



## St. Thomas Law News

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### Spring Registration Guidelines

Registration for the Spring 2019 term will begin at the end of the month. The law school Registrar will send an e-mail with specific dates and times allotted for the spring registration. Below are some guidelines you should keep in mind when you begin to register for classes. Except for students in one of the joint degree programs or students who have obtained prior approval from the Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Scholarships, all students are required to take at least 12 J.D. credits and can take no more than 15 credits. Joint degree students cannot take more than a combined total of 21 credits from both programs during the course of the semester.

Fall 2018 entrants are automatically registered by the Registrar (unless they have a transcript hold or outstanding balance).

All other students are provided a registration date and time. Students register online by logging on to "My Bobcat." Students must register during their assigned time or otherwise wait until the open registration session that follows the designated registration time. Anyone planning to graduate in May 2019 is required to take the Bar Prep Skills class. Any third-year students who are planning to take the MPRE in April of 2019 must take Professional Responsibility in the spring term.

Any student with an outstanding balance of \$1,000.00 or more is blocked from registration and cannot register until he or she reduces his or her balance below \$1,000.00. Students with outstanding balances should be working now with Andy Marrero and the Business Office to make sure they will be cleared for registration.

Some classes will reach capacity during the regular registration session. No overrides or exceptions are provided during the regular registration session. Students needing to take a particular class

### St. Thomas Law: Gateway to Great Legal Careers

**William McRea** (3L) accepted a paid Internship with the Florida House of Representatives Legislative Intern Program.

**Johanna Ramos** (2L) completed a paid Summer Law Clerk position with Greenberg Traurig in Miami, specializing in Real Estate Law, specifically Condominium Law.

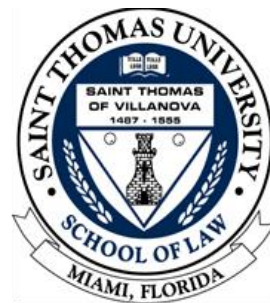
**Isabel Vera** (3L) accepted a paid Law Clerk position with Purdy, Jolly, Giuffreda, Barranco, & Jisa, P.A., in Fort Lauderdale.

**Elizabeth Barrientos**, a 2018 graduate, accepted a position as Assistant State Attorney with the Office of the State Attorney in Broward County. ❖

should attempt to register for another section of the class (even if the time is less convenient). Any student who wants to register for a class that is full will need to submit an override request form to the Registrar. On the form, you will need to explain why you need (or want) to take the class that is full. You need not seek the approval of the professor regarding the override. Shortly after the week of registration is over, the override request forms will be processed, and students will be advised if their request has been granted. Please note some classes are limited in size due to the seats available, or the format in which the class is to be taught, or both, so not all requests can be granted. Students should register for any section of any required course they need to take that is available. Remember that a student can modify his or her schedule at any time during the drop-add period. So, students should continue to monitor class availability. ❖

## Campus Events

- October 25: "Ins & Outs of a Police Encounter" L & L, Room 104 @ 12:00 p.m.
- October 26: Insights on the U.S. Economy, Goldbloom Convocation Hall @ 9:00 a.m.
- October 29: Deadline for Spring 2019 Clinic/Internship Applications
- October 31 & November 1: Prayer Meeting, Room 109-A @ 12:00 p.m.
- November 8: Professionalism Roundtable Discussion, Room CPD-113 @ 6:00 p.m.
- November 9: 1L Legal Skills Course



## Congressional & Community Leader Immigration Roundtable

On October 19, 2018, STU Law hosted a roundtable on prospective immigration legislation and the



impact on our community. This event was organized by **Michael Vastine**, Professor of Law and Director of the Immigration Clinic at St. Thomas Law. Professor Vastine is the current President of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) South Florida Chapter. The speakers were Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz; Senior counsel of Senator Bill Nelson; Senior staff of Rep. Fredericka Wilson; Senior staff of Rep. Alcee Hastings; Senior staff of Rep. Carlos Curbelo; Steven Forester,

Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti; Adonia Simpson, Americans for Immigrant Justice; Randy McGrorty, Catholic Legal Services; and Antonia Cancero, American Immigration, Council Ambassador. ❖

## Internship, Externship, or Clinic Application Deadline

Any student interested in an internship, externship, or clinic program for the spring 2019 semester still has a chance to submit his or her application. The application deadline has been extended until **Monday, October 29, 2018, at noon.**

The programs available to students are Bankruptcy Clinic, Civil Practice Externship, Criminal Practice Externship, Elder Law Externship, Judicial Internship, United Nation Internship (in New York), and the Tax Clinic. Students should contact Associate Dean Cece Dykas at [cdykas@stu.edu](mailto:cdykas@stu.edu) with questions regarding available opportunities and requirements. ❖

## Immigrants Law Lunch & Learn

On October 18, 2018, St. Thomas Law Immigration Law Students' Association and the Office for Career Development hosted a Lunch & Learn with a panel of distinguished speakers, which included Gabriela Pinto Vega, AILA *Pro Bono* Chair; Megan Humphreys, Americans for Immigrant Justice; Jesús Torres Núñez, Catholic Legal Services; and STU Law students Ana García and Patrick McKenna. The panel spoke about the various *pro bono* opportunities in the area of immigration. ❖

## Advocacy and Service Lunch and Learn

On October 16, 2018, the Office for Career Development, in collaboration with the Children & Family Law Society; co-sponsored by the Real Property, Probate, & Trust Law Section; Student Veterans of America, St. Thomas Law Chapter; and Themis Bar Review held a Lunch and Learn on Advocacy and Service with 28 students in attendance. Discussing Advocacy and Service were several panelists, including Deborah Billings, Education and Outreach Specialist with Kristi House; Jeffrey Beal, Volunteer Recruiter with the Guardian ad Litem Program; James W. Heaton, Esq., from Mission United, A Veterans Pro-Bono Project with the Legal Aid Society of Broward County. The panelists informed the students about the purpose and mission of their respective organizations as well as about internship and volunteer opportunities for students to obtain legal and community *pro bono* hours. ❖

## Florida Bar International Law Section Symposium



On October 12, 2018, **Digdem Ameseder** (Austrian lawyer enrolled in the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights) and **Diego Sánchez** (3L pursuing a Certificate in Intercultural Human Rights) represented St. Thomas University School of Law and the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights at a Florida Bar International Law Section symposium titled "Democracy & Human Rights." The symposium was hosted by the *Committee on Public International Law, Human Rights, & Global Justice*. Among the presenters was Ms. **Amber Murray, Esq.**, founder of the International Justice Center, PLLC. Ms. Murray, a St. Thomas Law J.D. and LL.M. graduate, talked about her work experience on behalf of victims of human rights violations at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights as well as at the

United Nations Human Rights Council. These students' participation was initiated by Professor **Roza Pati**, who is *Workgroup Chair on Human Trafficking and Federal Government Outreach* in the Committee on Public International Law, Human Rights, & Global Justice, a standing committee under the Florida Bar International Law Section. ❖

## Xenophobia, Racism, and Populist Nationalism in the Context of Global Migration Conference

From September 18 through September 20, 2018, Professor **Roza Pati** participated in the conference on *Xenophobia, Racism, and Populist Nationalism in the Context of Global Migration*. Gathered at the Vatican, the participants discussed and analyzed in working groups and plenary sessions the rise in xenophobic and racist reactions to refugees and migrants. A final statement was issued to affirm the dignity of the human person and solidarity among peoples, urging that all instances of violations of fundamental human rights, xenophobia, and racism are steadfastly countered by human rights education, the democratic process, law, and dialogue. Professor Pati also had the opportunity to meet with His Holiness Pope Francis. ❖



### Student Achievements

**Rebecca de la Zerda** (2L) completed a Summer Internship with Judge José M. Rodríguez, Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, Circuit Civil Division in Miami.

**Anthony Pérez** (3L) accepted a paid Law Clerk position with the Law Offices of Cytryn & Velázquez in Coral Springs, specializing in Personal Injury.

**Daniel Rayon** (2L) accepted a Law Clerk position with Bauer Law Office, P.A., in Coral Gables, specializing in Tax and Real Estate Law.

**Rafael Reyes** (2L) completed a Summer Internship with Judge Angélica D. Zayas, Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, Circuit Family Division in Miami. ❖

### Alumni(ae) News

**Jorge Cos**, a 1993 graduate, was appointed Assistant Dean of Alumni Relations & Development for St. Thomas University School of Law.

**Sarah Dunaway**, a 2013 graduate, accepted a position as Research Services Librarian/Lecturer in Law with Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Bernadette Guerra**, a 2017 graduate, accepted a position as an Assistant Public Defender at the Broward Public Defender's Office.

**Carolina Nuche**, a 2017 graduate, accepted an Associate Attorney position with Baker Mc Kenzie in Miami in its Tax Practice Group. ❖

### Faculty Announcements

On, October 25, 2018, Adjunct Professor **Magda Abdo-Gómez** spoke at the Florida Lawyers Network monthly meeting regarding the IRS Collection Powers.

Assistant Professor **Tia Gibbs** spoke to students in celebration of Ethical Governance Day on October 24, 2018, at Miami Carol City Senior High.

Dean **Tamara Lawson**, Assistant Dean **John Hernandez**, Assistant Dean **Lourdes Fernandez**, and Professor **Keith Rizzardi** participated in a special program sponsored by the Florida Bar Standing

Committee on Professionalism. The program was held October 19, 2019, in Tampa, Florida. Various "stakeholders" in the admission to bar process (including the St. Thomas Law representatives) were invited to a workshop and round table discussion regarding hypothetical scenarios that present admissibility issues. The various stakeholders were asked to provide their perspectives on these issues. Also present at the program was Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, Charles Canady, and Executive Director of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, Michele Gavagni.

Professor **Roza Pati** has been invited by the *Law School of the City University of Hong Kong* to present at an international conference on the "*Human Rights at Crossroads: From 1948 to 2018 and Beyond*" scheduled for December 10-12, 2018. Professor Pati has titled her presentation: *Don't Let the Wells Run Dry: The Human Right to Water*, and aims at analyzing the problem of access to regular, constant, and sufficient quantity of water as a human right and as a condition to live in dignity. Exploring empirical, economic, and legislative trends, her paper advocates for cohesion in recognizing and allocating the right to water, in endorsing the right to water in legislation, without losing sight of the need for sustainable solutions that also take into consideration those who suffer most from poverty and marginalization. ❖



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