



Florida Tomorrow

Fredric G. Levin
College of Law



UF | FLORIDA
TOMORROW
THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



Florida Tomorrow

... and the Fredric G. Levin College of Law

From the Dean

We are all proud of our membership in the Gator Nation, and we are grateful for the enduring benefits we receive from our affiliation with the College of Law at the University of Florida.

By nearly every measure, the University of Florida Levin College of Law is an excellent law school. We have achieved exceptional quality in our programs, faculty and student body, but this would not have occurred without the generosity and loyalty of our alumni and friends.

As recent visitors to our campus know, the love of our alumni for their college of law is evident everywhere you look — from our beautiful, state-of-the-art classrooms to the elegant functionality of the Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center. Less tangible but of even greater importance is the quality of the education we offer our students, and the significant impact these students go on to have on our profession and our world.

We are proud of our tradition of preparing law students for leadership roles in the workplace, the profession, our communities, the state and the nation. What is *Florida Tomorrow*? *Florida Tomorrow* is about affirming this tradition and extending it more fully into the future. By the conclusion of the *Florida Tomorrow* campaign, we hope to add resources that will further develop and expand innovative program areas that impact policies and decisions not only at home but also throughout the world. We hope to have resources sufficient to attract and retain top faculty, support our students through enhanced programming and financial aid, and continue the transformation of our facilities into the academic space that is best suited to prepare our students to practice law and to lead in the world of tomorrow.

I invite you to read more about what your support can mean for *Florida Tomorrow* in this publication and others. I also invite your questions, and I would welcome the opportunity to discuss possibilities for partnership with your college of law further. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Dean Robert H. Jerry, II

The Promise of Tomorrow

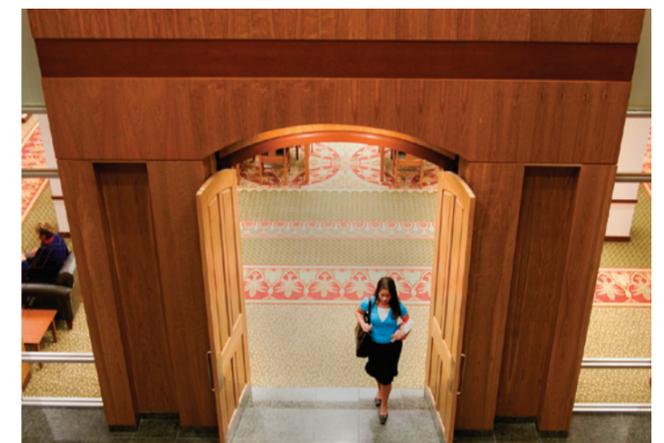
What is *Florida Tomorrow*? Here at the University of Florida's Fredric G. Levin College of Law, we believe it's an opportunity, one filled with promise and hope. It's that belief that inspires the university's capital campaign to raise more than \$1 billion.

The *Florida Tomorrow* campaign will shape the university, certainly. But its ripple effect will also touch the state of Florida, the nation and the entire world. *Florida Tomorrow* is pioneering research and spirited academic programs. It's a fertile environment for inquiry, teaching and learning. It's being at the forefront to address the challenges facing all of us, both today and tomorrow.

What is *Florida Tomorrow*? At the Levin College of Law, it's our pledge to support faculty, students and programs. It's our commitment to improve the legal system, here at home and around the globe. And it's our promise to future generations to prepare tomorrow's next great leaders.

UF College of Law *Florida Tomorrow Campaign Goals*

Faculty Support	\$14 million
<i>Endowed Chairs</i>	
<i>Endowed Professorships</i>	
Graduate Student Support	\$14 million
<i>Endowed Fellowships</i>	
<i>Endowed Scholarships</i>	
<i>Student Services</i>	
Programs & Research	\$14 million
<i>Program Areas and Centers</i>	
Campus Enhancements	\$5 million
TOTAL	\$47 million



Conservation Clinic students examine a Cedar Key clamming operation.



UF's Environmental and Land Use Law Program, under the direction of Alyson Flournoy (right), provides both academic and practical training in these closely related fields.



Florida Tomorrow is a place ... where our natural resources and rights are protected.

On Florida's shores, where erosion and development are squeezing coastal animals out of their habitats and homeowners are losing backyard beaches to the sea, UF law students drew a line in the sand.

Ryan Osborne and Heather Brown collaborated with graduate students in wildlife ecology and interdisciplinary ecology to help a sea turtle advocacy group draft legislation that put purchasers of coastal property on notice that they are buying an eroding shoreline that they share with endangered sea turtles and other vulnerable species.

That endeavor illustrates what UF's Environmental and Land Use Law Program is all about, says Alyson Flournoy, its director. The program, she explains, is meant to instill in its students vigorous independence and professionalism — essential qualities for protecting the state's natural resources against damage and contamination.

To accomplish that, the integration of land use law and environmental law is essential, she says. So is Flournoy and her team's association with UF's Center for Governmental Responsibility, as well as their ties with an array of other UF academic departments — wildlife ecology, environmental engineering, urban and regional planning, and agriculture.

Students in the Environmental and Land Use Law Program are also active in UF's Conservation Clinic, directed by Tom Ankersen. It's there that students truly take charge.

Erika Zimmerman was one of those students. She drafted a petition to UNESCO on behalf of the Belize Institute of Environmental Law and Policy to list Belize's Barrier Reef as a threatened world heritage site. Her petition, noted by both The New York Times and BBC, inspired two other petitions filed on behalf of Mount Everest and a World Heritage site in Peru.

Ankersen notes that the Conservation Clinic and its students serve as a model for international initiatives in developing countries such as Costa Rica, where a joint UF-University of Costa Rica program allows students to work across cultural boundaries. Of course, issues closer to home are also actively addressed by the Conservation Clinic.

"Our program has had demonstrable success providing state and local governments with policy approaches that have been enacted into law," he says.



Florida Tomorrow is a day ...

when all people live under the Rule of Law.

A trial lawyer, Jennifer Zedalis believes, is like an artist. Sketch an argument. Add details. Paint a picture that convinces a judge and jurors.

Like all artists, it's practice, Zedalis knows, that can make a good law student a great trial lawyer. And as director of the Trial Practice Program at the Fredric G. Levin College of Law, she's passionate about training that next generation of trial lawyers to be masters at their craft.

"The most visible lawyers in our culture are those arguing cases in front of juries," she says.

Consequently, trial lawyers represent not only their clients, but the whole profession. In order to do both effectively — to become what Zedalis calls "mature" lawyers — students in Trial Practice undergo rigorous training. In addition to traditional coursework, they attend lectures and discussions, participate in weekly workshops taught by practicing attorneys and judges, and hone their skills through one-on-one video critiques. Ethical conduct, integrity, professionalism and devotion to client are stressed. So is the need to understand increasingly complex scientific evidence, such as DNA and data from fields like engineering, forensics and medicine.

As law becomes more specialized and places more demands on its practitioners, training new trial lawyers to understand and successfully meet those demands becomes even more essential, Zedalis insists.

"The higher the standard set for the profession," she says, "the more noble the profession."

Toward that end, students completing Trial Practice — some 90-plus each semester — can intern through the State Attorney or the Public Defender's Office, representing actual clients before real judges. Or they can assist indigent members of the community through the Virgil Hawkins Civil Law Clinic. Students also compete to be on UF's Trial Team, which has won national titles three times in the last five years, including the National Civil Rights Advocacy Competition and the National Civil Trial Competition.

All that preparation pays off in the end, Zedalis says. Students are taught to think quickly, synthesize information from other disciplines, understand and apply subspecialties in law and communicate effectively and persuasively — all while adhering to the highest principles exemplified by the profession.

After all, Zedalis says, "trial practice is an art form."



Trial and appellate advocacy are the heart of a lawyer's craft. UF Law's Trial Team and its Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Team participate successfully in intramural, state and national competitions.



The Center on Children and Families has achieved national prominence and served some of our most vulnerable citizens — children — under the leadership of Barbara Bennett Woodhouse (left).

Florida Tomorrow is a belief ... that everyone deserves equal, informed and fair representation.

At the Fredric G. Levin College of Law, children are important clients. Barbara Bennett Woodhouse makes sure of it.

Woodhouse is director of the law school's Center on Children and Families. The center, established in 2001, has an ambitious vision. Woodhouse and her team see the center as a spearhead in efforts to serve Florida's most vulnerable residents: its children. To put it in simple terms, the center's mission is to make sure all neglected and abused children receive integrated help from professionals in law, social services, education and mental health.

"We make a difference," Woodhouse says, "because we are involved at every level — from the trenches to the Supreme Court."

With legal issues nowadays affecting families and children so commonplace — there are 1.2 million divorces each year and more than 21 million children involved in some form of custody or child support dispute — the need for coordinated services has never been greater, Woodhouse explains, especially when resolution and problem-solving, rather than litigation, is the goal.

To that end, UF's Center on Children and Families now includes the Child Welfare Clinic. The clinic is one of the first in the country devoted to teaching law students the skills to collaborate with physicians, nurses and social workers in a unified approach to child protection. Another program in the UF Law

Virgil Hawkin's Civil Clinics, Gator TeamChild, makes it possible for law students to learn firsthand the art and science of child advocacy. Through Gator TeamChild, UF students become Florida Supreme Court-certified legal interns and represent at-risk and indigent children in the 16-county area surrounding Gainesville. The program provides practical, ethical and interdisciplinary experience in cases involving custody disputes, delinquency, domestic violence and healthcare.

To date, some 50 graduates of the Levin College of Law have earned a Family Law Certificate, creating what Woodhouse calls a ripple effect in society. In training a new generation of child-centered advocates, Woodhouse and the other founders of UF's Center on Children and Families hope to see that salutary effect strengthen and spread.

As Woodhouse explains, the center's initial leadership role — based on the philosophy of inclusion and collaboration — might well serve as a model for other similar and much-needed state-wide initiatives.

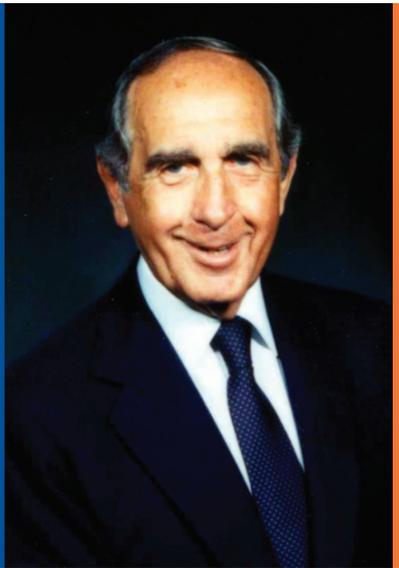


With help from students in the Pro Se Clinic Lorra Ivie was able to protect her granddaughter, Jade.



“The UF College of Law helped prepare me for my career, and it is the place that brought my late wife, Marcia, and I together. I’m very pleased with its progress, and happy to support its continued national advancement for the benefit of future generations.”

Lewis M. Schott, founder and president of LMS Securities Corp. in Palm Beach, and his late wife, Marcia Whitney Schott, both earned UF College of Law degrees in 1946.



Our Vision of Tomorrow

Nearly every aspect of modern civilization relies on the rule of law — and the decisions and counsel of generations of those who have studied it. The importance of legal education to the vitality of the rule of law cannot be overstated.

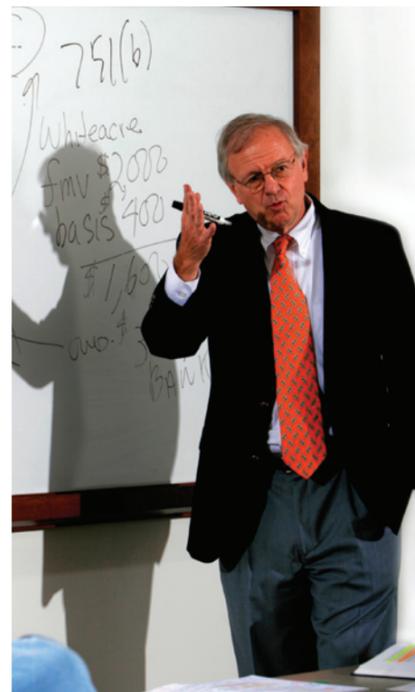
For nearly a century, the law school at the University of Florida has taught and shaped the characters and opinions of thousands of men and women who have studied here before going on to practice law and serve in leadership roles around the globe. From public policies to private contracts, from judges to captains of industry, from the courtroom to the boardroom, the Gator Nation truly is everywhere.

Your support through the *Florida Tomorrow* campaign not only has an immediate and obvious affect on your area of choice but also creates ripples of change that will resonate for many years to come.

For example, when Kevin Malone (UF Law JD '73) funded the startup of the

Conservation Clinic in the law school’s Center for Governmental Responsibility in 1999, he could not have foreseen that just six years later a law student enrolled in the clinic would be working to save Belize’s Barrier Reef or that students would soon be influencing state and local government environmental and land use law and policy before they even graduate.

What is required to both sustain this record of success and build a great law school for tomorrow?



Faculty are the heart of any academic institution. To recruit and retain the best, we must build an intellectual community rich in energy and productivity that enables individual faculty members to set and attain high professional aspirations. The best faculty do more than pass on knowledge to their students; they also ignite a lifelong passion for the law. It is vital that the practitioners and leaders of *Florida Tomorrow* have access to the best scholars and teachers we can provide.

Updated facilities are key to the acquisition of top faculty and their ability to teach, as well as to the ability of students to learn. Funds for renovations and technological enhancements and training are vital to the modern learning environment.

Other areas of great opportunity include:

► Graduate Tax Program.

The college’s premier signature program, the Graduate Tax Program is widely recognized by tax scholars and practitioners nationwide as one of the very best. Graduates continue to be principal architects of U.S. tax policies and their application, and alumni of the new LL.M. in International Taxation influence tax laws far beyond America’s shores.

► Center for Governmental Responsibility.

Faculty and students in the Center for Governmental Responsibility — Florida’s senior legal and public policy research institute — conduct research on issues relating to public policy development and implementation at the local, state, federal and international level.

► Center on Children and Families.

The Center on Children and Families promotes quality advocacy, teaching and scholarship in children’s law and policy through a team of UF faculty with expertise in criminal law, juvenile justice, psychology, conflict resolution and human rights.

► Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning.

The Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning looks toward meeting the needs of an aging population by administering the Certificate Program in Estates and Trusts Practice, integrating teaching, training, research, scholarship and public service, and advancing estate planning and elder law knowledge, professionalism, skills and policy by educating and training students and lawyers.

► Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations.

Committed to de-stigmatizing race in America and fostering communities of dialogue, the CSRRR creates and supports programs to enhance race-related curriculum development for faculty, staff and students in collegiate and professional schools.

► Environmental and Land Use Law Program.

This relatively new program has already been recognized as a national leader. As concern over the Earth’s climate and related conservation issues grows, the need for trained graduates who can knowledgeably address policies and laws in these specialized areas becomes critical for all of us.

Other areas offering significant opportunities for leveraging private support dollars include international and comparative law, clinical programs, trial advocacy, dispute resolution, study abroad, international faculty exchange programs and certificate areas.

The primary reason for the Levin College of Law’s existence, now and in *Florida Tomorrow*, is to provide an accessible, quality educational experience to its students. Florida residents should have the option to pursue the best possible legal education within their own state, and it is within our reach to make a Florida diploma one of the most highly prized in the nation. Scholarships make it possible for deserving students to pursue their studies at UF, and a proposed Loan Repayment Assistance Program will

bridge the gap between a private sector salary and one for a lawyer in the public or public interest arena, thereby supporting public-spirited graduates who aspire to the highest ranks of the “citizen-lawyer.”

Campaign support also will help future students through a strong set of services, such as career counseling, placement and financial aid counseling, and a broad range of other support activities, as well as enhanced experiential and training opportunities for students through co-curricular student organizations.

Florida Tomorrow, in short, will be when private generosity translates into the public good, and membership in the Gator Nation is recognized everywhere as being synonymous with excellence. We invite you to join us.



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