Faculty Highlights

❖ **Professor Ericka Curran**

Prof. Curran and the Immigrant Rights Clinic will be co-facilitating a new Immigration Specific Pro Bono intake at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid starting September 1, 2009.

❖ **Vice Dean Terri Davlantes**

Terri Davlantes presented a talk entitled “The Village Approach to Raising Professional Lawyers” at the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Implementing Best Practices & Educating Lawyers: Teaching Skills and Professionalism Across the Curriculum conference in Spokane, Washington, in June 2009. She also moderated a panel at the 2009 SEALS conference entitled “Measuring Educational Quality.” She was also elected to the Board of Youth Crisis Center.

❖ **Professor Elizabeth DeCoux**

Professor Elizabeth DeCoux’s most recent article will be published in the fall 2009 issue of the *Animal Law Review* at Lewis and Clark School of Law. The article is entitled, “Speaking for the Modern Prometheus: The Significance of Animal Suffering to the Abolition Movement.”

❖ **Professor Cleveland Ferguson**

Professor Cleveland Ferguson III was elected president for the 2009-2010 fraternal year of the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., a nonprofit organization that mentors youth and annually provides $20,000 in scholarships for high school seniors who have been accepted to college, book stipends for college students, and funds for students attending graduate and professional schools. The local chapter celebrates its 85th anniversary this year.

He was named Vice Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) International Human Rights Committee where he serves as chair of publications and reappointed Vice Chair of the ABA’s International Non Governmental Organizations/Nonprofit Committee.
Professor Ferguson was also reappointed to U.S. Senator Bill Nelson’s US Military Affairs Service Academy Nominations Board, where he sits on the Air Force Panel.

He co-administrated Florida Coastal's Summer Abroad Program at the Universite' d'Auvergne in Clermont-Ferrand, France while teaching the course Comparative Enforcement of Human Rights from May 20 - June 30, 2009.

In August 2009, Professor Ferguson became the first African American to both be promoted to the rank of full professor and receive tenure at Florida Coastal School of Law.

❖ **Professor Rebekah Gleason Hope**

Professor Rebekah Gleason participated as a commenter at Lehigh University’s Education Law Symposium on June 26, 2009. She commented on remedies in the area of special education law, including the Supreme Court decision that had come down earlier that week.

❖ **Professor Susan Harthill**

In July, Professor Harthill participated in the *Regulating for Decent Work Conference* at the International Labour Organization in Geneva, where she presented her new article, *The Need for a Revitalized Regulatory Scheme to Address Workplace Bullying in the United States: Harnessing the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act*. Professor Harthill has just submitted this article for publication to U.S. law reviews.

Also in August, Professor Harthill received word that her next article, a comparative review of occupational safety and health laws addressing workplace bullying, has been accepted for presentation at the 7th International Conference on Workplace Bullying and Harassment, to be held in June 2010 at the University of Glamorgan in Cardiff, Wales.

Professor Harthill's ERISA article was published this summer by the *OKLAHOMA LAW REVIEW*: A Square Peg In A Round Hole: Make Whole Relief Under ERISA Section 502(a)(3), 61 OKLA. L. REV. 721 (2009).

❖ **Professor Carolyn Herman**

On August 22, 2009, Professor Carolyn Herman presented “What You Need to Know About Copyright Law and Literary Publishing Agreements before You Become Rich and Famous” to the *First Coast Writer’s Circle*. 
- **Professor Thomas Hornsby**

  On August 17, 2009, Professor Hornsby was a guest speaker at the National Workers' Compensation Judiciary College in Orlando, FL. My topic was “Judicial Stress and Judicial Behavior.”

- **Professor Robert Hornstein**


- **Professor John Knechtle**

  From May 18 – 20, Professor Knechtle met with several defence council working at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) who either have already accepted or are interested in accepting FCSL students as interns in FCSL’s International Criminal Law Externship Program. Professor Knechtle also met with the Chief of the Defence Support Section and the Associate Legal Officer for the Division of Victims and Counsel at the International Criminal Court (ICC) to explore the possibility of placing FCSL students at the ICC.

  On May 21st, Professor Knechtle presented a paper titled, “*Free Speech Protections for Taking Photographs in Public Places: The Google Street Controversy*” at the University of Luxembourg. The Conference was titled, Trans-Atlantic Perspectives on Privacy, Speech and the Media, and it was hosted by the Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance of the University of Luxembourg.

  From July 10 – 12 Professor Knechtle participated in the American & Caribbean Law Initiative’s (ACLI) Law Conference in Port of Spain, Trinidad. The title of the conference was “Dispute Resolution & Restorative Justice.” Professor Knechtle was a member of the conference organizing committee and as President and Co-founder of the ACLI, spoke at the opening reception honoring Keith Sobion, co-founder and vice president of the ACLI.

- **Professor Andrew Long**

  Professor Andrew Long’s article “Taking Adaptation Value Seriously: Designing REDD to Protect Biodiversity” was selected for publication in a special issue of the *Carbon & Climate Law Review* that seeks to inform December 2009 international negotiations in Copenhagen that are expected to produce an agreement on climate change effective
upon the expiration of the Kyoto Protocol in 2012. The CARBON & CLIMATE LAW REVIEW is an internationally-recognized peer-reviewed journal with an editorial board made up of prominent U.S. and European legal academics.

Professor Long presented as the New Scholar representing Coastal Law at the 2009 Southeast Association of Law Schools annual meeting in Palm Beach on August 3, 2009. His presentation, entitled "Biodiversity Conservation in a Time of Climate Change," outlined a proposal for including biodiversity considerations in the mechanism to create carbon credits from avoided deforestation that is likely to be incorporated into the agreement negotiated at Copenhagen in December 2009.

❖ **Professor David Pimentel**

David Pimentel appeared on Jacksonville’s “Morning Show” on Channel 4, on Monday, July 13, to discuss the confirmation hearings of Judge Sonia Sotomayor for the Supreme Court.

❖ **Professor Brad Shannon**

In June, Professor Shannon attended the 2009 Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Summer Conference held at Gonzaga University School of Law in beautiful Spokane, Washington.

In August, Professor Shannon attended the 2009 SEALS Conference in equally beautiful Palm Beach, where he served as the moderator on the panel, “How to Market Your Research.”

❖ **Professor Nareissa Smith**

In June, Prof. Smith was one of two women chosen to speak at the annual Women’s Breakfast during the AALS New Law Teachers Conference. The proceedings of the breakfast, along with a summary of Prof. Smith’s remarks, will appear in the next newsletter of the AALS Section on Women in the Legal Profession.

❖ **Professor Rod Sullivan**

In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court issued its ruling *Atlantic Sounding v Townsend*, in favor of Edgar Townsend, finding that punitive damages were available for the willful and wanton withholding of medical care from a seaman. Professor Sullivan represented
Edgar Townsend in the case. Justice Clarence Thomas wrote the decision for the majority, which included Justices Stevens, Souter, Ginsburg, and Breyer. The dissent included Justice Scalia, Chief Justice Roberts, Justice Alito, and Justice Kennedy.

Some legal commentators noted the unusual split among the justices, with Justices Thomas and Scalia, who frequently are in agreement, on opposite sides of the issue. Michael Barone in The Washington D.C. Examiner commented that “…at first Thomas was dismissed as a clone of Justice Antonin Scalia. But today even liberal analysts of the court concede that he has set his own course....”

The Supreme Court remanded the case to the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, for further proceedings.

Professor Sullivan addressed a meeting of the Louisiana Association of Justice in New Orleans (August 12-13) at their seminar entitled “High Stakes on the High Seas.” He spoke about the decision in Atlantic Sounding v Townsend, and punitive damages in maritime law. The seminar was attended by over 160 lawyers, judges, and law students from Louisiana, Texas, and Alabama.

Professor Sullivan was profiled in the Financial News and Daily Record (Aug. 3, 2009) as one of twenty Jacksonville private practitioners who have been before the United States Supreme Court since the mid-1940’s.

❖ Professor Morse Tan

“Professor Tan shared his expertise on Korea with several media outlets: United Press International (UPI), Channel Four News and East-West Magazine.”