Our new International Finance & Law program in New York City
On the cover, students in the New York City program in International Finance & Law.
Kneeling, left to right: Dominika Tanianis, Fan Zhang and Richard Lam.
Middle, left to right: Amanda Weir, Jesse O. George and Tracey M. Stephen.
Back row, left to right: Lawrence S. Rosenthal, Shawn C. Graham, Michael A. Rodriguez, Ryan M. Mead, Edward J. Snyder, Justin M. Whittaker, Shane Kerman

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:

UB Law Forum
310 O’Brien Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260
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Message from the Dean

Our cover story in this issue of the UB Law Forum throws a spotlight on our New York City program in International Finance and Law, which I believe will have a tremendous positive impact on the future of UB Law School. This innovative program is a twelve-week course of study conducted in New York City exclusively for UB law and management students, taught by UB professors, professors from other leading universities and alumni from major firms and corporations. Building on the close collaboration of faculty members Phil Halpern, Bert and Amy Westbrook, Jack Schlegel, Tom Headrick and Tom Disare with many of our most outstanding alumni, the program is a partnership with the School of Management and SUNY's Neil D. Levin Graduate Institute of International Relations and Commerce. Our law students can now experience a hands-on education in finance and law that is quite unique. I can't overstate the multiple benefits of having such a strong presence in New York City. We can attract our best students, provide the high-level job opportunities for our graduates and enhance our growing national reputation.

In September, we were honored to have the 14th Dalai Lama as a guest in our Law School library one day after his lecture to 30,000 at UB's football stadium. His Holiness had a 90-minute conversation with 15 selected legal scholars and delivered a message of the centrality of compassion not only for our legal systems but also for society at large. If you would like to hear his words, visit our Web site, where a video can be played. We are indebted to Professor Rebecca French for spearheading this very special event as part of our growing religion and the law program.

Our ongoing effort to revitalize O'Brian Hall continues. In addition to the major classroom refurbishment and construction of the first-floor working courtroom, we have now created on the fifth floor two beautifully furnished suites of rooms: one, a major conference area and a smaller seminar area; the other, a new faculty lounge adjacent to a faculty reading room. I think it is the best-equipped and most useful conference facility in the University. The $1 million-plus renovation project was made possible with the assistance of the interdisciplinary Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.

In the Giving section, you will read about the continuing success of our Annual Fund. We are especially proud of our 25.8 percent participation rate which ranks 7th highest of 74 public law schools. Our thanks go to fund chair Pamela Heilman and our terrific development staff.

All my best for a great year in 2007.
correspondence – but an even greater responsibility as an associate justice of New York’s highest court.

He was appointed in August by Gov. George E. Pataki, the last high court appointment by the Republican governor, who called him “a man of extraordinary character, intelligence, integrity, collegiality and commitment to the rule of law.” Pigott had made the shortlist three times previously for a seat on the Court of Appeals.

The move comes as the crowning achievement of a long legal career that began at UB Law School but was incubated when he was growing up on a family farm near Rochester, with Perry Mason on TV. “I always wanted to be a trial lawyer,” Pigott says, “and I always thought, and still do, that trial lawyers are the jet pilots of the profession.”

He graduated from LeMoyne College in Syracuse, and enrolled at UB Law in 1968 – only to be drafted, yanked out of class in November of his first year, and sent to Vietnam as an interpreter. “I was in a Civil Affairs unit and was called a logistics adviser,” he says. “My job was to talk to the locals as we would rebuild the schools and offices that had been destroyed. It was a rebuilding process more than anything else.”

He was discharged after a two-year tour of duty, and went right back to Eagle Street – this was in the school’s final years before its move to Amherst – with the GI Bill kicking in for tuition, and with a renewed sense of purpose. “UB could not have been nicer,” Pigott says. “They told us when we got drafted – and I was far from the only one – that they would reserve a seat for us when we came back. And they did.

“Those two years in the Army were eye-opening for me, to get outside that comfort zone of being a student. You are talking to soldiers and you realize that this is their whole life – they are going to do this job for the next 40 years. And you come to realize that your education is not a game.”

Like the other law students of his day, he frequented the courts when he was not in class – or clerking for the five-member firm Offermann, Fallon, Mahoney & Adner, in the Statler Build-
Pigott has become known as a lawyers’ judge – someone who understands the stresses attorneys are under as they prepare and argue cases.

ing on Niagara Square. “I clerked for them the whole time I was in law school, and it was the best thing that ever happened to me,” Pigott reflects. “I knew all the clerks. I was looking for the tools to practice law, and between school and clerking, I certainly got those. When it came time to take the bar exam, all those questions on filing times, deadlines, documents – I had lived it.”

In school, he said, he soaked up knowledge from legends with names like Hyman, Homburger and Hawkland – “they just exuded lawyership.” And in the group of students with last names N through Z (“they divided us up that way”), he made lifelong friends; they still have a Christmas get-together every year.

He has become known as a lawyers’ judge – someone who understands the stresses attorneys are under as they prepare and argue cases. “I absolutely love lawyers,” he says. “I think lawyers are the greatest people walking the earth and, jokes aside, criticism aside, everything else, it is unbelievable to me what lawyers do. My whole philosophy on the bench is to take care of the lawyers. By taking care of them, you just show them the respect they deserve. Give them the day in court that they need, and count on them to properly represent their client. I am rarely disappointed.”

Court observers also have noted his sense of humor, even during proceedings. That, he said, is something he will carry with him to Albany.

“It is a big deal to go to the Appeals Court,” he says. “You do not need a bunch of dour, sour, stern-looking jurists looking down at you. I try to keep it as light as I can. It is easy to be a bully as a judge, but where does that get you?”

He is proud of his record of fostering diversity, most recently recognized with a “Champion of Diversity” award from the Rochester Black Bar Association for his work to recruit minority law clerks to the Appellate Division. “The cities that I am most aware of have done a tremendous job, and continue to try, to integrate police and the fire departments and the government,” he says. “I think the legal profession has to be next. I think the bar does, I think the bench does, and I think the more we do, the better off we are.

“And UB has to be extremely proud of itself for its diversity. My experience of the Law School is that it has the most diverse student body that I have seen.”

Pigott makes his home on Grand Island with his wife, Peggy. Their daughter Martha, a recent graduate of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, has joined the Peace Corps and is awaiting assignment, probably to Africa; their son David, who went to West Point and is a captain in the Army, has just finished his second tour of duty in Iraq.
Margaret W. Wong ’76 is running down the carpeted hall of her Cleveland law office. She is late for an appointment with a visitor, carefully shoehorned into a schedule that includes a full slate of clients, the duties of managing partner, and answering the call when dozens of community interests want her time and her energy.

She did not build a small empire of immigration law by taking it easy. The journey of more than two decades has taken her to a good place. Margaret W. Wong & Associates, with six lawyers and 25 paralegals and other support staff, has become a Midwestern powerhouse in immigration, with offices in Cleveland, Columbus and Detroit. Her clients are both individuals and families seeking green cards, work visas and residency, and businesses looking to solve the legal problems of their foreign-born workers. Wong’s firm includes staffers who speak a United Nations of languages – Mandarin, Cantonese, Hindi, Albanian, Tagalog, Russian, Spanish, French and German. In the waiting room, a world map is studded with pushpins indicating the clients’ country of origin.

“It takes a lot of blood, sweat and tears, this practice,” Wong says when she finally reaches her conference room, lined with plaques and other honors. “It is very emotional. Every time I read the paper, I tie it into my practice.”

When she first came to Cleveland, the field was wide open. “The big firms did not do immigration law back then,” Wong says. “It was too much trouble, or they did not have the ability to work with different cultures. In the 1970s, ’80s, ’90s, we dominated the market. Now you have a lot of young lawyers and immigration consultants, so there is a lot more competition.”

But Wong & Associates marches on, doing what the firm does best – getting involved in their clients’ lives, taking their problems personally, and trying to make it all better. A client who needs a work permit, for example – “If I miss one day, they miss a day of work,” Wong says. “Speed is important.” The firm advertises in local ethnic newspapers, but word-of-mouth is the best recommendation.

And expectations run high. “This is a hard practice,” Wong says. “People cry. They do not leave the office. Somebody is in jail, his family asks me, ‘Will he be out in a week?’ I say, ‘I will do my best.’ Then they tell people, ‘Ms. Wong says he will be out in a week.’ ”

It is a long way from her beginnings in Hong Kong, where she was born after her parents fled there following the Communist takeover of China. She left Hong Kong in the late 1960s and became an immigrant herself, coming to the United States on a student visa along with her younger sister Cecilia. Between them they had four suitcases and $165. Wong worked her way through college in Iowa and then Illinois as a waitress, and spent summers doing hotel work in New York’s Catskills resorts.

A full scholarship to UB Law School, she says, made the dream possible. She is thanking the Law School for the opportunity it gave her by joining the Dean’s Advisory Committee and making a major gift of $100,000.

She says that the casual racism of
an earlier time never troubled her in Buffalo. “They were all very welcoming and nice,” Wong says. “I never felt anything but the same as the other kids. UB never treated us differently. I forgot I was Chinese for a while!”

She had not yet become a U.S. citizen and was not sure she could even take the bar exam. Professor Janet Lindgren, she says, did the research and assured her that non-citizens could be admitted to practice.

She passed the bar, but could not find a job in law. She worked a temporary position as a legal and financial officer for the City of Buffalo, then moved to Cleveland to become a management trainee at a bank there. After a brief stint at a Cleveland law firm, she struck out on her own, with a $25 desk and not even a secretary. She called everyone she knew and handed out her business card on buses. Slowly the business built up, to the point a few years ago when Wong moved it into a beautiful new building on downtown Chester Street and christened it the MWW Center. “After counseling and advising thousands of immigrants all these years and obtaining permanent residency and fighting deportation, we have developed a comfortable rhythm to this practice,” she wrote in a holiday letter.

Now Wong finds herself mentoring the children of clients, nudging them to stay in school and get into college, even tossing a little tuition money their way here and there. She has even hired some of them at the firm, building on their language skills and their ties to the immigrant community. She also created an internship program in which children from affluent Chinese families she knows spend a summer at the law firm; the goal is for them to see that others have it a lot harder in life.

That sense of family grows from the closeness Wong has cultivated within her own family. She and her husband, pharmacist Kam Chan, have two children, both currently in college. Her mother, Alice Kuan, lives in Cleveland; Margaret’s siblings Cecilia, Rose and George also are in town. Every Wednesday night they all get together at Wong’s Shaker Heights home – it is the only day she leaves work early – for dinner, wine and conversation long into the night. Her nephew Joseph Fungsang once wrote of those dinners in the company of his eight cousins: “One finds him or herself in the context of the group and in the process develops as an individual. And being part of the greater whole – there is no better feeling.”

Wong is legendary for her work ethic; she lists her hobbies as “reading, writing, working and swimming.” She begins her day with an early-morning swim at home and is at her desk by 6 a.m. Most workdays are 12 hours long; on the weekends she reads legal journals and research. She has recently taken up knitting – “I take it to functions like dinners, so at least I do not waste time” – and the precise art of Chinese calligraphy. “I am learning how to get my mind more creative,” Wong says. “In order to become the best of the best in whatever field, the mind has to be flexible.”

Even in her diversions, though, she cannot see herself slowing down. And the next phone call from jail, or from a client under siege by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, is surely not far away.

Life is busy, to be sure. But to see her clients leading productive lives – that is the payoff. “It is nice,” she says. “I can go into any hotel, and they all know Margaret Wong.”
"Had I not gone to UB Law, I do not think I would be a professor today," says Farley, who has taught at American for seven years. "I probably would not have seen teaching as an attractive position, and would not have received the mentoring and encouragement that I got there anywhere else.

"When I arrived in Buffalo, I immediately started thinking about teaching. One of the great things about UB Law is that the professors are so accessible. Most engage on a personal level with their students and they love their jobs."

Not only did she find at UB Law the inspiration for a professor’s life, she also stumbled onto the field of legal studies that has occupied her ever since: intellectual property law. Farley was an art history major at Binghamton University, and in her second year at the Law School she took Professor James Atleson’s seminar on Law and the Visual Arts.

"I loved that course," she says, "loved everything we covered. But there was a small section on IP, and somehow that section really grabbed me. IP law is a natural fit for people who are interested in art. It was just so hard to pin down the legal rules here. I was immediately fascinated by what this law was trying to do and whether it was doing it right."

After graduation, she taught two sections of a yearlong Research & Writing course at UB Law, and taught a first-year course in legal writing at Columbia Law School, where she also earned the master of laws degree. (She recently completed her S.J.D. degree at Columbia.) Before starting to teach at American, she practiced trademark and copyright law for two years in New York City with Rabinowitz, Boudin, Standard, Krinsky & Lieberman, a boutique firm known for its civil liberties litigation.

Until recently, at American, she has taught exclusively upper-level courses, including courses in IP law, U.S. and international trademark law, and law and the visual arts (using Atleson’s course outline as a guide to developing the course). In January she will teach an intellectual property course for first-year students.

All of it, she says, is informed by what she learned and what she saw in O’Brian Hall.

"When I saw so many different models of good teaching," she says, "I knew there was no cookie cutter approach. I realized early on that you have to be yourself to be a good teacher. You cannot mimic anybody else’s style. Students will appreciate your sincerity. I learned that from Buffalo and from my own early experiences."

By all accounts she was a successful student. She edited the Buffalo Women’s Law Journal and won a Ford Foundation fellowship in public international law. But, she says, “Nothing in Law School came easily to me.” She credits great support, advice and recommendation letters from her UB Law professors, including Lucinda Finley, David Engel and Frank Munger, who, she says, “in the earliest stages of my applications to be a law professor, said, ‘I could see you at American.’ They have been supportive of me every step of the way.”

Farley’s research interests center on two broad areas. One is the intersection of law and art: “In my scholarship I have discussed a number of instances where the two meet and how both have been changed by that meeting.” One example, she says, is how the law treated the art of photography in its earliest days. “When photography was invented, it was a struggle to see it as art at all. The attitude was, ‘God invented the landscape, this machine was the transcriber; where is the authorship?’ Both the art and the law had to redefine itself.”

Her other major research interest is in the unstable basis of rights in the development of trademark law. “Trademark law is interesting because it has been developed with the consistent story that its raison d’etre is to protect consumers from confusion. But that is more of a ruse that masks other objectives in the law, mainly to protect the property notions of the trademark holders. I am trying to take a historic look back to say it was not always just about the con-
“I realized early on that you have to be yourself to be a good teacher. You cannot mimic anybody else’s style. Students will appreciate your sincerity. I learned that from Buffalo…”

Office and the Patent and Trademark Office.
“There is such a thing as doing IP law in the public interest,” Farley says. “One of the most rewarding aspects of the clinic is that students do not come in with an intuitive sense of how IP is in the public interest. They then develop that sense along the way.”

In addition, she says, the clinic has produced 10 amicus curiae briefs in IP cases before the U.S. Supreme Court in the past five years, urging the court to rule in a way that would serve the public interest.

Farley, who as an undergraduate spent time in India on a Rotary International Fellowship, also has worked internationally on intellectual property law. She has taught in France, Chile and Turkey.
“The United States is doing a great job of exporting its notions of IP,” she says, “and has developed expertise in the field earlier than a lot of other countries. I am very interested in having conversations with people who want to develop IP law in these countries. There is no perfect universal approach.” She spoke, for example, about a planned trip to Namibia: “I will be talking to people interested in developing their cultural industries in music, arts and handicrafts. They think IP law can help them, and I am interested to find out what their needs are and what statement of the law can best serve those needs.”

At home, she finds herself a frequent source for media inquiries about intellectual property cases, including such offbeat topics as the patentability of the crustless peanut butter and jelly sandwich, and the Fox Network’s lawsuit against liberal commentator Al Franken over his use of the phrase “fair and balanced.”
“There is just a bunch of fun stuff in IP that the media like to talk about,” Farley says. “But I think there are important stakes here. And so I am happy to be in the media if it helps to bring some of these more serious issues to the attention of the public.”

She and her husband, Bill Farley – a 1995 graduate of UB Law School – have two young boys.
'06 JD/MPH grad selected as a Presidential Management Fellow

A UB Law dual-degree student won a spot in a highly selective program that seeks to attract top candidates into federal government service. Stephen K. Trynosky, who in May completed his dual degrees in law and public health, is one of 550 people chosen to become Presidential Management Fellows for 2006. About 3,500 hopefuls from 167 graduate institutions applied for the program.

Trynosky was introduced to the Presidential Management Fellowship program in summer 2004 when he was a public health law fellow at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The program was created by President Jimmy Carter in 1977 and modernized in 2003 under President Bush, who said, “The purpose of the program is to attract to the federal service outstanding men and women from a variety of academic disciplines and career paths who have a clear interest in, and commitment to, excellence in the leadership and management of public policies and programs.” It is administered by the federal Office of Personnel Management.

The selection process involved a nomination by UB Law School Dean Nils Olsen, then an all-day assessment in Washington that came in three parts: a five-minute oral presentation on a random topic with just 25 minutes to prepare the speech; a focus group in which judges observed the interaction among four nominees; and a 45-minute writing test, with only a dictionary as a resource.

Trynosky, 30, says the “uniqueness of UB’s JD/MPH program” drew attention during the selection process: “Everyone kept saying, ‘Wow, what a neat combination of degrees.’” He is one of only two people from State University of New York schools chosen for the 2006 program.

In considering what field they will pursue during the two-year appointment, Presidential Management Fellows interview with government agencies in areas that interest them. Trynosky has accepted a position as an Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He is currently responsible for the legislative portfolio containing issues related to The Office of the Chief Medical Officer, bioterrorism, pandemic preparedness and agroterrorism.

When the fellowship ends, appointees can accept another job in federal government at an advanced level – GS-14, the second-highest level of government civil service. But most, Trynosky says, take the contacts they have made and go on to work in private practice, another level of government or a non-governmental organization. “It has benefits no matter what you plan on doing,” he says.

“Government service is in my blood,” says Trynosky, who before law school served as medical service officer for the Army’s 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y., leading a platoon of 26 combat medics. His father is a retired urban planner with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; his mother is an early childhood teacher in Brooklyn.

Having seen the work that goes on in health-related federal agencies, Trynosky says, it is clear to him that “the skills that UB is imparting in its JD/MPH students are exactly what is up and coming in this field. It is the perfect blend of legal background and policy background as well. Even if you are not directly working in health care, a lot of policy issues directly translate into defense or other issues.”
“The skills that UB is imparting in its JD/MPH students are exactly what is up and coming in this field.”

— Stephen K. Trynosky
Law School Report

Starting at the top

Dalai Lama speaks at first Law School conference on law and Buddhism

Led off by a very special guest – the 14th Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of the Tibetan Buddhists and head of Tibet’s government in exile – a major UB Law School conference on Sept. 20 and 21 explored the intricacies of “Law, Buddhism and Social Change.”

A two-hour appearance at the conference capped off a three-day visit to the University by the revered spiritual leader. The visit included an interfaith religious service and a major address before 30,000 people in UB Stadium.

But the Law School conference was the Dalai Lama’s most significant contribution to the school’s academic mission. Before an invited audience of about 165 in the Charles B. Sears Law Library, as well as hundreds more watching via a simultaneous broadcast and video link, the 71-year-old lama responded to questions on topics ranging from the role of Buddhist monks in Asian politics to his philosophy of jurisprudence.

The conference was organized by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy and by the Law School, under the direction of UB Law Professor Rebecca R. French. The study of Buddhism’s relation to legal systems is in its infancy; French pointed out that the UB conference was only the third to take place worldwide.

The room was hushed as the Dalai Lama entered and greeted 15 scholars and legal practitioners gathered in a circle. But the Nobel Prize-winning monk put attendees at ease, doffing his shoes and sitting cross-legged in a large leather chair. “Very comfortable,” he said with a wry laugh.

Many of his answers to questions circled back to the theme of his stadium address the day before: the need to base one’s actions on a sense of compassion for fellow human beings. “I think generally in all human activities,” he said, “whether or not the word ‘compassion’ is expressly mentioned, compassion seems to be taken for granted.” He used the example of a mother’s care – “nobody explicitly points out the role of compassion there, but it is taken for granted. The basis of a happy family, a happy society, is compassion. Not law.”

One questioner asked about penal law, and how it is possible to see the imposition of punishment as an exercise of compassion.

The motivation is important, the Dalai Lama said. One must impose punishment “not out of a feeling of revenge or hatred, but out of compassion.” He used the example of a lawbreaker on a downward path: “If, unless you give harsh treatment, that person will continue harmful activities that eventually is harmful for him or her, out of a sense of concern one has to take stern action to stop that. Two punishments, he said, may look similar, but they are ‘essentially different. One is an action of genuine compassion, one comes out of hatred.’

He discounted the role of religious belief as the basis for compassionate actions, saying, “I prefer that motivation not come from religion but from basic human qualities that we learn from our birth. Scientists are finding that more compassion brings more calm in our brain, brain function becomes smoother. Negative emotions actually eat our inner system; positive emotions strengthen our inner system. On the basis of scientific findings and also on the basis of our common experience, we should promote and pay more attention to the value of compassion in society through education.”

Continued on Page 15
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Responding to a question about a lawyer’s responsibility to balance his client’s and society’s needs, the Dalai Lama said:

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Religion and the law
A burgeoning academic field

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Professor Winnifred Fallsen Sullivan joins the faculty with the title Director of the Law and Religion Program. “As people begin to achieve some notion in this area, it seemed sensible to build on that strength,” says Dean Nils Olsen. “We have an extraordinary group of people like this. This is attractive to potential students, because it represents another interdisciplinary strength of the Law School.”

UB Law is ahead of the curve in this area among law schools, but universities generally are becoming more open to teaching and studying various faith traditions. A recent Time magazine article describes a hugely popular class at Columbia University Business School that is based on Buddhist principles and asks the question: “What do you want your legacy to be?”

In Buffalo, the emphasis is strictly academic. Among those making law and religion their primary field of study,

Distinguished Teaching Professor James Milles, director of the Charles R. Sears Law Library, has research interests that include law and social informatics, or the study of the social aspects of computerization, and the interrelationships between comparative religious perspectives and systems of legal analysis.

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Tibetan Buddhist law
Based on 14 centuries of Asian legal, religious and political culture

Western law
Based on English common law dating from the 12th century

- Takes into consideration implications for one’s karma in the next life
- Springs from spiritual precepts and with administration by religious figures – monks and lamas
- Considers each circumstance to be unique
- Largely aims toward consensus in jurisprudential decision-making

- Judgments and punishments entirely located in this life
- Secular in origin and practice
- Draws heavily on legal precedents
- Assumes that truth arises from adversarial system of advocacy

President John B. Simpson greets the Dalai Lama.

President John B. Simpson greets the Dalai Lama.

Day 2 of the conference featured panels on three subjects: “The Buddha as Lawgiver,” “Social Change and Buddhism” and “Social Change and Conscience, Self and Society.” Among the participants from UB Law were, besides French and Sullivan, Professors David Engel and George Hezel, as well as Buffalo’s attorney James L. Magavern ’59. Other participants came from the University of Chicago Divinity School, the University of California at Santa Barbara, the University of British Columbia, and visitors from Sri Lanka, England and India.

Presenters discussed such topics as the concept of karma and its effects on Asian legal systems, the role of monks as legal adjudicators, the complex canon of religious and ethical laws that form the basis for Buddhist legal systems, and the power of local communities to compel disputants to resolve their differences for the good of social harmony.

Continued from Page 13
Law School Report

Religion and the law

A burgeoning academic field

Partly by design and partly by happy accident, UB Law School finds itself with a significant concentration of faculty members in an emerging area of legal scholarship: law and religion.

At least five faculty members concentrate their work on areas with religious implications. Though the school has no formal structure for coordinating their work, it is being considered:

Professor Winnifred Fallers Sullivan joins the faculty with the title Director of the Law and Religion Program. “As people begin to achieve some notoriety in this area, it seemed sensible to build on that strength,” says Dean Nils Olsen. “We have an extraordinary group of people like this. This is attractive to potential students, because it represents another interdisciplinary strength of the Law School.”

UB Law is ahead of the curve in this area among law schools, but universities generally are becoming more open to teaching and studying various faith traditions. A recent Time magazine article describes a hugely popular class at Columbia University Business School that is based on Buddhist principles and asks the question: “What do you want your legacy to be?”

In Buffalo, the emphasis is strictly academic. Among those making law and religion their primary field of study:

- Professor Stephanie L. Phillips, an expert in African-American theology and the legal history of religion, and currently a seminary student herself at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.
- Professor Rebecca R. French, a pioneer in the field of legal systems based on English common law and religious and ethical laws that form the basis for Buddhist legal systems, the complex canon of religious and ethical laws that form the basis for Buddhist legal systems.
- Professor Elizabeth B. Mensch, who describes her research as exploring “the complexity of social, economic and intellectual interrelationships that have made theology a stubbornly central part of the history of American culture.”
- Professor David M. Engel, whose research deals with law and society in the United States and in other countries, particularly Thailand, where he has lived, worked, and taught over a period of nearly 35 years.

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A 2004 article by Professor Rebecca R. French in the Buffalo Law Review lamented: “There are no established classic texts in Buddhist law, no substantial literature, no body of students in M.A. or Ph.D. departments, no conferences, no chairs.”

Well, not at that point. But in March of 2005, French organized and hosted the first-ever international Law and Buddhism Conference. The week-long event was presented under the auspices of the Law and Buddhism Project at UB Law School, a Baldy Center working group.

French applied for and received a Rockefeller Foundation grant to pay expenses for the conference, including travel expenses for scholars and other attendees coming to the Bellagio, Italy, site from underdeveloped countries. (The Baldy Center underwrote travel expenses for other participants.) The foundation grant also covered accommodations, food, supplies and services at the Rockefeller Center in Bellagio, near Milan, a castle-like building on the shores of Lake Como.

French has been in the forefront of efforts to establish Buddhist law as an academic discipline, and says that it was thrilling to be among so many scholars dedicated to this emerging field. “What was most inspiring,” she said, “is that every person there was not only sure that the subject of law and Buddhism exists, but excited about it and ready to get going on it. It was nice to be among people who do not have to be convinced that law and Buddhism exists.”

French’s 1995 book The Golden Yoke was the first substantial treatment of this discipline. She said that even though thousands of books have been written about the legal influences of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Christianity, debate continues even now over whether there is an identifiable Buddhist influence on legal doctrine.

He expects that the conference, which attracted about 17 scholars, will result in several publications. It was organized around the topic of theft and how the crime is viewed in different traditions. “I said, ‘Let’s go super-simple and super-law,’” French said. “Theft is an issue in every legal and religious tradition everywhere.” And so, she said, participants presented on such diverse topics as stories of theft in a monastery, Buddhist scriptures, called sutras, dealing with theft in Burma; the concept of karma in considering punishment for thieves in Thailand; and, in French’s presentation, the historical law codes of the Dalai Lama in Tibet regarding theft. The academic disciplines of the presenters included law, religious studies and Asian studies.

Buddhism, French notes, is very different in different areas of the world, with three main traditions: Theravada, Mahayana and Vajrayana. This diversity complicates the intellectual inquiry into the religion’s effect on legal systems, but, she said, such anthropological study is “one of the fundamental aspects of legal training today. This is an investigation into the religious and ethical foundations of legal systems.”

Students who become skilled at such analysis, French said, have a “heightened ability to have a conversation about the ethical and moral underpinnings of our legal system.” She hopes eventually to establish a center for law and Buddhism at UB.

The Bellagio setting, French said, only heightened the excitement of the conference. The converted friary has been redone in the Italian modern style, with much marble and beautiful stone work. And as in all of Italy, she said, “the food was wonderful.”

Breaking new ground in Bellagio

Professor French’s Rockefeller grant helped pave the way for Buddhist law

Rebecca R. French, Roger and Karen Jones Faculty Scholar and Professor, is reunited with the Dalai Lama.
A 2004 article by Professor Rebecca R. French in the Buffalo Law Review lamented: “There are no established classic texts in Buddhist law, no substantial literature, no body of students in M.A. or Ph.D. departments, no conferences, no chairs…” Well, not at that point. But in March of 2005, French organized and hosted the first-ever international Law and Buddhism Conference. The week-long event was presented under the auspices of the Law and Buddhism Project at UB Law School, a Baldy Center working group.

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A new space for ideas
Extensive renovation project reinvigorates Baldy Center and conference facilities

A major renovation project – years in the making – is transforming the fifth floor of John Lord O’Brian Hall and creating bright new spaces for fellowship and scholarship. The $1 million-plus project has created two suites of rooms, building on space that encompassed an old faculty lounge, storage closets and now-unused areas of the Law Library. The result: a suite with a major conference area and a smaller seminar area; and an elegant new faculty lounge attached to a faculty reading room.

The renovation is a collaboration between the Law School and the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, which is headquartered on the fifth floor. “This project demonstrates the close working relationship between the Baldy Center and the Law School,” said Dean Nils Olsen, “and demonstrates our commitment to interdisciplinary study. We think it will be the best-equipped and most useful conference facility in the University.”

Olsen pointed out that the fifth-floor renovation is part of an ongoing effort to revitalize O’Brien Hall, an effort that has included major classroom refurbishment and construction of the first-floor working courtroom. The conference suite will accommodate large stand-up receptions and will be furnished with modular tables that can be configured for groups of any size. It includes a small working kitchen, accessible to caterers through an outside door, and an entrway that can serve as a refreshment area or a breakout room for small-group discussions.

Windows in the main conference room let in plenty of natural light. Glass doors open onto a little-known feature of the building: an open courtyard with plantings and other amenities. “Much of the planning evolved to take advantage of our ability to go out into the courtyard,” said Professor Lynn Mather, director of the Baldy Center. “It is a hidden treasure. Even in the winter, the amount of light in these rooms is tremendous.”

The conference room is fully wired, with PowerPoint projectors hidden in the ceiling, recording facilities and a drop-down screen for presentations.

“This project demonstrates the close working relationship between the Baldy Center and the Law School and demonstrates our commitment to interdisciplinary study.”

— Dean Nils Olsen

The smaller seminar room, which also opens onto the courtyard, holds a large conference table and can accommodate smaller meetings and some class sessions, Mather said. Also, she said, faculty working groups will be encouraged to use the room, such as reading groups and workshops at which faculty and outside readers offer critique and suggestions on completed book manuscripts. “I want to encourage cross-campus discussion,” Mather said.

The faculty lounge is furnished in the Arts and Crafts style, with hardwood floors and an Oriental carpet. Faculty mailboxes are located in the lounge, the expectation is that professors will drop by each morning for the mail and coffee, and stay for talk. Essentially it will be the “water cooler” of the Law School – “a very comfortable area to relax and share informal conversation,” Olsen said, encouraging the cross-pollination of ideas for which the Law School is well-known.

In the adjoining faculty reading room, the plan is to line the bookshelves with a copy of every book ever published by a UB Law faculty member, past and present. Current legal journals also will be supplied. “This gives the faculty an opportunity to have a quiet place to catch up on their reading,” Olsen said.

Also part of the project is new office space for the managing editor and student editors of the journal Law and Policy; published by the Baldy Center, and furnished offices for visiting scholars and for graduate students doing advanced work on legal topics. “I am particularly excited about the idea of having visiting scholars here,” Mather said. The office space can accommodate two scholars at any one time.

The entire renovation is done in shades of gold, green and persimmon, with decorative tile accents. The project was funded partly by income from the Baldy Center’s endowment, carefully set aside over a period of years, and largely through donations by UB Law alumni. In appreciation of a major gift by Thomas R. Bremer ’79, retired senior vice president and general counsel of U.S. Surgical Corp., the faculty lounge and reading room will be named in his honor.

A faculty advisory committee will help develop policies for use of the space, Mather said. The new space was inaugurated in December with the annual Baldy Center retreat for faculty.

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New program puts UB Law students into the heart of New York City’s financial district

It is a long way from the grassy expanse of UB’s North Campus to the concrete canyons of Manhattan. It can seem a long way, too, from the classroom to the boardrooms where multimillion-dollar deals are made.

Now the Law School is bringing academics and practice together in a program that has proved to be uniquely rewarding to students who are drawn to the high-stakes world of international finance transactions.

The University at Buffalo/Levin Graduate Institute New York City Program in International Finance and Law builds on the Law School’s strong program in international finance transactions, and takes advantage of the school’s long collaboration with UB’s...
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Continued on Page 22
This would be. And we were able to put what an opportunity to organize the program. "We were able to see what an opportunity to do something to help with the program."

"We are unique because we have different professor each week taught one business cultures and multiple regulatory systems, and it had three main parts. First, they were assigned to work on semesters, and we have always had a developed in them some expectations for what it would be like to go out and find employment, these expectations were in some cases hard to realize." The exposure to firms and individuals that the New York students enjoyed, he said, begins to address that gap.

UB Law Dean Nils Olsen. "This is an opportunity to expose the students to institutions and people that are found only in New York. We have a developed a very much academically inclined toward theory, we realize one of our primary goals is to help our students get jobs. To some degree we were training students and developing in them some expectations for what it would be like to go out and find employment, these expectations were in some cases hard to realize." The exposure to firms and individuals that the New York students enjoyed, he said, begins to address that gap.

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Law School Report

Continued from Page 20

Jacobs School of Management. In its first incarnation, 20 law and management students spent spring semester 2006 in New York City, studying with some of the top minds in the business. The program sprung from an invitation from the Neil D. Levin Graduate Institute of International Relations and Commerce, a new graduate institution operating as part of the State University of New York system. The UB program was the first for-credit SUNY graduate program offered with the assistance of this institute, which was established in memory of the director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

“We are unique because we have both a law school and a management school,” said UB Law Professor Amy Deen Westbrook, Associate Professor, and Philip Halpern, Professor.

We had faculty members and students interested in transactional work, so we were in a good position to go forward. “We also get an incredible response from alumni and friends of the school who were practitioners in New York City and who wanted to participate in the program by lecturing and giving presentations — people who work with the New York Mercantile Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange. A lot of people wanted to do something to help with the program.”

The 12-week program was designed to introduce students to the challenges of managing financial transactions and banking flows across borders, business cultures and multiple regulatory systems, and it had three main parts. First was a classroom component, in which a different professor each week taught one of the three main parts. These professors included both UB faculty and faculty of institutions such as St. John’s University, Texas A&M University, New York University and the Saoan Graduate School of Business in Thailand.

Second was a series of learning opportunities with practitioners and public officials who are working in international finance. Finally, students were assigned in five-member teams to work on semester-long projects with top New York City law and financial services firms, culminating in an end-of-semester presentation by each team.

“Important to us that it not be like a semester at sea,” Westbrook said. “It had to be things that were not basic and reflected the kind of work that somebody in an international finance practice in New York would be doing.”

The other trick was that it would not be a professor talking at them for four hours every morning. As soon as possible, we invited people who did it for a living to tell about it.

Besides Amy Westbrook, UB Law faculty who taught pieces of the program were: David A. Westbrook, John H. Schlegel, Thomas E. Headrick and Philip Halpern. Halpern spent the semester in New York to provide continuity for the students and overall administration of the program, and expects to do so again when the program is next offered in spring 2007. Also serving on the planning committee for the program was Professor Thomas F. Disare.

The team projects took place in conjunction with some of the top law firms and financial institutions in this area of practice. They included:

• An effort to find private companies in China that are ripe for IPO and investment banking services, with CLSA, a banking operation based in Hong Kong.
• An analysis of the leveraged buyout of Toys R Us by a private equity consortium, with the law firm Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson.
• A study of the issue of ‘ unbundling’ of client commissions by broker/dealers, with financial services firm IBS.
• An analysis of PepsiCo’s business model and its decision to spin off its restaurant chains, and discussion of its strategic moving forward, with Credit Suisse.
• An investigation of trade financing opportunities in Ukraine, with M&T Bank.

The team projects were to be something that their young associates would do, to help the students acquire a skill set they would not have otherwise — something that was of use to them,” Westbrook said. “Some of them were hard. At the end of the semester, they gave their presentation to the alumni who teach as adjunct faculty in their area of particular expertise. These UB Law alumni taught in the spring 2006 program:

• Gerald Gerza, executive director of UB’s Corp. & Regulatory Control Group.
• Jeffrey P. Czandall ’82, partner in Shearman & Sterling.
• Gary Alan DeWaal ’80, senior executive vice president and general counsel for FINMAT Group.
• David Fransauskas ’78, partner in Williams and Jensen.
• Erik Lindauer ’81, partner in Sullivan and Cromwell.
• Robert C. Schwenkfel’ 82, partner in Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson.
• George M. Williams Jr. ’78, partner in Leboeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae.

In addition, a Thursday night lecture series was hosted by Weil, Gotshal & Manges, including lectures by Robert Schwenkle’ 82 and by Jeffrey Tannenbaum ’76, a partner at the host firm.

One student that is being recognized is Jeffery MacRae. MacRae said the UB program helped him “amazingly.” He learned a lot about financing in a New York City environment, about professionalism. This was not a program where you showed up in jeans and slouched in your chair.”

“This program enables us to better prepare the students to compete for jobs,” said Halpern, who in addition to his supervisory role taught for a week on private equity transactions. “Second, it better prepares us to be where the jobs are. There is feedback as to where the jobs are — and where the jobs are tends to be where the action is, in terms of financial markets and deals.”

“For a long time, we in the finance transactions concentration have been very interested in how theory really works out in practice. Although we are very much academically inclined toward theory, we realize one of our primary goals is to help our students get jobs.” To some degree, we were training students and developing in them some expectations as to what it takes to get out and find employment, these expectations were in some cases hard to realize.” The exposure to firms and individuals that the New York students enjoyed, he said, begins to address that gap.

UB Law Dean Nils Olsen: “This is an opportunity to expose the students to innovations and people that are found only in New York. We have a developed and innovative concentration in financial transactions, and we have always had a close collaboration with the management school. The goal is for our students to become familiar with each other’s culture so they can work collaboratively in the future. The students, the faculty and the alumni have all been thrilled about this.

Alumni at the center

A vital segment of the UB Law program in New York is the participation of alumni who teach as adjunct faculty in their area of particular expertise. These UB Law alumni taught in the spring 2006 program:

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Olsen says the success of the program also opens possibilities for similar efforts in future programs involving international environmental law and international human rights.

“The students became aculturated,” said Halpern, who said that UB and its alumni who teach regulation of financial markets and securities. “Every day they were exposed not just to teachers but also to practitioners. They were all day in the world of finance, and they began to see that world differently. There are things that are very difficult to teach in the abstract, and teaching here in Buffalo necessarily more abstract. For people without a background or experience in financial markets, it is almost impossible to get across how markets actually operate, if the students are simply in a pure classroom setting.”

All involved agreed the importance of alumni participation in the program. “We are always interested in input from the private practice world. What topics students should learn about and what we could teach them about New York practice,” said Amy Westbrook. “The program can be expected to develop and to continue developing.”
The final push
Supporting students from admission to the bar exam—and beyond

UB Law School is bolstering its efforts to support students playing the endgame of the Law School experience—the post-graduation challenge of passing a state bar exam. The school is offering courses for second- and third-year students focusing on the analytical and writing skills that translate into bar exam success, as well as personalized coaching for those having trouble with the challenging two-day exam.

At the forefront of this effort is an alumna, Barbara A. Sherk ’02, who recently was appointed to the UB Law faculty as director of academic support. The Law School’s support strategy seems to be working. The pass rate for UB Law students taking the New York State bar exam is better than the state average, and in recent years has been running around 80 percent. Results from the July 2006 exam show that UB Law’s pass rate for first-time takers has jumped to 84 percent. When the results from bar exams of other states are factored in, the rate is over 87 percent.

“The Law School is extremely interested in following through with its grads and offering them this kind of support,” Sherk said. “Students make a big investment in money and time, and we want people to be successful at whatever bar exam they take.

“We feel that we owe our grads and offering them this kind of support,” Sherk said. “Students make a big investment in money and time, and we want people to be successful at whatever bar exam they take.

“Whether it is substantive advice on how they should write better, or sometimes just a pep talk. Those kinds of things are very helpful, because the bar exam is in many instances a mind game. You have to study, but you also have to be able to produce. You have to stay focused for a few months, and that is not easy to do.”

But, of course, some graduates are not successful on the first try. At that point the school’s involvement takes the form of individual support. Sherk meets with them on request as they study for another attempt at the exam, marking up their practice essays and talking over strategies for the test. “The problems vary by individual,” Sherk said. “They do not want to sit in a class with 10 other people who failed, too. They seem to thrive better with individual attention.”

She and Vice Dean Melinda Saran have traveled to offer that support with 10 other people who failed, too. “They do not want to sit in a class with 10 other people who failed, too. They seem to thrive better with individual attention.”

She and Vice Dean Melinda Saran also have traveled to offer that support to grads in New York City, through the UB Law Alumni Association chapter there, as well as in Buffalo.

Sherk’s work in academic support is an outgrowth of her master’s degree work in how best to help people pass professional licensing exams. Applying the tenets of educational theory to the particular demands of the bar exam, she was able to design coursework and coaching strategies that improve test-takers’ critical thinking abilities. “There is a science to multiple-choice examinations,” she said. “I expanded that to the writing portion of the bar exam and to develop the kinds of approaches that can be successful.”

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“Everything that we owe our grads is to support them in any way we can,” she said. “Whether it is substantive advice on how they should write better, or sometimes it is more like a pep talk. They have to be able to produce. You have to stay focused for a few months, and that is not easy to do.”

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Law School Report

Home at last

Newly named, the Regional Institute finds fertile ground in the Law School

One of the University at Buffalo’s showcase services to the community—providing economic and demographic information and sophisticated research to policymakers throughout Western New York—is building on its success through a new collaboration with UB Law School.

The Law School has always had substantial involvement in the Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth, newly named the Regional Institute. Former Dean Barry B. Boyer, for example, co-directed the institute’s State of the Region Project to gauge the region’s performance in 11 key areas, and several Law School faculty members have contributed their expertise and research to other institute projects.

Now the institute is formally affiliated with the Law School, affording new opportunities for collaboration and for bringing the University’s academic and policy expertise to bear on some of Western New York’s most intractable quality-of-life challenges.

The new alignment only makes sense, said Dr. Kathryn A. Foster, director of the institute, which was founded in 1997. “We have always had one foot in academics and one foot in policy-making,” she says. “When I came on as director in September 2005, I wanted the institute to have an academic setting that matched our academic goals. We looked at a number of organizational options for how to do that, and decided to leverage the Law School’s expertise, which made good sense.”

Given the Law School’s size and strength, its long history of interdisciplinary studies, and the existence of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy and the Jaquez Center for State and Local Democracy, the Law School fits well with the mission of the institute, which is to leverage the resources of the University to address key governance and quality-of-life issues in the Buffalo Niagara region.

“My role is to leverage the resources and the expertise of the Law School’s faculty and students,” said Foster. “The Law School has a very strong reputation and a strong track record in policy, especially with its clinical program. Law is very much a part of governance. There seemed to be a number of good opportunities at UB for the Regional Institute’s purposes.”

“The Institute is designed to provide policy support to local governments in the region, and there are many scholarship opportunities in that area. This is an enormous addition to our academic mission.”

— Dean Nils Olsen

“A satellite view of the region.

Continued on Page 29

Oishei Foundation grant supports the Regional Knowledge Network

To help ensure that Buffalo Niagara has ready access to reliable information on critical regional issues, the John R. Oishei Foundation has awarded the University at Buffalo’s Regional Institute $335,371 to develop phase two of the recently launched Regional Knowledge Network.

Online at http://rkn.buffalo.edu, the Regional Knowledge Network (RKN) is a powerful new resource for the bi-national Buffalo Niagara region featuring data, maps, lists and resources for 10 regionally critical topic areas, and dynamic user-driven tools for accessing such information. The institute launched the first phase of RKN in March 2006.

As a source of reliable information on the bimontional region encompassing the eight counties of Western New York and the Niagara Peninsula of Southern Ontario, RKN improves regional understanding and provides capacity for research and smart decision-making in the region. The site serves a diverse audience of government officials, regional leaders, community activists, researchers, students and citizens.

“This grant will allow the institute to take the Regional Knowledge Network to an entirely new level of sophistication,” said Kathryn A. Foster, director of the institute.

“The infusion of resources from the John R. Oishei Foundation enables RKN to become an extremely practical and valuable first-stop shop for regional information.”

The John R. Oishei Foundation’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for Buffalo-area residents by supporting education, health and other regional needs.

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The John R. Oishei Foundation’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for Buffalo-area residents by supporting education, health care, public service, economic development, arts, science and recreation. The foundation was established in 1940 by John R. Oishei, founder of Trico Products Corp.

— By Rachel M. Teaman
The rules of democracy

A long-established UB Law research center is shifting focus with the advent of a new director, bringing faculty and student energies to investigate the ways that laws and legal institutions – particularly American politics – structure American politics.

Gardner brings with him a longtime research interest in law and democracy, specifically “subnational democracy” – governance on the state and local levels. “Most of where democracy actually occurs is at those levels,” he said. “And there has been very little research into this area.”

Besides Gardner, the Jaeckle Center, which was founded in 1980, comprises UB Law faculty members William R. Greiner, James L. Magavern ’59, Lynn Greiner, James L. Magavern ’59, Lynn Mathee and John Henry Schlegel. They are joined by UB faculty in urban planning, political science, English and American culture, as well as two Jaeckle Fellows. Affiliated faculty are teaching in the areas of state and local government law, economic development, county government and state constitutional law.

As with all structures that encourage the exchange of ideas, part of the mission of the center is to facilitate cross-pollination. “If you can create a framework within which like-minded people can get together and compare notes, that is the seed of a project,” Gardner said. A new Web site also helps explain and promote the center’s mission.

The principal ongoing project at the center is to compile a database of state constitutions – both current and historical – in order that researchers can look at the ways those constitutions have specified how state legislatures are elected. For example, Gardner said, many constitutions defined election districts county by county, but legislatures also have drawn election districts along political lines. “People are very suspicious that politicians are drawing districts to stack the deck,” he said.

State constitutions have a long and messy history, beginning with the constitution that governed Massachusetts even before the Founding Fathers hammered out the U.S. Constitution. “In 1776, there was very little experience with this,” Gardner said. “Nobody wanted a monarchy, but what would replace it was mostly a matter of speculation, nobody knew what would work.” The writers of state constitutions, he said, sometimes patterned them after the U.S. Constitution, sometimes struck out on their own. As a result, state constitutions differ greatly from each other and also from the federal document.

Gardner is also working on two papers about gerrymandering, the controversial practice of manipulating the boundaries of election districts for electoral advantage. In states where districts have been drawn in this way, a plausible theory, he said, is that it contributes to the polarization of political debate. In non-competitive districts, the theory goes, the public servant has little incentive to vote further from the political center – and thus further away from those of the opposing party.

A new project will look at the subjects state legislation deals with, asking the question: How much of this legislation deals with local matters, and how much with state matters? The hypothesis, Gardner said, is that the way state constitutions are written will influence on which level lawmakers spend most of their energies.

Also in the preliminary stages is planning for a conference, to be held at UB Law, on the topic of how local legislatures work – the nitty-gritty of democracy as it is practiced in towns, villages and county legislatures. “A lot of really important law gets made on that level,” Gardner said. “This conference would be the first sustained attention it gets.”

Accomplishments of the Jaeckle Center include:

- Created a certificate program in State and Local Government offering courses designed to prepare students to practice in that area
- Established externships for students who work directly with legislators and other government officials on public issues
- Saved millions of dollars in Medicaid money by working with county governments
- Provided the expertise to obtain more than $160 million in external financing to fund the construction and manage affordable housing in Western New York
- Helped a variety of governmental entities enforce regulations and resolve problems involving waste disposal, and provided guidelines in reclaiming old industrial sites and putting them to productive use
- Worked with the New York State Assembly to study proposed changes in financing public education in elementary and secondary schools
- Played an important role in an ambitious, university-wide project that studied regional governance issues and presented an extensive, detailed proposal to save a significant amount of money

Law School Report

Reinvigorated Jaeckle Center studies the laws behind state and local politics

New York State legislature in session.

The Regional Institute

Continued from Page 26

Robert S. Berger and Eileen M. Meldinger, and such subjects and economic integration between Western New York and Southern Ontario.

“The dean and the Law School have given us immense support and encouragement to run this institute,” Foster said. Foster invites Law School alumni who are interested in the institute’s programs or regional initiatives to call her or Friedman “and talk about what is on their mind.” The institute’s Web site, www.regional-institute.buffalo.edu, has complete information about its work.
The rules of democracy

Law School Report

Reinvigorated Jaeckle Center studies the laws behind state and local politics

A long-established UB Law research center is shifting focus with the advent of a new director, bringing faculty and student energies to investigate the ways that laws and legal institutions – particularly state constitutions – structure American politics at the state and local levels.

James A. Gardner, who is the Law School’s Joseph W. Belluck and Laura L. Aswad Professor of Civil Justice, became director of the Edwin F. Jaeckle Center for State and Local Democracy in mid-2005. “We are trying to revive the center’s original mission,” he said, “and to serve as a resource for those who are working in this area.”

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The Regional Institute

Continued from Page 26

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“Clearly the Law School has a national reputation for its work in law and policy,” says Dr. Kathryn Bryk Friedman ’98, deputy director of the institute. She is a Law School alumna who also holds a doctorate in political science from UB, and teaches a bridge course in immigration law at the Law School.

Friedman is working on an institute project that perhaps is emblematic of how focused academic attention can make for better governance. Planned is Alternatives to Incarceration, a major effort to alleviate chronic overcrowding at the Erie County Holding Center. The other option is a new county jail – at a cost of $100 million of the taxpayers’ money.

Working with the county and a holding center task force, the institute will examine practices of the criminal justice system from the point of arrest onward. “We want to look at decision points in the system,” Friedman said, “and make some suggestions as to where they could make other choices along the way.”

For example, she said, a substantial segment of the Holding Center population has mental health issues and perhaps could be better served by treatment, not jail. Similarly, many indigent prisoners spend days in their cells awaiting court-assigned counsel, one option being considered to ease that situation is establishment of an alternatives to incarceration clinic, in which law students would represent indigent defendants at bail hearings.

Also, Friedman says, the institute will create a prototype of an inmate management database in hopes that police, courts and Holding Center personnel can make better decisions given access to a single source of good information about each case.

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A partner in the Buffalo law firm Hodgson Russ, Garry M. Graber ’78 practices bankruptcy, corporate and financial restructuring, commercial and corporate litigation, and general business law. A past president of the Law Alumni Association and Bar Association of Erie County, Graber has taught bankruptcy at UB Law School since 1995 and has lectured extensively on U.S. and cross-border bankruptcy and commercial law topics.

Morgan G. Graham is managing partner of Phillips Lytle in Buffalo, and practices environmental law. His focus includes prosecution and defense of Superfund cost recovery actions, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act proceedings, Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act litigation, and facility compliance. He is a board member of the Buffalo Therapeutic Riding Center and the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society.

With an engineering background, Paul J. Korniczky ’96 practices intellectual property law with the Chicago law firm Winston & Strawn. He has extensive experience in patent infringement litigation and has been heavily involved in foreign patent oppositions and litigation in the United Kingdom, West Germany, Japan and France.

A prominent matrimonial and business attorney, Allan D. Mantel ’76 is a partner in the New York City firm Stein Riso Mantel. Mantel has represented many prominent and high-net-worth clients in their divorce, custody and estate matters, and continues to serve as general counsel to many of his clients’ successful business enterprises. He is president of the New York chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

Jeffery D. Williams ’90 works at Pfizer Inc. in New York City as deputy chief compliance officer and senior corporate counsel in the Corporate Compliance Group. He joined the firm in 2001 and was asked to join the Corporate Compliance Group in 2004. At UB Law, he was editor in chief of the Buffalo Law Review.

Margaret W. Wong ’76 is managing partner of Margaret W. Wong & Associates in Cleveland, with additional offices in Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit. Her firm is known nationally and internationally for its practice in immigration and nationality law. A board member of numerous civic organizations, she has won many local and national awards.
New to the DAC

Dean’s board has grown with the addition of 15 new members

The Dean’s Advisory Council at UB Law School has changed substantially this fall with the addition of 15 distinguished new members to replace those whose terms have expired. Here is a quick look at the new voices who will help advise the dean on ways to shape the Law School’s future.

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Trent E. Ross ’92 has served since 1995 as an assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Western District of New York. She has investigated and prosecuted crimes including financial fraud, civil rights violations, mail fraud, health care fraud and money laundering, bank robberies and kidnaping. Ross also has taught as an adjunct professor at several Western New York colleges and universities, including UB Law School.

Barbara L. Schifeling ’84 is a partner in the Buffalo law firm Damon & Morey, practicing medical malpractice defense and environmental coverage litigation. She serves as a member of both the Management and Client Development Committees and is co-chair of the firm’s Health Care Practice Group. Schifeling has written many articles and is a contributor to “PEPTalk,” the firm’s newsletter on private equity and mergers and acquisitions. She is an editor and contributor to “PEFTalk,” the firm’s newsletter on private equity and mergers and acquisitions. She is also an attorney adviser and strategist to the world’s largest communications and media conglomerates, including businesses in media, sports, entertainment and technology. She structures, negotiates and finalizes multi-party, cross-border joint venture arrangements among major international corporations. He is a practice group director for the firm’s tax practice.

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The D.C. connection

Washington alumni help our law students

An at homegrown effort to build UB Law School’s presence in Washington, D.C., with its thriving legal community and private practice and government service, is growing as alumni meet to plan and network.

The Washington, D.C., Leadership Board comprises a core group of UB Law alumni. In concert with Deborah J. Scott, vice dean for development, and James R. Newton, associate dean for national outreach and strategic planning, the board is working to build a network of contacts in the D.C. legal community, to grow awareness among the law students as a place to practice, and create a mentoring program for students interested in law firm, corporate or government agency placements.

If we can make any difference, it is to give folks a sense of the breadth and spectrum of different opportunities down here in D.C. that they might not otherwise have in other areas,” said Joseph A. Kresse ’95, an associate practicing pharmaceutical litigation at the Washington law firm Covington & Burling. “Also,” he said, “if students want to work for a specific agency, maybe we can find some contacts who can give them a little better sense of what it is like to do that kind of work.”

Kresse and Judith B. Ittig ’71, a partner in the construction law firm Ittig & Ittig, have been principals in organizing the Leadership Board, which met most recently in early November. So far, said Ittig, the group is composed entirely of alumni in private practice. “We talked about identifying people who work in government or the nonprofit sector, or in private corporations other than a private law practice, so we can broaden out the range of opportunities we are able to help students connect with,” Ittig said.

“Our initial efforts attracted a core group of people who then extended themselves to meet other alumni in the D.C. area,” she said. “We want to extend further into areas of service to the Law School and its development efforts, and in service to alumni in the area, too.”

Much of the recent meeting, Kresse and Ittig said, revolved around how they might help UB Law students identify legal positions in Washington, including summer internships and clerkships, and how to help students connect with those with the authority to hire them. “We talked about ways we could help the law students with interviewing,” Ittig said.

“We were thinking about the usual structured approach to applying for a position and how we could help—not only with our own direct contacts, but with other things we can advise students about, such as how best to present themselves and what they should be doing to prepare for the various opportunities that might come up,” Kresse said.

Spokesmen for the board are very familiar with the Law School, raising the school’s profile in a vibrant market for recent law grads, said Ittig. “That is true also in Ohio, Pennsylvania, even in Toronto. I do not think it is as true down here, because even though we have had a number of graduates of extraordinary distinction down here, it has been an individual accomplishment, not necessarily connected with their association with the Law School.”

“We are now looking at sponsoring conferences, seminars and programs to reach out to the legal community, so that when a student comes to Washington, their qualifications are apparent not just on an individual basis but because they are coming from a school that is known to have a great record. “There is an awful lot that the school has been doing, and UB Law has many outstanding professors with high public profiles. So the first job is informational—to tell people who have not been connected with the Law School what is going on there.”

Also, said Ittig, who served on the Dean’s Advisory Council for many years and chaired that group for four years, the Washington, D.C., Leadership Board hopes to generate and test some ideas that might work just as well in other cities where there is a significant presence of UB Law alumni.

“We are hoping to try out some things that the DAC, as a national group, cannot do too well at a national level, but can be done at a regional level,” she said. “We are hoping to invent and try out a number of ideas that might work well in other cities, so they can be replicated elsewhere.”

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— Joseph A. Kresse ’95

Judith B. Ittig ’71

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“Law alumni. In concert with Deborah J. Board comprises a core group of UB meet to plan and network. In Washington, D.C., with its thriving legal community in private practice and government service, is growing as alumni are helping our law students,” said Joseph A. Kresse ’95, an associate practicing pharmacutical litigation at the Washington law firm Covington & Burling. “Also,” he said, “if students want to work for a specific agency, maybe we can find some contacts who can give them a little better sense of what it is like to do that kind of work.”

Kresse and Judith B. Ittig ’71, a partner in the construction law firm Ittig & Ittig, have been principals in organizing the Leadership Board, which met most recently in early November. So far, said Ittig, the group is composed entirely of alumni in private practice. “We talked about identifying people we know who work in government or the non-profit sector, or in private corporations other than a private law practice, so we can broaden out the range of opportunities we are able to help students connect with,” Ittig said.

“Our initial efforts attracted a core group of people who then extended themselves to meet other alumni in the D.C. area,” she said. “We want to expand further into areas of service to the Law School and its development efforts, and in service to alumni in the area, too.”

Much of the recent meeting, Kresse and Ittig said, revolved around how they might help UB Law students identify legal positions in Washington, including summer internships and clerkships, and how to help students connect with those with the authority to hire them. “We talked about ways we could help the law students with entries to the hiring committees and to the people who are doing most of the interviewing,” Ittig said.

“We were thinking about the usual structured approach to applying for a position and how we could help — not only with our own direct contacts, but with other things we can advise students about, such as how best to present themselves and what they should be doing to prepare for the various opportunities that might come up,”

Added Kresse: “We are still in the process of developing a group broad enough and wide enough so we can provide a worthwhile resource. It is a vibrant market for recent law grads, and a lot of recent grads from law schools throughout the country are finding work here.”

Besides introducing students to the Washington legal community, the board also wants to make that community more aware of UB Law School, raising the school’s profile in a legal market 460 miles from Amherst. “In places in New York State, people are very familiar with the Law School,” Ittig said. “That is true also in Ohio, Pennsylvania, even in Toronto. I do not think it is as true down here, because even though we have had a number of graduates of extraordinary distinction down here, it has been an individual accomplishment, not necessarily connected with their association with the Law School. “We are now looking at sponsoring conferences, seminars and programs to reach out to the legal community, so that when a student comes to Washington, they can make a big impression, not just on an individual basis but because they are coming from a school that is known to have a great record.”

“There is an awful lot that the school has been doing, and UB Law has many outstanding professors with high public profiles. So the first job is informational — to tell people who have not been connected with the Law School what is going on there.”

Also, said Ittig, who served on the Dean’s Advisory Council for many years and chaired that group for four years, the Washington, D.C., Leadership Board hopes to generate and test some ideas that might work just as well in other cities where there is a significant presence of UB Law alumni.

“We are hoping to try out some things that the DAC, as a national group, cannot do too well at a national level, but can be done at a regional level,” she said. “We are hoping to invent and try out a number of ideas that might work well in other cities, so they can be replicated elsewhere.”

— Joseph A. Kresse ’95

“If we can make any difference, it is to give folks a sense of the breadth and spectrum of different opportunities down here in D.C. that they might not otherwise have in other areas,” said Joseph A. Kresse ’95, an associate practicing pharmacutical litigation at the Washington law firm Covington & Burling. “Also,” he said, “if students want to work for a specific agency, maybe we can find some contacts who can give them a little better sense of what it is like to do that kind of work.”
Legalizing torture?

The difficult and politically explosive issue of torture took center stage for the 12th annual Baldy Center Retreat, an annual celebration of the work of UB Law School’s interdisciplinary studies center.

Continuing a tradition of seeking out the best in challenging new scholarship, the center invited as its keynote speaker Richard L. Abel of UCLA Law School. Currently on sabbatical in New York City, working in the Center for Constitutional Rights, Abel was a founder of the journal Law & Policy, published by the Baldy Center. At UCLA, he also is faculty coordinator for the Public Interest Law Program.

Abel’s address, titled “Legalizing Torture,” sprang from his 58-page academic paper of the same name, a paper that began: “The Bush administration’s re-action to 9/11 has profoundly compromised America’s fidelity to the core of political liberalism – the rule of law.

The president and his Cabinet and lawyers have embraced torture, kid-napping and indefinite detention with-out the right to a trial, counsel or to confront accusers.”

Abel began his remarks with a quote from poet W.H. Auden: “The Ogre does what ogres can. Deeds quite impossible for Man. But one prize is beyond his reach, The Ogre cannot master Speech.”

The president’s address to the nation from poet W.H. Auden: “Under what circumstances, in what ways, and to what extent is the law capable of modifying the power of the state?”

Abel spoke of his experiences in South Africa, where he visited five times in five years in order to look at the ways lawyers and judges participat-ed in governing during the first years following the fall of the apartheid regime.

“There was no written constitution or bill of rights. There was no judicial review. There were almost no black attorneys or advocates,” he said. “Nevertheless, law did make a difference.”

In the United States, he said, “it would seem as though law would be more and more capable of resisting tyranny in our country.” But, he said, the power of the law has been temp-ered by “attempts by the Bush admin-istration to redefine the legality of a wide variety of practices” in the years since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

For example, Abel said, a series of memos in the executive branch “de-clared that al-Qaeda and the Taliban were outside of judicial intervention.” Similarly, the claim was made that the American-run detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is outside the United States and therefore not subject to U.S. law.

The practice of detention, Abel said, has been particularly problematic, with allegations of the use of torture against detainees at Guantanamo, in Afghanistan and at the Baghdad prison and inadequately trained and probably pretty pathological people, engaging behavior that was probably beyond what was authorized.”

At Guantanamo, Abel said, U.S. lawyers face enormous obstacles if they seek to provide representation to de-tainees. There is, for example, “the enormous difficulty of gaining the trust of detainees and their families.” Guards at the facility, he said, will approach a detainee after a lawyer visits and aver that the lawyer was Jewish – “and if word gets out that you, a Muslim, are being represented by a Jew, nobody will believe you.”

Some detainees, Abel said, have told their lawyers that “every time you come down here, when you leave we are punished.” Adding a further obstacle, he said, detainees have asked for ac-cess to an Arabic-English dictionary so they can read legal papers – but the re-quest has been denied. “The reason-ing,” he said, “is that, if their English im-proves, that is a security risk, because they will be able to understand more of what their guards are saying.”

Following Abel’s remarks, UB Law Professor Makau W. Mutua and Associ-ate Professor Brenda L. Moore of UB’s Department of Sociology offered re-spondent comments.
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The retreat, held Dec. 14 at the Saturn Club in Buffalo, gathered nine Baldy Working Groups for planning purposes. Baldy Center Director Lynn Mather recognized such significant initiatives as the Arts Management Program, the Regional Institute, the Jaeckle Center for State and Local Democracy; and the Center for Urban Studies and its H.B.D Community Outreach Partnership Center.

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**Policing the aliens**

**Crimmigration** conference looks at criminal treatment of immigrants

The war on drugs. The war on terror. As governments bring law enforcement resources to bear on these threats to public security, criminal control has increasingly come to target immigrants to the United States, some observers say.

“Crimmigration” is the catchall term for the trend in immigration law and policy reforms that adopt a criminally punitive approach to managing non-citizens. These reforms include deeming certain classes of removable aliens, local police being called on to enforce federal immigration laws, expedited removal of undocumented workers, and the deportation of so-called “criminal” aliens.

An ambitious conference on April 28 and 29, “Merging Immigration and Criminal Law,” brought a wide variety of scholars and clinicians to O’Brian Hall to discuss aspects of this legal trend. Organized by UB Law Professor Joanne Oreskovic, whose research centers on the development of international adoption as a social and legal institution, the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy sponsored the conference.

Stephen Legumsky of Washington University in St. Louis, author of the standard textbook Immigration and Refugee Law and Policy, described how society’s local authorities criminally and deportees have become “increasingly negative and intertwined.” Legumsky noted “uncanny similarities between deportation and criminal law,” and said enforcement of immigration laws has moved from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, its traditional home, to the Department of Homeland Security as fears over foreigners born terrorists proliferate.

Randall Shelden, an expert in criminal justice at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, gave a historical perspective by discussing Executive Order 9066 — the World War II-era move to intern Japanese-Americans. “Throughout American history,” he said, “one of the objects of the criminal justice system is social control — securing or maintaining or perpetuating the status quo, and reinforcing racial and class inequalities.”

For example, he said, drug laws have tended to assign the harshest penalties for the use of drugs “used mostly by immigrants and those in the lower classes.” Shelden also described a “symbiotic relationship among the prison system, courtroom interests and political and ethnic anarchy” — what he called the prison-industrial complex.

Michael Welch, sociologist at Rutgers University, argued that “it is unfair to use deportation proceedings to achieve aims of crime control, because deportation lacks significant constitutional protections.”

But, he said, such proceedings are “useful for government authorities because they bypass constitutional guarantees that exist under criminal law.”

Jonathan Simon of Boalt Hall Law School at the University of California at Berkeley, appearing by video link, gave a historical tour of the 20th century and told how public policy toward illegal immigrants shifted from a rehabilitation or correctional model to a crime-control model. “Since the 1950s,” he said, “the war on crime has reshaped the mentality of governance across the board.” Beginning in the mid-1990s, he said, “criminal alien statutes” were beefed up, local authorities criminally deporting aliens was replaced by a more rigid national policy, and prisons increasingly have been used as “a tool of incapacitation or removal.”

“The war on terror has been little more than a continuation of the war on crime,” he said, “the government wanted to treat it as a crime problem without any law getting in the way.”

Juliet Stumpf of Lewis & Clark Law School noted that immigration law enforcement agencies have come to look like a “lot like criminal law enforcement agencies,” with the power to make arrests and execute warrants. “There is still an enormous gap between constitutional law as it relates to immigrants and the constitutional rights of criminal defendants,” she said. “The Fifth and Sixth amendments really do not apply in the immigration context.”

As well, she said, “race and national origin are treated quite differently in the two areas. In the criminal justice context, they can be a factor in, for example, when an immigration agent can stop somebody. That is something that is explicitly not permitted in criminal proceedings.”

Huyen Pham of the University of Missouri School of Law discussed the role of local governments in enforcing immigration laws. She noted that Congress has passed laws that prohibit local governments from telling their employees to withhold information about their immigration status, in effect saying to these governments, “You cannot have a law that prevents your employees from cooperating with us.” Nearly 50 cities and towns have tried to limit this cooperation, she said. “I call these local laws non-cooperation laws, because their effect is to limit the authority of local police, hospital workers and teachers to cooperate with law enforcement. The

foreground, Maarthe van der Woude, Leiden University School of Law.

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Local governments, she said, resist cooperating with federal immigration authorities because that works against such valuable tools as community policing — “I cannot do this if my community thinks I’m going to report them to the INS.” There is also concern, she said, that immigrants that do not go to hospitals when they have medical problems, and will keep their children out of school out of concern they will be deported.

UB Law Adjunct Professor Joanne Macri, who has studied conditions in New York State prison, said, “I believe in the very near future we will see a grand expansion of immigration detention facilities.” A subsidiary of the Haliburton Corp., for example, has won a federal contract to build a prison that will accommodate up to 40,000 illegal aliens by 2008.

She noted that detention of aliens is administrative, not judicial, in nature. “It is not punishment, it is not sentencing. The problem I have is with an individual who asks, ‘When am I getting out of here and out of here really fast,’ i.e. through deportation. UB Law School’s Johanna Oreskovic, spoke at length about the trafficking in children for adoption.

“International adoption agencies are essentially businesses, and huge amounts of money are transferred, very little of which goes to the sending country, very little of which goes to benefit children re-

uming behind. This creates a black market situation in which large profits are being made by intermediaries.”

The existence of such a market, she said, “is indicative of a much broader failure to adopt regulations on the federal level to control these adoptions. There is no federal crime for trafficking in children for purposes of adoption.”

The conference featured timely and provocative discussions on the criminalization of immigration, from “banning and investigating the legal trend of crimigration,” Miller and her colleagues have pinpointed a crucial new area of legal scholarship and advocacy,” commented Baldy director Lynn Mather.
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Reframing an Old Debate
Provider’s son delivers a personal take on the abortion controversy

Eyal Press, contributing writer for The Nation, spoke at the Law School.

Eyal Press, a contributing writer for The Nation and a widely published magazine writer. He was in O’Brian Hall to share some of the ideas in his new book Absolute Convictions: My Father, a City, and the Conflict That Divided America.

Eyal Press’ appearance was the keynote presentation in a workshop titled “The Abortion Controversy in Context: Protest and Policy.” As can happen in Western New York, the workshop fell victim to a surprise October storm that dumped 22 inches of wet snow on the area, paralyzing the region and forcing cancellation of the balance of the event. But those in attendance heard Press, the son of Buffalo gynecologist and abortion provider Dr. Shalom Press, deliver a carefully thought-out analysis of the seemingly intractable divide between pro-choice and pro-life adherents.

“All too often in the past, in Buffalo as throughout the country, abortion is not a subject that people have come together to discuss and debate,” he said. “The preferred modes of expression have been shouting and screaming, intimidation, death threats, pickets, blockades, and when those methods have failed to achieve their desired ends, arson, bombings, and shootings like the sniper attack that took place in this area eight years ago.”

He was referring to vociferous pro-life demonstrations in Western New York in the 1980s and 90s, and the 1998 murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian, an abortion provider in Buffalo. That murder was immediately followed by death threats against Dr. Press, which left his family terrified but which the doctor took in stride.

In his address, Eyal Press took stock of the abortion debate today, at a time when, he said, the addition of John Roberts and Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court has many believing that Roe v. Wade will be overturned. “Opponents of abortion have seized the momentum,” he said, with the rise of the politically powerful religious right, an alliance between economic and social conservatives, a conservative backlash against feminism, and the recent effectiveness of “campaigns like the drive to ban partial-birth abortion.”

Press recounted some of the history that led to the 1973 Roe decision, and mixed over the effects of that Supreme Court ruling on the abortion controversy. “We can say that Roe dramatically altered the dynamics of the conflict,” he said, “and not in a way that either ended the debate or quieted the turmoil surrounding a woman’s right to terminate an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy. Far from ending the controversy, Roe escalated it. It removed the space for compromise, and it shifted momentum in the debate from one side to the other almost overnight. Among opponents of abortion, Roe served as an instant rallying cry. It transformed what had been a fledgling right-to-life movement into a powerful force.”

Noting that two-thirds of Americans say they support a woman’s right to abortion in the first trimester of pregnancy, Press cited suspicions that Republicans “do not actually want to overturn Roe, because it would reduce their appeal to moderate voters who do support choice.” Instead, he said, women’s access to abortion has been circumscribed by the shrinking number of providers. Eighty-seven percent of all U.S. counties, he said, have no abortion provider, often forcing women to travel to obtain the procedure.

“Who is most affected?” Press said. “Women in geographically isolated areas, women who are poor, women who happen to live in states where the climate is hostile to reproductive rights. I suggest that abortion rights advocates ought to focus less on the specter of a Supreme Court reversal of Roe than on the reality of who is and who is not able to exercise choice under current laws.”

And though all sides agree that it would be good to reduce the number of abortions, philosophical differences impede progress toward that goal. Attitudes toward such issues as sex education for young people and contraception are choke points in the debate.

“American teenage girls are five times as likely to have a baby as girls in France, and seven times as likely to have an abortion,” Press said. “Why? Because in France and in many other European countries, as well as in Canada, there is much more comprehensive sex education.”

“Now, if you view the problem as a worthy objective, but how we get there. In my view, the answer is not by intimidating or demonizing women or health care providers, it is not by forcing them to have children through coercive laws, it is not by insisting that everything will magically transform if everybody takes a chastity vow. It is, rather, by empowering women, by educating young people about the consequences of sex, by building a culture that enables people to make informed choices about their lives, and that makes all Americans, even the least fortunate among us, able to envision bringing children into a world where they will be loved and supported.”
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“American teenage girls are five times as likely to have a baby as girls in France, and seven times as likely to have an abortion,” Press said. “Why? Because in France and in many other European countries, as well as in Canada, there is much more comprehensive sex education.”

“No, if you view the problem as sex itself, if you do not want teenagers to have it cross their mind somehow, the European approach is not going to appeal to you. If you view the problem as unintended pregnancies and teenage abortions, if that is the main concern, then it will. The same logic, of course, applies to contraception.”

“The question is not whether reducing the number of crisis pregnancies is a worthy objective, but how we get there. In my view, the answer is not by intimidating or demonizing women or health care providers, it is not by forcing them to have children through coercive laws, it is not by insisting that everything will magically transform if everybody takes a chastity vow. It is, rather, by empowering women, by educating young people about the consequences of sex, by building a culture that enables people to make informed choices about their lives, and that makes all Americans, even the least fortunate among us, able to envision bringing children into a world where they will be loved and supported.”
Cue the ominous music. Only a soundtrack was missing—such as from an innovative Nov. 17 program at the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, in which a panel of lawyers, medical personnel and security officers role-played the high-stakes scenario of “Incident at Airport X.”

What is more, they did it unrehearsed—a high-wire act of thinking out loud, before an audience, about how to handle an imminent threat of a deadly virus on its way to the United States.

“None of the events to be described is real. But some version of everything that will be discussed by the panel already has occurred or will occur in the future,” Research Associate Professor of Law and Public Health Sheila R. Shulman said in introducing the presentation, part of a daylong conference titled “Public Health Emergencies and Legal Preparedness: A Cross-Border Challenge.”

That conference comes at a time of increasing public attention on preparing for community emergencies, from terrorist attacks to natural disasters. But it was the question of how to manage the legal issues associated with defending against a fatal virus that formed the center of the presentation.

The scenario, adopted from a script by the Public Health Law Program at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, imagined a fictional U.S. state. The plane was a Boeing 747, with 301 passengers on board. One of them was a suspected passenger who might be carrying a deadly virus.

The program continued in a series of exchanges, such as Billitteri’s response to the question, “How big is the law in your thinking at this point?”

“How am I going to protect my state if these people leave the airport grounds?” Billitteri said. “I am also looking at the legal issues—how many of my first calls would be to the governor. We have to start thinking about public relations issues, we need to get ready to deal with the media. Most likely I would ask the governor to launch our emergency management system, or say you need to think about it. Where there is a spark, pretty soon it is out of control, and over the weekend it could get that way.”

The program concluded with a series of exchanges, such as Billitteri’s response to the question, “How big is the law in your thinking at this point?”

“How am I going to protect my state if these people leave the airport grounds?” Billitteri said. “I am also looking at the legal issues—I am worried about the first calls to the governor. We have to start thinking about public relations issues, we need to get ready to deal with the media. Most likely I would ask the governor to launch our emergency management system, or say you need to think about it. Where there is a spark, pretty soon it is out of control, and over the weekend it could get that way.”

The next day, the 300 passengers had slept fitfully on cots, tired and unhappy. They have been advised that they are under temporary quarantine by the CDC. Many have been on their cell phones all night. One of them, 56 years old, is a famous concert violinist with a big ego, a Canadian citizen we will call Maestro. He has a solo concert appearance in five days at Carnegie Hall. It is called ‘An Evening With Maestro.’ It is sold out, he has been practicing all week, and he wants a local lawyer to get him out of quarantine now.

Will you take the case? he asks Marszalkowski.

Sure, Marszalkowski says. But he would educate his client to cooperate with the authorities’ quarantine order. But also questions of personal safety in mind: “Should I go meet with my client? Do I put myself at risk? Do I put my community at risk?”

Then there are questions about the involvement of the judicial system itself. Said Dillon, as the federal district judge in the area: “Before I would even let Maestro come to the courthouse, I would want Mr. Marszalkowski to produce some proof that it was even appropriate for him to come to the courthouse. Is he going to be a threat not to me but to the other employees who work in the court system?” I would also engage the attorney of the government and put him or her on notice of my concerns and seek their suggestions as to how we should handle the situation.”

More complications ensue. The governor’s personal physician tells him that this use of quarantine is ridiculous, and the governor calls his personal attorney and tells him that he wants the passengers released. The passengers are moved to an abandoned state police training facility, 10 miles away. The temperamentalist violinist presses his case in the courts. The media are having a field day.

Perhaps appropriate in a world of continuing threats, the scenario ended without a resolution. With those unfortunate passengers still stranded, under guard, in the middle of South Caledonia, the panelists packed up and the conference came to an end.
Cue the ominous music. Only a soundtrack was missing from an innovative Nov. 17 program at the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, in which a panel of lawyers, medical personnel and security officers role-played the high-stakes scenario of “Incident at Airport X.”

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The scenario, adapted from a script by the Public Health Law Program at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, imagined a fictional U.S. state and city in the grip of the latest respiratory illness that swept the world: “Super SARS,” a deadlier mutation of the virus that killed thousands in 2003.

The plane is a Boeing 747, with 301 passengers on board. The passenger is a South Asia who may be infected with “Super SARS,” a deadlier mutation of the virus that killed thousands in 2003. The plane is en route to the United States.

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“How am I going to protect my state if these people leave the airport grounds?” Billittier said. “I am also looking at the political issues—none of my first calls would be to the governor. We have to start thinking about public relations issues; we need to get ready to deal with the media. Most likely I would ask the governor to launch our emergency management system, or say you need to think about it. Where there is a spark, pretty soon it is out of control, and over the weekend it could get that way.”

The questions came fast and furious. Will quarantine officers board the plane? Will they wear protective suits? Does the airline have the legal authority to do anything? Does it have a duty to act? Will Customs and Border Protection guard the exits of the hangar, to keep the restive quarantined passengers inside?

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Making a difference
Clinics make an impact on the community

UB Law School’s clinical program, in which law students work with professors on projects that benefit the people of Western New York, has never been more active or more effective. Six clinics currently operate at the Law School, and Professor Anthony H. Szczygiel, who directs the overall program, said two others will be added this spring.

The first, he says, is an Immigration Law Clinic led by Mark P. Popiel, the University’s general counsel on immigration matters. Law students will work with him on immigration matters having to do with UB faculty members and students – especially timely given that UB is ranked 10th among all U.S. universities in international enrollment, according to a report by the Institute of International Education. Also on the way, Szczygiel said, is an Environmental and Development Clinic supervised by Professor Robert Berger that is focusing on legal and policy issues related to the proposed development of offshore wind farms in the Great Lakes.

An Affordable Housing and Policy Clinic, taught by Law School Instructor Roberta A. Vallone and former Dean Barry B. Boyer, provides students with practical legal experience in environmental advocacy, client representation, community-based conservation and project-related work. It works with non-profit environmental groups to find a smarter way of promoting eco-friendly development while protecting the environment and quality of life for the future.

Members of the Affordable Housing Clinic, directed by Clinical Professor George M. Hezel, are celebrating the completion of two projects for targets of domestic violence. “This project really challenged the skills of the clinic students,” Hezel said. The aging building on Sixth Street formerly served as a residence for Niagara University nursing students, and also as a convent. It had stood empty for 15 years before the YWCA approached the clinic for advice on financing the $5.6 million rehab project.

Said Hezel: “It was a study for my students in creative financing, using low-income housing tax credits, historic development tax credits, Community Development Block Grant money, and other vehicles. We also approached the Industrial Development Agency to avoid sales tax on the materials, which resulted in $300,000 in cost avoidance. The students’ task was to make sure all the regulatory requirements for all the programs could be integrated.” The result was a 19-unit apartment complex that offers child care for the residents as well as a job training center teaching culinary skills for use in the casino industry. “It was a mess,” Hezel said. “We made something of it.”

The clinic’s second major project was to put together $30.7 million in financing for Cornerstone Manor, a residence for women and children affiliated with the Buffalo City Mission. “There was a cadre of students who poured their hearts into that project,” Hezel said. Besides the benefit to its clients, the shelter also benefits the City of Buffalo with tax revenue, he said, under a plan in which the state reimburses about $200,000 a year paid to the city.

The Affordable Housing Clinic also ran September’s Upstate Affordable Housing Conference at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, with 272 registrants. Clinic students have leveraged more than $105 million of development funds in the past 20 years, Hezel said, funding 2,000 units of affordable housing. That record of success inspired one UB Law professor, who wishes to remain anonymous, to make a major gift to the clinic’s endowment. “I have just seen how much it has made a contribution over the years,” the professor said. “I think it is one of most exciting, innovative things we do, and one of the most valuable to the students and the community. This clinic has some transformative possibilities. It has been a very innovative approach to clinical work.”

In the Community Economic Development Clinic, a roster of initiatives are under way, said Clinical Instructor Lauren E. Breen, director of the clinic.

A major success is the clinic’s role in creating the Free Tax Preparation Network for low-income Buffalo residents, which it organized as part of the Economic Self-Sufficiency Coalition of Western New York. The tax effort, with a retired Internal Revenue Service agent as a staff resource person, will operate under a $450,000 grant from the John R. Oishei Foundation.

The goal, Breen said, is “to allow lower-income families to avoid high-priced tax preparers. Many of these families have extremely simple tax returns but get charged very high fees and often access refund anticipation loans,” at notoriously high interest rates.

Community Economic Development Clinic students have prepared tax returns for $5,700 a year. “We want to preserve as much of that as possible for families,” Breen said, rather than see it siphoned off by for-profit tax preparers and rent-to-own stores. One thing that keeps poor families poor, she said, is not just low income, but lack of assets to access in an emergency.

In another high-impact project, clinic students worked with an East Side group called Fruit Belt United to rehabilitate a dilapidated children’s playground. Bringing together partners including Home Depot, the City of Buffalo, and KaBOOM!, a national play-ground technical assistance and funding initiative, the clinic helped to create a safe play space for neighborhood children who would otherwise have no place to play within walking distance.

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Making a difference
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Offshore wind farms in the Great Lakes to be studied by the Environmental and Development Clinic.

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In another high-impact project, clinic students worked with an East Side group called Fruit Belt United to rehabilitate a dilapidated children’s playground. Community Development Clinic, a new initiative, is focused on financing the $5.6 million rehab project.

Within the Affordable Housing Clinic, assisted by Legal Services of Western New York. The tax effort, with a retired Internal Revenue Service agent as a staff resource person, will operate under a $45,000 grant from the John R. Oishei Foundation. The goal, Breen said, is “to allow lower-income families to avoid high-priced tax preparers. Many of these families have extremely simple tax returns but get charged very high fees and often access refund anticipation loans,” at notoriously high interest rates. Clinic students will train volunteers to prepare tax returns in low-income Buffalo neighborhoods, starting with a kickoff Family Financial Wellness Day on Jan. 20 in the Buffalo Convention Center.

Many families are eligible for state and federal Earned Income Tax Credit funds, which can total as much as $5,700 a year. “We want to preserve as much of that as possible for families,” Breen said, rather than see it siphoned off by for-profit tax preparers and rent-to-own stores. One thing that keeps poor families poor, she said, is not just low income, but lack of assets to access in an emergency.

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Clinics make an impact on the community

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The next steps with the East Side group may include opening an after-school community center.

Also part of the Community Economic Development Clinic has been Clinical Instructor Sara A. Faherty’s work on Buffalo’s living wage ordinance. That law specifies that businesses that do work for the city must pay their employees enough that a 40-hour workweek brings them above the poverty level.

Faherty said students have become very interested in the work, including attending meetings of the city’s Living Wage Commission, researching proper enforcement of the law, and studying how it might be expanded.

“Students love this work,” she said. “And because this is about enforcement of the ordinance, when there are issues, they quickly become legal issues. Students learn a lot about local ordinance-making and the processes of municipal government in Buffalo and in general.

In the William and Mary Foster Elder Law Clinic, directed by Szczygiel, a long road came to a happy end in November in federal court. A statewide class-action lawsuit, initiated in 1991 and worked on by generations of law students ever since, ended in a settlement. New York State agreed to make available $11 million to reimburse who—“pursuant to some bad Medicaid policy,” Szczygiel said—paid too much for nursing home care. Particularly egregious was that, the way the policy was written, nursing home residents who were poor ended up paying too much for their care.

About 12,000 families statewide—heirs of the patients represented, all of whom have died—will benefit from the settlement. The clinic has hired a search firm to track down as many of the heirs as possible, and a class action claim administrator to handle the claims process.

“It was by far the most frustrating case I have ever done,” Szczygiel said. “But now that it is settled, it is one of the most rewarding.”

The Law School’s Family Violence Clinic, directed by Associate Clinical Professor Suzanne E. Tomkins ’92, now comprises 16 students in two sections. In the first section, students help to prosecute domestic violence cases, both misdemeanors and felonies, serve in legal service agencies with units that address domestic violence issues, and work on research projects. In the second section, the focus is on the causes and secondary effects of such violence, and students work in housing court, in surrogate’s court, and on issues related to juveniles in need of supervision. This section is directed by family law practitioner Steven R. Sugarman ’85, who teaches at UB Law School as an adjunct professor.

The two sections meet together monthly to hear speakers on such topics as interviewing techniques for domestic violence survivors, and issues around physical disabilities and domestic violence.

Tomkins noted that the clinic serves as a resource to lawyers and social service workers in a 10-county area of Western New York, through its newly updated Web site and an Internet list-serve that distributes new research and information.

The clinic also sponsors conferences; in 2006 they included a look at “Interpersonal Violence in Same-Sex Couples: Barriers to Service” and, with Baldy Center support, an examination of “Interpersonal Violence and Qualitative Research.”

Planned in April 2007 is a national conference, “Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Partner Violence,” which the clinic will co-host with the University of Rochester’s Laboratory of Interpersonal Violence and Victimization. That laboratory is directed by Catherine Cerulli ’92, who is jointly appointed to the Law School and University of Rochester Medical School faculties. The conference, to be held in Rochester, will draw on, among others, medical, legal, social work and criminal justice perspectives.
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Clinics make an impact on the community

Law School Report

Gathering information about the watershed... UB’s National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. Buffalo State College; with New York Rivers United; the Great Lakes Center at Buffalo State College; the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. “This kind of community-based planning is becoming more common across the country,” Boyer said. “It has a more holistic focus, looking at all sorts of economic and social factors.”

From a legal standpoint, Boyer said, “the important lesson here” is that lawyers have a lot of tools in their kit. It is not just command-and-control regulations.

The project incorporates more than preservation. Key economic development initiatives, such as developing the sport fishing industry and perhaps developing a network of horse trails, must be incorporated into the watershed management plan. The public portion of the work begins with focus groups in Gowanda and Sardinia, attracting community members, municipal leaders, resource agencies and businesses. A kickoff event included presentations from agencies and scientists with expertise in watershed resources, including Cattaraugus County’s Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism; the Nature Conservancy; and the Seneca Nation of Indians, whose land the creek crosses.

Five of the eight law students working in the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic have worked on the watershed project. Vallone said, doing such tasks as compiling contact lists and writing news releases. The students will also help to write the presentations to the community, lead focus groups and work with community leaders. The clinic members will spend the spring semester 2007 writing the management plan, then present it to the community in a “summit” next fall before making revisions and finalizing the document by the end of 2007.

Among the other initiatives getting attention in the clinic, Boyer said, is the possibility of a conference on governance issues regarding the Great Lakes, involving both U.S. and Canadian participants. “There has been a lot of research in governance,” Boyer said, “and we want to set up a regular biannual working group to study this.”

The conference will take place at UB Law School in the spring semester. Also, the clinic has been reviewing permits for subdivisions, which risks increasing storm-water runoff, with its attendant pollution, into the creek. For example, he said, it has been shown that “clustering” development of new housing rather than allowing sprawling subdivisions produces less impact on the watershed; one way to encourage such clustering is through tax incentives. Other tools include conservation easements, which are legal agreements between a landowner and a land trust or government that permanently limit uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. Such easements often come with beneficial tax treatment.

“We are creating a community vision for the watershed. This clinic fills a real need.” — Roberta A. Vallone ’96, the Law School clinical instructor who is director of the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic

At left, an issue for the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic is the preservation and protection of Cattaraugus Creek.
Clinics make an impact on the community

**Environmental Law and Policy Clinic takes a pristine creek to heart**

An amazingly diverse range of plants and animals, including many rare, threatened and endangered species. Sections of old-growth forest. Long stretches untouched by roads or other human interference. Oh, and terrific sport fishing.

The Cattaraugus Creek, which stretches 60 miles across Western New York and empties into Lake Erie on the west, is a natural treasure. No one disputes that. But a shared vision for preserving and protecting the creek and its watershed has been difficult to come by.

Enter UB Law School’s Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. Working under a grant from the federal Environmental Protection Agency, the clinic has embarked on a major two-year project to create a plan for protecting the Cattaraugus Creek Watershed – the land that catches rain and snow and drains into the creek.

“We are creating a community vision for the watershed,” said Roberta A. Vallone ’96, the Law School clinical instructor who is director of the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. “This clinic fills a real need.”

The clinic is working in partnership with New York Rivers United, the Great Lakes Center at Buffalo State College, and UB’s National Center for Geospatial Information and Analysis. Buffalo State and UB geographers will gather information about the watershed’s bedrock geology, soils, drainage pattern, land cover and topography, and compile this mass of data into a multi-layer electronic map. The legal and policy participants, including members of the Law School clinic, will gather input from citizens, economic development officials and other interested parties along the watershed.

These parties include vegetable and dairy farmers, timber industry representatives, water quality councils, environmental groups and organizations of recreational users.

The goal is to produce a Watershed Protection Strategy – a plan providing scientific and technical tools to the people who make decisions about how to use the land, so that they can preserve the watershed and reduce the chance that the creek will become polluted, which would threaten the health of Lake Erie.

It is the opposite of a top-down approach. The hope is that giving local stakeholders the chance to contribute ideas and opinions to the strategy will encourage them to support the plan in its final form.

Professor Barry B. Boyer, the former Law School dean, has worked on Great Lakes water quality issues for years. He now spends a substantial part of his professional time working as an advisor with the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. “This kind of community-based planning is becoming more common across the country,” Boyer said. “It has a more holistic focus, looking at all sorts of economic and social factors.”

From a legal standpoint, Boyer said, “There has been a lot of resistance to any government telling them what to do with their land. This is not the most fertile field for creating new zoning codes,” he said.

Instead, Boyer said, other types of tools and incentives can be used to constrain development, which makes increasing storm-water runoff, with its attendant pollution, into the creek. For example, he said, it has been shown that “clustering” development of new housing rather than allowing sprawling subdivisions produces less impact on the watershed; one way to encourage such clustering is through tax incentives. Other tools include conservation easements, which are legal agreements between a landowner and a land trust or government that permanently limit uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. Such easements often come with beneficial tax treatment.

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At the eleventh hour
Forum debates an increasing rarity: executive clemency

The quality of mercy is not strained,” Shakespeare wrote in The Merchant of Venice. That advocates on both sides of the capital punishment debate find common ground over the last opportunity for mercy for a condemned inmate: a pardon from the governor.

Executive Clemency in Capital Cases was the focus March 27 at a UB Law School panel discussion featuring four lawyers with experience in capital cases. Presenters included lawyers involved in four highly publicized death-row cases, including an attorney who prosecuted a former Crips gang leader斯塔克·汤米·威廉斯。“今天是死刑犯的最后一天，”他说。“它要求法官做‘有理由的道德判断’——这是否意味着死刑是不适当的？”

Clemency rarely is ever granted, even in cases where there is a clear argument for clemency,” said third-year student Jenny Mills, founder and co-president of the Capital Advocacy Project. “Because of the way the justice system is structured, inmates traditionally are barred from raising various claims during their appeals and post-conviction proceedings. The clemency process is thus the only time they can raise certain issues, but it would appear that most clemency petitions are dismissed out of hand.”

John Blume, an associate professor at Cornell University Law School, recently argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court involving South Carolina death-row inmate Bobby Lee Holmes. In his criminal trial, Holmes was prevented from presenting evidence that another person committed the crime, though forensic evidence implicated Holmes.

Blume said grants of clemency are extremely rare. Since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976, he said, about 8,000 people have been sentenced to death, and 429 grants of executive clemency have been made — 172 of them in one dramatic action by the governor of Illinois. In Texas — leader in all things death, he said — 361 have been executed, and just one has been granted clemency.

The conventional wisdom, Blume said, is that today’s exhaustive appellate process forecloses any legal error, effectively eliminating the need for executive clemency. But, he argued, a more appropriate role of clemency is to serve as a moral backstop, not a legal backstop. “It asks the question, is the death penalty an appropriate punishment? Reviewing courts do not ask, was the punishment right? Was the punishment just? Executives hide behind the legal process, they said: ‘Clemency is an act of grace. It is a very fine line you walk,’ he said, ‘because you do not want to the client’s client. ‘It is a very fine line you walk,’ she said, ‘because you do not want to disturb your client’s delusions. It could be catastrophic, and it destroys the trust relationship between lawyer and client.’

Nearly the last minute, Nagy said, she came into possession of a court-ordered psychiatric report that showed Baird to be ‘extremely psychotic.’ A friendly reporter got the story into Sunday’s newspaper, and Monday morning at 11, the call came that the governor who granted clemency. Baird remains in prison, but in the general population. His delusions continue.

The prosecutor on the panel, Harry Weller, handled the case of serial killer Michael Ross, the first person executed in Connecticut since 1950. Weller argued that clemency is appropriately rare because the law provides ample safeguards for imposing the death penalty. “We have a path-way of review that has never before existed on the face of the earth,” he said.

Juries are asked to consider mitigating factors inherent in the crime and the defendant’s life — even hearing testimony that the defendant would be a good and productive citizen in prison. They must make a “reasoned, moral judgment” as to whether the death penalty is appropriate.

In addition, he said, appellate courts in many states require a proportionality review, in which the case at hand is compared with other murder cases to ensure that execution is warranted. And if a sentence is overturned, the case goes back to a new jury for the penalty phase. That happened twice for Ross, he said, as a result: “24 people said Michael Ross should die.”

As to a governor’s pardon, Weller said, “Clemency is an act of grace. There should be a reason for grace. There is a death warrant, and it is a lawful order of the court, and once the appeals are complete, it is our responsi-bility to carry out that order. If you want to change that, you go to the Legislature, you do not go to the courts.”

Executives hide behind the legal process, in my opinion. — John Blume, an associate professor at Cornell University Law School

D e fence attorney Jonathan Harris was part of the legal team representing Stanley “Tookie” Williams, who founded the notorious Crips gang in Los Angeles. Williams was executed last year despite pleas for clemency that noted he had written nineteen children’s books renouncing gang violence and had become a strong public advocate against gangs.

Californa Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger denied clemency, despite late-minute evidence from two in-dividuals that one of the witnesses against Williams had fabricated his story.

‘The evidence that Stanley Williams did the crimes was minimal,' Harris said. ‘There was a lot of evidence that Stanley Williams was a very bad man, and no one argues that Los Angeles wasn’t a safer place because he was off the streets. But if anybody here got into a bar fight and was facing expulsion from the law school, they would get a better trial than most criminal de-fendants get in this country.’

And appellate courts do not address every issue, Harris said: ‘Guilt or innocence is never litigated on appeal. What is gone over and over is the original trial, which was a pretty bad thing.’ The legal team based its clemency petition on the remarkable turnaround in Williams’ life, citing tens of thousands of letters and e-mails which testified that Williams had ‘become a role model for someone who shows you can do more with your life.’ The case drew considerable attention from celebrities in show business, attention that Harris said did more harm than good.

But it was not so surprising that the clemency effort fell flat, he said: ‘the governor polled,’ he said. ‘The death penalty is very popular in California. The referendum to restore it passed with something like 84 percent support. I think the politics were just completely against clemency.’

Harris ended his remarks by show-ing a brief video that was part of Williams’ clemency petition — a ‘bottom-up’ petition — featuring testimonials from former gang mem-bers.

About 50 people attended the fo-rum, held in Room 106 of O’Brien Hall.
The quality of mercy is not strained," Shakespeare wrote in The Merchant of Venice that advocates on both sides of the capital punishment debate strain to find common ground over the last opportunity for mercy for a condemned inmate: a pardon from the governor.

"Executives hide behind the legal process, in my opinion," John Blume, an associate professor at Cornell University Law School Law School, said. "It asks the question, is the death penalty appropriate?" Defense attorney Sarah Nagy said: "Clemency is an act of grace. It asks the question, is the death penalty appropriate?" Reviewing courts do not ask, was the punishment right? Was the punishment just? executives hide behind the legal process, in my opinion. — John Blume, an associate professor at Cornell University Law School

"Tookie" Williams, who spent decades on death row, was the focus of a UB Law School panel discussion featuring four lawyers with experience in capital cases. The forum was sponsored by the School’s Capital Advocacy Project.

The forum debates an increasing rarity: executive clemency. The conventional wisdom, Blume said, is that most clemency petitions are dismissed out of hand. "Executives hide behind the legal process, in my opinion. You can hide behind the appeals process to avoid political damage. Make no mistake about it, clemency is all about politics. The only option is, as they say where I come from, to out-red-truck your opponent." Defense attorney Sarah Nagy said: "Clemency is an act of grace. It asks the question, is the death penalty appropriate?" Clemency rarely is ever granted, even in cases where there is a clear argument for clemency," said third-year student Jenny Mills, founder and co-president of the Capital Advocacy Project. "Because of the way the justice system is structured, inmates traditionally are barred from raising various claims during their appeals and post-conviction proceedings. The clemency process is thus the only time they can raise certain issues, but it would appear that most clemency petitions are dismissed out of hand.

John Blume, an associate professor at Cornell University Law School, recently argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court involving South Carolina death-row inmate Bobby Lee Holmes. In his criminal trial, Holmes was prevented from presenting evidence that another person committed the crime, though forensic evidence implicated Holmes. "Clemency is an act of grace. It asks the question, is the death penalty appropriate?" According to the law, the death penalty is appropriate.

At nearly the last minute, Nagy said, she came into possession of a court-ordered psychiatric report that showed Baird to be "extremely psychotic." A friendly reporter got the story into Sunday's newspaper, and Monday morning at 11, the call came that the governor would grant clemency. Baird remains in prison, but in the general population. His delusions continue.

The prosecutor on the panel, Harry Weller, handled the case of serial killer Michael Ross, the first person executed in Connecticut since 1950. Weller argued that clemency is appropriately rare because the law provides ample safeguards for imposing the death penalty. "We have a path-of-review that has never before existed on the face of the earth," he said.

Juries are asked to consider mitigating factors inherent in the crime and the defendant’s life -- even hearing testimony that the defendant would be a good and productive citizen in prison. They must make a “reasoned, moral judgment” as to whether the death penalty is appropriate.

In addition, he said, appellate courts in many states require a proportionality review, in which the case at hand is compared with other murder cases to ensure that execution is warranted. And if a sentence is overturned, the case goes back to a new jury for the penalty phase. That happened twice for Ross, he said, as a result: 24 people said Michael Ross should die.

As to a governor’s pardon, Weller said: "Clemency is an act of grace. There should be a reason for grace. There is a death warrant, and it is a lawful order of the court, and once the appeals are complete, it is our responsibility to carry out that order. If you want to change that, you go to the Legislature, you do not go to the courts."

What is gone over and over is the original trial, which was a pretty bad thing." The legal team based its clemency petition on the remarkable turnaround of the defendant’s life, citing tens of thousands of letters and e-mails which testified that Williams had "become a role model for someone who shows you can do more with your life." The case drew considerable attention from celebrities in show business, attention that Harris said did more harm than good.

But he was not surprised that the clemency effort failed: the governor polled," he said. "The death penalty is very popular in California. The referendum to restore it passed with something like 84 percent support. I think the politics works pretty conclusively against clemency." Harris ended his remarks by saying that his client, who founded the notorious Crips gang in Los Angeles, Williams was executed last year despite pleas for clemency that he had written nine children’s books renouncing gang violence and had become a strong public advocate against gangs.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger denied clemency, despite last-minute evidence from two individuals that one of the witnesses against Williams had fabricated his story. "The evidence that Stanley Williams did the crimes was minimal," Harris said. "There was a lot of evidence that Stanley Williams was a very bad man, and no one argues that Los Angeles was not a safe place because he was off the streets. But if anybody here got into a bar fight and was facing expulsion from the law school, they would get a better trial than most criminal defendants get in this country."

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**Faces in the crowd**

For the Class of 2009, all roads lead to Buffalo

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— Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, vice dean for admissions and financial aid

As classes began this fall at UB Law School, 429 members of the incoming Class of 2009 opened their notebooks to a world of possibilities. They come from near and far: One in five members of the first-year students come from outside New York State, from such locales as Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, Florida, Virginia, Washington State, Maryland, Minnesota, Louisiana, Alabama, Connecticut — and South Korea.

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But numbers do not tell the whole story. For each new student, the first day of Law School is the end of a long and winding road that has led to Buffalo.

Meet a few of UB Law’s newest additions:

Amy Noe comes to UB Law with a doctoral degree in neurophysiology, having practiced and taught in this field of neurology and clinical psychology. Her work has dealt with trying to help patients who have suffered neurological injuries to the brain. Noe served an internship at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Buffalo, and did a two-year postdoctoral residency at UB. She said she came to Law School expecting to learn skills that would fit with her psychology background, but is leaving herself open to “whatever grabs my interest.” Right now it is constitutional law.

Noe is also an accomplished athlete, having completed a number of marathons and marathon runs. “I swim or run pretty much every day,” she said, “at ungodly early hours of the morning.” One recent accomplishment: a half-marathon triathlon in Georgia, New York, consisting of a 1.5-mile swim, a 50-mile bike ride and a run of 13.1 miles.

Another athlete in the first-year class is Stephanie Bouvet, who moved to Buffalo from Los Angeles with her husband, Sean Bouvet, who is at the UB School of Medicine doing a residency in internal medicine. A Stanford University graduate, she worked as a financial consultant in Los Angeles. Law School, she said, “always been in the back of my mind, and everything just fell into place.”

Bouvet ran her first marathon last summer — but not the easy way. She raised around $5,000 in pledges for Team in Training, a fund-raiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Research. She traveled to Anchorage, Alaska, for the race. What she did not expect is that the 26.2-mile race is run predominantly uphill, on a muddy trail through the forest, with mosquitoes swarming everywhere. “Just short of the finish is “Insult Hill,” a steep climb to even the toughest runners. Finishing the race, she said, “was probably the most gratifying thing I have ever done.”

Nearly one in five members of the Class of 2009 are students of color. Eddie Gonzalez, who was born in Puerto Rico but grew up in Salinas, Calif., said the school’s diversity — plus its small classes, opportunities in international law and “intimate” feeling — led him to Buffalo after his undergraduate work at the University of Maryland.

So far, he says, so good. “The professors are really great,” Gonzalez said, “and the material is stimulating but does not make you pull your hair out.”

Which is good, because he has a lot on his mind. He and Candy Becket — his high school sweetheart, now a kindergarten teacher — are planning a wedding this summer.

Donald Wesley is not shy about noting that he is the elder statesman of the Class of 2009. At 60, he has had a long career in education, as a teacher and administrator.

Wesley taught English for many years in the public schools of Gowan- da, south of Buffalo, and was heavily involved in musical theater, directing 89 plays and musicals in school and community theater. (“That Mr. Holland’s Opus happened to me,” he said)

Then he did graduate work in school administration, becoming “more and more involved in school law,” and became an administrator at Lockport Central High School Park, N.Y., district. He taught school law as part of an administrative training program at Canisius College and St. Bonaventure University.

Wesley has published on the ways that the legal world and the world of education intersect, and with his brother, Second Circuit Judge Richard C. Wesley, has presented at education law conferences. “We found that there was a real audience,” he said, “because educators were frightened to death of the law.

“Over a period of time, probably 20 years, I was reading very deeply in the law,” Wesley said. “But when you do not have a legal education, there is only so much you could do. So after 28 years in the field, and coming to my 60th birthday, I applied to Law School. I am grateful to have been accepted. I have had four weeks of wonderful experiences, and I am as excited as a kid. Now I want to really be challenged, and UB is doing that. I have wonderful professors, I have wonderful classmates, I am just having a ball. I read and write about the law all day long.”

His classmate Brian Manning also has followed a circuitous road to UB Law. Born and raised in Buffalo, after graduating from Colgate University he lived for seven years in Denver, working in a print shop and as a buyer for a large bookstore, and taught in the Denver public schools. He then moved to Arizona and worked as a teacher on the Tohono O’Odham Indian reservation, 30 miles from the Mexican border.

“It was pretty intense,” Manning said. “It was very isolated, in the middle of the desert. It took me 15 minutes to drive to nearest store, even if I wanted a can of milk. There were a lot of Mexicans walking through desert, they would knock on my back door and ask for water.”

After six months there, he went to Mexico to study Spanish and ended up in Tuxco, “the silver jewel of the Western Hemisphere.” There he met his wife, Claudia, and got into the silver business, eventually opening a store that sold jewelry by local artisans to wholesalers in Dallas and Manhattan.

Their daughter was born in 2003, and Manning said they wanted to come to the United States to ensure a range of opportunities for her. In Buffalo, he worked in the legal assistance department of the refugee assistance agency Vive La Casa. “I have always wanted to go to law school,” Manning said. “I had an idea that I would be wanting to go before I started working at Vive, but then it just clicked.”

“I love it. Certainly it is a lot of work, but for me it is just such a privilege to go back to school at the age of 56.”

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For the Class of 2009, admissions and financial aid

UB LAW FORUM 2006

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In addition, Wiley-Upshaw said, '13 percent of the first-year students hold graduate degrees, ranging from philosophy to engineering.' But numbers do not tell the whole story: 'First-year students are near and far: One in five members of the first-year class is from outside New York State, from such locales as Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, California, Wisconsin, Utah, Canada, Texas, Florida, Virginia, Washington State, Maryland, Minnesota, Louisiana, Alabama, Connecticut -- and South Korea.'

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Getting the word out

Video, conference and more reach out to potential students

Three recent developments in the marketing of UB Law School to potential students are extending the school’s reach and using new tools to spread the word about what life is like at UB Law.

A new addition to the tools available to pre-law advisers and others is a video, “Life. Changing. Experience.” Unique to the Law School, the 14-minute video was produced by Vice Dean Ilene R. Fleischmann and Mickey Osterreicher ’98, an experienced television production journalist who has a downtown Buffalo law practice. It is narrated by a classmate of Osterreicher’s – Steve Boyd ’98.

“I wanted prospective applicants to see and hear the people who comprise the Law School,” Fleischmann said. “A law school is not bricks and walls; it is the people who comprise the Law School.” Fleischmann said at one point, touting the advantages of the Law School’s intensive Research and Writing Program.

“We wanted to be as informative as possible,” says Osterreicher, who was a colleague of Fleischmann’s at the Buffalo Courier-Express before the newspaper closed in 1982. “You always want to engage the audience. It was trying to walk a fine line between getting in as much information as possible and still doing it in an interesting and engaging manner.

The video has been duplicated on DVDs and is now used by the Admissions Department in recruiting. The school also hopes to post the video on its Web site, Fleischmann said.

A n early summer initiative to give undergraduate pre-law advisers a taste of the UB Law experience brought a dozen attendees to town, and sent them away with good information and warm feelings about the school.

The conference, held over two days at the end of June, welcomed advisers from such schools as Syracuse University, Buffalo State, Wells and Canisius colleges, as well as the Council on Legal Education Opportunities and the Education Division of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund.

“The idea was to get the people who actually talk to the students, and showcase what we had to offer right here,” said Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, UB Law’s vice dean for admissions and financial aid.

“The more accurate information you can provide to people in- fluencing decisions, the better. One thing we find in Buffalo is that if we can get people here, they tend to commit. The pre-law advisers heard from a faculty panel – Professors Charles P. Ewing and Susan V. Mangold and Associate Professor Athena D. Matula – about the Law School’s philosophy of education and how undergraduate students can prepare themselves for the study of law. They also had a tour, led by Clinical Professor George M. Hezel, of downtown Buffalo’s Cornerstone Manor, a shelter for homeless and displaced women and children that was built with funding leveraged by UB Law’s Affordable Housing Clinic. Associate Professor Amy D. Westbrook spoke about the school’s new program in New York City, and Dean Nina Oxen addressed the advisers as well. They also met with alumni over dinner at Buffalo’s City Grill.

The reaction was strong and positive.

“I had not been to the Law School previously,” said Jane E. Levy, senior associate director of career services at Cornell University. “It was valuable to hear the faculty on the panel discussing the school’s strengths, and to hear the dean talk about the school and enlighten us on its positive qualities as well as some of the concerns the school faces. I liked being able to interact with some of the students as well.

“It was certainly a well-organized event. They were able to organize a number of activities that informed us about the school in a short time. I thought it was a great way to show pre-law advisers, and people who speak to people interested in going to law school on a regular basis, what type of law school UB is,” said Sony Patrick, director of the Education Division of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, in New York City. “You have innovative programming that I believe is really wonderful. People seem to really think about what the students’ needs are. Everyone was very friendly, and it was evident the school was like a big family.

“It was all about walking around the halls, seeing the kind of work they do, talking to faculty and staff,” Patrick said. “I know more about that school than any other school now.”

One more thing that I love the school for: During finals week they put out a gourmet breakfast in the lobby with bagels, muffins, different cream cheeses, coffee, pastries, fruit. Really puts a smile on the students’ faces.”

Students with advanced degrees 13%
Women 52%
Men 48%
Average age 25
Enrolled 248
Total applications 1,508
Average GPA 3.44
Median LSAT 156
Credit for this article belongs to the UB Law Alumni Association, which collects student feedback on their law school experience.
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Video, conference and more reach out to potential students

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The video is intended to work with the school’s “Life. Changing. Experience.” viewbook for potential students. The script grew out of the narrative of that booklet, and the video includes some images from the viewbook. Amid glamour shots of the campus, it showcases a wide range of the faces and voices of UB Law School and stresses the school’s interdisciplinary studies, concentrations, clinical education opportunities and its focus on “the social implications of legal issues.”

Faculty and staff make appearances, along with alumni: Vadra Ramo ’95, Judith B. Brig ’71, Michael Mann ’06 and William A. Niese ’01. The video was funded by a grant from the UB Law Alumni Association and the Law School’s Office of Admission.

“Our curriculum teaches students not only how to think like lawyers, but how to work like lawyers,” the narrator says at one point, pointing the advantages of the Law School’s intensive Research and Writing Program. “We wanted to be as informative as possible,” says Osterreicher, who was a colleague of Fleischmann’s at the Buffalo Courier-Express before the newspaper closed in 1982. “You always want to engage the audience. It was trying to walk a fine line between getting in as much information as possible and still doing it in an interesting and engaging manner.

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“The idea was to get the people who actually talk to the students, and showcase what we had to offer right here,” said Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, UB Law’s vice dean for admissions and financial aid. “The more accurate information you can provide to people influencing decisions, the better. One thing we find in Buffalo is that if we can get people here, they tend to commit.

The pre-law advisers heard from a faculty panel – Professors Charles P. Ewing and Susan V. Mangold and Associate Professor Athena D. Mutua – about the Law School’s philosophy of education and how undergraduate students can prepare themselves for the study of law. They also had a tour, led by Clinical Professor George M. Hezel, of downtown Buffalo’s Cornetstone Manor, a shelter for homeless and displaced women and children that was built with funding leveraged by UB Law’s Affordable Housing Clinic. Associate Professor Amy D. Westbrook spoke about the school’s new program in New York City, and Dean Nina Olen addressed the advisers as well. They also met with alumni over dinner at Buffalo’s City Grill.

The reaction was strong and positive. “I had not been to the Law School previously,” said Jane E. Levy, senior associate director of career services at Cornell University. “It was valuable to hear the faculty on the panel discussing the school’s strengths, and to hear the dean talk about the school and enlighten us on its positive qualities as well as some of the concerns the school faces. I liked being able to interact with some of the students as well.

“It was certainly a well-organized event. They were able to organize a number of activities that informed us about the school in a short time. I thought it was a great way to show pre-law advisers, and people who speak to people interested in going to law school on a regular basis, what type of law school UB is,” said Soni Patrick, director of the Education Division of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, in New York City. “You have innovative programming that I believe is really wonderful. People seem to really think about what the students’ needs are. Everyone was very friendly, and it was evident the school was like a big family.

“It was all about walking around the halls, seeing the kind of work they do, talking to faculty and staff,” Patrick said. “I know more about that school than any other school now.

One more thing that I love the school for: During finals week they put out a gourmet breakfast in the lobby with bagels, muffins, different cream cheeses, coffee, pastries, fruit. etc. Really puts a smile on the students’ faces.”

Pre-law advisers from many undergraduate schools visited the Law School.

2006 Entering Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total applications</th>
<th>1,508</th>
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<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average GPA</td>
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<td>Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<td>Students with advanced degrees</td>
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<tr>
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</table>
At a time when economics, politics and the law are shifting like quicksand, UB Law School’s Class of 2006 received their diplomas along with a challenge to use their legal education to engage that changing world.

Surviving, or even excelling in, three tough years of law school only begins the process, the graduates and their families and supporters were told. Beyond the bar exam, they will need to find their niche among the many ways law intersects with an increasingly global society.

The Law School’s 117th annual Commencement took place on the afternoon of May 20 in the Center for the Arts.

After greetings by Law School Dean Nils Olsen, UB Provost Satish K. Tripathi addressed the graduating students. “I ask not what are you going to do next, but instead, how will you lead; how will you define your leadership?” Tripathi said. “Our world today is amazingly complex, interconnected, dynamic, tragic, mystifying and replete with opportunity. It is a requirement of our current and future leadership to appreciate these disparate realities.”

The provost noted the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, saying that the deadly storm “reminded us that the entire repertoire of knowledge, expertise and skills of our community leaders and disciplinary experts must be brought to bear if we are to build and maintain resilient communities. Lawyers and social workers, engineers and architects, microbiologists and geologists, physicians and information

Graduates take a bold step into a challenging world

Continued on Page 57
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Continued on Page 57
He also quoted the Dalai Lama on the concept of “universal responsibility,” saying such a global consciousness is “the best foundation both for our personal happiness and for world peace, the equitable use of our natural resources, and through a concern for future generations, the proper care of the environment.”

Student speaker Maggie Wetherby McOmber ’06 located her class “somewhere between the elements of knowledge and the power of hope.” She ticked off a list of what “we know now” after three years of legal education—such as “the Socratic method is nothing...”
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2006 Latin Honors

Summa Cum Laude
Anthony David Beccari
Elizabeth M. Fox-Solomon
Magna Cum Laude
Nicole E. Bayly-Henshaw
Jennifer L. Behrens
Jonathan James Bevilacqua
Meghan McLean Brown
Meredith A. Connor
Laura Jean Emerson
Christofer Craig Fattey
Clara Hebus
Joshua P. Henry
Andrew O. Guglielmi
Geoffrey Adam Kaupser
Sachin Kohli
John A. Menna
Nathan A. Shoff
Edward James Snyder
Lynda Adrienne VandenBerg
Cum Laude
Kimberly Anne Alvino
David Thomas Archer
Alexander Isaac Balsam
Todd Andrew Bolster
Rebecca Anne Brady
Karla Beaul-Kolbe
Catherine M. Brown
Mark A. Butchello
Justin Edward-Miller Call
Teresa Y. Chen
Kimberly Arnold Colaiacono
Ryan Patrick Crawford
Lauren J. Czakly
Danielle Elizabeth Dimitrov
Jennifer G. Flannery
David H. Frech
Paul Samuel Fusco
Jesse O. George
Lisa M. Goodberry
Keith Jared Gross
Cheryl Lynn Halford
Dennis Harlow
Evaun Hoque
Eric James Judson
Patrick James Kennedy
Shane C. Kiernan
Jason Alan Little
Jennifer Binns Lovelace
Michael D. Mann
Miles Jackson McNeal
Maggie Wetherby McOmber
Justin George Meeks
Mindy Menke
Ryan Keith Micklus
Megan Elizabeth Mootz
Rafael Reja Mohssen
Reeni John Nowicki
Angel M. Overgaard
Stephanie Melinda Palladino
Craig Anthony Patrick
Robert S. Phed
Charity Ann Phripps
Jodi Anne Reynolds
Kyle Patrick Rossi
Devon Alvey Runyan
Virginia Elizabeth Schmidt
Amber E. Starr
Melissa Noel Suheyck
Jennifer C. Tsai
Sara Lisa Valencia
Eric Thomas Vallone
Joseph Frank Vergilio
Shayna Wired
Andrew John Wells
Dennis J. Willey
Haigun Zhu

“I hope that we learn of justice as a way of life and not just a case in a casebook. May we be our own best instructors and never stop learning from ourselves.”

–Student speaker
Maggie Wetherby McOmber ’06

Professors Rebecca R. French and John Henry Schlegel hood Fan Zhang ’06

Above, Vice Dean Ilene R. Fleischmann, recipient of the Staff Award, welcomes the class into the Law Alumni Association.
Left, Professor James B. Atleson and the Hot Cargo String Band.
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Patrick James Kennedy
Shane C. Kiernan
Brooke A. Kirkland
Bradley Thomas Knope
John Joseph LaBoda III
Jason Alan Little
Jennifer Binns Lovelace
Michael D. Mann
Miles Jackson McNeal
Maggie Wetherby McOmber
Justin George Meeks
Mindy Merda
Ryan Keith Micklus
Morgan Elizabeth Mull
Haifak Rejai Mohassel
Reeni John Nowicki
Angel M. Overgaard
Stephanie Melinda Palladino
Craig Anthony Patrick
Robert S. Phed
Charity Ann Prupps
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Above, Vice Dean Ilene R. Fleischmann, recipient of the Staff Award, welcomes the class into the Law Alumni Association.
Left, Professor James B. Atleson and the Hot Cargo String Band.
two new awards were presented at the Center for the Arts on Saturday, May 20, when 240 graduates of Buffalo Law School donned their purple hoods for the first time, flipped the tassels on their mortarboards to the left, and walked across the stage before family and friends. It was the 117th commencement for the Law School, and despite a cold and windy day, there were sunny smiles all around.

The first new award was presented in honor of Professor Emerita Virginia Louey, a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor who taught international law at UB from 1976 and developed the sequence of courses and textbooks in international law at the Law School. The recipient, deemed outstanding in international law, was Allison Terrell of Grand Island, N.Y.

The second new award this year was named in memory of James H. McOmber, a nationally recognized trial attorney who practiced in Western New York. Given for outstanding trial advocacy, it was presented to Sarah Elizabeth Wesley, of Livonia, N.Y.

The three top commencement awards were:

- The Max Koren Award, to the graduate who exemplified the highest standards of the profession by virtue of scholastic achievement, leadership and dedication to the ideals of the law. The 2000 recipient was Elizabeth M. Fox-Solomon, of Delmar, N.Y.
- The John S. Bennett Achievement Award, for the highest scholastic achievement in the graduating class. The recipient was Geoffrey Adam Kaeuper, of Rochester, N.Y.
- The Dale S. Margulis Award, for the graduate who contributed the most to the Law School and the community. The 2000 Dale S. Margulis Award recipient was Michael D. Mann, of Woodmere, N.Y.

The other awards cited for excellence were:

- The Hirszon Prize in Clinical Legal Studies, to Nicole E. Bayly-Henshaw, of Scoville, N.Y.
- The American Bankruptcy Institute Medal, to Renee M. Root, of East Meadow, N.Y.
- The Maurice Frey Award, for family law, to Bekha Trivikram, of Grand Island, N.Y.
- The Max Koren Award, for debtor-creditor and bankruptcy law, to Kevin Joseph Mulchhill, of Pimento, N.Y.
- The American Bar Association and The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Intellectual Property Law, presented jointly to Robert Charles Atkinson, of Buffalo, and Jodi Anne Reynolds, of Amherst, N.Y.
- The American Bar Association and The Bureau of National Affairs Award for Labor and Employment Law, presented jointly to Kimberly Arnold Colasurdo, of Kenmore, N.Y. and Keith Jared Gross, of Glen Head, N.Y., and Ryan Keith Milkis, of Amherst, N.Y.
- The Charles Daniels Award, for real property, to Jonathan James Devilacqua, of L. Amherst, N.Y.
- The Professor Louis DelColto Award for taxation, to Jennifer G. Flannery, of Buffalo.
- The Maurice Frey Award, for family law, to Bekha Trivikram, of Grand Island, N.Y.
- The Edith and Daniel Goldstein Award for debtor-creditor and bankruptcy law, to Kevin Joseph Mulchhill, of Pimento, N.Y.
- The Laidlaw Law Alumni Association Award for civil procedure, to Fan Zhang, of Amherst, N.Y.
- The Adolf Fombourgh Law Alumni Association Award for corporate finance, to Fan Zhang, of Amherst, N.Y.
- The Judge Matthew J. Jasen Appellate Practice Award, for appellate advocacy, to Geoffrey Adam Kaeuper, of Rochester, N.Y.
- The David Korchick Awards for service to the student community and courses in procedures and remedies, to Teresa N. Chen, of Jackson Heights, N.Y.
- The Louisian Law Alumni Association Award for commercial law, presented to Enam Hooper, of Buffalo.
- The Most Valuable Advocate Award, to Bryan Philip Furey, of East Meadow, N.Y.
- The Albert R. Miller Award for future interests and estate planning, to Nicole Marie Stolba, of Lockport, N.Y.
- The Ryan J. Mulhine Award for criminal law, to Diane Andrea Thoben, of Buffalo.

“The seemingly mundane choices, to fear and ‘the words ‘substantial,’ ‘reasonable’ and ‘but for’ take on new meaning in our clandestine language of legalism.’

And, McOmber said, “I hope that we learn of justice as a way of life and not just a case in a courtroom case.”

The afternoon keynote speaker was Hon. Michael A. Battle, director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys at the Department of Justice. Battle, a member of the Law School’s Dean’s Advisory Council, is a 1981 UB Law graduate.

His own Law School commencement was half a lifetime ago, Battle said, affording him the perspective of time in culling some advice for his audience of newly minted lawyers. “It is abundantly clear to me that I could not have charted my career when I sat in your chair on graduation day,” he said. “Most often, the professional path that a law student sees for himself or herself is not the one which we ultimately follow. From the seemingly mundane choices to the consequential ones, your lives will shape themselves around the choices you make.”

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The recipient, deemed outstanding in international law, was Alison Terrell Corey Milne, of Buffalo.

The second new award this year was named in honor of Professor Emeritus Paul Leary, who co-founded the UB Law School with Justice John T. Curtin and Justice Leslie G. Foschio.

The recipient of the new award was Michael D. Mann ’06, of Woodmere, N.Y.

The third new award, to the graduate who exemplified the highest standards of the profession by virtue of scholarly achievement, leadership and dedication to the ideals of the law, was the William E. McKeen Award. The recipient was Elizabeth M. Fox-Solomon, of Delmar, N.Y.

• The John N. Bennett Achievement Award, for the highest scholarly achievement in the graduating class, was presented jointy to Robert Charles Atkinson, of Buffalo, and Jodi Anne Reynolds, of Amherst, N.Y.

• The Dale S. Margulis Award, for the graduate who contributed the most to the Law School and the community, was presented jointly to Kimberly Arnold Colinasco, of Kenmore, N.Y., and Keith Jared Gross, of Glen Head, N.Y., and Ryan Keith Micklin, of Amherst, N.Y.

• The Charles Danz Award, for real property, was presented to Renée M. Root, of E. Amherst, N.Y.

• The American Bar Association and the Bureau of National Affairs Award for Intellectual Property Law, was presented jointly to Adam Kaeuper, of Rochester, N.Y.

• The Max Koren Award, for debtor-creditor and bankruptcy law, was presented to Kevin Joseph Shulchell, of Pimfil, N.Y.

• The John D. Homburger Law Alumni Association Award for civil procedure, was presented to Fan Zhang, of Amherst, N.Y.

• The Dale S. Margulis Award, for appellate advocacy, was presented to Kimberly Arnold Colinasco, of Kenmore, N.Y., and Keith Jared Gross, of Glen Head, N.Y.

• The Dale S. Margulis Award, for property, was presented to Jonathan James Devilacqua, of B. Amherst, N.Y.

• The American Bar Association and the Bureau of National Affairs Award for Health Law, was presented jointly to Sara Louise Couch, of Williamsville, N.Y., Dianne Andrea Thoben, of Buffalo, and Dennis J. Wiley, of Syosset, N.Y.

• The Edith and Daniel Goldstein Award for debtor-creditor and bankruptcy law, was presented to Adam Kaeuper, of Rochester, N.Y.

• The American Bar Association and the Bureau of National Affairs Award for Health Law, was presented to Jodi Anne Reynolds, of Amherst, N.Y.

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Continued from Page 60

Law School Report

The Robert J. Connolly Trial Technique Awards were presented to Scott James Zimbh, of Cheektowaga, N.Y., Meghan McLean Brown, of Williamsville, N.Y., Bartholemew Chacchia, of Buffalo, Michael Paul Felicetti, of Buffalo, Jennifer G. Flannery, of Buffalo, David H. Frech, of Hamburg, N.Y., Benjie Gachette, of Valley Stream, N.Y., Keith Jared Gross, of Glen Head, N.Y., Allison Rebecca Hind, of Niskayuna, N.Y., John Joseph Laboda, of Garwood, N.Y., Miles Jackson McNell, of Buffalo, Carla Jean Miller, of West Seneca, N.Y., Jacqueline Ann Machowiak, of Lakeview, N.Y., Joseph Frank Verzeglia, of Buffalo, Dianne Andrea Thoben, of Buffalo, Shawn Weed, of Pine Bush, N.Y., and Dennis J. Wiley, of Syosset, N.Y.

The student-voted Faculty Award went this year to Professor Rebecca French, and the Staff Award was given to Vice Dean Irene R. Fleischmann.

As it has been for the past 25 years, the Commencement ceremony was bracketed with music by the Hot Cargo String Band, a shifting alliance of faculty and student musicians. This year the band was a big band, because its longtime leader, Professor James Adelson, is retiring from full-time teaching. Alumni of the band came from across the nation and threw a surprise party for him – then joined Hot Cargo on stage for a last fling of music-making.

Continued from Page 61

Iraq and Afghanistan succeed in their new democracies, even amid the damage of war and stubborn insurgent movements.

• A roster of challenges here at home, including the rights of the press, the threat of terrorism, the pressing need for innovative energy sources; balancing assistance to the poor with the promise of capitalism; the role of corporations, and the ramifications of developing technology.

You are walking into a difficult world,” Battle said. “Your individual contributions will be essential. It is important that each member of our society be a part of it – in whatever manner – to help maintain its viability and solve the challenges that confront us. You are now uniquely qualified to do so.

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Sarah E. Weslye ‘06 with parents, Hon. and Mrs. Richard S. Weslye

“You are walking into a difficult world. Your individual contributions will be essential.”

– Michael A. Battle

Left to right, members of the class of ‘06: Paul C. Parisi, Scott J. Bizub, Kevin Van Allen, Sara T. Wallitt, Jonathan J. Bevilacqua, John P. Gerken and Patrick J. Kennedy.
The Kenneth A. Gomez Memorial Award, for equality and justice for minorities, to Crystal Jeanette Rodriguez, of Buffalo.

The Activity’s Gavel Award, for progressive politics, government accountability and social activism, to Sara Louise Coach, of Williamsville, N.Y.

The Minority Bar Association of Western New York Award, presented jointly to Benjie Gachette, of Valley Stream, N.Y., and Crystal Jeanette Rodriguez, of Buffalo.

The UB Law Alumni Association’s Excellence Award, to Michael D. Mann, of Woodmere, N.Y.

The UB Law Alumni Association’s GOLD Group Achievement Award, to Nichole Nicholle Dragone, of Williamsville, N.Y.

The Linda S. Reynolds Memorial Award, for outstanding pro bono service and dedication, to Denman Andrew O. Mohassel, of Buffalo.

The Robert J. Connelly Trial Technique Awards were presented to Scott James Bizub, of Cheektowaga, N.Y.; Meghan McLean Brown, of Williamsville, N.Y.; Bartholomew Chacchia, of Buffalo; Michael Paul Felicetta, of Buffalo; Jennifer G. Flannery, of Buffalo; David H. Frech, of Hamburg, N.Y.; Benjie Gachette, of Valley Stream, N.Y.; Keith Jared Gross, of Glen Head, N.Y.; Allison Rebecca Hind, of Niskayuna, N.Y.; John Joseph Laboda, of Gansevoort, N.Y.; Miles Jackson McNell, of Buffalo; Carla Jean Miller, of West Seneca, N.Y.; Jacqueline Ann Machowiak, of Lakeview, N.Y.; Joseph Frank Vergilido, of Buffalo; Diane Andrea Gachette, of Buffalo; Shawn Weed, of Pine Bush, N.Y.; and Dennis J. Wiley, of Sycoset, N.Y.

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Sarah E. Wesley ’06 with parents, Hon. and Mrs. Richard S. Wesley

“**You are walking into a difficult world. Your individual contributions will be essential.**”

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With classes to attend and careers to get started, most University at Buffalo students juggle a full schedule. Yet many still find the time to prepare for and compete in UB’s many moot court and mock trial competitions, where they refine their research, writing, and oral advocacy skills with the assistance of faculty, attorneys and judges.

UB students have a wide array of legal subject matter and oral argument style to choose from though the various competitions in which the school participates. Over the years, our programs have won many awards and have achieved a national reputation for excellence.

Our students both hosted and represented the Law School at numerous oral advocacy contests throughout 2005-06:

In the first National Ethics Trial Competition hosted by Pacific/ McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, Calif., last year’s team, consisting of Sara Wesley ’06, John Menna ’06, Janine Sprague ’06 and David Hoffman ’06 took top honors. Wesley was named Best Advocate. A first-year student, Emily Liu ’08, brought home the competition’s top award when she won Best Oralist in the national Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition. With 43 teams, this was the largest competition in the North East BLSA (Black Law Students Association) history. Yet another student, Kristin Paulding ’07, picked up Best Advocate at the National Civil Trial Competition in Los Angeles.

The Buffalo Moot Court Board, run by second- and third-year students and advised by Vice Provost and Frank G. Raichle Professor of Trial and Appellate Advocacy Lucinda M. Findley, organized.

Continued on Page 66
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A first-year student, Emily Liu ’08, brought home the competition’s top award when she won Best Oralist in the national Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition. With 43 teams, this was the largest competition in the North East BLSA (Black Law Students Association) history.

Yet another student, Kristin Paulding ’07, picked up Best Advocate at the National Civil Trial Competition in Los Angeles.

The Buffalo Moot Court Board, run by second- and third-year students and advised by Vice Provost and Frank G. Raichle Professor of Trial and Appellate Advocacy Lucinda M. Findley, orga-

Continued on Page 66

Marissa Coheley ’08 and Jeffrey Gleason ’08 were the winners of the 2006 Desmond Moot Court competition.

George Bundy Smith, former Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals.

Leslie G. Foschio ’65, Federal Magistrate Judge in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York, and Nancy E. Smith, Justice of the New York Supreme Court for the Seventh Judicial District.


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PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Trial competition program helps students refine their litigation skills

By Caroline B. Brancatella ’07

With classes to attend and careers to get started, most University at Buffalo students juggle a full schedule. Yet many still find the time to prepare for and compete in UB’s many moot court and mock trial competitions, where they refine their research, writing, and oral advocacy skills with the assistance of faculty, attorneys and judges.

UB students have a wide array of legal subject matter and oral argument style to choose from though the various competitions in which the school participates. Over the years, our programs have won many awards and have achieved a national reputation for excellence.

Our students both hosted and represented the Law School at numerous oral advocacy contests throughout 2005-06.

In the first National Ethics Trial
UB Law wins first place in first national ethics trial competition

University at Buffalo Law School’s national trial team of Sara Wesley, John Menna, Janine Sprague and David Hoffman, coached by alumni Diane Lavalle, "island Michael P. Daumen ’74, took first place in the first annual National Ethics Trial Competition hosted by Pacific McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento California on March 16-19, 2006. Sara Wesley received top honors as best overall advocate.

Fourteen teams (Georgetown, UC Davis, University of Georgia, Fordham, Stetson, Pacific-McGeorge, Chicago-Kent, Pepperdine, Denver, Connecticut, South Texas, Houston, Temple and UB competed. UB defeated Fordham, U. Conn, and S. Texas before winning a unanimous decision against Pacific McGeorge (the host team) in the finals. The case was one of legal malpractice in which the plaintiff, a large hotel chain, alleged that their former attorney negligently represented their interests in defending against a wrongful death action in which a hotel patron had been murdered.

This competition was an invitational that included some of the top trial programs in the country. According to Hon. Thomas P. Franzcyk, a Buffalo City Court judge who oversees the trial advocacy program at UB Law, "Stetson is one of the best in the country, as Temple; they won the Buffalo-Niagara in 2004. Chicago Kent is also one of the best. All of the others are tops notch as well. Of course, UB, in my humble and unbiased opinion, is right up there.

This is the third competition that was won by the Wesley, Sprague, Menna trio, this time with the help of solid newcomer David Hoffman," said Franczyk.

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UB Law hosts the annual National Tax Competition, which is sponsored by the Toronto-based law firm of Fasken-Martineu. It focuses on international treaty governance and is exclusively for first year law students. The 2006 team consisted of Jeff Gleason ’08 and Marissa Coheley ’08 who were named 2006’s overall winners. Runners up were James Cole ’07 and Jennifer Howland ’07.

Hannah Moore ’07, 2006-2007 Buffalo National Ethics Trial Competition, is developing her legal skills as a first year law student. The Jessup Board also administers the annual ethics trial competition, which is sponsored by the Canadian-American Law Institute of Case Western Reserve University and focuses on international trade issues between the United States and Canada. This year’s Jessup Board consists of Jason Almonte ’07, Nicole Parshall ’07, Theo Nickerson ’08 and Adam O’Brien ’08. Additionally, UB’s Jessup Board is one of six schools that compete in the Fasken-Martineu Moot Court Competition.
The first-year mentoring program provides law students with a personal introduction to the legal community. Mentors provide invaluable guidance, advice and feedback on everything from interview etiquette to law office politics. Law students are able to ask their mentors questions and obtain information that they could not elsewhere or would be afraid to ask. Mentors also benefit by having a first-hand view of UB Law School, current legal education and the new associates of the future.

Last year the Law School’s Mentoring Committee of alumni and administrators led by Sheri Mooney, a partner at Damon & Morey, and Melinda Saran, Vice Dean for Student Affairs at UB Law School, personally matched 255 first-year law students with 204 volunteer attorneys, including alumni of UB Law and other attorneys in Western New York and Rochester. Attorneys received a free CLE, including training on mentoring, and met their mentees at a January reception hosted by the law school. Mentors are admitted attorneys who have been in practice at least five years. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Melinda Saran, Dean for Student Affairs, at 645-6223.

First years are introduced to the legal community

Students + Mentors = Success

Andre L. Lindsay ’08 and Arizvel Tinoco ’08

Above, Adam R. O’Brien ’08.

Left, Mark W. Warren ’83 and Catherine I. Lynch ’08.

Ginger D. Schroder ’90 and Kristi M. Rich ’08.

Above, Madhu Parthasarathy ’08 and Sunny W. Noh ’08.

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Shelly P. Tsai ’08 and Barbara Howe ’80 Erie County Surrogate Judge.

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Public interest projects receive funding

22 Students Receive Summer Public Interest Fellowships

Between the 11th annual Buffalo Public Interest Law Program (BPILP) Auction and various other events, 2005-06 BPILP activities raised an impressive $26,000 to be used toward providing UB Law School students with the opportunity to accept unpaid public sector summer positions. Additional support came from Dean Nils Olsen, the UB Law Alumni Association, the members and leadership of BPILP, public interest-minded alumni donors, and co-sponsoring student groups to a record total of $56,500 in summer funds. Nineteen projects – throughout the country and around the world – received funding for the summer of 2006. In addition, three outstanding students were awarded prestigious national fellowships. We are proud to announce this year’s Summer Public Interest Fellows.

Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellows
Mindi Byrd ’07: Urgent Action Fund – Nairobi, Kenya
Jennifer Contreras ’07: Nassau County District Attorney’s Office, Mineola, N.Y.
Alex Karsten ’08: Housong Opportunities Made Equal, Buffalo
Nicole Parshall ’07: Kenya Human Rights Commission, Nairobi, Kenya
Paul Perrier ’08: Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Buffalo
Tara Stahl ’08: Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Buffalo
Azra Zaidi ’07: The Innocence Project, New York City Co-Sponsored by the Buffalo Human Rights Law Review.

Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Grant Recipient
Elizabeth Kraegel ’07: International Institute of Buffalo, Buffalo

Dean’s Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellows
Emily Conley ’08: Erie County Bar Association, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Buffalo
Daniel Kuhn ’08: Monroe County Legal Assistance Center, Rochester, N.Y.
Hannah Moore ’07: U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Maine, Portland, Maine
Daniel Pautz ’08: Chenango County Public Advocate’s Office, Binghamton, N.Y.

UB Law Alumni Association’s Buffalo Public Interest Law Program Fellows
Jennifer Donlan ’08: Monroe County Public Defender’s Office, Binghamton, N.Y.
Liam Dwyer ’08: Erie County District Attorney’s Office, Buffalo
Jennifer Katz ’08: Office of the Attorney General, State of New Jersey, Trenton, N.J.

Kaplan & Reynolds Fellows
Candice Giles ’08: Erie County Bar Association, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Buffalo
Christine King ’07: U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, New York City
Nicholas Tardif ’08: U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, Pro Se Office, New York City

At left, William F. Savino ’75 served as auctioneer.

Left to right, Theo Nickerson ’08, Abby E. Oliver ’08, Elizabeth Meghan Barnett ’08 and Regina L. Reading ’08.
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**Kaplan & Reynolds Fellows**
- Amanda Bowman ’07: Office of Conflict Defender’s of Monroe County, Rochester, N.Y.

**National Fellowships**
- Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Program
  - Daniel Kuhn ’08: Monroe County Legal Assistance Center, Rochester, N.Y.

- Charles H. Revson Law Student Public Interest (LSPIN) Fellowship Grant
  - Naz Khan ’08: Michael Shein & Associates, New York City

- Kellogg’s Law Fellow Program
  - Gary Wilson, ’08: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Baltimore, Md.

**Buffalo Public Interest Law Program (BPILP) Auction**

Left to right, Theo Nickerson ’08, Abby E. Oliver ’08, Elizabeth Meghan Barnett ’08 and Regina L. Reading ’08.

Above, Michael G. Paul ’07 with wife Jennifer.

At left, William F. Savino ’75 served as auctioneer.
James R. Newton is a lawyer by training, but in his new role at the Law School, he’s an engineer—building bridges between alumni around the nation and law students looking to cross over the gap between school and practice.

Newton, whose name has become familiar to many alumni as director of the Law School’s Annual Fund program, has been named associate dean for national outreach and strategic planning. In this new role, Newton’s primary focus will be to expand job opportunities for UB Law students throughout the country, and he will work closely with the career services, alumni and development offices to achieve this objective.

“I hope to build more bridges between our alumni who are practicing around the country and our students,” says Newton. “We are looking to expand opportunities right across the board—in law firms both big and small, in government, in judicial positions, in public interest, in big and small, in government the board—in law firms both

Jim leaves the Annual Fund program in a very strong position, growing each year and exceeding the goals set for each year under his stewardship. This year, the Annual Fund currently stands at over $870,000. We have one of the best levels of participation among all public and private law schools in the country.”

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“Our students are exceptional,” he says, “and this new job provides an opportunity to open doors for them. We find that once that door is open, employers are blown away by who they are and what they can do.”

In his new role, Newton also will have responsibility for strategic planning initiatives centered on how the school markets and defines itself, facilitating collaboration between the alumni, development, career services, student services and admissions offices. He also will take charge of the school’s reporting to the American Bar Association and U.S. News and World Report, which produces a controversial but closely watched ranking of U.S. law schools.

Said Dean Nils Olsen: “This is a vital administrative reorganization at the Law School to move us to the next level in terms of all of our non-academic functions. Jim leaves the Annual Fund program in a very strong position, growing each year and exceeding the goals set for each year under his stewardship. This year, the Annual Fund currently stands at over $870,000. We have one of the best levels of participation among all public and private law schools in the country.”

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Expanding opportunities
Jim Newton builds bridges throughout the country

Our alumni are our best ambassadors to educate employers about what our students can offer,” Newton says. “We attract smart, well-qualified, well-rounded students, and they go through a very rigorous training program. There have been some incredible changes in the curriculum, and so part of my job is educating alumni as well about what is happening in the school now.”

Newton, whose J.D. degree is from Cornell Law School, worked as a corporate lawyer in a large firm and as in-house counsel doing corporate transactions, before joining UB Law School as assistant dean for development in November 2003.

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The elegant confines of the Buffalo Club were the perfect backdrop for the 17th annual Buffalo Law Review Dinner on April 27, highlighting unprecedented achievements for the Law School’s premier legal journal.

This year’s staff, noted Editor in Chief Sachin Kohli ’06, was the first to publish nine issues of the Law Review. “I am particularly proud of this achievement,” Kohli said, who noted also the publication of the journal’s second annual essay issue. In addition, he said, the staff made it a priority this year to “reconnect with our nearly 1,200 Law Review alumni” by publishing the journal’s first alumni newsletter.

Two of those alumni – coincidentally, both members of the Class of 1982 – were honored for their service to UB Law School and to the legal community. In their Law School years, Robert C. Schwenkel was an articles editor for the Law Review, and Denise E. O’Donnell, now a familiar face as a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council, was a senior editor.

“I have always been very grateful to the Law School for the opportunities it has given me,” said Schwenkel, who chairs the corporate department for the New York City firm Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson. “A lot of the people who have been honored at this dinner were people who taught me at the Law School.”

Beyond teaching, Schwenkel said, he has benefited from personal advice as well. “At the Law School, people took an interest in my career,” he said. “Mentoring is something we should all do. I consider it an obligation, and a joy as well. If I could pass anything on to future generations, it is that I hope you will do the same thing you are honoring me for, mentoring people and helping them out.”

O’Donnell, a partner in the law firm Hodgson Russ who was in the midst of a campaign for New York State attorney general, said part of the pleasure of her award was simply the chance to be home in Buffalo. On the campaign trail, she said, “I speak out about Buffalo and Western New York, but I also talk about the Law School, because I never would be where I am today without the Law School.”

O’Donnell also said her work on the Buffalo Law Review played a key part in the direction her career has taken. “The Law Review had a lot to do with shaping my career.”

The student awards were:
- Carlos C. Alden Award, to the senior making the greatest contribution to the Law Review: Sachin Kohli.
- Justice Philip Halpern Award, to a senior for excellence in writing on the Law Review: Angel M. Overgaard.
- Associate Publication Awards, for excellence in writing: Stacy A. Hartley, for a piece on Oregon’s Death With Dignity Act; Leah R. Mervine, on the concept of “curative” damages; Michelle A. Daubert, on due process during times of public quarantine; and Anshu S.K. Pasricha, for a piece on issues in India’s financial sector.

The Buffalo Law Review Dinner Committee was chaired by Michael D. Mann ’06, with Enam Hoque ’06 as vice chair.
Dinner celebrates a busy year for Buffalo Law Review

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Left to right, Kristen Henry, with fiance Donald A. Young ’07, Paul S. Fusco ’06 and wife Tracy.

Denise E. O’Donnell ’82

Angel M. Overgaard ’06

Michael D. Mann ’06, left, and Sachin Kohli ’06

Robert C. Schwenkel ’82

Left to right, Robert C. Schwenkel, Denise E. O’Donnell, Sachin Kohli and Paul S. Fusco.
The beauty and meaning of the rainbow was everywhere—from a rainbow flag behind the dais, to the votive candles on the tables, to a length of ribbon cleverly woven into the evening’s program—at the 10th annual OUTLaw Dinner. Held May 3 in the Buffalo/Niagara Marriott, the dinner was a gathering for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender law students, and their heterosexual allies, and a time to celebrate the diversity that the rainbow has come to represent.

Incoming OUTLaw President Alex Kansten gave a brief history of how the rainbow was adopted as a symbol, saying, “For as long as there has been a gay community, it has come in Technicolor.” The first rainbow flag was created in 1978, she said, and it had eight colors. But the pink created production problems, so the familiar seven-color rainbow flag—in red, orange, yellow, blue, green, indigo and violet—came to be the standard.

Kansten also called for greater inclusiveness, saying that the movement should do more to welcome transgender people and persons of color. “We not only celebrate how far we have come, but how far we have to travel to realize the full potential of this flag,” she said.

Linda Marsh ’78, of the Buffalo law firm Ziller, Marsh & Lang, spoke in introduction to the night’s honoree, Marvin L. Henchbarger, executive director of Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of Western New York. Marsh, whose older son is gay, is president of GLYS. The organization is, she said, “a place of personal growth, of advocacy, of all kinds of wonderful projects. It is just a wonderful place.”

The honoree, Marsh said, “does everything she does with such passion and dedication for the GLLY youth and adults. She just makes Western New York a better place.”

Henchbarger began by saying that observers tend to focus on the problems faced by gay and lesbian young people—such issues as alcohol and drug abuse, and high dropout rates. “But our young people are fine,” she said. “They are absolutely fine: There is nothing wrong with our young people. The problem is with our society that cannot accept anyone different.”

She then spoke about some of the young people who have been an integral part of Gay and Lesbian Youth Services—for example, the young woman who came dressed entirely in black clothes, hair hanging over one eye, piercings all over, and an attitude to match. “As we got to know her and the layers peeled away, she turned out to be a pretty terrific person. Just today I saw her left eye for the first time!”

At Niagara Falls High School, she said, a gay-straight alliance group has formed despite the county’s generally conservative bent. “These young people are remarkable,” she said. “Some of them are not even out at home: In the face of the things they deal with, they do very well.”

And indeed, she said, people in Western New York have in general become more accepting over the years. She remembered that in 1986 when GLYS needed new office space, it was hard to come by, when the program finally landed at the YWCA, there were indignant letters to the editor and even bomb threats. By contrast, she said, GLYS moved again last year—and the group had people calling with offers of space.

For the lawyers and future lawyers in attendance, Henchbarger noted that “legal services have not caught up” to this broad change in attitudes. In such areas as same-sex marriage and spousal rights, she said, “you have the power to change that.”

Outgoing OUTLaw President Heath Miller ’07 recognized fellow student Jason Joaquin Almonte ’07 for writing a grant application to Sub Board I that won a $750 programming grant for the dinner. He also thanked UB Law School Dean Nils Olsen, who was present, for a Dean’s Grant in support. The UB Law Alumni Association and the Student Bar Association also contributed financially to the event.

Graduating senior Jessica M. Keltz ’06 was presented the Lavender Gavel Award for her work with OUTLaw.
The beauty and meaning of the rainbow was everywhere – from a rainbow flag behind the dais, to the votive candles on the tables, to a length of ribbon cleverly woven into the evening’s program – at the 10th annual OUTLaw Dinner.

Held May 3 in the Buffalo/Niagara Marriott, the dinner was a gathering for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender law students, and their heterosexual allies, and a time to celebrate the diversity that the rainbow has come to represent.

Incoming OUTLaw President Alex Kansten gave a brief history of how the rainbow was adopted as a symbol, saying, “For as long as there has been a gay community, it has come in Technicolor.” The first rainbow flag was created in 1978, she said, and it had eight colors. But the pink created production problems, so the familiar seven-color rainbow flag – in red, orange, yellow, blue, green, indigo and violet – came to be the standard.

Kansten also called for greater inclusiveness, saying that the movement should do more to welcome transgender people and persons of color. “We not only celebrate how far we have come, but how far we have to travel to realize the full potential of this flag,” she said.

Linda Marsh ’78, of the Buffalo law firm Ziller, Marsh & Lang, spoke in introduction to the night’s honoree, Marvin L. Henchbarger, executive director of Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of Western New York.

The organization is, she said, “a place of personal growth, of advocacy, of all kinds of wonderful projects. It is just a wonderful place.”

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She then spoke about some of the young people who have been an integral part of Gay and Lesbian Youth Services – for example, the young woman who came dressed entirely in black clothes, hair hanging over one eye, piercings all over, and an attitude to match. “As we got to know her and the layers peeled away, she turned out to be a pretty terrific person. Just today I saw her left eye for the first time!”

At Niagara Falls High School, she said, a gay-straight alliance group has formed despite the county’s generally conservative bent. “These young people are remarkable,” she said. “Some of them are not even out at home. In the face of the things they deal with, they do very well.”

And indeed, she said, people in Western New York have in general become more accepting over the years. She remembered that in 1986 when GLYS needed new office space, it was hard to come by, when the program finally landed at the YWCA, there were indignant letters to the editor and even bomb threats. By contrast, she said, GLYS moved again last year – and the group had people calling with offers of space.

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together
forever

Students of Color Dinner cements ties for life

Solidarity of all sorts – among racial and ethnic groups, among students and faculty, and among Law School classes – was at the forefront in the 17th annual Students of Color Dinner. Held April 20 in a ballroom of the Buffalo/Niagara Marriott, the dinner honored members of the Asian-American, Black and Latin American Law Students Associations as they approached Commencement. The full color program booklet gave each graduating student a page – a blank slate on which they expressed thanks to parents and friends, spoke about their hopes for life after Law School, and threw in a few pictures for good measure.

Honor Barbara Howe ’80, Erie County surrogate judge, was present to receive the Trailblazer Award for her achievements on the bench and in the legal profession. Her remarks centered on the continuing value of education. “At the end of the day,” Howe said, “I am committed to education as the means for everyone to be the best they can be in a competitive society.”

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Students pass the legacy
in the traditional candle-lighting ceremony.

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“At the end of the day,” Howe said, “I am so committed to education as the means for everyone to be the best they can be in a competitive society.” Having taught in UB’s Department of Sociology, Howe continues in a faculty capacity as an adjunct clinical professor of law and associate professor of sociology. “I now have had hundreds and hundreds of students go on to success in law and law-related fields,” she said, encouraging the departing class to stay in touch. “I am in the phone book — call me,” she said.

Howe also spoke of the proper attitude for attorneys in their professional life, quoting Martin Luther King Jr.: “We must combine the toughness of the serpent and the softness of the dove. A tough mind and a tender heart.”

Mark K. Suzumoto ’82 was the evening’s keynote speaker. Suzumoto, who described himself as “a very ordinary UB Law student,” is a business lawyer and litigator. He is a partner in the Corporate Services Department of the Los Angeles office of McGuireWoods, and serves as an active member of the Dean’s Advisory Council.

Suzumoto gave a practical accounting of what it is like to be a practicing lawyer, and said five qualities are important in the legal life:

• Excellence. “We all want to do the best that we can for our clients. You always strive to provide the best guidance you can.”
• Punctuality, dependability, follow-through, returning messages — mean a lot.
• Collegiality. “It is about teamwork,” he said. “It is about respect for other people. It is about the Golden Rule.”
• Integrity. “You have to be trust-worthy, loyal and respectful,” he said, citing as a counterexample “some very respected lawyers in Los Angeles who will be wearing broader pinstripes very soon.” “The reputation you establish as lawyers will be your stock in trade,” he said.
• Service to the community. “This is lifting as we climb,” he said. “This is what makes practicing law fun, enjoyable and fulfilling. It is service to the community that really distinguishes you. I encourage each of you, when you are looking for jobs at firms, to look at their pro bono policy — see if they have adopted the ABA standard of 2 to 5 percent of hours as pro bono.”

UB Law Professor Rebecca French was chosen as Professor of the Year by the graduating class. “You have really gotten me in the deepest part of my heart,” she said in response. “I really, more than anything in the world, care about you. It matters to me that when you get out there, you shine like a star. I want you to shine.”

Two graduates were chosen to receive Distinguished Alumni Awards. Vikki L. Pryor ’78, president and chief executive officer of SBLI USA Mutual Life Insurance Co., and a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council, said to the students, “I do not know you personally, but you mean a lot to me. We are all depending on you to make the world a wonderful place.”

Irene Chiu ’00, an associate practicing international business law in the Princeton, N.J., firm Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, had these words of advice: “Do not let anyone tell you what your limit is, because the sky is the limit.”

After the graduating seniors were recognized, Crystal Rodriguez ’06 narrated the traditional candle-lighting ceremony, at which the mantle of achievement was passed from the seniors to the second-year class.

Students of Color Dinner was chaired by Jaca Smith ’07 and Carolina Felix ’07.
A young scholar and professor from Israel’s Bar Ilan University came to UB Law School on Nov. 30 to address perhaps the most important facet of international law today: the fight against terrorism.

Professor Abraham “Avi” Bell’s address in O’Brien Hall was titled “The Overlooked Obligation to Fight Terror Under International Law.” Drawing on his scholarly work in international legal conventions, Bell explored nuances of two United Nations Security Council resolutions meant to fight terrorism, and demonstrated that states’ obligations to act against terrorists and their supporters are more widespread than is often realized.

Bell, a former clerk for a justice of Israel’s Supreme Court, is a visiting professor at Fordham University this year. His legal education was at the University of Chicago and Harvard University.

Bell began by noting that, in this time of near-constant talk of terrorism, there is no accepted definition under international law for what constitutes terrorism.

He cited, for example, an Amnesty International report from 2002 that acknowledged, “One person’s terrorist is another person’s freedom fighter.”

“That struck me as extremely odd,” he said, “because there are a number of international instruments that specifically bar acts of terror and create legal obligations having to do with acts of terrorism, terrorists and terrorist organizations. Yes, there is some ambiguity in the term. On the other hand, that is true of a lot of legal doctrines.”

Existing international law, Bell said, requires states to combat terrorism in various ways, both directly and indirectly. He discussed at length two specific instances of such law: Security Council Resolution 1371, passed just two weeks after the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, and Resolution 1566, passed in October 2004.

The first, Bell said, directed that states must “suppress and prevent financing of terrorist acts, criminalize collecting of funds to carry out terror, deny support to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, deny safe haven to those who plan or commit terrorist acts, ensure that those involved are brought to justice, and prevent the movement of terrorist groups.”

In detailing this resolution, Bell cited international conventions against piracy, hijacking and hostage-taking, and the distinction in the law of war against attacking civilian populations. “In acts of war, one must aim one’s attacks at legitimate targets and not at illegitimate targets,” he said. Legitimate targets are “property that contributes to the military effort of the enemy or persons taking part in military effort of the enemy.”

“Terrorism is not war,” he said, “because there are a number of nuances of the law of war against terrorism. In these attacks on legitimate targets, it is OK to impose collateral damage – it is OK to destroy civilian property and kill civilians, so long as damage to civilians is not excessive in relation to the military damage.”

Resolution 1566, he said, expands the duties of states beyond simply acting against financing and refraining from providing support. It requires states to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism, to freeze bank accounts and bring to justice persons who support, facilitate, participate in or plan to participate in terrorist acts. The resolution demands that states become parties to the relevant international conventions and protocols, whether or not they are a party to regional conventions on the matter.

That last provision, he said, is crucial, because it says nations may not justify supporting terrorism based on political, racial, ethnic, philosophical or religious reasons.

The 1996 anti-terrorism convention of the Arab League, he said, prohibited support for acts of terrorism, but made an exception for “cases of struggle for liberation and self-determination.” In effect, Bell said, under the Arab Convention, “acts that would otherwise be considered terrorism would not be considered terrorism if they are carried out against Israel.” But the 2004 UN resolution, he said, disallows such an exception.

Other elements of international law can be construed as applying to the war on terrorism. Bell said. For example, he said, the Convention on Genocide defines genocide broadly enough that it incorporates acts that many would consider acts of terrorism, and mandates punishment for those committing such acts.

The Convention on Genocide, he said, defines genocide as the intent to destroy a national ethnic, racial or religious group, and the act of “killing of any member of the group, injuring a member of the group, or directly acting to bring about its destruction.”

For example, Bell said, “if Hezbollah has the intent to destroy Israeli Jews in whole or in part, then a single killing is an act of genocide.” A single act of causing serious bodily or mental harm is an act of genocide. That means that states that are signatories to the Convention on Genocide must prevent and punish this.

The Convention, he said, also extends to conspiracy, incitement, attempts to commit genocide or complicity in genocide. So, he said, under the incitement provision, “If the multi (an Islamic scholar who interprets the Shari’ah law) broadcasts a message telling us that Jews are always the enemy, arguably that is incitement to commit genocide, even without any acts of violence.”

Bell’s appearance in Buffalo was sponsored by the Jewish Law Students Association, the American Jewish Committee, Sub-Board I, Hillel and Scholars for Peace in the Middle East.
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“Terrorism, terrorists and terrorist organizations bar acts of terror and create legal obstacles to those who plan or commit terrorist acts, deny support to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, deny safe haven to those who plan or commit terrorist acts, and prevent the movement of terrorist groups,” Bell said.

In detailing this resolution, Bell cited international conventions against piracy, hijacking and hostage-taking, and the distinction in the law of war against attacking civilian populations. “In acts of war, one must aim one’s attacks at legitimate targets and not at illegitimate targets,” he said. “Legitimate targets are ‘property that contributes to the military effort of the enemy or persons taking part in military effort of the enemy.’”

This does not mean, he said, that civilians are entirely off limits. “The law of proportionality,” Bell said, says essentially: “In these attacks on legitimate targets, it is OK to impose collateral damage – it is OK to destroy civilian property and kill civilians, so long as damage to civilians is not excessive in relation to the military damage.”

Resolution 1566, he said, expands the duties of states “beyond simply acting against financing and refraining from providing support. It requires states to cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism, to find terrorists and bring them to justice.”

“Not only must they stop providing support,” Bell said, “they must go out and bring to justice persons who support, facilitate, participate or plan to participate in terrorist acts. The resolution demands that states become parties to the relevant international conventions and protocols, whether or not they are a party to regional conventions on the matter.”

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New assistant professor focuses on intellectual property law

Bartholomew, who comes to Buffalo from the Sonoma County Counsel’s Office in Santa Rosa, Calif., handled intellectual property law, especially as it relates to cyberspace. Bartholomew grew up in South Bend, Ind., where both his parents were educators; his father was a professor at the local campus of Indiana University. “I am just very interested in education in general. I think I am hard-wired to see that as important,” he said. He got a taste of Western New York during his undergraduate work at Cornell University in Ithaca. His wife, Christine, is also a lawyer; she telecommutes for her job doing anti-trust work for a California law firm. She also will teach a class in anti-trust law at UB Law School in the spring semester.

“I like the interdisciplinary focus here,” he said. “It is fun to hear what somebody else is working on. And it is a place where we can put you in touch with someone else who shares your academic interests.”

Bartholomew’s legal research has come to focus on trademarks, patents and other aspects of intellectual property law, especially as it relates to cyberspace. A forthcoming piece in the Oklahoma Law Review deals with a trademark analysis of search engine advertising. There is a revolution now in copyright law, he said, “with the prevalence of digital imaging and the Internet. Anybody who wants to download a song has to deal with that.”

UB Law now offers a concentration in IP law. Bartholomew will join Professor Robert J. Bent as a specialist in the field. There are preliminary plans, though thinking through the legal regulation of religion in the modern world,” she says. “There is a certain intensity because of the visibility of religion in public life right now,” Sullivan says, citing such public policy debates as abortion, homosexuality, doping, euthanasia and public funding of faith-based initiatives. But, she notes, the tension between religion and public policy is not new to our time: “There have always been such cases.”

During this fellowship year, she has conversed with 30 to 40 fellows working in various academic fields and worked on two books, with the hope of finishing one during the fellowship. Then she will come to Buffalo. Sullivan is familiar with Western New York, having done her undergraduate work at Cornell University in Ithaca. There are a number of reasons why it is exciting to come to Buffalo, she said, citing the presence in O’Brian Hall of other faculty with academic interests in law and religion, as well as the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy. “Even in this age of the Internet, there’s nothing like face to face. The proximity to Canada is very interesting as well, with all sorts of possibilities for cross-border conversations.” This, she said, “is an unusual law school that is open to interdisciplinary conversation.”

Sullivan’s most recent book is The Impossibility of Religious Freedom (Princeton University Press, 2005). “There is a very real sense in which religious freedom is turning out to be impossible to realize, even in the United States,” she writes in the foreword to that book, which is built around a trial over whether a Florida cemetery could legally remove religious-themed memorial arrangements that families had placed on their loved ones’ graves in defiance of local cemetery regulations.

“Religion and law today speak in languages largely opaque to each other,” she also writes, and Sullivan’s work seeks to bridge that gap – a vital task in the modern world,” she says. “There is a certain intensity because of the visibility of religion in public life right now,” Sullivan says, citing such public policy debates as abortion, homosexuality, doping, euthanasia and public funding of faith-based initiatives. But, she notes, the tension between religion and public policy is not new to our time: “There have always been such cases.”

Bartholomew said, to implement a patent law clinic that would work with the University’s technology transfer office, which manages the commercialization of technology developed at the school. “It is a place where we can try a lot of new approaches,” he said. “We can tailor it to students. We do not have to follow a set pattern.”

Bartholomew is teaching a fall-semester course in Trademarks and Unfair Competition, and in the spring will teach a copyright course and a seminar on legal and cultural issues in cyberspace.

“I think of myself as somebody who studies the intersection of religion and law,” she says. “I am not trained as a theologian, I am trained in the comparative study of religion. What I think of myself doing is looking at the way judges and lawyers talk about religion.”

Bartholomew grew up in South Bend, Ind., where both his parents were educators; his father was a professor at the local campus of Indiana University. “I am just very interested in education in general. I think I am hard-wired to see that as important,” he said. He got a taste of Western New York during his undergraduate work at Cornell University in Ithaca. His wife, Christine, is also a lawyer; she telecommutes for her job doing anti-trust work for a California law firm. She also will teach a class in anti-trust law at UB Law School in the spring semester.

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FROM COURTROOM TO CLASSROOM

Faculty

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UB Law now offers a concentration in IP law; Bartholomew will join Professor Robert I. Reis as a specialist in copyright law; Bartholomew will join Professor Mark Bartholomew, whose published articles range beyond IP to such topics as administrative law and religion and public life. No sooner had she been offered the Buffalo teaching position than the news came that she had won a spot in the prestigious National Humanities Center fellowship program in North Carolina. As a result, while she has joined the UB Law faculty, she is spending the 2006-07 academic year at the Triangle Park, N.C., doing research and working on two books.

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COMING SOON

Scholar of religion joins UB Law faculty, but not quite yet

Sometimes good things come in twos. That has proved to be the case for UB Law School’s newest faculty member, Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, who shares your academic interests. “I am not trained as a theologian. I am trained in the comparative study of religion,” she says. “I am not trained as a lawyer, but I have a law degree.”

She also will teach a class in anti-trust law at UB Law School in the spring semester. “I think of myself as somebody who studies the intersection of religion and law,” she says. “I am not trained as a theologian. I am trained in the comparative study of religion. What I think of myself doing is looking at the way judges and lawyers talk about religion.”

Sullivan’s most recent book is The Impossibility of Religious Freedom (Princeton University Press, 2005). “There is a very real sense in which religious freedom is turning out to be impossible to realize, even in the United States,” she writes in the foreword to that book, which is built around a trial over whether a Florida cemetery could legally remove religious-themed memorial arrangements that families had placed on their loved ones’ graves in defiance of local cemetery regulations.

Religion and law today speak in languages largely opaque to each other, she also writes, and Sullivan’s work seeks to bridge that gap – a vital task in a time of growing religious pluralism in the United States and worldwide. “This,” she said, “is an unusual law school that is open to interdisciplinary conversation.”

There are a number of reasons why it is exciting to come to Buffalo,” she said, citing the presence in O’Brian Hall of other faculty with academic interests in law and religion, as well as the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy. “Even in this age of the Internet, there’s nothing like face to face. The proximity to Canada is very interesting as well, with all sorts of possibilities for cross-border conversations. “This,” she said, “is an unusual law school that is open to interdisciplinary conversation.”

FROM COURTROOM TO CLASSROOM

New assistant professor focuses on intellectual property law

Associate Professor Mark Bartholomew.

Bartholomew, who comes to Buffalo from the Sonoma County Counsel’s Office in Santa Rosa, Calif., and handled intellectual property law, especially in cases where the creation of technology developed at the school. “It is a place where we can try a lot of new approaches,” he said. “We can tailor it to students. We do not have to follow a set pattern.”

Bartholomew is teaching a fall-semester course in Trademarks and Unfair Competition, and in the spring will teach a copyright course and a seminar on legal and cultural issues in cyberspace.

Bartholomew grew up in South Bend, Ind., where both his parents were educators; his father was a professor at the local campus of Indiana University. “I am just very interested in education in general. I think I am hard-wired to see that as important,” he said. He got a taste of Western New York during his undergraduate work at Cornell University, in Ithaca. His wife, Christine, is also a lawyer; he telecommutes for her job doing anti-trust work for a California law firm. She also will teach a class in anti-trust law at UB Law School in the spring semester.

“I like the interdisciplinary focus here,” he said. “It is fun to hear what somebody else is working on. And it is really nice to have the Baldy Center in-house. They really know people around the school – you just have to send an e-mail or call them, and they will put you in touch with someone who shares your academic interests.”

Bartholomew’s legal research has come to focus on trademarks, patents and other aspects of intellectual property law, especially as it relates to cyberspace. A forthcoming piece in the Oklahoma Law Review deals with a trademark analysis of search engine advertising. “There is a revolution now in copyright law,” he said, “with the prevalence of digital imaging and the Internet. Anybody who wants to download a song has to deal with that.”

UB Law now offers a concentration in IP law; Bartholomew will join Professor Robert I. Reis as a specialist in copyright law; Bartholomew will join Professor Mark Bartholomew, whose published articles range beyond IP to such topics as administrative law and religion and public life. No sooner had she been offered the Buffalo teaching position than the news came that she had won a spot in the prestigious National Humanities Center fellowship program in North Carolina. As a result, while she has joined the UB Law faculty, she is spending the 2006-07 academic year at the Triangle Park, N.C., doing research and working on two books.

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THE NEXT ACT

Professors Newhouse and Atleson transitioning to retirement

Two longtime professors with deep roots at UB Law School are making the transition away from the classroom. Wade J. Newhouse, professor emeritus and former dean of the school, and James B. Atleson, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, have 90 years’ experience at UB Law between them. Now each is cutting back his teaching load and sampling life beyond full-time academia.

In 1954, Professor John Lord O’Brian called upon Wade Newhouse to teach at the Law School, at a time of tremendous detail work – examining the blueprints of three or four recently built law schools and Fashioning the best floor plan for Buffalo. “We were under strict orders not to draw anything, that was the architects’ job,” he recalls. “But I drew up a schematic and then converted it to a list of space requirements.” One innovation. In a minimum 180-square-foot office for professors were standard. “I knew I wanted at least 200 square feet in a faculty office – enough room for a table and four chairs, so there could be individual conferences,” he says. He succeeded, despite Albany budget-watchers who were trying to minimize space, and thus construction costs. Newhouse said he also had to fight to make sure the law school was housed in its own building, which he considered essential for developing a sense of community.

His interest in education law came when he served on a local school board. “I was elected as a sheer fluke,” he demurs. His youngest son had a learning disability, and Newhouse quickly learned how difficult it was at that time to get the services his son needed. “At that time there was very little help for handicapped students,” he says. “There was some law there, but people really did not know their rights. It was being ignored by a lot of schools.”

He helped to found the Education Law Clinic and taught a course, Law and Public Education, for both the Law School and the School of Education. Newhouse also has made major contributions to the administration of the school, including serving three times as interim librarian and a stint as director of the Jaeckle Center for State and Local Democracy. He served as Law School dean in 1986-87, accepting the position with the stipulation that his term last no more than two years. As dean, he reviewed the school’s administrative structure, worked to bring the budget under control and computerize the school’s finances, and installed an accounting system that enabled better financial decision-making.

Newhouse and his wife, Rita, continue to live nearby in Amherst. They have three grown children. “That may not be all bad,” he says, too, that his voluminous academic writing on labor law topics has often been sparked by interactions with his classes. “I always thought that my writing came out of the courses that I taught. The ideas always sprang from my coursework. . . . I also like the fact that I have become friends with many of my students. I still see them and correspond with them. That has been really rewarding.”

His latest project is a first-of-its-kind textbook on international labor law, written with four fellow authors in an interest group called the Labor Law Group. “It will deal with international law that is taught in my classes. . . . I also like the fact that I have become friends with many of my students. I still see them and correspond with them. That has been really rewarding.”

Continued on Page 87
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Professor Wade Newhouse was named professor emeritus in 1993 but has continued to teach at the Law School, at first full time but in recent years with a gradually reduced load. Now 84, and approaching the golden anniversary of his arrival at the school in 1958, he has completed his last course, in public-sector labor law. He came hoping to teach international law, Newhouse said, but spent much of his career teaching constitutional law, education law, collective bargaining and other courses.

The University became part of the State University of New York system not long after he arrived, and the question of building a new campus arose. Newhouse was called upon to serve as faculty representative to the architects who were designing what would become John Lord O’Brian Hall on the North Campus. He remembers it as a time of tremendous detail work – examining the blueprints of three or four recently built law schools and fashioning the best floor plan for Buffalo.

“We were under strict orders not to draw anything, that was the architects’ job,” he recalls. “But I drew up a schematic and then converted it to a list of space requirements.” One innovation. In an era when 110-square-foot offices for professors were standard, “I knew I wanted at least 200 square feet in a faculty office – enough room for a table and four chairs, so there could be

individual conferences.” He succeeded, despite Albany budget-watchers who were trying to minimize space, and thus construction costs. Newhouse said he also had to fight to make sure the Law School was housed in its own building, which he considered essential for developing a sense of community. His interest in education law came when he served on a local school board. (“I was elected as a sheer fluke,” he demurs.) His youngest son had a learning disability, and Newhouse quickly learned how difficult it was at that time to get the services his son needed. “At that time there was very little help for handicapped students,” he says. “There was some law there, but people really did not know their rights. It was being ignored by a lot of schools.”

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I have always liked our students. I have taught at four other schools (Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Texas, and Georgetown), and I have always enjoyed coming back. Our students are unique in many ways, and they are just fun. They are more interesting and less stiff than in other places I have taught.

That is true with my colleagues as well. Buffalo is known as a place of imaginative work, and its courses as well. It probably does not get the reputation and respect it deserves. Among those who know Buffalo, it is known as a very special place. That is true of the library staff as well. At every one of the schools I have been, they all know about our staff. They have always been ahead of the curve.”

Over the years, he said, “the students’ lives outside the school have changed. I get the impression there are so many things they can do with their time. When I was a student, one of my friends had a television set. Occasionally we went over to his house and watched some spotting event. Now the students all have television sets, computers, they search the Net, they seem to spend a lot of time on other things. That may not be all bad.”

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FACING OFF AGAINST CORRUPTION

Photo by Zipporah Musau

A longtime friendship recently put UBLaw Professor Makau Mutua in the middle of a controversy that has shaken the government of Kenya. Mutua has been serving as legal and political adviser to John Githongo, the opposition party’s anti-corruption czar. Githongo’s accusations of government corruption, in the form of fictitious procurement schemes totaling more than $1 billion, have led to the resignations of three senior ministers.

Mutua was in Kenya for a sabbatical leave at the Kenya High Commission in London early in 2006. "Someone said to him (Githongo) the bullet that was intended for him would also be intended for me," the professor said. "John is not a lawyer, so he asked me, what could he do with this information?"

At the end of two weeks there, we decided to put together a dossier, which in effect would be the anatomy of a scandal, putting down the facts, who was involved, when, the amount of money involved, who was being paid, what services were delivered and what were not, all of those things. We produced a 100-page dossier that read like an indictment for the money stolen by these people. I was trying to make sure that what we had would stand up in a court of law.

The result was a media bombshell. Some of Githongo’s tapes were played on the BBC, and the scandal was front-page news in Kenya for almost two months. Three senior ministers resigned their portfolios, essentially in shame, over this," Mutua said. The Kenyan parliament then sent a committee to London in early 2006, and took testimony from Githongo. But, Mutua said, that is as far as the investigation has gone.

"The whole system is rigged to protect the perpetrators," he said. "As far as I am concerned, it is an open-and-shut case of corruption. But they simply will not prosecute.

There even have been threats to Githongo’s life — and to Mutua’s. “Someone said to him, the bullet that was intended for him would also be intended for me,” Mutua said. Despite those threats, and despite warnings that they should not return to Kenya, “we are thinking of going back sometime early in 2007. My thinking is that we need to put pressure on the government” in a year when both President Mwai Kibaki and the country’s parliament will stand for election.

“I was giving legal advice, but also helping John understand the political landscape,” Mutua said. “For me it has been gratifying, because we were able to put aside our personal friendships with individuals we knew, and who were celebrated human rights defenders, who had turned corrupt.”

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Professor Makau Mutua advises a top Kenyan whistle-blower

“Someone said to him (Githongo) the bullet that was intended for him would also be intended for me.”
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A longtime friendship recently put UB Law Professor Makau Mutua in the middle of a controversy that has shaken the government of Kenya. Mutua has been serving as legal and political adviser to John Githongo, the African nation’s former anti-graft czar.

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Mutua was in Kenya for a sabbatical long time ago; recent-ly put UB Law Professor Mutua in the middle of a controversy that has shaken the government of Kenya. Mutua has been serving as legal and political adviser to John Githongo, the African nation’s former anti-graft czar. Githongo’s accusations of government corruption, in the form of fictitious procurement schemes totaling more than $1 billion, have led to the resignations of three senior ministers.

Mutua was in Kenya for a sabbatical year beginning in 2002. “That turned out to be a very fortuitous sabbatical for me,” he said. “I went there intending just to do research, but people kept re-cruting me to participate in the opposition to the long-ruling political party, which was quite a draconian government.”

The opposition won the elections, and Mutua’s friend Githongo became the Kenyan president’s chief anti-corruption adviser. But soon, Mutua said, the new government lapsed into unethical “business as usual.” Githongo uncovered evidence fraud that included a contract awarded to a non-existent company to produce passports for Kenya. By mid-2004 Githongo had been transferred out of the state house, Mutua said, and began to fear for his safety. Early in 2005, Githongo re-located to London.

Mutua met with him there. “He had droves of information — documents as well as hundreds of hours of tapes of very senior officials,” the professor said. “I went there intending just to do research, but people kept recruiting me to participate in the opposition to the long-ruling political party, which was quite a draconian government.”

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A brief sampling of quotes from UB Law professors in the national and international media this year

**Professor Lee A. Albert**
Recalls Alito in Boston Globe, USA Today
Articles in the Boston Globe and USA Today on the nomination of Samuel A. Alito, Jr. to the Supreme Court quoted UB Law School professor Lee Albert, who taught Alito at Yale University and maintained a close relationship with him over the years. Albert called his former student “thoughtful, serious, responsible and articulate,” and contrasted him to another former student, Hillary Clinton, whom “you would have picked out immediately as someone who was going places in a big hurry.”

**Professor Charles Patrick Ewing**
Says in Seattle Post Intelligencer that Lennon’s killer marks 25 years of infamy
Chapman has come up for parole three times, and each time been denied. He’ll again be eligible next October, but according to Charles P. Ewing, a professor of law at the University of Buffalo (SUNY), his chances are between “slim and none” of ever being paroled. “Very few people with a life cap ever get paroled and his case has generated so much negative publicity,” Ewing says.

**Professor Rebecca R. French**
Discusses the Dalai Lama in Business First
“He’s talked about human rights and the relationship between Buddhism and politics, but he’s never really talked about law in respect to Buddhism,” Professor Rebecca French, an international authority on Tibetan law, before the 14th Dalai Lama presided over a discussion of law and Buddhism.

**Professor Lynn Mather**
Speaks of women and financial issues during divorce in The Buffalo News
“They’re emotional. They interfere with the ability to ask rational questions and understand financial detail,” said Lynn Mather, a professor of law and political science and author of ‘DIVORCE LAWYERS AT WORK.” Women should be paying attention to the financial details within a marriage.”

**Professor Teresa A. Miller**
Talks to the New York Times about the growing number of companies that are defaulting on employee pension plans.
“Congress knew it was creating an imperfect system when it established the pension corporation in 1974, and that it expected to make improvements later.”

**Professor James A. Wooten**
Discusses the impact terminated pensions will have on people when they retire.
“If you have a really high pension, you have a problem…Pilot pensions and early retirees are the main places you see cuts.”

**Professor James A. Gardiner**
Discusses the Alaska Constitution in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Alaska got off to “a good start” as a new state without much internal political development. “A lot of state constitutions are considerably older … and they have tended to grow and develop by accretion. You get this kind of barnacle-encrusted armature that loses its shape or integrity.”
Faculty

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

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Professor Teresa A. Miller is quoted in Bloomberg.com that much of the division in the U.S. on immigration legislation is due to fear. “The current congressional debate over legislation criminalizing illegal, and overwhelmingly Hispanic, immigration reflects American anxiety over the ‘browning' of the U.S. due to Mexican and Latino immigration over the past 40 years,” said Teresa Miller, a professor at the New York's University at Buffalo Law School, in a statement. “This is a critical period for Hispanics and their future in America.”

Professor James A. Wooten discusses the impact terminated pensions will have on people when they retire: “If you have a really big pension, you have a problem…Pilot pensions and early retirees are the main places you see cuts.”

Professor James A. Gardner discusses the Alaska Constitution in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. Alaska got off to “a good start” as a new state without much internal political development. “A lot of state constitutions are considerably older ... and they have tended to grow and develop by accretion. You get this kind of barnacle-encrusted armature that loses its shape or integrity.”

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HIGHLIGHTING FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

A snapshot of research

A(n) impressive compendium of recent scholarship by the UB Law School faculty illustrates the Law School’s continuing excellence in interdisciplinary and integrative legal studies. First published in 2005, the updated edition, which was published in October, includes entries from 51 faculty members—tenured and tenure-track faculty, full-time clinical faculty and research and writing professors. In introductory paragraphs, the professors explain why they believe their research may be interesting and worthwhile. “We wanted to provide insight into the way our professors are thinking about topics that they care deeply about,” said Professor Errol Meidinger, vice dean for research who organized the project.

Each then lists their areas of scholarly interest and details the scholarship they have produced, ranging from law review articles, books, book chapters, and practice-oriented materials, to monographs and academic papers. An alphabetical index of areas of interest is included.

The book has been mailed to the American Bar Association and law schools throughout the country, as well as an electronic version. It can also be found on the Law School’s Web site www.law.buffalo.edu.

“The list reflects UB Law faculty’s significant contributions to current issues in legal scholarship,” says Dean Nils Olsen.

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The 20 most psychologically intriguing legal cases

Professor Ewing’s new book chronicles the search for truth and justice

From investigations into Lee Harvey Oswald’s troubled adolescence to courtroom debates over Mike Tyson’s violent tantrums, the 20 most psychologically intriguing legal cases of the past 50 years are chronicled in a new book co-authored by a University at Buffalo law professor and a clinical psychologist who is a graduate of the University at Buffalo Law School.

The book shows the vital role psychology plays in so many aspects of the American system of justice. — SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Charles Patrick Ewing, J.D., Ph.D.

The 20 cases were selected, the authors say, because they deal with extraordinary circumstances that defy human understanding, involve fascinating psychological issues that go to the heart of the case, or show how mental-health care issues are central to the process of distributing justice fairly.

Below are brief descriptions of the 20 cases chronicled in the book:

- Cameron Hooker, Profiling the “Mad Bomber” — For 16 years Metesky planted homemade bombs around New York City and boasted of his crimes to the newspapers. Pursuit of Metesky and his capture in 1957 gave birth to criminal profiling, the authors say.
- Lee Harvey Oswald, The Formative Years of an Assassin — From this fascinating account of an adolescent Oswald’s psychiatric examinations, the authors question whether psychological intervention could have stopped Oswald from assassinating President Kennedy.
- Patricia Hearst, Uncommon Victim or Common Criminal? — This famous trial brought the word “brainwash” and attorney F. Lee Bailey into public consciousness; it provides an interesting look at dueling expert witnesses who attempted to discern Hearst’s state of mind.
- The Guilford Four, You Did It, So Why Not Confess? — This extreme example of coerced confessions in the case of a 1974 IRA bombing in Guilford, England, points out that confessions may be unreliable as evidence, though juries are led to believe otherwise.
- Prosenjit Poddar and Tatiana Tarasoff, Where the Public Peril Begins — This seemingly unremarkable case of unrequited love and murder spurred major changes in the law governing patient privacy and the responsibility of therapists to report potential violence.
- Dan White, The Myth of the Twinkie Defense — Popular lore says White got away with murder because psychologists convinced a jury that his irrational behavior was caused by junk food, but the authors say Twinkies had little to do with the jury’s decision.
- Cameron Hooker, Judging the Expert — This bizarre case involving a sexual abuser and his strangely passive captive of seven years illustrates the power of mind control and coercion, and brings into question the credibility of “busting” expert witnesses.
- John Hinckley Jr., Shooting for the Stars — Was President Reagan’s would-be assassin mentally ill or just a narcissistic bum? This case is famous for Hinckley’s bizarre obsession with actress Jodie Foster, the number of expert witnesses who assessed his sanity and his role in toughening legal standards for insanity.
- Judas Priest, A Message in the Music — Did subliminal messages drive two fans to suicide? This case refocused debate over how media influences people’s behavior and chipped other civil cases claiming subliminal influence.
- John Demjanjuk, Is He Ivan the Terrible? — This case involving the identity of an alleged Nazi war criminal living in the U.S. questioned the reliability of eyewitness testimony and examines the psychological factors that influence memory and eyewitness identification.
- Michael Kantaras, An American Tragedy — This tragic case outraged and horrified the public, but the authors say killer Andrea Yates may not have been treated fairly in the trial that found her guilty of murdering her five children.
- Gary and Holly Ramona, Recovered Memories or False Allegations? — This civil trial of a father accused of sexual abuse by his daughter cast doubt on the validity of “recovered memories,” which were central to the daughter’s accusations.

Most difficult cases faced by forensic psychologists:

- Gary and Holly Ramona, Recovered Memories or False Allegations? — This civil trial of a father accused of sexual abuse by his daughter cast doubt on the validity of “recovered memories,” which were central to the daughter’s accusations.
- Colin Ferguson, A Fool for a Client — Though obviously mentally ill, the perpetrator of the 1993 Long Island Railroad massacre adequately represented himself in a trial that found him guilty of several counts of murder.
- Daryl Atkins, Mental Retardation, Decency and the Death Penalty — This 1996 case involving a mentally retarded man found guilty of robbery and rape by a Virginia Supreme Court ruling that barred sentencing the mentally retarded to death.
- Andrea Yates, An American Tragedy — The book shows the vital role psychology plays in so many aspects of the American system of justice.

Faculty
The 20 most psychologically intriguing legal cases

Professor Ewing’s new book chronicles the search for truth and justice

F

rom investigations into Lee Harvey Oswald's troubled adolescence to courtroom debates over Mike Tyson's violent tantrums, the 20 most psychologically intriguing legal cases of the past 50 years are chronicled in a book coauthored by a University at Buffalo law professor and a clinical psychologist who is a graduate of the U.S. Law School.

In Mind’s Trial: Great Cases in Law and Psychology (Oxford University Press, 2006) Distinguished Service Professor Charles Patrick Ewing, J.D., Ph.D. and Joseph T. McCann Psy D., J.D., examine the sometimes bizarre and often intriguing workings of the human mind, as exposed by the legal system and by the psychologists who worked on the cases.

They document examples of how the practice of psychology, and the use of psychologists as expert witnesses, can aid the search for truth or can be misused, sometimes with disastrous consequences.

Both Ewing and McCann '94 are renowned forensic psychologists who have consulted on hundreds of criminal cases involving what they describe as "some of the most fascinating and tragic figures," though neither Ewing nor McCann was involved in the cases described in the book.

The 20 cases selected for the book include in-depth descriptions of famous trials involving high-profile participants, such as Jeffrey Dahmer, Patty Hearst, John Hinckley Jr., Woody Allen, and heavy-metal rockers Judas Priest.

Other cases offer glimpses into the minds of lesser known but very intriguing principals, such as George Mesetky, a.k.a. The Speed King, "sexual abuser Cameron Hooker, Andrea Yates, the Texas woman who drowned her five children, and alleged Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk.

The 20 cases were selected, the authors say, because they deal with extraordinary and unusual circumstances that defy human understanding, involve fascinating psychological issues that go to the heart of the search for truth or show heavy mental-health issues are central to the process of distributing justice fairly.

Below are brief descriptions of the 20 cases chronicled in the book:

- **Mental Retardation and the Death Penalty** -- This 1996 case involving a mentally retarded patient illustrates the limitations of psychology in the death penalty debate.
- **Prosenjit Poddar and Tatiana Tarasold** -- Where the Public Peril Begins? -- This seemingly unremarkable case of subliminal influence became a landmark in the U.S. question of the reliability of eyewitness testimony.
- **The Myth of the Twinkie Defense** -- Popular lore says White got away with murder because psychologists convinced a jury that his irrational behavior was caused by junk food, but the authors say Twinkies had little to do with the jury's decision.
- **Cameron Hooker** -- A Man a Man? -- In this strange divorce case, the court sided with Hooker, an alleged Nazi war criminal living in the U.S., questioned the reliability of eyewitness testimony.
- **Dan White** -- The Staircase Murderer: Defense -- Popular lore says White got away with murder because psychologists convinced a jury that his irrational behavior was caused by junk food, but the authors say Twinkies had little to do with the jury's decision.
- **Patricia Hearst** -- Uncommon Victim or Common Criminal? -- This famous trial was a landmark in the use of psychology in court.
- **Verdict** -- You Did It, So Why Not Confess? -- Though obviously mentally ill, the perpetrator of the 1993 Long Island Railroad massacre adequately represented himself in a trial that found him guilty of several counts of murder.
- **Ralph Tortorici** -- A Question of Consensus -- In 1996 a mentally disturbed university student took 25 fellow students hostage, injuring two. Tortorici was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison.
- **Andrea Yates** -- Why Not Confess? -- Though obviously mentally ill, the perpetrator of the 1993 Long Island Railroad massacre adequately represented himself in a trial that found him guilty of several counts of murder.
- **Gary and Holly Ramona** -- A Love Story Gone Terrible? -- This case involved a naval officer and his wife who were convicted of all charges, but later committed suicide in prison, reopening a debate over whether they were mentally disabled.
- **Daryl Atkins** -- Mental Retardation and the Death Penalty -- This 1996 case involving a mentally retarded defendant illustrates the limitations of psychology in the death penalty debate.
- **Michael Kuntaras** -- What Makes a Man a Man? -- In this strange divorce and child custody case, the court sided with the psychological evidence that a father was fit for parenting.
- **Judges Priester and Maa** -- A Love Story Gone Terrible? -- This case involved a naval officer and his wife who were convicted of all charges, but later committed suicide in prison, reopening a debate over whether they were mentally disabled.
- **John Hinckley Jr.** -- Shooting for the Stars -- President Reagan's would-be assassin was found not guilty by reason of insanity.
- **The Guilford Four** -- You Did It, So Why Not Confess? -- This extreme example of coerced confessions in a case of a 1974 IRA bombing in Guilford, England, points out that confessions may be unreliable as evidence, even when the accused are believed.
- **Provenjit Poddar and Tatiana Tarasold** -- Where the Public Peril Begins? -- This seemingly unremarkable case of subliminal influence became a landmark in the U.S. question of the reliability of eyewitness testimony.
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The book shows the vital role psychology plays in so many aspects of the American system of justice. - SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Charles Patrick Ewing, J.D., Ph.D.
We all recognize that this world is hard on black men. But we also realize that black men are internalizing ideas that are deeply problematic, and they need to go beyond that.

**Remaking the ‘real man’**

Professor Athena Mutua’s book explores new visions for black masculinities

What does it mean to be a man? What does it mean to be a black man? And what might it mean to be a black man freed of the dominant, violent, aggressive model that American culture has imposed on the male sex? Those are some of the questions asked and answered in Progressive Black Masculinities (Routledge), a just-published collection of essays edited by UB Law Associate Professor Athena D. Mutua.

The book grew out of a workshop and a larger conference held at the Law School’s Raddy Center for Law and Social Policy, the papers presented at that conference form the bulk of the volume. Mutua says the idea for the conference began with a class on Critical Race Theory that she taught with Professor Stephanie L. Phillips, who has an essay in the collection.

At issue, Mutua says, are the ways that American culture speaks to African-American men about how ‘real men’ behave. ‘All men are not privi-
ged the same,’ she says. ‘Men them-
selves are divided by race, class, ethnic-
ity and religion.’

Men in general, she says, are subject to a “hegemonic” idea of masculinity that raises the notion of an unreachably ideal man. Individual men, Mutua says, are judged by how close they come to this ideal, which is character-
ized by a sense of domi-
nance of the environment, work and home. The cul-
turally imposed ideal is of a white, upper-class, propertied man, she said – ‘real men’ who are not feminine, not gay, not boys and not black. And so the very idea of a ‘real man,’ Mutua argues, is inherently racist.

Hand in hand with that cultural racism, she says, is the pressure for black men to demonstrate the aggres-
sive and the dominant aspects of the male ideal. That pressure limits the full expression of men’s individuality, and also limits the potential of the women in their lives, and for those around them, reinforces negative stereotypes of black men. ‘Black men get stuck in really limited images,’ says Mutua, who in addition to serving as editor wrote the book’s introductory chapter setting out its premises.

Much of Progressive Black Mas-
culinities is devoted to proposals for how to reinvent the ideal of the black man, suggesting new models that tran-
sce the cultural racism and violence of the old ideal. For example, one writer presents an image of the strong black man as measured by the strength of his commitment to his family – a new model that does not continue dominance for strength.

Other essays deal with the progres-
sive and regressive aspects of hip-hop culture, the problematic aspects of the biblical letters of Paul, and a very per-
sonal piece by Duke University profes-
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nizes that this world is hard on black men, Mutua says. ‘But we also realize that black men are inter-
ning ideas that are deeply problem-
ic, and they need to go beyond that.’

She also acknowledges that, as a fe-
male scholar, she brings an outsider’s sensibility to men’s issues. But she and her colleagues at Law Professor Macku Mutua, have three sons, and Athena Mutua says the book is personal to her because of them. ‘What do I do with these sons?’ she asks. ‘What is it that I want to tell them? How do I want to tell them this? Please be progressive. Please be human.’
Professor Markus Dubber produces a spate of books

The shelves in Professor Markus Dubber's O'Brian Hall office are crowded, and he is not helping that problem. In the past two years, Dubber, who directs the Buffalo Criminal Law Center, has published seven books. They include a casebook and its accompanying teacher's manual, a monograph in German, and a volume of articles co-edited with a University of Toronto sociological theorist whom Dubber met at a Balby Center workshop. The Canadian scholar, Mariana Valverde, was in Buffalo to present at the workshop, and they discovered they had common academic interests. Dubber and Valverde presented a Balby Center workshop in 2004 that was co-sponsored by the Buffalo Criminal Law Center; it resulted in the book The New Police Science: The Police Power in Domestic and International Governance. It is the first in a series from Stanford University Press that Dubber will edit, called "Critical Perspectives on Crime and Law."

The book examines the history and current use of the state's power to police its citizens, broadly defined as the power to maximize public welfare - its "peace, order, and good government." It includes pieces by scholars of law, criminology, political science, history, sociology and social theory.

It follows on the heels of another book by Dubber on the subject, The Police Power: Patriarchy and the Foundations of American Government. A constitutional and legal history of the modern state's power to police its citizens, the book examines how modern criminal law reflects the historical power of the household over its household.

The 3,000-page casebook, American Criminal Law: Cases, Statutes, and Commentary, is accompanied by a teacher's manual. Dubber notes that the casebook, written with Mark G. Kelman of Stanford Law School, is packaged with a CD that incorporates the annotated Model Penal Code, an analytic structure of American criminal law, and interactive student tutorials. It is published by Foundation Press.

The German-language Rühmung in das US-amerikanische Strafrecht has been described as "the first book on the general principles of American criminal law written in German." Dubber explains that much scholarship on criminal law has come out of Germany, and this book is intended to export American understandings of criminal law back to the Continent.

The Sense of Justice: Empathy in Law and Punishment (NYU Press, a 2002 publication now in paperback) provides a critical analysis of the role of victims in the criminal justice system. Examining, among other topics, the "war on crime" and the victims' rights movement, Dubber argues how victims' rights can help build a more humane justice system founded on respect for the personhood of both offenders and victims.

The book grew out of a workshop and a larger conference held at the Law School's Balby Center for Law and Social Policy. The papers presented at that conference form the bulk of the volume. Mutua says the idea for the conference began with a class on Critical Race Theory that she taught with Professor Stephanie L. Phillips, who has an essay in the collection. At issue, Mutua says, are the ways that American culture speaks to African-American men about how "real men" behave. "All men are not privileged," she says. "Men themselves are divided by race, class, ethnicity and religion." Men in general, she says, are subject to a "hegemonic" idea of masculinity that raises the notion of an unreachably ideal man. Individual men, Mutua says, are judged by how close they come to this ideal, which is characterized by a sense of dominance and control over the workplace and home. The culturally imposed ideal is of a white, upper-class, property man, she said - "real men" who are not feminine, not gay, not boys and not black. And so the very idea of a "real man," Mutua argues, is inherently racist.

Hand in hand with that cultural racism, she says, is the pressure for black men to demonstrate the aggression and control that the male ideal demands. That pressure limits the full expression of men's individuality but also limits the potential of the women in their lives, and for those around them, reinforces negative stereotypes of black men. "Black men get stuck in really limited images," says Mutua, who in addition to serving as editor wrote much of the book's introductory chapter setting out its premises.

Much of Progressive Black Masculinities is devoted to proposals for how to reinvent the ideal of the black man, suggesting new models that transcend the cultural racism and violence of the old ideal. For example, one essay presents an image of the strong black man as measured by the strength of his commitment to his family -- a new model that does not conform to the old ideal for strength.

Other essays deal with the progressive and regressive aspects of hip-hop culture, the problematic aspects of the biblical Paul, and a personal piece by Duke University professor Mark Anthony Neal about the challenge of being a pro-feminist, progressive father of a daughter.

"We all recognize that this world is hard on black men," Mutua says. "But we also realize that black men are internalizing ideas that are deeply problematic, and they need to go beyond that."

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WHY AMHERST?

Professors Greiner and Headrick explore the University’s big move in a new book

Two UB Law professors who helped lead the University at Buffalo have compiled a history that answers an often-asked question: How did the University’s main campus end up in Amherst rather than the City of Buf-

College. They also interviewed former UB Chancellor Clifford R. Furnas, who organized an extensive consultation process to hear from academic and administrative interests within the University. The authors read planning documents, notes from the facilities department, correspondences and minutes of the UB Council. They also interviewed some of the principals in the 1964 decision to locate the campus in Amherst.

Greiner and Headrick emerged with a portrait of a decision-making process that was anything but ill-conceived. That’s how they said, came down to the limitations of what was then the school’s main campus, at Main Street and Bailey Avenue in Buf-

falo, and SUNY and UB administrators’ vision for what the University was to become.

The formation of SUNY started making people think about public higher education in New York State on a much larger scale,” Greiner said.

“We once got into the SUNY system in 1962, the discussion really heated up about where we would go.”

The key question, Headrick said, was one of enrollment. “Was 20,000 enrollment going to be the cap for Buffalo? There were different educational theories about what UB would become at the time,” Headrick said.

because the University already owned 246 acres there. It was not that far away from the existing campus, there was reasonable street transportation, and Route 290 came by it. There were a lot of logistical venue issues about Amherst. He said most of the University’s expansion, but not gargantuan, in terms of a public Ivy – a very high-quality institution, with a reasonably-sized enrollment, but not gargantuan, open to highly qualified students. People in Albany rejected this idea, and they did not want to be hamstrung by the location at Main and Bailey.”

Ultimately, the SUNY Trustees opted to keep the Main-Bailey (South) Campus for the Health Sciences and to move the College and other professional schools to a new site in Amherst. That decision was made in 1964. In that process, no other sites were given serious consideration. The so-called waterfront site became an issue only in 1966 when the idea

was resurrected by a group of Buffalo citizens who organized as the commit-

tee for an urban university. At their urging the Governor asked the Trustees to reconsider their choice of sites. The Trustees brought in a consultant, Dr. Mason Gross, then President of Rutgers University, to review the site selection. Gross and Heller Associates, an engineering firm he selected to assist him, confirmed the original decision, and in February 1966 the Trustees again committed to their 1964 choice.

Today, the University—SUNY’s flagship campus—enrolls about 27,000 full- and part-time students on its two main sites.

The book also summarizes the University’s earlier history, beginning with its original conception in 1836, and describes the founding in 1922 of the Main Street campus – the far reaches of the municipality back then. “People say UB should not have gone to the suburbs,” Greiner said. “Well, UB went to the suburbs in 1922.”

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Professors William R. Greiner, who served as the University’s 13th president, and Thomas E. Headrick, the school’s former provost and law dean, collaborated on a project. At least in part, Greiner said, the book was prompted by continuing complaints from second-guessers who think the University should have located on a “downtown campus.” In his 24 years in Campus Hall, Greiner said, “we suffered in silence” on the issue.

Says Headrick: “When I was provost and for the 20-odd years before that, I very frequently found people complaining about the fact that the University was out in Amherst and not on the waterfront. I heard that so many times that I finally decided to see what I could find out in the UB records about how the decision was made to come out to Amherst.”

What resulted was a joint effort to mine the UB Archives, as well as those of the State University of New York. Especially important, they said, were the papers of former UB Chancellor Clifford R. Furnas, who organized an extensive consultation process to hear from academic and administrative interests within the University. The authors read planning documents, notes from the facilities department, correspondence and minutes of the UB Council. They also interviewed some of the principals in the 1964 decision to locate the campus in Amherst.

Greiner and Headrick emerged with a portrait of a decision-making process that was anything but ill-considered. That is, they said, came down to the limitations of what was then the school’s main campus, at Main Street and Bailey Avenue in Buffalo, and SUNY and UB administrators’ vision for what the University was to become.

“The formation of SUNY started people thinking about public higher education in New York State on a much larger scale,” Greiner said. “Once we got into the SUNY system in 1962, the discussion really heated up about how big and where we would be.”

“Does an institution go about making the decision to pick up and move seven miles? The decision-making was about New York State building in Buffalo a great state university. The goal was to build something great for the region and the state. The planning for all of this was very carefully done for a long time, and the guiding principle was to build a great university.”

In one study, five possible locations were canvassed, including a 400-acre site that would have stretched from the city’s Allentown neighborhood to the Erie Basin on the waterfront. But there were two main strains of thought, Headrick said. One was to expand the Main Street campus, taking over Grover Cleveland golf course and gradually buying up housing and land in the surrounding neighborhood and growing the campus southward. Earlier in the 1950s, still private, he said, the University had tried to buy Grover Cleveland from the city, but found the price too high. As an alternative, the University purchased the Audubon Course in Amherst with the intention of trading it for the Grover Cleveland property. But the Town of Amherst interceded, bought Audubon from the University for town recreation, and assisted the University in acquiring 246 acres, north of the Audubon course in Amherst for future expansion. This acquisition gave the University a foothold in Amherst, well before SUNY ever appeared on the scene.

The other idea was to start over on a new site, for which about 1,000 acres would be needed to fit SUNY’s plan for a major state university. “It was never really specified where,” Headrick said. “But clearly Amherst was a logical location because the University already owned 246 acres there. It was not that far away from the existing campus. It was reasonable street transportation, and Route 290 came by there. It was a lot of logistical virtues to Amherst.”

He said most of the University’s academic interests, worried about the transition to a new campus, favored staying on Main Street. Those in charge of athletics and student services pushed for a larger single site.

“The key question, Headrick said, was one of enrollment. ‘Was 20,000 enrollment going to be the cap for Buffalo? There were different educational theories about what UB would become at the time. SUNY’s planners thought in terms of a big Midwestern state university. Furnas and others on the academic side were thinking more in terms of a public Ivy – a very high-quality institution, with a reasonably-sized enrollment, but not gargantuan, open to highly qualified students. People in Albany rejected this idea, and they did not want to be hamstrung by the location at Main and Bailey.’

Ultimately, the SUNY Trustees opted both to keep the Main-Bailey (South) Campus for the Health Sciences and to move the College and other professional schools to a new site in Amherst. That decision was made in 1964. In that process, no other sites were given serious consideration. The so-called waterfront site became an issue only in 1966 when the idea was resurrected by a group of Buffalo citizens who organized as the committee for an urban university. At their urging the Governor asked the Trustees to reconsider the choice of sites. The Trustees brought in a consultant, Dr. Mason Gross, then President of Rutgers University, to review the site selection. Gross and Heller Associates, an engineering firm he selected to assist him, confirmed the original decision, and in February 1966 the Trustees again committed to their 1964 choice.

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The 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented following the May 10 dinner – a full house – in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Hon. John P. Lane ’53 Garry M. Graber ’78 Hon. Elena Cacavas-Schietinger ’85 L.V. Eagan ’85 and Sharon L. Wick ’84.

The celebration also included recognition of the Classes of 1946 and 1956. "Many of them have done so well that they have obtained scholarships for college. At least one made it to the ranks of professional basketball," Robert P. Fine ’68, managing partner of the Buffalo law firm Hurwitz & Fine, "for his exemplary performance in business." Fine has extensive experience in the purchase and sale of business entities, including stock and asset transactions, business valuation, and in transactions involving major financial institutions. He is secretary of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, among other development entities. Eagan noted that Fine “started out in the world of business play-acting with his cousins at the three desks that were set up in the Fine family playroom.” The firm he co-founded, she said, has grown from three to 26 lawyers, and “just as his law firm grew, so did his reputation soar as a corporate attorney.” She also noted that Fine has served as secretary of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency under two administrations, having been appointed once by a Democratic county executive, then reappointed by a Republican. “Obvi- ously Bob’s talents have transcended politics.”

Christopher T. Greene ’74, managing partner of the Buffalo law firm Damon & Morey, “for his many contributions to the better- ment of our community.” Greene is active in innumerable charitable and civic organizations, notably as the former chair of the Hauptman- Woodward Medical Research Institute (where he led fund-raising for the institute’s $24 million building project) and current chairman of the Hauptman-Woodward Founda- tion. He is a board member of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, the Buffalo State College Foundation and the National Conference for Community and Justice, Western New York Region.

Chris has keen devotion to our community, and that is why he is here tonight being honored,” Wick said. “Damon & Morey continues to flourish and prosper under his leadership. Within his firm, Chris is noted as being the hardest-working attorney I have ever met. He is regularly recognized for his excellence as a lawyer. In his public service, Chris has not only the technical skills and knowledge, but the personal skills and leadership skills to get things done. He is regularly recognized for his excellence as a lawyer.”

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he 44th annual meeting and dinner of the UB Law Alumni Association proved one thing: When a Buffalo Sabres playoff hockey game is on the night’s TV schedule, the speeches tend to be shorter.

But hockey fever did not detract from the main business of the evening, honoring five Law School alumni for their good work and their good works — in practice and in the community.

The 2006 Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented following the May 10 dinner — a full house — in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo.

“We honor these five special people not only for being distinguished in their individual careers, but also to express our sincere gratitude on behalf of the Law School and the Law School Alumni Association for the honor and the distinction their careers have brought to our Law School,” said Hon. John M. Curran ’84, outgoing president of the Alumni Association. Dean Nils Olsen noted that four of the five honorees have served on the Dean’s Advisory Council, adding, “What has made the Law School succeed over the last 10 years is the extraordinary support of our alumni and the wonderful quality of our students.”

Co-chairs of the event were Gayle L.V. Eagan ’85 and Sharon L. Wick ’84. Along with Curran, they introduced the honorees, who included the alumnae, on a screen.

The 2006 honorees: Hon. John P. Lane ’53, New York State Supreme Court justice. “For his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary,” Lane is supervising judge for the Supreme Court’s 8th Judicial District. He served as Amherst town attorney from 1971 to 1996, and served on the state Court of Claims before being appointed to the Supreme Court. He also was in private practice from 1953 to 1996.

Curran noted that Lane is the son of two UB Law graduates. John P. Lane ’16 and Mary A. Blakely Lane ’20. “He has authored dozens of opinions and is certainly one of the most active judges on the circuit,” Curran said. “He oversees 20 or more jury trials every year. Frankly, he works too hard to be a judge.”

John Lane is hard-working and a man of great integrity. He is a judge and a lawyer who truly cares about getting it right. What else do trial lawyers want? I am convinced that his confirmation name had to be Fairness.”

Garry M. Graber ’78, for his leadership, by example as a private practitioner. Graber, a partner in the Buffalo law firm Hodgson Russ, specializes in bankruptcy and corporate restructuring, commercial and corporate litigation, and general business law. He is immediate past president of the Upstate New York Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, and a past president of the Bar Association of Erie County, the Voluntary Lawyers Project and the UB Law Alumni Association.

“On a scale of 1 to 10, Garry, you are a 10-plus,” said Wick in her introduction, noting that Graber has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America since 1990. “Although a busy lawyer, he has always made time for the Law School,” she said, noting that since 1991 Graber has taught bankruptcy law as an adjunct professor at the Law School.

Hon. Elena Cacavas-Schietinger ’85, administrative law judge for the New York State Public Employment Relations Board, for her commitment to public service. “After practicing labor and employment law in Buffalo with Hodgson Russ, Cacavas was appointed to her current position in New York City. She also serves on the Dean’s Advisory Council at UB Law, and has raised a significant amount of money for breast cancer research.”

Eagan noted that Cacavas built her career while she and her husband, George, raised three sons. When they were teenagers, Eagan recounted, Cacavas was on her way into a hearing room when a colleague called to her. “Your judge, you have a Barney sticker on your behind,” her colleagues would play-act. “To a person,” Eagan said, “those who work with Elena at PERB are amazement as they are able to take on additional work above and beyond their caseload willingly and at ease, in a department that is understaffed. No one questions her integrity, her precise and well-reasoned writing, and the sheer quality of her work.”

Cacavas also works with her husband on a foundation that brings schoolchildren from impoverished and war-torn areas of Africa to the United States to be educated. “So far 45 children have benefited,” Eagan said. “Many of them have done so well that they have obtained scholarships for college. At least one made it to the ranks of professional basketball.”

Robert P. Fine ’68, managing partner of the Buffalo law firm Harvitz & Fine, “for his exemplary performance in business.” Fine has extensive experience in the purchase and sale of business entities, including stock and asset transactions, business valuation, and in transactions involving major financial institutions, including industrial bond matters. Former vice chair of the board of directors of Roswell Park Cancer Institute, he is secretary of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency.

Eagan noted that Fine “started out in the world of business play-acting with his cousins at the three desks that were set up in the Fine family playroom.” The firm he co-founded, she said, has grown from three to 26 lawyers, and “just as his law firm grew, so did his reputation soar as a corporate attorney.” She also noted that Fine has served as secretary of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency under two administrations, having been appointed once by a Democratic county executive, then reappointed by a Republican. “Obvi-

ously Bob’s talents have transcended politics.”

Christopher T. Greene ’74, managing partner of the Buffalo law firm Damon & Moore, “for his many contributions to the betterment of our community.” Greene is active in innumerable charitable and civic organizations, not only as the former chair of the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute (where he led fund-raising for the institute’s $24 million building project) and current chairman of the Hauptman-Woodward Foundation. He is a board member of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, the Buffalo State College Foundation, the National Conference for Community and Justice, Western New York Region.

“Chris has keen devotion to our community, and that is why he is here tonight being honored,” Wick said. “Damon & Morey continues to flourish and prosper under his leadership. Within his firm, Chris is noted as being the hardest-working attorney and a mentor to many. Noted as being the hardest-working lawyer.”

He is regularly recognized for his excellence and leadership. In his public service, Chris has not only the technical skills and knowledge, but the personal skills and character traits that a lawyer should possess to be a leader.”

Concluded Eagan, addressing all the honorees: “Thank you for letting us claim you as our own.”

Garry M. Graber ’78 and Gayle L. Eagan ’85.

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Hon. Michael A. Telesca ’55, whose career on the bench has encompassed county, state and federal judgeships, received the 2006 Jaeckle Award at a Nov. 18 luncheon.

Telesca has served since 1982 as a U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, and was chief justice of that court from 1989 to 1996. He continues as a District Court judge, based in Rochester.

Presentation of the award, the highest honor bestowed by the Law School and the Law Alumni Association, began with a musical soundtrack: a song composed for the occasion and sung by the Acappellants, to the tune of Billy Joel’s *For the Longest Time*:

In the Western District of New York you will find most days in federal court behind his desk a man who’s known as Mike Telesca and he’s been presiding for the longest time…

The lightheartedness gave way to sincerity as a series of speakers addressed the honoree, a previous winner of the Distinguished Alumnus Award and a Buffalo Law Review award.

Said Dennis R. McCoy ’77, president of the UB Law Alumni Association: “When I think about these events, and particularly this event, I think about the people who receive this award. Certainly it is an honor. But I also reflect on my own life and my own practice and how the example they set for me can be significant in terms of my life. I think the example of Michael Telesca is something we can all take away from here, no matter where we are in our careers.”

Vice Dean Alan S. Carrel first delivered remarks by Dean Nils Olsen, recounting Olsen’s fond memories of a tour of Rochester led by the judge. “His love and enthusiastic appreciation for his hometown was readily apparent,” Olsen wrote. “We stopped at his favorite bakery, and he bought me two loaves of what he assured me was the best Italian bread in Rochester. … He is a man and a judge for whom I have the highest respect and admiration.”

For his own part, Carrel said: “We are honoring tonight a uniquely gifted person with insight, intellect, charisma, integrity and courage. We are honoring a judge who has spent his entire career protecting the rights of people. As a judge, he is a role model for all other judges to follow, and as a person, he is a role model for all other people to follow.”

Hon. Richard J. Arcara, chief judge for Western District of New York, said: “You cannot imagine how much of a mentor he has been to me over the years. Of course, this is not unique to me. It is just how he is.”

And Professor William R. Greiner, the 2002 recipient of the award, said in presenting the award to Telesca: “There is an old saying that you are known by the company you keep. I think I can say without qualm from anyone that every single recipient of the Jaeckle Award today feels better about the award and themselves because you are joining their company. You are a great role model for all of us.”

The honoree thanked the Law School “for accepting me,” and cited supportive professors including Albert R. Mugel and Jacob D. Hyman. He noted that his was a success story that began with his mother and father, immigrants to America. “Blind faith in the

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The honoree thanked the Law School “for accepting me,” and cited supportive professors including Albert R. Mugel and Jacob D. Hyman. He noted that his was a success story that began with his mother and father, immigrants to America. “Blind faith in the American dream led my parents from a small village in south-central Italy to this country,” Telesca said. “They came to this country without the ability to speak the language, without knowledge of the customs, and without money.”

He also acknowledged his wife, Ethel, and President Ronald Reagan, who nominated him to the District Court seat and called “to ask my permission to send the nomination to the Senate. I will never forget it.”

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Hon. Leslie G. Foschio ’65, U.S. magistrate for the Western District of New York, addressed newly proposed federal rules governing discovery proceedings for electronically stored information. The rules, he said, involve “issues of the potential loss of attorney-client privilege during discovery actions that may involve massive numbers of e-mails, electronic documents and other electronic media.” They specify that attorneys must bring such issues before the court, along with proposals for how to address them.

Foschio said, already can limit discovery on several grounds, including avoiding duplication and the availability of the information from more convenient or less expensive sources. The proposed federal regulations, he said, come with “a whole new subset of rules specific to electronically stored information,” including a rule that says if discovery uncovering privileged information, the producing party has the right to demand its return, and the receiving party must preserve the information and take reasonable steps to retrieve it.

Kenneth W. Africano ’85, a litigator with Harter Secret & Emery, spoke on some of the practical aspects of electronic discovery. Overall, the availability of “meta-data related to a document – information about ‘who edited the document, when it was edited, when it was created, how many times it was changed, when it was last saved.’” Such information, he said, can resolve “he said/she said” disputes – yes, I handed you the letter at that meeting,” versus “no, you did not.”

Africano also addressed issues of data destruction. “Computers are constantly and automatically deleting information,” he said. “They are destroying evidence all the time. We have to force clients to take a proactive step now to destroy evidence. We have to take immediate steps with our clients to stop this from happening.”

In any electronic discovery, he said, working with the IT person is crucial because seemingly lost information may not be truly gone. “On a stand-alone computer, deletion of an e-mail or a document is not the elimination of the information from the hard drive,” he said. “What eliminates the information is the overwriting of the information for a new document. That could take quite a long time. When your client says all the information was deleted three months ago, it could still be there.”

Professor James G. Milles, associate dean for legal information services at the Law School and director of the Charles B. Sears Law Library, gave a visual tour through the world of blogs and podcasts, and discussed how they can help in marketing legal services. A blog, he said, is “an easily updated Web site that typically has the most recent updates at the top of the page. You do not have to know anything about Web sites to do one. It could be someone’s personal diary or journal, it could be anything that has regular news coming out of it. A blog is simply a medium of communication.”

Sixty million such blogs are in existence. Milles said they can be used to take legal issues, find expert witnesses, conduct competitive intelligence and keep current on industry news. Lawyers also, he said, can use blogs to “educate and communicate with clients and potential clients, keep up to date on legal developments, practice writing skills, and market yourself to other attorneys who may be looking for a co-counsel in certain areas.”

A podcast, Milles said, is a blog with audio or video enclosures. Such electronic media files can be uploaded to a portable listening device like an MP3 player, users can listen “in the shower, while you are driving to work, while you are working out at the gym, whatever you are doing, you can listen to podcasts. It is using time that would otherwise be unproductive.”

Marketing using podcasts, he said, is generally most effective when the audience is those with an intellectual property or technology practice, those in entertainment law, and professionals under 40 years old.

The morning’s final segment dealt with proposed new rules by the New York State Bar Association on lawyer advertising.

Michael R. Wolford ’73, a brief history of attorney advertising, noting that “in the 19th century, advertising by lawyers was quite common in New York State. The general tenor of what I looked at when we were doing this was, are we advertising to make money or are we advertising to help the public.” When advertising gets to the point of making their profession a joke, it gets to the point of making it difficult to practice in the areas we practice in, then something has to be done. We are about the very serious business of representing people both in court and out.

The Convocation was co-chaired by Paula M. Ciprich ’85 and Kenneth W. Africano ’85.
Wrestling with technology

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The new Bar Association rules, he said, include these amendments to the lawyers’ code of professional responsibility: a ban on the use of testimonials by current clients; a ban on depicting courthouses or courtrooms; a ban on the use of nicknames or mottos that imply the ability to obtain results; a requirement that legal ads be identified as such; a 30-day moratorium on soliciting for business after an accident; and a ban on Internet pop-up ads by lawyers.

“I think to some extent the pendulum has swung a bit,” Wolford said, “and I believe that a number of these restrictions will be upheld. In the last analysis, I think it will be best for the profession and the general public.”

Hon. Eugene F. Pigott ’73, newly appointed to the state Court of Appeals, gave a history of how the new regulations came to be proposed, a process in which he was involved. We went after it with the idea that we would have a constitutionally sound rule that would help our profession,” he said, “and I think that what we have done here is going to do exactly that. The general tenor of what I looked at when we were doing this was, are we advertising to make money or are we advertising to help the public.”

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Dennis R. McCoy has been elected president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2006-2007. McCoy is a partner with Hiscock Barclay LLP, focusing on professional malpractice law and is a chair of the Torts, Insurance and Products Liability Practice Group. A 1977 graduate of UB Law, he is also a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, where he received his B.A. in 1973.

Margaret P. Gryko ’77 of Delaware North Cos. Inc. is the new president-elect. Vice presidents are: Robert L. Boreanaz ’89, of Lipitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria; Brian M. Melber ’96, of Personius Melber LLP; Hon. Jeannette Ogden ’83, Buffalo City Court judge; Hon. Erin M. Peradotto ’84, New York State Supreme Court justice. Treasurer is Sharon L. Wick ’84, of Phillips Lytle LLP. Assistant treasurer is Gayle Eagan ’85, of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, LLP. Secretary is Marion K. Henderson ’05, retired, assistant secretary is David M. Hehr ’83, of Hiscock & Barclay, LLP. Immediate past president is Hon. John M. Curran ’84, New York State Supreme Court justice. Ilene R. Fleischmann, vice dean at the University at Buffalo Law School, continues as executive director.

New directors elected for terms ending in 2009 are: Lisa J. Allen ’90, of Harris Beach LLP; Hon. Gal A. Donofrio ’85, Monroe County Family Court judge; Hon. Lenore B. Foote, Erie County Family Court support magistrate; Tsonni L. Frain ’99, of Kavinoky Cook LLP; Donald W. O’Hearn Jr. ’77, of Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP; Lawrence M. Ross ’79, of Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.; and Mark M. Warren ’83, of M&T Bank.

2006–07 Officers and Directors of the UB Law Alumni Association

Front row, left to right: Patent Agent Patricia Warrington, Jame E. Privitera, Pietra G. Lettieri, Stephanie Williams-Torres, Danielle Shainbrown and Executive Director Ilene R. Fleischmann

Second row, left to right: Terrence A. Greiner, Kenneth W. Africano, Tony L. Frain, Hon. Amy J. Fricano, Hon. Erin M. Peradotto and Sheri L. Mooney

Third row, left to right: Mary M. Persis, Margaret P. Gryko and Hon. Lenora B. Foote

Fourth row, left to right: Hon. Leslie G. Foschio, Hon. Craig D. Hannah and Mark W. Warren

Back row, cascading down stairs: Carmen L. Steil, Richard F. Di Cioccio, David P. Flynn, Tsonni L. Frain, Gayle L. Eagan, Carl M. Darnall and David M. Hehr

2006–07 Officers and Directors of the UB Law Gold Group

Front row, left to right: Associate Director Patricia Warrington, June E. Pristines, Pietra G. Lettieri, Stephanie Williams-Torres, Danielle Shambrun and Executive Director Ilene R. Fleischmann

Second row, left to right: Rebecca Z. McCaulley, Bethany J. Gilbert, Tasba E. Moore and Brian M. Swann

Third row, left to right: Natalie A. Grigg and Melissa Hancock-Nicholson

Fourth row, left to right: Kevin W. Hourihan and Jeffrey Lloyd Kingsley

Front row, left to right: Hon. John M. Curran, William F. Sarver, Hon. Amy J. Fricano, Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden and Lawrence M. Ross

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Fifth row, left to right: D. Charles Roberts Jr., Marc W. Brown, Scott T. Hanson and Christopher D. Smith.
Alumni luncheon builds a bridge between cities

New York’s upstate-downstate divide melted away in good food and good feelings as UB Law graduates in New York City gathered for their annual alumni luncheon on Jan. 27, 2006.

The luncheon, subsidized by the UB Law Alumni Association, has become a January tradition. This year it featured a non-alumnus – Judge Albert M. Rosenblatt of the New York State Court of Appeals – whose affection for Buffalo, both historically and in the present, was evident.

In the upscale Union League Club in Manhattan, Dean Nils Olsen greeted the attendees with current news from Manhattan, and he said, "Because the luncheon immediately followed the annual meeting of the New York State Bar Association, Olsen added his congratulations to two UB Law alumni who were honored at that gathering: Lourdes Ventura ’98, president of the New York State Bar Association, and Jo W. Faber ’82, former executive director of the National Association of Women Lawyers.

Judge Albert M. Rosenblatt of the New York State Court of Appeals launched on his way."

Rosenblatt quoted the school’s first yearbook: “Probably no law school in the country was organized and launched in its career with fewer of the usual helpful conditions than the University of Buffalo. It had no endowment, no lecture hall, no association with an established college. But it did possess a group of earnest people, judges and practicing attorneys living in Buffalo.”

Continuing with a brief history of the Law School’s early days, Rosenblatt called to mind the school’s first class – 15 men meeting in a classroom in the school’s original Ellicott Street Building. Tuition, he noted, was $100.

And Dean Daniels! He served for one year on the Court of Appeals, in 1899, thus making him Rosenblatt’s historical colleague. On the court, Daniels authored 19 decisions and seven dissents, and, said Rosenblatt, “distin- guished himself in his very first case,” a landlord-tenant matter.

Rosenblatt and his wife, Julia Carlson Rosenblatt, are aficionados of Sherlock Holmes, each has published a book about the great fictional detective. And so as a member of the group of Holmes devotees known as the Baker Street Irregulars, the judge was keen to note that the first stage play about Holmes had its American premiere on Oct. 23, 1899, at the Star Theater in Buffalo. “It was a smash hit,” Rosenblatt said, “and, according to the review, was conducted before a large and critical audience. Which is to say, a very sophisticated group of theatergoers in Buffalo. It opened in New York City two weeks later, and Sherlock Holmes was launched on his way.”

In parting, Rosenblatt continued his historical theme by giving each attendee a calendar from the Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York. Each month of the calendar features one of the state’s historic courthouse, drawn from old postcards. And it starts the year off right: The old county courthouse in Buffalo, serving Erie County, is Miss January.
Alumni Association

Hands across New York

Alumni luncheon builds a bridge between cities

New York’s upscale downtown area was the setting for the UB Law Alumni Association’s annual luncheon, sponsored by the UB Law School and the Alumni Association. The event, held Jan. 27, 2006, in the upscale Union League Club in Manhattan, drew both alumni and their guests. The luncheon featured New York State Supreme Court Justice Albert M. Rosenblatt, whose J.D. is from Harvard University.

Rosenblatt, whose career began as an assistant district attorney and DA in Erie County, is Miss January. The jurist began by thanking those who hosted the Court of Appeals in its recent session held in the Law School’s courtroom. “We had such a wonderful time, and you were fabulous hosts,” he said, noting that the court heard cases on such matters as limits on the attorney-client privilege, abortion and civil service arrests; emotional tests for civil service employment; and, “most difficult of all, whether mulch could be characterized as solid waste.”

Beyond that experience, Rosenblatt drew two other connections—one historical, one literary—for his audience of Buffalo loyalists. One was “someone who is dear to us both—year founder and my former colleague.” That would be Charles Daniels, a State Supreme Court justice in Erie County who was drafted to serve as a court of appeals judge. Daniels and Rosenblatt, are aficionados of Sherlock Holmes, who hosted the Court of Appeals in its very first case—a landlord-tenant matter. According to the review, was conducted before “a large and critical audience.”

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Dutchess County before moving to the bench in county court, State Supreme Court and now the Court of Appeals, New York State’s highest court. He has published widely in professional journals and has written a widely used manual on search warrants. Recently turned 70—the mandatory retirement age for a state justice—he is also a certified ski instructor and a championship squash player.

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Lourdes M. Ventura ’98 and Mickey H. Osterreicher ’98

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Alumni Association

Regional grips & grins
Alumni say “cheese” at Washington, Rochester, Syracuse and New York City events

ROCHESTER: Chambers of Hon. Thomas Van Strydonck

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Zaytinya

SYRACUSE: P. J. Dorsey’s Pub and Grill

NEW YORK: Dean’s Dinner at the Lotus Club

Left to right, Barbara L. Waa ’09 and Geoffrey A. Hale ’09.

Above, Gregory A. Mattacola ’88, Anthony S. Bottar ’76, left, and Samuel M. Tamburo ’58.

Above, Michael L. Hanuszczak ’84 and Vce Dean Debo rah Scott.

Robert S. Dinerstein ’60, right, and Michael J. Surgalla ’62.

Above, Barbara D. Klippert ’75, left, and Avis Dreyfuss.

Po Wang Yuen ’76

George Neidisch ’74 and Maryanne Courtney ’88

Left to right, Associate Dean James Newton, Harvey L. Kaminski ’77 and Carol M. Matorin ’76.

Below, Professor James A. Gardner, right, and Jason A. Lorenz ’03

Left to right, Neal T. Drobenaire ’91, Professor Errol E. Meidinger and Alice L. Elder ’90

Hon. Thomas M. Van Strydonck ’73 with Rochester area stu- dents Matthew Aziz Motiwala ’09, Matthew J. Rosnow ’09, and Lindsey Coffey ’09.

Steven A. Schurklman ’90 and Hon. Judith J. Gasche ’80

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For more recent graduates, the UB Law Alumni Association (GOLD Alumni 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 Association 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 Lauren S. Bloom at (716) 855-4100 or Robert L. Berruz at (716) 849-1333 (Ext. 343).

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DUES FOR:

- Classes of 2003 to 2006 — $25
- Classes of 2003 to 2006 * — $50
- All prior classes * — $90
- Life membership — $1,000

- Joint membership with UB Alumni Assoc.
  - All classes * — $75
  - Includes three one-hour CLE programs per membership year

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Availability

Joint membership with UB Alumni Assoc. * $75
* Includes three one-hour CLE programs per membership year

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Hon. John T. Curtin ’49 was honored with the Sarah G. Metzger Human Rights Award at the 43rd annual meeting of Housing Opportunities Made Equal, in Buffalo. Curtin, U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, also received the Leaders in Law award from The Daily Record for his community involvement and professional service.

Ralph L. Halpern ’53 received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from the University at Buffalo. Halpern, a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, was one of a few attorneys who earned a law degree when an undergraduate degree was not required for law school admission. He practices in the business and corporate, financial services and international trade practice group in the firm’s Buffalo office.

Hon. John P. Lane ’53 was honored with the UB Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award for his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary. Lane, who is retiring as supervising judge for the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo, received the award at the UB Law Alumni Association’s 44th annual meeting and dinner May 10. He is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

Paul Genova ’54 was honored with the William O. Douglas Award for community involvement and professional service.

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’Brien Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260.
E-mail: fleisch@buffalo.edu
or fill out the form at www.law.buffalo.edu
**Alumni Briefs**

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**50+ Luncheon**

The Law School hosted its third annual 50+ Reunion Luncheon.

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**‘40s**

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**‘50s**

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Paul Genssen ’54 was honored with the William O. Douglas Award from the Association of...
Alumni Briefs

Securities and Exchange Commission Alumni Inc. He was recognized for his service to the financial industry and for his contributions to developing federal securities laws. Gonson is of counsel in the firm Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham in Washington, D.C.

Hon. Michael A. Telesca ’55 was recognized at the Monroe County Bar Association’s annual dinner on June 8 in Rochester, N.Y. During the dinner it was announced that the association’s office building, the Four Corners Building, had been renamed the Hon. Michael A. Telesca Center for Justice. Telesca also was honored at the 31st annual UB Law Alumni Convocation on Nov. 18 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. He received the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award, the highest honor UB Law School and the Law Alumni Association bestows. He is also a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Distinguished Alumni Award and the Buffalo Law Review Award. In addition, he was honored at the Rochester Education Foundation Recognition Awards dinner for his longstanding support of Rochester city school students. Telesca is the U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, in Rochester. He may be best-known for his 2000 decision regarding the 1971 Attica State Prison uprising case, in which he approved a New York State settlement award of $8 million to inmates who were abused by law enforcement officers during the uprising.

Hon. Joseph S. Mattina ’56 was honored for his commitment to aiding children at the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western New York WishMaker 2006 event at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens in Depew, N.Y. At the event, he was honored at the Rochester Education Foundation Recognition Awards dinner for his longstanding support of Rochester city school students. Telesca is the U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, in Rochester. He may be best-known for his 2000 decision regarding the 1971 Attica State Prison uprising case, in which he approved a New York State settlement award of $8 million to inmates who were abused by law enforcement officers during the uprising.

With gratitude, the Law School recognizes those alumni and friends that have given their time and energy to help organize, plan and attend their reunion event. Although every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the reunion pages, we apologize for any inadvertent errors or mistakes. If you have any questions or wish to report an inaccuracy, please contact: Amy Hayes Atkinson, Assistant Director of Reunion and Special Programs, 315 O’Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1100 at (716) 645-6224 or E-Mail: aatkins@buffalo.edu

Thank you! And we hope to see everyone at their next reunion.

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Class 1952 54th Reunion August 9, 2007
Class 1957 59th Reunion August 9, 2007
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Hon. Michael A. Telesca ’55 was recognized at the Monroe County Bar Association’s annual dinner on June 8 in Rochester, N.Y. During the dinner it was announced that the association’s office building, the Four Corners Building, had been renamed the Hon. Michael A. Telesca Center for Justice. Telesca also was honored at the 31st annual UB Law Alumni Convocation on Nov. 18 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. He received the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award, the highest honor UB Law School and the Law Alumni Association bestows. He is also a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Distinguished Alumni Award and the Buffalo Law Review Award. In addition, he was honored at the Rochester Education Foundation Recognition Awards dinner for his longstanding support of Rochester city school students. Telesca is the U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of New York, in Rochester. He may be best-known for his 2000 decision regarding the 1971 Attica State Prison uprising case, in which he approved a New York State settlement award of $8 million to inmates who were abused by law enforcement officers during the uprising.

Hon. Joseph S. Mattina ’56 was honored for his commitment to aiding children at the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western New York WishMaker 2006 event at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens in Depew, N.Y. At the event, the foundation also named its WishMaker Award in honor of him. Mattina, a former Erie County surrogate court judge, is chairman and CEO of Counsel Financial Services in Amherst, N.Y. He is a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Jaeckle Award and the Distinguished Alumni Award.

With gratitude, the Law School recognizes those alumni and friends that have given their time and energy to help organize, plan and attend their reunion event. Although every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the reunion pages, we apologize for any inadvertent errors or mistakes. If you have any questions or wish to report an inaccuracy, please contact: Amy Hayes Atkinson, Assistant Director of Reunion and Special Programs, 315 O’Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1100 at (716) 645-6224 or E-Mail: aatkins@buffalo.edu

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Thank you! And we hope to see everyone at their next reunion.
Robert J. Plache ’57 has been named one of the best lawyers in America in 2007. He is a partner in the firm Damon & Morey specializing in probate, trust and estate law in the Buffalo office. Plache is a former assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York and a former lieutenant in the U.S. Navy.

Anthony J. Colucci Jr. ’58 was honored by the Entomology Nardin Distinguished Service Award from Nardin Academy in Buffalo for his six years of service on the board of directors. He also was appointed by New York Gov. George Pataki to the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority. Colucci is a founding member of the firm Block Colucci Notaro & Lang in Buffalo. He is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Hon. Mario J. Rossitto ’60 has become one of counsel in the firm Stamm Reynolds & Stamm in Buffalo. Rossitto is a retired New York State Supreme Court and Court of Claims judge.

Paul C. Weaver ’51 has received the Daily Record’s Leaders in Law Award for his leadership in the community and the legal profession. Weaver is a partner in the business and corporate practice group in the firm Jarecki Heffernan & Magill in the Buffalo office.

Hon. Joseph S. Forma ’65 has retired as a judge of the New York State Supreme Court, 9th Judicial District in Buffalo. Before his position on the bench, Forma was a prosecutor, counselor, city judge and county judge. He is a resident of Elmira, N.Y.

Hon. Leslie G. Roschi ’65, U.S. magistrate judge, U.S. District Court, Western District of New York, is retiring. He is a past member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past recipient of the association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award.

John A. Girando ’66 was named by New York Gov. George Pataki to the New York State Law Revision Commission. Girando is a Syracuse, N.Y., attorney concentrating his practice in appellate advocacy.

David G. Jay ’66 was honored with the Practitioner of the Year award by the Erie County Bar Association at its annual attorney recognition reception at the Midway Club in Buffalo. Jay, a Buffalo attorney, was acknowledged for his work in the criminal courts.

Courtland R. LaValle ’66 received the 2006 Lawyers of the Year award from the Erie County Bar Association of its 2006 Lawyers of the Year award from the Erie County Bar Association. He has been appointed to a three-year term on the new attorney benefits committee chair. He also serves as general counsel to the Erie County Bar Association and deputy treasurer of UB Law School.

Hon. Michael L. D’Amico ’70 has been re-elected to a third term as New York State Court judge in Buffalo. He has been serving at this post since 1998.

Gregory Stamma ’71 has been nominated by Gov. George E. Pataki to be chairman of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority in Buffalo. He practices in the firm Stammers, Boccio & Stamma in Williamsville, N.Y. and serves as general counsel to the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority.

Raymond H. Barr ’72, a partner in the firm Phillips Lyde in the Buffalo office, was chosen for inclusion in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He also is a partner in municipal, banking and business law.

Peter J. Brevorka ’68 has been listed in the 2006 North Carolina edition of Super Lawyers and in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Brevorka, a solo practitioner, has offices in Buffalo and Greensboro, N.C.

Robert R. Couklin ’68 is recognized for his accomplishments in the community by The Daily Record. He is a partner in the firm Boccio & Boccio.

Hon. Joseph D. Mintz ’69 was named one of the best lawyers in America in 2007. He also was a presenter at the UB Law School’s Dean’s Advisory Council.

Robert P. Fine ’68 was honored for his exemplary performance in business at the UB Law Alumni Association’s 49th annual meeting and dinner on May 10. Fine, managing partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, received the association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is past president of the association and currently serves as UB Law School’s Dean’s Advisory Council. Fine is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

Richard C. Heffern ’69 has been named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He practices in the firm Bond, Schoeneck & King in Buffalo, in labor and employment department. Heffern is also a bridge-course instructor at UB Law School.

Vincent J. Moore ’60 was listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Moore is a senior partner in the firm Damon & Morey and is chair of the firm’s real estate department.
Robert J. Plache '57 has been named one of the best lawyers in America in the Woodward White 2007 listing. He is a partner in the firm Damon & Morey specializing in probate, trust and estate law in the Buffalo office. Plache is a former assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York and a former lieutenant in the U.S. Navy.

Anthony J. Cobuci Jr. '58 was honored by the Ernestine Nardin Distinguished Service Award from Nardin Academy in Buffalo for his six years of service on the board of directors. He also was appointed by New York Gov. George Pataki to the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority. Cobuci is a managing partner of the firm Block, Cooney, Notaro & Lang in Buffalo. He is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

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New York State Sen. Dale M. Volker '66, Deputy, received the Igniting Idea Award during the University at Buffalo's Business Partners Day 2006 luncheon. Volker was recognized for his leadership in helping to obtain state funding for UB initiatives.

Alban S. Herbstman '67 received the President's Award for professionalism from the Monroe County Bar Association at its installation dinner in Rochester, N.Y. He serves as the association's membership benefits committee chair. He also has been appointed to a three-year term on the new attorney grievance committee for the 7th Judicial District. Herbstman is a partner in the firm Blumberg, Udiak & Meyer in Rochester.

Hon. Timothy J. Drury '67 was selected by the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, as its 2007 Bench & Bar honoree. Drury, formerly an Erie County Court judge in Buffalo, was chosen for his accomplishments in the community by The Daily's Record at the Leaders in Law annual attorney reception held March 30 at the Hyatt Regency in Buffalo.

R. Conklin '66 was recognized for his accomplishments in the community by The Daily's Record at the Leaders in Law annual attorney reception held March 30 at the Hyatt Regency in Buffalo.

Peter J. Beverocka '68 has been listed in the 2006 North Carolina edition of Super Lawyers and the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Beverocka, a solo practitioner, has offices in Buffalo and Greensboro, N.C.

Robert P. Fine '68 was honored for his exemplary performance in business at the UB Law Alumni Association's 46th annual meeting and dinner on May 10. Fine, managing partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, is a member of UB Law School's Dean's Advisory Council.

Richard C. Heffern '69 has been named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He practices in the firm Heffern, Schoenbeck & King in Buffalo, in the labor and employment department. Heffern is also a bridge course lecturer at UB Law School.

Vincenzo J. Moore '60 was listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Moore is a senior partner in the firm Damon & Morey and is chair of the firm’s real estate department.

Hon. Michael J. D’Amico '70 has been re-elected to a third term as Erie County Court judge in Buffalo. He has been serving at this post since 1989.

Gregory Stann '71 has been nominated by Gov. George E. Pataki to be chairman of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority in Buffalo. He practices in the firm Stamm, Bercik & Stamm in Williamsville, N.Y., and also serves as general counsel to the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority.

Raymond H. Barr '72, a partner in the firm Phillips Lyde in the Buffalo office, was chosen for inclusion in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Barr concentrates his practice in municipal, banking and business law.

Robert B. Conklin '66 was listed for the second year in a row in Super Lawyers and in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Conklin, a solo practitioner, has offices in Buffalo and Greensboro, N.C.

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Robert A. Ross Jr. '76 was recognized in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Ross is a partner in the firm Phillips Lyde in the Buffalo office.

Frederick A. Wolf, 67, special counsel in the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey, was included in the land use and zoning law category in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Wolf also concentrates his practice in municipal, banking and business law.

Peter J. Beverocka '68 has been listed in the 2006 North Carolina edition of Super Lawyers and the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Beverocka, a solo practitioner, has offices in Buffalo and Greensboro, N.C.

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Alumni Briefs

Fleischmann & Mugel and former vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association.

Gerald B. Cohen ’72 has ventured out of retirement to become the author of The Best Fiction Comes From Belgium, now in bookstores (ISBN 1-4241-3419-9). Cohen previously practiced for 30 years as a solo practitioner in Western New York and now resides in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Hon. Mark G. Farewell ’72 was elected president-elect of the New York State Magistrates Association at its 15th annual conference and advanced training session at the Nevada Resort and Country Club in Ellenville, N.Y. Farewell is a partner at the firm Segalla in Buffalo.

Segalla is a partner in the firm Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo and chair of the state and local tax practice group in the Buffalo office.

Helen Osgood ’74

Paul R. Comeau ’75 was a featured speaker at the “Tax Executives Roundtable” conference in Chicago. He discussed “Documentation Issues: Sales and Personal Property Taxes.” Comeau is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ and is serving as chairman of the Hugman-Woodward Foundation. He is a Buffalo resident.

Michele O. Hefferman ’74, a Buffalo resident, is listed in the 2006 edition of Best Lawyers in America. Hefferman is a partner in the firm Jadhav Fleschman & Muger.

Corey J. Hogan ’74 has become a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, which comprises trial attorneys who have won million-dollar and multimillion-dollar verdicts, awards and settlements. Hogan is a partner in the firm Hogan & Willing in Amherst, N.Y.

Mark T. Mahoney ’74 of Buffalo was named to the task force on attorney-client privilege for the New York State Bar Association. Mahoney is a partner in the firm Harrington & Motley.

Helen Osgood ’74 has accepted a position as special counsel in the firm Damon & Money in the Buffalo office. She practices in the firm’s real estate and banking department, concentrating in commercial lending and credit restructuring.

William Z. Reich ’74 of Williamsville, N.Y., appears in the 2007 edition of Best Lawyers in America. Reich is managing attorney in the firm's corporate department.

Robert E. Brennan ’75 was elected president of the Monroe County Bar Association in Rochester. N.Y. Brennan is a partner in the firm Trevett, Croto, Saler & Andlur in Rochester.

Richard F. Campbell ’79 was a panelist for the New York State Bar Association program in New York City on Nov. 6, “Buying or Selling a Small Business.” Campbell is a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, practicing in the general international and state and local tax groups.


Robert N. Gottfried ’75 spoke at a pre-settlement conference at the United Nations. Gottfried, who has addressed the U.N. for the last six years, discussed procedures for U.N. retirees to obtain permanent U.S. residence and ancillary U.S. immigration benefits. He is a partner in the immigration practice group in the Buffalo office of the firm Hodgson Russ.

Arthur A. Herdzik ’75 was selected by the New York State Bar Association to speak at the CLE program: “Ethics and Civility in Litigation: Introductory Lessons for 21st Century Litigants” in Amherst, N.Y. Herdzik is a partner in the firm Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer, Monte & Pajak in Buffalo, practicing litigation.

Linda H. Joseph ’74, of Amherst, N.Y., was honored with the 2006 Women Who Mean Business Award from Business First. Joseph is a partner in the firm Schoenbaum Joseph & Associates in Buffalo.
Edward D. Manzo '75 is co-author and editor in chief of Chief Justice's Guide to the Federal Rules - 2006 Edition, an annual book published both by the West LegalWorks of Thomson-West. Manzo is a former recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is a partner in the firm Fleischmann & Mugel in Chicago, practicing intellectual property law. He is a member of the board of directors of the Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago and previously served as chair of its litigation committee.

Thomas A. Palmaro Jr. '75

for 2007. Palmaro practices labor and employment law in the Buffalo office of Loeb & Loeb, L.L.P., practicing business law and litigation, and is a resident of Snyder, N.Y.

Cheryl Smith Fisher '76

was named to the board of directors of the Bar Association of Erie County. Fisher is a partner in the Buffalo firm Cohens & Koblenz, where he was a partner, and started his own private practice in Buffalo. Fisher practices in criminal defense and white-collar crime. He is a resident of Hamburg, N.Y.

Irwin Gilbert '76

was named to the board of directors of the Bar Association of Erie County. Gilbert is a partner in the firm Gross Shuman Brizdle & Graber in the Buffalo firm. Gilbert has practiced in civil litigation, trials and appeals, real property litigation, criminal defense and professional responsibility. Gilbert is the most-published judge in the history of the New York State District Court while on the bench, serves as chair of the Brief Writing Competition Committee of the New York State Bar Association. Moretti is a partner in the firm Hodgson Russ in the Buffalo office.

Jean C. Powers '79

is organizing an effort to reform the matrimonial committee of the Erie County Bar Association. She is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past president of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo. She is also an adjunct professor of law at UB Law School.

Lori A. Wiener '78

is a community organizer supporting community organizing. Wiener is currently a member of the environmental council of the New York County Bar Association. Wiener is also a member of the New York State Bar Association and is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association. Wiener is organizing an effort to reform the matrimonial committee of the Erie County Bar Association. She is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past president of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo. She is also an adjunct professor of law at UB Law School.

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Buffalo. Rosa also was appointed the Volunteer Lawyers Project in 2006, awarded the Judicial Award from the litigation committee.

Mehler in Chicago, practicing annual book published by West. William F. Savino ’75 was named in the Best Lawyers in America. Hon. Janice M. Rosa ’75 was named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Robert J. Feldman ’75 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Gross Shurkle & King in the Syracuse, N.Y., office, and is a current member of the Alumni Briefs Committee. Robert N. Gottfried ’75 for 2007 Diliorenzo practices labor and employment law in the firm Schloegel in Buffalo and serves as a member of the Board of Law Examiners.

Horn, Janice M. Rosa ’75 was awarded the Judicial Award from the litigation committee. Robert N. Convissar ’75 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. Convissar has left the Buffalo firm Kohl & Lombard, where he was a partner, and started his own private practice. Convissar practices in criminal defense, white-collar crime and commercial matters.

Hon. Kenneth L. Gartzer ’75 has resigned as Nassau County District Court judge and has formed a consulting firm specializing in litigation. Thomas Burton ’78 was named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo.

Cheryl Smith Fisher ’76 has been named president of the Buffalo Women’s Bar Association. She is a partner in the firm Magavern Mayrigu & Grinn in Buffalo.

Ronald C. Berger, ’77, chair of the business law department in the firm Bond, Schoennek & King in the Syracuse, N.Y., office, has been included in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He is a business and corporate attorney counseling clients regarding mergers and acquisitions.

Robert J. Feldman ’75 has been named a director of the Bar Association of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Gross, Shurkle & King in Buffalo and serves on the board of directors of the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

John G. Rizzo ’01 and Tracy A. Rizzo, a son, Tyson John, on March 25, in Rochester.

14th annual volunteer recognition and reception. He is a partner at Phillips Lytlle, currently serves on the alumni board of directors.

Mark J. Moretti ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He was named 2007 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the Buffalo firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Margaret P. Gyrko ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. Gyrko received the 2006 Distinguished Alumna Award. She resides in Buffalo. She has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumna of Erie County. She is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo. She has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumna of Erie County. She is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Sandra S. Longhiolfo ’78 was appointed co-chair of the New York Bar Association’s Bar Justice’s 8th Judicial District, and was the moderator at the third annual Upstate New York Affordable Housing Conference in Buffalo.

Dennis R. McCoy ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Kenneth A. Manning ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Mark G. Pearce ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

John C. Powers ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Carolyn E. Allen ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. She resides in Buffalo. She has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. She is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Terri Martin, a daughter, Jessica Regan, on Nov. 4, 2005, in Fremont, Calif.

Mark G. Pearce ’78, a daughter, Jordyn Hamburg, on Dec. 15, in New York City.

Dr. Bridget Callen Mandlkon ’94 and Dr. Michael N. Mandlkon ’78 have also held that position. Three members of the Buffalo Bar Association have been named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. They are:

Matthew F. Savino ’75 was named in The Best Lawyers in America. Hon. Janice M. Rosa ’75 was named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Robert N. Gottfried ’75 for 2007 Diliorenzo practices labor and employment law in the firm Schloegel in Buffalo and serves as a member of the Board of Law Examiners.

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Ronald C. Berger, ’77, chair of the business law department in the firm Bond, Schoennek & King in the Syracuse, N.Y., office, has been included in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He is a business and corporate attorney counseling clients regarding mergers and acquisitions.

Robert J. Feldman ’75 has been named a director of the Bar Association of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Gross, Shurkle & King in Buffalo and serves on the board of directors of the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

John G. Rizzo ’01 and Tracy A. Rizzo, a son, Tyson John, on March 25, in Rochester.

14th annual volunteer recognition and reception. He is a member of the Alumni Association’s Advisory Council.

Mark J. Moretti ’78 has been elected chair of the newly formed Monroe County Bar Association’s unauthorized practice of law committee. He was also appointed treasurer of the trial lawyers section of the New York State Association of Trial Lawyers. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Garry M. Gruber ’78 has been appointed co-chair of the New York Bar Association’s Bar Justice’s 8th Judicial District, and was the moderator at the third annual Upstate New York Affordable Housing Conference in Buffalo.

Dennis R. McCoy ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

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Mark G. Pearce ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

John C. Powers ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Carolyn E. Allen ’77 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. She resides in Buffalo. She has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. She is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

Terri Martin, a daughter, Jessica Regan, on Nov. 4, 2005, in Fremont, Calif.

Mark G. Pearce ’78, a daughter, Jordyn Hamburg, on Dec. 15, in New York City.

Dr. Bridget Callen Mandlkon ’94 and Dr. Michael N. Mandlkon ’78 have also held that position. Three members of the Buffalo Bar Association have been named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. They are:

Matthew F. Savino ’75 was named in The Best Lawyers in America. Hon. Janice M. Rosa ’75 was named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Robert N. Gottfried ’75 for 2007 Diliorenzo practices labor and employment law in the firm Schloegel in Buffalo and serves as a member of the Board of Law Examiners.

Horn, Janice M. Rosa ’75 was awarded the Judicial Award from the litigation committee. Robert N. Convissar ’75 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. Convissar has left the Buffalo firm Kohl & Lombard, where he was a partner, and started his own private practice. Convissar practices in criminal defense, white-collar crime and commercial matters.

Hon. Kenneth L. Gartzer ’75 has resigned as Nassau County District Court judge and has formed a consulting firm specializing in litigation. Three members of the Buffalo Bar Association have been named in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. They are:

Mark G. Pearce ’78 has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He resides in Buffalo. He has been named 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of Erie County. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo.

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Alumni Briefs

'80s

Stuart P. Gelberg ’80 discussed tax changes to the Bankruptcy Code enacted in the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005. He was the lead presenter at the annual seminar conducted by the Emollients Agents at Queensborough Community College/CUNY in Queens, N.Y.

Horace A. Gioia ’80 has become a partner in the firm Rupp, Rupp, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo, where he resides. Gioia practices in real estate and mortgage lending.

Hon. Barbara Howe ’80 received the Traditions Award at the 17th annual UB Law School Students of Gold Dinner. Howe, a Buffalo resident, is the Surrogate Court judge for Erie County.

Timothy P. Johnson ’80 has been a Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine as a member. He specializes in commercial lending and commercial real estate. Johnson has over 25 years’ experience representing financial institutions and business clients in banking matters.

Joseph A. Kelemen ’80 accepted the Nongapil Organization Award in the 2006 Diversity Law Awards. In the Legal Assistance Partnership Conference in Albany, N.Y. Kelemen is executive director of the Western New York Law Center in Buffalo.

Karen L. Mathews ’80 was re-elected to the board of directors of Young Audiences of Western New York and continues to serve on the board of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association. Matthews is general counsel of Birdair in Amherst, N.Y.

Paul Morrison-Taylor ’80 is listed in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office, specializing in personal injury litigation.

Alumni Briefs

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Paul Morrison-Taylor ’80 is listed in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office, specializing in personal injury litigation.

Patrick C. O’Reilly ’80 was appointed chairman of the New York State Bar Association’s family law section. He is a senior partner in the Buffalo firm Lipout, Green, Fishinger, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria. He is an adjunct professor at UB Law School and is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and the New York State Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is a Buffalo resident.

Michael A. Piette ’80 has been named to The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He is a partner in the real estate practice group of the firm Jaeckle Hernandez & Mogel, in the Amherst, N.Y. office.

Douglas F. Wasser ’80 shouts out to the Class of 1980 and is pleased to announce the formation of Wasser & Russ, a business law firm in New York City. He writes, "Drop by and say hey!"

Michael A. Battle ’81 delivered the keynote address at the eighth annual Statewide Drug Court Training Conference for drug treatment court professionals at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Buffalo. Battle directs the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, in Washington, D.C.

James J. Contino ’81 was honored in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Contino practices as a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office. He concentrates his practice in real estate law.

Daniel P. Forysth ’81 is listed in the labor and employment category in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He practices in the firm Borel, Schoeneck & King in Buffalo.

David S. Smith ’81 is a partner in the New York City firm Covington, Leffowitz, Burman, Smith & Marcus. He focuses his practice on insurance defense and subrogation. Smith resides in Morgantown, N.J.

Karen D. Wibley ’81 was named secretary of the Monroe County Bar Association in Rochester. N.Y. She is currently employed with Public Abstract Corp. in Rochester.

Richard S. Binko ’82 was named vice chair of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. Binko practices personal injury law in his firm in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

John P. Feroleto ’82 is a Buffalo solo practitioner, was selected chair of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America PAC Task Force. He also serves on the Seventh Amendment committee and was elected as an officer of the interstate tracking section.

Hon. Paula L. Feroleto ’82 received the 2006 Lawyer of the Year award from the Women Lawyers of Western New York. Feroleto is a New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, in Buffalo.

Vincent O. Hanley ’82 is listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He was also appointed vice chair of the Hilbert College board of trustees in Hamburg, N.Y., and served as chairman and moderator of the New York State Bar Association program “Practical Skills – Mortgage Foreclosures and Workouts.” In Amherst, N.Y. Hanley practices as a partner in the firm Jaeckle Hernandez & Mogel in the Buffalo office, specializing in real estate law.

Maureen O. Helmer ’82 has become a member of the firm Green & Sutler in the Albany, N.Y. office. Helmer was former chair of the New York State Public Service Commission. She will practice in the areas of energy and telecommunications law, corporate and professional ethics and business regulation.

Kenneth B. Kirby ’82 is an associate in the Buffalo firm Wilder & Innowell. He handles cases involving civil litigation, appeals, professional liability and insurance coverage. He was previously a partner in the firm Napien Fitzgerald & Kirby.

Denise E. O'Donnell ’82 received the President’s Award at the installation dinner and awards ceremony of the Western New York Chapter of the Women’s Bar Association, in Buffalo. She is a partner in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ and was also honored at this year’s 17th annual Buffalo Law Review dinner. O’Donnell is a Buffalo resident and a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association.

Robert C. Schwenkel ’82, a partner in the firm Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson in New York City, was honored on April 27 at the 17th annual Buffalo Law Review dinner at the Buffalo Club. Schwenkel is chair of his firm’s corporate department and head of the private equity practice.

Mark R. Szymo ’82 was the keynote speaker at UB Law School’s 17th annual Students of Color Dinner sponsored by the school’s Latin American, Black and Asian-American student associations. A partner in the firm Van Elst Salianzo & Becket, Szymo practices in the business and litigation departments in the firm’s Los Angeles office.

Mark A. Ventre ’82 has joined the Law Firm of Robert A. Dunn as a partner engaged in civil litigation, handling both plaintiff and insurance defense matters, in Syracuse, N.Y. Ventre also serves on the Onondaga County Bar Association Board of directors as chair of the Lawyers in the Classroom committee.

Eric T. Borton ’83 has joined the firm Mattar D’Agostino & Gotlieb in Buffalo. Borton is an associate specializing in business litigation.

Hon. Colleen Brown ’83 was given the Vermont Bar Association Pro Bono Award at the association’s midyear meeting March 5 in Burlington, Vt. Brown is the U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge in Rutland, Vt.

Candid 1: Thomas E. Andruschat, Kay Rainer and Richard B. Scott

Candid 2: George W. Nash and Michael Stuart

Candid 3: Richard G. Jackson, George W. Nash, James W. Grabbe and Thomas E. Andruschat (background)
Alumni Briefs

'80s

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Horace A. Gioia '80 has become a partner in the firm Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo, where he resides. Gioia practices in real estate and mortgage lending.

Hon. Barbara Howe '80 received the Trailblazer Award at the 17th annual UB Law School Students of Color Dinner. Howe, a Buffalo resident, is the Surrogate Court judge for Erie County.

Timothy P. Johnson '80 has joined the Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine as a member. He specializes in commercial lending and commercial real estate. Johnson has over 25 years' experience representing financial institutions and business clients in banking matters.

Joseph A. Kelemen '80 accepted the Sagamore Award at the 2006 New York State Bar Association’s Family Law Section annual meeting in Albany, N.Y. Kelemen is executive director of the Western New York Law Center in Buffalo.

Karen L. Mathews '80 received the Trailblazer Award at the annual UB Law School Students of Color Dinner. Mathews is a Buffalo resident.

Joseph P. O'Reilly '80 was appointed chairman of the New York State Bar Association's family law section. He is a senior partner in the Buffalo firm Lipstein, Green, Fahminger, Roll, Salisbury & Carmine. He is an adjunct professor at UB Law School and is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and the New York State Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is a Buffalo resident.

Michael A. Plette '80 has been named to The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He is a partner in the real estate practice group of the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Amherst, N.Y., office.

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James J. Conti '80 was honored at The Best Lawyers in America 2007. Conti practices as a partner in the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo. He concentrates his practice in real estate law.

Daniel P. Forsyth '81 is listed in the Labor and Employment category in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He practices in the firm Boudin, Schoenbeck & King in Buffalo.

David S. Smith '81 is a partner in the New York City firm Covington,稀土, Lawfirm, Stutman, Smith & Marcus. He focuses his practice on insurance defense and subrogation. Smith resides in Morgantown, N.J.

Karla D. Wilsey '81 was named secretary of the Monroe County Bar Association in Rochester, N.Y. She is currently employed with Public Accountant Corp. in Rochester.

Richard S. Binko '82 was named vice president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. Binko practices personal injury law in his firm in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

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Hon. Paula L. Feroleto '82 received the 2006 Lawyer of the Year award from the Women Lawyers of Western New York. Feroleto is a New York State Supreme Court justice. 86th Judicial District, in Buffalo.

Vincent O. Hansley '82 is listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. He was also appointed vice chair of the Hilbert College board of trustees in Hamburg, N.Y., and served as chair and moderator of the New York State Bar Association program "Practical Skills – Mortgage Foreclosures and Workouts." In Amherst, N.Y. Hansley practices as a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office, specializing in real estate law.

Maureen O. Helmer '82 is a partner in the firm Green & Seltzer in the Albany, N.Y., office. Helmer is former chair of the New York State Public Service Commission. She will practice in the areas of energy and telecommunications law, corporate and professional ethics and business regulation.

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Mark R. Suzzoomo '82 was the keynote speaker at UB Law School's 17th annual Students of Color Dinner sponsored by the school's Latin American, Black and Asian-American student associations. A partner in the firm Van E llen Suzzumo & Becket, Suzzumo practices in the business and litigation departments in the firm's Los Angeles office.

Mark A. Ventreone '82 has joined the law firm of Robert A. Dunn as a partner engaged in civil litigation, handling both plaintiff and insurance defense matters, in Syracuse, N.Y. Ventreone also serves on the Onondaga County Bar Association Board of directors as chair of the Law Day Committee.

Eric T. Boron '83 has joined the firm Mattar, Grable & Gottlieb in Buffalo. Boron is an associate specializing in business litigation.

Hon. Colleen Brown '83 was given the Vermont Bar Association's Pro Bono Award at the association's midyear meeting in March 5 in Burlington, Vt. Brown is the U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge in Rutland, Vt.
David M. Hehr '83 was named assistant secretary of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2006-07. He is a partner in the firm Hiscox & Barney in the Buffalo office.

Robert J. Lane Jr. '83 spoke at the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association breakfast seminar sponsored by the firm Hodgson Russ. Lane is lead partner in the firm’s business litigation practice group.

Michael E. Marszalkowski '83 is the new chair of the immigration practice group in the Buffalo firm Damon & Morey. He recently joined the firm as special counsel handling matters regarding business immigration, immigration visas and labor certification. In addition, he is general counsel for Vive Inc., a not-for-profit refugee agency.

Hon. E. Jeanette Ogles '83 has been selected vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2006-07. Ogles, a Buffalo City Court judge, is also a bridge course and trial technique instructor at UB Law School. She is also the new chair of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Award for Excellence in Public Service: Mosa, assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo, is also a staff judge advocate in the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division and recently served in Iraq.

Paul T. Nesper '84 was elected chairman of the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce in Antwerp, N.Y. Nesper is a member of the firm New, Ferber & DiGiacomo in Buffalo.

Robert J. Lane Jr. '83

Booster Partnership in Buffalo, where he resides.

Hon. Eugene M. Falesy '84 was appointed vice chair of the Upstate New York Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. He is also a partner at the New York State Bar Association Immigration Law Update in New York City. In addition, he discussed homeland security issues that affect international motor carriers at the 2006 Canada United States Tracking Program in London, Ont. Joyce is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, practicing in the immigration, business and corporate international business and intellectual property practice groups in the Buffalo office. He and Amy P. Hersch '94 were presenters at a seminar on immigration law at the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel on Nov. 14.

Robert D. Lonski '84 was presented with the 2006 Liberty Bell Award by the Bar Association of Erie County for his extraordinary commitment and leadership in furthering the goals of the assigned counsel system and creating a model program for New York State. Lonski has administered Erie County’s assigned counsel program for nearly 14 years and is also a former recipient of UB Law School’s Man Koren Award.

Li. Col. Robert C. Moscati '84 received the New York State Bar Association’s Award for Excellence in Public Service: Moscow, assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo, is also a staff judge advocate in the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division and recently served in Iraq.

Hon. Gail A. Donofrio '85 was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2007. She is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel. Donofrio is a Monroe County Family Court judge.

Hon. Elena Cacavas-Schattenger '84 was recognized by the UB Law Alumni Association with the Distinguished Alumnus Award for her commitment to public service. She is the administrative law judge for the New York State Public Employment Relations Board in Brooklyn, N.Y., and serves on UB Law School’s Dean’s Advisory Council.

Hon. Melvin A. Parker '84 is the new chair of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Awards Committee. He is a Buffalo resident.

Hon. Erin M. Peradotto '84 was named to the board of directors of the Dominican Haske Foundation in Buffalo. Parker is an associate attorney for the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. He is a Buffalo resident.

Sara L. Wick '93 was named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. Donofrio is a Monroe County Family Court judge.

Gayle L. Eagan '85 was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2007 for the trusts and estates category. She was also elected president of Estate Analysis of Western New York and appointed a constant treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. Eagan also received the Marilyn B. Menge Award from the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York at its 27th annual convention and installation of officers event. She was also a presenter at the 53rd annual Institute on Taxation presented in Buffalo by the UB School of Management, the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Erie Institute of Taxation. L. Eagan is a partner in the estate and trusts practice group of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office.

Class of ’71

Class of ’71

Candid 1: Gerald H. Cohen, Helene Cohen and Vice Dean Alan S. Carroll ’67

Candid 2: Stephen F. Franzia, Richard J. Rosche and Victor A. Oliveri

Candid 3: Allan M. Pinchot and Roy L. Wexner

Candid 4: Robert M. Goldstein, Paul V. Harley and Roy L. Wexner

Candid 5: Richard J. Clark and Gregory Stamm
Alumni Briefs

David M. Helt ’83 was named assistant secretary of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2006-07. He is a partner in the firm Hicox & Barclay in the Buffalo office.

Robert J. Lane Jr. ’83 spoke at the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association breakfast seminar sponsored by the firm Hodgson Russ. Lane is lead partner in the firm’s business litigation practice group.

Michael E. Marszalkowski ’83 is the new chair of the immigration practice group in the Buffalo firm Damon & Moyer. He recently joined the firm as special counsel handling matters regarding business immigration, immigrant visas and labor certification. In addition, he is general counsel for Vive Inc., a not-for-profit refugee agency.

Hon. E. Jeanette Ogden ’83 has been selected vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2006-07. Ogden, a Buffalo City Court judge, is also a bridge course and trial technique instructor at UB Law School. She is also a past president of the Minority Bar Association in Buffalo, where she resides.

Jonathan L. Solomon ’83 is the new special agent-in-charge of the FBI’s South Florida office in Miami, the fifth-largest field office. Solomon was formerly executive assistant director for administration for the FBI’s Washington, D.C., office.

Mark W. Warren ’83, of East Aurora, N.Y., has been named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He is corporate counsel for M&T Bank in Buffalo.

J. Josephh Wilder ’83 received a certificate of appreciation from the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. He is managing partner in the Buffalo firm Wilder & Linneball.

George W. Collins Jr. ’83 participated in a presentation, “Electronically Stored Information and Prevent Long Term Care Litigation,” at the New York State Health Facilities Association District 10 in Cheektowaga, N.Y. Collins is a partner in the firm, and creating a model program for New York State. Lonski has administered Erie County’s assigned counsel program for nearly 14 years and is also a former recipient of UB Law School’s Max Koren Award.

Li. Col. Robert C. Moscati ’84 received the New York State Bar Association’s Award for Excellence in Public Service. Moscati, assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo, is also a staff judge advocate in the U.S. Army National Guard 42nd Infantry Division and recently served in Iraq.

Paul T. Nesper ’84 was elected chairman of the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce in Antwerp, N.Y. Nesper is a member of the firm Nesper, Ferber & DiGiacomo in Buffalo.

Melvin A. Parker ’84 was named to the board of directors of the Dominican Haske Foundation in Buffalo. Parker is an associate attorney for the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. He is a Buffalo resident.

Hon. Erin M. Peraldoito ’84 was appointed to the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, 4th Department in Rochester, N.Y. Peraldoito was previously serving as a Supreme Court Justice for the 8th Judicial District in Buffalo. She was also elected to a four-year term on the nominating committee for the Bar Association of Erie County. Peraldoito is vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association.

Barbara L. Schifeling ’84 was appointed to the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, 4th Department in Rochester, N.Y. Schifeling is a partner practicing in the immigration, business, and corporate, international business and intellectual property practice groups in the Buffalo office. She and Amy P. Hrbecki ’94 were presenters at a seminar on immigration law at the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel on Nov. 14.

Robert D. Lonski ’84 was presented with the 2006 Liberty Bell Award by the Bar Association of Erie County for his extraordinary commitment and leadership in furthering the goals of the assigned counsel system and creating a model program for New York State. Lonski has administered Erie County’s assigned counsel program for nearly 14 years and is also a former recipient of UB Law School’s Max Koren Award.

Robert J. Lane Jr. ’83

Hon. Eugene M. Fahey ’84 was named to the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, 4th Department in Rochester, N.Y. Fahey has been serving as a New York State Supreme Court judge in Buffalo. He was also inducted into St. Joseph’s Collegiate Institute’s Signum Fidei Society at an induction ceremony and dinner at the Brookfield Club in Clarence, N.Y.

Daniel P. Joyce ’84 was appointed vice chair of the U.S. Immigration Lawyers Association. He is also a panelist at the New York State Bar Association Immigration Law Update in New York City. In addition, he discussed homeland security issues that affect international motor carriers at the 2006 Canada-United States International Motor Carriers at the FBI’s South Florida office in Washington, D.C., office.

Hon. Gail A. Donofrio ’85 was recognized by the UB Law Alumni Association with the Distinguished Alumna Award for her commitment to public service. She is the administrative law judge for the New York State Public Employment Relations Board in Brooklyn, N.Y., and serves on UB Law School’s Dean’s Advisory Council.

Robert M. Goldman, Paul V. Harley and Roy L. Weiss

Gayle L. Eagan ’85 was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2007 in the trusts and estates category. She was also elected president of Estate Analysis of Western New York and appointed a constant treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. Eagan also received the Marilyn K. Meng Award from the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York at its 27th annual convention and installation of officers event. She was also a presenter at the 53rd annual Institute on Taxation presented in Buffalo by the UB School of Management, the New York Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Erie Institute of Law. Eagan is a partner in the estates and trusts practice group of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, in the Buffalo office.

Class of ’84


2nd Row: Gregory J. Duda Sr., Paul V. Harley, James Barrow, Torrence M. Couzens, Peter J. Burke, Dr. Allan M. Pinchoff, Gregory Stamm, James L. Kennedy, Robert B. Perry, Robert M. Goldstein, Anthony M. Nuse, Roy L. Weiss, Stephen F. Pruett, Richard J. Rosche

3rd Row: Dr. Allan M. Pinchoff, Richard J. Rosche and Victor A. Oliveri

4th Row: Pusatier, Robert M., Pinchoff and Roy L. Weiss

Candid 1: Gerald R. Cohen, Helene Cohen and Vice Dean Alan S. Carrel ’57


Candid 3: Allan M. Pinchoff and Roy L. Weiss

Candid 4: Robert M. Goldstein, Paul V. Harley and Roy L. Weiss

Candid 5: Richard I. Clark and Gregory Stamm

35th Reunion, June 2006


2nd Place: Gregory J. Duda Sr., Paul V. Harley, James Barrow, Torrence M. Couzens, Peter J. Burke, Dr. Allan M. Pinchoff, Gregory Stamm, James L. Kennedy, Robert B. Perry, Robert M. Goldstein, Anthony M. Nuse, Roy L. Weiss, Stephen F. Pruett, Richard J. Rosche
Alumni Briefs

David W. Kloss ’95 and Mitchell M. Steinger ’78 have formed the firm Kloss, Steinger, Kroll & LoTempio in Buffalo. Kloss handles cases involving business and corporate matters, product liability, labor, torts, employment law and contracts.

John T. Kolaga ’95 was a presenter at the New York State Bar Association’s Conference on Law Firm and In-House Counsel Pro Bono, in Rochester. N.Y. Kolaga is a partner in the Buffalo firm Jacobson, Friedman & Muegel and chair of the firm’s pro bono committee.

Edward J. Markarian ’95 has become a partner in the law firm Maggain Magann & Grimm. Focusing his practice in trusts and estates, litigation and appeals, he has merged his private practice with the firm and will maintain offices in Buffalo and Kenmore, N.Y.

Lisa Bloch Rodwin ’85 was featured on a one-hour television special on ABC, Diane Sawyer about domestic violence and Rochester’s former case against Uner Lee St. Rodwin, chief of the Erie County district attorney’s domestic violence bureau in Buffalo, prosecuted St. He was convicted of felony and misdemeanor assault. His sentence was 36 years. The longest sentence in New York State history for a domestic violence case in which the victim was not killed.Susan Still has a new allowed court and police agencies to use the recording for training purposes. Rodwin also was honored with the Leaders in Triage Award from the Daily News for the exceptions held at the Flatt Regency Buffalo. Rodwin is also the director and chair of the criminal law committee for the Western New York chapter of the Trial Lawyers.

Eiron Wolfman ’85 is a partner in the Buffalo firm Jaeckle Fleischman & David M. Siclari ’87 is a partner in the firm Reed Smith in the Pittsburgh, Pa., office.

Daniel Barreondo-Cruz ’99 is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.


Mark Metz ’86 was recently appointed to a three-year term to the Federal Reserve Board’s consumer advisory council. Metz is a deputy general counsel for Wachovia Corp. in Charlotte, N.C., where he resides.

Stuart Jo Reich ’96, a Buffalo attorney, was appointed to the Bar Association of Erie County board of directors. Reich is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y.

Frank A. Sedilla III ’86 has been named prosecutor of the year by the New York State Court Attorneys’ Association. Prosecutors Training Institute. Sedilla is deputy district attorney for the Erie County district attorney’s office and head of the homicide bureau in Buffalo. He is an adjunct faculty member of UB Law School and a member of the National District Attorneys Association’s national college in Columbia, S.C.

Victor R. Sickel ’96 has been active on the investment management speaking circuit. He provided a year-in-review of the impact of the mutual fund compliance rule at the Investment Company Institute’s Operational and Technology conference in Austin, Texas. His conference materials were published as an article in Money Management Executive. In addition, he addressed the Financial Research Associates’ Hedge Funds 101 and 102 conferences in January 2006 in New York City and will speak again at the conference in June. Solza will also moderate a panel discussion at the IBAs fifth annual Investment Advisor Compliance Forum in New York City in May, and has been participating as a mutual fund industry expert on the Statutory Trust Act drafting committee of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Solza is a partner in the firm in the Buffalo office. In the Pittsburgh, Pa., office.

Peter H. Abdella ’87 is listed under professional malpractice law in The Best Lawyers in America 2007, and was included in the professional malpractice law section of the new publication Best of the U.S. 2006. Abdella is a partner in the firm Starkweather & Sheffey in Buffalo, N.Y., where he resides.

Martha M. Anderson ’87 is recently selected as a member of the 2006 class of New York’s Emerging Leaders of the American Bar Association. Anderson is a partner in the firm Nixon Peabody in the Buffalo office.

Donna L. Burden ’87 for 2006. He practices in the firm O’Shea, Brinolds & Cummings in Buffalo.

Laura D. Burden ’87 was elected to the board of directors of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association for 2006. She practices in the firm O’Shea, Brinolds & Cummings in Buffalo.

Mark E. Brand ’87 discussed Health and welfare updates at the Walsh Insurance Group’s annual fall benefit seminar at Shankha Bistro in Buffalo. Brand is a partner in the Buffalo office of Phillips Lytle, practicing employment benefits law and retirement and estate planning. He is a past member of OYS’s School’s Gold Group and the Law Alumni Association.

John J. Christopher ’88 was appointed to the advisory board of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association and is a former co-chair of the commercial leasing and attorney opinion committees.

David P. Flynn ’87 was appointed to the officers committee of the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce in Amherst, N.Y. Flynn is a partner in the Buffalo office of Phillips Lytle.

Paul W. Kollman ’97 was elected to the board of directors of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association. Kollman is claims counsel for Fidelity National Financial in Buffalo.

Brian C. Mahoney ’87 was elected deputy treasurer of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association for 2006. He practices and resides in Buffalo.

Hon. John L. Michalski ’87 has been appointed to the New York State Court of Claims in Buffalo for a one-year term. He was previously a town prosecutor in Amherst, N.Y.

Mitchell M. Steinger ’78 and David W. Kloss ’95 are partners in the new firm Kloss, Steinger, Kroll & LoTempio in Buffalo. Steinger focuses his practice on civil litigations, including business and corporate law, contracts, product liability, transportation law, personal injury and toxic torts.

David M. Stilwell ’87, a Buffalo resident, was elected to the board of directors of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association for 2006. He practices in the firm O’Shea, Brinolds & Cummings in Buffalo.

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John J. Christopher ’88 was appointed to the advisory board of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association and is a former co-chair of the commercial leasing and attorney opinion committees.
David W. Kloss ’85 and Mitchell M. Steiger ’87 have formed the firm Kloss, Steiger, Kreif & LoTempio in Buffalo. Kloss handles cases involving business and corporate matters, product liability, torts, employment law and contracts.

John T. Kolaga ’85 was a presenter at the New York State Bar Association’s Conference on Law and Int’l Student Counsel. In Rochester, N.Y., Kolaga is a partner in the Buffalo firm Javidi, Fleischman & Muegel and chair of the firm’s pro bono committee.

Edward J. Markarian ’85 has become a partner at the firm Magman Magovern Maginn. Focusing his practice in trusts and estates, litigation and appeals, he has merged his private practice with the firm and will maintain offices in Buffalo and Kenmore, N.Y.

Lisa Bloch Rodwin ’85 was featured on a one-hour television special on ABC with Diane Sawyer about domestic violence and Rodwin’s former case against Ultra Lee Smith. Rodwin, chief of the Erie County district attorney’s domestic violence bureau in Buffalo, prosecuted Smith and he was convicted of felony and misdemeanor assault with his wife. Susan. Still had his adolescent son videotape the assault, which lasted 59 minutes. He was sentenced to 36 years, the longest sentence in New York State history for a domestic violence case in which the victim was not killed. Susan Still has now allowed court and police agencies to use the recording for training purposes. Rodwin also was honored with the Leaders in Law award from The Daily Record for the actions she undertook at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Rodwin is also the director and chair of the criminal justice committee for the Western New York chapter of the National District Attorneys Association.

Eileen Wollman ’85 has joined Solomon, Fried, Bransford & Isaacson as a partner in the firm’s Atlanta office. Wollman, a CPA, as well as an attorney, has over 20 years of in-house and consulting experience in commercial leasing and attorney employment law contracts.

Daniel Barrerondo Cruz ’99 has been appointed to the officers committee of the Ambulatory Chamber of Commerce in Amherst, N.Y. Cruz is a partner in the Buffalo office in the firm Phillips Lytle.

Kroll & LoTempio in Buffalo. formed the firm Kloss, Stenger, Eiran Wolfman ’85, Lisa Bloch Rodwin ’85, John T. Kolaga ’85, Alumni Briefs, New York Chapter of the Women’s Bar Association, Director and chair of the Criminal Justice Committee in Buffalo, prosecuting Still, and he was sentenced to 36 years, the longest sentence in New York State history for a domestic violence case in which the victim was not killed. Susan Still has now allowed court and police agencies to use the recording for training purposes. Rodwin also was honored with the Leaders in Law award from The Daily Record for the actions she undertook at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Rodwin is also the director and chair of the criminal justice committee for the Western New York chapter of the National District Attorneys Association. Eileen Wollman ’85 has joined Solomon, Fried, Bransford & Isaacson as a partner in the firm’s Atlanta office. Wollman, a CPA, as well as an attorney, has over 20 years of in-house and consulting experience in commercial leasing and attorney employment law contracts.
Jane A. Conrad ’88 was honored with the President’s Award at the Monroe County Bar Association’s installation dinner. She was recognized for her leadership and commitment to the bar association. Conrad is a resident of Churleville, N.Y., and is on staff counsel for the New York State attorney general’s office in Rochester, N.Y.

Randy C. Fuls ’88, director of contracts for Amtel Systems in Williamsonville, N.Y., was appointed to the board of directors of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association.

Hon. John G. Farrell ’88 is an administrative law judge with the New York State Workers’ Compensation Board in Newburgh, N.Y. He is the author of “Electronic Files and Administrative Hearings: A View from the Bench,” in NAKA Vol. 24, No. 1. In addition, he is a member of the AI subcommittee of the New York State Bar Association and is president-elect of the New York State Administrative Law Judge Association.

Sophie I. Feal ’88 has been invited by the International Buffalo-Niagara WorldConnect to host foreign directors. Feal recently was appointed managing attorney in the Buffalo firm Cantor Lukasik Dolce & Fleischmann & Mugel in the real estate and finance practice groups.

James E. Kennedy ’88 was recognized for his work on a narcotics investigation, “Operation Gaddle Puddle,” by the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Western District of New York. Kennedy is an assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo.

Robert L. Bocaraza ’88 was elected vice president of the UB Law Alumni association board of directors. Bocaraza is a senior partner in the firm Lippit, Green, Fahlinger, Roth, Salafsky & Cambia in the Buffalo office.

Daniel D’Arezzo Cruz ’89 recently became a member of Harvard University’s Institute of Educational Management Class of 2005. In addition, he currently graduated from Seton Hall University’s College of Education and Psychology with an educational specialist degree in bilingual/bicultural education.

Lisa J. Allen ’90 has been elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. She also has been accepted for membership in the Western New York representative to the Special Needs Alliance, a national organization of elder law and disability law attorneys who focus on estate and trust planning for persons with special needs. Allen is supervising attorney in the firm Hogan & Willig in Buffalo and is an adjunct professor at UB Law School.

Edward L. Smith III ’90 has been promoted to partner in the firm Carter Laskin Dolce & Panepinto in Buffalo. He concentrates his practice in medical malpractice. Smith is a resident of Lockport, N.Y.

Sean P. Belzer ’91 is named in the labor and employment category of the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He is a partner in the firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office.

Kenneth M. Gosew ’91 has been appointed to general manager of National Fuel Gas Co. in Williamsville, N.Y. Gosew previously worked in the utility’s quality assurance department. He is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

Rosanna Sundell ’91 was appointed director of research and development for the Lockport, N.Y., city school district. She was previously

Marjorie A. Bialy ’90 has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Fleckhuism & Mugel in the Buffalo office. She focuses her practice in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors’ rights and business litigation.

Mary Clare Kane ’90 received an award from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Western District of New York, for her work on a narcotics investigation, “Operation Gaddle Puddle.” Kane is an assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo.

Kathy L. Quencer ’90 has become a member of the new attorney grievance committee for the 5th Judicial District for a three-year term. She is a partner in the firm Proven & Quencer in Watertown, N.Y.

Ginger D. Schroeder ’90 was awarded the M. Dolores Denman Lady Justice Award at the annual installation dinner and awards ceremony of the Western New York Chapter of the Women’s Bar Association, in Buffalo. She was recognized for her service and devotion to the association. Schroeder is a partner in the firm Schroeder, Joseph & Associates in Buffalo, where she resides.

Edward L. Smith III ’90 has been promoted to partner in the firm Carter Laskin Dolce & Panepinto in Buffalo. He concentrates his practice in medical malpractice. Smith is a resident of Lockport, N.Y.

Dean P. Smith ’90 has been appointed partner in the Buffalo firm Lewin & Lewis and was also named managing attorney in the firm’s litigation department.

Edward L. Smith III ’90 has been promoted to partner in the firm Fleckhuism & Panepinto in Buffalo. He concentrates his practice in medical malpractice. Smith is a resident of Lockport, N.Y.

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Jane A. Conrad ’88 was honored with the President’s Award at the Monroe County Bar Association’s installation dinner. She was recognized for her leadership and commitment to the bar association. Conrad is a resident of Churchville, N.Y., and is on six boards from the New York State attorney general’s office in Rochester, N.Y.

Randy C. Falho ’88, director of contracts for Anthem Systems in Williamsville, N.Y., was appointed to the board of directors of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association.

Hon. John G. Farrell ’88 is an administrative law judge with the New York State Workers’ Compensation Board in Newburgh, N.Y. He is the author of Electronic Files and Administrative Hearings: A View from the Bench. (NACE, Vol. 24, No. 3). In addition, he is a member of the AL subcommittee of the New York State Bar Association and is president-elect of the New York State Administrative Law Judge Association.

Sophie L. Ferral ’88 has been invited by the International Buffalo-Niagara WorldConnect to host 60 foreign officials wishing to learn about determining human trafficking, refugee issues and worker exploitation matters under U.S. immigration law. Ferral recently met with a representative of the Japanese Justice Ministry, Glattman and Boundy law enforcement officials, an Israeli women’s shelter director, a Malaysian public official and state counsel of the Sri Lankan government lobbying firm, an attorney in the Buffalo firm Hodgson Russ, practicing in the real estate and finance practice group.

James E. Kennedy ’88 was recognized for his work on a narcotics investigation, “Operation Cuddle Puddle,” by the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Western District of New York. Kennedy is an assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo.

Robert L. Bocanaza ’90 was elected vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. Bocanaza is a senior partner in the firm Lipstein, Green, Falbo, Boul & Sabinab in the Buffalo office.

Daniel Ibarraondo Cruz ’90 recently became a member of Harvard University’s Institute of Educational Management (GEM) Class of 2005. In addition, he recently graduated from Seton Hall University’s College of Education and Psychology with an educational specialist degree in bilingual/bicultural education. He currently serves as president and CEO of Access & Development Associates, a development and federal government lobbying firm serving private colleges and universities in Puerto Rico.

Karen R. Kaczmarksi ’90 was appointed chair of the SPCE’s development committee. She is also vice president of the SPCE. and a member of its board of directors. In addition, she has been named an adjunct faculty member teaching civil litigation in the legal studies department for Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y. Kaczmarksi is a litigation attorney in the Buffalo office of Hanter, Severt & Emeny.

Lisa Massaro Krattinger ’90 was honored by Business First with the 2006 Women Who Mean Business Award. She is the owner of Leede, a women’s clothing boutique in Williamsville, N.Y.

Hon. Stephen K. Lindley ’88 was elected New York State Supreme Court justice, 7th Judicial District, in Rochester, N.Y. He was previously acting Monroe County Court judge and Rochester City Court judge. Lindley also received the Communication Achievement Award from the Postprandial Toastmasters Club.

Karen Perrigo ’90 received the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Jamestown Community College Association at the college’s commencement ceremony in Olean. N.Y. Perrigo is a partner in the firm Perrigo & Kuhler in Cuba, N.Y.

Dean P. Smith ’90 was appointed partner in the Buffalo firm Lewis & Lewis and was also named managing attorney in the firm’s litigation department.

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Lisa J. Allen ’90 has been elected to the Board of Directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. She also has been accepted for membership as the Western New York representative to the Special Needs Alliance, a national organization of elder law and disability law attorneys who focus on estate and trust planning for persons with special needs. Allen is supervising attorney in the firm Hogan & Willig in Buffalo and is an adjunct professor at UB Law School. She is a resident of East Amherst, N.Y.

Marjorie A. Bialy ’90 has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office. She focuses her practice in the areas of bankruptcy, debtor’s rights and creditors’ rights and business litigation.

Mary Clare Kane ’90 received an award from the U.S. Attorney’s Office. Western District of New York for her work on a narcotics investigation, “Operation Cuddle Puddle.” Kane is an assistant U.S. attorney in Buffalo.

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Kenneth M. Goswell ’91 has been promoted to general manager of National Fuel Gas Co. in Williamsville, N.Y. Goswell previously worked in the utility’s quality assurance department. He is a resident of Orchard Park.

Rosanna Sundell ’91 was appointed director of research and development for the Lockport, N.Y., city school district. She was previously accepted for membership as the 25th Reunion, May 2006


Scott B. Schwartz '91 discussed Wal-Mart’s sunny face trademark and advertising dispute with Snukal/World on CNN’s the Commitment Philadelphia televisions show Four Alabama territories in the chapter “Avoiding a Crash: The Intersection of Trademark and Copyrights With Advertising and Marketing,” the book Inside the Minds. Settlements and Negotiations for Advertising & Marketing Law, published by Aspatore Books. Schwartz also is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Trademark Administrators’ Networking Conference in Atlanta, Ga. He spoke on “The Nuts and Bolts of Trademark.”

Christopher D. Thomas ‘91 is a Buffalo and Rochester attorney and formerly a partner in the New York City law firm of Nixon Peabody in the federal courts. Thomas is a partner of the firm Cozen O’Connor in Philadelphia. He was appointed a member of the UB Law Alumni Association’s transition committees. Weiss is a director of Southeast Works, a non-profit organization in Buffalo. He is a member of the Buffalo Niagara Human Services board of directors. Matuszak is an attorney in the Rochester firm Schoeneck & King. He counsels clients regarding business matters, defense cases. Regan is a member of the Renaissance Faire in Las Vegas, where she resides.

Selina Regan ’93 has accepted a position as vice president in a management consulting group of Willis-Natixis in New York City. She advises markets and places customized environmental insurance programs for clients. Regan is a Brooklyn resident. Housh writes a regular column for the Buffalo Law Forum. He is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association. In addition, he was appointed vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Matuszak is a partner of the UB Law Alumni Association. In addition, he was appointed vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Matuszak is a partner of the UB Law Alumni Association.

Kevin D. Szczepanski ’95 has been named the chief of the Department of Justice Antitrust Division in the Office of the United States Attorney General. He is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association. In addition, he was appointed vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Matuszak is a partner of the UB Law Alumni Association.

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cooperatives, agricultural suppliers and lenders, food processors and other agribusinesses, and farmers about cooperative formation, governance, finance, taxation, securities, compliance and related matters.

Suzanne K. Taylor '92 participated in the Jimmy Carter WorkProject 2006 from Oct. 29 to Nov. 3 in Mumbai, India. Taylor will meet President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, and help them build schools and water projects in Mumbai. In addition, Taylor has been helping to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity in Buffalo, where she resides.

Miles R. Afsarian '93 has been named Vice Chair of New York City’s Citywide Law Committee and its continuing education subcommittee chair of the U.S. Trial Lawyers Association. He also was named member of the board of directors of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association for 2007. He also was named vice president/president-elect of the New York Trial Lawyers Association for 2006. Law awarded with Kevin Loftus '02 an article, “Additional and Personal Injury Protection (AIP) Benefits – Not for the Bart at Heart,” published in the March/April 2006 issue of New York Law Journal. In Buffalo a former assistant district attorney in the Erie Temporary Election Law office and attorney’s office and counsel to the New York State Assembly and House Speaker Andrew J. Goodell. In addition, Hossitt writes a regular column for the Buffalo Law Journal.

John J. Jalkowski '93 has been selected as a partner in the Buffalo firm Chelus, Herdzik, Speyer, Monte & Pajak in Buffalo. He has been named partner in the firm’s Commercial and Business Practice group.

Selina Regan '93 has accepted a position as vice president in residence at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pa. She and her family reside in Red Hook, N.Y.

Deborah Lee Thuman '93 has been named administrative law attorney and an attorney. Her shop was joined into the firm of Thuman and Associates of the Theater of Youth company in Buffalo. She is a member of the firm’s Commercial and Business Practice group.

Mary Q. Wydodo '93 has been appointed vice president of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association for 2006. She is also a member of the firm Goldsmith & Segalla in Buffalo, immediate past president of the Defense Trial Lawyers Association of Western New York, and a former member of the board of directors of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association.

Frank T. Hosch '94 has joined the law office of Daniel R. Archinick in Buffalo as a trial attorney for GIBCO Insurance. He was previously associated with Gibson, McAskill & Crosby in Buffalo, a former assistant district attorney in the Erie Temporary Election Law office and attorney’s office and counsel to the New York State Assembly and House Speaker Andrew J. Goodell. In addition, Hossitt writes a regular column for the Buffalo Law Journal.

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Melissa K. Klemens '94 has ascended to the bench as administrative law judge for the government of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Former administrative law judge for the Office of Employment Services, Labor Standards Bureau, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Administrative Hearings Division. She also was named associate professor at the University at Buffalo School of Law. She teaches Introduction to one of the law faculties.

James T. McNair '94 has been named a partner in the Buffalo firm Brown & Kelly in Buffalo.

Kevin E. Raphael '94 was a speaker at the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Professional Responsibility Awards and practices in the Erie County office. He is a partner in the firm’s Commercial and Business Practice group.

Kevin E. Raphael '94 was a speaker at the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Professional Responsibility Awards and practices in the Erie County office. He is a partner in the firm’s Commercial and Business Practice group.

After a False Claims Act Case.” Raphael is a partner in the firm Miller, Mann & Rappaport in Philadelphia, where he resides.

Lucinda Odell Lapoff '95 received the 40 Under 40 Award from Business First for her professional and community contributions. She is a partner in the firm’s Employee Benefits and Labor and Employment Law practice. She is a partner in the firm’s Employee Benefits and Labor and Employment Law practice.

Sara Stout Ashcraft '95 is the new president of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Ashcraft is a Rochester attorney in the firm Ashcraft Franklin & Young.

Gretchen P. Alwyrd '95 spoke in Rochester, N.Y., at the International Resource Group luncheon. Alwyrd discussed “The Implications of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.” She also was named partner in the firm Ashcraft Franklin & Young.

Robert K. Keggel '95 received the 40 Under 40 Award from Business First for his professional contributions. He is a partner in the firm’s Employee Benefits and Labor and Employment Law practice.
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Association. She is also currently a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past president of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Banker also was installed as president of the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association at the annual installation and awards ceremony dinner in Buffalo. Banker is a partner in the Buffalo firm Bingham Kita & Curvin.

Jose A. Fernandez ’96 has accepted a position as director of policy development and compliance at Mercer County Community College in West Windsor, N.J. Prior to that, he was a legal specialist for New Jersey’s Executive Commission on Ethical Standards. Fernandez is a Trenton, N.J., resident.

Laurie A. Giordano ’96 has become a partner in the law firm Woldof & Leclair in Rochester, N.Y. She specializes in commercial litigation, insurance coverage and personal injury litigation. Currie was appointed to the Class of ’86. She is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association, the UB Law Alumni Association’s board of directors, and a past member of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Brian M. Melber ‘96, a partner in the Buffalo firm Persons Melber, has been appointed to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association as vice president. He is also a trial advocacy instructor at UB Law School and a resident of Kenmore, N.Y.

Benjamin D. Pirozzolo ’96 has joined the firm Codley, Goddard & Kornblum in the New York City office. He is an associate practicing corporate law.

David Rodriguez ’96 is the new deputy corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo. Rodriguez is the first Hispanic attorney appointed to the position. He had been a solo practitioner in Buffalo since 2005.

Christopher G. Florio ’97 has become a partner in the firm Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo. He counsels clients regarding employment issues including automobile negligence, premises liability, work site injury, personal injury, transportation and nonfall matters.

Hsu, Law and Roque ’97 has been named a partner at the firm.”

Randall L. Meaney ’97 has been made an associate in the firm’s Buffalo office. Meaney was previously employed as assistant corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo. He is currently a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past member of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Renata Kowalczuk ’97 has been named a partner in the firm. Kowalczuk was formerly a legal counsel at the State of New York. She specializes in labor and employment law.

Peter J. Eisenhauser ’98 was named partner in the Buffalo firm Lewis & Lewis, handling workers’ compensation matters. He is a Buffalo resident.

Joan M. Idles ’98 has been promoted to partner in the firm Keaney & Gook in Buffalo. She handles cases regarding personal injury, insurance defense, matrimonial and family law.

Kathryn Bryk Friedman ’98 has been named special counsel in the Buffalo firm Magowan, Magowan & Grimm, counseling clients in international law. Friedman also is deputy director at the University at Buffalo Regional Institute.

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Up & Coming Attorney for 2006. She specializes in commercial litigation, insurance defense, personal injury litigation, medical malpractice, criminal law, workers’ compensation, estate planning and commercial litigation.

Gregory Mattacola ’98 of Rome, N.Y., has been nominated by U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer for the 2006 Accent on Excellence Award for his community involvement and volunteerism. Mattacola, a solo practitioner, is a past member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Mickey H. Osterreicher ’98 has been chosen by the National Press Photographers Association to assist in defending photographers’ rights and challenging policies that are harmful for photojournalists. He has served as chairman of the association’s government and media relations committee and is a member of the advocacy committee. Osterreicher is a Buffalo solo practitioner and an award-winning photojournalist. He is a resident of East Amherst, N.Y.
Charles J. Sullivan ’92
Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo. He counsels clients regarding insurance defense including automobile negligence, premises liability, work site injury, personal injury, transportation and non-fault plaintiffs.

Hox, Leonor R. Fote ’97 has been named Erie County Family Court support magistrate in Buffalo. Fote was formerly assistant corporation counsel for the City of Buffalo. She is currently a member of the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past member of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Randall J. Finnes ’97 has taken a position as senior manager with the National Basketball Association, where he previously worked for the New York State Police. He will be working with the NBA’s security department.

Renata Kawalec ’97 has been named a partner in the firm Ackerhalt & Pletcher in Buffalo. Kawalec has been with the firm since 2003.

David J. Luzen ’97 has become associated with the firm Phillips Lytle in Buffalo. Luzen concentrates his practice in family wealth planning, trade and antitrust law.

Melissa Hancock-Nicholson ’97 has been named to the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group. She is confidential law clerk to New York State Supreme Court Justice. 16th Judicial District. Hon. John M. Curran ’84.

D. Charles Roberts Jr. ’97 was named to the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association board of directors. Roberts is corporate counsel for Delaware North Cos. in Buffalo and a past president of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Kristen M. Smith ’97, a Buffalo attorney, was elected to the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association board of directors for 2006. Smith is also 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.

Elizabeth R. Wright ’97 is the new executive director of the Thomas Reynolds Center for Special Education and After School Programs at Daemen College in Amherst, N.Y. She will be involved with curriculum development, fundraising, teacher training and special education research. Wright was previously a partner in the firm Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Fletcher in Buffalo.

Jennifer Berger ’96 of Alexandria, Va., has accepted a supervisory position at AAB’s legal counsel for the Elderly. In addition, she was recently elected to the steering committee of the D.D.C. real estate transactions committee. Berger previously worked at the Legal Aid Society of D.C. and the Maryland Legal Aid Board.

Jennifer Burke ’98 has become an associate in the firm Damon & Mone in the Buffalo office. She is a member of the firm’s real estate and banking department.

Betty Cabo-Torres ’98 recently became became counsel of the firm Cantor, Lakasik, Dolce & Panepinto in Buffalo. Previously a solo practitioner, she will be in charge of the firm’s practice area that serves the Hispanic community. Cabo-Torres is also president of the Hispanic Women’s League of Western New York and immediate past president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York in Buffalo.

Peter J. Eisenhauser ’98 was named partner in the Buffalo firm Lewis & Lewis, handling workers’ compensation matters. He is a Buffalo resident.

Joan M. Fildes ’98 has been promoted to partner in the firm Kaye & Gork in Buffalo. She handles cases regarding personal injury, insurance defense, matrimonial and family law.

Kathryn Bryk Friedman ’98 has been named special counsel in the Buffalo firm Magavern, Magavern & Grimm, counseling clients in international law. Friedman is also deputy director at the University at Buffalo Regional Institute.

Bernard R. Hurewitz ’96 has joined the Genesee Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services as a labor relations coordinator. He lives in Pittsford, N.Y., with his wife, Stacy, and two children.

Thomas P. Kawalec ’96 has been promoted to officer (shareholder) in the firm Chelius, Hendrik, Speyer, Monte & Paulik in Buffalo. Kawalec has been with the firm since 1998 and practices insurance defense, personal injury litigation, criminal law, commercial law, business law, property law, medical practice, estate planning and commercial litigation.

Gregory Mattacola ’96 of Rome, N.Y., has been nominated by the U.S. Marshals Service for the 2006 Accent on Excellence Award for his community involvement and volunteerism.

Miccio, a solo practitioner, is the past president of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Mickey H. Osterreicher ’98 has been appointed as chair of the National Press Photographers Association to assist in defending photographers’ rights and challenging policies that are harmful for photojournalists. He has served as chair of the association’s government and media relations committee and is a member of the advocacy committee. Osterreicher is a Buffalo solo practitioner and an award-winning photojournalist.

Sara A. Stroth and Howard Spencer

Candids 1: Alberto M. Benitez and Gay Perotto

20th Reunion
May 2006

1st Row: Lisa L. McDougall, Dr. Martin A. Spitzer, Gary Perotto, Leslie S. Wichmann, Alberto M. Benitez

2nd Row: David N. Hoffman, Lionel S. Rigler, Caroline T. Silk, Gayle T. Murphy, Melinda R. Saran, Jan M. Stroth, Michael A. Murin

3rd Row: Timothy G. McEvoy, Simeon G. Whalen, Tenney Willis, Jeffery H. Katz, Michael G. Whalen

4th Row: Nicholas S. Prione, Kathleen Tenney Willis, Jeffery H. Katz, Michael G. Whalen

5th Row: Howard Spencer, Brenda J. Joyce, James M. Joyce, Roger L. Basner

6th Row: Gerard E. O’Connor, Quenncy Colton, Steven J. Hein, Matthew J. Finch, Craig M. Allen
Jennifer Persico ’98 has been appointed to the board of directors for 2006 for the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association, previously a Buffalo attorney and resident.

Lisa D. Primeraone ’98 was named legal counsel in the Buffalo office of Kaufman & Dienst, a member of the board of directors of UB’s GOLDF. Segalla, a member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLDF Group and a member of the Western New York chapter of the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York.

Jennifer Riggiero ’99, corporate counsel for M&T Bank in Buffalo, has become a member of the board of directors for the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association.

Stephen A. Sharkey ’98 has accepted a position in the Buffalo office of Plattsburgh, Cunningham & Coppola. He concentrates his practice in commercial and insurance litigation and is a Williamsville, N.Y., resident.

Heather J. Szymczak ’98, a partner in the Buffalo office of the firm Jonek, Heischman & Mugel, was a presenter at the New York Insurance Association Mock Trial in Syracuse. She practices in litigation, concentrating on business-related and commercial law. She also has been elected vice president of the board of directors of the Buffalo Alliance for Education.

Lourdes M. Ventura ’98 has accepted a position as deputy chief of staff for the New York State Democratic Conference, with offices in Albany and New York City. Ventura will oversee policy and finance matters. She is immediately past president of the Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County.

Marc W. Brown ’99 has been appointed as the firm’s new attorney grievance counselor for 2006. Perry is a resident of Lackawanna, N.Y. He travels the 8th Judicial District as the deputy chief of Lackawanna City Court in Lackawanna, N.Y. Prior to the appointment, he served as an administrative judge of the Family Court in Lackawanna. Williams is a Buffalo resident.

Kevin D. Scarcipanski ’95
honorees for 2006 for outstanding professional leadership, community involvement and professional success in Western New York. She was also recently appointed by the 8th Judicial District as the deputy chief clerk of Lackawanna City Court in Lackawanna, N.Y. She resides in East Amherst, N.Y., with her husband and two daughters.

Stephanie A. Cole ’99, a partner in the Buffalo firm Bloom, Cole & Shonn, is now general counsel for Niagara University in Niagara County. N.Y. Cole has a background in IP, business, education and municipal law and is the current chair of the Erie County Bar Association’s IP committee.

Daniel R. Connors ’99 has been appointed to the firm Goebel & Lombardo in Buffalo. He deals with cases regarding civil litigation and insurance law in construction accidents, complex malpractice, automobile accidents and premises liability. Connors is a Buffalo resident.

Tony L. Frain ’99 was elected by the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. Frain is an associate in the firm Karinsky & Gok in Buffalo. She was also appointed to the organizing committee of the National Kidney Foundations’ 2006 Kidney Walk.

Kevin W. Hourihan ’99 has been appointed to the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLDF Group. He practices in the firm Lipseth, Green, Fahngler, Roll, Salabury & Camin in Buffalo.

Christopher L. Jacobs ‘99 of Buffalo, has become New York State secretary of state. Jacobs, Avila & Development, a real estate development firm in Buffalo. He previously served as deputy commissioner of the Erie County Office of Planning and Economic Development. In addition, he is a former recipient of the Leadership Award from the Buffalo Urban League and was on the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLDF Group.

Russell B. Klein ’99 is the assistant attorney general for the Colorado attorney general’s office in Denver. He represents the Colorado division of securities in licensing and injunctive/enforcement actions.

Mark J. Stuhlmiller ’99 was elected president of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association for 2006-07. He is a former general counsel for Computer Task Group in Buffalo.

Michael W. Cole ’99 has been nominated to the New York State Assembly, 142nd District. Cole practices in the firm Jeffrey Friedman Attorneys at Law in the Buffalo office.

Edward C. Daniel III ’00 is counsel in the firm Haskoc & Barley in the Rochester, N.Y., office. Daniel is an attorney and CPA, counseling clients regarding tax and public finance matters. He lives in Fairport, N.Y.

Kathlene M. Locombo ’00 was named to a three-year term on the new attorney grievance committee for the 39th Judicial District. Locombo practices and lives in Lovile, N.Y.

Tiffany Perry ’00 was appointed vice president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York in Buffalo for 2006. Perry is a resident of Kenmore, N.Y.

Nicole Roberts ’00 was named treasurer of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York since 2005. As a member of the civil division, she defends actions brought against the United States and its agencies and prosecutes civil health care fraud cases. Schoenborn also has had the honor of meeting Attorney General Alberto Gonzales last spring when he visited the Buffalo. U.S. Attorney’s Office.

Margot Schoenborn ’00 of Brooklyn, N.Y., has served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of New York since 2005. As a member of the civil division, she defends actions brought against the United States and its agencies and prosecutes civil health care fraud cases. Schoenborn also has had the honor of meeting Attorney General Alberto Gonzales last spring when he visited the Buffalo. U.S. Attorney’s Office.

Elizabeth Snyder ’90 has been promoted to senior attorney with the State of New York Mental Hygiene Legal Service. She is the division attorney in the State Department in Utica, N.Y., where she resides.

Stephanie Williams Torres ’90 has accepted a position as director of the Transgender Affairs and Pride Office at the Kaleida Health Systems in Buffalo. Previously, she practiced in the Buffalo firm Haskoc & Barley. She is a member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLDF Group.

Alumni Briefs

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Bethany J. Gilbert 04

Scott T. Hanson '02 has been elected secretary of the National Kidney Foundation of Western New York and treasurer of UB Law School's GOLD Group. Hanson is an associate in the firm Phillips Littler in the Buffalo office and counsels clients in the area of general litigation. He lives in Clarence Center, N.Y.

Rashonda M. Jackson '02 has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Hussing & Barclay in the Rochester, N.Y., office. Jackson handles cases involving insurance coverage matters as well as tort and products liability litigation.

Jeffrey L. Kingsley '02 was elected to UB Law School’s GOLD Group board of directors. Kingsley is an associate in the firm Jarecki Fleischmann & Magul in the Buffalo office.

Nicole Lee ’02 has become executive director of TransAfrica Forum in Washington, D.C., the oldest African-American advocacy organization for justice for Africa and the Diaspora. She will oversee human rights and advocacy work. Actor Danny Glover is chairman of the organization.


Kevin K. McKain '02 has become an associate in the firm Burns Beach in the Pittsfield, Mass., office, practicing business and commercial litigation and insurance coverage in the state court. McKain was born in Rochester, N.Y., and is a Rochester native.

Jessica D. Owens '02 transferred from the New York City office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of the Chief Counsel to the San Francisco, Calif., office. She continues to work as a trial attorney representing the agency in immigration court proceedings. Owens is very happy to be on the West Coast, where she spends her free time hiking, camping, hiking and enjoying the area’s cultural scene.

Allison Porcella '02 has accepted the position of compliance and licensing officer with trade policy and export controls at E&J North America Defense Co. in Arlington, Va., where she resides.

Christopher D. Smith '02 has been selected to serve on the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group. Smith practices and resides in Hamburg, N.Y.

Marc Speczanowski '02 is a new associate in the firm Woods Oviatt & Gilman in Rochester, N.Y. He counsels clients regarding general civil litigation, business litigation and employment litigation matters. He previously practiced in Virginia.

Marla Waits '02 was selected to the Leadership Buffalo Rising Leaders Class of 2006. She is an associate in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, practicing in the federal international tax practice group.

Jennifer Weidner '02 has accepted a position as associate in the Rochester, N.Y., office of Rutter Secret & Enright. She focuses her practice in transfer tax planning and estate and trust administration and litigation.

Julie A. Atti '02 sang the national anthems before the Buffalo Bills preseason opener against the Cincinnati Bengals on Aug. 18. Atti, who is professionally trained in singing and ballet, also won the “Italian X Factor” at the Sorrento Italian Heritage Festival in Buffalo. She is a personal injury attorney in the Law Office of Roland M. Corone in Buffalo and a trial advocacy instructor at UB Law School.

Beth-Anne Diedato '03 has accepted the position of Assistant Dean of Development at UB Law School. She was
Jennifer Persico ’98 has been appointed to the board of directors for 2006 for the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association. Persico is a Buffalo attorney and resident.

Lisa D. Primerano ’98 was named legal counsel to the Buffalo Junior Chamber of Commerce. She is an attorney in the Buffalo firm Goldberg Segalla, a member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group and a member of the Western New York chapters of the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York.

Jennifer Ruggiero ‘98, corporate counsel for M&T Bank in Buffalo, has become a member of the board of directors for the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association.

Stephen A. Sharkey ‘98 has accepted a position in the Buffalo firm Rupp, Baase, Plafgard, Cunningham & Coppola. He concentrates his practice in commercial and insurance litigation and is a Williamsville N.Y. resident.

Heidi J. Szymbczak ‘98, a partner in the Buffalo office of the firm Joon Jie Heath & Muehl, was a presenter at the New York Insurance Association Mock Trial in Syracuse, N.Y. Szymbczak practices in litigation, concentrating on business-related and commercial litigation. He also has been elected vice president of the board of directors of the Buffalo Alliance for Education.

Lourdes M. Ventura ‘98 has accepted a position as deputy chief of staff for the New York State Senate Democratic Conference, with offices in Albany and New York City. Ventura will oversee policy and finance matters. She is immediately past president of the Latinos Lawyers Association of Queens County.

Maec. W. Brown ‘99 has been elected president of UB Law School’s GOLD Group. Brown is an associate in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office.

Melissa Brown-Williams ’99 has been honored as one of Business First’s 40 Under 40 honorees for 2006 for outstanding professional leadership, community involvement and professional success in Western New York. She was also recently appointed by the 8th Judicial District as the deputy chief clerk of Lackawanna City Court in Lackawanna, N.Y. She resides in East Amherst, N.Y., with her husband and two daughters.

Stephanie A. Cole ‘99, a partner in the Buffalo firm Bloom Cole & Shonn, is now general counsel for Niagara University in Niagara County, N.Y. Cole has a background in IP business, education and municipal law and is the current chair of the Erie County Bar Association’s IP committee.

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Kevin W. Hourihan ‘99 has been appointed to the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group. He practices in the firm Lipote, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambi in Buffalo.

Christopher L. Jacobs ’99, of Buffalo, has become New York State secretary of state. Jacobs was Avilaon Development, a real estate development firm in Buffalo. He previously served as deputy commissioner of the Erie County Office of Planning and Economic Development. In addition, he is a former recipient of the Leadership Award from the Buffalo Urban League and was on the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

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Mark J. Stahlmeier ’99 was elected president of the Niagara Frontier Corporate Counsel Association for 2006-07. He is assistant general counsel for Computer Task Group in Buffalo.

Melissa R. Williams ’99 was recently appointed by the 8th Judicial District as the deputy chief clerk of Lackawanna City Court in Lackawanna, N.Y. Prior to the appointment, she served as a resource coordinator of the domestic violence department of Buffalo City Court. Williams resides in Amherst, N.Y., with her husband and two daughters.

2008

Irene Chiu ’00 chaired the China panel at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association’s annual convention in Philadelphia in November. Chiu was nominated for the association’s Best Lawyers Under 40 award. Chiu also was recognized by UB Law School’s Latin American, black and Asian-American student associations at the 15th annual Students of Color Dinner. She is an associate in the firm Jeffrey Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambi in Buffalo.

Kevin D. Szczepanski ’95

Class of 1996
10th Reunion

1st Row: Erin P. Gall, Gina R. Digioia, Jennifer Scalisi Barr, Julia A. Hall, Mesheba Bauck-Veeder, Teresa Brophy Bair, Jen Trolis-Brennan, Lockmeyer, Terence McCarty, Pauline Consatanzio Will

2nd Row: Grant Stephen Bruno, John L. Leifert, Roberta A. Vallone, Harvey F. Siegel, Jeffrey A. Brennan, Michael R. McAndrew, Grausl W. Jonathanen, Steven G. Cox, David A. Wright, Laura A. Giordano, Tina A. Taylor


Class: Candid 1: Hilary C. Banker, Gina R. Digioia, Jennifer Scalisi Barr, Mesheba Bauck-Veeder and Teresa Brophy Bair

Class: Candid 2: Pauline Consatanzio Will, Sue E. Egan and Brian M. Melber

Class: Candid 3: Michael R. McAndrew and John L. Leifert
Alumni Briefs

School’s GOLD Group and is a Buffalo resident.

Michael R. Argentieri ’01 recently accepted a position as an associate in the Buffalo firm Hurwitz & Fine in the litigation department. He specializes in labor law, environmental law, medical malpractice, administrative law and product liability.

William Chen ’01 has become associated with the firm Jackle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office, practicing business and corporate litigation. Chen is a resident of Williamsville, N.Y., and a past member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group.

Catherine Grauntier Cooley ’01 was named to the New York State Bar Association committee on the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules. She practices in the litigation group in the Buffalo office of Hodgson Russ.

Gabriel DiMaio ’01 has been named to the Public Radio Program Directors board of directors. He is assistant program director of WBFO Radio at UB and a resident of Kenmore, N.Y.

Paul Presar ’01 has become associated with the New York City firm Allen & Wood. Presar concentrates his practice in trusts and estates.

Steven G. Sadowski ’01 of Amherst, N.Y., has joined the firm Hambrecht & Weiss in the Buffalo office. Sadowski is an associate specializing in workers’ compensation defense.

Sheldon Smith ’01 has joined the firm Niren Peabody as an associate in the Buffalo office. He specializes in business contract disputes, employment defense, insurance coverage, property tax assessment and tort liability defense.

JASON STANK ’01 has accepted a position as a policy adviser to Hon. Philip Mudd of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C. Stank lives in Laurel, Md.

John W. Andrews ’02 is practicing in the Buffalo firm Magavern Magavern and Company.

Scott T. Hanson ’02 has been elected secretary of the National Kidney Foundation of Western New York and treasurer of UB Law School’s GOLD Group. Hanson is an associate in the firm Phillips Lytle in the Buffalo office and counseling clients in the area of general litigation. He lives in Clarence Center, N.Y.

Rashonda M. Jackson ’02 has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Howaniec & Barclay in the Rochester, N.Y., office. Jackson handles cases involving insurance coverage matters as well as tort and products liability litigation.

Jeffrey L. Kingsley ’02 was elected to UB Law School’s GOLD Group board of directors. Kingsley is an associate in the firm Jackle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office.

Nicole Lee ’02 has become executive director of TransAfrica Forum in Washington, D.C., the oldest African-American advocacy organization for justice for Africa and the Diaspora. She will oversee human rights and advocacy work. Actor Danny Glover is chairman of the organization.


Kevin K. McKinlay ’02 has become an associate in the firm Hurwitz & Fine in the Pittsburgh, Pa., office, practicing business, insurance and commercial litigation and transactional law.

Kevin M. Moomot ’02 is a new publications director of The Daily Record of Rochester. N.Y. Moomot has been editor since 2001 and is a Rochester native.

Jessica D. Owens ’02 transferred from the New York City office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of the Chief Counsel to the San Francisco, Calif., office. She continues to work as a trial attorney representing the agency in immigration court proceedings. Owens is very happy to be on the West Coast, where she spends her free time hiking, camping, hiking and enjoying the area’s cultural scene.

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Marc Speczawski ’02 is a new associate in the firm Woods Orrit & Gilmartin in Rochester. N.Y. He counsels clients regarding general civil litigation, business litigation and employment litigation matters. He previously practiced in Virginia.

Marla Wails ’02 was selected to the Leadership Buffalo Rising Leaders Class of 2006. She is an associate in the firm Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, practicing in the federal international tax practice group.

Jennifer Weidner ’02 has accepted a position as associate in the Rochester, N.Y., office of Baker Sterrett & Enery. She focuses her practice in transfer tax planning and estate and trust administration and litigation.

Julie A. Atl ’03 sang the national anthem before the Buffalo Bills preseason opener against the Cincinnati Bengals on Aug. 16. Atl, who is professionally trained in singing and ballet, also won the “Italian Idol” title at the Sorrento Italian Heritage Festival in Buffalo. She is a personal injury attorney in the Law Office of Roland M. Gerson in Buffalo and a trial advocacy instructor at UB Law School.

Beth Anne Diedato ’03 has accepted the position of Assistant Dean of Development at UB Law School. She was
Foti practices as an Rochester, N.Y., resident. She is an Amherst, N.Y., resident.

Koviena Y. Nelson ’03
Shazia N. Nagamia ’03

Alumni Briefs

UB LAW FORUM 2006

Melinda Grabowski ’93 is an associate in the firm Ziller, Marsh & Brown in Buffalo. She practices in real estate law. She is a resident of Buffalo.

Roland R. Beavers ’53, Chockowagua, New York
Sherman F. Babcock ’37, Sun City, Florida
Rachel A. Bondele ’70, Lemon, New York
James L. Crane Jr. ’58, Buffalo
Norman Y. Brown ’41, East Aurora, New York
Leonard M. Scioli ’42, Buffalo
John J. Mathews ’47, Clifton Park, New York
Dale J. Manchester ’48, Springfield, New York
James J. Brady ’49, Buffalo
Alex R. Kitt ’49, Pittsford, New York

The Law School extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following students and alumni:

Meredith A. Vacca ’95 was named a partner in the firm Hamberger & Benke in Rochester, N.Y., office. She focuses her practice in workers’ compensation law. She is a Rochester resident.

Keith R. Vona ’95 practices in the areas of asbestos, personal injury and lead paint litigation. Vona, previously a City of Buffalo police officer, has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Lipatko & Portenon in Buffalo.

Kristen M. Walder ’05 has accepted a position with the firm Beaudry & Meister in Lockport, N.Y. She practices as an associate in the firm Beaudry & Meister.

Jennifer Behrens ’06 offers her administrative services in Lancaster, Pa., where she resides.

Myron Malkinson, working in the School Law from 1985 to the mid-90s, in Biddle, Colorado.

Thad G. McMurray ’85, a registered patent attorney, has joined the firm Sciamanda in Buffalo. He specializes in corporate and securities law. He is a resident of Buffalo.

Karen C. Page ’87 is practicing in the firm Jecklin, Fliehlm & Co., where she concentrates her practice in intellectual property and business law. She is a resident of Buffalo.

Alissa M. Pieraccini ’97 joined the firm, where she focuses her practice in commercial litigation and real estate law. She is a Rochester resident.

Danielle E. Shawbird ’04 is an associate at the law firm Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Cooppi as an associate. She specializes in intellectual property and technology practice. She is a Rochester resident.

Jennifer Liberski is a registered agent. She focuses her practice in commercial litigation and real estate law. She is a resident of Buffalo.

Jodi Reynolds ’06 is named an associate in the firm Hamberger & Benke in Rochester, N.Y., office. She focuses her practice in workers’ compensation law. She is a Rochester resident.

Jason Wonner ’01 is named an associate at the law firm Beaudry & Meister in Lockport, N.Y. He focuses his practice in intellectual property and technology practice. He is a Rochester resident.

Michael D. Mann ’06 has named the firm Sidney Austin in the New York Volunteer in the Buffalo office. He specializes in corporate and tax law. Page is a resident of Buffalo.

Law School’s GOLD Group and Meredith University’s Guitar and Bass.

Michele J. Fagan ’09 joined the firm Grumman & Corcoran in Rochester, N.Y. She deals with trust and estate law. She is a resident of Rochester.

Kristen M. Walder ’05
Keith R. Vona ’05

In Memoriam

James J. Brady ’49, Buffalo
Dale J. Manchester ’48, Springfield, New York
James J. Brady ’49, Buffalo
Alex R. Kitt ’49, Pittsford, New York

Roland R. Beavers ’53, Chockowagua, New York
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Kristen M. Walder ’05
Keith R. Vona ’05

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The Law School extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following students and alumni:

Meredith A. Vacca ’95 was named a partner in the firm Hamberger & Benke in Rochester, N.Y., office. She focuses her practice in workers’ compensation law. She is a Rochester resident.

Keith R. Vona ’95 practices in the areas of asbestos, personal injury and lead paint litigation. Vona, previously a City of Buffalo police officer, has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Lipatko & Portenon in Buffalo.

Kristen M. Walder ’05 has accepted a position with the firm Beaudry & Meister in Lockport, N.Y. She practices as an associate in the firm Beaudry & Meister.

Jennifer Behrens ’06 offers her administrative services in Lancaster, Pa., where she resides.

Myron Malkinson, working in the School Law from 1985 to the mid-90s, in Biddle, Colorado.

Thad G. McMurray ’85, a registered patent attorney, has joined the firm Sciamanda in Buffalo. He specializes in corporate and securities law. He is a resident of Buffalo.

Karen C. Page ’87 is practicing in the firm Jecklin, Fliehlm & Co., where she concentrates her practice in intellectual property and business law. She is a resident of Buffalo.

Alissa M. Pieraccini ’97 joined the firm, where she focuses his practice in commercial litigation and real estate law. She is a resident of Buffalo.

Jodi Reynolds ’06 is named an associate in the firm Hamberger & Benke in Rochester, N.Y., office. She focuses his practice in workers’ compensation law. She is a Rochester resident.

Jason Wonner ’01 is named an associate at the law firm Beaudry & Meister in Lockport, N.Y. He focuses his practice in intellectual property and technology practice. He is a Rochester resident.

Michael D. Mann ’06 has named the firm Sidney Austin in the New York Volunteer in the Buffalo office. He specializes in corporate and tax law. Page is a resident of Buffalo.
Melinda Grohowski ’95 has been appointed legislative affairs coordinator for the firm Farwel & Lang in Buffalo. She is a resident of Selnick, N.Y.

Robin E. Catalano ’05 has joined the firm Jardine in Englewood, Colo. She will handle matters regarding intellectual property and personal injury litigation.

Lara Kasper-Buckareff ’94 is an associate in the Buffalo office. She practices in the litigation group.

Kate J. Secrest ’95 in Rochester has accepted a position as an associate in the firm Magavern & Grimm in Buffalo. She will handle matters involving admiralty and personal injury litigation.

Melissa Raunigk ’94 has joined the Buffalo firm Rupp, Pichler, Butterworth, & Lang in Buffalo, concentrating her practice in business, tax and corporate law.

Jennifer L. Thompson ’04 has been accepted to the Rising Achievement Award. He is a member of the executive board.

Cynthia Y. Su, LL.M. ’03, has become associated with the Rochester firm Marvin, Turlington, and is practicing in the litigation area. She is a Rochester resident.

Annie E. Joynt ’05 has become associated with the firm Lipata & Portenier in Buffalo. She will handle matters involving admiralty, personal injury and labor law litigation.

Karen T. Page ’05 is practicing in the firm Magavern & Grimm in Buffalo. She specializes in corporate law and employment law. She is a Rochester resident.

Michael D. Mann ’06 is practicing in the firm Jardine in Englewood, Colo. He specializes in intellectual property and commercial contract litigation. He is a resident of Castle Rock, Colo.

Meredith A. Vacca ’05 has been named an associate in the firm Hiscock & Barclay in the Buffalo office. She practices in workers’ compensation law. She is a Rochester resident.

Michael J. Plunkett ’06 is practicing in the firm Brizdle & Gilfillan as an associate. Shainbrown concentrates her practice in commercial litigation and real estate law. She is a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

Keith R. Vona ’05 practices in the areas of asbestos litigation, personal injury and labor law. Vona, previously a City of Buffalo police officer, has accepted a position as an associate in the Buffalo firm Lipata & Portenier.

Alison J. Rich ’03 has joined the Buffalo firm Rupp, Pichler, Butterworth, & Lang in Buffalo, concentrating her practice in business, tax and corporate law. She is a resident of W. Cazenovia, N.Y.

Kathleen A. Lisandrelli ’06 is practicing as an associate in the firm Brizdle & Gilfillan in Buffalo. She handles matters involving employment, labor and civil litigation. She resides in Castle Rock, Colo.

The Law School extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following students and alumni:
A new voice for Africa
Nicole Lee ’02 takes the helm at TransAfrica Forum

The nation’s oldest African-American advocacy organization for justice in Africa and the Diaspora has a new chief officer who is a UB Law School graduate.

Nicole Lee ’02 became executive director of TransAfrica Forum in mid-December. Her appointment was announced by actor Danny Glover, chairman of TransAfrica Forum’s board. She had previously served as operations director of the Washington, D.C.-based organization.

Lee is the first woman to head the 30-year-old organization.

“I do not recall across the Law School any student who has achieved something like this,” said Professor Makau Mutua, with whom Lee worked closely in the Law School as she pursued an international law concentration. “It is really a meteoric rise.”

As executive director, Lee will oversee the organization’s human rights and advocacy work relating to Africa and other worldwide locations where people of African descent have settled in large numbers, including Europe, the Caribbean and South America. She is also responsible for administration, fundraising and financial management.

Largely, she said, TransAfrica Forum takes its lead from the populations whose causes it seeks to advance. “We do not speak for them,” she said, “but as we move forward as a constituent organization in the United States, we need to ensure that we amplify the voices of the Diaspora and international civil society here in the U.S.”

Lee credits her predecessors in the job – Randall Robinson, who spearheaded the anti-apartheid movement in the United States, and Bill Fletcher – with setting forth “strong visions of pan-Africanism, and how to position the organization so we could make effective policy change in the United States in support of the African world. They had really strong visions of the type of organization they wanted to build.”

One of the organization’s strengths, she said, is constituent education – teaching Americans about the real issues affecting Africans and people of African descent. For example, she said, “when most people think of Columbia, they think of the war on drugs. What they do not think about is the victims of the war on drugs, indigenous populations and Afro-descendant populations both who are affected by deforestation and fumigation. Many of these communities have nothing but their land and are used as pawns in the war on drugs. ‘The average American is not really aware that that is going on.’

Lee, a Buffalo native, did her undergraduate work at UB. When she decided to go to law school, she said, she was drawn to UB Law by the strength of its international law and human rights programs, and the chance to work with Mutua.

“Many people go to law school thinking they are going to work at a law firm,” she said. “For me, the purpose of going to law school was to be a better human rights advocate. Law school was really a tool to get me where I wanted to be. That clarity really helped me hone in on the areas I wanted to be working in.”

In her final year at UB Law, Mutua named her an international law fellow. In that capacity, she worked with him in running the school’s Human Rights Center, organizing conferences and internships, and bringing in speakers. She also worked for a time at a Legal Aid firm in Capetown, South Africa.

“All of this, she said, was helpful in positioning herself to work in global human rights. ‘Human rights is one of the most competitive fields to pursue,’” Lee said.

“I learned that just wanting to do good is not enough. I needed to learn everything I possibly could, and how my own ideology fit into what I would do next. In order to locate yourself, you have to have an understanding of what you truly believe. At some point you have to stop merely being a sponge and articulate what you really believe.”

Following her Law School graduation, she worked with a human rights law firm in Haiti, traveling often to Washington, D.C., to advocate on issues involving public health care in Haiti.

Following a February 2004 coup in Haiti, she ended up in D.C. full time, and joined TransAfrica Forum early in 2005. Now she is managing a paid staff of eight or nine people, augmented by about 50 active volunteers and a “very active and high profile board,” which in addition to Glover includes actor-singer Harry Belafonte.

She remains a booster of UB Law School, its effect on her professional life and its future. “The biggest advantage of going to UB,” she said, “was that I had very progressive professors. The university is one of the only places where you can question our society and how our society functions in a way that is fairly constructive.”

And as she looks to the Law School’s future, not surprisingly she sees great promise in its human rights program. “In terms of creating a Law School that is top-notch,” Lee said, “we need to put our energy behind the Human Rights Center and the international law program that Makau is creating. That program has a vision. It is going to be that vision that will take the Law School to the next level.”

Nicole Lee ’02 was recently named executive director of TransAfrica Forum.
When you give back, we move forward.

A clear direction for the future

UB Law School is on the move. We are always looking forward. We have an excellent faculty, a talented and diverse student body, a cutting-edge curriculum, and a strong alumni network. To compete with the top schools, your support is crucial as we take our Law School to even greater heights. To learn more about giving back, contact Deborah Scott, Vice Dean for Development, at (716) 645-2113 or e-mail her at djscott@buffalo.edu.

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