How does your school recruit minority and/or women students?

We participate in all minority recruiting events (fairs, schools visits and conferences) that are offered.

We have also placed ads in several minority magazines, e.g., Black Esquire and Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO).

We are also a member of CLEO and sponsor a student to go through the program.

We target minority students from the Candidate Referral Service (CRS) and invite them to visit the school as well as send them postcards and e-mails informing them of the school and encouraging them to visit and apply.

We also host high school students at the Law School and attempt to educate them early in their academic and career decision making process.

Please describe any scholarship and fellowship programs for minority and/or women students organized through your school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of scholarship program</th>
<th>Deadline for application for the scholarship program</th>
<th>Scholarship award amount (U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broward County Hispanic Bar Association Scholarship</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This scholarship, matched by St. Thomas University School of Law, is presented annually to one or more Hispanic St. Thomas J.D. students preferably residing in Broward County and demonstrating scholarship leadership and financial need. This scholarship may vary in amount from year to year and be either merit- or need-based or both merit-and need-based as determined by the particular corporate sponsor providing the award for presentation through the BCHBA. The recipients are selected in late spring and recognized at the annual BCHBA Installation and Scholarship Banquet held in early summer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Scholarship award amount (U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuban American Bar Association Scholarship</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This scholarship is awarded to a Cuban American JD student who has demonstrated distinction in research, writing, community service and/or other activities of importance to the Cuban-American Community. Formal application to CABA is required. CABA selects the recipient in early summer and recognizes the recipient at a CABA event the following fall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Deadline for application for the scholarship program</th>
<th>Scholarship award amount (U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jose Angel Espino Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Jose Angel Espino '88 was an engaging member of the St. Thomas University School of Law Charter Class who passed away shortly after graduating law school. He is remembered for his tireless effort throughout law school despite his illness. This scholarship, awarded to a Hispanic student based on merit and need, was established in his memory by his aunt, Josefina I Espino, and his sister, Maria Delores "Loly" Espino, an associate professor of management at St. Thomas University.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of scholarship program</th>
<th>Deadline for application for the scholarship program</th>
<th>Scholarship award amount (U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida Association of Women Lawyers Scholarship</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each year FAWL presents one or more scholarships to a student or students the association selects from a pool of candidates identified by the Director of Student Affairs. The students must have financial need and be active in community and school activities. FAWL scholarships are awarded at the annual FAWL Judicial luncheon each spring.
**Name of scholarship program:** Haitian Lawyers Association Scholarship  
**Deadline for application for the scholarship program:** October  
**Scholarship award amount ($U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship):** $1,000.00

The Haitian Lawyers Association presents scholarships annually to St. Thomas law students of Haitian descent who exemplify commitment to serving the Haitian community and to professionalism and social justice in the practice of law. The HLA recognizes the recipients at its annual banquet.

**Name of scholarship program:** Alix Montes Book Scholarship  
**Deadline for application for the scholarship program:** October  
**Scholarship award amount ($U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship):** varies as needed

Established by Alix Montes, a 1998 graduate of the School of Law, this scholarship is designed to assist black law students, preferably of Haitian descent, who need financial assistance to purchase their books.

**Name of scholarship program:** Mary Russomanno Scholarship for Women  
**Deadline for application for the scholarship program:** October  
**Scholarship award amount ($U.S., indicate if the scholarship amount represents the amount for a single year or for entire scholarship):** $700.00

Herman Russomanno, a past president of The Florida Bar and chair of the School of Law Board of Advisors, established this scholarship in memory of his mother. This need-based scholarship is awarded to a female African-American, Pan-African or Hispanic law student.

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**Prominent Alumni/Faculty**

Please provide information about prominent minority faculty members at your school.

Professor Garcia has over 14 years of faculty teaching experience at St. Thomas. Over the years he has taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Torts, and Sixth Amendment Seminar. He has taught as a visiting professor at the American University College of Law and the Nova Southeastern Shepard Broad Law Center, and has taught courses at Florida International University Law School and Southwestern University School of Law. He has recently published a book, *The Fifth Amendment: A Comprehensive Approach* (Greenwood, 2002), has three entries in the *Oxford Companion to American Law* (2002), and articles in the *Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy* and the *University of Toledo Law Review*. Professor Garcia has served as an Assistant State Attorney. He has served as Vice Chair of the Race and Racism in Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the ABA Criminal Justice Committee and on the Editorial Board of *Human Rights Magazine* published by the ABA section of Individual Rights and Responsibility. He previously served the Law School as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from 2003-2006, and as Interim Associate Dean during the 1993-94 academic year. In those positions he served as a liaison between the School of Law faculty and administration assuming responsibility for faculty teaching assignments, class schedules, classroom assignments, application of academic policies, the academic calendar, and faculty support services, as well as general oversight of clinics, LL.M. programs, joint degree programs, the Legal Research and Writing program and the Law Review.

**John M. Kang,** Assistant Professor of Law, Ph.D. (candidate), University of Michigan, M.A., University of Michigan, J.D., U.C.L.A. School of Law, B.A., U.C. Berkeley  
John M. Kang graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with High Distinction from U.C. Berkeley. Afterwards, he attended the UCLA School of Law where he served as editor-in-chief of a law journal. He then proceeded to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor where he pursued a PhD in political science, which he expects to finish in December 2006. He has interests in constitutional law and he is completing a doctoral dissertation that seeks to defend limited forms of insincerity and hypocrisy in political discourse. His publications include: "John Locke's Political Plan, or, There's No Such Thing as Judicial Impartiality (And It's a Good Thing Too)," in *Vermont Law Review*; "The Irrelevance of Sincerity: Deliberative Democracy in the Supreme Court," in *St. Louis University Law Journal*; "On the Uses of Insincerity: Thomas Hobbes's Theory of Law and Society," in *Law & Literature*; "The Case for Insincerity" in the *Studies in Law, Politics and Society*; and "Deconstructing the Ideology of White Aesthetics," in *Michigan Journal of Race and Law*.
Stephen A. Plass, Professor of Law, B.A., Fairleigh Dickinson University, honors, J.D., Howard University School of Law, LL.M., Georgetown University Law Center

Professor Stephen A. Plass has taught at St. Thomas since 1989. His many publications include articles in the Labor Law Journal, and in the Brooklyn, Georgia State, Hofstra, Houston, Loyola of Los Angeles, San Diego, Seton Hall, Villanova, and Wyoming Law Reviews, among others. Previously, he worked in Washington, D.C., as a Senior Labor Relations Counsel for a public utility company and as Vice President for Corporate Affairs/Counsel for a corporation that worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Interamerican Development Bank, and Foreign Governments. From 1996-98, he served on the Florida New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Board, and from 1992-93 on the Board of Directors of Legal Services of Greater Miami. At St. Thomas University School of Law, Professor Plass was selected by the overall student body as Professor of the Year in 2001, serves as Chairperson of the Bar Passage Committee, has served as Chair of the Academic Standing and the Promotion and Tenure Committees, has been an Advisor to the Black Law Students’ Association and Moot Court, and teaches Collective Bargaining, Contracts, Corporations, Employment Discrimination Law, and Labor Law.

**Please provide information about prominent minority alumni from your school.**

Pedro Dijols '87
Judge Pedro Dijols, a Charter Class member (1987), is a Circuit Court judge for the 17th judicial circuit, and he is the first Puerto Rican judge in Broward County.

Judge Dijols is from Davie, Florida and was previously a partner in the law firm of Starson & Dijols, P.A., in Plantation as well as a solo practitioner. Judge Dijols received his undergraduate degree from Biscayne College in 1983.

Juan-Carlos "J.C." Planas '98
Representative J.C. Planas '98 has been a member of the Florida House of Representatives since 2002. He currently serves as the vice-chair of the Judiciary Committee and also as a member on the Business Regulation Committee, Fiscal Council, and Judiciary Appropriations Committee. Born in Miami, Representative Planas received his undergraduate degree from Florida State University, and he was an Assistant State Attorney in Miami-Dade County from 1998 to 2002.

John Quiñones '92
Representative John Quiñones '92 has been a member of the Florida House of Representatives since 2002 and is the chair of the Claims Committee. He also serves on the Justice Council and Legislative Commission on Migrant and Seasonal Labor, and is a member of the committees of Community Colleges & Workforce; Economic Development, Trade & Banking; and Finance & Tax. Representative Quiñones received his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Florida.

Victor Ramirez '01
Representative Victor Ramirez '01 has been a member of the House of Delegates of Maryland since 2003. He is a member of the Ways and Means Committee and Vice-Chair of the Law Enforcement Committee. Growing up in Maryland, Representative Ramirez received his B.A. at Frostburg State University. He also has a law practice that specializes in the area of criminal and civil litigation.

**Please provide information about prominent women faculty members at your school.**


Professor Pierre-Louis teaches in the areas of corporate law, securities law, commercial law, international monetary law, foreign economic policy, and alternate dispute resolution. Prior to joining St. Thomas's faculty, Professor Pierre-Louis was the Director of the securities Arbitration Clinic at St. John's University School of Law in New York. Prior to teaching she was an Assistant Attorney General in the Investment Protection Bureau of New York State Attorney General, Elliot Spitzer, where she enforced state securities laws against the financial services industry. Professor Pierre-Louis interned for Federal District Judge Allynne Ross in the Eastern District of New York and Judge George Bundy Smith of the New York State Court of Appeals, Professor Pierre-Louis began her legal career as a corporate associate at Pillsbury Winthrop in New York City, where she represented multi-national corporations in cross-border financings and securities offerings. Professor Pierre-Louis has taught in the executive M.B.A. programs at Columbia University and New York University. She has written articles in the securities regulation and alternate dispute areas entitled, "Controlling a Financial Jurassic Park: Obtaining Jurisdiction over Derivatives by Controlling Illegal Foreign Currency Boiler-Rooms" and "No Where to Run: The Impact of Sarbanes-Oxley on Securities Regulation."
**Tamara F. Lawson**, Assistant Professor of Law, B.A., Claremont McKenna College, J.D., University of San Francisco School of Law, LL.M., Georgetown University Law Center, with distinction, S.J.D. (candidate), Georgetown University Law Center Professor Lawson teaches Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Evidence. Formerly, she was Deputy District Attorney at the Clark County District Attorney's Office in Las Vegas, Nevada, from 1996-2002. As a criminal prosecutor, Professor Lawson served on the Special Victim's Unit for Domestic Violence. She has successfully argued multiple cases before the Nevada Supreme Court, including death penalty appeals. In addition to general criminal cases, Professor Lawson, in her capacity as Deputy D.A. handled environmental crimes, involuntary mental commitments, and bail bond hearings. Moreover, Professor Lawson participated in public and televised presentations on various controversial topics in criminal law, including hate crimes, capital punishment and sentencing, and the mental health of criminal defendants. She has published a lead article in the *American Journal of Criminal Law*, entitled "Can Fingerprints Lie?"

**Amy D. Ronner**, Professor of Law, B.A., Beloit College, M.A., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, J.D., University of Miami, magna cum laude

Amy D. Ronner has taught at St. Thomas University School of Law since 1992. In 2002-03, she was a Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Miami School of Law. With a background and several degrees in Creative Writing and English Language and Literature, she also has taught English as a Teaching Fellow at the University of Michigan and as a Lecturer at the University of Miami. A prolific author, she has published several books as well as articles in the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*; the *Harvard Women's Law Journal*; the *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*; and the Arizona, Buffalo, California Western, and U.C. Davis Law Reviews, among others. After graduation from law school, Professor Ronner clerked for The Hon. Eugene P. Spellman, U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, and later was an associate in commercial litigation and appellate work for a few years, including time with Holland and Knight. Since 1995, she has been a Board Certified Appellate Lawyer; in 1997, she was selected as a Leading Florida Attorney in Civil Appellate Law by the American Research Corporation; and in 1998 she was elected a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation in recognition of professional attainment, distinguished service, and commitment. A popular presenter, she has spoken at numerous conferences all across the United States, as well as in The Netherlands and Portugal. At St. Thomas University School of Law, Professor Ronner has been active in many ways, including service as Faculty Advisor to the Moot Court Board and membership on the Academic Standing, Curriculum, Library, and Promotion and Tenure Committees; currently, she teaches Property.

**Please provide information about prominent women alumnae from your school.**

**Mikki Canton** ’87, a shareholder in the firm of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A., was recently included in the 2007 edition of the *Best Lawyers in America*. This year Mikki also hosted a meeting where she discussed how the legal profession can promote civility in society. In December of 2005 Mikki received the American Jewish Committee's Learned Hand Award in recognition of the achievements in the legal professions and her dedication to charitable community endeavors, and in this year she received the Valor Award from the American Diabetes Association as well as an honor at the first annual Phenomenal Women Awards hosted by Mujer magazine.

Judge **Margaret T. Courtney** ’92 has presided in Hillsborough County since 2005. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Courtney was a Senior Assistant County Attorney with Hillsborough County and was also a state prosecutor with Polk and Hillsborough County and a former federal defense attorney in Fort Lauderdale and Miami. Judge Courtney received her undergraduate degrees from the University of South Florida.

Judge **Victoria Del Pino** ’99, a former traffic magistrate in the 11th judicial circuit, recently won an election for Miami-Dade County Court Judge. Growing up in Little Havana, Judge Del Pino served as Vice-Chair of the Florida Bar Family Law Rules Committee and is on the board of directors for the Cuban American Bar Association in Miami-Dade County. Judge Del Pino attended Florida International University to obtain a Bachelor's of Science degree.

Judge **Nuria Saenz de la Torre** ’97 is a county court judge, civil division, in Miami-Dade County. Previously, she was a general magistrate in the family division of the 11th judicial circuit. Judge Saenz de la Torre received her undergraduate degree from Barry University.
Student Organizations

Please provide information on your school diversity student and alumni organizations. For example, student-run associations and journals/publications.

Intercultural Human Rights Law Review
The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is an annual journal of international human rights scholarship affiliated with the St. Thomas University Intercultural Human Rights Program. Our goal is to publish well-written, cutting-edge human rights scholarship by academics, practitioners, and students. In so doing, the Journal provides a forum for the exchange of ideas from a variety of international perspectives.

The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is committed to exploring new directions and perspectives and to being a useful resource for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners. In order to be the best resource possible, The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review chooses to focus on one topic per issue. The most recent issue focused on Human Trafficking.

Finally, The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review's mission extends beyond publication. The Journal strives to facilitate activism and outreach as well as scholarship. In furtherance of this goal, we host an annual colloquium and panels focused on the annual topic. In 2005, The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review hosted a symposium, "The Scourge of Human Trafficking." In addition, we sponsor numerous intimate discussions and debates on a wide variety of international human rights issues.

Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition
The Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition revolves around a simulated court proceeding, in which teams of students prepare written pleadings with respect to a problem of international human rights law and policy and present their arguments in oral argument before the International Court of Justice.

Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
The St. Thomas Chapter of APALSA is a member of the National Asian Pacific American Law School Association (NAPALSA), which is the student branch of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA). APALSA is dedicated to Asian Pacific American issues in the legal community, such as immigration, property rights, employment law, and civil rights. APALSA is working to create a network of Asian Pacific American attorneys, professors, and law students in South Florida.

Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
The purpose of the Black Law Student Association is to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of black law students and to advocate professional competence. Further, it educates law students and attorneys about the needs of the black community and encourages assistance whenever possible. The organization also sponsors a variety of academic and social activities.

Catholic Student Lawyers Guild
The object of the Guild is to promote the social, intellectual, temporal and spiritual welfare of its members; to uphold the highest standards and best traditions of the legal profession in America; and to promote the study and application of Catholic principles to modern problems.

Christian Legal Society (CLS)
The Christian Legal Society of St. Thomas University ("CLS") is affiliated with the national, non-denominational CLS organization comprised of over 3,000 Christian attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students around the country. CLS was designed to provide a network for Christian lawyers and law students by challenging them to incorporate their faith into their chosen profession. This is done via local fellowship groups, national conferences and publications, as well as through the practice of law by its affiliates. CLS hosts bi-weekly Bible study luncheons, as well as other events and programs.

Florida Association for Woman Lawyers (FAWL)
The Florida Association for Women Lawyers was established to assist women in the legal profession. Membership in this organization is open to male and female students. The law school chapter of FAWL sponsors seminars and lectures of special interest to women students. FAWL also offers scholarships to qualified students.

Gay and Lesbian Law Student Association (GALLSA)
GALLSA is an organization of gay and lesbian law students committed to overcoming discrimination in the job market based on sexual orientation and to providing career opportunities.

Hispanic American Law Society
The goal of this organization is to bring its members closer to the Hispanic American legal community through functions with local attorneys, judges, community leaders, and other Hispanic American Law Society chapters.
National Jewish Law Students Association
The organization has co-sponsored (with the International Law Society) a visit from the Consul General of Israel. To establish relationships with other Jewish Law Societies, the organization has tri-law events with Jewish organizations at other law schools. The goal of the society is to further its presence within the Miami community by sponsoring speaker sand activities. A tradition has been started at the School of Law to hold a Seder at Passover to which the whole law school community is invited.

St. Thomas More Catholic Law Society
The purpose of the St. Thomas More Society is to focus on community service and promote the highest standards of ethics, civility, human dignity, justice, professional knowledge and skill in the practice of law, with the encouragement of traditional Catholic values within the St. Thomas Law community. Our goal includes conducting an annual Red Mass, reminding us that we should become outstanding members of the legal community, while exercising our Catholic values.

Please also provide information on any classes and concentrations that focus on issues related to women or minorities, such as Civil Rights Law.

ELDER LAW explores the growing needs of the elderly throughout the nation and the legal response to those needs including Federal and State responses and Legislation. Topics covered include demographics of the elder population, ethical issues in representation age discrimination in employment, income maintenance, health care, long-term care, housing, guardianship, property management, health care decision making, and elder abuse neglect and crime.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION LAW The study of substantive rules of federal law in employment discrimination, blending the constitutional and statutory sources of employment discrimination law with the rapidly developing case law. Employment discrimination in the major classifications of race, sex, age, and national origin are analyzed and studied especially in light of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the equal employment Opportunity Act of 1972.

FAMILY LAW The study of the law of marriage in depth including who may marry and the constitutionality of both substantive and procedural restrictions on the right to marry. Marital agreements including ante-nuptial and post-nuptial contracts are examined. Divorce and the role of counsel in dissolution of marriage are examined, including issues such as jurisdiction, custody, visitation, support, property division, and modification and enforcement of court orders. Negotiation, mediation, and conciliation are also examined. Child neglect, torts and crimes, children born out of wedlock, and adoption are included in this course. The role of the family, alternative living arrangements and problems caused by new reproductive techniques are also discussed.

HEALTH LAW provides an overview of organizational issues of health care delivery with an emphasis on the diverse values and social policies which influence the development of health care law with special attention given to the role of law in promoting and/or eliminating disparities in health status and health care based on categories such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability and social-economic status.

IMMIGRATION LAW An overview of the laws, theory, practice, and procedures that enable aliens to enter, to reside in, and ultimately to become citizens of the United States. Legal and social aspects of this process, including visas, detention, exclusion, deportation, judicial review, and citizenship by birth and naturalization are examined.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS examines the interrelationships between modern concepts of Health and Human Rights from an international perspective and explores four aspects of the relationship: the impact of health policies, program and practices on human rights; the health impact of violations of human rights of women and children; the synergistic relationship between health and human rights; and the relationship between medicine and medical care providers with human rights, including issues of experimentation on human subjects.

JUVENILE LAW An examination of the problems related to how courts deal with juveniles. The emphasis is on the jurisdictional process of the juvenile courts over minors accused of offenses that would be criminal if the person were an adult. Other areas covered include court treatment of juvenile status offenders, and non-criminal conduct, which raises state concerns about inappropriate juvenile behavior. Finally, there is some limited coverage of juvenile dependency proceedings.

LABOR LAW The federal law of labor relations, including the relevant Constitutional provisions, the National Labor Relations Act, the Sherman Antitrust Act, the Clayton Antitrust Act, and the Norris and LaGuardia Act are examined. Selected topics include unfair labor practices, picketing, strikes, organization and representation of employees, federal preemption, collective bargaining, antitrust, and labor arbitration.

WORKERS COMPENSATION A study of the statutory rules governing liability for personal injuries and occupational diseases, with emphasis on the Florida workers compensation statutes.
SEMINARS:

DISABILITY LAW AND POLICY examines case law and legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which requires reasonable accommodation of people with disabilities in employment, education, housing, transportation and health care.

RACE AND LAW is a survey of racial pattern in American law, focusing on the interconnection of race and law through the study of case law, statutes, and the works of historians and critical race theorists in such areas as public facilities, voting rights, criminal justice, protest, public education, housing and environmental justice.

SEXUAL IDENTITY AND THE LAW addresses the emerging field of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender-related-litigation and includes the history of sexual identity in law, the humanities, and the social sciences; workplace discrimination; sexual orientation discrimination and the equal protection clause; the debate over same-sex marriage, domestic partnership, and legal recognition of non-marital relationships; anti-sodomy laws; the constitutional rights of gay students and gay political organizations; sexual minorities and human rights; legal protections available to gay parents (both biological and adoptive); and the legal status of hates crimes and anti-gay referenda.

WOMEN AND THE LAW gives a perspective on the law's approach to social policy issues relevant to women including occupational inequality in the workplace, no-fault divorce, child custody and child support, pornography, the laws of rape and domestic violence, with special focus on issues unique to top Native American and black women.

Courses offered in the LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights (available as electives to all J.D. candidates):

THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES addresses the basics of international refugee law, including the gaps within the law, and the various issues surrounding the protection of refugees and an in-depth examination of the various international attempts to meet the problems of those forced to move due to persecution or armed conflict, including the protection and security of refugee women and children.

WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD explores issues arising from the universal and regional legal instruments designed to protect the rights of women and the rights of the child, including, but not limited to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well their various protocols.

Career Opportunities

Please describe any diversity recruiting events for employers recruiting minority and/or women students at or near your school.

St. Thomas participates in various minority job fairs including the Southeastern Minority Job Fair, The National Black Prosecutors Job Fair, Lavendar Law Job Fair, the ABA Judicial Clerkship Program for minority students. We also coordinate the Professional Opportunities Program. We participate in minority mentoring programs, including a program through the Cuban American Bar Association among others. We have partnerships with various minority volunteer bar associations including the Broward Hispanic Bar Association, Cuban American Bar Association, the Caribbean Bar Association, Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association, T.J. Reddick Bar Association, and the Asian Pacific Bar Associations.

Strategic Plan and Diversity Leadership

The Mission of the Law School

St. Thomas University School of Law is part of a university sponsored by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Miami. The mission of the University is to teach and prepare its students, in a personalized, caring, environment under Catholic auspices, to contribute their talents to concerns for peace, freedom, justice, dignity of the individual, and the betterment of humanity. The School of Law embraces the mission of the University and furthers that mission by:

Supporting and encouraging members of the law school community to explore and acknowledge the significance of Judeo-Christian moral and religious principles to the rule of law and to the legal profession;
Valuing difference, affirmatively welcoming to the law school community a richly diverse group representative of our pluralistic society;

Supporting and encouraging all persons in the law school community to examine their own personal values and, in the finest tradition of professionalism, to dedicate their professional lives to the service of others; and,

Creating and nurturing relationships, in the furtherance of world peace and justice, with and among our international neighbors in the global community.

The mission of St. Thomas University School of Law supports the intellectual and spiritual life of those within its community. The School of Law effectuates its mission by adhering to rigorous academic standards fortified by the recognition that moral and religious precepts are relevant to the practical and ethical issues that confront all lawyers.

The Mission of St. Thomas University

St. Thomas University is a dynamic community celebrating and respecting its diversity. It is sponsored by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Miami. The University continues the Catholic tradition in higher education by placing a priority on excellence in teaching and encouraging service and research. St Thomas University is student centered. It offers quality undergraduate, graduate and professional studies programs. These programs emphasize life-long and value-oriented education by sharing concerns for the natural environment and dignity of the person. The University works in partnership with business, government and the South Florida community.

How does your school’s leadership communicate the importance of diversity of your student body, faculty and administration?

St. Thomas University has a diversity committee made up of faculty and administration from the main university and the law school. The St. Thomas University Diversity Committee aims to affirm and guide diversity efforts for the University. As part of its activities this year, in cooperation with several University and School of Law units as well as corporate sponsors, the Committee initiated a "Diversity Writing Competition."

St. Thomas University School of Law has hosted the Florida Bar's Diversity Symposium, our own Tribal Sovereignty symposia, and regularly supports community events such as the Minority Mentoring Picnic.

Please provide any additional information regarding your school’s diversity initiatives that you wish to share.

St. Thomas University School of Law is currently ranked the #1 law school in the U.S. conferring degrees upon Hispanic law students by *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*.

St. Thomas University School of Law is also ranked 8th Best Environment for Minority Students by the *Princeton Review* and is tied for 8th place in *U.S. News & World Report*’s Law School Diversity Index.