



# UB LAWFORUM

*The Magazine of the  
University at Buffalo Law School  
The State University of New York*

## A Historic Visit to Buffalo

Court of Appeals  
Invited by UB Law  
Alumni Association

FALL 2005

*UB Law Forum*

Ilene R. Fleischmann  
Editor

Contributing photographers: Janet Charles, Don Dannecker, K.C. Kratt, Mark Mulville, Mickey Osterreicher, Associated Press

*UB Law Forum* is mailed free to alumni, faculty, students and friends of the University at Buffalo Law School. We would love to hear your comments and suggestions. Please address all correspondence to:

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Cover photo: Left to right, Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Hon. Susan Phillips Read and Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo of the New York State Court of Appeals when the seven judges met in session in downtown Buffalo.

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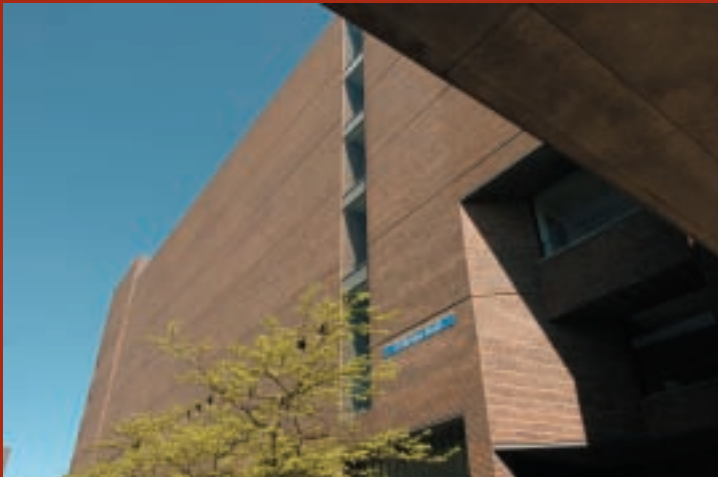
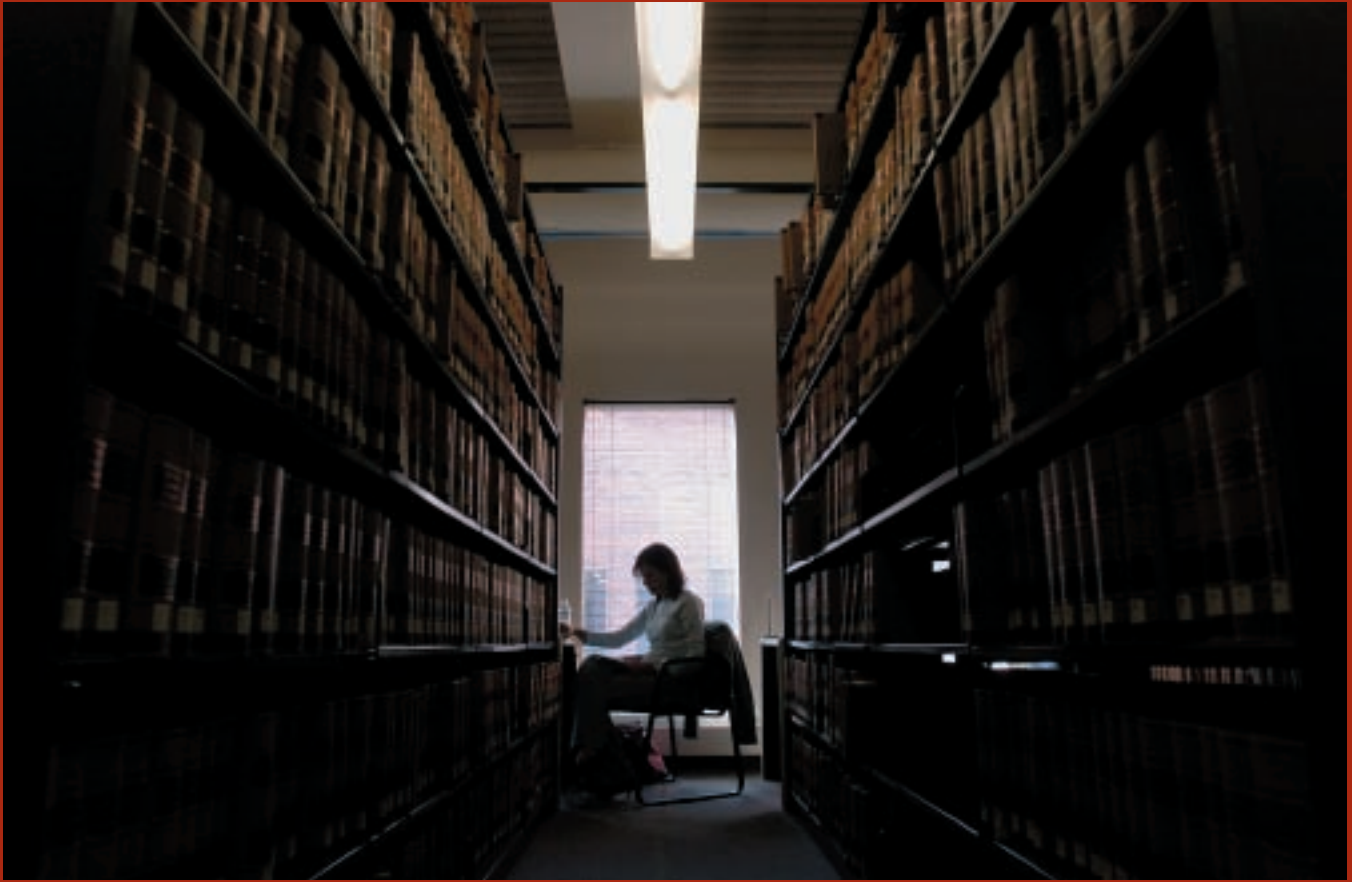
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## Message from the Dean



# A toast to our progress

In many respects you are what you look like. Through the generosity of alumni, we are restoring the professional environment of the Law School to the level that our students deserve. We are now well on our way to presenting an appearance that is commensurate with our educational quality. Last month, I was privileged to participate in the third classroom renaming ceremony in O'Brian Hall when members of the Hodgson Russ law firm cut a ribbon opening the newly spruced-up Room 106. Previously, Tony Renaldo '50 and Bill Niese '61 also came to O'Brian for ceremonies when we rededicated classrooms in their honor. We anticipate two additional renaming celebrations this year—one for Harvey Kaminski and one for Gordon and Gretchen Gross. All of these classroom renovations and namings recognize generous gifts to the Law School, and all of us—especially the students—deeply appreciate it. Our next major project will be the lower level of O'Brian Hall, which we hope to convert to recreational space and student offices for our many student organizations.

I am especially happy to report that our Annual Fund total this year exceed-

ed our goal of \$750,000 and reached \$800,610. Most importantly, over 25 percent of our 8,900 alumni made contributions. That is a higher rate of participation than many of the elite Law Schools.

We are delighted that one of our longtime faculty stars, Lucinda Finley, has been appointed vice provost for faculty affairs for the university. She will remain a faculty member of the Law School and will continue to teach in the Law School. Another one of our old friends, Peter Pitegoff, has moved on to the University of Maine Law School, where he will serve as dean. We wish him and his family all our best.

As you read through this issue of the 2005 *Law Forum*, I know you will be impressed by the scope and quality of our programs, the accomplishments of our faculty and students and the generosity of our wonderful donors. All of us at the Law School hope you share our sense of pride in our school.



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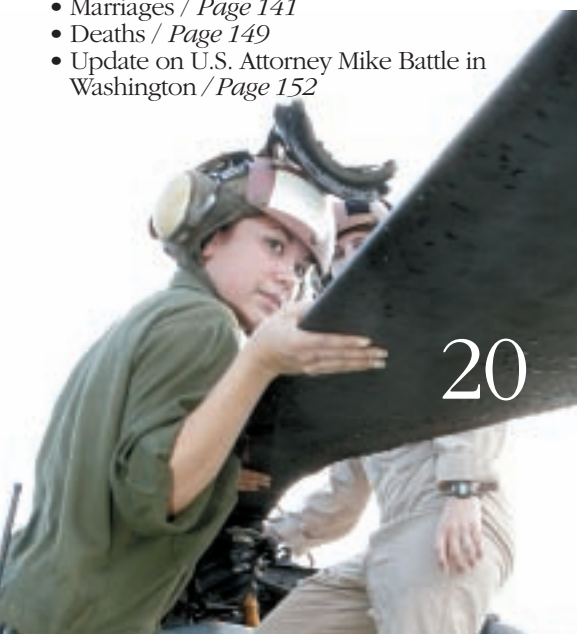


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## Jurist, colleague, friend

*Hon. Matthew J. Jasen '39 reflects on Chief Justice Rehnquist's life*

**W**illiam H. Rehnquist, 16th chief justice of the United States, died Sept. 3 of thyroid cancer. He was 80 years old.

Rehnquist's death resonated through the legal world and set in motion a chain of events that recently saw

Judge John Roberts confirmed as the nation's top jurist. But for one alumnus of UB Law School, Rehnquist's death hit home on a personal level as well.

Hon. Matthew J. Jasen '39, retired justice of the New York State Court of Appeals, was a friend of Rehnquist's. He tells of a legal scholar whose warmth and humor belied the justice's stern demeanor on the bench of the nation's highest court.

*UB Law Forum* asked Judge Jasen to think back over the years of his friendship with Rehnquist. Following is that reminiscence:

**M**y first meeting with Rehnquist was in the American Law Institute, where we were both members. It meets twice a year in Washington. Many times he used to open the meetings, as the chief justice. We talked, and we would sometimes have lunch together in Washington.

In 1981, during the time I was on the Court of Appeals, one of my opinions went up on appeal because a federal question was involved. It involved child pornography, *People v. Ferber*. The court decided to declare a law passed by New York State unconstitutional because it

was overly broad. I dissented in that case. It went up to the Supreme Court and they reversed it, nine-zip. Even the so-called liberals on the Supreme Court ruled for reversal. That was a time when you might say our real friendship began, because Rehnquist agreed with my writing, and he told me so.

We met in an official capacity as members of a moot court panel at Syracuse University. So-called liberal students were picketing him because of his views as a conservative judge. There we got to be very close.

Then we sat on another moot court at Boston College and I got to know him even better. The third time we sat together on a moot court was at Notre Dame. How they select them, I do not know, but we happened to be picked for the same groups.

Then another case came up in the midst of our deliberations in the Court of Appeals, in 1985. That was *New York v. P.J. Video*. It also was a question of whether the seizure order for seizure of pornographic material was adequate and whether there was reasonable cause for

believing these materials were pornographic. The court as a whole agreed that the order was inadequate, and they quashed the whole proceeding. I dissented, and that also had a federal question and went to the Supreme Court. And that, too, was reversed.

Rehnquist would mention it to me at the ALI meeting: "Hey, that was some opinion you wrote. We agreed with it, too." That sort of thing.

After I left the court, I arranged for him to speak at Canisius College. He spoke to a standing-room-only crowd and was well received.

**I** took him on a tour the day after he spoke at Canisius. He made arrangements with Professor (Peter) Galie and another professor and me, to travel with him the next morning. We were going to tour the Niagara Highway on the Canadian side, the one that runs from Fort Erie to Niagara Falls. It was the scene of a War of 1812 battle. He was a history buff, and he wanted to see the actual terrain where the British came down to the gorge and crossed the Niagara.

He had talked to the other professor and said, "Of course, the dress will be casual." But I did not know about that. So in the morning I came to pick him up, the professors were there, and they were dressed very casually. When he came off the elevator, I could hardly recognize him. He had on Army fatigues and a little fisherman's hat.

So we got in the car. He had back trouble, so he sat in the front and I sat in the back; the driver was Professor Galie, and the other professor was in the back





Hon. Matthew J. Jasen '39, retired justice of the New York State Court of Appeals, with William H. Rehnquist, 16th chief justice of the United States

with me. We got to the border and they asked the usual questions, where are you from, where were you born. And Professor Galie said, "We are taking the chief justice of the Supreme Court on a tour of the War of 1812 Niagara Highway site." The customs agent looked inside the car, looked us all over, looked at me and said, "Welcome to Canada, Judge!" Because I was the only one dressed up.

Rehnquist told that story many times, on himself. He had a great sense of humor, but he was reserved. He was very warm once you got to know him.

I wrote him a letter when he went through his confirmation for chief justice. He had quite a going-over by the senators. He went through hell, really; he was exhausted. Three or four days they ques-

tioned him. But they finally confirmed him.

Then when I left the bench, he had occasion to make an appointment to the position of special master to the Supreme Court. In a case in 1987, he appointed me to serve as special master in *State of South Carolina v. James Baker*, secretary of the treasury. The special master files a report, and the report is acted on by the Supreme Court, either for the report or against it.

The issue there was a federal rule that if a state government wanted their bonds to be tax-free for federal taxes, they had to be named bonds, not bearer bonds. There were millions and millions of dollars involved; people would pass them on to

*"I was just very upset when I learned that he had cancer. I wrote him a letter and he answered it by a phone call. He said, 'I am going to stick with business right up to the end. As long as I am able to handle the job, I am going to stay on the court.'"*

their sons and daughters in their estates, and the government was being cheated.

In 1988 he appointed me as special master a second time. This is unusual – there are only one or two a year. That was a border dispute between Illinois and Kentucky, over where the border was in the Ohio River. Because the river wanders over 200 years, and the low-water mark had changed. The reason for the dispute was never brought out in the course of the hearing, but it was that Illinois wanted to introduce gambling ships. And they won; Kentucky lost.

So again, he reviewed those two cases and agreed with my writing. He was very proud of me. He said, "I like the way you write and the way you decide cases." So I was four out of four.

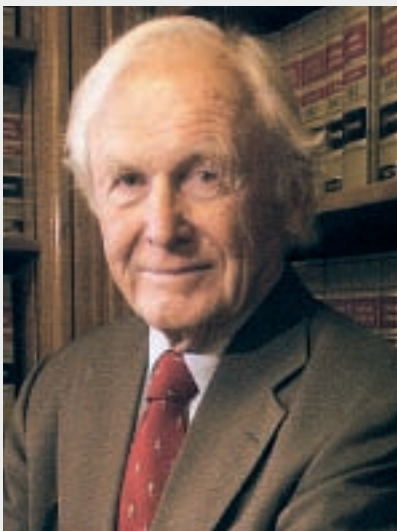
We exchanged Christmas cards and occasional letters. When I lost my wife, he wrote me a note. When he lost his wife, I wrote him.

I was just very upset when I learned that he had cancer. I wrote him a letter and he answered it by a phone call. He said, "I am going to stick with business right up to the end. As long as I am able to handle the job, I am going to stay on the court." And he did. He had some difficulties, some trouble speaking, but his mind was clear.

He was very private in his life. He limited his friendships off the court. But he could endear himself to a lot of people. He was very cordial, very warm, contrary to his general appearance. He appeared to be stern, but he was not stern at all. He conducted his sessions with a certain decorum; he managed the court beautifully. I was very fond of him.

# Alumni Profiles

## UB Alumni Association honors two UB Law alumni



Hon. John T. Curtin '49, U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, and Kenneth A. Manning '77, partner in the Buffalo-based law firm Phillips Lytle LLP

The University at Buffalo this spring conferred honors on two UB Law School graduates for their service to the community and the University. **Hon. John T. Curtin '49**, U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, was honored with the Community Leadership Medal; and **Kenneth A.**

**Manning '77**, a longtime partner in the Buffalo-based law firm Phillips Lytle LLP, received the Philip B. Wels Outstanding Service Award.

"His longtime tenure in one of the nation's busiest federal courts (ranked sixth out of 94 in number of pending cases) has made Curtin well nigh irreplaceable," *UB Today* magazine noted in announcing the judge's award. "His judicial attentions – in landmark cases

dealing with Love Canal, the Attica prison riots and the desegregation of Buffalo's schools, among others – have contributed to his stature as a jurist of eminence."

The magazine noted Curtin's concern for those who find themselves in

the judicial system for the first time, and said that his sentencing decisions, rather than strictly adhering to federal sentencing guidelines, have always been tempered by the defendant's prospects for better conduct in the future.

The Community Leadership Medal is presented in recognition of, and in appreciation for, outstanding accomplishments in making the UB community a better place to live and work.

A letter of nomination from Dean Nils Olsen said of Curtin, "He has presided with wisdom and courage over some of the most important cases in the history of this area, and his decisions have had a significantly positive impact upon the residents of Western New York and beyond."

Olsen noted in particular the judge's careful stewardship of the 1976 Buffalo school desegregation case: "Curtin's patient, sensitive monitoring of that case for 20 years helped create what was widely acclaimed as the model for integration of a major public school system. At a time when the quality of Buffalo's schools was deteriorating, Curtin's order stemmed white flight and gave all Buffalo children a chance at a better education. By involving parents in the process, he skillfully and carefully helped create a program of magnet schools that became the national and international model."

The Philip B. Wels Award is given to those "who have contributed to and advanced the University for a specific purpose, or served UB in a voluntary capacity for a significant period of time."

Manning, who received his undergraduate degree in engineering from UB in 1974, was recognized partly for



*"He has presided with wisdom and courage over some of the most important cases in the history of this area, and his decisions have had a significantly positive impact upon the residents of Western New York and beyond."*

*— Dean Nils Olsen, speaking of Judge Curtin*

his volunteer advocacy work in Albany on behalf of UB, the Law School and the School of Engineering. Indeed, his ties to the latter are more than historical: He is completing a master's degree in engineering at UB.

"Manning seems to value the ability to give more than any other aspect of his personal and professional life," said *UB Today*. "He not only gives his time to UB, but he also gives his strategic acumen."

"I was honored to receive any award named after Phil Wels," Manning told *UB Law Forum*. "He has contributed so dramatically to UB over so many years. I have tried to emulate some of his efforts to try to move UB forward in ways I can contribute, with respect to my time and my effort."

"The University is a fabulous resource for the community, and I would like to see that continue and grow, especially under our new leadership."

# Three and counting

## *State Bar Real Property Section has UB Law alums lined up for service*

**T**hree in a row! That was UB Law School's scorecard for the chair of the Real Property Section of the New York State Bar Association. One of the state bar's most important sections, it is also the largest – it includes more than 5,000 members. For three successive terms, its chair has been a UB Law alumnus.

The list begins with **John Privitera '77**, chair of the section in 2002-03; **Matthew J. Leeds '77**, in 2003-04; and **Dorothy H. Ferguson '87**, in 2004-05. "Not only is that a frightening coincidence," Leeds says tongue-in-cheek, "but each of us is from a distinct part of the state and in a different-size practice."

The Real Property Section comprises attorneys with interests in real estate law and law that affects real property transactions, such as environmental law. It is charged with advancing the cause of legal reform in this area, as well as public service and professional development.

The three-in-a-row coincidence, says Leeds, "was so hidden from us that none of us realized it until the third term. We were not in touch. We just happened to meet in this organization."

Leeds practices in the area of sophisticated real estate law, with a specialty in condominium and co-op law, as a partner in the New York City-based firm Bryan Cave. He says of his work with the Real Property Section: "It is very rewarding. The Executive Committee is composed of people who all contribute to different kinds of projects. Not until you are actually the person who is fully responsible do you realize you have to be that much more decisive and circumscribed in what you do."

The chairmanship, he said, is a lot of work, but pays benefits. "What you are doing helps you professionally," Leeds said, "both in terms of contacts, education and visibility. You learn a lot about things

that are happening in your area of the law."

Privitera, who practices with McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, in Albany, started working with the Real Property Section on environmental liability issues. He noted that serving as chair of the section means designing and executing two Continuing Legal Education programs, work for which UB Law prepared him.

"When I was at Buffalo," he said, "I was a teaching assistant for a professor when I was a third-year student, and I have always given one or two lectures at different law schools each semester. That has helped me maintain my interest in CLE. Becoming a leader of a section is in large part working on Continuing Legal Education projects."

Of the succession of UB Law alums as chairs, he said, "It is a feather in the school's cap, because it has been one of the biggest sections in the Bar Association. We work hard on legislation, practice issues and ethics issues. It is a good group of smart lawyers to work with."

For her part, Ferguson – who is in a solo practice in Rochester – said, "The chair of the section is offered a wonderful opportunity to work with the best and brightest real property attorneys in New York State. Although I can't pinpoint any particular reason why the three of us chaired the section consecutively, perhaps the fact that UB is a state school attracts students inclined to volunteerism."

"Also," she said, "the culture of the Law School – which is an incredibly friendly and supportive environment—possibly has something to do with it. Certainly I enjoyed my three years there immensely and have greatly enjoyed my real property practice over the last 18 years. Anyone making the commitment required of a NYSBA section chair would have to be quite enthusiastic about his or her area of practice."

# Alumni Profiles



## GOOD ADVICE

### *The Dean's Advisory Council grows in numbers and ambition*

**I**n the elegant confines of the University's Poetry and Rare Books Room, the gathering had all the seriousness of a board meeting and all the camaraderie and enthusiasm of a barn-raising. Everyone was pulling together to get something done for the Law School. The presenters – two law professors, the Law School dean and the School of Management dean – were

looking for reactions to an initiative to place UB Law School students for a semester in

new international-law educational institute in New York City. The ideas came fast and furious:

Have you thought about Toronto as well?

Maybe this could be a summer session so that it would integrate with the normal cycle of the job search?

We should look at employment opportunities beyond law firms, opening up a lot of opportunities and contacts

outside the typical law firm group.

How can we take advantage of employers who offer tuition assistance programs?

How will we make sure that site visits to investment banking firms are meaningful and not just touristy?

This is the Dean's Advisory Council, a group of 46 prominent UB Law School alumni (and 14 emeritus members) who volunteer their time, resources, energies

Thomas R. Bremer '79, immediate past chair, left, and Kenneth B. Forrest '76, chair

and brainpower to advance the mission of the school.

Established in 1990 during the deanship of David B. Filvaroff and led by Gerald S. Lippes, the Council has grown into a formidable force for leveraging the Law School's influence in the wider legal community. It meets twice a year – once in Buffalo and once in New York City.

"The Dean's Advisory Council provides me with informed and meaningful input into the decision-making process on issues ranging from curriculum development to the financing of the Law School," said Dean Nils Olsen. "Council members have been extraordinarily helpful throughout. They have a broad range of sophisticated experience and are willing to share that experience and knowledge with us as we move forward. They have become indispensable."

Two recent initiatives of the Dean's Advisory Council demonstrate how the group is making a difference.

The first is an effort to develop an alumni leadership group in the Washington, D.C., area, where three Council members live and work. In the spring of



2005, those three members, plus two members from Buffalo, the dean and a number of staff members visited D.C. for a networking and education project. They had one-on-one meetings with UB Law alums who were partners in major law firms, and joined 18 of these attorneys at a lunch with the dean.

"We have found that alumni often do not have up-to-date detailed knowledge of the workings and accomplishments of the Law School," said Deborah J. Scott, UB Law's vice dean for development, who works extensively with the Dean's Advisory Council. "We are planning to replicate this model elsewhere in the country. New York City will be next."

**T**he second recent effort is the establishment of the Dean's Advisory Council Scholarship, a full-tuition scholarship designed to attract a top student to the Law School who might otherwise go elsewhere.

"Private law schools are making very attractive scholarship offers," Scott said. "Until now, we have had few admissions scholarships, and that has made it difficult to compete for the very best students."

Outgoing Council chair Thomas R. Bremer '79 asked members to contribute \$500 each, and the scholarship fund was established. Its initial beneficiary is first-year law student Priscilla E. Hampton.

Also, a mentoring program established by the Council under the direction of Robert B. Conklin '68, former president of Hodgson Russ LLP, is going strong in its third year, providing each incoming law student with a professional mentor from the Western New York legal community.

"The Dean's Advisory Council as a group has considerably evolved," Scott said. "Until 1998, our time was spent educating members about the school's curriculum, finances, administration, faculty and student life. Council members then wanted to be involved in more hands-on ways."

Bremer, whose term as chair ended this year, says the group's national membership is a strength. "We have reached out to alumni all over the country, including Texas and California," said Bremer, retired senior vice president and general counsel of U.S. Surgical Corp. who lives in Fairfield, Conn. "One of the things that makes the Council so valuable is that it



Barbara D. Klippert '75, top, and Michael C. Banks '89, above

*Complete list of the Dean's Advisory Council, Page 10*

gives a broad perspective to the Law School. When I was in law school, graduates practiced either in Western New York or in New York City. I am living proof that you can practice elsewhere."

In choosing its members, Bremer said, "we look for exceptionally capable alumni who are very interested in the Law School and want to help the dean with new programs, alumni matters, questions regarding seminars and academic issues."

"It is a fair amount of work, but the payback is helping students get a strong start. We all remember what that was like to start out."

Judith B. Ittig '71, who practices construction law in Washington, D.C., was Bremer's immediate predecessor as chair. She is excited about the initiative to develop a regional leadership group in the

nation's capital.

"Initially it is an educational effort: what the school is doing, how it has changed in so many ways since they were students," she said. "We have seen a lot of large changes in the last couple of years, in the curriculum, the faculty, the students. Our current effort is aimed at re-connecting alumni. Once people find out what the school is doing, we try to develop their interest in a particular area and encourage them to work with us."

The Dean's Advisory Council also seeks to identify prominent alumni who might help with placing students in promising legal positions. "We are particularly looking for people who are outstanding in their own right," Ittig said. "Since they left the Law School, they have developed in their own expertise and their own area. As the alumni find out about how the school is doing, they will naturally be responsive when those students are looking for positions. Opportunities for clerkships and similar positions should open up."

And the Washington initiative, she said, demonstrates the Law School's increasing attention to its national reputation.

"One thing that was really important to me," Ittig said, "was that the school would really make an effort to connect with those of us who are outside of New York State and use the talents that we have to help the school and give us an opportunity to participate, even from a distance. It was so important to me to watch the school reach out to those of us who cannot be there on a full-time basis."

"The Council reflects not only the national geography, where our home bases are, but also the very strong differences in what we do for a living. It is a very broad base of background and location. I think that is the strength of the Council."

For his part, incoming chair Kenneth B. Forrest '76, a partner in the New York City law firm Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, expects the group to continue broadening its membership. "I would hope that over the next several years the Dean's Advisory Council can expand and reach out to alumni, particularly those of younger generations, and have a fuller participation by prominent UB Law graduates around the country," he said.

# Alumni Profiles

## Members of the Dean's Advisory 2005-06

**Frederick G. Attea**

*Partner*  
Phillips Lytle LLP

**Michael C. Banks '89**

*Partner*  
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCoy

**Leora Ben-Ami '84**

*Partner*  
Kaye Scholer LLP

**Thomas E. Black Jr. '79**

*Managing Partner*  
Black Mann & Graham

**Diane F. Bosse '76**

*Partner*  
Volgenau & Bosse LLP

**Anthony S. Bottar '76**

*Partner*  
Cherundolo Bottar & Leone, PC

**Thomas R. Bremer '79**

*Retired Senior Vice President and General Counsel*  
U.S. Surgical Corporation

**Hon. Elena Cacavas-Schietinger '85**

*Administrative Law Judge*  
New York State Public Employment Relations Board

**Frank J. Clark '67**

*District Attorney*  
Erie County District Attorney's Office

**Robert B. Conklin '68**

*Partner*  
Hodgson Russ LLP

**Hon. John M. Curran '84**  
**President, UB Law Alumni Association**

*Justice*  
New York State Supreme Court  
Eighth Judicial District



Brent L. Wilson '76



Thomas E. Black Jr. '79



Carol M. Matorin '76 and Vikki L. Pryor '78

**Gary A. DeWaal '80**

*Senior Executive Vice President and Group General Counsel*  
Fimat Group

**Louis P. DiLorenzo '76**

*Partner*  
Bond Schoeneck & King LLP

**Arthur F. Dobson Jr. '72**

*Partner*  
Parrino, Cooper & Dobson

**Vincent Dunn '89**

*Partner*  
Chadbourne & Parke, LLP

**Richard S. Feldman '76**

*Partner*  
Rivkin Radler LLP

**Kenneth B. Forrest '76,**  
**Chair**

*Partner*  
Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz

**Hon. Julio M. Fuentes '75**

*United States Circuit Judge*  
United States Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

**Bradley M. Gayton '91**

*Director of Global Trade*  
Ford Motor Company

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# Alumni Profiles

## AFTER KATRINA

### *Tales of the storm, from Houston and Buffalo*

**L**ike a hurricane coursing across open water, sometimes life takes a sudden turn.

For the residents of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, that reality became unavoidably true on the weekend of Aug. 26 to 28. As Hurricane Katrina bore down on the below-sea-level city, and those who could evacuate hit the road, residents knew that their lives would be forever altered by the power of wind and water.

**Barbara Ryniker Evans '76** was one UB Law School alumna who learned that lesson. Evans, a partner in the downtown New Orleans law firm Evans, Schnabel & Associates, fled with her family as the Category 4 hurricane approached. They have established themselves in Houston while the city of New Orleans continues to recover from its worst disaster in recorded history.

"The storm has presented challenges on a whole variety of levels," Evans said. "Our office tower, across the street from the federal courthouse, had several hundred windows blown out and is closed indefinitely. There is the challenge of transferring technology and files and servers here to Houston. The commercial litigation that we do has come to a halt. The state courthouse in New Orleans remains shuttered. There is a question about the integrity of the official records. So there have been a lot of practical problems."

On a family level, her husband has set up a "shadow operation" in Houston for his import-export business, and has brought his employees to Texas. Their



Barbara Ryniker Evans '76

17-year-old son has now enrolled in a Houston high school for his senior year, after New Orleans schools were closed by storm damage. (They also have a daughter who is a student at Amherst College in Massachusetts.)

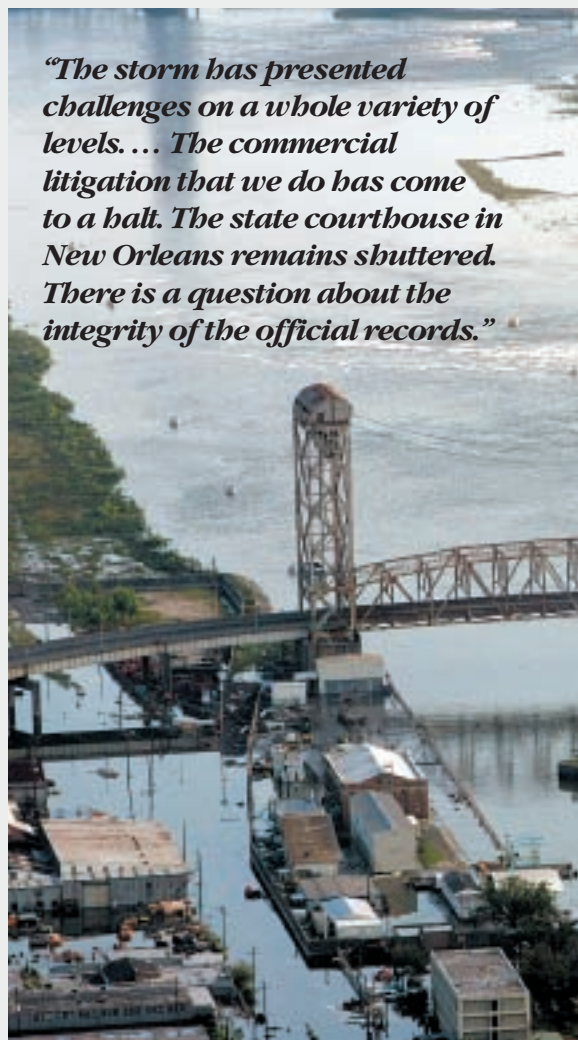
The Evanses' uptown New Orleans neighborhood, "in a beautiful part of the city that has a lot of 18th and 19th century houses and a lot of large oak trees," was unaffected by severe flooding, but suffered "a tremendous amount of wind damage and damage

from trees. Our neighborhood is very much as it was, with the exception of debris." Her law partner's house, however, was flooded.

Throughout the city, she said, houses sport large blue tarpaulins on their roofs, concealing storm damage. It is difficult to find qualified workers to do cleanup and repair work, given the great need and the fact that many New Orleans residents remain evacuees.

Professionally, many of her law firm's usual clients – individuals and business interests in Louisiana – have suffered major damage. "The legal profession is going to change as a result of the significant economic changes that have been

*"The storm has presented challenges on a whole variety of levels. ... The commercial litigation that we do has come to a halt. The state courthouse in New Orleans remains shuttered. There is a question about the integrity of the official records."*



wrought by the storm," Evans said. "In the long term, the profession will remain viable, but there are a lot of short-term challenges." The caseload is now full of labor and unemployment work as the Gulf Coast feels the economic brunt of the storm.

The state of Texas, she said, has granted displaced attorneys provisional admission to the Texas bar through May, and she may seek permanent admission to that bar. And the dislocation may be opening up new opportunities for the firm: "Most of us feel we will continue to have a business presence here in Texas," Evans said.

She has lived in New Orleans for 23 years, though, so the shock and awe of a city so deeply disrupted is great. "It was a very, very difficult thing for us to see our city on fire and flooded," she said. "We were safe, but there was nothing we could do to help."

"But you count your blessings. We are all well, and we have received a tremendous amount of support from our friends. I have heard from my colleagues





New Orleans after hurricane Katrina

at UB, many of whom I have not heard from in years, and a lot of professional colleagues, too.

"There are a lot of pluses as well as the negatives.

"We have all just banded together to help one another and make the best we can of the situation in which we find ourselves, which is one of the benefits of having a family."

Among those displaced by the storm damage were law students from Loyola University New Orleans and Tulane University, also in New Orleans. Three enrolled in UB Law School as visiting students for the fall semester: Michelle Schwach, an Amherst native; Peter Bodonaro, from Niagara Falls; and Sara Johnson, a native of Williamsville.

The three are among as many as 100,000 students at 30 institutions whose educational plans were disrupted by Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

Schwach had completed orientation and a week of classes when she got a call from a family friend in New Orleans on Aug. 26, a day before the National

Hurricane Center extended a hurricane watch for Louisiana.

"She said, 'This looks like it is going to be a bad storm, Michelle,'" said Schwach. "I just had a bad feeling about it. I said, 'I am just going to leave.'"

She took a Saturday afternoon flight back to Buffalo, then followed the storm over the next week from her family's Amherst home. "Watching everything unfold was brutal for me," she said. "The worst part of it was watching the aftermath. And every day it got worse. I cannot believe it. I still cannot believe it."

After Loyola announced Sept. 4 that it would be closed until January, Schwach began looking for another law school where she could study for the fall semester. When she contacted UB Law, Schwach, a 2005 UB graduate whose father, Lawrence, is a 1983 alumnus of the Law School, was able to reserve a spot. "It worked out really, really well," she said.

"I think it has been absolutely incredi-

ble that these schools will just take students in and not ask questions, and worry about the paperwork later," said Schwach, who plans to return to New Orleans next semester. "If the city is safe and livable, I want to go back," she said. "I think it would be great to go back and do what I can."

Sara Johnson, a second-year student visiting UB for the semester from Tulane, described the unexpected turns her school year has taken.

"We never thought this would happen," she said. Having evacuated for Hurricane Ivan during her first year in New Orleans, which turned out to be less damaging than predicted, Johnson and many of her classmates assumed that Katrina would be the same situation – a few days off from classes and the inconvenience of finding a place to stay.

"On Friday night I was with friends," she said. "No one was really watching TV or checking online. I was not worried, because normally my mom is on top of this stuff and calling to tell me. Then suddenly it was, 'You need to leave now.'"

Johnson traveled to Austin, Texas, then flew home to Buffalo. What has become of the belongings in her second-floor apartment, she is not sure. Though she has been told that 7 feet of water filled her neighborhood, online satellite pictures show less damage – at least on the surface.

"The mold grows so fast you would never believe it," she said. Then there are the refrigerators left full of food. "Some people have found maggots three feet deep," she said.

The least of her problems was finding a law school to attend for the semester: "I e-mailed Dean (Melinda) Saran on Friday night and had an answer back by Saturday morning. I arrived in Buffalo and registered for classes all on the Tuesday the semester started."

Tulane is planning a normal spring semester, and Johnson plans to return there in January. Looking toward that day, she said, "My main concern is, where am I going to live?"



# Alumni Profiles

## Uncommon service for the common good



Thomas R. Beecher '59

### *Two UB Law alums with key roles in Buffalo's resurgence*

**U**B Law School has long prided itself on instilling a spirit of public service in its graduates, whether or not work in the public sector is their primary legal career. But recent graduates have a long way to go before they can begin to approach the community service delivered by two of their fellow alumni – lawyers who have poured their hearts into projects for the betterment of Buffalo.

**Thomas R. Beecher Jr. '59** and **Christopher T. Greene '74** have made their living in private practice – Beecher with the Buffalo firm Phillips Lytle, from which he has retired as a partner and is now of counsel, and Greene as managing partner at Damon & Morey. But it is in their community work that each has found rewards for the soul.

*UB Law Forum* visited Beecher and Greene to ask what drives them to channel their time, energy and enthusiasm into complex development projects that are key to the revival of Western New York's

economy.

For Tom Beecher, recipient of this year's Jaeckle Award, it started with a call from Buffalo's mayor, Anthony Masiello. The mayor needed someone to kick-start the moribund High Street Medical Corridor, an aging collection of buildings and land that included Buffalo General Hospital and Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

"It was a natural outgrowth of my interest in health care," says Beecher, who had previously served as chairman of the Kaleida Health board of directors and, before that, of the Buffalo General Hospital board.

Since that call from Masiello in 2000, Beecher has overseen development of what is now called the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus into what many call the crown jewel of Buffalo's hoped-for renaissance. Located on 100 acres, the campus includes not only Kaleida Health and Roswell Park, but the newly built Hauptmann-Woodward Medical Research Institute building and many other stakehold-

ers, including the Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center, the Buffalo Medical Group Foundation, the Olmsted Center for the Visually Impaired, and small start-up companies looking to commercialize some of the basic science being done on the campus.

With more than 8,000 workers and \$600 million in annual expenditures, the medical campus has an enormous local economic impact. As well, it has been a positive presence in its Fruit Belt neighborhood, and that presence will be extended into nearby Allentown with a recent \$9 million federal grant to extend Allen Street across Main Street and into the medical campus area.

All this in a city where government and political inertia has long been a vexing frustration. Beecher says it started with UB Law Professor Al Mugel's initial advice: Restrict the number of players at the table to people who will actually be on campus. Make people pay; they will have a stake in the project's success. And invite the neighbors.

The trick, he says, is "getting a group of very powerful people to gather around a table and make some concessions for the public good. The medical campus brings the institutions together around common interests. There are a lot of things we can help them accomplish." The regional economic impact, he says, is important but secondary to his board's primary mission: "to create a world-class medical campus for teaching, clinical care and research."

Good hiring at the key institutions has been vital, too. Says Beecher: "I love to associate myself with people brighter than I and find people who are experts in their fields. I like to work with young, bright people, and that includes lawyers."

"I still see lawyers as very public-spirited and active in the community. I think lawyers are uniquely capable of fulfilling that role; they have some unique characteristics."

Law-school training in critical thinking, he says, is most useful. "The first thing they teach you in law school is to find the problem. The problem that a lawyer often



Christopher T. Greene '74

finds is less apparent than what the businessman would see."

Also helpful is the breadth of knowledge that legal education provides: "You are trained in a broad variety of areas, many of which you do not use in your practice."

One other aspect of the lawyer's life, Beecher says, makes it possible to pour oneself into community service: the freedom to manage one's own time. "The law is a tough way to make a living," he says, "but I have always prided myself on being in charge of what I did. I could choose to take a client or not. For business people, it is much harder to control your time."

"Life is filled with choices. There are a lot of things you can do, but you have to make choices. There are dozens of lawyers in our community who take substantial roles. Hopefully this encourages younger members of the bar to see the opportunities not only to have a success-

ful law practice but to be successful in getting involved in their community as well."

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"The point is, many of us feel that we have been given something special by being able to go to law school," Chris Greene says. "I am speaking on behalf of many alumni. There are some higher goals here. We all play out that desire to give back in many different ways."

For Greene, one of those ways has been as board chairman of the Hauptmann-Woodward Medical Research Institute. Construction of the institute's architecturally spectacular new building on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus – a building just completed this year – has highlighted his service as a major player in Western New York health care. It is an accomplishment that excites him as much as it does the researchers now doing high-level research in 73,000 square feet of bright, efficient laboratory space.

It was a decade ago when a friend asked him to serve on Hauptmann-Woodward's board. He was soon made chairman. A strategic planning exercise revealed that the cramped former facility constrained the possibilities for the institute's future, and thus was born an all-out effort to raise the money for a signature new building.

After a foundation grant provided seed money, New York State provided substantial funding for the \$24 million project. As Greene tells the story, three years ago Gov. George Pataki came to town, walked into the Roswell Park auditorium, and "I did not know what he was going to do. But I noticed that he had a Hauptmann-Woodward necktie on, and I said, 'I think it is good news.' He announced an \$8 million state grant for the building, and then \$6 million the next year."

Part of the satisfaction of that, Greene says, is that the building's advocates managed to overcome the generally fractious politics at the state and county levels. "The gratification of seeing a project succeed through collaboration and goodwill among all participants is very exciting," he says. "In Buffalo, it is wonderful to see people working together. The whole is greater than the sum of the parts."

Now at 65 employees, the institute plans to grow to 100 over next five years. The University at Buffalo has partnered with Hauptmann-Woodward to run its department of structural biology – "a good example," Greene says, "of cooperation between a very large university and a very small research institute."

Lawyers can do such intensive community work, Greene says, because "we are trained to look at some of the larger issues and community issues. Also, being self-employed, lawyers may have more opportunity to participate. We can make the time to go to a board meeting or a planning retreat, even to go out of town on board business. We have the opportunity sometimes to have a more flexible schedule. It all comes down to balance and balancing your obligations."

In addition, he said, a law school education includes a large component dealing with ethics, which serves board members well. "You learn a lot in law school that goes beyond the vocation," he says.

And in his community service work, he has found plenty of company in UB-trained attorneys. "Many of the people on those boards are lawyers from UB and elsewhere," Greene says. "They do it because they feel indebted to the community and feel good about the community, and they want to give back."

"There is an old saying: With privilege comes responsibility."

# Law School Report

## The buzz is good

*Students tell all for a grass-roots reference book*

The forthcoming second edition of *The Law School Buzz Book* (Vault Publishing) – an in-the-trenches look at the “real” student experience in dozens of law schools nationwide – has good things to say about UB Law. The comments are those of current students and alumni, and the reference book is intended to be a grass-roots look at admissions, academics, employment prospects, quality of life and social life at each school. “We expect that prospective students would use this guide as much as any other resource for choosing a law school,” said Michelle Collotta, editor of this second edition of the book. “It depends on the person and what resources are available to them.”

The company gathers student and alumni responses to surveys through proprietary networks that it has created. After the surveys are collected, compiled and edited, school officials are invited to add their own comments in response. The company publishes similar guides for undergraduate programs and business graduate schools.

What students are saying about UB Law School, as reported in the 2005 *Law School Buzz Book*:

### On admissions:

“UB was very careful in selecting a broad range of people with diverse backgrounds, ethnicities and experiences. Each of my classmates are capable students with a really remarkable degree of individual intelligence and proactivity. The pre-entry tours and optional interviews were excellent, as UB provided both current students, alumni and leading professionals from the Buffalo area to answer questions. I can’t emphasize enough the clear professionalism and student-friendly atmosphere.”

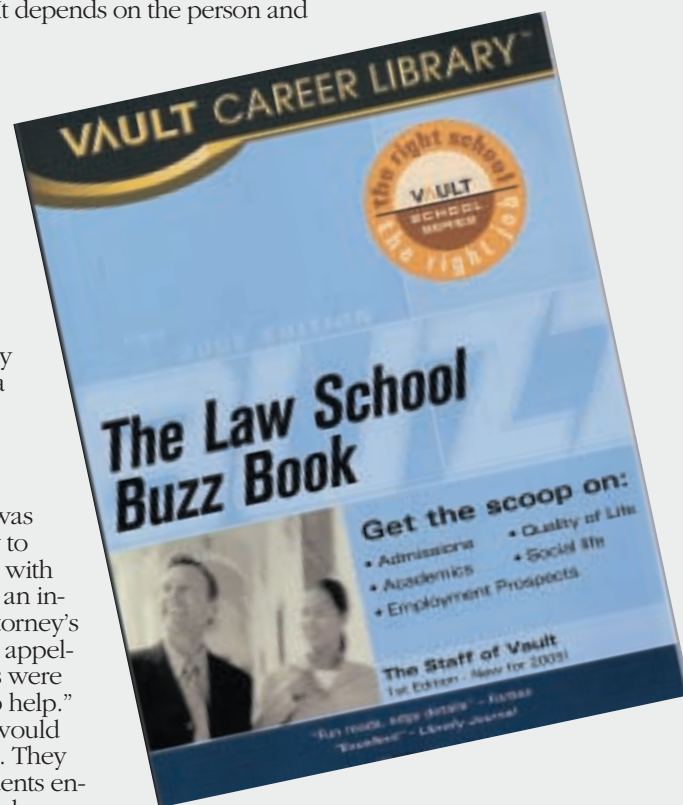
“A very face-friendly school. Take

the time to visit and meet with the dean of admissions, although there is no formal interview requirement. Two essays: the first is your pretty standard law school essay; the second wants you to discuss two books you have read that were not assigned reading. I thought this showed they really wanted to get to know me as a person beyond my LSAT and GPA.”

### On academics:

“The quality of the classes was great; there was a wide variety to choose from. I was also set up with practical experience including an internship with a local district attorney’s office and a clerkship with the appellate division. All the professors were easily accessible and willing to help.”

“The classes are what you would expect of a top-tier law school. They are demanding, and most students endure an adjustment period. We have some fantastic professors who really care about their students. It’s surpris-





ingly warm and receptive for a law school.”

“Professors are very student-focused and accessible. For the most part, if you are having difficulty with a concept, professors are more than willing to go out of their way to meet with you and help you to understand it. All of the professors have given me a lot of feedback and constructive criticism both on exams and papers.”

**On employment prospects after law school:**

“UB enjoys a great reputation in Western New York, and students typically can expect job offers from NYC and other satellite regions. UB provides comprehensive help in seeking summer internships and employment opportunities. The UB alumni are really active nationwide and love to help students! It’s an amazing thing that has to be experienced to be believed.”

“Public service is UB’s strong suit, and it plays its hand well. Students looking for public service internships, clerkships, contacts and placements will not be disappointed. Academic achievers will have no trouble finding work with some of the country’s best firms, particularly in state administrative law, education law and other areas where UB’s faculty really shines.”

**On quality of life:**

“The quality of life in Buffalo cannot be measured. The campus sits right in the middle of the town of Amherst, which for years has been ranked one of the safest cities in America. Further, the University at Buffalo has built townhouses for graduate students right on campus. The townhouses have skylights, large kitchens and bathrooms, as

well as cable TV and wireless Internet.”

“The housing was great. I lived in on-campus graduate student housing. I loved it! The campus is pretty ugly, but they have made improvements in the Law School that make things more comfortable, especially in the library!”

**On social life:**

“WOW! There is ALWAYS something to do. There are restaurants galore in Amherst – from your common fast food to your friendly neighborhood restaurants and bars (sports bars, too), to the ritzy ones. The school events are numerous and popular. I don’t know too much about the dating scene, but the clubs are great.”

“The social scene in Buffalo is excellent. As an older student, I wasn’t so much interested in the bar scene, and Buffalo has so many wonderful cultural opportunities. There’s the Philharmonic, the theater scene, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, various art galleries in Allentown, Niagara-on-the-Lake, in addition to some of the best restaurants of any city I’ve ever been to.”

“

*“A very face-friendly school.”*

*“The quality of the classes was great; there was a wide variety to choose from.”*

*“UB enjoys a great reputation in Western New York.”*

*“The quality of life in Buffalo cannot be measured.”*

*“WOW! There is ALWAYS something to do.”*

*“The social scene in Buffalo is excellent.”*

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# Law School Report

## Doubling up

*Two new programs streamline the dual degree process*

**I**n an increasingly interrelated legal and business world, UB Law School is meeting the demand for lawyers with special expertise by adding two new interdisciplinary degree programs.

A dual program in **law and urban planning (J.D./M.U.P.)**, and another in **law and pharmacy (J.D./Pharm.D.)**, promise to position new graduates to compete for specialized jobs in those industries or in law firms that service them. These are the latest additions to a roster of such dual-degree programs in which UB Law participates, the largest being the J.D./M.B.A. program run in conjunction with UB's School of Management.

"We are uniquely well-situated to offer interdisciplinary programs," noted Professor Susan V. Mangold, UB Law's vice dean for academic affairs. With Professor Peter Pitegoff (now dean at University of Maine Law School) Mangold helped design the law and urban planning program. "We are situated right in the middle of a research university, where a lot of other law schools are physically separated from their universities." Additionally, she said, "we have many faculty with dual degrees."

Students have to enter the programs by the end of their first year of law school, Mangold said, and they apply to each interdisciplinary school separately. The advantage is that by taking advantage of cross-listed courses, students can complete the two degrees in less time than they would if they pursued the degrees sequentially.

"The key point is that the faculty who are putting together these dual degree programs have sequenced the courses so there is a clear map of what they need to take when, and commitment from the faculty that these courses will be offered. It enables the student to save a year's time and tuition,"



*"We think the J.D./Pharm.D. is a very unique program—there are only five others like it in the United States, and none in New York State."*

—Research Associate Professor  
Sheila R. Shulman

she said.

As well, Mangold said, the availability of such programs helps attract bright, talented students to UB Law. "There are a handful of students for whom the specific degree is a determinative factor," she said. "For a larger number of potential students, it helps that there is a package of interdisciplinary pro-

grams. We can capture students whose interests are piqued by the fact that there are a lot of interdisciplinary programs. These are students who know what they want to do and are very directed. They are desirable students for both schools."

Associate Professor Kathryn A. Foster was chair of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at UB's School of Architecture and Planning when she helped construct the dual degree program. She now serves as director of UB's Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth.

"We put our heads together," she said, "and realized that this is a natural degree. Real estate, environmental law and planning, housing, land use – there are so many areas that had nice intersections and synergies that we said, why wouldn't we offer a dual degree?"

Law students in the program, she said, spend their first year at the Law School, their second year at the School of Architecture and Planning, and then the final two years of the four-year program taking courses from both schools. The program also offers the equivalent of a Law School clinical opportunity – "typically a client-based real-world exercise or project or set of analyses that are done out in the community." The curriculum features a seminar specifically for dual degree students, on topics specific to those with interest in both fields.

Research Associate Professor Sheila R. Shulman is the Law School's coordinator for the newly minted dual program in law and pharmacy; her counterpart in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is Associate Professor Gayle A. Brazeau, associate dean for academic affairs.

"In the context of the modern health care system, it is important for health



Students enrolled in the new J.D./Pharm.D. program will be able to earn a dual degree in six years.

professionals to be able to talk with each other,” Shulman said. “This program will give students a knowledge base and a vocabulary to do that effectively. We think it is a very unique program – there are only five others like it in the United States, and none in New York State.”

And the market for graduates, she said, appears open-ended. “You cannot pick up a paper without reading about some issue involving both of these fields – issues involving the pharmaceutical industry, the FDA, people trying to access less expensive drugs. There are all the complexities of getting a drug to market, issues of access, various ways the law comes into play, such as the legalities of drug importation from Canada. These students will be in a good position to find themselves very interesting jobs.”

“This really is a practice-based degree,” Brazeau said. “Students can start in either the Law School or the School of Pharmacy. They spend the first year in one school, the second year in the other, and from then on it is a combined program. They receive the J.D. at the end of their fifth year and the Pharm.D. at the end of the sixth year.”

**I**t is a long program – though shorter than the seven years it would take to earn the two degrees separately – and so the leaders will make a point to provide a support network for the students. “We will try to have some cohesion here,” Shulman said. “I will make a point of keeping in touch with those students.”

Another advantage of the dual program is that it gives law students access

to the emerging field of bioinformatics, a central focus of the pharmacy program and one that has been identified as a major strength of UB as a whole.

Said Brazeau: “I really believe these graduates will become leaders in their fields.”



## Values in khaki

*Baldy Center conference explores intersection of military culture and gender*

The proliferation of military culture in American life, and how it affects the lives of women, was the topic for a groundbreaking two-day conference in mid-September at UB's Center for the Arts.

Sponsored by the Law School's Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, the conference brought together internationally known scholars and advocates in military studies, gender relations and human rights. It was organized by UB Law professors Isabel Marcus and Lucinda Finley, with associate professor of sociology Brenda Moore.

The intersection of gender and military culture is "an all-too-timely topic these days in the world," Finley said in introducing the conference's keynote speaker on Sept. 15. She cited such high-profile situations as the capture of American POW Jessica Lynch by Iraqi forces; horrific ethnic cleansing in the Darfur region of Sudan, in which rape has been used as a weapon of war; and, closer to home, the publicity surrounding military mother Cindy Sheehan as she attempted to confront President Bush over her son's death in Iraq.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Cynthia Enloe, a leading feminist scholar of international relations. Enloe teaches international development and women's studies at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. Her books include *Does Khaki Become You?: The Militarization of Women's Lives* and *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*.

Enloe gave a brief history of how her academic specialty developed, saying it was a tough sell in the early 1980s to attract people to conferences on



Professor Isabel Marcus

women and the military. One advantage of the Baldy conference, she said, was that "discussion of women in militaries is very rarely linked to discussion of militarization in the wider culture. This is really a very special thinking

moment, to have these two discussions going on together."

She defined militarization as "the step-by-step process by which anyone or anything or any institution or any whole society becomes more and more dependent on militarized values." Anything, she said, can become militarized "from popular culture to education to law."

"Many people," Enloe said, "believe that more aspects of American society are more deeply militarized than has ever been true before in this country. By that I mean, they depend for their value on serving military goals."

Where this gets especially sticky, she said, is when the goals of the military are used to justify even beneficial developments. Some aspects of women's advancement in U.S. society, for example, have been promoted as beneficial to America's national security interests. "Women are promised that serving in the military is one of the most empowering things that women can do," Enloe said.

Similarly, movements against sexual harassment in the military academies and the armed forces have been justified, she said, by the argument that allowing harassment to continue would threaten national security and military readiness. And the armed forces took action on the issue of domestic violence in military families, she said, at least in part because "in dysfunctional families you do not have ready soldiers."

The problem with using military ends to justify such salutary moves, Enloe said, is that "militarization means you only have to pay attention to something – you only have to take it seriously – insofar as it affects the thing that really matters: military readiness, a

*"It is very dangerous to tie women's rights to some other goal that is not about women's rights."*

*— Professor Cynthia Enloe, Clark University*



strong military, a military notion of what is national security." As a result, she said, "Women's lives do not matter in themselves. That attitude is enormously dangerous. It is very dangerous to tie women's rights to some other goal that is not about women's rights."

Activities on the conference's second day included a panel presentation on "Women in Active Duty." The presenters were Elizabeth Hillman, associate professor of law at Rutgers University; Carole Burke, associate professor of English at the University of California-Irvine; Katia Sorin of the Laboratoire Georges Friedmann in France; and Laura Miller, a social scientist at the Rand Foundation.

A second panel presentation, on "Women Military Veterans," featured Christine Hansen, executive director of the Miles Foundation; Rani Desai, associate professor of psychiatry, epidemiology and public health at Yale University; Bevanne Bean-Mayberry, associate professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh; UB's Brenda Moore; and Ron Armstead, executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust.

A roundtable on "Armed Conflict and the Human Rights of Women" featured presenters from Serbia, Montreal, Florida International University and the City University of New York School of Law.

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"Women are promised that serving in the military is one of the most empowering things that women can do," Enloe said.

# Law School Report

## Clinic helps people secure housing, independence

In a run-down section of city street in Niagara Falls, N.Y. — flanked by abandoned homes and across from a shuttered hospital — a dilapidated old dormitory for nurses is getting a new start as transitional housing for homeless women and their children.

The building's rehabilitation is being made possible, in large measure, by the efforts of University at Buffalo law students attracted to an unglamorous, roll-up-your-sleeves niche of law practice known as affordable housing, which focuses on helping nonprofit and community organizations obtain financing to create low-income and special-needs housing.

"Affordable housing is for students looking for more substantial elements of law beyond the flash of litigation," explains law professor George W. Hezel, director of the UB Law School's Affordable Housing Clinic. "These students learn to negotiate sensitive issues, plan and advocate for people, which is really 90 percent of what lawyers do — they don't spend all their time litigating."

The refurbished four-story building, opened in August by the YWCA of Niagara, brings to \$150 million the amount of affordable-housing financing secured by students and faculty members through UB's Affordable Housing Clinic, says Hezel, who has run the clinic for 17 years.

"The trick of this project was securing about \$1 million in historic-preservation tax credits," Hezel explains. "Finding that million paid for amenities that the state Homeless Housing and Assistance Program and Division of Housing were reluctant to pay for. It lessened their burden and made the project doable."

In all, Hezel, clinic co-director Sara Faherty and UB law students secured \$5.6 million in financing for the YWCA project from a mix of tax credits and federal, state and city funding. The 19-unit facility has been named Caroline's House in memory of Niagara Falls



The building site for Cornerstone Manor Transitional Housing facility, a new three-story residence for women who have substance abuse problems, and their children.

lawyer Caroline Van Schaik, killed in a car accident last year, who helped initiate the YWCA project.

In addition to one-, two- and three-bedroom suites, the new facility contains a daycare center and a culinary-arts training center, which prepares women for jobs in restaurants around and in a new casino, located just a few blocks from the facility.

"This is not just housing," says Kathleen Granchelli, executive director of the YWCA of Niagara, who has spearheaded the project. "The most important component is moving families from dependence to independence. They have all the support services they need, in one facility, to move on to the next phase of life with dignity."

"This has been an amazingly successful collaboration with the UB Law School and several other partners," Granchelli adds. "We had a vision, it did-



Professor George W. Hezel, director of the Law School's Affordable Housing Clinic

n't seem like it was going to happen at one point, but now it is. There's no other housing like this in the entire county."

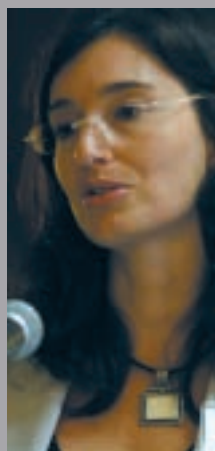
Created in 1987, the UB clinic is the granddaddy of affordable housing clinics at U.S. law schools. Its national prominence is why the clinic was selected as the home base for the American Bar Association's *Journal of Affordable Housing & Community Development Law*.

Today there about two dozen affordable-housing clinics in operation nation-

wide, but in the late '80s clinics at UB, Yale and Seton Hall University pioneered the field, championing a movement to bring practical work experience into the classroom, while providing students with meaningful ways to improve their communities.

UB Law School also offers several other clinics, including ones addressing





Julia A. Solo '95, who spoke on "What's New With 202's (federally assisted housing for the low-income elderly) and the Brownfield Credit"

## Bringing it home

**B**eyond the hands-on work of helping to establish housing for needy families, the Affordable Housing Clinic has an educational function as well. That was its mission on Sept. 22 when the clinic co-sponsored the New York State Bar Association's second annual Upstate Affordable Housing Conference. Held at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo, the daylong conference attracted such diverse participants as attorneys, architects, lenders, investors, developers, urban planners and government officials. The broad range of topics addressed included case studies of some of the most successful and innovative projects in upstate New York.

Among the UB Law-connected presenters were three alumni: Julia A. Solo '95, who spoke on "What's New With 202's (federally assisted housing for the low-income elderly) and the Brownfield Credit"; Susan Sturman Jennings '90, serving as a panelist on "Revitalizing Communities With Affordable Housing" in Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo; Jason Yots '96, on a panel discussing "Real Property Tax and Negotiating PILOT Agreements"; and Steven J. Weiss '91, who moderated a panel on "Preserving and Restructuring New York State-Financed Public Housing." All except Weiss are products of the Law School's Affordable Housing Clinic.

In addition, UB Law professors George Hezel and Sara Faherty, representing the clinic, spoke at the conference.

The conference was a project of the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

family violence, the environment, elder law and securities law.

"UB's Affordable Housing Clinic has long been recognized as an innovator and a leader, with a record of outstanding accomplishments," says Robert Solomon, director of clinical studies at the Yale Law School. "I had the pleasure several years ago of visiting with the clinic and I was incredibly impressed and inspired by the clinic's work."

With the YWCA project completed, the UB clinic is deeply involved in the "most challenging and ambitious project" in its history, according to Hezel. In partnership with the Buffalo City Mission, the UB clinic has secured \$9.3 million in financing for creation of a new three-story residence for women who have substance-abuse problems and their children. Construction of the 122-unit Cornerstone Manor Transitional Housing facility, located on the edge of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC) on North Street in Buffalo, began in April and will be slated to be

completed in February.

With its on-site medical, counseling and educational facilities, and its enclosed courtyard playground, the new facility will replace and significantly expand services offered at the current 60-unit Cornerstone Manor, where overcrowding is a recurring problem. What's more, demolition of the outdated 60-unit facility — located within the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus — will open the door to future development on the medical campus, which, in turn, spurs continued growth of Buffalo's emerging life-sciences industry, Hezel points out.

"This project removes an obstacle to economic development in Buffalo, while providing something better for Cornerstone Manor and Buffalo City Mission," he says.

As a side benefit, notes Hezel, proceeds from the sale of the current manor to the BNMC will contribute to the new facility's operating budget.

"Getting approval for this project involved a fairly sophisticated bit of per-

suasion," says Hezel, who personally pitched the project to state housing agencies in Albany. "It's taken a couple of years to put all the pieces together and convince the political power in Western New York and Albany that this should be a priority.

"This project reflects the clinic's appetite for more and more interesting and difficult projects," he adds. "And it's a great teaching event for students."

**F**or their part, UB Law students are attracted to the clinic's work for practical and philosophical reasons. Some students like E.J. Snyder, now a third-year student, mainly enjoy the hands-on, problem-solving challenges of assembling complex financing packages; while other students like Melinda Grabowski '05 and Lisa Goodberry, a former social worker who is a third-year student, also enjoy helping people reach their goals.

"I'm thinking about affordable housing as a career," says Grabowski, who was senior editor of the *Journal of Affordable Housing & Community Development Law*. "I like figuring out methods for people to be able to afford what they envision as their goal."

Adds Goodberry, "I love the dynamics of it. I was searching for something in law that would make a difference in people's lives."

Because of the UB clinic's national reputation, many UB law graduates move easily into careers in affordable-housing practice with law firms and real-estate development companies throughout the state and around the country. UB Law School graduate Julia Solo, for example, went to work for New York City's Nixon Peabody LLP, which has a large national affordable-housing practice, representing nonprofits, developers and investors.

"For me, studying law was only an option if I could use it to improve the status quo," Solo says. "Housing is very basic. If people can afford safe and sanitary housing, many other aspects of their lives can improve too. It's a building block to a better life, a better society."

Soon, the UB clinic may expand from affordable housing to other types of community development projects, Hezel says. He and his students are investigating development of a free medical center on Buffalo's East Side.

# Law School Report



## Dialing for dollars

### *Wronged investors call for help at UB Law's Securities Law Clinic*

**I**n UB Law School's clinical program, one clinic specializes in the high-stakes, high-emotion world of personal finance.

That is the Securities Law Clinic, established in 1998 as a partnership between the Law School and UB's School of Management. At the time, it was only the second university-hosted securities law clinic in New York State, says Robert Spampata '04, who directs the Law School component of the initiative.

Spampata, whose background is in public arbitration, says the clinic accepts clients – often referred by the state attorney general's office or by UB alumni – who are generally small investors and either cannot find other representation or have no realistic chance to replace

money they have lost to a securities broker's mishandling of funds.

Typical cases, he says, involve "churning" (excessive trading by a broker of an investor's funds, to generate high fees), recommending investments that are unsuitable for a client's life circumstances, or failure to fully inform the client on such matters as the different classes of mutual fund shares and their commission structures.

"Everyone cries fraud and wants punitive damages," Spampata says. "There is a lot of emotion involved."

Most brokerage accounts, he says, have as part of the initial contract a stipulation that any dispute will be addressed through an arbitrator. Complaints are filed with the National Association of Securities Dealers, which will assign an arbitrator to the case. Students in the Securities Law Clinic will then represent the client in an arbitration hearing.

"The students handle and manage all client contact," Spampata says. That includes an intake interview, financial analysis by School of Management students if needed, group meetings to analyze the cases, and compiling a complaint. "All this stuff takes time," he says. "It often spans over more than one semester, or even into the next year."

Complicating factors can include pre-hearing conferences on discovery ("the single biggest problem that investors face," Spampata says) and evidence issues, as well as multiple hearings. But for a public service clinic that is also a teaching tool, complications are all to the good. "It is great for teaching," the director says. "The more trouble, the better."

The clinic is limited to 10 second- and third-year students looking for real-

world experience. "We do not have a casebook," Spampata says. "We go directly to the primary sources, and we ask them to do as much research as they can."

"The clinical exercise is a productive and rewarding one," Spampata says. "One of my goals is to require students to constantly build their knowledge in the substantive law of the field. So the Bar can be enticed by the fact that we are giving students substantive knowledge. When students work together to make everybody smarter, it is an experience that really works."

In the School of Management, Associate Professor Joseph Ogden says SOM students have been less involved in the past year than in previous years, partly because the cases handled by the clinic have not necessitated much financial analysis.

When that is needed, he says, typically management students will take a client's monthly brokerage statements and enter them into a computer spreadsheet. The goal is to calculate the per-



Clinical instructor  
Robert Spampata  
'04

formance of the portfolio and compare that against the performance of an investing benchmark – for stocks, likely the Standard and Poor's 500.

"Then we compute the damages according to the difference between the two," Ogden says.

Most commonly, he says, the Securities Law Clinic handles cases involving churning and unsuitable investments, in which the broker allegedly has not invested a client's money in line with the client's risk tolerance and investment goals.

Ogden emphasizes that dealings of the clinic are "strictly confidential." He also says the clinic has an investor education function, including information on its Web site and, at times, public seminars on the basics of investing.

"We were one of the first to develop a securities clinic in the United States," he says. "Now there might be six or seven of them, but we might be the only university whose securities clinic actively involves both the School of Management and the Law School."

# Passing fancy

## *UB Law grads achieve higher passing rate on the state bar exam*

An increase in the rate at which new graduates of UB Law School succeed on the New York State Bar Exam has instructors, administrators and students celebrating.

In July, among UB graduates taking the bar exam for the first time, 80.2 percent passed. That rate, about 3 points above the state average, was up 7 points from the previous mark for UB grads.

**Melinda R. Saran '86**, vice dean for student affairs, works with students to ensure bar passage. She cited several factors for the welcome increase, including the strong academic credentials of UB Law students.

During the spring semester, she said, third-year students are offered a free six-session bar-preparation course by BAR/BRI, the commercial review company. The course reviews the scope of the two-day exam and addresses essay writing and substantive topics.

"What we try to impress on them,"



Melinda Saran '86, vice dean for student affairs

Saran said, "is that you have to take it seriously; you need to study. If you do all these things, you won't have to be back in February. I impress on them that you only want to do this once."

For those who do not succeed on their first try, she said, "you have to wait six months to take it again; you could lose a job offer; your loans come due. It is a very difficult situation."

**Diane F. Bosse '76** views the test results from her standpoint as chair of the state Board of Law Examiners. She is also a trustee of the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

"The bar exam is designed to measure whether candidates have the knowledge, skills and abilities that they need for en-

try-level practice," Bosse said. "The increase in the bar passage rate at UB indicates that UB Law graduates are better prepared to enter the practice of law, and that is very significant."

"It means that everybody there is doing a better job, and they have achieved this result while maintaining UB's commitment to having a diverse student body. They are not just passing the bar exam in better numbers, but they are better prepared to practice. I am proud of what UB Law has done."

Bosse speaks at the Law School to prospective exam-takers, to try to demystify what seems like a daunting ordeal. "I try to tell them a little about the basics of the bar exam so they understand what it looks like, what it is, what the questions are based on," she said. "Things like understanding the structure of the essays and the importance of reading closely and answering the question, and not volunteering a lot of extraneous information, as well as how we grade the exam."

"There is so much hype and myth that surrounds the New York bar exam," Bosse said. "Calming people down is a big issue. These are people who have been successful in their lives, and they should not be deterred by a lot of the hype that surrounds the New York bar exam. It is a test, but law students are used to taking tests."

# Learning by the lake

## *Clinic program brings elder law update to Canandaigua audience*

The complex administration of the federal government's new prescription drug plan for older Americans – Medicare Part D – was the centerpiece of an educational outreach by UB Law School's elder law clinic. It was the clinic's first such initiative in Canandaigua, in the Finger Lakes region of New York State.

Sponsored by the newly renamed William and Mary Foster Elder Law Clinic, and co-sponsored by Legal Assistance of the Finger Lakes, the May 13 program featured the clinic's director, Professor Anthony Szczygiel, discussing the choices that will face Medicare enrollees for the drug plan beginning Jan. 1, 2006.

"We like to say that the clinic has the same goals on which faculty are evaluated for tenure: scholarship, teaching and

public service," Szczygiel said. "This was a public service effort."

Canandaigua is the hometown of clinic benefactor Mary Foster, who had a distinguished career in public health in New York State. Foster's financial adviser, Merrill Lynch, helped underwrite the cost of the presentation, and Foster herself – who in retirement maintains a keen interest in elder care – was present.

About 100 people – social workers, health care professionals, Office for the Aging staff, lawyers, hospital discharge planners, case managers and others concerned with the welfare of elderly people – attended the free conference.

Following the Medicare presentation, breakout sessions provided information and education on health care proxies, powers of attorney and guardianships; VA

and long-term care services in the Finger Lakes region; choices in home care; and Medicaid payments for long-term care.

Since founding the clinic in 1982, Szczygiel has done similar trainings throughout the western part of New York, and for the elder law sections of the Erie County and New York State bar associations. Students in the clinic help organize and assemble materials for the events.

"We see our service area as all of New York State, and certainly upstate New York," Szczygiel said. "There is a huge need in the community for folks to know about long-term care. The funding mechanisms are very complicated, and many consumers qualify for more than one source of funding."

How to access and pay for long-term care is also the focus of the William and Mary Foster Elder Law Clinic, formerly called the Legal Services for the Elderly Clinic. Under Szczygiel's direction, law students in the program work on "live" cases with clients at the Legal Services for the Elderly office in downtown Buffalo, practicing such skills as client counseling, negotiation and conducting administrative hearings.



# Law School Report

## Life. Changing. Experience.

*New admissions materials connect with prospective students*

To reach the best prospective law students these days, the first challenge is to get their

attention, the next is to have something to say that will make them take notice.

Now a series of initiatives originating in UB Law School's admissions office is putting a fresh new face on the school's

marketing efforts. It is hoped the initiatives will continue a recent trend of more and higher-quality applicants, resulting in ever-more-qualified incoming classes.

"This is a whole new look for us that we will unveil all at once," says Lillie Wiley-Upshaw, associate dean for admissions and financial aid. "We are using the students' voices to talk about their Law School experiences in their own words."

The initiatives include a top-to-bottom revamp of the admissions catalog – the glossy 80-page publication that is mailed to prospective students and distributed at law school fairs – and a new Web site expected to be launched in September. Wiley-Upshaw has directed the efforts, in concert with the University's creative services office, and Law School Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Susan V. Mangold, Associate Dean for Communications Ilene R. Fleischmann, Director of Recruiting Melissa Frus-

cione, and Associate Director of Communications Lisa Mueller.

The look is anchored by a three-word slogan: "Life. Changing. Experience." Wiley-Upshaw says the words reflect both the intellectual journey of three years in the Law School, and the good quality of life that students can expect to find at UB Law and in Western New York. (Increasingly, more students are being admitted from outside New York State; more than 20 percent of this fall's Class of 2008 is from out of state.)

It is a sophisticated effort, but given the competition among law schools for the best students, it has to be.

"So many schools are competing with each other," Wiley-Upshaw says. "Any way you can rise above the pack is good. More and more, marketing is a very important element in admissions. It's important to have the Law School out there and have a face in the marketplace."

The admissions catalog and Web site, she says, "encapsulate the experience here at UB and why we are a different law school." Different is right. Where traditional catalogs are full of pictures of ivy-covered halls, UB Law's new materials feature people – current students, faculty and UB Law alumni, in photos and their own words. "The students were very willing to do this," Wiley-Upshaw says.

It is not all serious, either. One section asks students where they go to study ("Wegmans supermarket – it's quiet and there's always enough food," one says); another details what they love about Buffalo ("The Albright-Knox Art Gallery is beautiful at night"); another asks about what students do with their free time ("I like walking down Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo, making unnecessary purchases").



Law students benefit from having a working courtroom in O'Brian Hall.

The overall effect is energetic, engaging and intellectually alive – a reflection of the life-changing experience that UB Law can be.

The admissions Web site is one part of the marketing redesign, but another innovation is also happening online. That is the advent of Chat University, the admissions office's online Web chats that help the school stay connected to newly admitted students in the months before they reach campus.

"This is our effort to stay connected by using media the students are familiar with," Wiley-Upshaw says. "That is an expectation that students have now."

The chats started in the spring, and two have been held so far. Others are planned in the fall, this time for prospective students.

But it was students who have ac-

# CIS M. LETRO COURTROOM



cepted UB Law's invitation to study here who were the focus of the spring chats. These are live events – participants simply click on an icon on the admissions office Web page and enter a chat room run by admissions staff members. The students' questions and comments, and the staffers' responses, appear on the page for all to see.

The questions range broadly, Wiley-Upshaw says, and include such things as issues about relocating to the area, questions about where to live and what the different neighborhoods are like, technical questions about the financial aid process. Some incoming students who are parents ask about child care and how to work a class schedule around their children's needs. "It is more comfortable knowing that others like them are here," Wiley-Upshaw says.

The goal, she says, is to have fewer students changing their minds about coming to UB Law in the period between their acceptance and their arrival on campus.

One question, Wiley-Upshaw says, was particularly easy to answer. "A lot of times, students will ask what they should be reading to get ready for law school," she says. "We tell them to just relax over the summer. You will have enough to read when you get here."

Further helping the effort to attract the best possible students to UB Law School is news that three major scholarships have just been created.

The Carmen P. Tarantino Memorial Scholarship, which pays full tuition, was established by David Brown to honor the memory of his friend and partner Carmen P. Tarantino, who died

last year.

The Dean's Advisory Council Scholarship, another full-tuition scholarship, was funded by members of the DAC.

And the Margaret Crimaldi Quinn Scholarship, of \$5,000, was established by Hon. Margaret J. Crimaldi Quinn '71 to provide financial assistance to a first-year student who has significant financial need.

Even though UB Law remains a bargain among law schools, Wiley-Upshaw says the existence of these scholarships is a significant recruiting tool. "We all know how competitive it is in law school admissions," she says. "These scholarships are new for us – not something we have been able to do before. They really help us to maintain our competitive edge in the market."



# Law School Report

## Law school students come from

**A** doctor; a concert violinist, a rabbi and a naval officer...  
The new class of students at the University at Buffalo Law School may be more diverse in background and experience than any in recent memory. *A software engineer; a political science professor; a Korean interpreter for British royalty...*

Of the 247 first-year students enrolled this fall at the UB Law School, about half possess the prototypical law-school student portfolio – just a year or two removed from undergraduate study, a liberal arts degree, a high score on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) – but many come to the school from wide-ranging paths that have taken them all over the world.

And, according to UB Law School Dean Nils Olsen, the diversity is by design.

“We really do emphasize diversity,” Olsen says. “Because of the extraordinary pressure to achieve high national rankings, many law schools focus their recruiting around criteria used to rank law schools – LSAT scores, past academic performance. But we have made a practice over the years of looking at the entire student – not just the numbers — and try to admit a very diverse group of students.”

*A Soviet Union-born entrepreneur; a Mormon missionary and a comedy-troupe performer...*

Law, Olsen explains, is one of the few professions that touch all walks of life. Classroom diversity, and the exchange of diverse viewpoints and ideas that it fosters, creates better lawyers with broader perspective, he says.

Which is partly why in the first-year torts course, you'll find former political science professor Elizabeth Pascal, Ph.D., from Connecticut, sitting alongside Priscilla Hampton, a 1998 Stanford University graduate and seven-year U.S. Navy veteran who served on a destroyer for two tours of duty, one of them in the Persian Gulf supporting troops in Afghanistan.

“I was surprised by the diversity, by how many people have done a variety of different things,” says Pascal, a mother of two, who hopes to pursue a career in public-interest law.

“It adds to class discussion when someone can cite personal experiences – when someone who has bought and sold a house can talk about property law, or in our torts class when we were discussing selling things like blood, and someone in the class said they had used a sperm donor.”

“There's a big mix of students,” adds Hampton, who became interested in law while stationed in Hawaii with her husband, also a naval officer, where they saw first-hand some of the land-use issues facing native Hawaiians. “You have your typical students ages 25 and 26 and then you have ex-military people and other non-traditional students...you get a lot of different perspectives and experiences.”

**D**r. Lilly Barros, age 35, is “on sabbatical” from her medical practice in Rochester. She's considering using her law degree to defend physicians in medical malpractice cases. The eclectic Patrick Craig, 27, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English literature from the University of the South and Brooklyn College, respectively. While in New York, he performed with the comedy troupe Stilted on Stage at the famous comedy nightclub Carolines on Broadway. “I see a law degree as a jumping-off point for many different possibilities,” he says.

As a professional interpreter, the well-traveled Yu Mi Choi was hired by the



British Embassy to assist Prime Minister Tony Blair and Queen Elizabeth II during diplomatic tours of Korea. It was while working as an interpreter in Missouri during a murder case involving a Korean witness, however, that Choi developed an interest in law. “The district attorneys were great; the experience gave me an inside look at the legal system,” says Choi, who after graduation may practice family law and return to Korea with her husband and 3-year-old daughter.



# all walks of life



Naval Officer Priscilla "Polly" Hampton, pictured with her commanding officer Captain Dave Buss onboard the USS Sacramento, likes the mix of students at UB Law School.

Melissa Fruscione, UB Law School's director of recruiting, says the school seeks to enroll diversity "in every sense of the word": ethnic, racial, religious, experiential and geographic. Half of the Law School's new class came straight from undergraduate institutions, Fruscione says, but 34 percent of the class is



Patrick Craig founded and performed with a comedy troupe before enrolling in the UB Law School.



Juilliard graduate Larissa S. Shahmatova toured Russia as a solo violinist.

25 years old or older, and 21 of the new students possess advanced degrees. The students hail from 23 U.S. states.

"Some law schools base their recruitment on numbers, and they have seen an eight to 10 point jump in average LSAT scores; however, they have compromised the overall quality of their class," Fruscione says. "That's something we hope to avoid. Numbers aren't always the best indicators of quality."

*A salesman, an environmentalist and interns for talk-show host Ellen De-*

*Generes and newsman Tim Russert...*

Rabbi Drorah Setel is from a family of lawyers, so perhaps it's not a surprise that she chose to relocate from Seattle to pursue a law degree at the age of 49. Setel is considering a career in public-interest law to continue in Buffalo some of the domestic-violence advocacy work she started while at her former synagogue. "There are similarities between being a lawyer and a rabbi," she says. "Each requires a similar analytical thought process."

Twenty-nine-year-old Larissa Shamatova is a classically trained violinist who as a teen toured throughout Russia and performed concerts with Russia's major orchestras, such as the Moscow Philharmonic. After graduating from Juilliard, she worked as a fundraiser for the Lincoln Center in New York City. She hopes a law degree will enable her to more fairly represent the legal interests of musicians and artists. Another Russian, classmate Oleg Rybak, moved to the U.S. in 1993, two years after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Armed with a law degree and a master's degree in European Studies, he hopes one day to return to Russia to help businesspeople create companies.

For former radio-ad salesman Daniel Kuhn, 27, the road to law school was filled with trials and tribulations. He became interested in law after successfully defending himself in town courts for a few speeding tickets he picked up while traveling to and from sales meetings.

Now settled in Brockport with his wife and 7-month-old son, Kuhn in June completed his degree in criminal justice, has worked for the Monroe County public defender's office and is responsibly making the 60-mile commute to the UB campus each day.

"I am interested in criminal law, but since coming to UB I've realized that there are many different aspects of law that appeal to me," Kuhn says.

# Law School Report



*Dean Olsen to the 2005 graduates:*

“While your journey may long strange trip, I am confident

Michael J.  
Flanagan and  
son Liam



# have at times seemed like a that you will remember it fondly.”

By Nicole Peradotto

John Dewey was quoted; so was Jerry Garcia. The Rule Against Perpetuities was mentioned; so was “Law and Order.” And by the end of a sunny spring afternoon, the members of UB Law’s Class of 2005 had been awarded the coveted purple academic hood, a hard-earned symbol of their freshly minted status as Juris Doctors.

Throughout the 116th commencement ceremony, held May 21 at the Center for the Arts, speakers reflected on what ownership of the hood entails, while graduates had a moment to celebrate before assuming the responsibilities of their new title.

“It is no understatement to say that you are the future of the legal community, because it will be shaped in large part by your arguments, your advocacy and your commitment to social equality and justice,” observed UB President Dr. John B. Simpson.

“Throughout your time in the Law School you have already made substantial and meaningful contributions to the intellectual discourse, discovery and collaboration that shapes the theory and practice of the law school today and will determine its future.”

For a dose of inspiration from within the legal profession, one of UB Law’s most accomplished alumni delivered



the keynote address – United States District Court Judge Paul L. Friedman ’68. Before embarking on a passionate speech about the importance of an independent judiciary, Friedman reminisced about his legal education.

“I started out at another law school,” Friedman recalled, “but came back to Buffalo in my second year, hoping to find what I was not finding elsewhere: a sense of why I had chosen to study law in the first place, and what I wanted to do with my life professionally.”

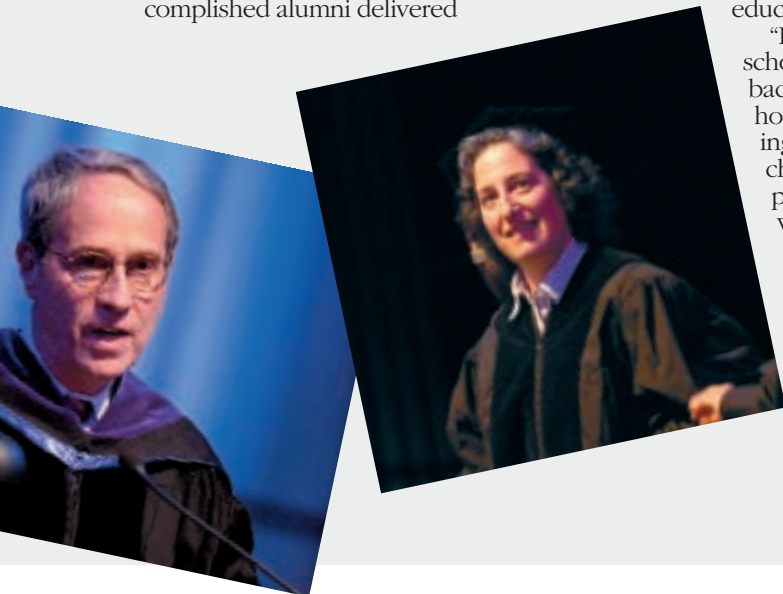
Under the watchful guidance

Daniel Tkachyk,  
recipient of the John N.  
Bennett Achievement  
Award

*Continued on Page 33*

Left, Andrea Greenberg, recipient of the Max Koren Award

United States District Court Judge  
Paul L. Friedman ’68





# Law School Report



University President John B. Simpson  
congratulates Christopher H. Horan.

## *Latin Honors 2005*

### *Summa Cum Laude*

Katie M. Metzen  
Daniel George Tkachyk

### *Magna Cum Laude*

Christopher A. Andreucci  
Paul James Avery  
Peter Chae  
Adam M. Clark  
Donald Wm. Driscoll  
Joseph Nicholas Endres  
Michael John Flanagan  
Heidi Lynn Forman  
Ruth Ellen Freeburg  
Kelly Ann Gilman  
Andrea Lynne Greenberg  
Jamie Lynne Halavais  
Nicole R. Hart  
Margo Mercedes Lagueras  
Ryan James Lucinski  
Sean Charles Patrick McPhee  
Jessica Ortiz  
Jennifer Marie Purcell  
Jennifer Renee Scharf

### *Cum Laude*

John Edmund Abeel

Elizabeth A. Almeter  
Cristina Andrea Bahr  
Zachary Robert Benjamin  
Roy David Bielewicz  
Rebecca L. Boogaart Cooper  
Allen Seth Brenner  
Christian Marie Brockway  
Sara Marie Bulson  
Susan Marie Cimini  
John Michael Cordon, Jr.  
Kyle Michael Costello  
Jillian Marie Dickson  
Jamie Rachael Dyce  
Danielle Erin Eisen  
Timmon Michael Favaro  
Rosemary Tessa Garlapow  
Erik Anthony Goergen  
Joseph Maron Hanna  
Jamie Elizabeth Hartzler  
Alice Yvonne Schott Hawks  
Scott Allen Heard  
Timothy Robert Hedges  
Giuseppe Antonio Ippolito  
Katharine Ruth Knauf  
Joshua Korman  
John Martin Lichtenthal  
Gordon William Lyon

Kyle Patrick Magee  
Molly Lauren Mallia  
Sara Holderle Marangola  
Brian David McCawley  
Lillian Medina-Zelazny  
Wendy Noel Mello  
Mary Elissa Mogavero  
Carolyn Marie Nugent  
Scott Michael Pechaitis  
Justin Michael Reich  
Brendan James Rich  
Brian David Rubenstein  
John Laurent Rudy  
Grayden Paul Schafer  
Jane Shufer  
Scott R. Simpson  
Kristin Ann Tisci  
Leslie Anne Travis  
Jennifer M. Turkovich  
Meredith Anne Vacca  
Amanda Marie Warner  
Emily Jane Westbrook  
John James Westman  
Andy On-Tik Wong  
Joseph Daniel Zargari



A member of the  
Class of 2027



*Continued from page 31*

of such professors as Jack Hyman, Lou Del Cotto, Kenneth Joyce, Herman Schwartz and then-Dean William Hawkland, Friedman said he learned to “think like a lawyer.”

“Their ability to bring the law to life – to make it interesting, both intellectually and practically – opened my eyes to the world of possibilities as I left this law school.”

After graduation, Friedman was one of the school’s first alumni to serve as a law clerk to a federal judge outside Western New York. Twenty-six years later, that very same judge, Aubrey E. Robinson Jr., administered the oath of office to Friedman when he joined him as a colleague on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

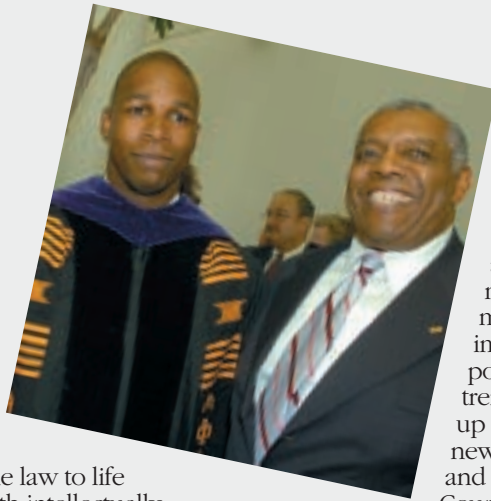
A well-known speaker and author on matters relating to professionalism, legal ethics, the administration of justice and sentencing, Friedman urged the Class of 2005 to “set the record straight” against misleading claims of judicial activism and arrogance.

“It is hard to remember a time when judges, courts and the judicial branch in general were subjected to so much gratuitous criticism, vitriolic commentary and purposely misleading attacks,” he said. “There are calls for impeachment of federal judges solely because of disagreements with their decisions. Terms such as ‘judicial activism,’ ‘judicial arrogance’ and ‘a judiciary run amok’ are used as aspersions, tossed about every day by people in positions of power and influence.

“If this current, often politically motivated drumbeat against judges continues unchallenged, more and more people, I am afraid, will lose faith not just in the courts but in the rule of law itself.”

Friedman pointed to examples from the recent past to make his point, including House Majority Leader Tom DeLay’s description of an “arrogant, out of control, unaccountable judiciary” following rulings by the Federal Court and Supreme Court in March rejecting an appeal by Terri Schiavo’s parents to keep the brain-dead woman’s feeding tube connected.

Seven years ago, Friedman recalled, when U.S. District Judge Harold Baer issued a



search and seizure decision that was widely perceived as anti-law enforcement, there were immediate calls for his impeachment. He pointed out that this trend may be picking up speed, but it isn’t new: Back in the 1950s and ‘60s, the Warren Court was labeled activist for its revolutionary criminal law and civil rights decisions.

“While the term ‘judicial activism’ is used all too loosely today, by definition it only occurs when a judge views his or her role as active, not passive; proactive, not reactive;

Neverson-Anyjah  
S. Heatley III



unrestrained by law and principle,” Friedman said.

“If this is how a judge acts, he or she should be called to task, whether those actions are motivated by politics of the left or the right. But the truth of the matter is that most judges, whatever their political backgrounds, take their oaths of office seriously and understand very well that they are not legislators or policymakers. We know we are meant to operate under significant constraints.”

All smiles for the camera is  
Yadira A. Ramos

*Continued on Page 35*

Left to right: Lara Kasper-Buckareff  
and Logan N. Joseph

# Law School Report

University at Buffalo Law School students received honors and awards at their recent commencement ceremony.

*The award recipients are:*

- **Andrea Lynne Greenberg** of Buffalo, the *Max Koren Award* for scholastic achievement, leadership and dedication to the ideals of the law
- **Daniel George Tkachyk** of Rochester, the *John N. Bennett Achievement Award* for the highest scholastic achievement in the graduating class
- **Jessica Ortiz** of Rochester, the *Dale S. Margulis Award* for having contributed the most to the Law School and community
- **Peter Chae** of Bayside, the *Birzon Prize in Clinical Legal Studies*, the *Charles Dautch Award* and a *Law Faculty Award* recognizing outstanding contributions to the Law School and community
- **Danielle Erin Eisen** of Snyder, the *Birzon Prize in Clinical Legal Studies* and a *Law Faculty Award* recognizing outstanding contributions to the Law School and community
- **John Michael Cordon Jr.** of Clyde, the *American Bankruptcy Institute Medal for Excellence*
- **Lillian Medina-Zelazny** of Amherst, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law* and the *Albert R. Mugal Award* recognizing proficiency in future interests and estate-planning law
- **Jennifer Marie Purcell** of Schenectady, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law* and election into the Order of Barristers, a nation-



al honor society composed of students who have excelled in the art of oral advocacy and service to the Moot Court Board

• **Steven Kenneth Trynosky** of Buffalo, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law*

• **Ruth Ellen Freeburg** of Amherst, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law*

• **Abigail Elaine Lighthart** of Amherst, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law*

• **Jonathan Marcelinus D'Silva** of Amherst, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law*

• **Paul James Avery** of Elmira Heights, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law*

• **Steven H. Grocott** of Amherst, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law*

• **Brian David Rubinstein** of Bath, the *American Bar Association* and *The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law*

• **Nicole R. Hart** of Tonawanda, the *Professor Louis DelCotto Award* recognizing excellence in the study of taxation, the *Harry A. Rachlin Prize in Real Property Law* and *Real Estate Transactions Award* and the *Justice Philip Halpern Award* for excellence in writing for the *Buffalo Law Review*

• **Alice Yvonne Schott Hawks** of Syracuse, the *Maurice Frey Award* for outstanding academic performance in family law

• **Sara Marie Bulson** of Buffalo, the *Edith and David Goldstein Award* for outstanding performance in debtor-creditor and bankruptcy law

• **Timmon Michael Favaro** of Ithaca, the *Tom Headrick "Trees and Forest"*

*Award* for a student of corporate finance who most clearly recognizes that a corporate practitioner needs both to understand the transaction fully and to get the details correct

• **Katie M. Metzen** of Williamsville, the *Adolf Hom-burger Law Alumni Association Award* for academic achievements in civil procedure and compassion for people and the *Robert J. Connelly Trial Technique Award*

• **Erik Anthony Goergen** of Alden, the *Judge Matthew J. Jasen Appellate Practice Award* for outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy, the *Robert J. Connelly Trial Technique Award* and election into the Order of Barristers, a national honor society composed of students who have excelled in the art of oral advocacy and service to the Moot Court Board

• **Giuseppe Antonio Ippolito** of Buffalo, the *Judge Matthew J. Jasen Appellate Practice Award* for outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy and election into the Order of Barristers, a national honor society composed of students who have excelled in the art of oral advocacy and service to the Moot Court Board

• **Donald Driscoll** of West Seneca, the *David Kochery Award* for service and involvement in one or more student organizations and exceptional performance in procedures and remedies

• **Brendan James Rich** of Buffalo, the *Laidlaw Law Alumni Association Award* for best performance in commercial law

• **Mary Elissa Mogavero** of Amherst, the *Moot Evidence*

*Continued on Page 36*





*Continued from page 33*

Before being sworn in as a judge, Friedman worked in both the public and private sector. From 1970 to 1974 he served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, trying more than 100 criminal cases and assisting the original U.S. Attorney team that investigated and prosecuted the Watergate break-in.

He then became an Assistant to Solicitor General of the United States Robert Bork, arguing five cases in the Supreme Court. For the next 18 years Friedman was with the international law firm of White & Case, ultimately as managing partner of its Washington office. During that period he handled a wide range of civil litigation, appellate cases and white-collar criminal defense matters.

From 1986 to 1988 he also was a principal deputy to Judge Lawrence Walsh, Independent Counsel for the Iran-Contra Investigation. In 1994 he was appointed to the U.S. District Court by President Bill Clinton. In that capacity Friedman presided over the largest civil rights settlement in U.S. history, a class action lawsuit brought by African-American farmers alleging decades of discrimination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Although such an impressive resume might suggest that he has had scant opportunity to pursue other interests, the keynote speaker made it clear that he cherishes his time away from the bench.

"No matter how hard you work, and how devoted to your profession you are, make time for family and friends. Get a life!" Friedman urged the gradu-



ates. "Don't miss seeing your children grow up. Find yourself friends who are not lawyers, and certainly not clients. As important as your career is, your life and your world must go beyond that narrow focus."

During class speaker Matthew R. Coseo's commencement address, he asked the graduating class to remember why each of them decided to pursue law in the first place.

Above left: Anthony T. Panebianco with parents Colleen and Anthony Panebianco.



"What was it that motivated you to enter this field? Was it the first time you won an argument at the dinner table or successfully talked your way out of a speeding ticket? Maybe it was the time you got two friends to stop fighting on the playground, or maybe it was after you had watched a few too many episodes of 'Law and Order.'"

Whatever the reason, the Class of '05 must be united in its dedication to justice, Coseo said.

"Commitment to this weighty adventure

Left to right: SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kenneth F. Joyce with UB President John B. Simpson

*Continued on Page 37*

Left to right: Dean Nils Olsen with Hon. John F. O'Donnell



*Continued from Page 35*

will not be easy for us. The law today is at once lauded for its nobility and honor and yet vilified for its perceived excesses and supposed 'frivolity.' As an attorney we will be given great power and, as the line from 'Spiderman' goes, 'With great power comes great responsibility.'"

Coseo reflected on all he and his classmates had endured to reach the podium: taking seven-hour exams, grappling with the Rule of Perpetuities – even being asked to temporarily relocate after a three-alarm fire in O'Brian Hall. Dean R. Nils Olsen also mentioned the blaze in his greetings to the students.

"While your journey may have at times seemed like a long strange trip, I am confident that you will remember it fondly," Olsen said, plucking a phrase from the songbook of the Grateful Dead.

"The law school at UB is much more than merely a place on the North Campus. At best it's an experience in which you establish lifelong friendships that will mature into supportive and collaborative professional associations; in which you have an unparalleled opportunity to focus your studies and intellectual growth in directions of your personal academic interest; and in which you are able to reflect upon your studies in comparative leisure, without the pressure of making a living from the application of that knowledge in the practice of law, and without measuring hours of your life in 10-minute intervals."

At the ceremony, the Center for the Arts was filled to near capacity with proud family and friends bearing flowers and snapping pictures. However, members of the Class of 2005 respectfully left three empty

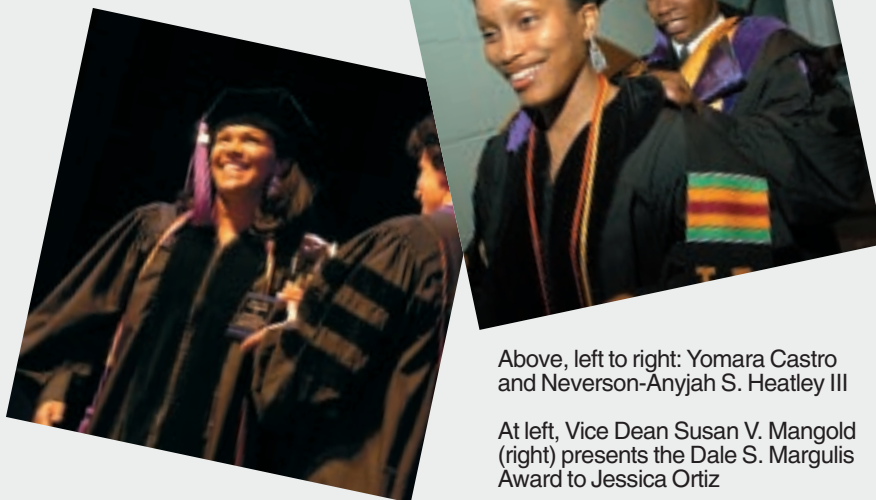


Left to right: Oriana Mendez '04, Yomara Castro '05 and Jenelle A. Callender '06

seats beside them in the center section.

Two were to recognize classmates Andrew Wells and Richard Tucker, both serving in Iraq. The remaining seat was to remember Ryan J. Mullins, who died suddenly of a heart ailment in September 2003.

With Mullins' parents looking on, Daniel K Morris received the first annual Ryan J. Mullins Award, presented to the graduating senior demonstrating the greatest commitment to and proficiency in criminal law and criminal trial practice.



Above, left to right: Yomara Castro and Neverson-Anyjah S. Heatley III

At left, Vice Dean Susan V. Mangold (right) presents the Dale S. Margulis Award to Jessica Ortiz



# Law School Report

## 21 Summer Public Interest Positions Funded by Dean, Donors and BPILP Events

Between the 10th Annual Buffalo Public Interest Law Program (BPILP) Auction and the UB Jazz Night, BPILP events raised a record \$29,000 to be used towards providing UB Law School students with the opportunity to accept unpaid public sector summer positions. With additional support coming from Dean Nils Olsen, the members and leadership of BPILP, public interest-minded alumni donors, and co-sponsoring student groups, 21 projects – throughout the country and around the world— received funding for this summer. In addition, four outstanding students were awarded national fellowships. We are proud to announce this year's Summer Public Interest Fellows.

### Dean's Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellows

**Jason Joaquin Almonte '07:** Office of the State Attorney, 20th Judicial Circuit of Florida, Fort Myers, FL

**Christine King '07:** Legal Aid Society of Rochester, Rochester, NY

**Leah Mervine '07:** Erie County Office of the District Attorney, Buffalo

**Jenny Mills '06:** Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy, Capital Post Conviction Unit, Frankfort, KY

### Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellows

**Todd Bolster '06:** New York Rivers United, Rome, NY (Co-sponsored by the Environmental Law Journal)

**Leah Angelita Bouquard '07:** Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc., Buffalo (Co-sponsored by the Domestic Violence Task Force)

**Beverly Braun '07:** United States Attorney's Office, Western District of New York, Buffalo. (Co-sponsored by the Prosecutor's Club)

**Adam Bushey '07:** New York State Office of Attorney General, Syracuse, NY

**James Cerwinski '07:** Erie County Division of Labor Relations, Buffalo

**Candace Curran '07:** Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Buffalo

**Andrew Guglielmi '06:** New York Rivers United, Rome, NY (Co-sponsored by the Environmental Law Journal)

**Stacy Hartley '07:** New York State Office of Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud Division, New York, NY

**Jennifer Hyatt '07:** Monroe County Legal Assistance, Elder Care Division, Rochester, NY

**Michael Jaccarino '07:** Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., Civil Legal Services Unit, Buffalo

**Khurram Khan '07:** Mazingira Institute, Nairobi, Kenya

**Brian McCarthy '07:** Kenya Human Rights Commission, Nairobi, Kenya (Co-sponsored by the Buffalo Human Rights Law Review)

### Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Grant Recipients

**Christina Cassillo '07:** New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc., New Haven, CT

**Aaron Miner '07:** Judge Sharon LoVallo, Buffalo City Court, Domestic Violence Project, Buffalo

### Kaplan & Reynolds Fellows

**Cheryl Halford '06:** US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Office of Federal Operations, Washington, DC

**Lisa Kelley '06:** Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled or Disadvantaged of WNY, Buffalo

**Rekha Trivikram '06:** Children's Defense Fund, Child Welfare and Mental Health Division, Washington, DC

The following two UB Law students were selected for the *2005 Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Program*. Each will receive an education award voucher through this national AmeriCorps-funded program. These students were among 505 applicants for 250 participant slots nationwide.

### Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Program

**Michael Jaccarino '07:** Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., Civil Legal Services Unit, Buffalo

**Brooke Kirkland '06:** National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, Washington, DC

The following two UB Law students were awarded the *Charles H. Revson Law Student Public Interest (LSPIN) Fellowship Grants*. These summer grants are for law students to work with public interest organizations in the New York metropolitan area. Grants are awarded to students attending law school in New York and New Jersey.

### Charles H. Revson Law Student Public Interest Fellowship Grants

**Julie Cserhalmi '06:** Legal Aid Society of Nassau County, Hempstead, NY

**Chee Kwan Kim '07:** New York State Division of Human Rights, Brooklyn, NY



UB Jazz Night at the Pearl Street Brewery



Above: Professor Errol E. Meidinger on the trumpet

Left: Professor James A. Gardner plays jazz piano to benefit BPILP

# Law School Report



Left to right: Barbara L. Schifeling '84, Jennifer Muca '08, Sarah Norton '08 and Sheri L. Mooney '96

*“Each mentoring relationship is unique. It has been our experience that it is a valuable extra component to our students’ legal education in which they go from backpack to briefcase.”*

— Vice Dean Melinda R. Saran

“Real education. Real opportunities. Real profession” is the catchy way the organizers of UB Law’s mentoring program describe the series of meetings and activities that are designed to introduce and integrate law students into the legal profession. The program is composed of a continuum of unique opportunities that enable UB Law students to interact with practicing attorneys and judges on an individual basis.

For first-year law students, the mentoring program matches each one with an experienced attorney or judge in the Western New York community. A committee of alumni and law school administrators makes the matches in

January, after the students have completed their first semester of Law School, including a course in Legal Profession and Ethics.

On Tuesday, Jan. 17, mentors and their student “mentees” will be treated





Far left, left to right:  
Ralph L. Halpern '53  
and Heidi M. Spalholz  
'07.

Left, left to right:  
Dale A. Ehman '75 and  
Terry M. Bagia '07



Above, left to right: Mickey H. Osterreicher '98,  
Stephanie Seitz '08 and Angela Miller '98.

Left, left to right: Melissa M. Piotrowicz '07,  
Kelly A. Connors '07 and Kyle C. DiDone '07

to a networking cocktail party to meet, mix and mingle. From there, each mentoring relationship takes an individual path. Some students want to observe their mentor in a practice setting, or are eager to discuss their lifestyle and satisfaction with a legal career; others want to network in a social setting with attorneys, or seek advice about possible areas of practice.

"Each mentoring relationship is unique. It has been our experience that it is a valuable extra component to our students' legal education in which they go from backpack to briefcase. It is, however, an introduction into the profession, not a job service," says Vice Dean Melinda R. Saran, who is coordinating the mentoring program.

Who are the mentors? "For the first-

year mentoring program, we seek attorneys with at least five years of practice," she says. "You do not have to be a UB Law School graduate to become a mentor." Mentors are eligible to attend a new training program for which they can earn one CLE ethics credit.

**A**t the upper-class level, UB Law's Career Services Office provides the resources of alumni around the country to meet the individual needs of interested law students. Second- and third-year students choose mentors based on practice area and geographic location.

The Law School also works with the Bar Association of Erie County Young Lawyers Committee to provide mentors

to support law graduates studying for the bar examination.

For more information – or if you are interested in becoming a mentor to a first year student – please contact Melinda R. Saran, Vice Dean for Student Affairs, UB Law School, at 645-6223.

# Law School Report



Left to right: Enam Hoque '06, Michael D. Mann '06, Geoffrey A. Kaeuper '06 and Leah R. Mervine '07 compete in the Desmond competition.

## On top of their game

*Trial competition program builds a national reputation*

Under the guidance of more than a dozen alumni and members of the Western New York legal community, UB Law School's trial competition program – which sends teams of students across the country to compete – is finding major success.

Chief among the good news is UB Law's first-place victory in the Lonestar Clas-

sic Invitational Tournament in San Antonio, Texas, last fall, with a team consisting of Dan Morris, Lauren Cutuly, Sarah Wesley and John Menna, coached by Christopher O'Brien and Brian Melber '96. They defeated teams from the University of Washington, Georgia Southern College of Law, Texas Wesleyan and St. Mary's College of Law. In addition, Morris was named Best Advocate.

"This has been our most ambitious year to date in terms of the number of competitions entered and the number of teams winning or advancing to the finals of national competitions," said Buffalo

City Judge Thomas P. "Tim" Franczyk, who coordinates the trial competition program at the Law School. "You could say it is our breakout year. Within the past three years in particular, it has really gone through the roof."

Franczyk said the Law School fielded teams in six competitions in fall '04, in addition to hosting the Buffalo Niagara Invitational Tournament, and sent teams this spring to Syracuse for the regional round of the National Trial Competition, and to Rhode Island for the regional of the American Trial Lawyers Association competition.

Of the two teams UB sent to Syracuse, one – Leslie Travis, Aaron Glazer and Lauren Cutuly – advanced to the quarterfinals.

UB Law's team – Dan Morris, Sarah Wesley, Mary Mogovero and Janine Sprague, coached principally by Joseph Marusak '81 – won the regional competition in Rhode Island in February; in the national competition in West Palm Beach, Fla., in April, they came up just short on points of making the quarterfinals, after competing against two of the eventual semifinalists.

Preparation for the competition, Marusak said, "requires the students to prepare an opening statement and a closing statement; each student has to do one direct and one cross-examination. It requires them to write and rewrite and revise continually those sections of a trial. In addition, they have to master the federal rules of evidence on the evidentiary issues that arise, so they really have to do their homework in terms of arguments that have to be made on objections. It is a ton of work. We

were practicing, on the average, a minimum five days a week, probably three hours a night."

One of the keys to success in trial competitions, Marusak said, is responding to the unexpected turns and arguments that arise at trial. To train his team to do that, he persuaded seven or eight teams of two local lawyers to come to the practices and play the plaintiff and defense attorneys. "I found that to be invaluable," he said, in honing the competitors' ability to think on their feet. "Everybody has their script. The key to success is how well you respond to what the other side is doing, because you do not know what their script is."

At the Lonestar Invitational, said

hours preparing."

He noted that over the course of a competition, students end up arguing both sides of the case – and in some competitions, including Lonestar, even play the part of witnesses.

Another notable success came in November at the National Civil Trial Invitational Competition in Los Angeles, sponsored by Loyola Law School. UB Law's team of Janine Sprague, Meg Culiton, Matt Coseo and Aaron Glazer came in second to the South Texas College of Law, having defeated teams from Loyola, the University of Alabama, Samford University (Cumberland School of Law) and Thomas Cooley Law School. They were coached by Julie Atti and Kristin St. Mary, classmates in the

Class of 2003.

The two coaches were teammates on trial competition teams during their law school years, and "when we graduated, we wanted to do the same for future students," St. Mary said. She said a group of about 15 legal professionals work with UB

Law's trial competition program, sometimes sitting in on other coaches' teams to offer a fresh perspective. "It is a pretty rigorous training regimen," she said. "We meet every night."

Trial competition was "the best experience I had in law school, and it is nice to be able to pass that on to current students," Atti said. "By the time I finished law school, I had done 29 full trials, because I was on several teams."

The Los Angeles competition, she said, is "a huge deal. This competition is by invitation only, based on your national ranking. For first time in a long time, we are really on the map as a school with a great trial advocacy program."

"It is so much fun for the students, because not only are they learning so much about trial advocacy above and beyond what a regular class could

*Continued on Page 46*



New York State Supreme Court Judge John M. Curran '84, left, and U.S. Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder '61

coach O'Brien, it was "one of those situations where the chemistry of this team was just perfect. They were battling for each other the whole way through. Each one of them got points in the competition for best advocate on at least one or more judges' ballots. It was a demanding team in that they always wanted to do better."

For the coaches, he said, "it is just a fantastic experience, because it forces you as a practicing lawyer to rethink everything you do and why you do what you do. Why is it that we only ask leading questions on cross? Why is it that we want to tell a story in the present tense in our opening statement? Things like that."

Melber, the other team coach, said the team received the competition problem about three months before the event. "The students meet with their coach up to five times a week," he said. "They spend an incredible number of

Opportunities abound for students who want to compete in moot court competitions. Ninety-nine students competed on teams that represented UB Law School against other law schools. These competitions included:

#### **Jessup Moot Court Board:**

- Fasken- Martineau International competition for 1Ls
- Niagara Cup regional competition
- Jessup International Moot Court competition

#### **Appellate Advocacy competitions**

Through our Appellate Advocacy course:

- ABA National Appellate Advocacy competition
- Hispanic National Bar Association competition
- Evans Constitutional Moot Court competition at the University of Wisconsin
- Federal Bar Association Thurgood Marshall competition

#### **Trial Team competitions:**

- Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition – hosted by UB Law School
- Lonestar Invitational in San Antonio, Texas
- National Civil Trial Competition in Los Angeles
- National Trial competition regionals
- American Trial Lawyers Association regionals
- Albert R. Mugel National Tax competition – hosted by UB Law School
- Weschler Criminal Moot Court competition – hosted by UB Law School
- National Black Law Students Association's Frederick Douglass Moot Court competition

In addition, intramural competitions include the Desmond Moot Court competition, ABA Representation in Mediation Competition, and IL Jessup competition.



# Law School Report

## Double the punch

*Improvements in the J.D./M.B.A. program make a good thing better*



Left to right: School of Management Dean John M. Thomas '76, Law School Dean Nils Olsen and David E. Franasiak '78

A long-term marriage is only getting better, as the Law School and the University at Buffalo School of Management look to strengthen an already-successful series of academic collaborations. "The Law School and the School of Management have built, over the years, a collaborative educational experience," said Dean Nils Olsen. "There has always been a very close relationship between the two schools."

The efforts represent significant changes to the J.D./M.B.A. program, the most popular of the Law School's many dual degree programs. And they come at a time when the marketplace increasingly demands graduates who are comfortable in both the legal and business worlds.

"More and more, the practice of law across the spectrum, from commercial practice to public interest, requires an

understanding and knowledge both of business and of legal principles," said Dean Olsen. "This dual degree also enables even the lawyer who is going to work for a company to become very familiar with approaches that management takes. Equally important, it helps those who are going into management to better understand and utilize the services of counsel."

One example of cross-pollination

outside the J.D./M.B.A. program is the Law School's finance transactions concentration – essentially a cluster of courses about the art of the deal. Philip R. Perry, a School of Management associate professor, co-teaches some of those courses with his counterparts in the Law School. Likewise, a School of Management course in mergers and acquisitions is expected to enroll some law students. In the Law School's course on financial transactions, 20 of the 80 class members are management students.

"I think we are very much ahead of the curve here when it comes to our peer institutions," agreed Olsen's counterpart, School of Management Dean John Thomas, himself a 1976 graduate of the Law School. "I have a lot of respect for this law school. They have an outstanding faculty."

The J.D./M.B.A. program has been growing rapidly. In 2000, Thomas said, there were four J.D./M.B.A. students. Now there are 15, equal to 10 percent of the management school's full-time MBA class. In the four-year J.D./M.B.A. program, all students spend their first year in the School of Management, their second year in the Law School, and then take a mix of courses in the final two years.

Changes in the works for the program center on three areas: administrative streamlining, academic enrichment, and an exciting initiative in New York City.

Administratively, the two schools are working to create a single, unified admissions application for the pro-

*"More and more, the practice of law across the spectrum... requires an understanding and knowledge both of business and of legal principles."*

— Dean Olsen

gram. Until now, applicants have had to complete a separate application for each school. In publicizing opportunities at UB, Thomas said, "We are looking to market this very much as a separate program." Additionally, a new position in the Law School's Career Services Office is expected to work with School of Management placement experts.

Academically, administrators and faculty at both schools are exploring ways to enrich the J.D./M.B.A. students' experience. It starts with making these ambitious students feel part of a group effort.

"We are working on different program enrichment activities to give the J.D./M.B.A. students a separate sense of identity," Thomas said. "We want them to be able to develop an identity as a group." Those activities may range from simple social events to a planned speaker series.

"We are working very hard to make it a unified program," Olsen said. "While they get two degrees, they are a member of a cohort that has directed their studies toward management and law. We want to have courses, curricular activities and placement directed specifically toward this group."

Also, said Law School Clinical Professor Thomas F. Disare, who is active with the program, "We want to explore creation of a capstone course – a course that challenges students to ask themselves, what do you know, where are you going? It will take on colloquium-type issues."

In addition, the schools plan a significant investment of time and energy in Science Technology Outreach, or STOR, which works to commercialize technologies developed at the University. The

*Continued on Page 46*

## The view from J.D./M.B.A. alumni

The J.D./M.B.A. program has been in place for the long haul. So how has the dual degree worked out for graduates? We asked some.

**Susan Weber '89** was working in television news when she began an MBA program part time. She then decided to go to law school, quit the news business and spent three full-time years at UB earning the dual degree. Now she is a partner in the Chicago office of the international firm Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, practicing "primarily product liability and consumer fraud litigation, with a large emphasis on pharmaceutical companies."

"Exposure to the management courses is enormously beneficial in helping to understand the perspective of large corporate clients and helping in-house counsel to address issues with their internal business plan," Weber said.

"When you are developing a litigation strategy, there are frequently aspects of that strategy that have to be sold to the business managers. And if outside counsel can anticipate the questions that are going to go to in-house people, then you can work together more effectively.

"Having some business courses is beneficial for young lawyers, too. Sometimes with new associates, the first time they are exposed to corporate reports, some of them panic."

**Michael Rosenbaum '84** is a director of the international accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in Atlanta.

"I wanted to have a career with a business or consulting firm, rather than something purely legal," he said. "The best way to have some credibility to initially start out was to also have the MBA degree. It also provided useful skills. I enjoyed tax law, so it was quite a natural thing to get my MBA in accounting.

"The Law School was a different per-

spective on how to come up with some answers. Much of accounting is rules-driven, whereas in law one can be somewhat creative and determine where there are paths you can go within the tax law that can benefit your client.

"People will stop by with issues or problems that have come up, and a lot of things are laid out in an accounting format of debits and credits. The fact that I understand what's going on, because of my MBA, helps the interaction."

**Gary DeWaal '80**, who is senior executive vice president and group general counsel of the Fimat Group in New York City, said, "The J.D./M.B.A. definitely was worth the extra year and the extra money. I remember in the winter of my third year thinking about not going forward, and really weighing it, because I was reluctant to not graduate with my colleagues. But ultimately I decided it was the right thing to do.

"I knew that it would make me more marketable. Academically, I was interested in both law and business. I was an undergraduate economics major, so the opportunity to marry law and business, for me, was invaluable.

"One of the values I bring to my work is remarkable credibility. When I speak to the lawyers, I speak as both a lawyer and a business guy; and when I speak to the business guys, I speak as both a business guy and a lawyer."

**David Franasiak '78** is chief financial officer and a senior partner in Williams & Jensen in Washington, D.C., a policy firm that does lobbying on statutory and regulatory issues. The J.D./M.B.A., he said, is especially helpful in industries that are highly regulated, such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals and utilities, or the financial sector. "It helps you navigate not only the marketplace but also the laws and regulations that govern it," Franasiak said.

Also, he said, "If you want to go into pure policy, work in a think tank or academia, or you want to work for an international institution like the United Nations or a U.S. institution like the Federal Reserve, it is also extraordinarily helpful. You can really understand the intersection between the law and the marketplace.

"While we try to think like lawyers, we also very much try to think like business people."

# Law School Report



Competitors in the Law School's trial competition program

## Trial competition program

*Continued from Page 43*

teach them, it is basically practical application of the law. This gives them such a great tool in terms of coming out of law school and saying, 'I have been in a courtroom, I know my way around a courtroom.'

Also in Los Angeles, the UB Law team of Delesha Burton, Joshua Korode, Yadira Ramos and Dianne Thoben competed in the annual Tournament of Champions invitational, open to law schools with nationally recognized successful trial advocacy programs. Though the team did not advance, it competed against all four eventual semifinalists in the preliminary rounds.

UB Law's success in such competitions, Franczyk said, "really does build on itself. The point is not just to win competitions, though that enhances UB's reputation. The primary goal is to give law students the best opportunity we can to become great trial lawyers."

Closer to home, the on-campus Charles S. Desmond Moot Court Competition enjoyed another successful run last fall. The Desmond competition is the top oral advocacy competition open to second- and third-year law students. Students write an appellate brief

and present oral arguments on a case that is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The competition case was based on *Johnson v. California*, looking at the California Department of Corrections' policy of segregating new prisoners by race for up to 60 days.

An astounding 28 teams competed. Allen Brenner, Buffalo Moot Court Board president, said that was as many teams as the last two years combined. After three nights of preliminary rounds, the quarterfinalist teams continued in Buffalo City Court.

The '04 finals were held in the Letro Courtroom on the first floor of O'Brian hall, before an active three-judge panel consisting of U.S. Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder '61, New York Supreme Court Justice John M. Curran '84, and Robert B. Conklin '68.

Geoffrey Kaeuper and Leah Mervine, representing the petitioner, edged out Enam Hoque and Michael Mann for the top prize. Top oralist honors went to Lauren Cutuly; Jason Lee and Amber Storr won the award for best brief.

## Improvements in the J.D./M.B.A. program

*Continued from Page 45*

schools are looking to create a program in technology entrepreneurship and commercialization, for which STOR would serve as the laboratory. "The goal is to assist the University to build successful tech start-ups," Thomas said. "We want to build this as an educational endeavor as well as one that benefits the mission of STOR."

But perhaps the most exciting initiative for the J.D./M.B.A. program will come not in Buffalo, but in New York City. It is there that the State University of New York is creating the Levin Graduate Institute, a new institution focused on providing SUNY students access to sophisticated international business and legal institutions situated in the New York City area. UB students in the J.D./M.B.A. program will be offered the chance to spend a semester at the Levin Institute studying international banking and finance, taught by UB Law and Management faculty in the world's financial capital. "This will give J.D./M.B.A. a unique dimension," Thomas said.

Added Olsen: "Buffalo is definitely not New York City when it comes to very sophisticated international finance and banking and legal transactions. The Levin Institute has for us the advantage of location and access to all the financial and political and legal leadership in the City of New York."

The new educational program is expected to include classroom lectures, team-based projects, panel discussions with practitioners, and company site visits. The program emphasizes analytic tools, cross-cultural skills and global perspectives.

The first J.D./M.B.A. students from Buffalo may begin studying there as early as this spring.



# Class of 2004 Employment Statistics

## Geographic Distribution

### WITHIN NEW YORK STATE

Region	Distribution
Buffalo	57%
Rochester	13%
New York City & Boroughs	12%
Syracuse	6%
Albany	4%
Other	4%
Finger Lakes	2%
Southern Tier	2%

### OUTSIDE NEW YORK STATE

Region	Distribution
International	17%
CA	14%
OH	12%
FL	9%
MD	9%
PA	9%
WA	3%
ME	3%
NC	3%
NJ	3%
NM	3%
NV	3%
OR	3%
TX	3%
VA	3%
VT	3%



## Practice Area Breakdown

Practice Area	Distribution
Corporate	17%
Public Interest	5%
Government	6%
Judicial Clerk	3%
Military (JAG)	4%
Academic	3%
Degree Seeking	4%
Not Specified	17%
Private Practice	57%

## Firm Size Breakdown

Firm Size	Distribution
Very Small (2-5)	44%
Small (11-25)	15%
Very Large (101-250)	11%
Large (51-100)	9%
Medium (26-50)	8%
Mega (251+)	7%
Unknown	5%
Solo	1%

## Firm Size Salaries

Private Practice	Median	High
251+	\$110,000	\$125,000
100-250	70,000	125,000
51-100	65,000	85,000
26-50	45,000	52,000
11-25	43,000	60,000
2-10	40,000	104,000

## Practice Area Salaries

Practice Area	Median	High
Government	\$50,000	\$80,000
Private Practice	46,250	125,000
Corporate	45,000	80,000
Academic	44,000	85,000
Public Interest	37,000	43,000

# Student Events



## Under Advisement

*Buffalo Law Review Dinner  
highlights successful mentoring initiative*

Robert B. Conklin '68, recently retired president of the Buffalo-based law firm Hodgson Russ LLP

While there is no teacher like experience, an experienced mentor in the legal profession comes close.

UB Law School's successful mentoring program, partnering practitioners with law students eager to learn the practicalities of the profession, was the focus of the 16th annual *Buffalo Law Review* Dinner, held April 21

at The Buffalo Club. The Class of 2005 was the first to benefit from this mentoring program, an idea that was conceived during a meeting of the school's Dean's Advisory Council. Editors of the *Law Review* honored Robert B. Conklin '68, who first proposed the idea and has been instrumental in its success.

Conklin, recently retired president of the Buffalo-based law firm Hodgson Russ, served on the *Law Review* himself in 1967-68. Dean Nils Olsen has said, "Mentors offer advice and assistance to law students as they embark on their le-

gal careers. Without Bob Conklin's support, this program would not have been launched."

It was a productive year for the *Buffalo Law Review*, said outgoing editor in chief John L. Rudy. His class, he noted, was the first to produce eight issues of the review – four annually. Among other accomplishments, he recognized a streamlined publication process and a restructured Web site. Vol. 52, No. 3, of the journal also made history as the first issue entirely devoted to essays – an accomplishment Rudy celebrated by pre-

senting a framed cover to Professor David Westbrook, who helped guide the project. Planned this spring is a symposium issue on the challenges facing hospitals and the delivery of health care services.

In his remarks, Conklin said that "my part in starting the mentoring program was simply copying an idea from the Medical School. A core group of alumni and staff in the Law School made it work. Now in its third year, it is flourishing, and to the extent to which I have been involved, I am very proud."

Before an audience that included his family and many of his colleagues from Hodgson Russ, Conklin reflected on some of the people who have been his mentors over a long and distinguished career:

- Max Slopoy, who was on the *Law Review* editorial board in 1967-68 and "patiently dealt with me and pushed me.



... I was a late bloomer, so it was wonderful to be given that opportunity.”

- Legendary trial lawyer Herald Price Fahringer. Conklin said he never forgot arriving early to his student job at Lipsitz, Green and seeing Fahringer practicing before a mirror the summation of a case he would deliver that afternoon – a stirring example of hard work and preparation.

- Bob Fleming Sr., a professor of corporate law who “gave me one of my lowest grades in law school” but tipped him to a clerkship with U.S. District Judge John T. Curtin.

***“There are all kinds of mentoring in this world. If someone has mentored you in your life, pass it on.”***

- Judge Curtin, “an extraordinary human being who gave me a chance to see what lawyering was all about from the other side of the bench.”

- The lawyers, past and present, with whom he has worked at Hodgson Russ, including the senior Hugh Russ (“he taught me that litigation is a team sport”); Grover James, who went tooth and nail with his own brother when they were opposing counsel on a case; Bill Larson (“he gave me a winning case in my first six months at the firm. This gave me the confidence to do what I wanted to do”); Steve Kelly, who developed multiple sclerosis but “showed me the courage of a lawyer who loved to practice law and did so until the end”; and his present colleagues at the firm from which he will soon retire.

“There are all kinds of mentoring in this world,” Conklin concluded. “If someone has mentored you in your life, pass it on. And if you want, we will be happy to sign you up for next year’s mentoring program!”

The evening concluded with presentation of the Carlos Alden Award, for the person who has made the greatest contribution to the *Buffalo Law Review*, to John L. Rudy; the Philip Halpern Award, to a third-year student for excellence in writing, to Nicole R. Hart, assistant executive editor; and Associate Publication Awards, promising publication in the 2005-06 issues, to Jonathan Bevilacqua, Andrew O. Guglielmi, Angel M. Overgaard, and Sachin Kohli, the incoming editor in chief.



Left to right: Robert B. Fleming Jr. '78 and SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kenneth F. Joyce



George F. Bellows '85



Left to right: Professors James A. Wooten, Janet S. Lindgren, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Elizabeth B. Mensch and Clinical Professor George M. Hezel



Left to right: Alexandra Maloney '06, Megan E. Misiti '06 and Stephanie M. Palladino '06



Danielle Eisen '05, center, with guest, and Molly Mallia '05, right



# Student Events

## Honoring Success

*Outlaw dinner celebrates three in gay community*



James A. Ver Steeg,  
executive director of the  
Pride Center of Western New York



Heath E. Miller '07,  
Outlaw president



Students from the undergraduate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Alliance (LGBT+)

Three people prominent in Western New York's gay and lesbian community were honored on the evening of Wednesday, April 27, as Outlaw – the Law School's student association for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people – celebrated its ninth annual recognition dinner at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo.

The honorees were **Barbra A. Kavanaugh '83**, confidential law clerk to New York State Supreme Court Justice John F. O'Donnell; **John H. Morgan**, executive director of the Men of Color Health Awareness Project; and **James A. Ver Steeg**, executive director of the Pride Center of Western New York.

Under the leadership of law student Heath Miller '07, Outlaw was revitalized this year. Previously part of the Progressive Law Society, it is now an indepen-

dent organization. In his remarks, Miller expressed his hope for an alliance among the groups throughout the University that support gay and lesbian students, including the undergraduate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Alliance and a graduate student group similar to Outlaw in the Medical School.

In accepting their awards, two honorees used the occasion to detail the work of their areas of work.

Morgan said the Men of Color

Health Awareness Project, or MOCHA, "started as a cubicle in Rochester" and has grown in eight years to become the largest organization of its kind outside of New York City. The program, with an annual budget of more than \$1 million, provides services and support to people of color in the Rochester and Buffalo areas.

Morgan spoke of the barriers he and his colleagues had to overcome in getting the project going, such as existing AIDS and other organizations asserting that an effort specifically targeting people of color would be redundant to their work. But MOCHA, Morgan said, is "for people of color, by people of color," and thus is more effective in its demographic niche.

He reminded the law students in attendance, "You are advocates for the legal system. You are advocates for



Progressive Law Society (PLS) executive board (left to right): Rachel A. Vankoughnet '06, President, Sean P. Kelly '06 and Vice President, Sarah L. Couch '06, Secretary. The PLS awarded its annual Activist Gavel Award to Heath E. Miller '07 for his leadership with Outlaw.



John H. Morgan, executive director of the Men of Color Health Awareness (MOCHA) Project.

consumers. Never forget that is who you are."

**V**er Steeg, who worked previously for 10 years as director of public affairs for the local chapter of the American Automobile Association, said the Pride Center has been open for a year and a half. The Pride Center, funded through the New York State Department of Health, is an educational outreach to the LGBT community with special emphasis on substance abuse prevention. A recent program, for example, targeted the street drug crystal meth.

He spoke more broadly about the question of what makes LGBT people – who represent both sexes and all races and sexual orientations – a cohesive community. "We define the ties

that bind us through unfortunate adversity," he said. "The one thing that compels this community to cohesion is the fact that LGBT persons are considered second-class citizens."

To combat that, he urged those in attendance to network as gay lawyers, to build the relationships that will "make sure people understand your fundamental humanity."

The third honoree, Kavanaugh, was kept from the dinner by a schedule conflict. She has a long career in neighborhood legal services and poverty law, and served for three years on the Buffalo Common Council. Kavanaugh also ran the state attorney general's office in Buffalo for three years. She and her partner of 20 years, Lynn Edelman, were the first same-sex couple in Erie County to jointly adopt children.

*"You are advocates  
for the legal system.  
You are advocates  
for consumers.  
Never forget that is  
who you are."*

## Agent *of* Change



Mason P. Ashe '89

*Students of  
Color Dinner  
features noted  
sports lawyer  
Mason P.  
Ashe '89*

Mason P. Ashe '89, a successful sports and entertainment attorney who was listed by *Sports Illustrated* magazine as among the “101 Most Influential Minorities in Sports” was the featured speaker at this year’s Students of Color Dinner, held April 8 in the Buffalo Niagara Marriott. The dinner is an annual event honoring UB Law School’s students of color, especially those in their final year of school.

Ashe, president of Ashe Sports & Entertainment Consulting Inc., represents such sports figures as Daunte Culpepper, quarterback of the NFL’s Minnesota Vikings, and Stromile Swift of the NBA’s Memphis Grizzlies. Beyond negotiating contracts, his firm concentrates on clients’ branding and marketing opportunities as well as helping them to find reliable guidance in managing their wealth.

He recalled his UB Law School days, a time when he was known for carrying Federal Express packages around campus because he was doing small research projects for a law firm. “Ten hours a week, \$300 in my pocket. I might have been the richest black man on campus,”

he laughed.

His life changed, he said, when he discovered a classic of self-help literature: Napoleon Hill’s book *Think and Grow Rich*. From those ideas and his own experience, he provided this counsel: “Dream big and believe in yourself. Discover your passion or your burning desire. If there is a career you love, learn everything you can about it. And once you do the research, write a plan of action to achieve that goal.”

Among Ashe’s other pieces of advice:

- Advising those in attendance to cultivate diverse interests but master at least one specific skill, he cited one football client of his who “runs like a house is on his back, but he is one of the best block-





Upperclassmen passed on their legacy in a candle-lighting ceremony.

ing tight ends ever. There is always a job waiting for him."

- Develop multiple revenue streams. "You have to be diversified. You never know when that fee is going to come."

- Do not be afraid to attack new opportunities. Ashe quit the law firm where he was a second-year associate and started working as a sports and entertainment agent out of his townhouse. He built his business by driving to summer sports leagues and scouting clients.

- Collect your fees as soon as you can.

Success, he said, has to be seen as a path, not a destination: "I have learned that the laws of nature will work against you if you think you have made it."

And he is enthusiastic about trying new ventures. Among those, he said, he is awaiting final approval for a reality television show about playground basketball; launching an African-American figure skating tour; and finishing a novel.

Awards were given to a number of prominent figures in the legal communi-



Hon. Julio M. Fuentes '75



Carolina M. Felix '07



Lourdes M. Ventura '98

ty, including:

The Trailblazer Award, presented to Crystal D. Peoples, who serves the 141st District of the New York State Assembly. "I stand on a lot of people's shoulders," the legislator said. "There is no need to climb if you are not going to lift people behind you."

The Jacob D. Hyman Professor of the Year Award, which went to Barbara A. Sherk '02, who teaches advanced legal research and writing. "It is always special when a student comes to me and says, 'I have a job, I passed the bar, I'm getting better grades, I have more confidence.' Please continue to know and nurture your own unique talents,

to get where you want to be in this wonderful profession."

Two Distinguished Alumni Awards, given to Hon. Julio M. Fuentes '75, who serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit; and Lourdes M. Ventura '98, an assistant attorney general with the New York State attorney general's office.

Said Fuentes, the highest-ranking judge to graduate from UB Law School: "I really envy all the opportunities open to you to make a difference in our society. The legal profession can take you in unexpected directions. Remember the reasons you went to law school, and allow them to guide you." Said Ventura: "UB Law School prepared me to be an attorney but also an advocate. It is your job to ensure that other people who look like us get the same opportunities that you are going to have."

Also presented were three Lift as We Climb Scholarship Awards, given to three young women who are seniors at Buffalo's City Honors School.

# Student Events

## The prosecutor as hero

*Author's presentation recounts a little-known WWII war crimes tribunal*

The heroic story of a 32-year-old lawyer who led the largest U.S. war crimes prosecution of Nazis following World War II was told to a rapt audience Sept. 26 in O'Brian Hall. The trials at Dachau – site of an infamous German concentration camp – were much larger than the better-known Nuremberg trials. From late 1945 to 1948, 21 Army prosecutors brought charges against more than 1,600 prisoners – concentration camp guards, officers, doctors, kapos and other war criminals who administered a reign of death at Dachau, Mauthausen, Flossenburg and Buchenwald.

Drawing from his book *Justice at Dachau*, presenter Joshua M. Greene told a riveting tale of young prosecutor William Denson, a genteel Southerner thrust into a world of unimaginable horror.

Denson was teaching at West Point when the Army tapped him to head the Dachau prosecutions. At first, Greene said, Denson refused to believe the accounts of eyewitnesses to the slaughter. But as he heard the same stories again and again, he was forced to accept the reality of the crimes.

"He did not know what he was getting into," Greene said. "He grew up in the Jim Crow South, and was raised as a devout Presbyterian. He was very naïve about war.

"The evidence room has two tons of paper documents, all pointing to numbers of people killed that just baffled Bill Denson's imagination. After studying the evidence for a long time, he realized it was true. For Bill Denson, this suddenly became monumental. If fu-



Joshua M. Greene

ture Hitlers were to be deterred, his job was to obtain righteous convictions — righteous in the sense that, despite

enormous pressures to finish the trials quickly, due process was paramount. The rule of law had to be respected."

The Dachau trials, Greene said, were characterized by a series of legal protections afforded the accused that included court-appointed counsel or the right to call German counsel at U.S. expense; a limit of 10 witnesses against any one accused; the defendant was not obliged to take the stand; and the right to cross-examine, to remain silent and to present one's own witnesses.

"These could not be just kangaroo courts," Greene said. "This could not be just victor's justice – motivated by revenge rather than justice."

The sheer volume of defendants demanded a creative approach to case management. Denson's solution was to try 177 individuals in so-called "parent trials." These established, for example, the legal precedent that contributing to the running of a concentration camp was a crime. The "sub-trials" that followed thus had that fact as a given, saving huge amounts of time in trying hundreds of defendants.

The overall argument was that the defendants had violated the rules of war under international conventions through their participation in a "common design." Essentially it was a conspiracy charge, alleging that they had aided, abetted or taken part in the operation of a camp whose purpose was to kill prisoners. "If you were delivering potatoes," Greene said, "you were just as guilty as the guard who pulled the trigger."

Greene's presentation was rich with photographs and artwork of the time,





and pointed up the dramatic nature of the scene. In a crowded former prison camp barracks, lawyers on both sides argued before an eight-judge tribunal, with a gigantic American flag as backdrop.

**D**enson's work took a terrible toll on the young lawyer. His weight dropped from 170 pounds to 116, and he developed palsy-like trembling in his arms and legs. At one point he collapsed in court and had to be hospitalized for two weeks.

But Denson and his team of lawyers in the Judge Advocate General corps were largely successful. In the first trial, all 40 defendants were found guilty as charged, and 37 were sentenced to death. Hundreds more convictions fol-

lowed. The convicted included Dr. Karl Schilling, who used prisoners to test cures for malaria; August Eigruber, overseer of the Mauthausen death camp; and Ilse Koch, the infamous sexually disturbed "Bitch of Buchewald."

Only a relative handful, however, were hanged. In 1948, when America's priorities shifted from punishing Nazis to winning Germany's support against Soviet Russia at the outset of the Cold War, the Dachau convictions were overturned in a series of commutations and reversals of sentences. The scandal of those reversals led to a Senate subcommittee hearing that exonerated Denson and condemned the Army's release of Nazi criminals. Denson, outraged, left the Army and never set foot in a criminal courtroom again. He returned to his Alabama hometown and pursued a quiet law practice until his

Joshua M. Greene showing his multimedia presentation on the Dachau trials

death in 1998.

Today, Greene said, Denson is recognized as a hero of universal human rights, and the precedents he established at Dachau are used in international courts.

Greene's presentation was sponsored by the Jewish Law Students Association under the auspices of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, and several student groups.



*"I do not mean to portray the legal system as one in which individuals never prevail. What I am trying to describe is a structural and cultural situation that puts them at a relative disadvantage..."*



Professor David A. Westbrook and Professor of Law and South Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin Marc Galanter



Professor Robert S. Berger

## Dr. Frankenstein's lawyers?

*Mitchell Lecture speaker addresses increasing power of "artificial persons"*

A provocative assessment of the power of "artificial persons" in the court system formed the centerpiece of UB Law's 55th annual Mitchell Lecture, held April 18 at the Law School.

"Planet of the APs: Are Corporations and Other Artificial Persons Taking Over the Legal System?" was the title of the event, which featured a keynote speech by Marc Galanter, professor of law and South Asian studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Galanter, who taught at UB Law School from 1971 to 1977, addressed the growing power of artificial persons – APs – and spoke of the relative disadvantage that individuals face because of that trend.

"Professor Galanter's research has shown that artificial persons are relatively more successful in the legal system than individuals," Dean Nils Olsen said in introducing the speaker. "Asking serious questions about the efficacy and validity of our legal system, Professor Galanter once again is raising profound

and serious issues."

The speaker began by calling artificial persons "one of humanity's great inventions," but went on to say, "But these creatures are more than the passive instruments serving our needs in society. Their presence changes our world and changes us. Like Dr. Frankenstein's creatures, they both reflect and escape from human purposes."

APs, Galanter said, are changing the character of the legal and judicial world – partly because of a dramatic transformation in how social life is conducted. For example, he said, the family-owned grocery store has been replaced by the supermarket, which itself is now being challenged by national chain retailers. "An increasing portion of all our encounters and transactions and relationships are with APs," he said, and case law has grown to reflect the increasing prominence of these legal actors.

Citing figures, Galanter said that in 1970 about 40 percent of civil cases in federal courts involved a natural person suing an artificial person – an individual suing a corporation, for example. Now,



Professors Marc Galanter and Rebecca French

he said, that figure is 60 percent. "Increasingly, the legal system is occupied by individuals trying to control the behavior of artificial persons," he said.

Concurrently, the growth of APs in the wider society has led to a shift in the focus of lawyers. Since 1970, he said, the number of practicing attorneys has near-



Roger and Karen Jones Faculty Scholar and Professor Robert J. Steinfeld, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Elizabeth B. Mensch, Baldy Center Director and Professor Lynn Mather and Vice Dean Peter R. Pitegoff



Roger and Karen Jones Faculty Scholar and Professor Rebecca French and Associate Professor and head of the department of political science at the University of Oregon Gerald Berk

ly tripled, and “most of the growth has been in law firms that service APs. As a result, the law has become more technical, more complex and more expensive.”

And that, Galanter said, works against equal access and effectiveness in the courts for individual plaintiffs. “The courts,” he said, “are like referees in a basketball game between a natural persons team of 6-foot-tall players and an artificial persons team of equally talented 7-foot-tall players. The 7-foot team does not get its baskets dishonestly, and sometimes the 6-foot team even wins. But over the long haul, the disparity of resources is reflected in the scores.”

Even the way courts decide most cases has been influenced by the shaping hand of artificial persons, Galanter said. As APs move to consolidate their power and are increasingly motivated by concerns about their own power and reputation – rather than their origins as suppliers of goods and services – the practice of adjudication is being transformed. “Courts are shifting from a dispute settlement perspective to a more future-oriented, more managerial, more utilitarian, generally more legislative kind of stance,” he said. “Fewer cases go to trial; more are terminated by pretrial adjudication.”

Galanter qualified his assertions by saying, “I do not mean to portray the legal system as one in which individuals never prevail. What I am trying to de-

scribe is a structural and cultural situation that puts them at a relative disadvantage, one that is increasing over time. The 7-footers are growing into 8-footers.”

**F**ollowing Galanter’s address, three panelists in varied fields responded out of their own expertise, raising questions and further points.

First up was Gerald Berk, associate professor and head of the department of political science at the University of Oregon. As a historian of political science, his impulse was to look back and ask, “What have others who have been concerned about corporate or organizational power done in the past?”

Berk noted that, earlier in U.S. history, social and political reformers also advocated the concept of the artificial person, saying among other things that powerful APs are a useful check on government power.

The next respondent was Meir Dan-Cohen, professor of legal ethics at the University of California at Berkeley School of Law. Discussing some of the theory behind Galanter’s ideas, Dan-Cohen asked whether APs’ disproportionate influence on the judicial system is necessarily bad news. He related the discussion to the division between “haves” and “have-nots” in the legal system, and noted that corporations, for example, are not necessarily “haves” in the classical sense. Therefore, their presence as APs

could be viewed as a step toward equal justice.

The final respondent was UB Law School professor David Westbrook, who specializes in corporation law and public international law. Westbrook spoke with admiration of the “ambivalences” in Galanter’s remarks, noting that corporations “make any number of collective actions possible” and yet inspire “a familiar antipathy.” There is something unsettling, he said, about artificiality itself – “about something which is created by us but is foreign to us.”

Westbrook also said the distinction between APs and natural persons may be too closely drawn. “In an important way,” he said, “there are no natural persons in courts. There are plaintiffs, defendants, lawyers, clients, judges, witnesses and so forth. Entering a court requires that one adopt such a predefined role.”

The 2005 Mitchell Lecture committee was chaired by Professor James A. Wooten and included Associate Professor Athena D. Mutua, Professor Robert S. Berger, and Professor Rebecca R. French, who moderated the question-and-answer period that followed the discussion.

The annual lecture is funded by a generous endowment from the estate of James McCormick Mitchell, a member of the school’s Class of 1897.

## Professor Albert recalls Alito's intelligence, modesty



*"He's a prince of a man, very thoughtful... much more like Supreme Court Justice John Roberts in temperament than Justice Antonin Scalia, with whom he is being compared."*

— Professor Lee A. Albert

As a Yale law student, Supreme Court justice nominee Samuel Alito was "very reserved and very insightful," according to University at Buffalo Law School Professor Lee A. Albert, who was Alito's professor at Yale in the early 70s.

"Sam was one of those students who you become friendly with because of their intelligence and personality," says Albert, who has kept in touch over the years with

Alito. "He's a prince of a man, very thoughtful... much more like Supreme Court Justice John Roberts in temperament than Justice Antonin Scalia, with whom he is being compared."

If confirmed, Albert says Alito will be a judicial conservative who "will use judicial power sparingly and will not be an ideologue."

"Sam is a man of principle who will decide as he sees fit and not because he owes debts to anyone, not because other people want him to decide in a certain way," Albert says. "He possesses many of the characteristics that people would want in a high court judge. He won't come to the case with a mind cluttered with beliefs. He will listen, read, think and then decide."

Though Albert expected Alito to have a brilliant law career, he says that unlike another of his former students at Yale, Hillary Rodham Clinton, he did not envision that Alito one day would grab the national spotlight.

"He was, and is, a very modest person," says Albert, a constitutional law expert and former clerk for U.S.

Supreme Court Justice Byron White. "He's not flamboyant, not a showman in any sense of the word."

"In contrast, Hillary was a far more political individual, an activist of the early 70s."

Albert expects Alito to acquit himself very well during Senate confirmation hearings. He expects Alito to be confirmed, even if there is a drawn-out political battle over his confirmation.

"People did have genuinely good reason to question Harriet Miers' nomination to the Court. She didn't have the experience to support her nomination," Albert says. "That is not true of Sam. He has been training every day, every minute of his professional life for this."

Alito's presence on the Court will undoubtedly make it much more conservative than it has been in several years, Albert says. "It will be a Court that will minimize judicial interference with the political branches of government. Sam likely will choose to exercise the unique authority of the Court more rarely than other judges would be willing to."





Supreme Court justice nominee Samuel Alito

*“Professor Finley’s experience as a teacher, endowed chair, as well as her national prominence as a legal scholar, has provided her with exceptional preparation for her new leadership role at the University at Buffalo.”*

— UB Provost  
Satish Tripathi

## Finley Named Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

The appointment of Lucinda M. Finley, Frank Raichle Professor of Trial and Appellate Advocacy in the University at Buffalo Law School, as UB’s vice provost for faculty affairs was announced by Satish K. Tripathi, the university’s provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

Finley, whose appointment was effective Feb. 1, remains a member of the Law School faculty and teaches two courses. Her administrative responsibilities include responsibility for coordinating the faculty promotion/tenure review process, and creating and delivering services that assist in faculty retention, underrepresented faculty recruitment, faculty development, special faculty-hiring initiatives and faculty-recognition programs. In addition, the Center for Teaching and Learning Resources will report to the vice provost for faculty affairs.

“I am very pleased and excited to announce Professor Finley’s appointment as vice provost for faculty affairs,” said Tripathi. “Professor Finley’s experience as a teacher, endowed chair, as well as her national prominence as a legal scholar, has provided her with exceptional preparation for her new leadership role at the University at Buffalo.”

Finley has been a UB faculty member since 1990. In addition to her endowed professorship, the first ever given at the UB Law School, she has served since 1990 as director of the school’s Baldy Center Program on Gender, Law & Social Policy; director of its legal research and writing program from 1993-96; director of the concentration in civil litigation from 1997 to the present, and faculty advisor to the Moot Court Program and director of National Moot Court Teams from 1998 to the

present.

Her research and teaching have focused on torts; mass tort litigation; constitutional torts, including civil rights legislation; litigation practice; appellate advocacy, gender and the law; feminist jurisprudence, and reproductive rights.

Finley has served as a distinguished visiting professor at the DePaul University College of Law, a women’s health policy fellow at the Center for Research on Women & Gender at the University of Illinois-Chicago, a fellow in the Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College and a visiting lecturer and Parsons Fellow at the University of Sydney (Australia) Faculty of Law. Prior to joining UB, she was associate professor of law at Yale University.

An active participant in litigation and legislative advocacy, Finley has argued several cases before the U.S. Supreme



K.C. Kratt for Trial Lawyer magazine

Lucinda M. Finley, Frank Raichle Professor of Trial and Appellate Advocacy and UB's vice provost for faculty affairs

Court. She is the author of numerous amicus curiae briefs, including a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of several women's health and women's rights advocacy organizations, and has presented legislative testimony before U.S. Senate committees, the New York State legislature and the Connecticut legislature.

Author of *Tort Law & Practice*, Finley has written more than 20 articles

and book chapters, and has lectured by invitation at more than 75 conferences, faculty workshops and law schools in the U.S., Canada, Australia, Germany and Italy.

She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Barnard College and a doctor of jurisprudence degree from Columbia University.

Finley lives in Buffalo.



# Faculty

## Professor Peter Pitegoff Leaves UB Law

*Named Dean of the  
University of Maine School of Law*

**I**n July of this year, Peter Pitegoff, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs at the University at Buffalo Law School, became the sixth dean of the University of Maine School of Law, the only law school in Maine and one of only two public law schools in New England. Located in the City of Portland, it is a unit of the University of Maine System and is administratively affiliated with the University of Southern Maine.

A law professor at UB since 1988, “Peter has both the vision and leadership to become the dean of a law school. He possesses a unique blend of law teaching experience, substantive academic scholarship, public service and administration skills that were invaluable in helping our Law School grow in reputation and effectiveness,” said Dean Nils Olsen. “He will be greatly missed by his colleagues in Buffalo.”

Prior to his academic career, he was legal counsel for the ICA Group, a Boston firm that assists community economic development initiatives nationwide. While in practice, he taught on an adjunct basis at Harvard Law School and at New York University School of Law.

“With mixed emotion, after 17 years at UB Law School, I plan to leave for coastal Maine at the end of this academic year,” Pitegoff said.

“This move presents a refreshing opportunity, and a chance to return to New England, where my wife and I met and where our first son was born. Of course, I will miss a wonderful group of colleagues and friends here in

Buffalo. UB Law School sets a standard of excellence and innovation that I will take with me to another public law school.”

**A**s Vice Dean for the past seven years, Pitegoff’s role at UB Law School ranged from curriculum and faculty development to administrative management, external affairs, and strategic planning. In this role, Pitegoff worked with faculty, judges, and lawyers to implement a wide-ranging and flexible curriculum, combining theory with practice. He helped create two new post-professional LL.M. degree programs within the Law School and reached out to other departments and schools to craft interdisciplinary dual degree programs combining a J.D. with a Masters or Ph.D.

As a law professor, Pitegoff has taught corporation law, business transactions, labor policy, community development law, and legal ethics. He has worked and written extensively in the areas of economic development, labor and industrial organization, nonprofit

corporations, employee ownership and alternative enterprise forms, welfare and employment policy, and urban revitalization. He founded a law school clinical program in community economic development law, which has served as a model for transactional clinics at many other law schools throughout the United States and which continues to thrive today. Pitegoff has been actively involved in public policy, including most recently an organized bar initiative to revise and restate the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and appointment by the Chief Judge of New York State to serve on the Judicial Institute for Professionalism in Law. At UB, he has been a leader in charting a strategy for University engagement with the community.

Pitegoff is a 1975 graduate of Brown University and a 1981 graduate of New York University School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden Scholar. His wife, Ann Casady, is an accomplished graphic designer and art professor. They have two teenage sons.



*“This move presents a refreshing opportunity... Of course, I will miss a wonderful group of colleagues and friends here in Buffalo. UB Law School sets a standard of excellence and innovation that I will take with me to another public law school.”*

*— Dean and Professor  
Peter R. Pitegoff*

## Dean Nils Olsen Eulogizes

*“In addition to his single-minded attention and commitment to excellence and consistency in teaching, Lou Del Cotto always had an equal commitment to careful, detailed and thoughtful scholarship”*

I first met Lou and Bea in Spring of '77 when I was interviewing for a position on the faculty of the University at Buffalo Law School. Lou went out of his way to show me the Buffalo community and worked with David Kochery, another longtime faculty member, to make arrangements for me to meet with a number of young, successful attorneys in the area.

After I joined the faculty, Lou was there again, inviting my wife and me to dinner at their home on several occasions where, it goes without saying, we were treated to good fellowship and conversation, the very best home-cooked Italian food imaginable and freely poured libations during the evening. I will also long remember the guitar performance that he was cajoled into providing.

As I came to be more familiar with the Law School, its curriculum, faculty and students, I quickly learned the importance of our tax program. Tax was the only course that was required of all second- and third-year students. While the ostensible reason was subject-related – it was a statutory and regulatory rather than the common law course – the real reason was the excellence of the

tax course, taught by Lou and his academic partner Ken Joyce. Indeed, after Lou's retirement, the requirement was quietly dropped – since, with absolutely no disrespect to the excellent faculty who teach in the area today, it simply was not the same.

In addition, Lou had fashioned a tax sequence of courses that were extremely popular with the students – Tax 1 and 2 routinely drew one of the largest enrollments in the Law School and were taken, not only by those whose future career plans included tax, but by a large number of students who were aware of the reputation of Lou's courses as the best in the school.

Ten years ago, I became involved with Law School administration and began to meet individually with large numbers of successful graduates throughout the country. I was immediately struck by the disproportionately large number who played formative and supervisory roles in the tax and related departments in large, prestigious law firms.

To a person, these individuals felt that the formative and most significant factor in their success was the rock-solid background in tax that they received from Lou Del Cotto.

Many had pursued post-professional study in tax, primarily in the prestigious LL.M. programs at NYU and Georgetown. Again, without exception, they were happy to admit that, based on the quality and usefulness of curriculum and upon the quality of instruction, their experience with Lou while at UB far surpassed the courses offered at these elite schools – indeed many felt let down by a post-professional curriculum that could not hold a candle to the courses offered at UB.

During these discussions, many of the alumni expressed a strong desire to fund an endowment account to continue and honor Lou Del Cotto's contributions at the Law School. To date, more than \$80,000 has been contributed and we anticipate significant additional contributions.

Another reflection on the quality, rigor, and sensible course content of Lou's beloved tax sequence at UB is reflected in the question that I have heard from many non-alumni of the Law School: Are you still continuing your extraordinary tax program? This question was all the more remarkable since, unlike NYU, Georgetown and other schools rightly known from their tax curriculum, UB's program was created and delivered by Lou, Ken Joyce, who also taught in other areas, and, while he was on the Law School faculty, by a



# Professor Louis Del Cotto



quality of his contributions, to the scholarly and teaching reputation of the Law School and to the vocational interests and success of the literally thousands of students who passed through his classroom, is unlikely ever to be equaled or even approached. He is missed greatly by all of his friends and colleagues at the Law School and we send our affection, support, and deepest condolences to Bea and the other members of his immediate family.

portion of Bill Greiner's teaching load. This perception, which is widely held, illustrates the verity that rigorous, consistent, and intelligent teaching creates and maintains the quality of a field of study far more than mere human resources.

**I**n addition to his single-minded attention and commitment to excellence and consistency in teaching, Lou Del Cotto always had an equal commitment to careful, detailed and thoughtful scholarship within the tax discipline. Lou's articles took on all comers who had the temerity to disagree with a tenet of his tax under-

standing and were widely discussed and relied upon by a wide range of federal and state courts, legislative committees, and other tax academics across the nation. It was the strength and careful analysis of his scholarship that contributed greatly to the structure of the tax curriculum that he developed and offered.

Lou Del Cotto was indeed an extraordinary colleague and friend. He taught at the University at Buffalo for most of his professional life and the

# Faculty

## Notable quotables

*A sampling of quotes from UB Law professors in the nation*

***“Medical information can be very helpful in investigations. But there is often the question of whether an***

***investigation goes too far in violating a person’s right to privacy.”***

– Professor Lee A. Albert, Sept. 8 in the

*Kansas City Star,*

*on a case in which the Kansas attorney general sought the medical records of 90 women and girls who received abortions in order to prosecute suspected cases of illegal late-term abortions and child rape.*

***“They took cautious steps, and those cautious steps were not enough to prevent the abuse of the insurance program. Once there is***

***insurance, you have an incentive to run up liabilities to get more out of the insurance.”***

– Professor James A. Wooten, Sept. 18 in *The New York Times*, on flaws in the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation created by Congress in 1974.

***“(Not-for-profit organizations) just do not have sophisticated counsel to do this kind of development. It requires knowledge of***

***financing streams, tax credit equity, soft debt from state and local government and hard debt***

***from commercial banks.***

***Each one of these entities has a whole host of requirements imposed on the not-for-profit organization. It could swamp them.”***

– Clinical Professor George M. Hezel, Feb. 25 in the *New York Law Journal*, on the advantages to developers of UB Law’s affordable-housing clinic.



## al and international media this year

***“It is often the aspects of life that we consider more important and priceless, such as your reproductive health, your ability to have children”***



***that are compensated through non-economic damages. “When somebody is***

***injured in a way that renders them infertile or unable to sexually function, those are very serious injuries, and just because they do not take you out of work does not mean they are not serious injuries deserving compensation.”***

– Professor Lucinda M. Finley, Feb. 6 in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, on a proposed medical malpractice cap.

***“The only thing I really miss is the daily contact with the people with whom it was my pleasure to work while in the presidency. I confess,***



***however, that the return to civilian life, to the real world, is something of an adjustment in terms of basic***

***necessities. I was blessed with tremendous support from the University in taking care of details like maintaining schedules and keeping up on correspondence. Learning how to really use computers and answer all my own e-mail messages has been a challenge. But that is a very small price to pay for the renewed sense of independence and personal freedom that comes with the life after.”***

– Professor William R. Greiner, April 29 in the Chronicle of Higher Education, on his life after leaving the University at Buffalo presidency.

***“The election last week of Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the Harvard-educated former World Bank economist as president of Liberia, is a milestone.***



***She will become the first woman African head of state and give her tormented country the only real opportunity in***

***more than a generation to emerge from the ashes of a savage civil war. But these rays of hope will be extinguished if George Weah, her vanquished opponent, becomes bellicose and stokes violent conflict.”***

– Professor Makau Mutua, Nov. 17 in The Boston Globe and the International Herald Tribune, on the election in Liberia.





## At the head of the class

### *Alumni who are law school faculty members*

One measure of a law school is the quality of the legal practitioners it produces. Another is its list of alumni who have gone on themselves to teach at law schools far and wide. For UB Law, that list is long. Nearly 30 alumni identify themselves as professors, lecturers, librarians and deans;

dozens more alumni who are practicing lawyers teach as adjuncts. Two alumnae – Dianne Avery '82 and Elizabeth Mensch '78 – are professors at UB Law School.

Others range geographically from California to Florida, Canada to Texas.

*UB Law Forum* caught up with a handful of these professors to ask what's new in their professional lives – and how the UB Law experience made a difference for them.

#### **Abe Abramovsky '70**

*Professor  
Fordham University School of Law  
New York City*

After UB Law, Abramovsky earned his LL.M and J.S.D. from Columbia. At Fordham since 1979, Abramovsky teaches criminal law, international criminal law, organized crime, complex criminal litigation and Jewish law. He also handles some criminal appeals cases. "According to some, I have been quite successful," Abramovsky says. "It keeps me current, and each activity helps the other. The practice of interesting appellate issues helps the teaching, and the teaching helps when I argue the issues to the courts."

Since 1981, he has written a column on criminal law for the *New York Law Journal*, dealing with issues of substantive criminal law and criminal procedure. He also has written 46 law review articles, and recently his article arguing against anonymous juries was cited by the U.S. District Court, 11th Circuit, and the Kansas Supreme Court.

"I very much enjoyed my UB Law School experience," Abramovsky says, "and I always look forward to coming back to the reunions."

#### **William Barker '77**

*Professor  
Dickinson School of Law  
Carlisle, Pa.*

Since 2002, Barker has had a standing appointment with the law faculty at the London School of Economics and Political Science, where he has taught international, European and United Kingdom tax. In the last two years, he has received two Fulbright grants to teach and study in South Africa and Latvia. Barker's research focuses on international tax and tax avoidance issues, especially in respect to developing and transitional economies.

Teaching, he says, "is much more fun than being a student. Two great benefits are helping students achieve success in a difficult but fascinating subject, and helping in a small way

others in different countries with the important issues confronting their tax systems."

He adds: "I had some absolutely fabulous professors at Buffalo. From Adolf Homburger I learned to appreciate the greater implications of law from a global perspective. From Kenneth Joyce, who is simply the best, I learned the pure delight that working with the law and with students could be."



#### **Alberto Manuel Benitez '86**

*Professor of clinical law and director of the Immigration Clinic  
George Washington University Law School  
Washington, D.C.*

On Oct. 18, the Hispanic Bar Association of D.C. awarded its Hugh A. Johnson Jr. Memorial Award to the Immigration Clinic that Benitez directs. The award recognizes the service provided to the alien community by the Immigration Clinic since its inception in 1979.

Also, Benitez's first casebook, *An Introduction to the U.S. Legal System: Fundamental Cases and Materials*, is scheduled for publication this year by Carolina Academic Press.

"When I was at UB," he says, "I never imagined that nearly 20 years later I would be doing this kind of work. I have so much fun that I am amazed that I am paid to do this. I have a hand in both the theory and the practice of immigration law. In the fall Immigration Law I course, I teach my students the intricacies of the Immigration & Nationality Act. My course covers the range of issues in immigration, including immigrant and non-immigrant visas, asylum, citizenship, and re-



### **Robin Barnes '89**

*Professor  
University of Connecticut School of Law  
Hartford, Conn.*

In her 14th year at UConn Law School, where she went to teach after earning an LL.M. in Wisconsin, Barnes has just completed her first casebook, for Carolina Academic Press. It features the most controversial subjects in the debate surrounding privacy and individual rights. She is writing a second book, *The Caroline Verdict*, based on a paper that she delivered at a media law conference in Mainz, Germany, this summer. It recommends remedies for widespread defamation of the rich and famous under American media law by contrasting those found in the European Union.

"My life as a professor far exceeds my expectations," Barnes says. "I truly love what I do, and I have the audacity to believe that I am actually making a difference in the world. The late Denise Carty-Bennia and Muhammad Kenyatta provided a great deal of the original inspiration. I have come to truly appreciate the superior legal training that I received before joining the academy. Guyora Binder provided superb guidance in my quest to become a law professor. Under his tutelage I graduated with honors, received an LL.M. from the University of Wisconsin after serving as a Hastie Fellow, and *Harvard Law Review* published my first essay.

"I have grown even more committed to the same ideals that I held during law school. I now teach three courses in advanced constitutional law: Free Speech; Individual Rights; and Civil and Political Rights. It has been challenging at times in the current political climate domestically as well as the war in Iraq. Yet I go right in there one semester after another. We roll up our sleeves, dig deep and have those conversations that seem all too scarce in many quarters. Some days we all leave class in need of Extra Strength Excedrin, but I would not have it any other way."

moval. In the Immigration Clinic, I supervise eight students per semester as we represent aliens in immigration matters.

"My alums have gone on to successful careers in government, public interest and private practice. My greatest satisfaction is when my alums contact me after graduation. I am honored that they consult with me on personal and professional matters, if they invite me to their weddings, and when they e-mail me pictures of their newborns. On those occasions, I think that maybe I am good at this."

At UB Law, Benitez was a student in the Immigration Clinic, directed by Kathy Rimar, and spent two summers doing immigration law in Houston and Chicago. "I learned from, and I recall with respect, all my UB professors," he says, "but a few who stick in my mind are Virginia Leary, Guyora Binder,

Alan Freeman, Betty Mensch and Jacob Hyman.

"What I most appreciate is that UB stimulated my thinking. It trained my mind to be critical, and to challenge established legal norms and principles. I've had the privilege of teaching at Northwestern, Chicago-Kent, and since 1996, George Washington. These are all top-ranked law schools. But UB is their equal in terms of the quality of its faculty, staff, curriculum and students."

### **Cheryl Block '79**

*Professor  
George Washington University Law School  
Washington, D.C.*

Block has concentrated her teaching and research in tax, now expanded to include federal budget issues. Her recent articles have included one

on "pathologies" at the intersection of the tax and budget-making process, and another on Enron-like scandals in which she argues that Congress uses some questionable accounting itself.

She also has studied and written lately about the federal response to Hurricane Katrina. In *Washington Post* op-ed pieces, Block has argued that using the tax code for relief – such as giving businesses and entrepreneurs tax breaks for investing in the area's so-called Gulf Opportunity Zones, or GO Zones – is misguided public policy. Citing the nation's experience with similar "Liberty Zones" established in New York City after 9/11, Block argues that there is little evidence that such zones help an area's economic recovery. "You have got a disaster on your hands," she says. "Why go with something for which the evidence is inconclusive?"

Block says she got into her area of specialization by accident. "When I was at the Law School, tax was a required course," she says. "I am not even sure I would have taken the course had it not been required. I found Lou Del Cotto and Ken Joyce so inspiring; they got me really excited about tax. I realized there is so much policy involved, and it ties in so much to my interest in political science. It comes as quite a surprise to me that tax is what I do.

"The one thing that I recall about UB Law is just the extraordinary quality of the teaching."

### **Mary Anne Bobinski '87**

*Dean and professor  
University of British Columbia Faculty of Law  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada*

Nationally prominent in the field of health law, Bobinski became dean of the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law in 2003. After 15 years of teaching U.S. health care law at the University of Houston Law Center, she began teaching Canadian health law last year. Among her specializations is an interest in the legal aspects of HIV.

Of her UB Law experience, Bobinski says: "I was fortunate to be able to participate in a joint J.D.-Ph.D. program under the auspices of the Baldy Center. I therefore enjoyed a mix of law and public policy courses which continue to be very helpful to me today.

# Faculty

"It is difficult to mention particular faculty members, because virtually all of them had an influence on my current career. But David Engel was an inspiring professor and helped me to land my first job while in law school. Errol Meidinger taught a very influential course on research methods. Nils Olsen led the legal research and writing program in which I gained my first teaching experience. Tom Headrick's Corporations class was amazingly interesting and intellectually challenging. Finally, Lee Albert was a wonderful mentor in health law, my major field of scholarly interest."

## **Charles Cercone '84**

*Associate dean and professor  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
Lansing, Mich.*

Cercone entered academia after practicing litigation for 12 years in New York City and then for a period in Buffalo. As associate dean of faculty at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, he manages 100 faculty members, including issues of hiring, promotion and sabbaticals. In the classroom, he teaches civil procedure.

A recent article by Cercone in the *University of Pittsburgh Law Review* dealt with the frequent practical problems that confront federal courts when they are faced with work product claims.

At UB, he says, "the person who really inspired me to teach was Professor Del Cotto. He was the best teacher I ever had – his course itself, and how he taught and how he inspired me, how he dealt with students. Aside from a powerful intellect, he had a great classroom presence. He is, to me, the model of a great teacher."

## **Linda Fentiman '75**

*Professor  
Pace University School of Law  
White Plains, N.Y.*

A recent highlight for Fentiman was the chance to teach at the University of Warsaw, Poland, on a 2003 Fulbright scholarship. There she taught American criminal law and a course in comparative health law and bioethics.

"Just because we do it in the United States does not mean that is the only way to do it," she says. "Issues are han-



**Professor Dianne Avery '82**  
at commencement

## **Dianne Avery '82**

*Professor  
University at Buffalo Law School  
Buffalo*

Avery, who took a stint as UB Law's vice dean for academic affairs from 1998-2003, has returned to what she likes doing best: teaching and scholarship. Avery's most recent major publication is as co-author, with Robert Belton, Maria L. Ontiveros and Roberto L. Corrada, of the casebook *Employment Discrimination Law: Cases and Materials on Equality in the Workplace*. Published in 2004, the book is the seventh edition of this casebook. It is part of a series of casebooks on labor and employment law

topics authored by members of the Labor Law Group, a scholarly association.

She is currently working on an article on legal challenges to sex-based dress and grooming codes in the workplace. It will examine the role that gender stereotypes have played in constraining effective legal and market challenges to employer prerogatives in this area.

"Throughout American history, employers have been free to impose dress and grooming codes on their employees, including policies that are expressly based on sex. Although Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 promised to eliminate sex discrimination in employment, judicial decisions resolving employee challenges to sex-based dress and grooming codes have produced an incoherent body of law. Consequently, employers are generally free to refuse to hire or to fire employees who are unwilling to conform to these sex-based policies.

"My current research explores the historical role that gender stereotypes have played in constraining effective legal and market challenges to employer prerogatives in this area."

dled differently in Poland. There is a different health care system and different values. A number of the women in the class were really very attracted to the American model of reproductive freedom. That was just wonderful.

"I started to understand how exciting and attractive the American approach to legal education is. In Poland, students are lectured to in large lecture halls; they have virtually no interaction with the professor; on the final exam, which is oral, they can be tested on anything, for example three questions from a 900-page criminal code. The idea that there could be give-and-take was thrilling to them. It really energized me as a teacher."

Before beginning her teaching career, Fentiman earned an LL.M. at Harvard.

At UB Law School, Fentiman says, "I had really great professors who were very inspiring and rigorous and challenging, but also took the time to mentor me as a student. In the second semester of my first year, I did an independent research project with one of

my professors that was very exciting, very challenging.

"As a student, I was just working on learning the doctrines, learning the basic skill of applying the law to the facts. As a professor I have to have mastery of the doctrine, and I also get to see the cosmic interconnectedness of everything. Also, I have to make that law accessible to students who have very different learning styles. I try to teach with an awareness of those learning differences. You have to make sure that you are not just talking, you are also making your points visually."



## **Elizabeth B. Mensch '78**

*SUNY Distinguished  
Teaching Professor  
University at Buffalo  
Law School  
Buffalo*

Last year, Mensch was named a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in recognition of her outstanding teaching on the under-



graduate and professional levels. She joined the UB Law faculty in 1980 after earning an LL.M. from Harvard and a stint on the faculty of the University of Miami Law School. At UB she teaches courses in legal history; church/state relations; abortion; law, morality and politics; and contracts and torts – the latter courses are required of all first-year law students.

Mensch co-authored, with her late husband, Alan Freeman, also a UB professor of law, the book *The Politics of Virtue: Is Abortion Debatable?* which

advocates introducing theological thought into the public debate on abortion to bring about a compromise between the two sides of the volatile issue.

“The Supreme Court seems unable to resolve the legal dilemma of church/state relations with anything approaching doctrinal clarity,” Mensch says. “The intractability of the dilemma reflects a long and complex history of both separation and interconnection – a history that reaches back through centuries and continues to inform cur-

rent controversies. My research does not suggest a solution to the ‘problem’ of church and state. Instead, it explores the complexity of social, economic and intellectual interrelationships that have made theology a stubbornly central part of the history of American culture.”

#### **Dennis Patterson '80**

*Distinguished professor  
Rutgers University School of Law  
Camden, N.J.*

A Ph.D. as well as a J.D., “I have spent the last 18 years as an academic,” Patterson notes. “In that time, I have enjoyed my work immensely. I have especially enjoyed the people I have met and the many places my interests have taken me.

“I practiced and taught commercial law and legal philosophy for many years. In the last few years, I have developed an interest in trade law and international law. I am currently working on a book with a colleague, titled *Statecraft, Trade and the Order of States*. In an article-length version of the book (to appear in December in the *University of Chicago International Law Journal*), we make the case that the nature of the state is changing and that these changes will impact world trade in ways few realize.”

In the spring of this year, Patterson spent three months teaching and lecturing at the University of Trento, Italy, and was asked to return for three weeks in November. In addition, he often teaches in Austria and Germany.

“My UB Law education was first-rate,” Patterson says. “This was confirmed for me when I clerked for the chief justice of the Maine Supreme Court. The most important things I learned as a law student were writing well and how to make arguments. I especially learned from Professors Konefsky and Katz. Konefsky taught contracts in a way that I have always tried to emulate. He made connections in the materials that I always learned from.

“Going to class was always fun and interesting. But there is little to equal the life of a law professor. I have as much time as I need to pursue my interests. As a student, there was often little time for anything but study.”

#### **Jerry Hesch '70**

*Adjunct professor  
University of Miami School of Law  
Miami, Fla.*

After 20 years as a full-time law professor, Hesch became a practicing tax lawyer, but he continues as an adjunct at the University of Miami, teaching courses in the graduate programs in taxation and estate planning.



Last January he taught a one-week bridge course at UB Law School, and intends to do the same this January.

“I learned that the key to a successful adviser to clients is not how much you know, but the ability to communicate that knowledge in a manner the client can understand,” Hesch says. “The communication skills I developed in the classroom have proven to be invaluable in the practice of tax law.

“In this age of specialization, I have been emphasizing the need for tax practitioners to look at the broader picture and integrate the different tax disciplines. Estate plan-

ning lawyers frequently do not consider income tax planning, and income tax lawyers frequently do not consider estate planning opportunities. My recent publications have stressed the need to integrate these two tax objectives along with the necessary financial analysis. I have been lecturing around the country on the integration of the income tax and estate planning disciplines and how to use financial software to more effectively communicate tax planning ideas. I will be presenting a paper on this topic next January at the University of Miami Heckerling Institute on Estate Planning.”

Hesch is co-author of a law school casebook on federal income taxation, now in its third edition: *The Individual Tax Base: Cases, Problems and Policies in Federal Taxation*. “If some of the materials in this book sound familiar to UB Law alumni,” he says, “I suspect they originated from my class notes from courses with Ken Joyce and Louis Del Cotto, both of whom influenced my teaching.

“From Ken I saw how students appreciated a teacher who is always enthusiastic and excited about what he is teaching, even if it took two hours in a snowstorm to get to the Law School. From Lou, it became apparent that the key is to master the concepts and show how seemingly disparate principles work together. Other professors at Buffalo instilled the notion that even though law was an ever-changing discipline, fundamental legal principles were still relevant and now had to be applied to ever-changing societal norms.”

## States may become constitutional battlegrounds over civil liberties

*New book by UB Law School professor describes how state constitutions protect individual rights*

Constitutional battles over civil liberties could intensify at the state level — continuing a more than two-decade-long trend — if the Supreme Court becomes more conservative under President Bush with the retirement of Sandra Day O'Connor, according to James A. Gardner, the Joseph W.

Belluck and Laura L. Aswad Professor of Civil Justice in the Law School.

"The turning away of the U.S. Supreme Court from the expansion of civil liberties over the past 25 years has meant that people dissatisfied with the Supreme Court have looked to state constitutions to fill that gap," says Gardner, author of the new book *Interpreting State Constitutions: A Jurisprudence of Function in a Federal System* ([www.press.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/hfs.cgi/00/151378.ctl](http://www.press.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/hfs.cgi/00/151378.ctl)) (2005, University of Chicago Press).

"The more governmental responsibility states have undertaken, the more important state constitutions have become."

State courts, Gardner points out, recently have rendered significant decisions that were contrary to federal rulings in cases involving search and seizure, freedom of speech and sodomy. Gay rights and abortion may

be the next major issues addressed at the state constitutional level, depending on the actions of the Supreme Court in coming years, he says.

"The reason that these state constitutional decisions get attention is not just because they deal with important individual rights, but because every time a state court rules contrary to the Supreme Court, it's a slap in the face to the Supreme Court, it's a rebuke. It's saying, 'You don't really understand what our rights are and how we should protect them.'"

In his book, Gardner traces the emergence of federalism — the sharing of power between the states and the national government — and offers advice on how state judges and lawmakers should interpret their constitutions to protect civil liberties and promote national discourse on constitutional

rights. Though historically this process has produced conflict between state and national governments, it has been essential to the protection and emergence of individual rights, Gardner argues.

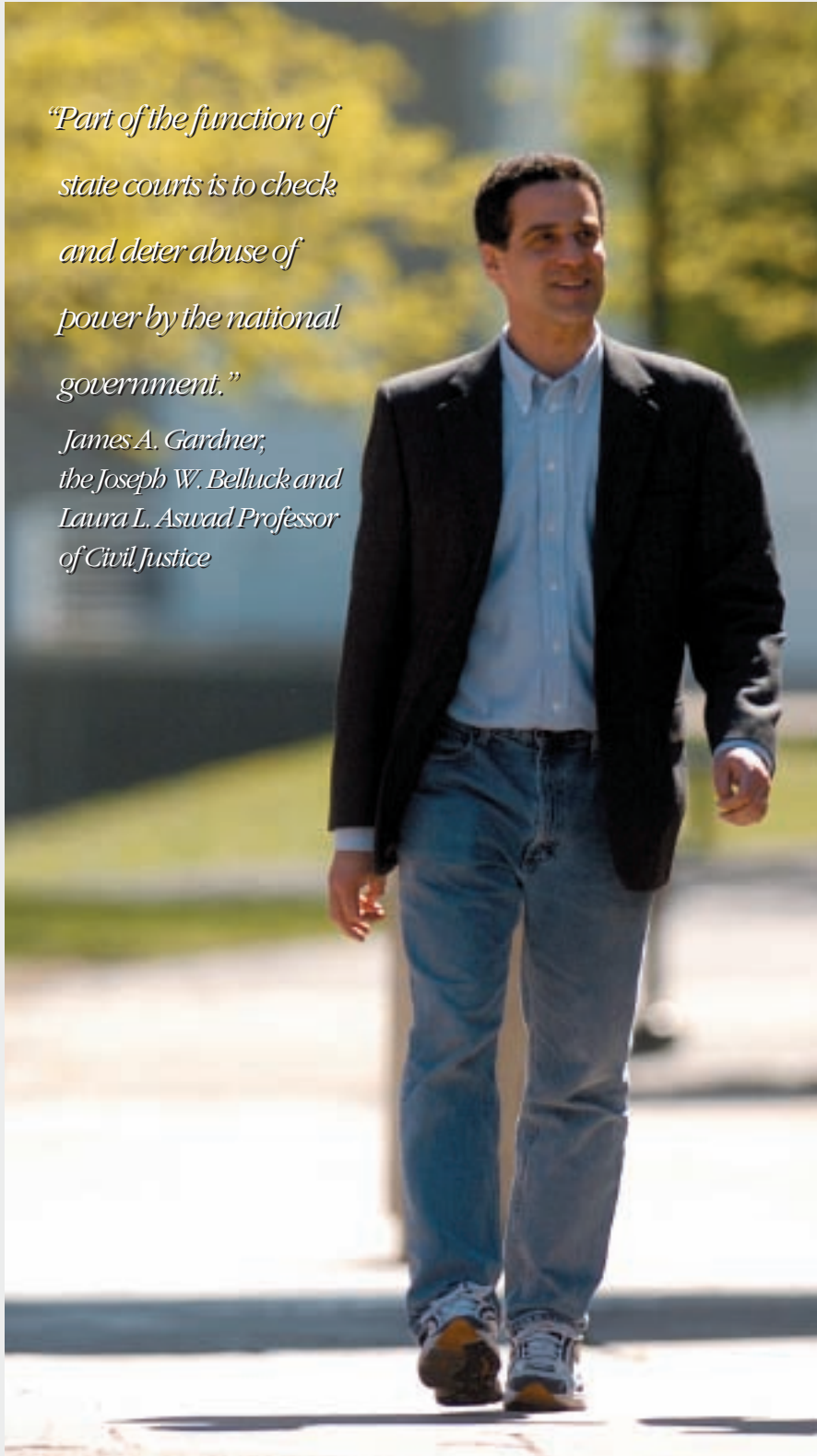
"State and national governments, in my view, are bound together in a joint enterprise that partly consists of the protection of liberty," he explains. "Part of the function of state courts is to check and deter abuse of power by the national government."

"One way that state courts can perform that function is through interpretation of the state constitution, to either allow state officials to act in a certain way or to prohibit them from acting in a certain way — even if the Supreme Court has taken the other position."

The political turmoil that results from these debates can be confusing to the average citizen, who may not be aware that state constitutional law is independent of federal law and need not follow it or even acknowledge it, Gardner says. "People like certainty, and this process can be extremely complicated and unsettling. It's a harder process to live with because it means that issues are never really or absolutely settled."

*"Part of the function of  
state courts is to check  
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*James A. Gardner,  
the Joseph W. Belluck and  
Laura L. Aswad Professor  
of Civil Justice*



Confusing matters even more are state and federal politicians who routinely tread on one another's domain, Gardner says. The Bush administration, with its focus on classic state issues like tort reform and education, has been more intrusive of state power than any administration since the Carter administration, he says.

"There's a school of thought that says people prefer the exercise of national power," Gardner says. "There is so much in the world that needs to be accomplished and can only be accomplished at the national level, but federalism is such a beneficial way of structuring government power that it's useful to look for ways for states to play a constructive role."

Gardner's book points to two trends in the past 25 years that have played principal roles in the emergence of state constitutional protection of civil liberties. In the 1970s, the U.S. Supreme Court closed an era of rulings that interpreted the U.S. Constitution to provide generous protection for individual liberties. This prompted Justice William Brennan, in his widely cited 1977 law-review article, to call for state courts to use their constitutions to continue the expansion of individual rights. And in the 1980s the Reagan administration, Gardner writes, undertook an aggressive program to shift responsibilities from the federal government to the states.

One result of these trends, according to Gardner, has been a reversal of political philosophies over the past 25 years, with conservatives, once staunch defenders of state powers, now pressing for greater control at the national level, while liberals have sought to expand civil liberties through the state constitutional process.



# Alumni Association



Honorable Victoria Graffeo, New York State Court of Appeals

## A Word From On High

*Court of Appeals judge addresses New York City alumni*

A member of the state's highest court was in New York's biggest city on Jan. 28 to meet with Big Apple alumni of UB Law School. Judge Victoria Graffeo addressed the down-state alumni group at a lunchtime gathering in the famed Waldorf Astoria hotel.

Graffeo mused about the odd ways people's paths cross over the course of their careers, and noted: "The truth is, you never really know where the people you work with and deal with will end up in years to come. How you handle yourself professionally—and how you develop your reputation—is so important.

"Every time I speak to a group of law students, I try to emphasize that," she said, "because I believe that integri-



ty, courtesy and reputation are paramount to our success as attorneys and to the public's view of what we do as lawyers."

The judge spoke as well about current attorneys' role in advising those

Left to right: Denise E. O'Donnell '82, William Flynn and Dennis C. Vacco '78

who will follow them into the profession. "I have been blessed to have worked with many talented mentors over the course of my career," Graffeo said. "I have been fortunate to work in all three branches of government, and I worked in private practice before that.

"I think we all need to remind ourselves that we need to put the time and effort into also serving as mentors for the next generation of lawyers who will work in the state of New York. It is im-

portant for us to carry on that tradition." Those mentoring opportunities, she said, include at the Law School, with its practice-oriented curriculum and manifold clinical opportunities.

An undergraduate product of the State University of New York at Oneonta, the judge spoke strongly in support of the SUNY system.

"I am a firm believer that it is essential that we maintain a very strong

system of public education in New York State, particularly higher education," she said. "SUNY has provided the promise of opportunity for so many families who would not otherwise be able to see their children achieve that.

"I know it has made a tremendous impact in my family. My sister, my brother, I and my stepbrother were all SUNY graduates. My husband in the last few years has earned his degree in political science at Rockefeller College, which is part of the SUNY system. My grandparents were from Italy, and I think it was amazing to them that all their grandchildren became college graduates.

"We need to make sure SUNY stays healthy and strong and competitive, because it is a channel for so many people to achieve so much."

Graffeo also put in a good word for the Court of Appeals' April session in Buffalo, and acknowledged the court's initiative to revise the rules of practice for practitioners appearing before it. "We are trying to make those rules a little more understandable and reflect what you have to do when you are making an appeal," she said.

*"We need to make sure SUNY stays healthy and strong and competitive, because it is a channel for so many people to achieve so much."*



Honorable Erin M. Peradotto '84



Far left, left to right: Executive Director Ilene R. Fleischmann and Honorable Barbara Howe '80

Left: President Terrance P. Flynn '88



Dean Nils Olsen addresses the luncheon crowd at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City.



# Alumni Association



Judge Kaye and Dean Nils Olsen greet well-wishers at the dinner.

## High Honors

*Court of Appeals sits in for Alumni Association awards*

**I**t was in the presence of some distinguished witnesses that the UB Law Alumni Association held its 43rd annual meeting and dinner on April 14. The seven-member New York State Court of Appeals – which had met in session in downtown Buffalo that day – gathered with alumni, friends and honorees for a celebration of the Law School's best and brightest.

Seated on the dais at the dinner with Judge Kaye were associate judges: Hon. George Bundy Smith, Hon. Car-

men Beauchamp Ciparick, Hon. Albert M. Rosenblatt, Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo, Hon. Susan Phillips Read and Hon. Robert S. Smith. Hon. Matthew J. Jasen, now retired from the Court of Appeals, also joined them on the dais.

Distinguished Alumni Awards for 2005 were presented to three honorees. An additional highlight was the presentation of the Hon. M. Dolores Denman Scholarship Award by the late Justice Denman's best friend, Hon. Judith S. Kaye.

Distinguished Alumni Awards were

presented to:

**Diane F. Bosse '76**, for her commitment to public service. A partner in the Buffalo law firm Volgenau & Bosse, the honoree serves as chair of the New York State Board of Law Examiners, which is responsible for preparing, administering and grading the state bar exam. She is also secretary of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, for which she chairs the Multistate Performance Test. She is also a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at UB Law School.



In her remarks, Bosse spoke of the value of upholding the honor and standards of "the profession I love so much."

"I learned at UB Law School, a place I love and a place that still has a home-like quality to me, that the law is a profession of shared values, and that among the values we share as lawyers is a commitment to the delivery of competent and effective legal services to trusting clients," she said.

She accepted the award in memory of Richard Manz '54, legal assistant to the Board of Law Examiners until his sudden death in March, calling him "my mentor, my colleague and my cherished friend."

**David R. Pfalzgraf '68**, for his many contributions to the betterment of the community. Pfalzgraf is of counsel to the Cheek-towaga, N.Y., firm Pfalzgraf Beinhauer & Menzies, where he focuses his practice on elder law. He is highly regarded for helping to educate the legal profession about alcoholism, chemical dependency, stress, depression and other mental health problems, and has helped numerous bar associations and lawyer assistance programs with programs to address such problems, always with the emphasis on compassion and the goal of recovery.

Pfalzgraf recently was named chair of the New York Lawyer Assistance Trust, which brings resources and awareness to the prevention and treatment of alcohol and substance abuse among lawyers, judges, law faculty and students. A past president of the Erie County Bar Foundation, he was named "Lawyer of the Year" by the Bar Association of Erie County in 2002.

In accepting the award, Pfalzgraf

noted that the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous were attorneys; thus "lawyers were at the root of the most successful recovery program in the world." This is fitting, he said, because whereas the alcoholism rate stands at about 10 percent of the general drinking population, the incidence of alcoholism may be as high as 18 percent among lawyers.

But, he said, "there is great hope, and there is no such thing as a hopeless case. I can report to you tonight that never have there been more state and

has been marked by far-reaching efforts to improve judicial administration. She also has published widely on issues such as legal process, state constitutional law, women in the law, professional ethics and problem-solving courts. Her bachelor of laws degree is from New York University School of Law, cum laude, in 1962.

"I am going to claim an additional privilege as a recipient of this award, and that is to claim myself as an alumna of this law school," Kaye said.

Her remarks then turned to her late friend, the first woman to be named presiding justice of the New York State Supreme Court's Appellate Division. Justice Denman, a member of the Class of '65, had a career "marked by mentoring and helping others while insisting on the highest and best of our noble profession," Kaye said. "Always Dolores Denman was a commanding presence. She was a person who commanded respect and gave meaning to the ideal of justice."

It was fitting, then, that Kaye then served as presenter for the Justice M. Dolores Denman Scholarship Award, given to a graduating senior at the Law School who is a single custodial parent, as Denman herself was. The award is intended to offset the costs of day care and

other child-rearing expenses in connection with preparing for the bar exam.

Funded largely by an annual grant from the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association, and selected by that group, the award this year was given to third-year UB Law student Tara A. Midlik of East Aurora, N.Y.



Left to right: Diane F. Bosse '76, Hon. Judith S. Kaye and David R. Pfalzgraf '68



Honorable Richard Wesley



Honorable John M. Curran '84



President Terrance P. Flynn '88

local bar programs, financial resources or committed recovering lawyers devoted to lawyers-helping-lawyers activities than there are today."

**Hon. Judith S. Kaye**, for outstanding service to the University and community by a non-alumnus. As chief judge of the New York State Court of Appeals – the first woman to hold that office – Kaye oversees the state's vast and complex court system. Her tenure

# Alumni Association

## Jaeckle Award goes to Hon. Ann T. Mikoll '54



Dean Nils Olsen



Professor William R. Greiner



Grace Marie Ange '57

A pioneering judge with a heart for Polonia was the 2004 recipient of the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award, the highest honor given by the Law School and the UB Law Alumni Association. Hon. Ann T. Mikoll '54, who retired in 1999 from her position in the Appellate Division of State Supreme Court, was honored at an Oct. 30 luncheon. The award was presented by William R. Greiner, law professor and former president of the University at Buffalo.

Mikoll made history in 1977 as the first woman elected to serve on a New York appellate court. Previously, she had served as assistant corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo; as a Buffalo City Court judge for 14 years; and as a two-term Supreme Court justice.

She also has been a longtime advocate of the arts and Polish culture, and has helped produce two operas by Polish composers. She currently serves as president of the Chopin Singing Society, the largest Polish choir, now celebrating its 102nd year.

In 1998, Mikoll was elected to the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame.

Law School Dean Nils Olsen called Mikoll "a genuine, sincere humanitarian who cares about people and enjoys helping them first and foremost." He also cited her work on the Dean's Advisory Council: "She has a gift for focusing on the heart of the matter and for making her points in a clear, insightful manner. Being with her is always enjoyable and educational. She is an alumna whose commitment to the Law School has been extraordinary and

whose assistance has been exceptional."

Grace Marie Ange '57, a partner in Ange & Ange, told of the shepherding she received from Mikoll when Ange arrived in City Court as a bewildered newly admitted lawyer. "She did not laugh at me. She calmed me down and told me what to do. And from that day forward, this has endeared Ann to me forever."

Mikoll's election to the State Supreme Court in 1971 was "really momentous," Ange said. "That meant a lot. It meant a lot to women. There were very few women lawyers at that time, and of the women lawyers, there were very few who got into the courtroom. When Ann got elected to Supreme Court, there were a lot of women who were elated by that."

The honoree, she said, "knew that law was not a theory. It was not some abstract idea. Anything judges decide has a real impact on flesh-and-blood people, and she brought that to her position as a judge during all these years."

"Most of all I think of her as a loyal, supportive friend. Her friendship is very inclusive. She has friends whom



*"The school is such a nurturing place,  
such a wonderful place to produce lawyers  
for the future."*

— Honorable Ann T. Mikoll '54

she has had for years. She does not drop friends when they are no longer able to do anything for her. She is a genuine friend."

In presenting the award, Greiner cited a time in the early 1980s when Mikoll brought a group of advocates to the University and pushed for better ties with Buffalo's ethnic communities. That led, he said, to programs in Polish language and literature, "then an exchange program with Jagiellonian University in Krakow that has blossomed into an extraordinary set of relationships with Eastern Europe. It helped to open our University to be the international institution it is today."

Expressing gratitude for the award, Mikoll remembered that there were only six women in her graduating class, "and I was the only one to go on and practice law. Today the Law School is a totally different institution. As a member of the Dean's Advisory Council for the last two years, I have been privy to the progress of the Law School from that of my day to an outstanding professional institution of which we can all be exceedingly proud. The school is such a nurturing place, such a wonderful place to produce lawyers for the future. We, the legal community, should play a continuous role in helping to pave the way for next generation of lawyers at this school through our support."

About her life in the legal profession, Mikoll said: "Our profession is the conscience of the community. It is the community which seeks from us the only earthly justice they can get in the very complicated and myriad problems that confront them. We must continue to be the glue that holds the democratic and capitalistic system together. We need to propel the wheels of justice forward to meet the ever-changing circumstances and dynamics of life."

She also advised her fellow attorneys to "sustain an inner fire and commitment. We need to hold on to a clarity of purpose as to our obligation and our passion for justice. We hold a very significant place in God's plan for society, and to successfully fulfill that role, we need to remain lawyers and judges who care, who listen carefully, who practice law and dispense justice with courage unencumbered by considerations that debase our professional judgment."



# Alumni Association

## Questions of Ethics

*Convocation explores developments in legal practice*

Professional ethics – a subject that touches every lawyer’s practice every day – was the topic of the 29th annual Alumni Convocation of UB Law School.

“Emerging Developments, Changes and Updates in Professional Ethics” addressed issues relating to business transactions, matrimonial law, surrogate court practice and litigation. At a luncheon that followed, Hon. Ann T. Mikoll was awarded the 2004 Jaeckle Award, UB Law’s highest honor.

The Convocation was held in the University Inn and Conference Center. It offered CLE credit and drew a packed house.

After welcoming statements by UB Law Dean Nils Olsen; UB Law Alumni Association President Terrance P. Flynn ’88; and the Convocation co-chairs, Hon. Erin M. Peradotto ’84 and Dennis R. McCoy ’78, attorney **Ralph L. Halpern ’53** began the discussion of professional ethics in business transactions.

Citing the state’s ethics code for lawyers, Halpern, a partner with Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel, stressed that “your client is the corporation. Your client is not the officers who hired you, not the employees whom you may work with on a day-to-day basis. If you can keep those two things straight, the rest of the things fall into line.”

A sticky ethical situation, he said, results when an employee or officer of a corporation refuses to correct a wrongdoing. The lawyer’s duty then, Halpern said, is “reporting up” – going to the highest authority within the corporation that can rectify the wrong, the board of directors. “You do not jump over everybody,” he said. “You go higher up the line and remonstrate as you go, to see if you can get it corrected. If you cannot get it corrected, the board of directors is your last step.”

And if the board will not correct the

situation, he said, “your sole obligation is to withdraw.” That, he noted, can be easier said than done, particularly for someone acting as in-house counsel – because withdrawing means the loss of one’s job.

Citing the precedence of confidentiality requirements over the lawyer’s obligation to reveal a fraud, Halpern said, “Lawyers are lawyers because of their special calling. They are not policemen. They are not whistle-blowers. Their hallmark is confidentiality. They are trusted advisers, not informers. We do not represent the public interest when we represent a client.”

**Thomas F. Disare**, a clinical professor at UB Law School, discussed the federal Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which went into effect in July 2002. Provisions of that act direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to “list standards of conduct for attorneys appearing before the commission.” This, he said, set in motion a battle between the SEC and those groups traditionally charged with overseeing attorney ethics, such as the American Bar Association and state bar associations.

“The SEC saw this as a chance to perhaps enlist lawyers in their battle against corporate corruption,” Disare said. The commission, he said, wants to require “noisy withdrawal” from a case in which an attorney discovers unmitigated fraud – i.e. the attorney would be required to

report the wrongdoing.

Such “reporting out” is controversial, he said, describing it as “a situation where you have a corporate problem, a material violation of securities laws, and you are still not satisfied with the response of anyone including the board of directors. The SEC gives you a permissive – not mandatory – option to reveal a client’s confidential information.”

But because the provision does not mandate that a lawyer report such wrongdoing, “it is pretty hard for me to imagine when or why the average attorney would use the permissive reporting provision,” Disare said.

Two Buffalo attorneys addressed issues of professional ethics relating to matrimonial law.

**Patrick C. O’Reilly ’80** first made an impassioned plea for more civility in legal practice. “All too often we practice uncivil litigation,” said Reilly, a managing partner with Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria. “The canons of ethics say that we must represent our clients zealously. In matrimonial law, often a line is crossed between zealous representation and misguided empathy or misdirected frustration. In 90 to 95 percent of matrimonial cases, everyone remains relatively calm and everything gets settled. But in high-conflict cases where love has turned to hate, one party is despicable and does despicable things. And when someone does a despicable thing, lawyers get angry, and they start to personalize the process, and the enemy becomes the other lawyer. It ends up in sharp practice and sometimes it ends up in unethical practice, and it is not the way it should be. Remember who you are. You are supposed to be the voice of reason.”

That said, Reilly launched into a discussion of the ethical dilemma of the dishonest client – one who lies to his or her lawyer. “Many people going through a divorce wish to hide their income or assets from their spouse,” Reilly said. “Sometimes your client in a matrimonial



Ralph L. Halpern '83



Paul A. Vance



Susan J. Egloff



Catherine T. Wettlaufer '85



Hon. Erin M. Peradotto '84



Patrick C. O'Reilly '80

matter will lie to you.

"What I try to do early on with the client is explain: We have a problem here. You have three choices: 1. Lie to me and continue to lie to me, and you will get caught and I will not be able to help you because I will not know what the truth is. 2. Tell me everything and I will tell you how I will attempt to disclose it and settle your case using the true facts without getting you in trouble with the IRS or the district attorney. 3. Go somewhere else. My license is not worth the fees you can pay me in this case even if you pay me triple."

**Paul A. Vance**, a partner with Stiller & Vance, spoke of his work as a law guardian representing children in divorce actions.

"I feel very strongly about this, personally, that part of my ethical responsibility to the children I represent is to be a catalyst in effectuating a settlement," he said. "In the 20 years that I have been representing kids, they all say the same thing: 'Mr. Vance, I want this over.'"

The same confidentiality provisions that pertain to adults also apply to children, Vance said. "I tell these children, assuming they are old enough for me to tell them, that everything they tell me is confidential. I am not going to run and tell Mommy that you want to live with

Daddy, and I am not going to run and tell Daddy that you want to live with Mommy. But tell me what is going on."

Citing 4th Department rules, he said: "If your client is old enough, you must advocate their position unless that position is somehow harmful or imminently dangerous to them. So if you have got a child who is 7 or 8 years old and they say for good and sufficient reason, I want to live with Mom or Dad, that is your position. You do not get to substitute your judgment."

**A**n entertaining tag team of **Susan J. Egloff**, court attorney-referee at Erie County Surrogate's Court, and **Catherine T. Wettlaufer '85**, a partner with Hiscock & Barclay, presented jointly on issues in surrogate court practice.

They discussed those issues using case studies that are composites drawn from their varied experience in Surrogate's Court, such as the case of a Western New York couple who asked their neighbor – a freshly minted graduate of a California law school who had been doing securities work in Japan and was only in town for a visit – to draft a will for them. "Let me tell you, from all my years of experience in Surrogate's Court, there

is no such thing as a simple will," Egloff said.

This case included previous marriages, assets including real estate and an IRA, tax issues, grandchildren and step-grandchildren. Not surprisingly, it ended up in a drawn-out and expensive mess.

The final topic, ethics in the field of litigation, was addressed by **Diane F. Bosse '76**, a partner in Volgenau & Bosse, and **Richard T. Sullivan**, a partner at Sullivan, Oliverio & Gioia.

Bosse discussed a number of scenarios involving individual attorneys at a firm and what happens when they leave. If a firm has represented a particular respondent, and the lawyer in question has never worked on the case, can she then represent the plaintiff? Can a lawyer who has represented a client leave the firm, take all the files and turn around to represent a new client against the former client?

The ethical issues, Bosse said, revolve around whether the lawyer had access to confidences or secrets of the client. The size of the law firm, and even its physical layout relating to files, can come into play in deciding whether such an attorney should be disqualified from handling a case.

Said Sullivan: "Most lawyers will say they know what the canons of ethics provide. Most lawyers do not. ... The important thing to understand is that these rules are very specific and apply to all areas of practice, with one being very specific, that is, trial conduct.

"You should really look at the disciplinary rules relating to Canon 7 (of the state legal ethics code), because they relate to your conduct in the courtroom, they relate to your ability to contact witnesses, they relate to your ability to pay a witness, what contacts can you have with jurors, and even more important – in this day and age of cable TV, with all the talking heads who are commenting on what goes on in the courtroom but could not find the courthouse if given a map, but yet are willing to comment on trial strategy, and almost on a daily basis – the disciplinary rules relating to trial publicity.

The Convocation was made possible by Forge Consulting LLC, benefactor; LandAmerica Commonwealth, sponsor; and the Bar Association of Erie County, Exacta Legal Document Solutions and Webster Szanyi LLP, donors.

# Alumni Association



## Officers, directors elected for 2005 – 2006

**H**on. John M. Curran, an associate justice of the Supreme Court in the Eighth Judicial District, has been elected president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2005-06. Curran was a partner in the Trial Department of Phillips Lytle LLP before ascending to the New York State

Supreme Court bench in 2004. He concentrated his practice in commercial litigation with an emphasis on matters involving unfair competition, trade secrets,

business and partnership dissolutions, and breach of contract. While a partner at Phillips Lytle, he served as Orchard Park Town Justice since 1995 where he oversaw the modernization of the Court's computer facilities.

Justice Curran graduated from the University of Dayton in 1981 and received his juris doctor degree from the

University at Buffalo Law School in 1984.

Dennis R. McCoy '77, of Hiscock & Barclay, is the new president-elect. Vice presidents are: Hon. Amy J. Fricano '81, of NYS Supreme Court; Terrence A. Greiner '87, of Kavinoky Cook LLP; David M. Hehr '83, of Hiscock & Barclay; and Sharon L. Wick

### **First row, left to right:**

*Hon. John C. Curran, Dennis R. McCoy, Marion K. Henderson, Vice Dean Susan V. Mangold*

### **Second row, left to right:**

*Craig D. Hannah, James B. Denman, Mary Penn, Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden*

### **Third row, left to right:**

*Carmen L. Snell, Gayle L. Eagan, Phillip Brothman, Leslie M. Greenbaum, Trini E. Ross*

### **Fourth Row, left to right:**

*Anthony J. Colucci Jr., Paula M. Ciprich, Wendy Irving, Hon. Mark G. Farrell, Kenneth W. Africano*

### **Fifth row, left to right:**

*Robert L. Boreanaz, David P. Flynn, Michael M. Mobun, Richard F. DiGiacomo, Hilary C. Banker, James M. Gerlach, David M. Hehr, Laurie S. Bloom, Brian Melber, Sheri L. Mooney*



'84, of Phillips Lytle LLP.

Treasurer is Brian M. Melber '96, of Personius Melber LLP; assistant treasurer is Margaret P. Gryko '77 of Delaware North Companies, Inc.; secretary is Marion K. Henderson '65, retired; and assistant secretary is Robert L. Boreanaz '89, of Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria. Immediate past president is Terrance P. Flynn '88, of Gibson, McAskill & Crosby. Ilene R. Fleischmann, associate dean in the University at Buffalo Law School, continues as executive director.

**N**ew directors elected for terms ending in 2008 are: Kenneth W. Africano '85, of Harter, Secrest & Emery, LLP; Hilary C. Banker '96, of Burzio, Kita & Curvin; Vincent E. Doyle III '89, of Connors & Vilar-do, LLP; David P. Flynn '87, of Phillips Lytle LLP;

James M. Gerlach '97, of Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola, LLC; Craig D. Hannah '95, of Law Office of John V. Elmore; and Mary Penn '99, of Altreuter & Habermehl.



**Front row, left to right:** Scott T. Hanson '02, Bethany J. Gilbert '04, Gretchen P. Aylward '95, Executive Director Ilene R. Fleischmann, Mary Penn '99, Pietra G. Lettieri '01, Stephanie Williams-Torres '00 and Lenora B. Foote '97

**Second row, left to right:** Marc W. Brown '99, James E. Privitera '03 and Tasha E. Moore '98

**Back row, left to right:** Jesse B. Baldwin '04, Matthew R. Coseo '05 and Brian M. Swann '05

## GOLD Group, 2005-2006

### 2005-06 GOLD Group Officers

President  
*D. Charles Roberts, Jr., '97*

Immediate Past President  
*Hilary C. Banker '96*

President-Elect  
*Marc W. Brown '99*

Secretary  
*Kathleen J. Martin-Nieves '99*

Secretary-Elect  
*Natalie A. Grigg '02*

Treasurer  
*Pietra G. Lettieri '01*

Treasurer-Elect  
*Antoinetta D. Mucilli '99*

Communications Chair  
*Tasha E. Moore '98*

Education Co-Chairs  
*William Chen '01*  
*David W. Polak '00*

Membership Chair  
*Thomas S. Lane '97*

Recruiting Chair  
*Lenora B. Foote '97*

Social Co-Chairs  
*Sarah Smith-Ronan '01*  
*Jeffrey J. Weiss '96*

### Directors

*Jesse Baldwin '04*  
*Matthew R. Coseo '05*  
*Bethany J. Gilbert '04*  
*Scott T. Hanson '02*  
*Rebecca Z. McCauley '04*  
*Catherine E. Nagel '98*  
*Mary Penn '99*  
*Lisa D. Primerano '98*  
*James E. Privitera '03*  
*Stephanie Williams-Torres '00*

# Alumni Association

## Improved and in touch

*New alumni offerings make it easier to stay close to UB Law*

With friendships forged in the crucible of what may be the toughest three years of their lives, UB Law alumni have always been uncommonly close. Now the Law School is taking significant steps toward solidifying that community for years beyond Commencement.

A new directory of more than 9,000 alumni, new initiatives by the GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Group, and a significant enhancement in the Law School's Web presence are all intended to help graduates stay connected with the school and with each other.

The benefits are both professional and personal, said Lisa M. Mueller, associate director of communications and coordinator of the Law School's CLE program. "Younger attorneys do not have a lot of time to pull themselves away from the paperwork and the office," Mueller said. "Options like the GOLD Group give them another opportunity to get together with other attorneys."

The GOLD Group offers both education and social events to help graduates of the past 10 years to make the sometimes difficult transition from law school to practice. "It is important to know how to ease into the legal community," Mueller said.

The group supports that process with social events that put new lawyers in touch with each other, and with Continuing Legal Education programs that focus on the nuts and bolts of legal practice. The group offers three one-hour programs each year, free to every dues-paying members of the UB Law Alumni Association. Somewhat surprisingly, Mueller said, these CLE programs draw a cross-section of both new and

experienced attorneys, as even experienced lawyers may benefit from a brush-up in areas that are outside their concentrations.

New this past year was a collaboration with the Erie Institute of Law, an Erie County Bar Association presenter, on a "mini medical school for lawyers" dealing with the medical aspects of back injuries.

Now these CLE programs are being made available via teleconference – ideal for participants outside the metro Buffalo area – and on videotape. Thus all New York State residents can take advantage of these learning opportunities.

GOLD Group social events have gone beyond the traditional happy hour to include such family-friendly gatherings as UB Bulls basketball games, and a tour and reception at Buffalo's Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

Hilary C. Banker '96, an associate at the Buffalo law firm Burgio, Kita & Curvin, served as president of the GOLD Group in 2004-05 and now serves on the UB Law Alumni Association board.

"It is a great group of people. Everyone is hard-working and energetic," Banker said of the GOLD Group. "In the last couple of years we have started branching out to get connected with the university as a whole," including such events as special hospitality efforts at the Bulls' Homecoming football game.

Other recent alumni outreach efforts have extended to New York City, including a night of networking at the Divine Bar on East 51st Street and the annual Alumni Luncheon. Last year, the event was held at the Waldorf Astoria, featuring New York State Court of Appeals Judge Victoria A. Graffeo.



Top, left to right: Scott T. Peloza '07 and Jenny W. Le '07

Above, left to right: Shawn C. Graham '06, Trevor M. Torcello '06 and Jennifer M. Brace '07



Also in the works is a new version of the UB Law Alumni Directory, the first since 2001. Published by Bernard C. Harris Publishing Co., the directory is expected to be available in early 2006. Alumni will be offered the opportunity to buy a copy in printed form or on CD-ROM; watch your e-mail or check the Law School's Web site, [www.law.buffalo.edu](http://www.law.buffalo.edu).

**N**ow the Law School will put the directory online as well, with additional opportunities for alumni to post "profile pages" with more information on their professional and personal lives.

The online directory is part of an emerging "online community" that will serve as a one-stop destination for UB Law alumni. In a password-protected section of the Law School Web site, alumni will be able to browse the online directory of their fellow graduates; read about upcoming events for alumni and members of the University community, and register online; read an expanded section of alumni news; and find links to news releases of interest to those who care about the Law School.

The site is modeled after the University's successful UB Connect service for alumni.



Top: A divine evening at the Divine Bar

Middle, left to right: Luke S. Bassis '03, Lesley Wong '02 and Lourdes M. Ventura '98

Bottom, left to right: Jana Kosberg-Kleidman '01 with her husband Paul Kleidman '01, Margaret Murphy '01 and Clare Lubiner '01



# Alumni Association

## Denise O'Donnell Recognized by State Bar for Promoting the Status of Women

**D**enise E. O'Donnell '82 of Buffalo, a partner in the Buffalo office of the international law firm Hodgson Russ LLP, and a candidate for State Attorney General, received the New York State Bar Association's 2005 Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award.

The prestigious award, given annually to honor an Association member who has made a noteworthy contribution to the concerns of women through pro bono work, service to bar associations or other community organizations, writing, or other related activities, was presented Jan. 28 during the NYSBA House of Delegates meeting at the New York Marriott Marquis hotel in Manhattan.

Immediately following, O'Donnell, president of the Law Alumni Association in 2003–2004, joined the Association at their annual NYC luncheon held this year at the Waldorf Astoria. Alumni heard Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo speak.

"Denise is an outstanding attorney whose ability to successfully balance her professional commitment with her community activities and personal life serves as an inspiration to all of us," said Donna M. Petrucelli of New York, chair of the Committee on Women in the Law, which confers the award. "Her life, professional experiences, and commitment to improving and protecting the status of women have quietly enriched the Buffalo community."

At Hodgson Russ, O'Donnell concentrates her practice across New York State in government regulatory investigations and white-collar crime, with an emphasis on health care law, qui tam actions (a federal law allowing private citizens to file a lawsuit in the name of the U.S. government charging fraud),



Denise E. O'Donnell '82

and corporate compliance.

Before entering private law practice, President Clinton had nominated her to serve as U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York (1997–2001), where she directed all civil and criminal prosecutions for the federal government in the 17 counties between Buffalo and Rochester. She was the first woman to be appointed U.S. Attorney in upstate New York.

Her work won the attention and respect of then-U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, who asked O'Donnell to serve as vice-chair of an advisory council that provided guidance and made key policy recommendations to the Department of Justice.

During her nearly 17-year career in

the U.S. Attorney's Office, O'Donnell personally handled and supervised a number of significant prosecutions, including the Western New York investigation of Timothy McVeigh in the Oklahoma City Bombing case and the international investigation of James Kopp, who was on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List for the murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian.

**A**s U.S. Attorney, O'Donnell formed a program in the office to work with local agencies to prevent housing discrimination against women, particularly single mothers with few resources who are most often the targets of such discriminatory practices. She brought community leaders and law enforcement officials together to implement Project Exile, a unique program designed to help reduce gun violence. O'Donnell also helped form a community coalition to reduce youth violence and homicides, and provided the leadership to create the first Hate Crimes Task Force in Western New York.

She maintains professional affiliations in the Bar Association of Erie County (former treasurer), Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (founding member), New York State Bar Association (member of the Criminal Justice Section), American Bar Association, Western New York Trial Lawyers Association, Trustee of the University at Buffalo Foundation, and member of the Dean's Advisory Council of UB Law School.

She serves on the boards of directors of a number of organizations including the National Women's Hall of Fame (secretary) and the Western New York Chapter of the National Conference for

Community and Justice.

Her contributions to the profession and community have resulted in awards from the Eighth Judicial District (Women in the Courts), Women Lawyers of Western New York (Lawyer of the Year), Planned Parenthood (William B. Hoyt Award), Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (Directors Award), and the Bar Association of Erie County (Criminal Justice). She is a member of the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame.

O'Donnell has extensive experience as an instructor, faculty member, and lecturer in various facets of legal ethics and trial advocacy. Her impact is best summed up by what her daughter, Maura, said at her swearing-in ceremony for U.S. attorney: "To us, she is Supermom. People often remark that we (she and her brother Jack) have big shoes to fill, but we prefer to think of it as having a great set of footprints to follow down the path."

She received her undergraduate degree from Canisius College, a master's degree in social work from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a law degree, graduating *summa cum laude*, from the University at Buffalo Law School, where she was senior editor of the *Buffalo Law Review*.

**D**uring law school, she was a legal assistant for the plaintiffs in a landmark school desegregation case in Buffalo and later went on to serve as a confidential law clerk to Appellate Division Justice M. Delores Denman (1982-85), a prior recipient of the Schapiro Award.

Previous recipients of the Schapiro award, which was established in 1992, also include Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye and former NYSBA presidents M. Catherine Richardson of Syracuse and Maryann Saccomando Freedman of Buffalo.

The 72,000-member New York State Bar Association is the official statewide organization of lawyers in New York and the largest voluntary state bar association in the nation.

# State Court officials honor executive director and alumnae



Ilene R. Fleischmann

**I**lene R. Fleischmann, executive director of the Law Alumni Association and associate dean of the University at Buffalo Law School, was presented with a Women in the Law Award from the Eighth Judicial District of the State of New York United Court System, Gender and Racial Fairness Committee. Hon. Sharon S. Townsend, chief administrative judge of the Eighth Judicial District, presented the award on May 25 at the fourth annual Celebration of Women in the Law luncheon in the Adam's Mark Hotel.

Fleischmann was recognized for her "pioneering achievements, outstanding leadership, dedicated commitment and service, which have significantly impacted the legal profession, women in the law, and the WNY community."

In addition to Fleischmann, eight Western New York female judges, court officials and lawyers, and a deceased Niagara Falls attorney, also were honored. All 10 recipients were selected by the local judicial and legal communities for their outstanding contributions to the bench, bar and community, Townsend said.

UB Law alumnae who were honored include Hon. Rose D. LaMendola '55, retired State Supreme Court Justice; Hon. Judith S. Claire '75, Chautauqua County Family Court Judge; Hon. Janice M. Rosa '75, State Supreme Court Justice who is the judicial overseer of Western New York divorce courts; Joann M. Wahl '81, Chief Clerk of the Fourth Department Appellate Court; and Anna L. Scott '83, a Buffalo attorney noted for free legal work for the poor.

Since 1985, Fleischmann has served the UB Law Alumni Association, Inc. as its first executive director, providing professional staff support for its officers, board of directors and committees in planning and implementing its events, programs and activities. Simultaneously, she has risen through the administrative ranks of the University at Buffalo Law School to become an associate dean, directing the Law School's alumni affairs, public relations, publications and communications.

She is editor of *UB Law Forum*, and UB Law Links, the Law School's quarterly e-mail newsletter. She works collaboratively with the Law School's faculty, professional staff, students and alumni to produce creative marketing and public relations materials for recruitment, career services, fund-raising and academic programs. She is responsible annually for dozens of special events that enhance the image and reputation of the Law School, and strengthen the relationship between the Law School and the broader legal community.

An East Amherst resident, She currently serves as a director of the WNY Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and as a director of the Jewish Family Service, in Buffalo. She is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Citizens Academy, class of 2005.

# Alumni Association



## Shouldn't you be a member of the Law Alumni Association?

**F**or more than 100 years, the UB Law Alumni Association has served our alumni/ae by sponsoring and/or assisting with events and programs that enhance the education and quality of life within UB Law School. We help to raise the national reputation and visibility of the Law School and provide invaluable opportunities to all of our graduates.

For more recent graduates, the UB Law Alumni Association's GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Group provides additional low-cost educational and social programs and services designed to assist new graduates with the transition from student to attorney. Membership in the GOLD group is automatic and free upon graduation, and remains in effect during the graduates first 10 years out of law school. The Law Alumni As-

sociation helps underwrite their activities. We encourage GOLD Group members to enjoy the full benefits of the UB Law Alumni Association by joining.

For more information on why you should join, please call Laurie S. Bloom at (716) 853-8100 or Robert L. Boreanaz at (716) 849-1333 (Ext. 343).

### The UB Law Alumni Services

- **Continuing Legal Education programs** — Your \$50 membership includes free CLE credits, valuable written handouts and breakfast at three "UB Law Downtown" seminars at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Buffalo. GOLD Group members pay just \$15 per seminar. Non-members pay \$20 per seminar.

- **Networking is easy!** — We are currently working on a 2006 Harris Alumni Directory. In the meantime, if you need a printout of alumni/ae in your area, give us the zip codes, and we will send you a list. Contact the Law Alumni office for assistance and information regarding our privacy policies.

- **Alumni Convocation** — An annual, morning-long educational Convo-



cation features expert lecturers addressing topics on the cutting-edge of the law. Three CLE credits can be earned. Paid Association members receive a \$10 discount.

- **Career assistance** — Association members receive a reduced rate on the employment newsletter published by the Career Services Office (CSO). The CSO will also help alumni find mentors in their practice areas who can offer invaluable career advice. And our Alumni office provides lists of alumni/ae by geographic area to assist alumni with their networking efforts.

- **Regional events** — Every January we sponsor a New York City alumni luncheon in conjunction with the State Bar meeting. Among our celebrity speakers have been Chief Judge Judith Kaye, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Attorney General Dennis Vacco and Attorney General Eliot Spitzer. This year, New York State Court of Appeals Judge Albert M. Rosenblatt will be the featured speaker on Friday, Jan. 27, at noon, in the Union League Club, 37 E. 38th St., corner of Park Avenue. The Association also underwrites events in Rochester and Washington, D.C.

- **Recognize Distinguished Law Alumni twice a year** — The coveted Jaekle Award, the highest award the Law School and the Law Alumni Association can bestow, is presented to an outstanding alumnus/a in the fall. Five alumni are recognized at the Annual Meeting and Dinner in the spring. Awards are presented in the categories of private practice, judiciary, community service, business and public service.

- **All alumni receive the UB Law Forum** — Our free, award-winning magazine provides news of the Law School, faculty, graduates and students. Don't be left out: Be sure to send your news into Class Action, or submit your news online. With the support of the Law Alumni Association, part of *UB Law Forum* is now available on our Web site.

- **The Buffalo Alumni Mentor Project** —BAMP is a career guidance program designed to help law students and recent graduates make the transi-

## Alumni Association dues for 2006 — 2007

(Invoices will be mailed shortly)

• Classes of 2002 to 2005	\$25
• Classes of 2002 to 2005 (Includes CLE*)	\$50
• All prior classes (Includes CLE*)	\$50

*\*Includes three one-hour CLE programs*

### Make your check payable to:

UB Law Alumni Association

### Mail to:

UB Law Alumni Office  
312 O'Brian Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14260

Or contact us at (716) 645-2107 to pay with MasterCard or Visa.

tion from law school to the legal community.

- **Law School Oral History Project** — The lives of UB Law alumni and the Law School's history will be preserved and celebrated in the Law Alumni Association's ongoing digital Oral History Project.

- **Assistance with reunions** — We do class mailings, hire photographers, order favors and offer other support to alumni/ae who organize reunions. Class pictures and directories are provided free of charge to all reunion attendees.

- **Student support** — We help underwrite a printed photo directory for first-year law students, and host a welcome reception for the entire first-year class providing an opportunity for students to meet practitioners, faculty and members of the judiciary.

- **Free parking** — Paid members enjoy free parking in the Center for Tomorrow lot. O'Brian Hall is just a short shuttle bus trip away.

- **Online services** — Check out the host of services available through UB Law's online home at [www.law.buffalo.edu](http://www.law.buffalo.edu). Alumni can e-mail our faculty and staff, search our library collections, visit Career Services, join the Law Alumni Association, or make a gift to

the Law School. Subscribe online to UB Law Links, our e-mail newsletter to receive the latest Law School and classmate news.

- **Bookstore discounts** — Paid members for the current membership year receive a 20 percent discount on UB Law logo and UB Law Alumni logo merchandise available at the Law School bookstore.

# Alumni Briefs



## 50+ Luncheon

The Law School hosted its second annual 50+ Reunion Luncheon, an event that welcomed alumni who had passed their 50th reunion. Alumni and guests joined Dean Nils Olsen as this wonderful tradition continued on Aug. 17.

The festivities took place in the Law School Library Reading Room in John Lord O'Brian Hall. In addition to lunch, Dean Olsen briefed attendees on new developments at the Law School and led a tour of the building.

Alumni ranged from the classes of 1938 to 1955. Conversation ran the gamut from their past days at the Law School and their many accomplishments, to updating each other on recent happenings in their lives.

### **Seated:**

*Hon. John V. Rogowski*

### **First row, left to right:**

*Anthony J. Renaldo,  
Wells E. Knibloe, Isadore  
Snitzer, Ralph L. Halpern*

### **Second row, left to right:**

*Eugene D. Swenson,  
Hon. Joseph J. Sedita,  
Frederic C. Washburn,  
Dean R. Nils Olsen Jr.*

### **Third row, left to right:**

*John T. Frizzell, David A.  
Doll, Jack A. Gellman,  
Kenneth F. Plumb*

### **Fourth row, left to right:**

*Philip H. Magner Jr.,  
Arthur J. Maloney, Hon.  
John P. Lane*

### **Fifth row, left to right:**

*Joseph C. Vispi,  
Alexander J. Russ, John  
W. Rickers Jr.*

### **Sixth row:**

*Frank R. Papa*



## What's new?

Keep in touch with your former classmates, professors and friends by sending us your personal and professional news for publication. Please make sure the news you submit is accurate, complete and legible. Include a picture if you wish. For your convenience, a clip-out coupon is printed on the back cover flap, or write to:

**Ilene Fleischmann, Editor, *UB Law Forum*,  
310 O'Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260.**

E-mail: [fleisch@buffalo.edu](mailto:fleisch@buffalo.edu)  
or fill out the form at [www.law.buffalo.edu](http://www.law.buffalo.edu)

## '30s

### **Hon. Matthew J. Jasen '39**

was honored on April 15 at the Statler Towers in Buffalo by the New York State Court of Appeals. Jasen, a retired Court of Appeals judge, was recognized for his outstanding career on the bench. He was the last Western New Yorker to sit on New York State's highest court, in Albany.

## '40s

### **Fenton Harrison '47**

of Clarence Center, N.Y., was enshrined at the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Sept. 21 in West Seneca, N.Y. Harrison was the longtime Lamm Post

manager and American Legion county, district and zone baseball chairman. He managed AAABA, Legion and CEBA teams to league titles.

**Hon. John T. Curtin '49**, judge for the U.S. District Court, Western District of New York, in Buffalo, was honored at the University at Buffalo Alumni Association Celebration of Excellence dinner on April 15. He received the community leadership medal for his "outstanding accomplishments in making the UB community a better place to live and work." Curtin is a Buffalo resident.

**Joseph C. Vispi '49**, a Buffalo attorney, was selected to be a member of "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Vispi practices real estate law and lives in Amherst, N.Y.



# Alumni Briefs

## '50s

**Richard Krieger '53**, of counsel in the firm Harris Beach in the Buffalo office, was chosen by his fellow attorneys for induction in the "2005 Who's Who in Law" directory by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Krieger is a Buffalo resident.

**Daniel T. Roach '53** practices in the area of medical malpractice and is a partner in the firm Roach, Brown, McCarthy & Gruber in Buffalo. Roach is a member of "Who's Who in Law 2005," according to *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He lives in Buffalo.

**Eugene C. Tenney '54**, a personal injury attorney in Buffalo, has been nominated by his colleagues and inducted into "Who's Who in Law" for 2005 by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Tenney lives in Eggertsville, N.Y.

**Hon. Rose D. LaMendola '55** was honored at the Women in Law luncheon on May 25 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo. The 8th Judicial District's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee acknowledged her for outstanding contributions to the bench, bar and community. LaMendola is a retired New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo. She is an Amherst, N.Y., resident.

**Frank J. Boccio '56** was recognized for his outstanding leadership and management skills with the Juvenile Court Administrator Award from the National Juvenile Court Services Association. Boccio is chief clerk of Erie County Family Court in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Hon. Joseph S. Mattina '56**, chairman and CEO of Counsel Financial Services in Amherst, N.Y., was named to the board of directors of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Corp. in Buffalo. Mattina is a retired Erie County surrogate court judge and a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Jaeckle Award and

## SAVE THE DATE *for* YOUR REUNION:

**1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1996**

Check out all the information at [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

50 + Reunion Luncheon	August 16, 2006
Class of 1956	50th Reunion June 3, 2006
Class of 1961	45th Reunion dates to be determined
Class of 1966	40th Reunion June 2 – 3, 2006
Class of 1971	35th Reunion June 3, 2006
Class of 1976	30th Reunion June 2 – 3, 2006
Class of 1981	25th Reunion May 5 – 6, 2006
Class of 1986	20th Reunion May 5 – 6, 2006
Class of 1996	10th Reunion May 5 – 6, 2006



Celebrants from the Class of 1995 enjoying their 10th-year reunion



Wednesday, July 20, 2005, brought together members of the Class of 1950 to celebrate their 55th reunion from UB Law School. Classmates Hon. Thomas P. Flaherty, Carl A. Green, Wells E. Knibloe and Hon. Joseph J. Sedita met in the spring to plan this memorable milestone.

The reunion dinner was held at the elegant Mansion on Delaware Avenue. The historic site provided an intimate location for this group to commemorate their 55th reunion. The class members were treated to a gourmet dinner and the opportunity to catch up with friends and celebrate each other's accomplishments.

"Fifty-five years is long time to look back, with many great memories!" commented Wells E. Knibloe '55.

"The Korean War began the month we graduated. The Class of 1950 is still going strong, and we will see you in 2010!"

**First row, left to right:**

*Anthony J. Renaldo, Robert P. Freedman, Hon. Joseph J. Sedita*

**Second row, left to right:**

*David A. Doll, Carl A. Green, Wells E. Knibloe, Philip Lipka, Sherwood E. Freed, Hon. John W. Creahan*

# Alumni Briefs

the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

**Richard F. Griffin '57**, of Buffalo, was listed in the new category of alternative dispute resolution in the 2005-06 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Griffin is of counsel in the Buffalo firm Kavinoky & Cook.

**James Carlo '58**, a partner in the firm Magavern, Magavern & Grimm in Buffalo, was named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" in the real estate category by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Carlo is a Buffalo resident.

**Anthony J. Colucci Jr. '58**, of Buffalo, received Letters of Affiliation by the Superior General of Brothers of the Christian Schools. This is the highest lay recognition bestowed by the order. Colucci has also been named board director of First United Bank of the Palm Beaches, in Florida. He is a partner in the firm Block, Colucci, Notaro & Laing in the Buffalo and Florida offices. He is past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

**Thomas R. Beecher Jr. '59** received the UB Law Alumni Association's Jaeckle Award at the 30th annual alumni convocation on Oct. 22 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Beecher is of counsel to the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office, practicing in the areas of estates and trusts, corporate governance in public and closely held companies, foundations and not-for-profit entities. In addition, he is director and chairman of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and is a member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council. Beecher is a Buffalo resident.

**William H. Gardner '59**, general counsel in the Buffalo office of the firm Hodgson Russ, has been included in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Gardner is a Buffalo resident.

**Eugene P. O'Connor '59**, a Buffalo attorney, was made an honorary member of the American Football Coaches Association. He was previously legal counsel for nine years for the association. O'Connor practices sports law, business and tax matters, negligence and business litigation. He lives in Snyder, N.Y.

## '60s

**William D. Schulz '62** was appointed chair of the Presbyterian Senior Care of Western New York Foundation for a one-year term. Schulz is an attorney in the firm Duke, Holzman, Yaeger & Photiadis in Buffalo.

**Gerald S. Lippes '64**, a Buffalo attorney, was recognized in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal*'s "Who's Who in Law 2005." Lippes is founder and senior partner in the firm Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Edward V. Regan '64** has been appointed by New York State Gov. George E. Pataki to the newly formed Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority control board in Buffalo. Regan, a former Erie County executive, will head the board.

**Thomas E. Krug '65**, of Tiernan & Krug in Buffalo, was included on the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal*'s "Who's Who in Law 2005" list. Krug, of Hamburg, N.Y., practices in workers' compensation.

**Bruce R. Schmidt '65**, a partner in the firm Ellis & Kustell in Buffalo, was elected to the 8th Judicial District grievance committee. He is an Albion, N.Y., resident.

**Thomas Sciolino '66** was elected treasurer of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Sciolino practices in Buffalo and is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Carl J. Montante '67** of Clarence, N.Y., was named

Niagara Frontier Executive of the Year by the UB School of Management and its alumni association. Montante is president and managing director of Uniland Development Co. in Amherst, N.Y.

**Frederick A. Wolf '67** has joined the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey as special counsel. Previously, Wolf was Erie County attorney in Buffalo. At Damon & Morey, he will practice in municipal banking and business law. Wolf is a resident of East Aurora, N.Y.

**Robert B. Conklin '68**, president in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, was named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He also was honored at the 16th annual Law Review Dinner, held April 21 in Buffalo, where he was recognized for his service to UB Law School and Western New York. Conklin is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at UB Law School and is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Hon. Paul L. Friedman '68** gave the keynote address at UB Law School's 116th commencement on May 21. Friedman is a U.S. District Court judge in Washington, D.C. Among the cases he has presided over is the largest civil rights settlement in U.S. history. The case involved a class-action lawsuit brought by African-American farmers claiming discrimination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**David C. Horan '68** is on the "Who's Who in Law 2005" list of *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. A Clarence, N.Y., resident, Horan is vice president and general counsel for International Motion Control Inc. in Buffalo.

**Wayne LeChase '68** has been named one of Rochester's Top 50 CEOs by the *Rochester Business Journal*. LeChase is CEO and managing partner of LeChase Construction Services in Rochester, N.Y. He is a resident of Webster, N.Y.

**Jeremiah J. Moriarty III '68** has been nominated by New York State Gov. George E. Pataki to

serve as a state Court of Claims judge, subject to Senate confirmation. Moriarty has his own practice in Franklinville, N.Y., and also serves as town attorney of Franklinville, Humphrey, Ischua, Lyndon and Yorkshire. He is also the city attorney of Salamanca and the village attorney of Delevan, N.Y., and is chairman of the Cattaraugus County Republican Party.

**David R. Pfalzgraf '68** was honored at the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual UB Law Alumni Association dinner on April 14. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for "his many contributions to the betterment of our community." He also has been named chair of the board of trustees of the New York State Lawyer Assistance Trust. He is included in the 2005 listing of "Who's Who in Law" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Pfalzgraf, former president of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo, is of counsel in the firm Pfalzgraf, Beinhauer & Menzies in Cheektowaga, N.Y. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Ronald J. Axelrod '69** of Pittsford, N.Y., has started his own law firm, Ronald J. Axelrod & Associates, in Penfield, N.Y. The firm will handle cases involving estate/elder law and business law.

**Douglas Cream '69** has been named commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 3-3, 9th Coast Guard District, Eastern Region, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Homeland Security. Cohen is a partner in the firm Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where he resides.

**James Harrington '69**, of Buffalo, has been elected by his peers to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Harrington practices in the Buffalo firm Harrington & Mahoney, concentrating in criminal law.

**Richard C. Heffern '69** of Williamsville, N.Y., is named in the latest edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the management labor and employment law category. He





The weekend of May 20-21 brought the Class of 1955 together for their milestone 50-year reunion. The weekend was blessed with beautiful weather, which further enhanced the momentous occasion.

On Friday, the historic Mansion on Delaware Avenue was the setting for the Class of 1955's reunion dinner. Classmates became reacquainted with each other over cocktails and a sit-down dinner. The class spent the first night of the weekend sharing stories and laughs, and celebrating each other's outstanding accomplishments.

On Saturday morning, the class gathered at the Law school with the dean for coffee and a tour of the building. After the tour, the class participated in the Class of 2005 Commencement Exercises at the University of Buffalo's Center for the Arts. As part of the ceremony, the Class of 1955 was honored for their accomplishments.

"It truly was a wonderful weekend," remarked Gordon R. Gross, of Gross, Shuman, Brizzde & Gilfillan, P.C.

"Visiting with so many classmates that I hadn't visited with in many years, catching up on what everyone was doing. These reunions should come more frequently ... time is running out!"

**First row, left to right:**

Arnold E. Galbo, John T. Frizzell, Anthony J. De Marie, Hon. Rose D. LaMendola, Frank J. Sidoti, Nelson R. Barrett

**Second row, left to right:**

James J. O'Brien, Irving D. Brott Jr., Allan H. Kaminsky, Irwin E. Ginsberg

**Third row, left to right:**

Donald F. McKenna, Gordon R. Gross, William R. Kneeland, Gerard R. Haas, Donald C. Lubick (not a classmate)

**Fourth row, left to right:**

William S. Gordon, Stuart W. Goldstein, Ronald W. Freeman, Hon. H. Robert Herman

**Fifth row, left to right:**

William Blanchard, James R. Walsh

**Sixth row, left to right:**

Norman F. Walawender, Leonard F. Walentynowicz, Hon. Gordon Sacks

# Alumni Briefs

has been listed for the past 10 years. Heffern is a managing attorney in the firm Bond, Schoeneck & King in Buffalo.

**Richard S. Kwieciak '69** received the 2005 Special Service Award from the Bar Association of Erie County. Kwieciak practices in his own firm in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

**Richard T. Lippes '69**, of Richard T. Lippes & Associates in Buffalo, was named in the environmental law section of the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* list "Who's Who in Law 2005." Lippes is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**Joseph V. Sedita '69**, partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, has been chosen as one of the leading lawyers in the country. Sedita was named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He resides in Buffalo.

## '70s

**Leonard Berkowitz '72** was appointed to the board of directors of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Berkowitz practices and resides in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**David G. Brock '72** has been named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" in the litigation category by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Brock is a partner in the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel and former vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Herbert Greenman '72** was honored for his work in the area of criminal law by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*'s "Who's Who in Law 2005" listing. Greenman is senior partner in the Buffalo firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria. He is a resident of Clarence, N.Y.

**Anthony J. Latona '72** and **Jeffrey L. Kingsley '02** addressed the Institute for Paralegal Education at a seminar in Buffalo. Their topic was "Trial Preparation From Start to Finish



**Paul R. Comeau '73**

for New York Paralegals." Latona, of East Amherst, N.Y., is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Amherst, N.Y., office.

**Samuel J. Palisano '72** has been appointed a partner in the employee benefits practice group in the Buffalo firm Harter, Secrest & Emery. Palisano specializes in qualified retirement. He resides in East Amherst, N.Y.

**George Riedel Jr. '72** was elected president of Financial Planning Counselors of Western New York. Riedel is senior partner in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Roger Stone '72** received the Excellence in Service award from Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y. Stone is chairperson and professor of paralegal studies at Hilbert College. He is also executive director of the Mental Health Association for Erie County in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Arthur H. Ackerhalt '73** of Williamsville, N.Y., has formed the firm Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Pletcher in Buffalo with **Jay C. Pletcher '95**. The firm handles cases involving special education law, education law, wills, trusts, guardianship, health law, not-for-profit corporation law, disability discrimination and vaccine injury cases.

**Paul R. Comeau '73**, chair of the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo and a member of the firm's board of directors, was selected for the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He was a featured

speaker at the summer meeting of the New York State Bar Association's real property law section in Lake Placid, N.Y. His topic was "The Marriage of Taxes and Real Estate: Secrets for a Successful Marriage." A member of the state and local tax practice groups, he lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**John J. DeFranks '73**, a Tonawanda, N.Y., resident, was honored by his peers and listed in *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*'s "Who's Who in Law 2005." DeFranks is first deputy district attorney for the Erie County district attorney's office in Buffalo.

**Joseph Leone Jr. '73** was appointed to the 8th Judicial District grievance committee. Leone is Lewiston, N.Y., town attorney and assistant Niagara County public defender. He is a Lewiston resident.

**Hon. Michael L. Nenno '73** was named president of the New York State County Court Judges Association. Nenno is the Cattaraugus County family court judge in Olean, N.Y., where he resides.

**Walter R. Pacer '73**, a Buffalo attorney, has been named to the board of directors of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York. He is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

**Hon. Eugene F. Pigott Jr. '73** received the Howard A. Levine Award for Excellence in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare. He was honored by the New York State Bar Association. Pigott is presiding justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, 4th Department, in Buffalo. He is also a member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council and a resident of Grand Island, N.Y.

**Robert Portnoy '73**, a retired investment banker, was appointed to the board of directors of Chester Community Foundation in West Chester, Pa. Portnoy was the former chief operating officer and managing director at Deutsche Bank. He lives in West Chester.

**Christopher Greene '74** has been named a distinguished community leader by the

National Conference for Community and Justice. He was honored at the organization's 52nd annual citation banquet. He is also on the "Who's Who in Law 2005" list by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Greene is managing partner in the firm Damon & Morey in the Buffalo office.

**Michelle Heffernan '74**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel, addressed the New York Employee Benefits Conference in Buffalo. She discussed the final 401(k) and 401(m) regulations recently issued by the IRS. Heffernan is a Buffalo resident.

**Helen Osgood '74**, a member of the Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine, is named in the banking section of "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Osgood practices in the areas of commercial lending and credit restructuring.

**William Reich '74** co-authored a chapter for the *PERM Guidebook for Foreign Labor Certification*, a LexisNexis publication. Reich is a senior partner in the firm Serotte Reich & Wilson in Buffalo.

**Dianne Bennett '75** is named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. She was previously chair of Hodgson Russ in Buffalo and is a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumna Award. Bennett is a Buffalo resident.

**Michael M. Blinkoff '75** of Michael M. Blinkoff & Associates in Kenmore, N.Y., was selected by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* to "Who's Who in Law 2005." Blinkoff is a Buffalo resident.

**Richard F. Campbell '75** is named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Campbell practices in the firm Hodgson Russ as a partner in the office in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Hon. Judith S. Claire '75** was honored with the Women in Law Award by the 8th Judicial District's Gender & Racial Fairness Committee at a





# Class of '60

The Class of 1960 marked their 45th-year reunion on June 10-11. The weekend brought old friends together for an opportunity to look back. The classmates kicked off the festivities with a casual gathering at the Law School on UB's North Campus. Dean Nils Olsen welcomed the alumni back and showed them around the school's facilities. For some, it was the first time they had been to the Law School since it moved from downtown Buffalo in the 1970s.

The Park Country Club was the setting for their reunion dinner and class photo. The beautiful evening allowed for classmates to enjoy cocktails on the outdoor patio overlooking the scenic grounds and golf course.

The weekend was enjoyed by all. "It was wonderful to meet with my classmates, many of whom I had not seen in 45 years," remarked Hon. Philip B. Dattilo Jr. of the New York State Supreme Court, in Rochester. "It doesn't seem possible that so much time has elapsed since graduation. We were a cohesive group in law school, and that close feeling still prevails.

"I look forward to our 50th!"

**First row, left to right:**

*Peter C. Wiltse, Henrik H. Hansen, Alan H. Vogt, Anthony D. Parone, Hon. Eugene W. Salisbury, Hon. Philip B. Dattilo Jr.*

**Second row, left to right:**

*Hon. Wayne A. Feeman Jr., Hon. Henry G. Gossel, Hon. Joseph J. Sedita, Dennis J. Speller, John R. Bray*



# Alumni Briefs

luncheon celebration on May 25 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo. Claire is the Chautauqua County Family Court judge in Mayville, N.Y.

**Robert A. Doren '75**, partner in the firm Bond, Schoeneck & King in Buffalo, has been included in the management labor and employment law category in the latest edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Doren, who has been listed since 1988, is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y. He also was honored by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* in the labor and employment category in "Who's Who in Law 2005."

**Hon. Julio M. Fuentes '75** was honored at UB Law School's Students of Color Dinner on April 8. Fuentes, justice for the U.S. Court of Appeals, 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit, in Newark, N.J., is a former recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UB Law Alumni Association.

**James D. Gauthier '75** has started his own law practice in Buffalo. His firm handles cases involving commercial litigation, wills and estate litigation, subrogation and insurance defense and personal injury litigation. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Robert N. Gottfried '75**, partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in the New York City office, was listed in the 2005-06 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Gottfried is a resident of Plainview, N.Y.

**Pamela Davis Heilman '75** was inducted into the Western New York Women's Hall of Fame. She also participated in the 105th American Assembly meeting on "U.S.-Canada Relations," held in Harriman, N.Y. She also was named treasurer of the Canadian American Business Council. She is also a member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council and is a Buffalo resident. Heilman also was honored by the Girl Scout Council of Buffalo and Erie County at the annual Women of Distinction awards dinner. Heilman is a partner and

vice president of community relations in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo.

**R. Charles Miner '75**, a Tonawanda, N.Y., resident, has been recognized by "Who's Who in Law 2005" published by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He is a partner in the Buffalo firm Smith, Keller, Miner & O'Shea.

**Harry F. Mooney '75** has been voted onto the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" listing. Mooney is a member of the firm Hurwitz & Fine in the Buffalo office, leading the professional and product liability teams. He is a resident of Clarence, N.Y. He also has been appointed president of the Harmonie Group, an affiliation of independent law firms.

**Thomas A. Palmer '75** is the lead attorney for the new emerging company practice group in the firm Jaekle, Fleischmann & Mugel. Palmer, a partner in the Amherst, N.Y., office, will assist clients in forming their business and protecting their assets. He is a resident of East Amherst, N.Y.

**William F. Savino '75** was nominated by his peers in the bankruptcy category and named in the "Who's Who in Law 2005" directory by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Savino is chairman and senior partner of the business litigation and insolvency department in the firm Damon & Morey in the Buffalo office. He is an Amherst, N.Y., resident.

**Diane F. Bosse '76** received the Distinguished Alumna Award from the UB Law Alumni Association at the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual dinner on April 14. Bosse was recognized for her "commitment to public service." She is a partner in the firm Volgenau & Bosse in Buffalo and chair of the New York State Board of Law Examiners. She is also a former member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and is a current member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council. She is a resident of Clarence, N.Y.

**Richard F. DiGiacomo '76**, a partner in the firm Nesper, Ferber & DiGiacomo in Amherst, N.Y., is a *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" honoree. He practices in the area of real estate law and is a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. DiGiacomo lives in Clarence, N.Y.

**Hon. James H. Dillon '76** was appointed president of the Family Court Judges Association for a one-year term. Dillon is an Erie County family court judge in Buffalo.

**Timothy J. Fogarty '76** was honored with the Outstanding Ohio Accounting Educator award, sponsored by the Ohio Society of CPAs and the American Accounting Association, Ohio Region. Fogarty is a professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He teaches taxation, business law and auditing. Fogarty is also chair of the Weatherhead School of Management's department of accountancy and business law. He lives in Chardon, Ohio.

**E. Joseph Giroux Jr. '76**, a resident of Springville, N.Y., has been acknowledged by his peers and listed in *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal's* "Who's Who in Law 2005." Giroux is a partner in the firm Creighton, Pearce, Johnsen & Giroux in Buffalo.

**Hon. Richard C. Kloch Sr. '76** was confirmed to a nine-year term on the New York State Court of Claims in Buffalo. Kloch has been supervising criminal court judge for the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo. He is a North Tonawanda, N.Y., resident.

**Joseph A. Matteliano '76** is listed in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He is a partner in the firm Augello Matteliano & Gersten in Buffalo.

**Howard S. Rosenhoch '76**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel, presented a summer session of the New York State Judicial

Institute, "Indemnification Issues in Labor Law Cases." Rosenhoch practices in the area of personal injury defense and property damage claims. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Elliott J. Wiener '76** has been accepted as a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Wiener is a partner in the matrimonial department in the firm Phillips Nizer in New York City.

**Brent L. Wilson '76** has been selected as a "Georgia Super Lawyer" and was featured in *Atlanta* magazine in the March 2005 edition. Wilson is a partner in the Atlanta firm Elarbee, Thompson, Sapp & Wilson.

**John J. Aman '77** was named deputy chief magistrate for Erie County family court in Buffalo. Previously, Aman was support magistrate for the court. He is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**Robert N. Convisar '77** was elected deputy treasurer of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. He practices in the firm Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo and is a resident of Hamburg, N.Y.

**Edward J. Kelly '77**, university counsel at East Tennessee State University and Quillen College of Medicine, completed a term in Ukraine as a Fulbright scholar teaching ADR, negotiation and constitutional law. He also conducted seminars in Minsk, Belarus. Kelly is a part-time faculty member at the Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Va., and lives in Jonesborough, Tenn.

**John J. Molloy '77** was honored with the Practitioner of the Year award at the third annual Attorney Recognition Reception of the Bar Association of Erie County's Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society. The reception was held March 10 in Buffalo. Molloy practices and resides in West Seneca, N.Y.

**Robert B. Fleming Jr. '78** has been included in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Fleming is vice president of the business division in the firm

# Births

To **Raul Rodriguez '83** and Margaret Westwood, a son, Alejandro Antonio, on Oct. 13, 2004, in Hartford, Conn.

To **Lawrence Wood '90** and Gwenan Wilbur, twin daughters, Sasha and Emily, on April 7, 2005, in Evanston, Ill.

To **Melissa Hancock Nickson '97** and Christopher Nickson, a daughter, Brianna Lyn Nickson, on October 26, 2005, in Buffalo

To **Ira S. Levy '92** and Maggie Levy, a son, Joshua Leonard, on March 12, 2005, in White Plains, N.Y.

To **Daniela F. Almeida '97** and **Michael Chase '97**, a daughter, Amelia, on Feb. 26, 2005, in Sacramento, Calif.

To **Rhonda Diamond '97** and Jason Diamond, a son, Brandon Abraham, on Jan. 28, 2005 in Davie, Fla.

To **D. Charles Roberts Jr. '97** and Rachel Roberts, a daughter, Natalie Laura, on Sept. 9, 2005, in Buffalo.

To **Shawn C. O'Buckley '98** and Erika O'Buckley, a daughter, Molly Rose, on Sept. 8, 2005, in Tampa, Fla.

To **Ahren Crickard '99** and Jeremy Crickard, a daughter, Eva Jayce, on March 9, 2005, in San Diego, Calif.

To **Avik K. Ganguly '04** and Sara Ganguly, a son, Benjamin Kumar, on Aug. 11, 2005, in Rochester, N.Y.

Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office.

**Steven Gerber '78**, managing and founding member of the firm Gerber & Samson in Wayne, N.J., has merged his firm with the national firm Adorno & Yoss, which has offices in Florida, California, Georgia, New York and Washington, D.C. Gerber will be a partner in the firm's New Jersey office and will be managing director of litigation, labor and employment law in the firm's New York City and New Jersey offices.

**Garry M. Graber '78** is listed in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He recently addressed the New York State Summer Judicial Seminar in Rochester, N.Y. Graber discussed "Selected Issues in Foreclosure Law." He was also a panelist at the second annual Western New York Bankruptcy Conference in Batavia, N.Y. He also presented a

workshop at the third annual "Commercial Insolvency & Restructuring" conference in Toronto. Graber is a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, practicing in the areas of bankruptcy and creditor-debtor rights. He is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Linda J. Marsh '78** was nominated in the area of personal injury and named to the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" list. Marsh is a partner in the firm Ziller Marsh & Lang in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Kathleen Mehlretter '78** is now the acting U.S. attorney for Western New York, succeeding **Michael A. Battle '81**. Mehlretter, a veteran prosecutor, was previously first assistant. She resides in Buffalo.

**Hon. Marilyn L. O'Connor '78** received the Crennel-Branch Award from the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. O'Connor is a Monroe County Family Court judge in Rochester, N.Y.

**David F. Smith '78** was named president of National Fuel Gas Supply Corp. and Empire State Pipeline in New York. He was also elected vice president of National Fuel Gas Co. in Williamsville, N.Y. He appears in the 2005 edition of "Who's Who in Law" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Smith is a former recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award and is a current member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council. He lives in Clarence, N.Y.

**Margaret Burt '79** received the Stephanie Kupferman Juvenile Justice Award from the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. She is a founding member of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Burt maintains her own private practice, focusing on trial and appellate work involving child welfare. She is a resident of Pittsford, N.Y.

**Lawrence Cohen '79**, a Plainsboro, N.J., resident, has been appointed special counsel in the firm Fox Rothschild in Princeton, N.J. Cohen specializes his practice in securities transactional and regulatory matters, general business and franchising distribution concerns.

**Hillary Exter '79**, of New York City, has become the director of student organizations and publicity for the Public Interest Resource Center at Fordham Law School in New York City. She was previously a staff attorney for the Community Economic Development Program at Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A.

**Laraine Kelley '79**, senior partner in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo, appeared in the medical malpractice section of "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo*

*Law Journal*. Kelley is a Buffalo resident.

**Andrew Lipkind '79**, a solo practitioner in Williamsville, N.Y., is on the *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" list. Lipkind was recognized for his work in immigration law.

**Hon. Ann E. Pfeiffer '79**, a Rochester, N.Y., City Court judge, received the Dolores Denman Distinguished Jurist Award from the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Pfeiffer is a Rochester resident.

**Roger L. Ross '79** represents clients in complex real estate matters in the Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine. He was included in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* 2005 listing of "Who's Who in Law." Ross lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Charles C. Swanekamp '79** has been appointed president of the UB Alumni Association. He also presented "An Update on Securities Litigation" at a Chartered Financial Analysts Institute program at the Saturn Club in Buffalo. He is partner in the litigation practice group in the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel and lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

## '80s

**William Lundquist '80**, former general counsel of Birdair Inc. in Amherst, N.Y., has joined the firm Hodgson Russ as senior counsel in the Buffalo office. Lundquist will be practicing business litigation. He is a resident of Hamburg, N.Y.

**Patrick C. O'Reilly '80**, managing partner of the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo, has been named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. O'Reilly is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association. He is a Buffalo resident.

# Alumni Briefs

**Kenneth A. Patricia '80**, a personal injury attorney, is named in "Who's Who in Law" for 2005 by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Patricia is a partner in the firm Quinn, McGarry, Caffery & Patricia in Buffalo.

**Michael Piette '80** has been elected to the board of directors of Family & Children's Service Inc. He is also a member of the board of directors of Leadership Niagara and a member of the real property committee of the Bar Association of Erie County. Piette is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office.

**Oliver C. Young '80** has been appointed to the New York State Bar Association's House of Delegates and will be involved with policymaking for the bar association. Young is principal court attorney for the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo. He is past president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York and a former recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Michael A. Battle '81** of Buffalo has been selected as the new director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Battle has been the U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York since 2002 and was involved in the well-known "Lackawanna Six" case. He was the first African-American to hold the post of U.S. attorney in Western New York.

**Daniel P. Forsyth '81** is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the management labor and employment law category. He has been listed for the last 10 years. Forsyth is a partner in the Buffalo firm Bond, Schoeneck & King, practicing in the labor and employment department. He resides in Lewiston, N.Y.

**Larry P. Malfitano '81**, a partner in the firm Bond, Schoeneck & King, has been named co-chair of the firm's health care practice group in the Syracuse, N.Y., office. Malfitano focuses his practice in labor and

employment law. He lives in Manlius, N.Y.

**Arthur A. Marrapese III '81** is practicing in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo. Marrapese joined the firm as a partner in the employee benefits practice group. He lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Joseph J. Marusak '81**, former deputy district attorney for Erie County, is an associate in the firm Paul William Beltz, P.C., in Buffalo, practicing in personal injury. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Brian P. Meath '81** has been promoted to vice president and associate general counsel at Constellation Wines U.S. in Canandaigua, N.Y., the world's largest wine business and the largest premier wine supplier in the United States. Meath is a resident of Canandaigua.

**JoAnn Wahl '81**, of East Aurora, N.Y., was recognized for her contributions to the judicial system with the Women in Law Award. Wahl was honored by the 8th Judicial District's Gender & Racial Fairness Committee on May 25 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo. Wahl is a clerk of the court for the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, 4th Department, in Buffalo.

**John A. Collins '82**, a Hamburg, N.Y., resident, has become a member of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Collins is a partner in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo.

**Carol Condon '82**, a Buffalo solo practitioner, was selected to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Condon practices matrimonial law and is a Buffalo resident.

**Thomas A. Deuschle '82**, a West Seneca, N.Y., solo practitioner, was honored by the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, 4th Department, with the Michael F. Dillon Law Guardian Award. Deuschle handles cases involving real estate, business, matrimonial and family law.

**Thomas J. Eoannou '82** was named in the criminal law category in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He practices in the firm Eoannou, Lana & D'Amico in Buffalo, where he resides.

**John P. Feroletto '82**, a Buffalo solo practitioner, is listed in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Feroletto was recognized for his work in personal injury.

**Hon. Paula Feroletto '82** has been elected to the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo. Feroletto was previously a partner in the firm Brown & Kelly in Buffalo, where she is a resident.

**Peter J. Fiorella Jr. '82**, senior partner in the Buffalo firm Fiorella & Zakia, has been included in "Who's Who in Law 2005" in the matrimonial section by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Fiorella lives in Getzville, N.Y.

**Gary J. Gleba '82** has been recognized in the 2005 "Who's Who in Law" listing by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Gleba is general counsel for West Herr Automotive Group Inc. in Blasdell, N.Y. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Christopher J. Hurley '82**, a member of the Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine, was nominated by his colleagues and listed in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He practices in commercial real estate, corporate finance and economic development. Hurley lives in Getzville, N.Y.

**Rick W. Kennedy '82**, of Buffalo, has been appointed to the board of directors of the firm Hodgson Russ. He is a partner in the firm's environmental practice group in the Buffalo office.

**Mark S. Klein '82**, an East Amherst, N.Y., resident, was named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Klein is a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, practicing in tax matters. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Denise E. O'Donnell '82** has decided to run for New York State attorney general. She is past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a member of the board of directors of the University at Buffalo Foundation. She was a presenter at the Foundation for Accounting Education 2005 Anti-Fraud Conference at the Crown Plaza at Times Square, in Manhattan. She is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo and is a Buffalo resident.

**Lynn Clarke '83** was honored with the YWCA Leader Luncheon award in the professional category. Clarke is a confidential law clerk for the New York State Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial District, in Buffalo. She is also past president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Clarke resides in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Alice A. Joseffer '83** addressed the Ontario Bar Association taxation law section. She discussed "Canadian Issues Arising Out of the American Job Creations Act." She was also guest speaker at the UB School of Management seminar "The Top Ten: Tax Essentials for 2005." Joseffer is the lead attorney for the new dispute resolution group in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ. A partner in the firm, she is also a member of the general/international tax and international/cross-border practice groups. She resides in Buffalo.

**Robert J. Lane Jr. '83** has been named in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Lane is a partner and vice president of the business litigation practice group in the firm Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office, and lives in Lake View, N.Y.

**Diane LaVallee '83** has been named of counsel in the firm Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where she resides. LaVallee recently retired from the New York State attorney general's office in Buffalo.

**Scott D. Miller '83**, deputy general counsel for HSBC Bank USA in Buffalo, is in the litigation group in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" listing. Miller lives in East Aurora, N.Y.





The 40-year reunion of the Class of 1965 was celebrated on the weekend of June 10-11. This momentous occasion brought together old friends, spouses and Law School administrators in celebration of the accomplishments of the Class of 1965.

The weekend started off on Friday night with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and picturesque views at Shanghai Red's on the Buffalo waterfront. Saturday morning, the class reconvened at the Law School for a brunch hosted by Dean Nils Olsen. Dean Olsen welcomed the class back to the Law School and treated them to a tour of the school's facilities. Saturday afternoon the Allentown Art Festival – a nationally renowned outdoor art festival in Buffalo – was in full swing, and classmate Bob Kolken opened his home as a rest stop for classmates.

The Buffalo Club was the location for the reunion dinner that evening. The class enjoyed a scrumptious meal in the Millard Fillmore Room and spent the evening laughing, telling stories and dancing to the music of a jazz trio.

"It was wonderful to gather with our classmates and friends. For the Class of 1965, it has been 20 years since our last reunion – much too long," said Samuel L. Shapiro of the Buffalo-based firm Kavinsky & Cook LLP. "I am looking forward to our next one, and I hope those not able to make this reunion join us in five years."

**First row, left to right:**

James B. Denman, Peter M. Russo,  
Marion K. Henderson, Robert D.  
Kolken,

**Second row, left to right:**

Bruce R. Schmidt, Franklin A.  
Stachowiak, Jerome D. Sekula

**Third row, left to right:**

Jack J. Geller, George B. Weires,

**Fourth row, left to right:**

Harold P. Bulan, Thomas W. Petrillo

**Fifth row, left to right:**

Hon. Leslie G. Foschio, Carl B. Kustell

**Sixth row, left to right:**

Courtland R. LaVallee, Samuel L.  
Shapiro, Richard A. Weissfeld, Roger  
P. Williams

# Alumni Briefs

**Robert W. Patterson '83** is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the employee benefits practice group of the Buffalo office. He lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Mark Rasch '83** is senior vice president of Solutionary, a computer security company in Bethesda, Md. Rasch was former head of cyberinvestigations for the Justice Department. He is a resident of Bethesda.

**Edward Robinson '83**, a Williamsville, N.Y., resident, has been placed in the 2005 listing of "Who's Who in Law" published by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Robinson is a member of the estate planning department in the firm Hurwitz & Fine in the Buffalo office.

**Anna L. Scott '83** was honored by the 8th Judicial District's Gender & Racial Fairness Committee at the Adam's Mark Hotel on May 25 in Buffalo. Scott, a Buffalo attorney, received the Women in Law Award.

**Michael B. Sexton '83** was included in the "Who's Who in Law" 2005 listing by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He is general counsel/corporate secretary for Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo. Sexton resides in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Brian Welsh '83**, an Amherst, N.Y., resident, received the Pro Bono Publico award from the New York State Bar Association. Welsh is a partner in the firm Siegel, Kelleher & Kahn in Buffalo.

**Benjamin M. Zuffranieri '83**, lead attorney in the business litigation practice group in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, has become a member of the board of directors in the firm. Zuffranieri practices civil litigation, general business construction and cross-border litigation. He is a Williamsville, N.Y., resident.

**Michael Berg '84** of New York City is of counsel in the firm Lerner, David, Littenberg, Krumholz & Mentlik in Westfield, N.J. Berg concentrates his



**Elizabeth G. Clark '84**



**Janet Novakowski Gabel '84**

practice in the areas of pharmaceutical, medical device, chemical and mechanical fields litigation as well as intellectual property counseling.

**Elizabeth G. Clark '84** received the James Crawford Award from Housing Opportunities Made Equal at its annual meeting. She was honored for her superior work in the cause of fair housing. Clark recently retired as a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, where she resides.

**George W. Collins Jr. '84**, chairman of the litigation group at Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo, has become vice president of the board of directors of the Buffalo and Erie County Boys and Girls Clubs. Collins is a Buffalo resident.

**Hon. John M. Curran '84**, New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, is the new president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2005-06. He lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Susan R. Duffy '84**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Hamberger & Weiss, has been named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. She specializes in workers' compensation and lives in East Aurora, N.Y.

**Janet Novakowski Gabel '84**, of Buffalo, is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office. She practices in the corporate and securities department counseling public and private companies.

**Daniel P. Joyce '84** spoke at the 2005 Canada-U.S. Trucking Program in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Joyce addressed the issue of homeland security and international motor carriers. He is a partner in the firm Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office.

**Lt. Col. Robert C. Moscati '84** was presented with the Liberty Bell award from the Bar Association of Erie County in Buffalo. Moscati, staff judge advocate in the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division, was honored for his service in Iraq. He is also an assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo and a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**Jennifer Parker '84** received the "Women Who Mean Business" award from *Business First*. Parker is president/CEO of Black Capital Network in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Todd Rubin '84** has accepted a position as special counsel in the firm Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein in the Raleigh, N.C., office. Rubin deals with matters concerning visas and employment-based immigration.

**Nancy W. Saia '84**, a resident of Williamsville, N.Y., is in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Saia, a partner in the Buffalo firm Bagley, Lynett & Saia, practices real estate law.

**Barbara Schifeling '84** was honored with the *Business First* "Women Who Mean Business" award. Schifeling is a partner in the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Kenneth A. Schoetz '84**, assistant attorney general in charge of the New York State attorney general's office in Buffalo, has been placed in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal*'s 2005 listing of "Who's Who in Law." Schoetz lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

**Kenneth W. Africano '85** has been elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. He was a guest speaker at the seminar "Basics of Civil Practice—The Trial" sponsored by the New York State Bar Association. Africano is a partner in the Buffalo firm Harter, Secrest & Emery. He lives in Snyder, N.Y.

**Jill Bond '85**, vice president/general counsel for Rich Products Corp. in Buffalo, has been selected to the "Who's Who in Law 2005" list by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Bond lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Gayle L. Eagan '85** has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America 2006* and "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Eagan is a partner in the estate and trusts practice group in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office. She is also a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and a Buffalo resident.

**Douglas R. Edwards '85** was elected the best corporate lawyer in North Carolina by *Business North Carolina* magazine. Edwards is deputy general counsel for Wachovia Corp. in Charlotte, N.C., where he resides.

**John C. Garas '85, Sean W. Hopkins '94 and Peter J. Sorgi '02** have become partners in the firm Hopkins, Garas & Sorgi in Williamsville, N.Y. Garas has experience in real estate, condominium and corporate law. He is a resident of Clarence, N.Y.

**Richard Gottlieb '85**, head of the consumer financial services practice in the firm Dykema Gossett in Chicago, has expanded the firm's consumer finance practice to Los Angeles,





To mark their 35th reunion from UB Law School, the Class of 1970 gathered on the weekend of June 10-11.

The weekend commenced on Friday evening with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Law School on UB's North Campus, when Dean Nils Olsen warmly welcomed the class back for their 35th reunion. Cocktails were followed by a tour of the Law School's facilities – a first for some of the alumni, who attended their law school classes on West Eagle Street.

The Buffalo waterfront's Shanghai Red's was the venue for the farewell dinner on Saturday night. The beautiful surroundings and delicious meal were an added bonus to an already ideal evening. Old friends came together, evoking old memories and creating new ones.

John W. Dorn of Nesper, Ferber & DiGiacomo LLP noted, "Our reunion brought back good memories and renewed old friendships. I look forward to our next one."

**First row, left to right:**

Robert E. Keller, Joseph A. Tringali,  
Emanuel Tabachnick, Hon.  
Margaret J. Crimaldi Quinn, Hon.  
Michael L. D'Amico, Joseph W.  
Bennett Jr.

**Second row, left to right:**

Peter S. Gilfillan, William H.  
Mattrey, Joseph P. Muenkel, Stephen  
M. Lee, Frederick L. Garwood,  
Warren W. Bader, Jason M. Karp,  
Joseph Faerber, Jerome M. Hesch,  
John W. Dorn, Ernest J. Norman



# Alumni Briefs

adding four lawyers there. Gottlieb resides in Glencoe, Ill.

**Patricia Grace '85**, deputy general counsel for HSBC Bank USA in Buffalo, is listed in the *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal's* edition of "Who's Who in Law 2005." Grace was recognized for her accomplishments in banking. She is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**John T. Kolaga '85** received the William A. Faust award from the Niagara Frontier section of the Air and Waste Management Association. Kolaga, a partner in the Buffalo firm Jaekle, Fleischmann & Mugel, practices in environmental law.

**Lisa Bloch Rodwin '85** is the new state director and chair of the criminal law committee for 2005-06 for the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. She also received the Stephanie Kupferman Juvenile Award from the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. Rodwin is chief of the Erie County district attorney's domestic violence bureau in Buffalo, and is a *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" honoree. Rodwin lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**Steven R. Sugarman '85** has been named in the 2005-06 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the alternative dispute resolution category. An adjunct professor at UB Law School, he discussed a proposed project between the Law School and Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, at the American Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Conference in Los Angeles. The topic was "Mediation at the End of Life: A Medical-Legal Collaboration." Sugarman practices in the firm Pusatier, Sherman, Abbott & Sugarman in Kenmore, N.Y.

**Rev. William J. Weiksnar, O.F.M., '85** is the new pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Camden, N.J., where he is residing. He was previously director of the Franciscan Center for Social Concern at St. Bonaventure University in Olean, N.Y.



**John J. Christopher '88**



**Carol A. Fitzsimmons '87**

**J. Gregory Hoelscher '86** has started his own law firm in Buffalo, dealing with personal injury and civil litigation. He lives in East Aurora, N.Y.

**Lisa McDougall '86** has been acknowledged by her fellow attorneys and named to the 2005 list of "Who's Who in Law" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. McDougall is a partner and health care practice group coordinator in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office.

**John Mineo '86** was named senior vice president and general counsel for First Niagara Financial Group in Lockport, N.Y. Mineo is a resident of East Aurora, N.Y.

**Mark R. Multerer '86** is the head of the plaintiffs department in the Sugarman Law Firm in Buffalo. He has had experience in the area of personal injury. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Gerard O'Connor '86** is a member of the board of directors

of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York. He is a Buffalo attorney and resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**Gregory Stewart '86** was honored with the New York State Bar Association President's Pro Bono Service award. Stewart practices in the Buffalo firm Siegel, Kelleher & Kahn. He lives in Tonawanda, N.Y.

**Candace K. Vogel '86** of Clarence, N.Y., was named to the board of directors of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Vogel works in the Erie County district attorney's office in Buffalo and is a former member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association.

**Michael George Whelan '86** of Miami Shores, Fla., has been named one of Florida's "Top Lawyers" by the *South Florida Legal Guide*. He was also previously named one of Florida's "Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend Magazine* and "Best of the Bar" by the *South Florida Business Journal*. Whelan is a partner in the firm Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart in Miami.

**Joan Casilio Adams '87** of Williamsville, N.Y., was named to the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal's* "Who's Who in Law 2005." Adams is a partner in the firm Offerman, Cassano, Greco, Slisz & Adams in Buffalo.

**Carol A. Fitzsimmons '87**, a partner in the international/ cross-border practice group in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, gave a presentation titled "Canadian Business Expansion Into the U.S." at the "Expand to U.S.A." seminar. The seminar was presented by the Council of American States in Canada at the Toronto Board of Trade Airport Centre. She is a member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Emerging Leaders Society.

**David P. Flynn '87**, an East Amherst, N.Y., resident, has become a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. He also was chosen by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* for inclusion in "Who's Who in Law 2005."

Flynn is a partner in the Buffalo firm Phillips Lytle, practicing in the areas of environmental law and energy.

**Hugh M. Russ III '87** was a panelist at the New York State Bar Association seminar "Providing and Defending Damages at Trial: Effective Trial Techniques for Plaintiff's and Defendant's Counsel." He also has become affiliated with the United Way Emerging Leaders Society in Buffalo. Russ is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo.

**Robert P. Simpson '87** is recognized in the intellectual property section of the "Who's Who in Law" 2005 directory by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Simpson practices as a patent attorney in the firm Simpson & Simpson in Buffalo. He is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

**John Weinholtz '87** of Getzville, N.Y., has been selected as a member of the board of directors for the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York for 2005. Weinholtz is a partner in the firm Nixon Peabody in Buffalo.

**Daniel Archilla '88** has been elected to the board of directors of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York. Archilla practices and resides in Buffalo.

**Mark E. Brand '88** has been named to the board of trustees for St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in Buffalo. Brand is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo and a former member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association.

**John J. Christopher '88** has become a member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Emerging Leaders Society. Christopher is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office in the labor and employment department. He resides in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Sophie I. Feal '88** was a panelist at the Race and Reconciliation conference sponsored by the Commission on



The 30th reunion of the Class of 1975 was celebrated on the weekend of June 10-11. The weekend was a trip down memory lane for the class and allowed them to come together once again.

Festivities began Friday evening with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Guaranty Building, recently purchased and renovated by the Buffalo Law firm Hodgson Russ LLP. The historic and architecturally significant building provided the ideal setting for the Class of 1975 to commemorate their reunion milestone, since many of them started law school with classes in this building.

The following morning, the class met at the Law School, where Dean Nils Olsen hosted a brunch and gave a tour of the school's facilities, giving them an opportunity to see the improvements that the Law School is making.

Saturday evening brought to a close a fantastic weekend. The reunion class was treated to a delicious meal at the Buffalo Yacht Club while enjoying views of the Niagara River and Lake Erie. The weekend was a great chance for the class to catch up and celebrate each other's accomplishments. This sentiment was voiced by William F. Savino, of Damon & Morey LLP:

"It was reassuring that each of us, coming from diverse backgrounds and with varying interests, had found comfortable roles in our shared profession. Some looked forward to early retirement with a government pension, or sought political activism, while others wanted to expand their entrepreneurship. Some had become solo practitioners in rural areas, raising and riding horses, while other had returned to New York City.

"No one was a fish out of water; each had found his or her natural center, even if at home."

**First row,  
left to right:**

*Donna L. Fossum, Joan B. Alexander, Hon. Judith S. Claire, Barbara D. Klippert, Michael M. Blinkoff, Linda H. Joseph, Pamela Davis Heilman, William F. Savino, Robert W. Van Every, William J. McDermott, Jr.*

**Second row,  
left to right:**

*Sue S. Gardner, Bruce D. Steiner, Edward F. Zagajeski, Daniel R. McDonald, Phyllis L. Speser, Robert N. Gottfried, Rodney L. Klafehn, Timothy M. Cotter, Thomas M. Viksjo, Terry A. Raszeja, Arthur A. Herdzik*



# Alumni Briefs

Citizens' Rights and Community Relations of the City of Buffalo. Feal is chair of the immigration litigation group at Serotte, Reich & Wilson in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Terrence M. Gilbride '88** of Buffalo was named to *The Best Lawyers in America*. Gilbride is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ, practicing real estate law in the Buffalo office, and is a member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Emerging Leaders Society. Gilbride is a Buffalo resident.

**William Grieshaber Jr. '88**, deputy corporate counsel for Rich Products Corp. in Buffalo, is named in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journals* "Who's Who in Law 2005." He was recognized in the corporate law section. Grieshaber lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**James P. Kennedy '88** received the John Marshall Award from the U.S. Department of Justice at its 53<sup>rd</sup> annual attorney general awards ceremony, Aug. 31 in Washington, D.C. Kennedy is an assistant U.S. attorney for the United States attorney's office in Buffalo.

**Marjorie Klein '88** is practicing in the Woodbridge, N.J., firm Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis as an associate. Klein concentrates her practice in litigation. She is a resident of Tenafly, N.J.

**Mary F. Miller '88** has retired from UB Law School as associate director and head of collection development at the Law Library. Miller began her career as head of acquisitions of the library in 1981. She is a resident of Youngstown, N.Y.

**Joseph W. Allen '89** spoke at the meeting of the Western New York Paralegal Association on June 21 at the firm Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo. Allen, a partner in the firm, spoke about the pending effects of the bankruptcy reform bill.

**Mason P. Ashe '89** was the keynote speaker at UB Law School's Students of Color



**Terrence M. Gilbride '88**

Dinner on April 8. Ashe is a partner in the sports agency Strickland & Ashe Management in Orlando, Fla.

**Vincent E. Doyle III '89**, partner in the firm Connors & Vilardo in Buffalo, has been appointed to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. He also was appointed member-at-large of the New York State Bar Association. He is a resident of Elma, N.Y.

**Maryjo Falcone '89** is a member of the board of directors of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York. Falcone is a partner in the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey. She resides in Getzville, N.Y.

**Karen R. Kaczmarek '89** was appointed to a three-year term on the board of directors of the SPCA Serving Erie County. She is of counsel in the firm Harter, Secrest & Emery, practicing commercial and business litigation in the Buffalo office.

**William A. Long Jr. '89** has become a partner in the firm Kenney, Shelton, Liptak & Nowak in Buffalo. Long, a Buffalo resident, was previously practicing in the firm O'Shea, Reynolds & Cummings in Buffalo.

**Joseph B. Rizzo '89** of Pittsford, N.Y., was named to *Strathmore's Who's Who* 2005-06 edition for outstanding leadership and achievement in the practice of law. He has also been named to the board of

directors of Torvec Inc. Rizzo is a partner in the firm Gallo & Iacovangelo in Rochester, N.Y.

**Daniel J. Scully '89** is in the health care section of the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law" 2005 publication. Scully is CEO of Buffalo Medical Group and a Snyder, N.Y., resident.

## '90s

**Timothy Kaltenbach '90** has been appointed development director of St. Luke's Community House in Nashville, Tenn. He was previously associate counsel for Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, based in New York City. He now resides in Nashville.

**Ginger D. Schroder '90** was recognized for her work in labor and employment law. She was named in the 2005 "Who's Who in Law" listing by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Schroder is a partner in the firm Schroder, Joseph & Associates in Buffalo.

**Sean Beiter '91** was honored by *Business First* with the "40 Under 40" award. He also presented a briefing for the Organization of Public Employer Negotiators in Buffalo. He received the District Award of Merit from the Greater Niagara Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Beiter practices in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo and is chair of the firm's labor and employment practice group. He lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**Maj. William D. Broderick Jr. '91** was honored for his service in Iraq by the Bar Association of Erie County. Broderick, serving in the U.S. Army Reserve 402nd Civil Affairs Battalion, received the Liberty Bell award. Broderick is an attorney in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

**Kenneth M. Gossel '91** was nominated by his peers for inclusion in the 2005 listing of "Who's Who in Law" by *Business*

*First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Gossel, a West Seneca, N.Y., resident, is assistant general counsel for National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Nancy M. Langer '91** is the new director of development for the Nativity Enterprise for the Catholic Central School in Buffalo. Langer will be in charge of fund raising and the Polaris Fund, which provides tuition assistance for graduates of Catholic Central School at local high schools. Langer is a Buffalo resident.

**Sally B. Logan '91** has been appointed president of Explore & More Children's Museum in East Aurora, N.Y., where she resides. Logan is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in the estates and trusts practice group in the Buffalo office.

**Deborah J. Muhlbauer '91**, a Hamburg, N.Y., resident, has joined the honorees named in the 2005 "Who's Who in Law" listing published by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Muhlbauer is a partner in the firm Bluestein & Muhlbauer in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Wade Rubenstein '91** had his first novel, *Gullboy: The Inconceivable Life of Franco Pajarito Zampa*, published by Counterpoint Press/Perseus Books Group. Prior to writing *Gullboy*, Rubenstein was practicing in the Manhattan firm Shearman & Sterling. He currently lives in Rhinecliff, N.Y.

**Capt. David J. State '91**, serving as prosecutor for the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division, was honored by the Bar Association of Erie County with the Liberty Bell award for his service in Iraq. State represents the government in courts-martial cases. He is senior deputy corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo, where he resides.

**Thomas P. Cunningham '92**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola, was recognized in *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*'s "Who's Who in





The Class of 1980 reunion tradition continued in grand fashion and had excellent attendance for the 25th reunion held on May 6-7. The weekend got under way with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the historic Mansion on Delaware Avenue. The night was spent mingling and swapping stories with former classmates in grand style.

On Saturday, the class gathered once again for a daylong celebration of their accomplishments. The day commenced with brunch at the Law School, followed by a tour. Dean Nils Olsen was there to greet the alumni and showoff the improvements to the school.

"I had a great time at the reunion weekend. I only wish I could have had more time talking to everyone!" Susan Beberfall, Associate Court Attorney, Supreme Court of New York in Queens, remarked about the reunion and her tour of the Law School. "I enjoyed seeing the Law School again and was impressed by the present number and range of courses. The new courtroom is quite attractive and provides a terrific opportunity for students to learn firsthand about different court procedures and practices."

That evening, the class was treated to dinner and breathtaking views of Lake Erie and Buffalo's skyline at Shanghai Red's on the Buffalo Harbor. The outdoor patio which overlooks the Buffalo skyline provided a great opportunity for further reconnecting.

Gerald S. Citera of UBS Securities in Stamford, Conn., remarked, "Our reunion was a great success, and everyone had a great time. It is always interesting to catch up with old friends."

**First row, left to right:**

Caroline Hassett Buerk, A. Angelo DiMillo, Patricia A. Randle, Hon. Judith J. Gische, Michael J. Lombardo, Karen J. D'Agostino, Ellen Evans Alexander, Lydia Romer, Margery H. Geyer, Patrick B. Curran, Hon. Barbara Howe, Dennis P. Koepfel, Wayne M. Lopkin

**Second row, left to right:**

Stephen R. Silverstein, Paul T. Bumbalo, Ann B. Bermingham, Lorenzo Randle, Bruce A. Young, Cathy S. Quattrini, Lee O. Smith II, Hon. Amy J. Fricano, Richard J. Barnes, Howard S. Lipman, Michael M. Mobun

**Third row, left to right:**

Susan L. Berberfall, Douglas Wasser, Lewis F. Steele, Elizabeth F. Buckley, John M. Aversa, Deborah N. Sorbini, Larry Kerman, Charles C. Martorana

**Fourth row, left to right:**

Philip H. McIntyre, Gary B. Cohen, Timothy C. Cashmore, Hon. Timothy J. Cooper, Patricia Vincent, Phyllis L. Speser, Howard R. Crane

**Fifth row, left to right:**

Stephen Einstein, Thomas J. Caserta Jr.

**Sixth row, left to right:**

Leonard D. Kirsch, Gerard S. Citera, Eric Bloom, Oliver C. Young, Steven A. Schurkman, Antonio Cardarelli

**Seventh row, left to right:**

Dwight M. Wells, David B. Karel, Donald R. West, Kenneth A. Patricia, Richard G. Abbott, Steven P. Curvin, Robert H. Gurbacki

# Alumni Briefs

Law 2005" listing. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Linda R. Hassberg '92** was elected to the Housing Opportunities Made Equal board of directors. She is an associate in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo, where she is a resident.

**LaMarr J. Jackson '92** is of counsel in the firm Harris, Chesworth, Johnstone, Welch & Leone in Rochester, N.Y. She was also appointed to the grievance committee for New York State Supreme Court, 7th Judicial District. Jackson is also an adjunct professor at Keuka College and the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. She previously practiced in her own firm and is a resident of West Henrietta, N.Y.

**David J. Kritz '92** has accepted a position as general attorney in the law department of Norfolk Southern Corp. in Norfolk, Va. Kritz, a Norfolk resident, practices employee benefits law.

**Russell J. Matuszak '92** and **Daniel E. Sarzynski '99**, of the firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola, spoke at the seminar "Rolling the Dice on Casino Work in Western New York." Matuszak practices in the areas of corporate, transactional, contract, estate and real estate concerns involving businesses and entrepreneurs.

**Gregory Pajak '92** has been appointed director of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York for 2005. He also was the guest speaker at the New York State Bar Association CLE "2005 Update and Overview on Premises Liability." Pajak is a partner in the firm Chelus, Herdzyk, Speyer, Monte & Pajak in Buffalo, practicing in the area of defense litigation.

**Kevin D. Robinson '92** of Buffalo is director of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York. Robinson is assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. attorney general's office in Buffalo.

**Karen Gaughan Scott '92** has been appointed chairwoman of

Hilbert College's board of trustees in Hamburg, N.Y. Scott, a solo practitioner, practices and resides in Hamburg.

**Kenneth Sodaro '92** has been named vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of HealthNow in Buffalo. Sodaro lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

**Suzanne E. Tomkins '92** was a guest speaker at the American Bar Association's dispute resolution conference "Mediation at the End of Life: A Medical-Legal Collaboration" in Los Angeles. Tomkins, clinical professor of law at UB Law School, discussed a proposed project between the Law School and Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo. She resides on Grand Island, N.Y.

**Amilcar Antonio Barreto '93** received Northeastern University's Excellence in Teaching Award for 2005. Barreto is an associate professor at Northeastern in Boston, where he resides.

**Linda W. Chodos '93**, a Williamsville, N.Y., attorney, recently testified in Buffalo before the Matrimonial Commission on the benefits of mediation and collaborative family law in resolving matrimonial and family cases. Chodos is co-chair of the Bar Association of Erie County's alternative dispute resolution committee.

**Joseph M. Marris '93** was elected president of the Western New York Finger Lakes Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society local board of volunteer trustees. Marris is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office.

**Lisa M. Mueller '93** has been elected president of the Western New York Chapter of the Woman's Bar Association of the State of New York for 2005-06. Mueller is associate director for communications at UB Law School and CLE coordinator. She is a resident of Kenmore, N.Y.

**Michelle Parker '93** has been elected secretary of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of

Western New York for 2005. Parker practices in the firm O'Shea, Reynolds & Cummings in Buffalo.

**Jeffrey Baase '94**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola, has been named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He lives in East Aurora, N.Y.

**Sean W. Hopkins '94** has formed the law firm Hopkins, Garas & Sorgi in Williamsville, N.Y., with **John C. Garas '85** and **Peter J. Sorgi '02**. Hopkins focuses his practice in the areas of land development, environmental and real estate law.

**Kevin E. Raphael '94** has helped to update Alice G. Gosfield's Health Law Series volume *Medicare and Medicaid Fraud and Abuse: 2005 Edition*, "Chapter 6: Investigations." In addition, he spoke to the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Raphael is a member of the firm Miller, Alfano & Raspanti in Philadelphia, practicing white-collar criminal defense, health care fraud defense and commercial disputes. He lives in Philadelphia.

**Brette McWhorter Sember '94** is the author of several new books: *Your Plus-Size Pregnancy: The Ultimate Guide for the Full-Figured Expectant Mom*, co-authored with UB professor Dr. Bruce D. Rodgers (Barricade Books); *Your Practical Pregnancy Planner: Everything You Need to Know About the Financial and Legal Aspects of Planning for Your New Baby* (McGraw-Hill); *No-Fight Divorce: Save Money, Time, and Conflict by Using Mediation* (McGraw-Hill); *How to Parent With Your Ex: Parenting Together in Your Child's Best Interest* (Sourcebooks); and *The Complete Credit Repair Kit* (Sourcebooks). Sember is a freelance writer residing in Clarence, N.Y.

**Kelly O'Neal Adams '95** practices in the Buffalo firm Goldberg Segalla as special

counsel. She concentrates her practice in commercial law, general defense, labor and employment and products liability litigation. She is a resident of Springville, N.Y.

**Sara Ashcraft '95**, a Rochester, N.Y., attorney, has been named president-elect of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. She is a resident of Honeoye Falls, N.Y.

**John J. Flynn '95** was featured on the radio program *Law Line* on WNED-AM 970 in Buffalo, discussing the rights of military personnel after they are discharged from active duty. Flynn is a trial attorney in the firm Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo. He is also a member of the town council of Tonawanda, N.Y., where he resides.

**Gina M. Guzman '95** has accepted a position as corporate regional real estate manager for M&T Bank Corp. in Buffalo. She is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

**Leslie R. Kellogg '95**, **Marla Weiss '02** and **Jessica S. Wiltse '04** co-authored the 2005 edition of *Canadian Companion to 1040 Preparation and Planning*. Kellogg has also been appointed president of Church Mission of Help Counseling in Buffalo. She practices in the Canada practice group in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, where she is a resident.

**John E. Kelly '95** is an assistant U.S. attorney with the Western District of New York. He is on assignment as the chief of staff/deputy director to **Michael A. Battle '81**, director of the Executive Office for the United States Attorneys in Washington, D.C. Kelly is residing in D.C.

**Alisa A. Lukasiewicz '95** has made the *Daily Record's* list of "Up and Coming Attorneys" for 2005 for the 8th Judicial District. Lukasiewicz practices in the firm Hurwitz & Fine in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Matthew P. Murphy '95**, a formal naval officer, has been named vice president of business development for the military-to-



# Marriages

## Congratulations to the following newlyweds:

**Dennis E. Ward '76** and Michele M. Ianello, June 24, 2005  
**John E. Kelly '95** and Sara Elizabeth Woepfel, Sept. 10, 2005  
**Rosanna Berardi '97** and G. Jack Falsone, April 16, 2005  
**Anthony F. Pegnia Jr. '97** and Amy L. Englert, May 14, 2005  
**Tracie L. Bonacci '98** and Jeffrey R. Allen, Oct. 2, 2004  
**Amy C. Martoche '99** and Timothy Hoover, Sept. 3, 2005  
**Anthony N. Elia III '00** and Melanie Lefkowitz, Oct. 1, 2005  
**Emilio Colaiaacovo '01** and Kimberly Arnold, Aug. 27, 2005  
**David Johnstone '01** and Heidi Splete, Oct. 2, 2004  
**Suzanne M. Knight '01** and Peter C. DeBottis, Feb. 26, 2005  
**Patrick A. Makin '01** and Dana I. Yuskiv, Aug. 27, 2005  
**Andrea C. Ruta '01** and Michael J. Kozlowski, Oct. 1, 2005  
**Jennifer E. Visco '01** and Matthew A. Shulman, May 28, 2005  
**Matthew D. Yusick '01** and **Laura E. Lombardo '05**, Sept. 10, 2005  
**Paul Brodnicki '02** and **Catherine Doran '03**, July 2, 2005  
**Kara A. Buscaglia '02** and Frank E. Butcher, July 16, 2005  
**Laura A. Kelley '02** and Robert M. Wagner, Sept. 18, 2005  
**Kristen M. Maricle '02** and **Kevin R. Wolf '04**, Sept. 24, 2005  
**Kimberly A. Stock '02** and Daniel S. Holt, Aug. 13, 2005  
**Thomas M. Krol '03** and Kati J. Delmonte, June 3, 2005  
**Lorenzo Napolitano '03** and Candi S. Bogues, July 9, 2005  
**Marybeth Priore '03** and Subbiah Mantharan, June 18, 2005  
**Sarah Wannop '03** and Dean Rugnetta, July 16, 2005  
**Jason R. Cassata '04** and Karen A. Cancilla, July 2, 2005  
**Lucille Dadd '04** and Gregory Robinson, June 25, 2005  
**Michael K. Ferullo '04** and Therese Marie Canty, Aug. 27, 2005  
**Jamie L. Fiegel '04** and Patrick Maddalena, May 28, 2005  
**Cynthia A. Giganti '04** and Peter C. Ludwig, Sept. 17, 2005  
**Randa R. Hill '04** and Brian Lamar Simmons, Aug. 20, 2005  
**Jason W. Januszkiewicz '04** and Amy E. Suda, Oct. 1, 2005  
**Danielle E. Eisen '05** and Dr. Lee M. Shainbrown, Sept. 10, 2005  
**Courtney Lee Greenway '05** and Matthew Richard Quinn, May 14, 2005  
**Katie M. Metzen '05** and Norris M. Poleon, Sept. 24, 2005  
**John Westmann '05** and Elizabeth Forrest, Aug. 13, 2005

civilian recruiting firm RecruitMilitary. The company is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Murphy will be based in Philadelphia.

**Jay C. Pletcher '95** and **Arthur H. Ackerhalt '73** have started their own firm, Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Pletcher in Buffalo.

The firm deals with health law, disability discrimination, vaccine injury cases, special education law, education law, wills, trusts and guardianships. Pletcher is a Buffalo resident.

**R. Hugh Stephens '95** was honored by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* in "Who's Who in Law 2005" for his work in environmental law. Stephens is a member of the Buffalo firm Stephens & Stephens.

**Jill M. Tuholski '95** was included in the 2005 publication "Who's Who in Law" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* in the insurance section. Tuholski is an attorney in the firm Walsh & Wilkins in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Hilary C. Banker '96**, past president of UB Law School's GOLD Group, has been elected to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. She also has been named president-elect, state director and chair of the nominations committee for 2005-06 of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. She is a partner in the firm Burgio, Kita & Curvin in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Michael Dehmeler '96** has been promoted to president of Christa Construction, headquartered in Victor, N.Y. Dehmeler was previously a partner in the company. He lives in Penfield, N.Y.

**Joseph Del Vecchio '96** of East Aurora, N.Y., was listed in "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. He is the deputy general counsel for National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Robert Fogg '96**, previously an Erie County assistant district attorney, has become associated with the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo. He will concentrate his practice in criminal law. He is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

**Kevin K. Gluc '96** has become a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ, handling cases involving estate planning and administration in the Buffalo office. He also recently graduated from Leadership Buffalo's Rising Leaders program. Gluc is a Buffalo resident.

**Ranjana Kadle '96**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, was included in the 11th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Kadle is also a bridge course instructor at UB Law School. She also gave a presentation, "Requirements to Obtain a Patent," at the seminar "Building Solid Patent Practices" sponsored by the New York State Science and Technology Law Center at Syracuse University College of Law and the University at Buffalo. Kadle is a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ. She lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Patricia A. Mancabelli '96** practices in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office. Mancabelli recently joined the firm as an associate in the business litigation department. She is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

**David Olson '96** is practicing in the firm Brown Chiari in Lancaster, N.Y. Olson concentrates his practice in personal injury. He lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**Harvey F. Siegel '96** is a *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" honoree. Siegel, a Buffalo solo practitioner, specializes in criminal law.

**Lorrie Turner-Benigni '96**, a resident of Amherst, N.Y., has been placed on the "Who's Who in Law 2005" list by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Turner is corporate counsel for Rich Products Corp. in Buffalo.

**Jeffrey J. Weiss '96**, senior associate in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, has been appointed social co-chair of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Weiss lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Daniela F. Almeida '97** has been named a partner in the firm McDonough Holland & Allen in



# Alumni Briefs

Sacramento, Calif., practicing health care litigation. She resides in Sacramento with her husband, **Michael Chase '97**.

**Anita Coles Costello '97** is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ. She is involved with cases dealing with employee benefits, qualified and non-qualified retirement plans, ERISA, tax and stock equity-based compensation programs and practices, in the Buffalo office.

**James V. D'Anza '97** practices in the firm Underberg & Kessler in the Rochester, N.Y., office. He joined the firm as an associate and focuses his practice in general civil litigation as well as business, employment and matrimonial law.

**Lenora Foote '97** has been elected president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo. She has also been named recruiting chair of UB Law School's GOLD Group board of directors. Foote is assistant corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo.

**James M. Gerlach '97** has been appointed to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He was previously vice president of the association. Gerlach practices in the firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo, where he resides. In addition, Gerlach is a commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve assigned to Supreme Allied Command Transformation.

**Lindsey Hazelton '97** is a partner in the firm Hancock & Estabrook in Syracuse, N.Y. Hazelton practices in the labor and employment law department. She lives in Manlius, N.Y.

**Nicole Heary '97** of Clarence, N.Y., is a member of the board of directors of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York. She practices in the firm Walsh & Wilkins in Buffalo.

**Thomas S. Lane '97** is the new membership chair of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Lane is a partner in the Buffalo firm Webster Szanyi.



**Kevin K. Gluc '96**



**Lindsey Hazelton '97**

**Matthew A. Lenhard '97** has become a partner in the firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo. He specializes his practice in civil litigation, defending premises liability, automobile liability and New York labor law claims. He lives in Lancaster, N.Y.

**David Luzon '97**, an Amherst, N.Y., resident, has become a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Luzon practices in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in the Buffalo office.

**M. Rogan Morton '97** has become a partner in the all-female firm Schroder, Joseph & Associates, in Buffalo, practicing in employee benefits. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Melissa Nickson '97**, confidential law clerk to New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, **Hon. John**

**M. Curran '84**, was acknowledged as an "Up and Coming Attorney" for the 8th Judicial District by the *Daily Record* of Rochester, N.Y. Nickson is past president of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association and lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**David R. Pfalzgraf Jr. '97**, a partner in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola, was honored for his litigation expertise in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" directory. He resides in Buffalo.

**Scott Philbin '97** has joined the Buffalo firm Buchanan Ingersoll as a senior litigation associate. Philbin specializes in commercial and civil litigation, products liability and personal injury defense. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**D. Charles Roberts Jr. '97** is the new president of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Roberts is employed by Delaware North Cos. in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Paulette Ross '97** has been elected recording secretary of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo. She practices and resides in Buffalo.

**Jeremy W. Schulman '97** is a partner in the commercial litigation department in the firm Shulman, Rogers, Gandall, Pordy & Ecker in Rockville, Md. Schulman focuses on matters regarding international and domestic arbitration, regulatory inquiries, internal investigations and corporate counseling. He lives in Bethesda, Md.

**Kristen M. Smith '97** was elected local director and programs committee co-chair of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York for 2005-06. Smith is an attorney in the Law Offices of Walter R. Pacer Jr., in Buffalo.

**Elizabeth R. Wright '97**, a Grand Island, N.Y., resident, has been recognized in the field of education in the *Business First* and *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's

Who in Law 2005" directory. She was also appointed local director and programs committee co-chair of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. Wright is a partner in the firm Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Pletcher in Buffalo.

**Kelly V. Zarcone '97** has been elected a member of the Starpoint Central School District board of education in Pendleton, N.Y. Zarcone is a partner in the Buffalo firm Schultz-Zarcone, specializing in tax abatement, qualified domestic relations orders, and estate planning and administration including elder care. She is a resident of Pendleton.

**Betty Calvo-Torres '98** has been selected to be director of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo. She is a Buffalo attorney and president of the Hispanic Women's League of Western New York. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Julie M. Grogan '98** recently joined the firm Wilder & Linneball as an associate in the Buffalo office. Grogan handles cases involving complex litigation, product liability and utilities law. She lives in Clarence Center, N.Y.

**Thomas P. Kawalec '98**, associate attorney in the firm Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer, Monte & Pajak in Buffalo, has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. He concentrates his practice in personal injury and civil defense litigation.

**Thomas M. Kent '98** is an organized crime and drug task force attorney in the U.S. attorney's office for the middle district of Tennessee, in Nashville. Kent formerly worked for the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., in the narcotics and dangerous drug section/wiretap unit. He currently resides in Mount Juliet, Tenn.

**John J. Koepfel '98** has been elected chair of the Bar Association of Erie County corporation law committee in Buffalo. Koepfel is an associate in the business practice group of



# Class of '85

The 20th reunion for the Class of 1985 was held on May 6-7 in Buffalo. An excellent turnout of more than 75 classmates and friends helped to create an ideal weekend for these alumni to reconnect.

The festivities were kicked off with a traditional Buffalo chicken wing happy hour at Darcy McGee's in the Chippewa Street District on Friday evening. The night provided plenty of laughs and opportunities to catch up with old friends.

Saturday morning brought the Class of 1985 together at the Law School. Dean Nils Olsen hosted a brunch to welcome many alumni back to the Law School for the first time since their days of studying in the library and classes with their professors. After the brunch, the attendees were given a tour so that they could see first hand just how much things have changed since their days at the school.

On the evening of May 7, the reunion was capped off at the historic Buffalo Club, where they were treated to a delicious meal with plenty of cocktails, food and great conversation.

*Picture 1:*  
Philip E. Gutsin '85, Daniel S. Elias '85, and Stephen J. Schop '85.

*Picture 2:*  
Cathy Zweig, Susan Santarpia, and Judy Kubiniec.

*Picture 3:*  
Sandra L. Oberkfell.

*Picture 4:*  
Stephen J. Schop '85, Susan Pleskow, and Andrew P. Fleming '85.

*Picture 5:*  
Steven M. Zweig '85 and Barbara A. Piazza '85.

*Picture 6:*  
Harold Bulan '65, Roger DaGama, and Hon. Gail A. Donofrio '85, and Toby-Lee G. Bulan '85.

*Picture 7:*  
Cas Patrick and Mary P. Breen '85.

*Picture 8:*  
Mary Pat Enright Fleming '85 and Lyn Marie Szanyi.

*Picture 9:*  
Pamela Libby and Kenneth A. Libby '85.



# Alumni Briefs

the firm Nixon Peabody in the Buffalo office.

**Tasha E. Moore '98** has been appointed corresponding secretary of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo. She has also become communications chair of the UB Law School's GOLD Group. Moore is an attorney for the New York State Division of Human Rights in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Catherine E. Nagel '98**, a Buffalo attorney, has been selected to UB Law School's GOLD Group board of directors. Nagel lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Mickey H. Osterreicher '98**, a Buffalo solo practitioner and award-winning photojournalist, has been appointed to the New York State Bar Association on media law and is chair of the media and government committee of the National Press Photographers Association. In addition, he was admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on June 6. Osterreicher lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

**Lisa D. Primerano '98** has joined the firm Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo, where she resides. Primerano is an associate practicing in commercial litigation and corporate law. She is also a member of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group.

**Elaine Spaul '98** received the "W" award from the Rochester Women's Network for serving as a role model to local women. She also received the 2004 Youth Quality Leadership Award for her work with the Youth Services Quality Council. Spaul is executive director of the Center for Youth Services in Rochester, N.Y., where she resides. She and the Center for Youth Services also received the 2005 Howard J. Berman Prize.

**Heath J. Szymczak '98**, associate in the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, was elected to serve his second term on the executive committee for the Buffalo Alliance for Education. He was listed by the *Daily Record* of Rochester, N.Y.,



**Michael S. Cerrone '99**

as an "Up and Coming Attorney" for 2005 for the 8th Judicial District. He was also elected to serve for a second term on the executive committee of the Buffalo Alliance for Education. Szymczak is a resident of Java Center, N.Y.

**Nathan A. Van Loon '98** is a partner in the firm Harris, Chesworth, Johnstone, Welch & Leone in the Rochester, N.Y., office. Van Loon specializes in litigation, family and matrimonial law. He is a Rochester resident.

**Timothy Benedict '99** was appointed chair of the New York State Bar Association's young lawyers section. Benedict is first assistant corporation counsel for the city of Rome, N.Y., where he resides.

**Marc W. Brown '99** has been named president-elect of the UB Law School's GOLD Group. Brown is an associate in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Michael S. Cerrone '99** was a presenter at the seminar "Successful Judgment Collections in New York" in Amherst, N.Y., sponsored by the National Business Institute. Cerrone practices in the Buffalo firm Phillips Lytle and lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

**Michael J. Chmiel '99** has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Chmiel is an associate practicing personal injury, matrimonial, family law and criminal defense in the firm Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer, Monte & Pajak in

Buffalo.

**Daniel R. Connors '99**, previously an associate in the Buffalo firm Cohen & Lombardo, has been named a partner in the firm. Connors practices in the civil litigation department and is a Buffalo resident.

**Jennifer K. Dorrer '99** of Honolulu, Hawaii, was admitted to practice law in the state of Hawaii. She is a research attorney for the Hawaii State Senate majority office.

**Harry J. Forrest '99** is a partner in the Buffalo firm Gross, Shuman, Brizdle & Gilfillan. Forrest lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Toni L. Frain '99** was recently admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Frain, an associate in the Buffalo firm Kavinoky & Cook, concentrates her practice in commercial litigation and insurance defense in New York State and federal courts.

**Kathleen J. Martin-Nieves '99** was elected secretary of UB Law School's GOLD Group. She practices and resides in Buffalo.

**Roseanne J. Moran '99** of Williamsville, N.Y., has been named secretary and chair of the membership committee for the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York for 2005-06. Moran is a solo practitioner with offices in Clarence and Tonawanda, N.Y.

**Antoinetta D. Mucilli '99** is the treasurer-elect of UB Law School's GOLD Group. She is employed with National Fuel Gas Supply Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Timothy P. Noonan '99**, a Cheektowaga, N.Y., resident, was one of eight Western New York attorneys named by the *Daily Record* of Rochester, N.Y., as "Up & Coming Attorneys" for 2005. Noonan is a senior associate in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo.

**Mary Penn '99**, immediate past president of UB Law School's

GOLD Group, has been elected to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. She practices in the Buffalo firm Altreuter & Habermehl and is a resident of Blasdell, N.Y.

**Daniel E. Sarzynski '99** and **Russell J. Matuszak '92**

recently spoke at a seminar, "Rolling the Dice on Casino Work in Western New York." Both attorneys practice in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola. Sarzynski handles cases dealing with construction and commercial litigation and lives in Amherst, N.Y.

## '00s

**Michael W. Cole '00** has joined Jeffrey Freedman Attorneys at Law in Buffalo. Cole, an associate, will handle cases involving bankruptcy and Social Security disability. He was previously senior aide and general counsel to former U.S. Rep. Jack Quinn.

**Rafael O. Gomez '00**, senior litigation associate in the Buffalo firm Bouvier Partnership, spoke on April 13 before the Buffalo Claims Association on the topic of lead paint litigation. Gomez is a trial attorney in the firm's litigation department and handles personal injury and toxic tort litigation. He lives in Buffalo.

**Steven Erickson '00** received the CARES Schizophrenia Research Award from the University of Rochester Medical Center, where he is currently chief fellow in psychiatry. Erickson has also been accepted into Harvard University's L.L.M. program. He is a resident of Rochester, N.Y.

**Courtney Goldstein '00** recently accepted a position as managing director of the firm Major, Hagen & Africa in Los Angeles, where she resides. She previously practiced in the firm Relin, Goldstein & Crane in Rochester, N.Y.





**Seated:**

Cynthia C. Valderrey,  
Adeline Ortiz-Pina

**First row, left to right:**

Jeremy C. Toth, Joe  
Khanna, Pamela A.  
Koplik, Wendy L. Irvine,  
Leslie R. Kellogg, Suzanne  
Cristo, Mindy J. Birman

**Second row, left to  
right:**

Wendy A. Marsh, Sallie G.  
Randolph, Susan C.  
Branagan, Marianne G.  
Rodgers, Sally J. Broad,  
Christine L. Keller, Jillian  
J. Bredwood, Eric W.  
Schultz, Mimi Meng  
Wright

**Third row, left to right:**

Kevin S. Mahoney,  
Christian C. Casini,  
Jeremy M. Brown,  
Edward V. Jeffrey, Colleen  
Buonocore, Mark W.  
Pawlak, Heather L.  
Murphey, Jill M. Tubolski,  
Marc C. Panepinto,  
Kathleen A. Linhardt,  
Jeanette L. Lee-Sam,  
Darryl C. Salas, Terri L.  
LoTempio, Jennifer C.  
Schultz

**Fourth row, left to  
right:**

Kelly L. Ball, Ruthanne  
Wannop, Mirna E.  
Martinez

**Fifth row, left to right:**

Suzanne A. Cruse, Mary  
G. Mitschow, Joseph A.  
Kresse, Alana M. Fuierer,  
Amy Habib Rittling,  
Stuart J. Graham, Jay C.  
Pletcher, William P.  
Farley, James D. Ward

**Sixth row, left to right:**

Joseph E. Dietrich III,  
Jason M. Carusone,  
Charles D. Grieco, Alan B.  
Rosenthal, Robert M.  
Kitson, Arthur K.  
Posluszny, Richard A.  
Braden, R. Hugh  
Stephens, Julia A. Solo

# Class of '95

With a great turnout of over 80 alumni and friends, the Class of 1995 created a memorable weekend for their 10th-year reunion over the weekend of May 6-7. Alumni from all over the country made the trip to visit with friends and family from Law School days. Cynthia Valderrey Bennett traveled from Schertz, Texas, and said, "It was so nice to be in Buffalo again and see old classmates. We had a fantastic time!"

The weekend began on Friday night with majestic views and an informal gathering at one of the newest restaurants in Buffalo, Shanghai Red's. The beautiful weather and picture-perfect views on Buffalo's waterfront provided an ideal setting for the first night of the reunion.

Classmates reconvened on Saturday morning in the lobby of O'Brian Hall for a brunch hosted by Dean Nils Olsen. Following the brunch, classmates toured the Law School's facilities, which provided an opportunity for the alumni to see firsthand the improvements that the school is making. One of the tour stops is the portrait gallery on the third floor where

classmates took great interest in finding their third-year picture and remarking on all the changes in their own lives since Law School.

The Millard Fillmore Room at The Buffalo Club was the site for the Class of 1995's conclusion to the weekend. They were treated to exquisitely prepared food with the jazz sounds of Mark Mazur on the piano. The night lent itself to opportunities for former classmates to reconnect and look back fondly on their days at UB.

"What a great time! It was wonderful to see so many classmates travel from outside the Buffalo area to commemorate our 10th year law school reunion!" commented Amy Habib Rittling of Tom Burton's office in Buffalo. "I heard many people commenting that they want to come back for a 15-year reunion – even though I understand our next reunion will be our 20-year. The events were well-planned and much fun. Thank you."

# Alumni Briefs

**Michael P. Leone '00**, a partner in the Rochester, N.Y., firm Harris, Chesworth, O'Brien, Johnstone, Welch & Leone, received the 2005 Root/Stimson Award from the New York State Bar Association. Leone was recognized for outstanding community service. He is a Rochester resident.

**Patrick J. Long '00** was appointed president of the board of directors of Just Buffalo Literary Center. He also has become a member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Emerging Leaders Society. Long is an associate practicing torts, insurance and products liability law in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo.

**Robert G. Murray '00** was named an "Up and Coming Attorney" for the 8th Judicial District by the *Daily Record* of Rochester, N.Y. Murray practices in the Buffalo firm Harris Beach. He resides in Getzville, N.Y.

**Kelly J. Philips '00** is the state director and chair of the legislative committee of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York for 2005-06. Philips is an associate in the Sugarman Law Firm in Buffalo, practicing in litigation.

**David W. Polak '00** was appointed education co-chair of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Polak, an Elma, N.Y., resident, practices in the Law Office of John P. Feroletto in Buffalo.

**Richard P. Staropoli '00** has become associated with the Adair Law Firm in Rochester, N.Y. He handles cases involving business transactions and dispute resolution. Staropoli lives in Rochester.

**William Chen '01**, an associate in the firm Hurwitz & Fine in Buffalo, was elected education co-chair of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Chen resides in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Emilio Colaiacovo '01** was named to "Who's Who in Law 2005" by *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal*. Colaiacovo is an associate in the Bouvier



**John A. Alessi '02**



**Tracey L. Covey '02**

Partnership in Buffalo, where he resides.

**Alejandro Gutierrez '01** has returned to solo practice in Buffalo. He specializes in immigration law and matters involving non-citizens. He is a Buffalo resident.

**Amy Hemenway '01** of Tonawanda, N.Y., has been appointed to the board of directors of both the Greater Buffalo Youth Ballet and the Greater Rochester Youth Ballet. She is an associate in the firm Harter, Secrest & Emery in the Buffalo office.

**David Johnstone '01** received an LL.M. in intellectual property law at George Washington University Law School. His thesis on "The Fallacy of 'Fair Use Rights' Under U.S. Copyright Law" appears in the spring 2005 issue of *Journal of the Copyright Society of the USA*. Johnstone has started his own book editing business and lives in Washington, D.C.

**J. Patrick Lennon '01** is practicing in the litigation department in the firm Bouvier Partnership. Lennon joined the firm as an associate specializing in personal injury and criminal law. He resides in Buffalo.

**Pietra G. Lettieri '01** was appointed treasurer of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Lettieri practices in the firm Harris Beach in Buffalo.

**Norma Polizzi '01** of Rochester, N.Y., was nominated by the Democratic Party to run for the Monroe County Legislature, 4th District. Polizzi practices as an associate in the Rochester office of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel.

**Andrea C. Ruta '01** was a presenter at the University at Buffalo's MBA Advantage Program Realistic Job Preview. Ruta is an associate in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Sarah Smith-Ronan '01** of Williamsville, N.Y., was elected social co-chair of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group. She is employed by Neighborhood Legal Services in Buffalo.

**Samantha Stagny '01** has become assistant director of development for the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at UB. Before accepting this position, Stagny was assistant director of undergraduate admissions for Medaille College in Buffalo. She lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**John A. Alessi '02** addressed public supervisors and administrators at the seminar "Building Community Capacity: Governing the 21st Century," July 19 to 21 at the Peek 'n Peak Resort and Conference Center in Findley Lake, N.Y. The seminar was part of the public management and finance program of the environmental finance center in the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. Alessi is an associate in the firm Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office.

**Tracey L. Covey '02** practices

in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo as an associate in the firm's labor, employment and immigration practice group. She presented "Update on the Fair Labor Standards Act" for the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association, Inc. She is a resident of Buffalo.

**Karen Feger '02**, of Buffalo, practices in the labor department in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo. She recently joined the firm as an associate.

**Thomas K. Frederick '02** has joined the Sugarman Law Firm in Buffalo. He is an associate in the litigation department and a Buffalo resident.

**Natalie Grigg '02** is the new secretary-elect for the GOLD Group of UB Law School. She also was named local director and programs committee co-chair of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. Grigg is an associate in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola and lives in Tonawanda, N.Y.

**Scott T. Hanson '02** of Clarence Center, N.Y., is an associate in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo, practicing in the trial department. Hanson has also been elected to the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group.

**Tara Johnson '02**, an assistant district attorney with the Monroe County district attorney's office in Rochester, N.Y., was elected membership chair of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. She lives in Webster, N.Y.

**Jeffrey L. Kingsley '02** and **Anthony J. Latona '72** spoke on the topic "Trial Preparation From Start to Finish for New York Paralegals" at an Institute for Paralegal Education seminar in Buffalo. Kingsley is an associate in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo and lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Josie K. Lipsitz '02**, an associate in the Buffalo firm





# Class of 2000

May 6-7 brought the Class of 2000 together for their first reunion since graduating from Law School five years ago. The beautiful weather was an added bonus to an already fantastic weekend.

On Friday, the class came together for an informal evening of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at Shanghai Red's on Buffalo's waterfront. The evening allowed classmates, some of whom have not seen each other since graduation, to assemble in a casual atmosphere in their own private room.

The next morning, the class reconvened at the Law School for a brunch hosted by Dean Nils Olsen for the returning reunion class. The brunch was followed by a tour of the facility, which provided an opportunity for the class to see the improvements that the school has implemented in the past five years and to recall their days at the school.

"It was wonderful to come back to UB Law and see our classmates, hear how everyone is doing so well, and it was especially great to hear Dean Olsen tell us how the Law School continues to grow and strive for academic excellence in this ever-changing technological world," said Elizabeth B. Snyder of Mental Hygiene Legal Service, Appellate Division, 4th Department, in Utica.

Saturday evening brought yet another opportunity for the class to gather. The Bijou Grille was the setting for an informal meal in a hip and trendy location on Main Street in the Theater District. The night was full of reconnecting and reminiscing and was a great wrap-up to the weekend.

**First row, left to right:**

*Robin D. Barovick, Stephanie A. Williams Torres, Irene Chiu, Zaira E. Juarez, Ruth P. Laskowski*

**Second row, left to right:**

*Melinda H. McSherry, Michelle M. Cubbon, Megan M. Wolfinger, Shannon G. Lucey, Kathlene M. Loconti*

**Third row, left to right:**

*Elizabeth B. Snyder, Richard P. Staropoli, Andrew A. Zakrocki, Kevin A. Hsi, Brian S. McGrath, Don R. Berthiaume, David W. Polak*



# Alumni Briefs

Creighton Pearce Johnsen & Giroux, was elected by her peers to the *Business First* and the *Buffalo Law Journal* "Who's Who in Law 2005" list. Lipsitz practices labor and employment law and is a Buffalo native.

**Allison Porcella '02** has joined the corporate headquarters of Alion Science and Technology Corp. in McLean, Va., as an export compliance specialist. Porcella's work focuses on the International Traffic in Arms Regulations and the Export Administration Regulations in support of the import and export of defense articles and services for the U.S. government and foreign military sales.

**Peter J. Sorgi '02** of East Aurora, N.Y., practices in the areas of zoning, land use law and litigation. He is a partner in the firm Hopkins, Garas & Sorgi with **Sean W. Hopkins '94** and **John C. Garas '85**.

**Kimberly Stock '02** has taken a position as an attorney with the Supervision and Legislation Section of the FDIC in Washington, D.C. Stock is a resident of Alexandria, Va.

**Tiffany M. Szymanek '02**, an associate in the Buffalo firm Rosenthal, Siegel, Muenkel & Maloney, has been named local director and newsletter committee chair of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Philip Unwin '02** practices in the firm Hamberger & Weiss in the Rochester, N.Y., office, specializing in workers' compensation. He is a Rochester resident.

**Marla Weiss '02, Leslie R. Kellogg '95** and **Jessica S. Wiltse '04** co-authored the 2005 edition of *Canadian Companion to 1040 Preparation and Planning*. Weiss practices in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ and is a member of the firm's Canada practice group.

**Daniel Willkens '02** has accepted a position in the Rochester, N.Y., firm Underberg



**Scott T. Hanson '02**



**Jessica M. Baker '03**

& Kessler. Willkens is an associate in the firm's litigation department. He is a Rochester resident.

**Capt. Christopher Wisniewski '02**, a federal law enforcement agent in Buffalo, received the Liberty Bell award from the Bar Association of Erie County for his service in Iraq. Wisniewski serves in the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division, advising soldiers on civil matters.

**Jessica M. Baker '03** practices in the firm Hiscock & Barclay and concentrates her practice in commercial litigation, Indian law, and torts and product liability. She recently transferred from the firm's Syracuse, N.Y., office to the office in Buffalo.

**Luke Bassis '03** has joined the Manhattan, N.Y., firm Quirk & Bakalor as an associate. He handles cases involving trademark and copyright litigation, intellectual property and personal injury defense

litigation. He lives in Queens, N.Y., and is a former member of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group.

**Alison J. Cleary '03** has relocated from the Buffalo office to the Rochester, N.Y., office in the firm Hiscock & Barclay. Cleary is an associate specializing in general business services and tax matters.

**Anthony Marecki '03** has joined the firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola as an associate in the Buffalo office, handling cases involving insurance defense. He is a resident of West Seneca, N.Y.

**Carrie P. Parks '03** is practicing in the firm Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo. Parks recently joined the firm as an associate specializing in insurance coverage, commercial litigation, professional liability and ERISA matters. She is a member of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group and is a Buffalo resident.

**Marybeth Priore '03**, an associate in the Buffalo firm Colucci & Gallaher, was elected local director, membership committee co-chair and programs committee co-chair of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. Priore lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**James Privitera '03** has been named by Kaleida Health as director of human resources at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital in Amherst, N.Y. He was previously a senior employee relations specialist for Kaleida. He is a member of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group and is involved with the Erie County Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project. Privitera is a resident of East Aurora, N.Y.

**Jesse Baldwin '04** has become associated with the firm Damon & Morey in the Buffalo office. Baldwin practices general litigation. He has also been named to the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Baldwin is a Buffalo resident.

**Kimberly Boneham '04** is assistant corporation counsel for the Town of West Hartford, Conn. She is a resident of Hartford, Conn.

**Erin Boardman '04** has accepted a position in the Rochester, N.Y., firm Segar & Sciortino. Boardman is an associate in the firm and is a Rochester resident.

**Lisa Danish '04** has accepted a position as a staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit, in Richmond, Va. She has also been accepted into the John Marshall American Inn of Court. Danish lives in Hanover County, Va.

**Kevin Doering '04** is an associate in the firm Hamberger & Weiss in Buffalo. He focuses on matters regarding workers' compensation. He lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

**Megan Dorr '04** of Pittsford, N.Y., is a law clerk for Hon. John C. Ninfo, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, in Rochester, N.Y.

**Esther Eagan '04** is an associate in the intellectual property practice group in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo. She handles cases involving biotechnology and life science inventions. She is a Buffalo resident.

**John Ford '04** practices in the litigation department in the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey. Ford recently joined the firm as an associate. He is a resident of Buffalo.

**Avik K. Ganguly '04**, a Rochester, N.Y., resident, is an assistant district attorney in the Monroe County district attorney's office in Rochester. Ganguly was previously an associate in the Rochester firm Forsyth, Howe, O'Dwyer, Kalb & Murphy.

**Cynthia A. Giganti '04** is practicing in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ. Giganti joined the firm as an associate dealing with matters involving business litigation. She lives in Buffalo.

**Bethany J. Gilbert '04** has been elected to the board of



**Alison J. Cleary '03**

directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Gilbert lives in Springville, N.Y.

**Jean Gustafson '04** has become associated with the Buffalo firm Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Pletcher, practicing disability law. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Tina M. Hawthorne '04** has become associated with the Buffalo firm McCready & Todaro. She handles cases involving matrimonial, family law and estates. She was also named to the New York State Bar Association's family law section committee on child custody and its committee on family court. Hawthorne resides in Williamsville, N.Y.

**Ellen Heidrick '04** is employed with Southern Tier Legal Services in Bath, N.Y., which gives free representation to low-income residents of Steuben, Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties. Heidrick lives in Addison, N.Y.

**Amy P. Herstek '04** practices in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo. Herstek joined the firm as an associate specializing in the areas of business and corporate law. She lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**Jayne A. Hurwitz '04** has joined the firm Harris Beach in the Pittsford, N.Y., office. Hurwitz is an associate in the business and commercial litigation practice group and is a Rochester, N.Y., resident.

**Adrian L. Jones '04** is assistant dean for diversity and community relations at the Fredric G. Levin College of Law at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Prior to his new position, Jones was the assistant director for multicultural affairs at UB. He is currently residing in Gainesville.

**Julie Keefe '04** is practicing in the areas of insurance coverage and defense. She has joined the Law Office of Roy A. Mura in Buffalo, where she resides.

**Britta L. Lukomski '04** is an associate in the firm Hodgson Russ. She concentrates her practice in the areas of estates and trusts, elder law and Medicaid planning. She is a resident of East Amherst, N.Y.

**Scott M. Lupiani '04** practices in the environmental practice group in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ as an associate. He lives in Amherst, N.Y.

**Stephen P. McAndrew '04** recently accepted a position in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ. McAndrew is an associate in the corporate and securities practice group. He lives in Buffalo.

**Jennifer Valvo McCann '04** of Syracuse, N.Y., concentrates her practice in the areas of trusts and estates. She recently joined the firm Hiscock & Barclay as an associate in the Syracuse office.

**Rebecca Z. McCauley '04** of Orchard Park, N.Y., has been appointed to the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group. She is practicing in the firm Drew & Drew in Buffalo.

**Andrew O. Miller '04** has joined the firm Harris Beach in the Buffalo office, practicing as an associate in the firm. Miller lives in Kenmore, N.Y.

**Benjamin Moskel '04** has become associated with the Buffalo firm Hamberger & Weiss. He will deal with matters regarding workers' compensation. He lives in Churchville, N.Y.

# In Memoriam

The Law School extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following friends and alumni/ae:

**Norman J. Pecora '31**, Austin, Texas  
**John J. Heffernan '39**, Eggertsville, New York  
**Charles R. Sandler '40**, Williamsville, New York  
**Alexander C. Cordes '50**, Longwood, Florida  
**Rev. Albert E. Hemstreet Jr. '50**, Johnson City, New York  
**Hon. Joseph D. Figliola '51**, Buffalo, New York  
**Philip S. Gellman '51**, Lewiston, New York  
**William B. Reilly '53**, Tonawanda, New York  
**Marion J. "Jim" Tizzano '53**, Peoria, Arizona  
**Richard Manz '54**, Sarasota, Florida  
**Leonard F. Walentynowicz '55**, Grand Island, New York  
**James L. Tippet '58**, Town of Tonawanda, New York  
**Raymond M. Pezzo '59**, Buffalo, New York  
**David B. Olney '76**, Kensington, New Hampshire  
**Edward J. Kamysz '81**, Holland, New York  
**Leslie-Ann Sowden '86**, West Falls, New York

**Louis A. Del Cotto Sr. '51**, UB Law School professor emeritus, died April 9, 2005, in Williamsville, New York, after a lengthy illness. As a leading professor, Mr. Del Cotto was instrumental in extensively shaping and defining the tax curriculum at the Law School for more than 40 years.

**Sarah Ranni '04** is a staff attorney in the legal department of the Lancaster, N.Y., company Ecology and Environment Inc. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Christina Simanca-Proctor '04** has joined the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel as an associate. She practices in the area of litigation in the Buffalo office.

**Bethany A. Solek '04** has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria in Buffalo. Solek will practice in criminal law. She is a Buffalo resident.

**Jennifer L. Thompson '04** has joined the law firm of Lopez, Hodes, Restaino, Milman & Skikos in Newport Beach, Calif., practicing pharmaceutical mass tort litigation. Thompson previously served as the national

coordinator for the hormone therapy litigation, MDL-1507, in the Baltimore firm Janet, Jenner & Suggs. She is currently a resident of Newport Beach.

**Alexandra Townson '04** practices in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office. She joined the firm as an associate in the commercial law department. Townson lives in East Aurora, N.Y.

**Jessica S. Wiltse '04, Leslie R. Kellogg '95 and Marla Waiss '02** of the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ co-authored the 2005 edition of *Canadian Companion to 1040 Preparation and Planning*. Wiltse is an associate concentrating her practice in federal tax, specializing in international tax planning. She resides in Kenmore, N.Y.

# Alumni Update

## Inside the Beltway

### *Michael A. Battle '81 takes charge at top Justice Department post*

**A**mid the traffic and tourists of Washington, D.C., Michael A. Battle '81 is settling into a major new job at the right hand of power. Battle, who served for more than three years as U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York, began work June 6 as director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, at the Department of Justice. His office oversees the work of 94 U.S. attorneys' offices across the country and is the liaison between the U.S. attorneys and other federal agencies and Department of Justice components.

It is a position with enormous importance and a broad range of areas of responsibility. Battle deals with issues of policy development, helps to communicate those developments to field offices, comments on provisions such as sentencing guidelines and the USA Patriot Act, and worries about "budgets, personnel and a whole lot in between."

In Buffalo, where his office's high-profile cases included the Lackawanna Six terrorism prosecution, he had administrative responsibilities, too, Battle said. The difference: "I get about 15 times more e-mail now."

"I am not practicing law in the traditional sense," he said. "The last time I was in the courtroom was when I was a Family Court judge. But I still have to do legal research, and I still think like a practitioner."

It is a position with a very public component as well. Just a few days after he reported for work, Battle hosted an "Ask the White House" Web chat about the Patriot Act. He also wrote a piece for USA Today articulating the reasons for the administration's support of the Patriot Act.

Battle was appointed to the position by Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, who said in making the announcement: "Throughout his career as a prosecutor, civil attorney, judge, and public defender, Michael has served with distinction. As director of the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, he will bring with him a high degree of legal expertise and practical experience. Michael is an outstanding lawyer and a dedicated public servant, and I thank him for his



continued service with the Department of Justice."

Battle draws on experience that has included, besides his work with the U.S. attorney's office in Buffalo, service as a Legal Aid attorney, a Family Court judge and a stint with the New York State attorney general's office. He also helped to establish the Rochester and Buffalo Federal Public Defender's Offices.

He has been president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York and a member of numerous boards and organizations, including the UB Law School Dean's Advisory Council. He was serving as president-elect of the UB Law Alumni Association when he had to step down because of his appointment as US Attorney for the Western District of N.Y.

Now he deals directly with the nation's attorney general and, even as he learns his way around the city, sometimes finds himself in high-profile situations.

"I started this job on a Monday," Battle says. "On Tuesday I was invited to

be with the president that Friday morning – at a location about which I could not even give anybody directions. I stood within five feet of him on stage to talk about the Patriot Act. Before that, five of us were in a holding room, and I chatted with the president, walked around with him, greeted staff with him. As I was getting on line to go out to the stage, Attorney General Gonzales welcomed me, (CIA Director) Porter Goss welcomed me, (Director of National Intelligence) John Negroponte welcomed me.

"I said to my wife later, 'Never in a million years would I have expected this.'"

A sobering responsibility came with the establishment of a Katrina Fraud Task Force, dedicated to investigating and prosecuting fraud related to the Gulf Coast hurricane. The task force is co-located in Washington and Baton Rouge, La., and Battle went there and to New Orleans to help establish the office.

"I was on the ground in a Ford F-150," he said. "I drove up to the 17th Street Levee, stood on top of it and got a bird's-eye view of what happened. For historical purposes, I put my hand on the barge that broke through the levee. The devastation was incredible. It was a frightening scene."

Battle and his wife, Sheila, have three children; only their son, Michael II, is still at home. They have maintained a residence in Western New York so he can finish high school (he is in his junior year), and Battle commutes home from Washington generally twice a month.

Not that his workdays would allow for much of a family life anyway. "I get here at 7:15 in the morning, and I generally work until 7 at night. My day goes very fast, and a lot of things happen over the course of the day," he said.

"I have been real lucky. The staff is wonderful. We talk about all kinds of policy issues. We talk about government, politics. I get up every day and I love coming to work."



# *Put UB Law to work for you!*

Hundreds of talented law students and graduates are available right now for part-time, entry-level and lateral positions.

The University at Buffalo Law School, the most respected public law school in the Northeast, provides excellence in legal education.

This excellence in academic and clinical training can be an asset to *your* office.

Contact us in the Career Services Office to post a job or internship, request resumes or schedule interviews. Let us take the worry out of legal recruiting.

The University at Buffalo Law School Career Services Office has several programs available to assist employers in meeting their hiring needs. Candidates for **law clerk**, **entry-level** and **experienced attorney** positions can be found through our office. Select the service that suits your anticipated hiring needs. There is no fee for services.



**ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS** begin in August and continue through the academic year. You may prescreen resumes, select candidates, and let us arrange your schedule here at the Law School.

**OFF-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS** are held once a year in **New York City** and **Washington, D.C.** Employers find each program is a cost-effective means of reviewing candidates each fall for permanent and summer positions. Pre-selection of resumes is permitted.

**RESUME COLLECTION SERVICE** is available at any time. The Career Services Office will collect and forward student resumes as a group.

**ONLINE JOB BANK** is a year-round service that posts employer job listings on the Web. Students, new grads and experienced attorneys are able to access your information 24/7 at [www.eattorney.com](http://www.eattorney.com). CSO's monthly *Employment Bulletin* publishes the listings appropriate for law graduates. The *Bulletin* is sent to over 500 alumni/ae and exchanged with over 100 law schools.

To access these services, contact:

Lisa M. Patterson  
Associate Dean for Career Services  
University at Buffalo Law School  
609 John Lord O'Brien Hall  
North Campus  
Buffalo, NY 14260-1100

Phone: (716) 645-2056  
Fax: (716) 645-7336  
E-mail: [law-careers@buffalo.edu](mailto:law-careers@buffalo.edu)  
or visit [www.law.buffalo.edu/cso](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/cso)  
to submit requests online.



**University at Buffalo Law School**  
*The State University of New York*

# Save these dates

## Friday, January 27.

The Law Alumni Association will host its annual New York City luncheon in conjunction with the State Bar Association meeting. New York State Court of Appeals Judge Albert M. Rosenblatt will be the featured speaker. Union League Club, 38 E. 37th St. (corner of Park Avenue), noon to 2 p.m. \$50 for alumni and guests, \$35 for graduates from the classes of 2001 to 2005. Contact: Ilene Fleischmann, 645-2107, or e-mail [fleisch@buffalo.edu](mailto:fleisch@buffalo.edu).

## Wednesday, May 10.

UB Law Alumni Association Annual Dinner and Distinguished Alumni Awards. Hyatt Regency, meeting at 5:30 p.m., cocktails at 6, dinner at 6:45. Contact: Ilene Fleischmann, 645-2107, or [fleisch@buffalo.edu](mailto:fleisch@buffalo.edu).

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### Thursday, January 5.

Networking event for Washington, D.C., alumni. Zaytinya, 701 Ninth St. N.W., 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$20 for alumni and their guests. Sponsored by the UB Law Alumni Association. Contact: Ilene Fleischmann, 645-2107, or [fleisch@buffalo.edu](mailto:fleisch@buffalo.edu).

### Tuesday, January 17.

Mentors can earn one free CLE credit in ethics, at the Center for Tomorrow, Amherst Campus, 5 p.m. Immediately followed by reception for mentors and first-year law students, 6 p.m. To mentor a student, call Melinda Saran at (716) 645-6223, or e-mail [saran@buffalo.edu](mailto:saran@buffalo.edu)

### Thursday, February 16 – Friday, February 17.

Albert R. Mugel National Tax Moot Court judges. For more information or to judge, call Amber Storr, president, (716) 645-2037, or e-mail [aestorr@buffalo.edu](mailto:aestorr@buffalo.edu).

### Thursday, February 23.

Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Auction, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Statler Towers. To buy a ticket or donate an auction item contact Mindy Byrd, president, at [albyrd@buffalo.edu](mailto:albyrd@buffalo.edu).

### Saturday, March 4.

The Buffalo Criminal Law Society will host the Eighth Annual Herbert J. Wechsler National Criminal Law Moot Court Competition at the Erie County Courthouse. Wechsler judges can receive CLE credit for their participation. For more information or to judge, please contact Liz Tertinek, president, at [ubcrimlaw@gmail.com](mailto:ubcrimlaw@gmail.com).

### Friday, April 21 – Saturday, April 22

Dean's Advisory Council meeting, New York City. Contact Deborah Scott, (716) 645-2113, or e-mail [djscott@buffalo.edu](mailto:djscott@buffalo.edu).

### Thursday, April 27.

The *Buffalo Law Review* students will host their annual dinner at The Buffalo Club, 388 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, at 6 p.m. E-mail Michael D. Mann for reservations and information at [mdmann@buffalo.edu](mailto:mdmann@buffalo.edu).

### Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6.

Class of 1981 25th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions).

### Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6.

Class of 1986 20th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Friday, May 5 – Saturday, May 6.

Class of 1996 10th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Saturday, May 20.

Law School Commencement. Center for the Arts, 3 p.m. Reception to follow in the Atrium.

### Saturday, June 2 – Sunday, June 3.

Class of 1976 30th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Saturday, June 2 – Sunday, June 3.

Class of 1966 40th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Sunday, June 3.

Class of 1971 35th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Sunday, June 3.

Class of 1956 50th Reunion. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

### Friday, June 16

Appreciation lunch and photo for directors and past presidents of the UB Law Alumni Association and GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Group. Photos at noon, 12:30 p.m. lunch. The Buffalo Club, 388 Delaware Ave., Buffalo. E-mail Ilene Fleischmann at [fleisch@buffalo.edu](mailto:fleisch@buffalo.edu).

### August 16, 2006.

50+ Reunion Luncheon. Check [www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/reunions). Contact Amy Hayes Atkinson at (716) 645-6224 or [aatkins@buffalo.edu](mailto:aatkins@buffalo.edu).

## *Jeremiah J. Moriarty sworn in as State Court of Claims judge in O'Brian Hall*



Jeremiah J. Moriarty was the first to utilize the Francis Letro Courtroom in the Law School for his swearing-in ceremony as a judge on Saturday, Sept. 10. Nominated to serve on the state's Court of Claims by Gov. George E. Pataki, Moriarty will hear civil cases in Buffalo. The oath of office was administered by the Honorable Richard E. Sise, Presiding Judge of the New York State Court of Claims. Congressman Thomas M. Reynolds and Honorable Eugene F. Pigott Jr., Presiding Justice, Fourth Dept., offered remarks. Francis M. Letro, for whom the courtroom is named, served as master of ceremonies.

A Southern Tier attorney, Moriarty represented many municipalities and was chairman of the Cattaraugus County Republican Party. His father, the late Jeremiah J. Moriarty Jr., also was a Court of Claims judge.

Moriarty graduated from Georgetown University in 1965 and received his law degree from the University at Buffalo School of Law in 1968. He has been in private practice for the past 36 years and has served as administrator for the Assigned Counsel Program of Cattaraugus County for more than 20 years.

The oath of office was administered by the Honorable Richard E. Sise, Presiding Judge of the New York State Court of Claims.





Alumni Office  
UB Law School  
John Lord O'Brian Hall  
Buffalo, New York 14260-1100



Development Office  
UB Law School  
John Lord O'Brian Hall  
Buffalo, New York 14260-1100



Law Alumni Association  
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