their time and resources for many years. They established an awards program at Stetson for excellence in faculty research that has provided more than 175 grants and scholarships for professors and students, including many at the College of Law. Most recently, the couple made the lead gift that established the Doug and Margaret Lee Law Scholarship and provided principal funding to create the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center on Stetson University’s DeLand campus.

Mary S. Scriven was confirmed in 2008 as judge for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She was a full-time associate professor of law at Stetson from 1996-1997. During that time, she was voted “Most Inspirational Faculty Member” by the student body. Since then, she has donated her time and resources to Stetson by serving as a guest speaker and adviser to student organizations.

Judge Charles J. Roberts ’81, outgoing president of the Stetson Lawyers Association Advisory Council, was recognized with the President’s Award for dedicated service to the organization. Judge Roberts, who presides over the 18th Judicial Circuit, has served as a representative for the SLA since 2005.

Lori Baggett ’02 is this year’s incoming SLA president.
J. Scott Kirk ’76 of the Orlando office of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for personal injury litigation.

Marsha Rydberg ’76 and Thomas Rydberg ’76 were both appointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission.

Edwin Boyer ’77, a partner in the Sarasota law firm of Boyer and Jackson P.A., was sworn in as vice president of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Stephen C. Page ’77 was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for intellectual property and commercial litigation.

Cameron Story ’77 has opened the Law Office of Cameron Story P.A. in Jacksonville, practicing and mediating in the areas of real estate and commercial litigation.

E. Bruce Strayhorn ’77 has been appointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission. Strayhorn will be actively involved in the review of applicants’ qualifications.

Steven Herman ’78 was honored with the Richard T. Earle Jr. Professionalism Award from the Barney Masterson Inn of Court. The award is voted on by the county and circuit judges in Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Paul Turk Jr. ’79 joined the board of directors of the Oasis Compassion Agency in Greenacres, Fla. The agency is committed to addressing the physical and spiritual needs of the impoverished in central Palm Beach County through ministry, prayer and Biblical counseling.

1980s

Wilfried H. Florin ’80 was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for medical malpractice law.

Mark A. Hanley ’80 was inducted as a member of the Florida Circuit-Civil Mediator Society.

Timothy Shaw ’81 was elected to the executive committee at Kirk Pinkerton in Sarasota.

Patricia F. Anderson ’82 appeared as a special guest on “America’s Lifetime,” the weekly one-hour radio show of the Terri Schindler Schiavo Foundation.

Mary Ann Art ’82 has joined Fiduciary Counselors Inc. in Washington as senior vice president for plan administration. Art has 25 years of experience as an attorney and plan operations leader specializing in ERISA and employee benefit matters.

Jeptha Barbour ’82 has been named the 2011 International Association of Defense Counsel Trial Academy Director. A shareholder with Marks Gray P.A. in Jacksonville, Barbour practices in the areas of medical malpractice; products liability; life, health and disability insurance; and general civil litigation.

Keith Brickleymer ’82 of Brickleymer Smokey & Wolves spoke on legal issues related to local government wetland regulations at the Florida Wetlands Conference sponsored by CLE International in November.

Jeffery Korn ’82 has been named senior vice president and chief legal officer of iMergent Inc., an Internet commerce software provider headquartered in Orem, Utah.

G.J. Rod Sullivan ’82 argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in a maritime case involving punitive damages. Sullivan joined the faculty at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, where he teaches constitutional law and maritime law.

Michael L. Browning ’83 was appointed to the Key West Planning Board.

Lynn W. Sherman ’83 was selected to lead the Tampa practice in creditor’s rights and bankruptcy at Shutts & Bowen.

Marjorie Student-Stirling ’83 retired from county government in April to start a consulting practice in the areas of land use, zoning and environmental law.

Caroline Kapusta Black ’84 received the Jimmy Kynes Award from the Hillsborough County Bar Association for excellence in pro bono service.

G. Donald Thomson ’84 was named the Bonita Springs YMCA Volunteer of the Year and became a Florida Supreme Court-certified circuit mediator.

G. Joseph Curley ’85, a shareholder at the Gunster law firm in West Palm Beach, was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, and labor and employment law.

Benjamin P. Butterfield ’86 has been named general counsel to the PBSJ Corporation.

Thomas D. Roebig Jr. ’86 was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for personal injury litigation.

Scott Brown ’87 joined Williams Schifino as Of Counsel.

Marilyn M. Polson ’87 co-chairs the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law section of the Florida Bar. A partner with Fisher & Sauls P.A., she was recognized in Florida Super Lawyers.

Kynes Award from the Hillsborough County Bar

John Sullivan ’87 is the new chair for the Brandon Chamber of Commerce.

Matt Towery ’87 is rejoining the Atlanta-based firm McKenna Long & Aldridge as Of Counsel.

Towery last practiced law with the firm from 1994 to 1998.
**Weddings**

Susan Gregory '07 married Richard Lammari.  

Dominique Heller '07 was married to Lee Pearmain '07 on Oct. 12, 2008, in St. Petersburg.  

Kelly Van Wey '08 married Anthony Robinson '08 on July 11, 2009, in St. Pete Beach.

**New additions**

Kristin Crowell '97 and husband Kevin welcomed a new child.


Kelly Chanfrau '01 and husband Richard welcomed Christopher on July 2009.

Catherine Christie BA '98, JD '01 and husband Winston welcomed Liam on Aug. 2009.

Susan '01 and Reinaldo Ojeda '01 welcomed Isabel on April 2007.

Kathryn '02 and Brandon Christian '02 welcomed Jack on June 2009.

Katherine Neal '04 and husband Chris welcomed Ava on Jan. 2009.

Erin '04 and Michael Kelton '05 welcomed Elliott on Nov. 2008.

Corris McIntosh Jr. '07 and wife Shadreka welcomed Chloe on Dec. 2008.

Nichole Bibicoff '08 welcomed Aiden on Aug. 2009.


Jason Stearns '08 and wife Camille welcomed Daniel on June 2009.

Sarah Wesley '08 and husband Dan welcomed Daniel on Feb. 2009.

**Hon. Michelle Vitt Baker '88** was appointed to the 18th Judicial Circuit bench in Brevard County.

**Wendy Loquasto '88** became board-certified in appellate practice in June 2008, was selected as a 2009 Florida Super Lawyer, and was elected president of North Florida Legal Services Inc. board of directors.

**Pamela A.M. Campbell '89** gave a presentation for the Clearwater Bar Association's Luncheon Seminar Series.

**1990s**

**Kenneth G. Turkel '90** became president of the Hillsborough County Bar Association.

**Kim Seace '92** has opened her own law firm in Tampa after serving as an assistant state attorney for 16 years. Seace focuses her practice in criminal defense.

**Gregory K. Showers '92** received The Florida Bar's Pro Bono Award.

**John Dill '93** of Morgan & Morgan in Orlando has been named a diplomat in medical malpractice with the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys, the only organization accredited by the American Bar Association to certify attorneys in that specialty.

**David Holmes '93** has been elected president of the Punta Gorda law firm of Farr, Farr, Emerich, Hackett and Carr P.A. Holmes practices in the areas of in asset protection and civil litigation with specialization in business, commercial and construction disputes, corporate and business law, and real estate.

**James G. Vickaryous '93** of Sanford was elected chair of the board of directors of the Rescue Outreach Mission, which serves the homeless.

**Jackie Fulford '94** was appointed to the 2nd Judicial Circuit Court bench by Gov. Charlie Crist. Fulford has served as chief assistant state attorney for the 2nd Judicial Circuit since 1998.

**William Lobb '94** has been awarded The Florida Bar's Pro Bono Service Award for 2008.

**Rebecca Palmer '94** was listed in the 2010 Best Lawyers in America for family law mediation.

**Charles Geitner '96** has become the new president of the Volusia County Bar Association board of directors.

**Whitney Glaser '95** is teaching in the paralegal program at Manatee Community College in Bradenton.

**Donna Wysong '96** became Flagler County Deputy Attorney, leaving her position as assistant city attorney in Tampa.

**Manuel Comras '97** has been hired as a senior associate in the medical malpractice/health care law division of McIntosh, Savran, Peltz & Cartaya P.A. in West Palm Beach.

**Kristin Demers-Crowell '97** has extended her legal practice at Merlin Law Group to the state of Texas as the firm looks to provide assistance and advice to the victims of Hurricane Ike, as well as other property-related issues.

**Gregory Huber '97** and **Gregory Zele '97** announce the formation of ZeleHuber Trial Attorneys P.A. in Jupiter. The law firm practices in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, vehicular accidents, pedestrian accidents and product liability law.

**Heather Jones '97** joined Morgan & Morgan in the worker’s compensation department.
Nicholas Panagakis ’97 of Morgan & Morgan in Orlando has been named to Florida Super Lawyers Rising Stars list for 2009. Panagakis practices personal injury and wrongful death litigation.

Chad Vilushis ’97 was selected as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer Rising Star for 2008. Vilushis is the only attorney from Erie County selected in the field of criminal defense practice.

Michael J. Vitoria ’97 joined the litigation team of the Gunn Law Group in Tampa. Joseph Covelli ’98 has joined the Tampa office of GrayRobinson P.A. as Of Counsel in the firm’s real estate and corporate transaction practice.

Anthony J. Diaz ’98 was certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a Circuit Civil Mediator. Otto E. Berges ’99 was named to the 2009 Florida Super Lawyers Rising Stars for construction litigation. Berges is an associate with Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer P.A. in Fort Lauderdale.

J. Rhett Bullard ’99 was elected as the vice chair of the Florida Democratic Party and member of the Democratic National Committee.

Fernando Giachino ’99 received his board certification in wills, trusts and estates. Giachino is a shareholder in the firm of Thurlow, Thurlow & Giachino P.A. in Stuart.

Lynn E. Hanshaw ’99 presented on Florida’s residential landlord/tenant law at St. Petersburg College.

David Johnson ’99 has joined the United Law Group in Fort Lauderdale.

Richard Masotti ’99 started an independent film production company in New York and is producing his first full-length movie, My Name Is Lance, to raise alcoholism awareness.

Leslie Schultz-Kin ’99 was elected as a shareholder of Carlton Fields in Tampa, where she litigates real property disputes, quiet title actions and specific performance actions. Schultz-Kin also serves as treasurer of the board of directors of Bay Area Legal Services.

Todd Sobel ’99 has joined the Tampa law firm of Bricklery Smolker & Bolve P.A., concentrating in real estate, eminent domain, property rights and general commercial litigation.

Adrian Soul ’99 is now a circuit court judge in Duval County.

Jose Toledo ’99 was admitted to the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

2000s

Leanne Begallie ’00 is a partner in the Fort Pierce firm of Blake, Mildner & Ohle, P.A. Begallie focuses her practice in insurance litigation and personal injury.

Joseph Caimano ’00 of Caimano Law Group P.A. was elected to the board of directors of the Hillsborough County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Joanna Garcia ’00 was elected as a shareholder of Carlton Fields, practicing class action defense, commercial contract litigation, real property litigation and other business disputes. Garcia is president of the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association and a member of Carlton Fields’ Minority Lawyer Network, Women’s Initiation Network, Diversity Committee and Pro Bono Committee.

Ryan Hilton ’00 is working as an insurance coverage senior associate for Butler Pappas and is on second assignment at Markel International in Richmond, Va.

E. Jenay M. Iurato ’00 was elected to the Tampa Bay Hispanic Association.

Matthew W. Peaire ’00 was made partner at Butler Pappas Weihmuller Katz Craig.

Tyra Read ’00, an associate at Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt P.A. in Fort Myers, has authored two chapters in a new book, Florida Foreclosure, What Lawyers Need to Know Now. Read focuses in the area of residential and commercial real estate.

Jason W. Searl ’00 of GrayRobinson was elected to the Leadership Orlando Class 78.

James Thaler Jr. ’00 was elected president of the St. Petersburg Bar Association.

John J. Thresher ’00 of Tampa recently received his board certification in construction law.

Joseph Zitzka Jr. ’00 was named partner at Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando.

Kelly Chanfrau ’01 was named partner at Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando.

Nina Ferraro ’01 has been listed in the 2009 Florida Super Lawyers Rising Stars. Ferraro has also been elected secretary of the Martin County chapter of Florida Association for Women Lawyers.

Russell Ferraro III ’01 of the Ferraro Law Group has been elected to the Young Lawyers Division board of governors of The Florida Bar to represent the 19th Judicial Circuit.
What’s new in your life? Tell us.

Any news? What’s going on in your life? A career change? Opened your own firm? Recently married? New additions to your family? Took a trip around the world? Keep your classmates posted! We want to hear from you! Just fill out this form and send us your news clippings, photos, news releases, etc.

Current Last Name________________________________________ Last Name in Law School____________________________________
First Name________________________________________ Preferred First Name____________________________________
Middle Name________________________________________ Date of Birth________________________________________
Preferred First Name____________________________________ Date of Birth________________________________________
Name of Spouse________________________________________ Name of Spouse________________________________________
Children’s Names and Ages________________________________ Children’s Names and Ages________________________________

Home Information
Street________________________________________ City________________________________________ State____________ Zip________
County________________________________________ Street________________________________________ City________________________________________ State____________ Zip________
Home Phone Number________________________ Home Phone Number________________________
E-mail Address________________________________ E-mail Address________________________________

Firm/Business Information
Employer Name____________________________________ Employer Name____________________________________
Street________________________________________ Street________________________________________
City________________________________________ City________________________________________ State____________ Zip________
County________________________________________ County________________________________________
Firm/Business Phone Number____________________ Firm/Business Phone Number____________________
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Send Us Your News
Any other information you would like to share with us would be appreciated. Return this to the Office of College Relations, Stetson University College of Law, 1401 61st Street South, Gulfport, FL 33707. Fax (727) 347-4183.

Andrew T. Jenkins ’01 became a shareholder at Bush Ross in Tampa.
Stephanie Mensing ’01 was selected for the “2009 Lawyers on the Fast Track” in Pennsylvania. Mensing is a partner of the law firm of Wisniewski & Mensing, LLP in Philadelphia, practicing in business and corporate law, commercial litigation, labor and employment law, and entertainment law.
Susan Ojeda ’01 has joined the Gibbs Law Firm as counsel for the Christian Law Association.
Sacha Ross ’01 was promoted to principal at Grimes Goebel Grimes Hawkins Gladfelter & Galvano PL in Bradenton.
Jeffery Wilkins ’01 has established Wilkins Law Firm in Jacksonville, which serves clients throughout Northeast Florida and Florida’s Space Coast. The firm’s practice concentrates in the areas of construction, real estate and landlord-tenant litigation.
Heather Blom-Ramos ’02 of GrayRobinson P.A. was listed in the 2009 Florida Super Lawyers Rising Stars. Blom-Ramos practices in the area of local government law in the firm’s Orlando office.
Lyzka DeLaCruz ’02 was elected vice president of external affairs for the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia.
Kira L. Brallier Doyle ’02 became a shareholder with Harris, Barrett, Mann & Dew P.A.
Trisha (Guerriere) Weed ’02 has joined the Caveda Law Firm P.A. in Tampa, practicing in the areas of family law, divorce, child custody and military law.
Michele Leo Hintson ’02 joined the board of directors of the Junior League of Tampa. Hintson is an associate in the Tampa office of Shumaker Loop Kendrick LLP.
F. Lee Morrison ’02 of GrayRobinson P.A. in Orlando was listed as a 2009 Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star. Morrison’s practice focuses in the area of business litigation.
Sean P. Ravenel ’02 was elected shareholder of Butler Pappas Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP.
Michael R. Vaughn ’02 completed the Reserve Components National Security Course.
Matthew Dolman ’03 and Rebecca Heist ’03 have announced the formation of the Dolman Law Group, a boutique law firm with offices in Clearwater and Bradenton specializing in personal injury claims, estate planning, asset protection and taxation issues.
Alyssa Ruge ’03 and Stacy Kemp ’07 announce the one-year anniversary of their firm, Kemp & Ruge Law Group. The firm handles personal injury, medical malpractice and family law cases.
William Stainton ’03 was named shareholder of the Tampa firm of Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen. Stainton focuses his practice in the areas of business and corporate law and commercial litigation.
Cody Vaughan-Birch ’03 received LEED AP Distinction from the U.S. Green Building Council. Vaughan-Birch is only the second attorney in Fort
Katherine H. Miller ’06 led the Young Lawyers Division of the Volusia County Bar Association in assisting students in need within the school district.

Brian J. Redar ’06 now works in U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Long Beach, Calif.

Arturo R. Rios Jr. ’06 was selected as ambassador to the American Immigration Law Foundation in Washington.

Jodie Snow ’06 was the guest speaker for the annual freshman convocation ceremony at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, where she earned her associate’s degree and received the college’s highest academic honor in 2000.

C.B. Upton ’06 joined Arnstein & Lehr LLP in Tampa as an associate in the appellate litigation and bankruptcy and creditor’s rights groups. Upton was previously Florida’s deputy solicitor general.

Anne Banford ’07 was admitted to the Georgia Bar and joined the Gainesville, Ga., law firm of Coleman & Chambers LLP as an associate. Banford’s practice will focus on family law.

Hugh D. Higgins ’07 has joined the Lauro Law Firm in Tampa as an associate.

Susan Gregory Liammari ’07 started the Liammari Law Firm P.A. in Sarasota. Liammari’s practice focuses in the areas of guardianships, probate litigation and estate planning.

Zachary Harrington ’07 has joined the Tampa office of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP as an associate. Harrington focuses in the area of commercial litigation.

Melissa Stok Rizzo ’08 joined Ruden McClosky & Wein P.A. in St. Petersburg as an associate, focusing in the area of regulatory takings and inverse condemnation.

Kristin Tolbert ’08 has joined the Tampa firm of Brickmyer Smolker & Bolves P.A. Tolbert’s practice focuses on real estate litigation, administrative land use hearings and appeals, regulatory takings and inverse condemnation.
LEGAL INSANITY
by Judge Steve Rushing ’75

“Look—Ring around the collar!”

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Are you into social media? Check out the Stetson Law presence on these sites to reconnect with classmates, follow Stetson news or network to find that next job:

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