

2015-2016 Florida Law School Reports on Professionalism

The Standing Committee on Professionalism and the Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism desire to see professionalism and civility fostered and encouraged in the next generation of Florida attorneys. To further this cause, in 2012, the Center and SCOP reinstated the collection of Annual Law School Reports to serve as an exchange of ideas and programs within academia. This report seeks to gather information regarding professionalism efforts that are taking place within Florida law schools.



AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW

Ave Maria School of Law continues to build upon the values of professionalism through presentations by the Dean of Academic Affairs, the Dean of Student Affairs, and representatives from The Florida Bar at orientation. The Professional Responsibility course is a graduation requirement for all students and introduces law students to the Model Rules of Professional Responsibility as well as considers the basis and purpose for those rules. Ave Maria awards one student each year with the Mary Queen of Lawyers Award. Professionalism is an important factor in considering which student will be presented with the award.

BARRY UNIVERSITY DWAYNE O. ANDREAS SCHOOL OF LAW

Barry University School of Law seeks to help students understand that professionalism is an integral part of the legal profession in several ways. Barry has imposed a professionalism graduation requirement which states that students must participate in a minimum of six hours of professionalism enhancement programming. Further, each student is required to attend a minimum of one professionalism program each year. This innovative professionalism enhancement programming was honored with SCOP's annual Group Professionalism Award at the 2015 Annual Bar Convention's Judicial Luncheon. In addition to its professionalism enhancement programming, Barry strongly encourages law school student organizations to host and coordinate professionalism programs using the skills modules developed for that purpose. To ensure law students are receiving the tools they need, Barry pairs every student with a faculty member to become a mentor. In addition, Barry's Career Service Office collaborates with voluntary bar associations to provide law students with networking and mentoring opportunities.



FLORIDA COASTAL SCHOOL OF LAW

Florida Coastal School of Law continues to promote and instruct its law students on the importance of professionalism in the legal profession. The School offers shadowing and pro bono opportunities to encourage student involvement from the onset of law school. During orientation, students are provided with multiple sessions of professionalism training including Professionalism I (Professionalism in the Real World), Professionalism II (Professionalism and Plagiarism), and Professionalism III (Professionalism in Law School). Ericka Curran, the Director of Experiential Learning at Florida Coastal, oversees practitioner clinics that invite adjunct faculty in private practice to teach one or two-hour credit clinics on a rotating basis. All of these faculty members incorporate professionalism and ethics into their live client work and their case meetings with students. In addition, Florida Coastal provides training on appropriate courtroom attire for students participating in clinics and externships. In Fall 2015, Coastal also hosted various leaders of The Florida Bar including Ramón Abadin, President of The Florida Bar, William Schifino, President-elect, and Katherine Hurst Miller, Young Lawyers Division President-elect. Each year, the school awards the Phyllis Stansell Ethics and Professionalism Award to one 3L student who has exemplified the ideals of professional and ethical behavior while attending the College.



Dean Leticia Diaz accepting the Group Professionalism Award on behalf of Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law from Michael Schneider, past Chair of SCOP, and Gregory Coleman, past president of The Florida Bar.



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Florida International University College of Law continues to make strides in promoting professionalism to its law students. At orientation, the College of Law invites a speaker and panel to address professionalism issues, and requires law students to sign the Professionalism Oath & First Year Pledge. Michelle Mason, Senior Associate Dean, teaches the Professionalism, Ethics, and the Legal Profession course which is designed to enhance the understanding of the legal profession and professionalism standards. Florida International College of Law hosts mindfulness sessions as well as publishes a weekly Mindfulness in Life and Law Newsletter. In addition, approximately 40 student groups hosted programs focused on professionalism and professional identity over the course of the academic year. The College of Law recently established the Center for Professionalism and Ethics. The Center's purpose is to provide students with practical skills and professionalism training.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Florida State University College of Law ensures professionalism is an integral part of its law students' legal education. Each August, first year law students are



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required to attend a two-day orientation. Florida State introduced a new session to the orientation entitled “A Toolkit for Your Professional Life in the Law,” which had a panel of alumni and current law students. Regarding its curriculum, Florida State College of Law has a popular course entitled Supreme Court Role-Play where Professor Nat Stern instructs law students, through simulation exercises, how judges and lawyers should interact with one another professionally. The College of Law also hosted multiple events throughout the year. One event featured Delaware Governor Jack Markell, who discussed professionalism and civility in leadership with a group of law student leaders. In addition, there are over 30 active student organizations at the College of Law where law students are able to interact with alumni at networking events, panel discussions, and other speaking engagements.



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN SHEPARD BROAD COLLEGE OF LAW

Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law faculty and staff begin incorporating professionalism from day one of new student orientation. The first day of

orientation is named “Professionalism Day” and students are required to take The Florida Bar’s Oath of Admission and attend a professionalism workshop and programming on professionalism. Influential members of the local legal community are invited to speak to students on the importance of professionalism. The College of Law offers various workshops, clinics, and courses to accommodate students who are interested in developing their skills in litigation, transactional, or regulatory settings. In addition, Nova organizes seminars titled, “Law Center Plus,” which are designed to promote professionalism by educating students, alumni, and other members of the legal community on substantive legal issues. Nova further invited several first-year students to participate in an organized research and writing event which took place at the Broward County Courthouse and focused on participating in a judicial panel discussion regarding professionalism in adversarial writing.



Florida State University College of Law students meeting with Delaware Governor Jack Markell to discuss professionalism and civility in leadership.

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

St. Thomas University School of Law continues to include a professionalism component in its fall orientation for new law students. At the Law School, virtually every course touches on professionalism components relative to that substantive area and the faculty have adopted a policy of integrating professionalism across-the-board. Regarding professionalism events, St. Thomas School of Law has a “Professionalism Day” during the fall semester to acquaint students with the expectations of the profession and also sponsors the Peter T. Fay Inns of Court in Miami-Dade County, which includes instilling and teaching



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professionalism among its objectives. In addition, law students and faculty participate with members of the Steven R. Booher Inns of Court in Broward County, Florida, so that the students may be able to work with professionals on exercises involving many different aspects of professionalism. The Law School has certification programs in Elder Law, Environmental Sustainability, Intercultural Human Rights, and Tax Law, all of which have professionalism requirements.

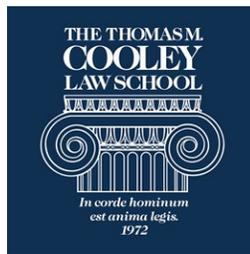
STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW



Stetson College of Law offers several unique professionalism-based programs to students. For example, in recognition of the fact that cultural competence is an essential part of professionalism, Stetson University College of Law's orientation for first-year students includes a lecture on the significance of implicit bias in the practice of law. Further, the School provides a Myers Briggs Type Indicator personality workshop to all students which features MBTI certified instructors helping students use their personality indicator as a tool for academic success. Every Monday, in partnership with Academic Success, students are offered guided mindfulness meditations designed to highlight stress relief and positive coping skills. The College additionally offers a professionalism based CLE program focused on the proper use of metadata, social media, and technology. One of the College's most successful events is an Evening of Etiquette which is co-sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the Bar and is designed to provide students with networking and etiquette skills. The College further focuses on leadership skills training by offering a comprehensive leadership development program to 100-150 students who are provided ten hours of leadership training and a leadership certificate. In this workshop, students learn about problem solving, team building, community relations, communication, and management and community service.



Stetson University College of Law's "Evening of Etiquette", held on November 2, 2015.



THE THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL

The Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School continues to promote professionalism through its orientation program, the Professionalism in Action Program, which brings students, local attorneys, and judges together to discuss the role and importance of professionalism and ethics in the study and practice of law. Cooley Law School also has a written definition of professionalism that highlights principles such as being accountable and professional, serving the community, focusing on students, and promoting an ethical school community. Throughout the year, Cooley Law School holds professionalism seminars including "Integrity in Our Communities Speaker Series" and "The Winning Edge" Program. Additional resources and programs to promote professionalism include the Ethics and Professionalism Library, the Leadership in the Law program, and Mock Interview Days.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW



The University of Florida Levin College of Law requires first-year law students to take “Introduction to Lawyering

and the Legal Profession,” which introduces the importance of the role that lawyers have in serving clients and society. This course focuses on the evolving nature of legal services, various types of law practices, the demographics of the legal profession, and the challenges lawyers may face in finding personal satisfaction in their careers. The College of Law hosts a Professionalism Week, organized in a collective effort by student organizations and the law school administration, which invites members of the legal community to come in and share advice with students regarding the professional expectations of the legal profession. In addition, the College of Law NaviGators Program is an organized event at the federal courthouse in Miami that allows current and incoming law students to meet with alumni to get advice on preparing to enter the legal profession. Lastly, the College of Law promotes professionalism through an array of seminars and workshops, including the Law and Justice Conference, Spring Boot Camp, and the Second Annual Joe Milton “Civility Matters” Luncheon.

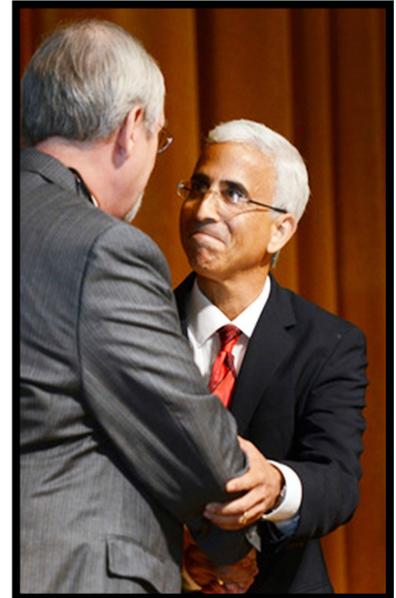
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW

The University of Miami School of Law ensures that law students’ professional life begins on this first day of law school. The Law School implemented a new format during orientation entitled, “Partnership for Professionalism” which

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL of LAW



allows students to sit with local judges and attorneys and discuss civility, ethics, and professionalism. Clinics are provided so that students may receive hands-on experience involving professionalism issues. Along with the Professional Responsibility course, law students may take Mindfulness & Leadership and or Mindfulness in Law: Cultivating Tools for Effective Practice which instruct students on the importance of professionalism and mindfulness in the practice of law. In fact, the program has been so well received that its creator, Professor Scott Rogers, was awarded the 2015 Faculty/ Administrator Professionalism Award at The Florida Bar’s 2015 Annual Judicial Reception. University of Miami School of Law continues to develop law students through the award-winning Professional Responsibility & Ethics Program by allowing them to explore issues involving the use of outsourcing, social media, e-discovery, and technology. Regarding mentoring, the Miami School of Law has established programs with various local bar associations, including the Cuban American Bar Association Mentor Program, the John W. Kozyak Minority Mentoring Program, and the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Association of Women Lawyers.



Professor Scott Rogers of the University of Miami School of Law accepting the Faculty/Administrator Professionalism award at the 2015 Judicial Luncheon.