



## St. Thomas Law News

Volume 9, Issue 25 | April 5, 2019

### Annual Donor Scholarship /Law Day Luncheon

On, Tuesday  
April 2, 2019,  
St. Thomas  
Law hosted  
its Annual  
Donor  
Scholarship /  
Law Day



Luncheon. The guest speaker for the luncheon was Florida Bar President-elect John M. Stewart. His speech focused on the importance of civility and professionalism in the practice of law.

At the luncheon, Scholarship Donors were recognized along with the scholarship recipients.



The St. Thomas Law's National Championship Trial Team **Stephanie Roman, Carolina Del Campo, Jennifer Francisco, and Yunis Curbelo** were also recognized for their incredible accomplishment of winning the ABA Labor Law Mock Trial Competition. Dean Lawson used the opportunity to invite former Deans **Alfredo Garcia** and **John Makdisi**, as well as former STU President Father **Pat O'Neill** to salute our champions.

More than 236 CALI Book Awards were issued to law student for being the top student in their respective classes during the 2018 Spring, Summer, and Fall semesters **Jose De la Cruz** and **Carlos Parra** both receive 6 CALI Book Awards, congratulation guys. ❖

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

**Peter Abraham** (3L) accepted a post-graduate Associate position with Gibson Robb & Lindh, LLP in San Francisco, CA, specializing in Person Injury, and Maritime Defense.

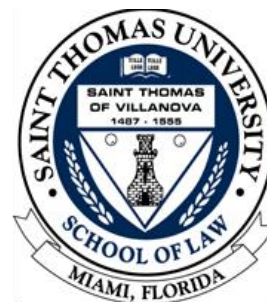
**Ericka Hernandez** (3L) accepted a post-graduate Assistant State Attorney position with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office.

**Gabriel Isasi** (3L) accepted a paid Law Clerk position with Steinger, Iscoe & Greene in West Palm Beach, specializing in Personal Injury Law.

**Sha' Tarria Davis**, a 2018 graduate, accepted an assistant Public Defender position with the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office. ❖

## Campus Events

- April 5: VITA Tax Preparation, Law Library @ 10:00 a.m.
- April 8: Third District Court of Appeal Oral Arguments, Moot Courtroom @ 9:00 a.m.
- April 9: Women on the Bench, Moot Courtroom @ 12:00 p.m.
- April 10: Breezeway Chatter, Cordero Breezeway @ 12:00 p.m.
- April 12: 1L Legal Skills Course
- April 17: Friday Classes Meet



## Spring Graduation Information

The Baccalaureate Mass is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2019, and the commencement ceremony is Friday, May 10, at St. Thomas University in the Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness at 9:00 a.m. An Open House-Reception will be held immediately following the commencement ceremony in the Cordero Breezeway. At the Open House-Reception, various stations around the law school buildings will have light refreshments including wine and cheese. Students will be able to give their family a tour of the school and take pictures with friends and professors. ❖

## Additional Scholarship Recipients

The Tamar L. Crouch Memorial Scholarship  
Harold W. "Butch" Gabel III St. Thomas More Award  
Excellence in Intellectual Property Law (Trademark)  
Award

Arya Laghaie Indigenous Peoples' Rights Scholarship

John & June Mary Makdisi Human Rights Scholarship  
Professor Dr. Amy Ronner & Dr. Michael Pacin  
Therapeutic Jurisprudence Award

The Honorable Peter R. Palermo Scholarship

Professor Siegfried Wiessner Intercultural Human  
Rights Essay Award

Professor Mark Wolff Tax Scholarship

**Digdem Ameseder**

**César Florian**

**Gianni Piantini**

**Samiya Tabasum and  
Munkh-Ochir Terbish**

**Samiya Tabasum**

**Digdem Ameseder, Andrej Milic,  
Carlos Emilio Gómez Pineda, Samiya  
Tabasum, and Munkh-Ochir Terbish**

**Christian Gonzalez Rivera, Mary  
Rojas, Daniel Vazquez, Evelyn Vernet,  
and James Zumpano**

**Digdem Ameseder, Carlos Emilio  
Gómez Pineda, and Samiya Tabasum**

**Christian Batallas, Kaylee Bybee,  
Brandon Chuck, and Robert Martin ❖**

## Fancy Hats and Brilliant Bowties Event

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association held their annual Fancy Hats and Brilliant Bowties event at Gulfstream Park on St. Patrick's Day. After some informative presentations and selecting the winners of the best hat and bowtie, the attendees headed to the winner's circle for a race! Career Counselor **Laura Varela** attended, spending time with St. Thomas Law alumna **Julie Harris-Nelson '94** and current 1L student, **Jaime Noicely**. ❖

## Haitian Lawyers Association 21 Annual Scholarship Gala

On Saturday, March 16, 2019, Public Sector Career Counselor **Sherea Randle** and seven St. Thomas Law students attended the annual Haitian Lawyers Association 21st Annual Scholarship Gala. **Sabryna Raymond** (3L) at St. Thomas Law was one of the 2019 scholarship recipients. In addition, Judge **Lody Jean '04**, a St. Thomas Law Alum, was also one of the 2019 honorees. ❖

## MDEAT Miami-Dade County Teen Court

On Friday, March 15, 2019, Public Sector Career Counselor **Sherea Randle** attended the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust opening of the Miami-Dade County Teen Court 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Lobby Exhibit. Teen Court offers teens exposure to judicial processes, community service opportunities, and allows adults to get involved. Ms. Randle serves as one of the volunteer teen court judges for the program. ❖

## Miami Lakes Bar Association & St. Thomas Law Happy Hour

On Thursday, March 14, 2019, the Miami Lakes Bar Association and the Dominican Bar Association in conjunction with St. Thomas Law hosted a Saint Patrick's Day Happy Hour at Miller Ale House in Miami Lakes. The event was well attended with many St. Thomas Law alumni and a couple of prospective students. Dean **Tamara Lawson** and Judge Geraldine Hogan were among the attendees. ❖

## St. Thomas Law Students Awarded the Miami-Dade FAWL Scholarship

On March 13, 2019, law students **Ashanti Palmer** (2L) and **Morgan Levine** (2L) were awarded the Miami-Dade Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) scholarship presented at the Women Making History and Scholarship Awards Presentation at The Freedom Tower in downtown Miami. Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Lagoa, was also honored with the 2019 Women Making History award. ❖

## Booher Inn of Court Professionalism Lunch

St. Thomas Law was a Title Sponsor at the March 13<sup>th</sup> Booher American Inn of Court Professionalism Luncheon. Held at the Lauderdale Yacht Club, Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Canady was the keynote speaker. Our students had the opportunity to speak with Justice Canady and the law school's own Judge **Tarlika Nunes-Navarro '10**. ❖

## Alumni(ae) News

**Ramon Alvarez**, a 2014 graduate, was recently promoted to a Delegate (in-house counsel) position with ARK.io, an International Firm that specializes in Blockchain Solutions.

**Jelani Davis**, 2003 graduate, recently accepted a new Lead Attorney position with the Strems Law Firm, P.A. in Coral Gables.

**Marbely Hernandez**, a 2013 graduate, Assistant State Attorney with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office was recently selected to receive a "Rising Star" Award at the Women of Distinction Judicial Reception in Key Biscayne.

**Alicia de la O**, a 2015 graduate, recently accepted a new Attorney position with Catholic Charities Legal Services in Miami.

**Rafael Palacio-Arango**, a 2016 graduate, recently accepted a new position as Immigration Attorney with Catholic Legal Services in Miami.

**Kyle Teal**, a 2012 graduate, recently accepted a new Associate Attorney position with Buchanon Ingersoll in Miami, specializing in Eminent Domain and Commercial Litigation. ❖

## Faculty Announcements

**Professor Marc-Tizoc González** participated in several conferences. At the St. Thomas Law *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review* symposium, he discussed **Ethical Leadership and Community Welfare** by spotlighting and contextualizing the late Arnold P. Abbott (1924–2019), whose nonprofit, Maureen A. Abbott Love Thy Neighbor Fund, Inc., <http://lovethyneighbor.org>, provides warm nutritious meals to hungry people in Fort Lauderdale. Professor González also organized and moderated two panels at the [Fourth National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference: Lights of Critical Hope against the Rising Chthonic Shadow: The Utopia/Dystopia Project](#) continued a multi-year national collaboration to resuscitate the foundational Critical Race Theory method of narrative in order to evaluate how utopian and dystopian ideas and texts could help critical sociolegal scholars imagine how to adapt the rule of law over authority in the twenty-first century. **How Will We Eat in the Anthropocene Era of the Sixth Extinction? Uprooting the Industrial Food System in order to Cultivate Ecological Sustainability and Food Justice** built on Professor González's recent engagement with the [Academy of Food Law & Policy](#) at Harvard Law School and contextualized three presentations that addressed: the possibilities of enforceable transparency rules in the food chain regarding fair labor practices and environmental impacts; the realization of food sovereignty by the international movement *La Vía Campesina*, <https://viacampesina.org/en/>; and how food oppression arguably violates the Fourteenth Amendment's promise of the equal protection of the laws. ❖



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