

UB LAW FORUM

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO LAW SCHOOL
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FALL 2009

KENYAN PRIME MINISTER URGES SOLIDARITY WITH EMERGING AFRICA

*Raila Odinga,
keynote speaker for
2009 Commencement,
tours Niagara Falls with
Dean Makau Mutua*



Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster, right, presents an Obama hat to Kenyan Prime Minister Odinga, who is related to the U.S. president. Odinga, who was in Western New York as the keynote speaker for UB Law's 2009 Commencement, also received a key to the city during a stop in Niagara Falls. He and his family, who visited the Cave of the Winds and other sites, noted the magnificence and power of the Falls.



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ON THE COVER:

Dean Makau Mutua, left, tours the American Falls with Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga, the first sitting head of state to visit the University at Buffalo in recent history.

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The State University of New York*

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*Aloha,
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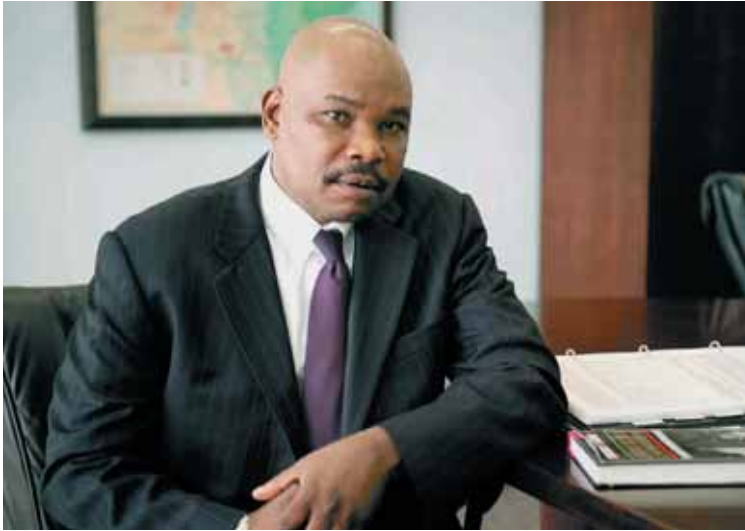
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Building the law school of the future



We are a school that is experiencing a remarkable renaissance in spite of the most challenging economy since the Great Depression.

For UB Law School, the fall is a season of hope and renewal to the ideals of academic excellence which undergird our core mission. For new and returning students — and for all the members of the larger UB Law community — I want to extend my heartfelt welcome to all of you for a most successful 2009-10 academic year. Let me state the bottom line upfront: there has never been a better time to be associated with UB Law. We are a school that is experiencing a remarkable renaissance in spite of the most challenging economy since the Great Depression.

The last year was for us a flagship year in terms of building the law school of the future. A few highlights tell the story. We admitted the most qualified class in our history. Our alumni rallied to our side with generous contributions in response to our pleas for help. We hired faculty with exceptional academic credentials. We attracted star scholars to the Law School, including Professor Angela Harris of Berkeley Law School, who will be Visiting Professor and Baldy Distinguished Scholar this year. We are a school on the rise and are on our way to being counted among the finest law schools in the country.

We capped the year with a tremendous commencement that was headlined by the Hon. Raila Odinga, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, who gave the Commencement Address. We conferred honorary doctorate degrees on two distinguished champions of civil and human rights. President John B. Simpson conferred the honorary doctorates on Irene Khan, the incomparable Secretary-General of Amnesty International, and J. Mason

Davis, a UB Law alumnus and one of the most respected civil rights lawyers in the country. It was a commencement like no other, and underlined our ambitions of building a global law school.

But we have set the bar even higher this year. In this regard, I am proud to say that our entering class builds on the excellence of last year's. Its stellar credentials speak to the competitiveness of the Law School and the high academic standards that we expect of our students. But that is not all. We strive to build a law school that looks like America and the entering class attempts to address that ambition. We know that we still have a lot of work to do in this regard, but our commitment is not in doubt. This is a goal that we can accomplish with more recruitment outreach and the help of our dedicated alumni.

This year, I intend to lead the Law School in hiring more faculty with star potential, recruiting a diverse class of students with great academic credentials while maintaining access, getting our alumni even more involved in supporting us and giving us advice, reaching out to Albany for more support, and telling the world the great things that are happening at UB Law. These are the central elements on which a great law school can be built. As I have said before, my ambition is not to build a good local law school — it is to create a great national law school. I believe that a top 50 ranking, which I have set as the goal for my deanship, is one index of that measure.

Above all, I firmly believe that what happens in the Law School will determine our success and the accomplishment of these goals. That is why the Law School must be administered accountably and with transparency. Merit must be our watchword. For our wonderful faculty, this means producing scholarship that catches the eye of peers and members of the bar and the bench. It means that faculty should teach to produce practice-ready attorneys. For our excellent staff, it means putting student service at the center of the law school experience. That is why our career advisement, technology, registrar and student affairs departments strive to be the very best. We know that today's students are tomorrow's alumni.

Finally, I want to reiterate my belief that no law school can aspire to greatness without dedicated and committed alumni. I know that we could not have taken these important strides since I became dean without your loyal support. Please continue to do all that you can to help us. Together, we are going to take UB Law School to a new level.

Leading the global push

Michael P. Murphy '87 heads one firm's ambitious expansion plan

One of the nation's largest firms is dramatically expanding its international presence, and UB Law graduate Michael P. Murphy '87 is at the helm.

Murphy, a Nixon Peabody senior partner and Reinsurance Group Chair, co-heads its Global Strategies and International Practice. He's leading a robust plan to transform Nixon Peabody — a Global 100 firm with Rochester roots — into a Global 50 firm, with over 1,500 lawyers.

That means building upon recent moves into London, Shanghai and Paris, and establishing offices in Europe, Asia and South America. Murphy lives in the Buffalo suburb of Clarence but works out of Nixon's New York City and London offices.

"The business segments fueling our fire now are the firms and teams we've added to our portfolio in the past six years," says Murphy. "It's a bold and aggressive strategy. We're building a global business that allows Nixon Peabody to thrive even in a downturn in any one market. We're creating a solid platform to serve our clients globally and to ensure that the firm is strong for our employees." The diversification strategy is also aimed at capitalizing on opportunities being created as the global business market grows, he says. Nixon Peabody is building on its strengths in reinsurance, financial services, IP, private equity and sports.

The opportunities are many. Intellectual Property law is growing rapidly in China. France presents "extraordinary" IP, entertainment and private equity opportunity. Germany, France's largest trading partner, is a natural expansion target as Nixon "connects the dots" in Europe. And London is a hub for Nixon's reinsurance, finance, infrastructure and M&A practices.

Murphy is intensely focused on emerging markets like Brazil, where he spends considerable time representing Brazil's largest reinsurer in a \$600 million litigation involving multiple related international arbitrations. Murphy says, "It's critical to understand a market before spending the firm's capital and resources on opening an office. And handling matters in these markets affords us the opportunity to immerse ourselves on the ground. In the process, we learn the business and legal culture of the market, and see more clearly the opportunities and threats necessary to

make informed business decisions about where to place our next bets". India is another market Murphy is focusing on; "it's not an open market, but that's coming, and when it comes we'll be there."

"The foundation for our global strategy is our high-performance, high-commitment culture," says Murphy. "Successful firms have engaged leaders who are passionate about the business and its people, who produce and produce results, and who lead by example and not by rhetoric."

Another Nixon strategy is to be "the best firm to work with and for" and, Murphy says, "we implement that strategy every day." *Fortune* has named Nixon among the "100 Best Companies to Work For." Nixon is also acclaimed for its commitment to diversity and openness to gay and lesbian employees. It's a philosophy that represents, Murphy says, "a profound respect for people and for the Nixon Peabody family."

Bringing global partners on board a U.S.-style, high-performance culture is challenging. "We're guided by an unwavering commitment to alignment — our strategy, culture, compensation and platform is aligned. We're a one-firm firm which looks for global partners whose vision, values, aspirations and commitment line up with ours."

The globalization project comes in addition to Murphy's membership on Nixon's compensation committee and his substantial reinsurance practice. He represents reinsurers and retrocessionaires, including Swiss Re, in international disputes and transactions. He's recognized as one of the world's leading reinsurance lawyers, and his group — which handles M&A, private equity, finance, regulation, IP and international disputes — is ranked among the top global reinsurance industry teams. "It's a great space to play in," he says. "The barriers to entry are high, the competition is low, the deals and disputes are enormous, and the quality of the lawyering and the level of engagement is off the charts."



Counting the costs

Two alumni shine in high-profile national bankruptcy cases



Marc Hirschfield '92 now spends most of his work time helping to unravel the damage from the \$65 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by Bernard L. Madoff.

Between economic downturn and outright fraud, there are plenty of bankruptcy cases to go around lately. Two of the biggest – and most publicized – such cases in modern times have UB Law alumni at the center of a legal whirlwind.

Jeffrey L. Tanenbaum '76, a partner in the New York City firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges, worked on the General Motors reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, and continues to work on the longstanding bankruptcy reorganization of Delphi Corp., the automotive parts supplier that GM spun off in 1999. **Marc E. Hirschfield '92**, a partner with the New York City firm Baker & Hostetler, is immersed in a series of claims resulting from the massive fraud perpetrated by now-jailed financier Bernard Madoff, who perpetrated the biggest Ponzi

scheme in history.

Most of Tanenbaum's recent work has been on the Delphi case.

"It's been a major struggle reorganizing that company," he says. "We always thought we would have that resolved long before GM resolved its financial dilemma."

As it turns out, Tanenbaum, who teaches a bankruptcy course as part of the Law School's New York City Program in International Finance and Law, was able to bring some of his experience with the Delphi case into the classroom.

"Delphi is a case study on what happens during bankruptcy," he says. "It has everything you can imagine, good or bad – labor negotiations, buyers of assets, hedge funds reneging on commitments to fund Delphi's exit from bankruptcy and litigation surrounding all of the above. It's a profile of every-

thing that could possibly happen in a bankruptcy case."

In the larger General Motors case, Weil, Gotshal represented the automaker as it worked to sell some assets, restructure its debt, cancel contracts, close some operations and secure financing to emerge from bankruptcy as a new legal entity.

The legal work is a massive undertaking, made possible, Tanenbaum says, only because "we're very team-oriented. When we have these large Chapter 11 cases, we reach out to all of the various departments in the firm. One of the reasons we are so successful at doing this work is that we have expertise throughout our firm in various departments in the bankruptcy arena. We have a paralegal team that works with us; we have an outside party that does the mass filings of pleadings for us, keeps track of pleadings that are filed, and manages the mass mailings that we have to do.

"There are a lot of meetings, numerous conference calls and significant negotiations. Bankruptcy is the essence of negotiation, trying to bring disparate interests together to agree on a distribution of the assets of a company, the wealth of a company, and doing that in compliance with the bankruptcy code. You have to look from the senior creditors to the most junior creditors, figure out the value of that enterprise, and distribute that value fairly to the various constituencies."

Tanenbaum says he and his colleagues recognize the historic import of the GM case. "It's a thrill to be part of a group that gets to work on situations involving companies that are icons of American corporate history," he says. "I represented Bethlehem Steel several years ago. We've represented Texaco, Continental Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Macy's. We've worked with some of the great companies of our time.

"It does make you feel you're doing something productive, and also that you're part of history, when you see



Jeffrey L. Tanenbaum '76 worked on the General Motors bankruptcy reorganization and continues to work on the longstanding reorganization of Delphi Corp.

what these companies have done wrong, where it all started, what the issues were and how they dealt with their problems."

• • •

Marc Hirschfield was working at another firm when he heard that the Securities Investor Protection Corporation had appointed a trustee to liquidate the holdings of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities — and that the trustee had joined Baker & Hostetler. Hirschfield, a bankruptcy specialist, moved to his new firm in March and now spends most of his work time helping to unravel the damage from the \$65 billion Ponzi scheme.

Hirschfield and his colleagues are filing lawsuits on behalf of the trustee, amounting to more than \$10 billion so far. Some of the actions are "preference" suits seeking to recover payments made to individuals and funds in the 90-day period before the bankruptcy filing, on

the legal principle that "people who got money out right before the bankruptcy shouldn't get more money than other people when the assets are divided among all the creditors." They are also suing over fraudulent transfers paid out to third parties.

"This case will be going on for a long time," Hirschfield says. "We've filed a bunch of cases so far, and there are more to come, as we go through each of the fraudulent transfers and potential preferences and see which are appropriate for us to bring suit."

The work involves some judgment calls, he says: "Some entities will have a hard time paying us back because they were defrauded. A fund may have gotten \$100 million from Madoff last year but has since paid that money out to their investors. One of the challenges is trying to trace the money and find where there are assets remaining."

"One of the heartbreaking aspects of this is the people who invested in the '70s and '80s who are now retired and made decisions in their lives based on what they thought they had."

"There are a lot of people who are very angry. A lot of people put all their money into Madoff and now they're virtually penniless. I was at Madoff's sentencing hearing and it was extraordinarily sad. There was one person who told the judge that she and her husband took a mortgage on their house and invested the money with Bernie, and now not only is that money gone but they are saddled with that mortgage debt. Another person talked about how she is basically forced to scrounge for food, literally, in dumpsters. It's very sad."

The trustee has collected more than \$1.2 billion already, Hirschfield says. He notes that "one of the things that differentiates this case is that our fees are paid by the SIPC. In most bankruptcies, the fees are paid out of the pot first. But everything we collect goes to pay the customers, the creditors."



Doug Sylvester '94 on a tiny revolution

Douglas J. Sylvester '94 is thinking big — and also small. Really, really small. As a research fellow at Arizona State University, where he teaches IP law and serves as an associate dean, he has immersed himself in the global issues arising from nanotechnology, the emerging science of machines and materials measured in billionths of a meter.

Especially he studies and writes about the human impacts of such microscopic technology, which some say may revolutionize the way we live. One of the problems with revolution, though, is that it makes people nervous.

"Human beings adapt to technologies and deal with the consequences a lot better than lawyers and social scientists would like to believe," Sylvester says. "Change bothers people. But one of the things the law does really well is to allow technologies to disperse and be accepted by society."

In his writing, Sylvester explores the psychology of how humans accept or reject new technologies. He also thinks and writes about privacy issues that arise from new technologies, taking issue with those who assert that individual privacy should always trump social concerns. "The concern I have always had about lawyers and law professors," he says, "is that we look for people who are losers and say everything is about protecting their rights. I tend to think that is wrong. If individuals lose a degree of privacy, there are many beneficial results for society."

COMMENCEMENT 2009

Kenyan prime minister urges solidarity with emerging Africa

Two national anthems – those of the United States and Kenya – set the stage for UB Law School's 120th Commencement, a ceremony with a decidedly international flavor. Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga delivered the keynote address to the 258 graduating students, and their families, gathered in the Center for the Arts on May 23.

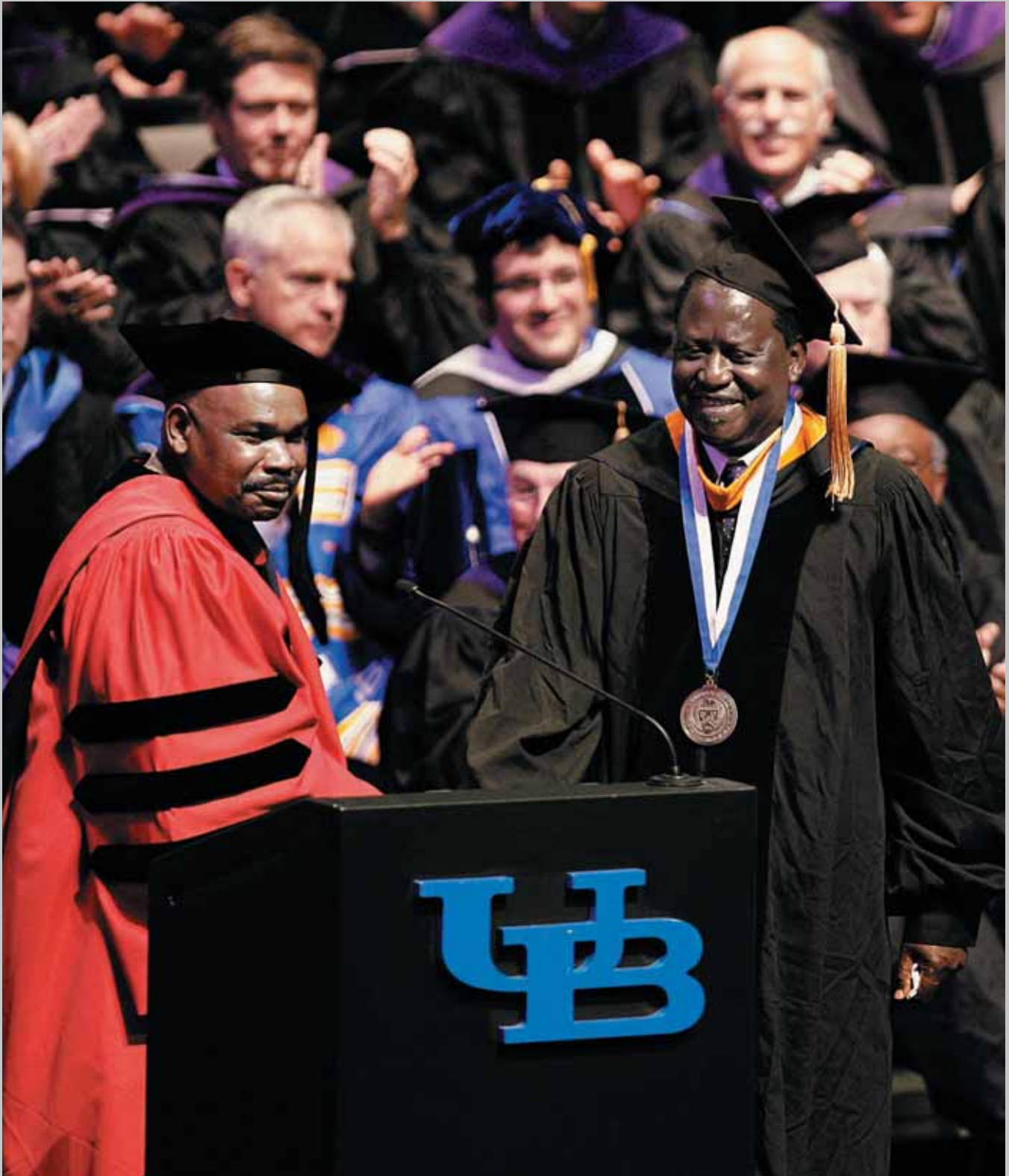
Dean Makau W. Mutua, a native of Kenya who invited Odinga to speak, told the graduates, "Congratulations for having completed and endured three long and

C o n t i n u e d ...



PHOTO ESSAY

Related events to the Commencement weekend's visit from three international champions of human rights: Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga; Amnesty International Secretary-General Irene Zubaida Khan; and civil rights activist attorney J. Mason Davis Jr.
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Dean Makau W. Mutua, left, presents the Dean's Medal to Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga.

“WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO DO AFTER THIS,
MY WORD TO YOU IS, DO NOT BE PASSIVE
OBSERVERS OF THE WORLD. BE ACTIVE
CITIZENS OF THIS PLANET.”

— *Kenyan Prime Minister*
— *Raila Amolo Odinga*



Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga delivered the keynote address.



Receiving an honorary degree were Irene Zubaida Khan, secretary-general of the international human rights organization Amnesty International, and

grueling years of legal education at UB Law School. But if you thought that law school was hard, I ask you to think again, because life begins now. Today begins the rest of your life, but I want to assure you that it will be a wonderful life if you live it under the maxim ‘Equality for all and justice under the law.’ For in that little phrase you will find the tenets of a truly humane existence.”

Odinga began his remarks by saying, “In Kenya, at a graduation time like this, we say, ‘Welcome to the world as it is, not as it should be as expounded in textbooks.’ Whatever you choose to do after this, my word to you is, do not be passive observers of the world. Be active citizens of this



Left to right: Pamela D. Heilman '75 with Kenyan Minister for Lands James Orengo and Kenyan Minister of Education Sally Kosgei

planet. Your services as lawyers will be needed beyond the borders of the United States of America.”

He then gave those in attendance a brief history of his country, which in recent years has struggled to overcome a legacy of colonialism and self-interested national governments. He also recounted the Kenyan people’s increasing calls for a new constitution that would limit the power of the executive branch and solidify personal freedoms. “Solving the governance problems in Africa requires fundamental governance reforms,” Odinga said. “Central to these reforms is enactment of a new and popular constitution.”



J. Mason Davis Jr. '59, civil rights activist and prominent Birmingham, Ala., attorney.



SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Charles Patrick Ewing, left, and SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kenneth F. Joyce hood Barbara L. Waal '09.



Dean Makau W. Mutua



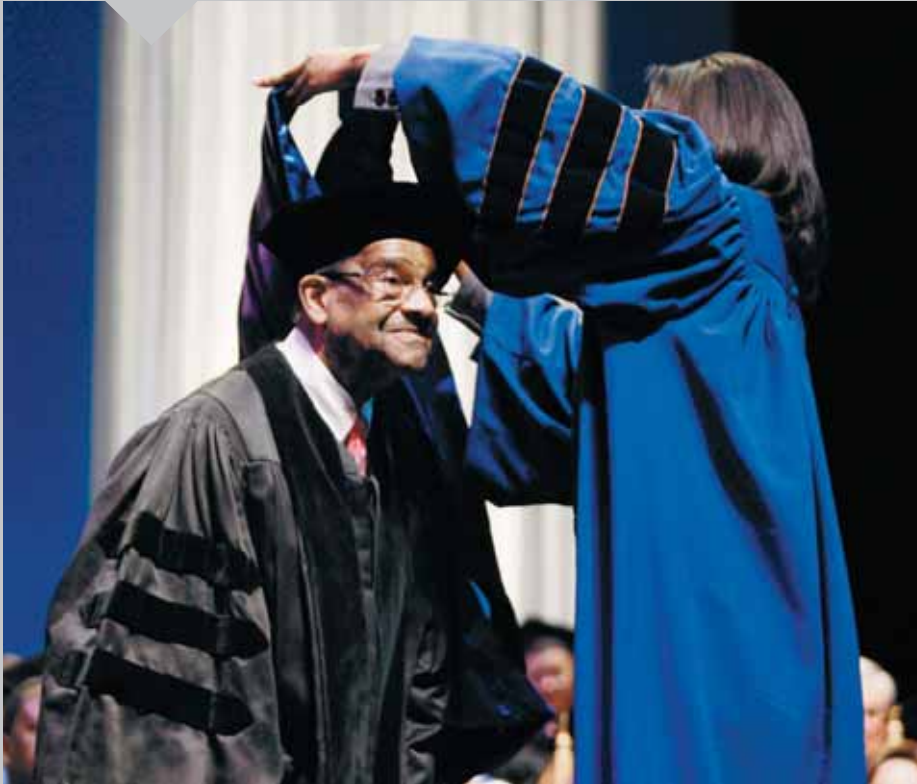
Karin L. Abu-Middain '09 receives her hood from Professor David M. Engel and Professor Susan V. Mangold.

Africa, he said, remains a “great continent with great contradictions . . . where the bad and ugly run alongside flashes of brilliance.” Some African nations have been independent states for 40, 50, even 60 years, he said, and “the colonial blame game has run its course.” “Africa has been through difficult times in the past,” Odinga said. “Africa has been misgoverned and has not been able to marshal the resources that it is. This must not continue. Africa does not need aid. What Africa needs is trade and investment.”

C o n t i n u e d . . .

“ I HANDLED MORE THAN 100 VOTER DISCRIMINATION CASES IN BOTH HUNTSVILLE AND BIRMINGHAM. THESE WERE MY FAVORITE, BECAUSE OF MY OWN ENCOUNTER WITH DISCRIMINATION... ”

— J. Mason Davis Jr. '59



J. Mason Davis Jr. '59 with SUNY Student Trustee Melody Mercedes.



Left to right: LL.M. '09 graduates Aparna V. Balakrishnan,

To the graduating class he had words of exhortation: “I want to encourage you to train your sights on places like Africa and great nations like Kenya. There will be a lot to do in various fields. You could be voices for the rule of law, constitutionalism, democracy, good governance, human rights. As you graduate, you join a world that is in a recession caused partly by poor corporate governance and greed in some cases. You join a world in peril from global warming caused by environmental degradation. Your services are required in these areas across the world. Above all, you graduate at a time when, with the election of President Barack Obama, America is seen to have



Kerese M. Foster '09 presents the Faculty Award to Associate Professor Rick Su.



Left to right: Lindsay A. Bernstein '09, Timothy W. Menasco '09 and Sara A. Wall '09



Monika Bhatt, Mariela J. Martinez, Sabrina M. Smith and Nadeen C. Singh.



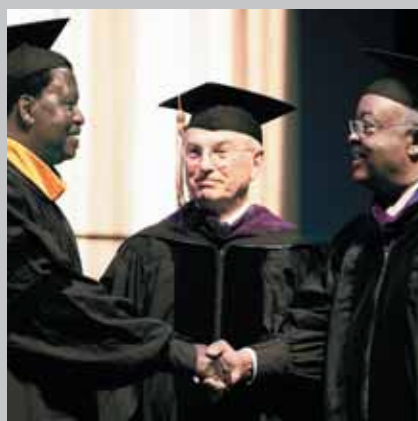
Jeffrey Fuchs '09 with nephew Eric Rothstein and niece Emma Rothstein.

rediscovered its capacity to inspire and to give hope. Go out there and inspire the world."

Following a standing ovation from the audience, Mutua conferred upon Odinga the inaugural Dean's Award, given to "those individuals who believe in justice and the rule of law."

Honorary degrees were awarded to one Law School alumnus and one non-alumnus.

J. Mason Davis Jr. '59, of the Birmingham law firm Sirote & Permutt P.C., is the first African-American to practice as a senior partner of a major Alabama law firm.



Prime Minister Odinga, left, shakes hands with Hon. Samuel L. Green '67, while Hon. Eugene F. Piggott Jr. '73 looks on.

An Alabama native, he had to come north to Buffalo for law school because African-Americans were denied entrance to all of the schools of the University of Alabama system.

But once he entered practice after his UB Law education, he told the audience, "I handled along with two other lawyers more than 100 lunch counter sit-in cases in Huntsville, and we were fortunate to be successful in all of our cases in the Huntsville city courts and the Birmingham court of appeals. I also handled two of the very early racial discrimination cases in employment in the state of Alabama, and I handled more

C o n t i n u e d ...

LAW SCHOOL REPORT

“I SEE THIS DEGREE AS A RECOGNITION OF ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE WORKING AROUND THE WORLD, IN VILLAGES, IN REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES, IN URBAN SLUMS, WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL.”

— Irene Zubaida Khan



Irene Zubaida Khan receives her honorary doctorate from SUNY Student Trustee Melody Mercedes.



UB President Dr. John B. Simpson congratulates Prime Minister Odinga.

than 100 voter discrimination cases in both Huntsville and Birmingham.

“These were my favorite, because of my own encounter with discrimination with the three members of the voting board of registrars. In 1958 I had finished my second year in law school, and my mother told me, ‘You go down and register to vote.’ There was a requirement that you be literate. Well, I went before the three registrars, and they asked me to interpret the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. They didn’t know I had just had a year of Constitutional law. So I started talking, and I talked for about 30 minutes, and by that time the lady who was the chairman of the board said, ‘Just a



Jeeil Choi '09

minute. How do you know all that?’ I said, ‘If you had read my application, you would have seen that I am a third-year law student at the State University of New York.’ The woman slammed her hands on the table and said, ‘Oh, hell, just let that n----- vote.’”

Also receiving an honorary degree was **Irene Zubaida Khan**, secretary-general of the international human rights organization Amnesty International.

“I see this award as a recognition of the work that many people around the world are doing for human rights,” Khan said. “People

- **Latin and LL.M. Honors:** <http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/latinHonors09.asp>
- **Commencement Awards:** <http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/awards09.asp>



Hon. Diane Devlin '86 and Associate Professor Rick Su applauds the graduates.

like me who stand as a symbol of large human rights organizations get a lot of recognition. But I see this degree as a recognition of all the men and women who are working around the world, in villages, in remote rural communities, in urban slums, who are fighting for justice for all."

To the graduates she said, "This is a moment of great challenge. You are going into a world of uncertainty, of an economic crisis but I would say it's actually a human rights crisis. There is worry about jobs, about homes, but there is also a shortage of clean water, of land, of food, and behind it all a story of deprivation and discrimination, of racism and xenophobia, of insecurity and



Sigfredo Rivea '09, left, and Dan J. Montanez '09

above all of exclusion – people whose voices are not being heard but who are affected most horrendously by this economic crisis. You are privileged and empowered with your knowledge to go out there, and the question you must ask is, what are you going to do about it?

"Law is a shield – it protects people – but law is also a sword that we can use to fight with. In whatever you do, stand up for justice."

May 22: Guests welcome Prime Minister Odinga, his family and entourage at a welcome party held Friday night in the Marriott Hotel.



Left:
UB Provost
Satish K.
Tripathi and
Rt. Hon. Raila
Odinga



Left:
Vice Dean
James A.
Gardner and
Dean's
Advisory
Council
Chair
Thomas E.
Black Jr. '79



Left:
Vice Dean
Lillie Wiley-
Upshaw, Rt.
Hon. Raila
Odinga and
Dean Makau
Mutua

May 23: The guests of honor enjoyed a private tour of the Cave of the Winds and experienced the mighty force of the Niagara before a brunch for the press and local dignitaries at Top of the Falls.



Visitors receive a warm Buffalo welcome

May 24: Athena and Makau Mutua entertained faculty, staff and friends in their Buffalo home for Sunday brunch.



Assistant Director of Reunions and Special Programs Amy Hayes Atkinson and Dean Mutua



SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Claude E. Welch Jr. and Irene Zubaida Khan



Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga and Hon. Leslie G. Foschio '65



Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga and UB Distinguished Professor Guyora Binder



Left:
Rt. Hon. Raila
Odinga and
Associate
Professor
Ruqaiyah
Yearby

For **additional photos** of the weekend's events visit:
www.law.buffalo.edu/forum/spr09/bhm.asp

May 23: The three award recipients were the guests of honor at a special lunch in the president's home in Amherst.



Far Left: Dr. John B. Simpson, University president, shakes hands with Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.
Left: Irene Zubaida Khan, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, J. Mason Davis Jr. '59, Dean Mutua and Christopher J. O'Brien



Left:
Camie
Greene,
Christopher
T. Greene '74,
Cindy Abbott
Letro



Far Left: Pamela D. Heilman '75, Robert D. Heilman and Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga
Left to right: J. Mason Davis Jr. '59, Madam Ida Odinga, Mrs. June Fox Davis and Rt. Hon. Raila Odina



Left:
Rosemary
Odinga,
Margaret W.
Wong '76 and
Rt. Hon. Raila
Odinga



Left to right: Rosemary Odinga, Dean Makau Mutua, Mayor Byron Brown, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, Professor Micere Githae Mugo, Luther Johnson and Madam Ida Odinga



Left:
Beth and
Dennis R.
McCoy '77



Left:
Francis M.
Letro '79,
Hon. Ann T.
Mikoll '54
and
Raymond
Smith

The skills to succeed

*New legal skills program
will produce practice-ready attorneys*



“The idea is to integrate and coordinate these programs so we have better control over them and they offer a better learning experience for the students.”

— Vice Dean for
Legal Skills
Charles Patrick Ewing

The Law School is reinventing its programs designed to teach practical lawyering skills, with the aim of turning out new graduates who are practice-ready on Day One to file a brief, cross-examine a witness or make a special pleading.

It's all part of the Legal Skills Program, a framework that encompasses courses and experiences in legal research and writing, litigation and non-litigation skills such as mediation, and professional development.

Said Dean Makau W. Mutua: “The newly created Legal Skills Program will bring pedagogical rationale and curricula coherence to a vast and vital area of legal education. These offerings complement black-letter law and

courses that focus on the jurisprudence and theory of law. Put together, these two sides are critical to the education of a well-trained, analytically sound and thoughtful lawyer.

“I am very pleased that SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Charles Patrick Ewing has agreed to serve as Vice Dean for Legal Skills. He is widely respected by colleagues, peers around the country, judges and the bar. He will bring his enormous talents to bear on the organizational and instructional excellence that we expect of the Legal Skills Program.”

“The idea,” said Ewing, “is to integrate and coordinate these programs so we have better control over them and they offer a better learning experience for the students. Right now,

there is a demand for lawyers coming out of law schools who are able to do things – do research, write, have some litigation skills, some appellate advocacy skills – right out of the gate. We've been doing all of this, it just hasn't been pulled together, coordinated and integrated.”

Some highlights of the program:

In *Legal Research and Writing*, first-year students learn the basics of these vital skills, and advanced courses are offered for upper-division students. Seven research and writing instructors – some new to the Law School, some with continuing ties – will teach in this area. Ewing said the school is also contemplating a new curriculum for these courses, with expectations that it would begin in fall 2010. “I am con-



Chris O'Brien of
O'Brien Boyd

Erie County Court
Judge Thomas P.
"Tim" Franczyk

vinced that legal research and writing skills are critical to our students' success in the job market and as lawyers once they are hired," he said. "The program that I inherited is already strong and solid, but my goal is to make it one of the best in the country."

Litigation Skills includes basic courses in trial technique – teaching such basics as how to make an opening statement, examine and cross-examine a witness, and make a closing statement – and more advanced trial advocacy courses, most of which are taught by judges and legal practitioners. This area also covers trial and other non-appellate moot court competitions.

Ewing is hoping to integrate the trial technique and trial advocacy offerings into a single program, and to build stronger ties between the Law School and the adjunct faculty teaching in this area. "To me, this is a hugely important part of our program," he said. "A large percentage of our students go on to become trial lawyers, and I would like to see more of a continuum of education." For example, he said, while continuing to teach trial techniques in small class sections, it might be profitable to bring those sections together for demonstrations by experts in various aspects of the field.

To co-direct the school's trial offerings, two well-known figures in the Buffalo law community have been enlisted: Erie County Court Judge Thomas P. "Tim" Franczyk, a long-time champion of the Law School's mock trial program, and Chris O'Brien of O'Brien Boyd, an experienced teacher of trial advocacy.

"The most immediate changes in this program will be some new faces among the judges and attorneys who teach trial techniques to our students, new, improved and more challenging case problems for the students to grapple with, and a set of demonstrations for our students by master trial lawyers that will supplement what they are learning in class," Ewing said.

Appellate Advocacy Skills. This area comprises appellate-style moot courts and other writing-based competitions, as well as courses designed to teach the basics of brief-writing and appellate oral advocacy. Ewing said the school will carefully evaluate the dozens of moot court competitions available nationwide, as well as several sponsored by the Law School, with an eye toward maximizing student participation while prudently investing the time of faculty who advise UB Law's teams. Professor George Kannar will be the director of Moot Courts.

The *Non-Litigation Skills* component of the program includes courses in negotiation, alternative dispute resolution, mediation and counseling. Students also will have the opportunity to participate as an editor for UB Law's wide array of scholarly journals. Associate professor Rick Su will serve as director of journals. "It's important for students to understand that it's not all about litigation," Ewing said. "And there is not enough concern with the counseling aspect of practice, which is what most lawyers should really do."

The final piece of the Legal Skills Program, *Professional Development*, covers a wide range of opportunities for students to grow into the profession. It includes the work of Director of Academic Support Barbara A. Sherk, other programs to support students and new graduates preparing for the bar exam, the vast array of externship and clerkship placements available to students, and the important area of legal ethics.

"A legal skills program is crucial to the success of any law school," Ewing said. "The business of law is requiring more skills from young lawyers, and the energy that we are putting into our program will help them to leave here ready to go to work right from the start."

National search yields new legal research and writing instructors

Johanna Oreskovic, who will coordinate the new program, earned her B.A., M.A. in History, Ed.M. and J.D. from UB, graduating from the Law School in 1997. At UB, she served as Book Review Editor of the *Buffalo Law Review*. She has been associated with the Buffalo law firms of Hodgson Russ and Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham, and Coppola. Her practice concentrated on commercial and employment litigation. She has taught at the Law School since 1998. Her courses have included Legal Research and Writing, Adoption Law: Domestic and International, and the LL.M. Colloquium. She also administered the Law School's LL.M. programs from 2000-2008. Her publications include articles on labor law and adoption law. Prior to entering the legal profession, she taught History and English and served as an administrator at several independent secondary schools, including The Buffalo Seminary, The American School in Switzerland, and John Burroughs School in St. Louis.



Christine Pedigo Bartholomew received her B.A. from San Francisco State University in 1997 and her J.D. from University at California, Davis, in 2000. Upon graduation, Professor Bartholomew worked in the San Francisco Bay Area as an attorney, practicing in the areas of antitrust and consumer protection. In 2004, she helped open a branch office of a Washington, D.C.-based class action boutique.



Continued on page 18

LAW SCHOOL REPORT

Seven research and writing instructors — some new to the Law School, some with continuing ties — will teach in this area.

Continued from page 17

During her legal career, Professor Bartholomew worked on several significant antitrust actions, including *Rodriguez, et al. v. West Publishing Corp.* For the last three years, Christine has been a member of the Law School's adjunct faculty, teaching Private Antitrust Suits, Complex Civil Litigation and Antitrust.

Nan L. Haynes graduated from UB Law in 1992. As a student, she was appointed a teaching assistant to Professor Lucinda Finley, and then to Professor Nils Olsen when each taught first-year students research and writing. She practiced full time at Lipsitz & Ponterio in Buffalo from 1995-2002 as an associate and a partner, where she focused in plaintiffs' environmental, occupational and civil rights litigation. She gave up a partnership in Lipsitz & Ponterio 10 years after graduating so she could again teach research and writing at UB Law. She continues to practice in the areas of childhood lead paint exposure litigation and civil rights litigation in her role of "as counsel" to Lipsitz & Ponterio.



Patrick Long spent four years in the Navy following his graduation from Harvard College. He then joined the faculty of the Nichols School, a private high school in Buffalo, where he taught English for four years, before enrolling in UB Law School. Following his graduation in 2000, Patrick practiced for five years at



Hodgson Russ in Buffalo focusing on litigation, especially products liability, construction and maritime law. In 2006 he returned to Nichols, where he taught English and coached football and wrestling, before returning to UB as a member of the Research and Writing faculty.

Chris Pashler earned his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Iowa. Prior to teaching at UB, he practiced in the area of civil litigation for eight years, including four years as an Assistant County Attorney in Montgomery County, Md., where he defended the county in administrative litigation of construction contracts. He also was an attorney with the Social Security



Administration in Chicago, where he worked with administrative law judges on the adjudication of disability applications. He began his teaching career as an adjunct lecturer in the legal studies program at Montgomery College in Germantown, Md. Since 2007 he was an adjunct professor in the Legal Analysis, Research and Communication program at the DePaul University College of Law, in Chicago. He is the author (with Brian Lambert) of *At the Crossroads of Age and Disability: Can Practitioners Rely on the Amended ADA and the ADEA to Provide Adequate Recourse for the Older Disabled Individual* (2009).

Stephen Paskey graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1994 and then clerked for the Maryland Court of Special Appeals.



From 1995 to 2007, he served as a litigating attorney at the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., first with the Immigration and Naturalization Service and then as a Senior Trial Attorney in the Office of Special Investigations, the unit that investigates Nazi collaborators and other immigrants who participated in genocide, torture or extrajudicial killing. From 2007 to 2009, he taught research and writing at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. In November 2008, he received the Assistant Attorney General's Award for Human Rights Law Enforcement.

Laura Reilly earned her B.A. from Washington University in 1988 and her J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law in 1994. After clerking for the Denver District Court in Denver, Laura practiced civil litigation at firms in Denver and Buffalo. She joined the Law School's Research and Writing faculty in 2002.



The rights stuff

New Wolfe Fellowships put 11 students into rewarding summer externships

A new student fellowship program, funded with a major gift from a UB Law alumnus, sent 11 UB Law students on the adventure of their lives this summer through placement in human rights externships near and far.

From Buffalo to Nairobi, Kosovo to Micronesia, the students worked in areas they are passionate about, bringing their nascent legal skills to the challenge of promoting basic human rights. The initial Thomas and Barbara Wolfe Fellowships went to:

- **Joanna T. McKeegan '10**, TransAfrica Forum, Washington, D.C.
 - **Bianca Stella D'Angelo '10**, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Immigration Court, Buffalo
 - **Kasia McDonald '10**, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Buffalo
 - **Kristen W. Ng '10**, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Buffalo
 - **Sean Mulligan '11**, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C., and Uganda
 - **Allison Chan '11**, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Nairobi, Kenya
 - **Hy Won Kang '10**, Korean National Assembly Legislative Research Service, Seoul, Korea
 - **Tiffany Lebron '11**, Fund for African Development, Kampala, Uganda
 - **Estelle Atalig Hofschneider '11**, Micronesian Legal Services, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands
 - **Bernadette N. Koleszar '11**, Organization for Safety and Cooperation in Europe, Kosovo
 - **Elene Steigman '10**, Center for the Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Lima, Peru.
- These unpaid externships were

made possible by grants of \$4,000 apiece from a fund established by Thomas and Barbara Wolfe. He is a 1961 graduate of the Law School.

"Tom and Barbara Wolfe have been very generous to UB Law," said Dean Makau W. Mutua. "The Wolfe Fellowships give us a great opportunity to expose our students to the practice of human rights both here and abroad. These awards put us in league with leading law schools in the country."



Tiffany M. Lebron with young friends in Uganda.

Stefanie A. Svoren '09, who herself worked for the Kenya Human Rights Commission in Nairobi after her 1L year, was part of a team of students involved with the Buffalo Human Rights Center who helped select the fellowship recipients. She also served as co-editor in chief of the *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review*.

The grants, she says, are "completely enough to cover living expenses" for the summer, making it financially possible for students to take human rights externships, which largely are unpaid positions.

"We are seeing more enthusiasm

from the student body for these types of externships," Svoren said. "People are realizing that law is no longer confined within definite borders—it's international. With the rise of international law and Buffalo being on the border, there's greater overall interest in international human rights."

Applicants for the fellowships, she said, were asked for a resume and a letter of interest. The panel looked to see whether they have made some effort to

contact organizations for which they might work—"We just want to see if people are enthusiastic about it on their own." The award process, she said, is "quite competitive."

Students also can get course credit for their summer's work; upon their return, they will consult with faculty and write a substantial paper about their experience, perhaps outlining the project they worked on or critiquing the effectiveness of their organization.

Svoren knows how rewarding—and involving—such an externship can be. Her time in Nairobi, she said, was "overall a very positive, rewarding experience."

But it was also a very emotionally draining experience. It was the first time I was a minority; being a fairly pale white girl with blond hair, I stood out. But the people were very receptive and protective of me. People at the commission gave me opportunities I never thought it would be able to have."

As part of the externship, she created a framework for creating a police oversight body in Kenya, to curb abuses by the authorities as they battled criminal gangs. The Kenya Human Rights Commission, she said, is in the process of proposing this to the country's Parliament.

Class of 2012 among the best ever



Left to right: Edward J. Wixted III, Marie Lampropoulos, Brian K. Prince, Bridget A. Kleinfelder, Erin B. Delancy, Scott T. Ptak '12, Emily M. Ciulla, Elizabeth J. Henschel

Recently, the National Jurist ranked UB Law the 29th "best value" in the nation looking at law school tuitions, employment rates and bar passage rates.

The University at Buffalo Law School this semester welcomes one of its most accomplished and selective classes in its 122-year history, a group of students that Law School Dean Makau W. Mutua called "a singular accomplishment" for UB Law and the foundation on which to make UB one of the finest law schools in the country.

The school's Class of 2012 was chosen from a national application pool of over 2,104. Only 31 percent of the applicants were admitted, making this year's class one of the most highly selective in recent years.

"It is undoubtedly one of our strongest classes ever," according to Mutua. "It raises our selectivity and places UB Law in a strong position to



Left to right: Tamara S. Wright, Erica C. Smith, Marcus T. Smith, Shatorah N. Roberson, and Monique A. Tronchin.

further enhance our reputation in the profession, in the legal academy and among prospective applicants."

The 208 first-year law students had a median LSAT score of 157, with 25 percent of those enrolled scoring 159 or better. The class earned a median

grade-point average of 3.52, an increase from last year's GPA of a 3.48; however, 25 percent of the class earned a 3.73 GPA or better.

"Recently, the *National Jurist* ranked UB Law the 29th 'best value' in the nation looking at law school tuitions, employment rates and bar passage rates. These students recognized this value and made a great decision. In turn, we were able to land a very accomplished and impressive class," said James R. Newton, vice dean for administration.

Mutua praised the law school's ad-

missions office for doing an excellent job and attracting a class with "character, talent and top credentials." The students come from some of the top universities and colleges in the nation, including Brown University, New York University, Boston University, Univer-

Spotlight on staff

FIRST IN A CONTINUING SERIES

Dean Mutua says:

sity of Pennsylvania, University of Texas, University of Maryland, Spelman College, Georgetown University and Cornell University.

Their average age is 25, with 35 percent over age 25 – the oldest class to date. Eleven percent hold advanced academic degrees. Fourteen percent come from out of state, and 49 percent are females.

According to Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, vice dean for admissions and financial aid, “The Class of 2012 is impressive. Their previous fields of study include film production, accounting, foreign languages, journalism, theology, mathematics and biochemistry. Many of the students have either lived or worked abroad in such places as Australia, Africa and Korea. “Our students made a smart choice. They will be surrounded by other exceptional students and will earn a law degree that will allow them to fulfill their professional dreams - without having to mortgage their future.”

Mutua said, “An accomplished and selective law class is central to the academic excellence and overall reputation of any law school, and is particularly crucial to UB at this point in its development. An aggressive campaign for recruitment scholarships among alumni helped the Law School enroll this fantastic class.”



*James R. Newton,
Vice Dean for Administration*

“I could not do what I do as dean without the indefatigable Jim Newton. His emotional intelligence and people-centered approach is a godsend. He is the perfect Vice Dean for Administration.”

• Jim Newton oversees the Law School’s administrative units: alumni and communications, development, admissions, career services, student services, records and registration, human resources, budget, facilities and information technology.



*Marlene Cook,
Vice Dean for Resource Management*

“She is the quintessential professional – a master of her craft who has unparalleled integrity and sense of service. She is unflappable even in the face of the most challenging conditions. She is a dream to work with.”

• Marlene Cook is a careful and creative steward of the Law School’s financial resources. Her work demands budgeting and allocations so that every dollar supports the school’s mission.



*Lillie Wiley-Upshaw, Vice Dean for
Admissions and Financial Aid*

“Her knowledge of law school admissions and attention to the indexes of excellence are unsurpassed. She combines a keen sense of justice and fairness that permits us to aspire put together a great student body that looks like America.”

• Lillie Wiley-Upshaw is a familiar face in O’Brian Hall and nationwide. Wiley has been instrumental in attracting incoming classes of students who are successively smarter, more accomplished and more diverse.



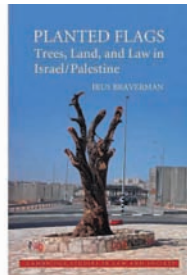
Alan S. Carrel, Vice Dean

“He is unquestionably our guru of development. He is a walking encyclopedia of our alumni. He loves them and they love him back. Without Alan, we would not have made as much progress in just one year. Self-effacing and completely absorbed in his work, Alan is every dean’s gift.”

• Alan Carrel works to build relationships with Law School alumni far and near, with special emphasis on (and uncommon success with) the development of major gifts in support of the school’s educational program.

Recent books by UB Law faculty members

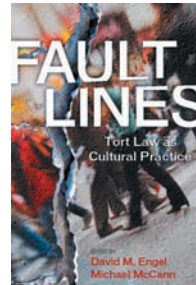
The UB Law bookshelf



Planted Flags:
Trees, Land, and Law in
Israel/Palestine
By Associate Professor
Irus Braverman
(Cambridge University Press)

The significance of trees – the pine forests of the Promised Land of Israel, and the olive trees that Palestinians identify as a symbol of their connection to the land – is at the heart of this exploration of law, landscape and ethnic conflict. What is it, Braverman asks, that makes the acts of planting, cultivating and uprooting trees into acts of war? How does the polarization of the “natural” landscape reflect and reinforce hostility between Israelis and Palestinians? And what role does law play in this story?

The author, who holds master of arts and bachelor of laws degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, uses the techniques of ethnography in *Planted Flags*. She tells the story of trees through the narratives of military and government officials, architects, lawyers, Palestinian and Israeli farmers, and Jewish settlers.



Fault Lines:
Tort Law and Cultural Practice
Edited by
Professor David Engel
(with Michael McCann)
(Stanford University Press)

Tort law, a fundamental building block of every legal system, features prominently in mass culture and political debates. As this pioneering anthology reveals, tort law is not simply a collection of legal rules and procedures, but a set of cultural responses to the broader problems of risk, injury, assignment of responsibility, compensation, valuation and obligation.

Examining tort law as a cultural phenomenon and a form of cultural practice, *Fault Lines* compares tort law across space and time, looking at the United States, Europe and Asia in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. It draws on theories and methods from law, sociology, political science and anthropology to offer an interdisciplinary look at a heretofore underexamined area of tort law. Ultimately, the book demonstrates, tort law nests within a larger web of relationships and shared conventions that organize social life.



Insanity:
Murder, Madness,
and the Law
By Professor
Charles Patrick Ewing
(Oxford University Press)

One of the nation’s leading experts on the insanity defense, Ewing here conveys the psychological and legal drama of 10 landmark insanity cases. His case studies include “Son of Sam” killer David Berkowitz; John Gacy, who killed at least 30 boys and young men in Chicago; Jack Ruby, killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy’s assassin; and Andrea Yates, who drowned her five children in the family’s bathtub.

The book also debunks myths of popular opinion regarding the insanity defense. “In those rare instances in which a defendant is actually found insane, the public is usually outraged,” Ewing says. “In homicide cases especially, they believe that the defendant ‘got away with murder.’” In reality, he says, “the defense is rarely raised, rarely applicable and even more rarely successful. And when it does succeed, the defendant usually loses his or her liberty for many years, sometimes for life.”





**What Are Campaigns For?
The Role of Persuasion in Electoral
Law and Politics**

*By Professor James Gardner,
vice dean for academic affairs
(University of Chicago Press)*

For citizens of a democracy, an election is a time to take stock – to re-examine our beliefs; to review our understanding of our own interests; to ponder the place of those interests in the larger social order; and to contemplate our understanding of how our commitments are best translated into governmental policy – or so we profess to believe. But theory and reality diverge, and the typical modern American election campaign seems crass, shallow and unengaging.



What Are Campaigns For? is a multidisciplinary work of legal scholarship that looks at how legal institutions help to create this disjunction between political ideal and reality. Gardner's book explores the contemporary American ideal of democratic citizenship in election campaigns by tracing it to its historical sources, documenting its thorough infiltration of legal norms, evaluating its feasibility in light of the findings of the social sciences, and testing it against the requirements of democratic theory.



**Private Lawyers and the Public
Interest: The Evolving Role of Pro
Bono in the Legal Profession**

*Edited by Professor Lynn Mather
(with Robert Granfield)
(Oxford University Press)*

This collection of essays by leading and emerging scholars in the field examines the history, conditions, organization and strategies of pro bono lawyering.

Private Lawyers and the Public Interest traces the rise and impact of the American Bar Association's campaign to hold lawyers accountable for a commitment to public service and to encourage public service within law schools. Combining empirical legal research with reflections by practitioners and theorists about the meaning and practice of pro bono legal work, these essays examine the public service ideals of the legal profession and place these ideals within a broader social, economic and ideological context.

These essays investigate the evolving role of pro bono in the legal profession and in law schools, the relationship between pro bono ideals and pro bono in practice, the way that pro bono is shaped by external forces beyond the individual practitioner, and the multifaceted nature of legal professionalism as expressed through pro bono practice.



Moving up

Terrence E. McCormack, head of the M. Robert Koren Center for Clinical Legal Education, has accepted an additional role and promotion as Interim Manager of Law School Technology Services. He will integrate and combine Law Instructional Technology and Instructional Support operations to bring enhanced services and “one-stop shopping” in the IT/AV arena to all Law School personnel.

On the move

UB Law celebrates the accomplishments of these faculty and staff members whose professional lives are taking them elsewhere.

Elizabeth Buckley '80 is retiring after two decades of teaching the Uniform Commercial Code at UB Law.



Clinical Instructor **Sara Faherty '90** taught research and writing and subsequently worked and taught in both the Affordable Housing Clinic and the Community Economic Development Clinic. She has accepted a position as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Toronto Law School.



Laura Mangan, deputy director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, has accepted a new position as the University at Buffalo's coordinator of the Civic Engagement in Public Policy Strategic Strength.

Recent articles by UB Law faculty members

Associate Professor **Mark Bartholomew**, "Advertising and the Transformation of Trademark Law" (*New Mexico Law Review*, Vol. 38). Looking at the formative era in American trademark law, Bartholomew finds that courts granted robust legal protection to trademark holders in the early 20th century because they accepted the benign view of advertising presented to them by advertisers, and that judges adopted a specific construction of the consumer mind in the early 1900s to reconcile the tension between legal protection for trademark goodwill and belief in free competition.

UB Distinguished Professor **Guyora Binder**, "The Culpability of Felony Murder" (*Notre Dame Law Review*, Vol. 83). Binder defends the much-maligned felony murder doctrine, saying that the theory of culpability assesses blame for harm on the basis of the actor's expectation of causing harm, and the moral worth of the ends for which the actor imposes this risk.

Associate Professor **Irus Braverman**, "Planting the Promised Landscape" (*Natural Resources Journal*, Spring 2009). Braverman analyzes the use of natural resource laws and policies to simultaneously conduct and mask political conflict, with particular focus on the battle

over pine versus olive forests in Israel/Palestine.

Joseph Belluck and Laura Aswad Professor of Civil Justice and Vice Dean for Academic Affairs **James A. Gardner**, "In Search of Sub-National Constitutionalism" (*4 European Constitutional Law Review*). Gardner examines such issues as federalism as a consequence of local/cultural self-determination; the degree of autonomous human rights protection on a subnational level; and how the rise of international human rights protection makes subnational human rights protection less important.

Distinguished Professor **Alfred S. Konefsky**, "The Legal Profession: From the Revolution to the Civil War" in *The Cambridge History of Law in America*, Vol. 2. As part of "the most comprehensive and authoritative account possible of the history of American law," Konefsky writes a history of the legal profession in the nation's formative years.

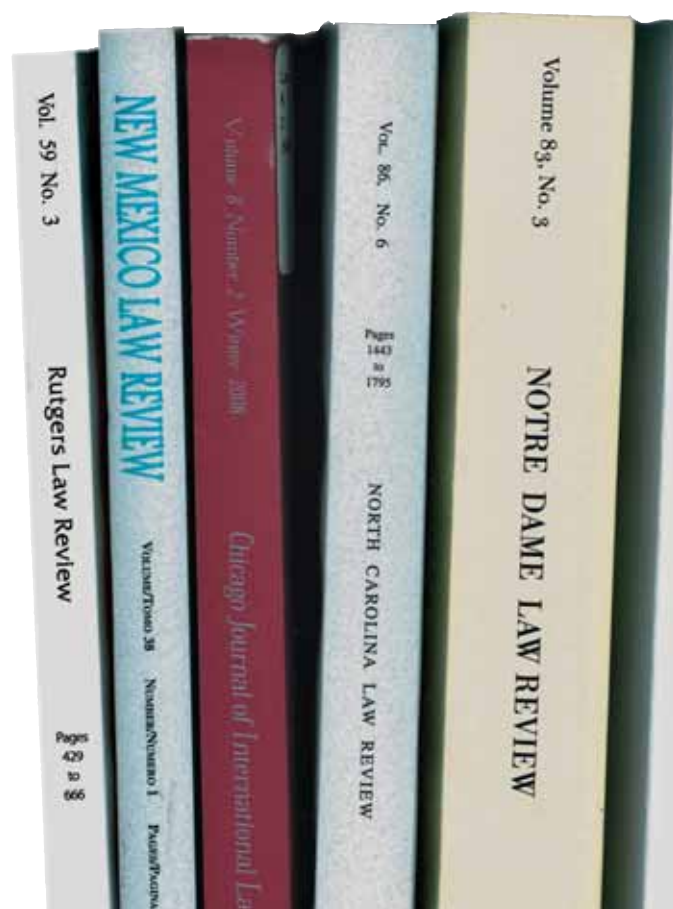
Professor and Vice Dean for Research and Faculty Development **Errol Meidinger**, "Competitive Supragovernmental Regulation: How Could It Be Democratic?" (*Chicago Journal of International Law*, Vol. 8). Meidinger says an emerging mode of transnational governance may also be generating a novel form of democracy, in which competing regulatory

programs aim to anticipate emergent public values and institute regulatory mechanisms to implement them, thereby advancing their own authority.

Professor **Athena D. Mutua**, "Restoring Justice to Civil Rights Movement Activists?: New Historiography and the 'Long Civil Rights Era'" (*Buffalo Legal Studies Research Paper Series No. 2008-12*). Mutua asks, What do participants in the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project mean when they talk about the civil rights era? and argues for a richer and more diverse story of the civil rights movement in America.

SUNY Distinguished Professor and Dean **Makau W. Mutua**, "Human Rights and Powerlessness: Pathologies of Choice and Substance" (*56 Buffalo Law Review*). Mutua argues for a wider vision of human rights law and the role of the state in advancing such law, saying, "The human rights regime appears to be more concerned with certain forms of human powerlessness, and not others."

Professor **Robert I. Reis**, "Rights and Remedies Post eBay v. MercExchange – Deep Waters Stirred" (*Akron*



Intellectual Property Journal, Vol. 2). Analyzing the 2006 Supreme Court decision on patent infringement, Reis asks why the court distinguished between rights and remedies in this case and asks, "Is this potentially a line in the sand drawn by the court based on their constitutional obligations under separation of powers?"

• • •

Associate Professor **Rick Su**, "A Localist Reading of Local Immigration Regulations" (*North Carolina Law Review*, Vol. 86). Su debunks the idea that immigration restrictions at the local level are a new development, saying that local immigration regulations "reflect a natural extension of how we've traditionally used legal rules to organize our local communities to deal with demographic and socioeconomic diversity and change."

• • •

Associate Professor **Winnifred Fallers Sullivan**, "Religion Naturalized: The New Establishment" in Courtney Bender and Pamela Klassen, eds., *After Pluralism* (Columbia). Sullivan's book chapter explores the idea that a new naturalization of religion is present in U.S. legal contexts. Moving beyond church-state separation, she writes, "There are no churches left to establish or to disestablish. In their place, the human, every human, is now imagined by law as being in need of spiritual care."

• • •

Associate Professor **Mateo Taussig-Rubbo**, "Outsourcing Sacrifice: The Labor of Private Military Contractors" (*New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy*). Taussig-Rubbo notes the tenuous legal position of armed private military contractors, and argues that the emergence of the contractor is an effort by U.S. officials to avoid the political liability entailed in calling a loss a sacrifice.

• • •

Associate Professor **Ruqaiijah Yearby**, "Striving for Equality, But Settling for the Status Quo in Health Care: Is Title VI More Illusory Than Real?" (*Rutgers Law Review*, Vol. 59). Title VI, part of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin in programs receiving federal financial assistance. But Yearby finds evidence of unequal treatment in such measures as delay of transfer from hospitals to nursing homes, denials of admission to nursing homes, and disproportionate populations of African-Americans in nursing homes providing substandard care.

Professor James A. Wooten named Law Library Director



Law School Professor James A. Wooten has been appointed director of the Charles B. Sears Law Library and vice dean for legal information services, effective Aug. 14. Wooten will be responsible for the overall management and direction of the Law Library. His appointment was made by SUNY Distinguished Professor and UB Law Dean Makau Mutua.

"Jim has a great passion for books and research," said Mutua. "He is in tune with the changing nature of law libraries in the information age and the importance of the law library to our school and the greater Buffalo legal community. Jim is a collegial member of the Law School community, and I feel very fortunate to have him leading our library and on my leadership team."

Wooten teaches courses at UB on pension and employee benefit law, federal income taxation and federal tax policy. He has also taught bankruptcy, legislative policymaking, and law and economics. Wooten's research focuses on regulatory and tax policies that affect retirement plans, health plans and other employee benefit plans. He serves on the steering committee of the Tobin Project and chairs its working group on retirement security. Wooten is also a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and a fellow of the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

"For the last decade, my research has focused on federal policymaking in the fields of employee benefit law and taxation," Wooten said. "The major puzzle was to understand why Congress would pass legislation that was opposed by business and most of organized labor. The answer is in my book, *The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974: A Political History*, which appeared in January 2005.

"More recently, I have analyzed the origins of the financial problems at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. My research on ERISA has given me a fascination with legislative policymaking. Over the next year, I plan to begin work on a book on the politics of policymaking in the U. S. Congress."

Wooten grew up in a small steel town in northeast Texas. After graduating from Rice University in 1981, he moved to the University of Chicago, where he spent two years pursuing graduate studies in the Department of Anthropology. In 1985, Wooten entered a J.D./Ph.D. program at Yale University. After completing his law degree in 1989, Wooten clerked for Federal District Judge William Wayne Justice of the Eastern District of Texas.

In 1992-93, Wooten was an associate at Bredhoff & Kaiser, one of the nation's leading firms in the fields of labor and employee benefit law. Wooten later served as Legal History Fellow at Yale Law School and as a Golieb Fellow in Legal History at New York University School of Law before joining the faculty of UB Law School in 1995. Wooten received his Ph.D. in American studies from Yale University in 2003.

From face-to-face to Facebook

UB Law reaches out to alumni in person and online

Looking to build even stronger ties with loyal alumni, the Law School and the UB Law Alumni Association are going where the alums are – both in person and online.

Ongoing initiatives to strengthen the bonds between the school and its graduates, wherever they may work or live, as well as raise UB Law's profile nationwide, include an expanding presence on social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter, video clips of events and recruiting materials on YouTube, and a renewed push to establish and cultivate alumni chapters in several cities with good concentrations of UB-trained lawyers, according to Ilene R. Fleischmann, the administrator who oversees the Law School's external relations.

"For over a century, Buffalo was a well-regarded regional law school, and a well kept secret," says Fleischmann, who is vice dean for alumni, PR and communications at the Law School, and executive director of the UB Law Alumni Association. "Now, under Dean Mutua's leadership, we want to move up to become a top 50 law school. To do so, it is critically important to have a national profile. That will help us recruit the brightest students and faculty, help our graduates get hired by the finest firms, and help us build and strengthen alumni relationships that will move our law school forward."

Kristina Lively, the school's Webmaster, says UB Law is in good company as it expands its electronic presence. "Law schools are becoming more competitive," she says, "and there are other schools that are already using these tools. But we are ahead of the game as far as being open to using these technologies for the school."

The Law School has long had a Web site (www.law.buffalo.edu), of course – "The Web site is always going to be the mother ship of the information on the Law School," Lively says. "We're adding to it by bringing in elements like our

YouTube clips, and we always point from our YouTube channel to our Web site. There is always that exchange going on.

"But information also needs to travel to where people are, and Facebook is one example of where people are spending time. Our students are there, prospective students are there, and our alumni are there."

The Law School has established a page on Facebook (www.law.buffalo.edu/Facebook.asp) that's chock-full of class reunion photos, news releases, announcements and links to video clips. Visitors can also add their own comments. Plans are in the works to establish Facebook pages as well for individual classes, reunion classes and alumni chapters. In addition, the school's admissions office created a Facebook page for accepted students, allowing them to start to build community even before they get to campus.

A further step, Lively says, is to make the Law School's information portable by placing it on Twitter; alumni and



Alumni say "cheese" in Washington, Cleveland, NYC,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Alumni Social at Ceiba Restaurant



Left to right: Emily G. Conley '08, Nicole C. Lee '02, Marc Bayard, Stacy A. Tromble '07 and Vice Dean for Administration James R. Newton

CLEVELAND

The Club at Key Center in Cleveland



Left to right: Margaret W. Wong '76, Executive Director Ilene Fleischmann, Gregory P. Stein '08, Assistant Executive Director Lisa Mueller '88 and Susan H. Poole '97

NEW YORK CITY

Dean's Dinner at the Lotos Club



Ellen Katz Forrest '76 and Kenneth B. Forrest '76

others can “follow” UB Law by going to www.twitter.com/ublaw and clicking the Join Today button. Whenever they access Twitter, whether it is through the Twitter Web site or the way most people use the service, via cell phone, they’ll receive the latest information from the Law School’s news feed. The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy also has its own Twitter account, at www.twitter.com/baldycenter.

This is in addition to the Law School’s channel on YouTube, the wildly popular video upload site, at www.youtube.com/ublawschool. Lively notes that it’s free to post videos on the site, and that as an educational institution, the Law School isn’t limited by the site’s restrictions on the length and size of videos. “We can put entire lectures

up there, or high-definition clips,” she says. One of the most popular has been a 10-minute clip of consumer activist Ralph Nader’s sometimes contentious give-and-take with students following his appearance in O’Brian Hall last year. A series of video testimonials from current and recently graduated students is also online. Another portal is LinkedIn, at www.law.buffalo.edu/LinkedIn.asp.

All of these avenues of communication, Lively says, are as natural as breathing to young people. “The generations that are coming up expect this,” she says. “They have grown up with it.

But it’s not just young people. Facebook, for example, is becoming more and more popular among the older generations.”

As much as online forums build relationships, though, there is nothing like some face time, and the Law School is establishing and solidifying alumni chapters in a number of cities where UB Law graduates live and work.

“We’ve had chapters in the past, but nothing too formal and nothing ongoing,” says Lisa M. Mueller ’93, assistant dean for alumni and communications and assistant director of the UB Law Alumni Association. “Dean Mutua is very focused on reaching out and expanding our relations with our alumni, not just in Western New York but everywhere else. We all go off in different directions and have such full plates, so it can be difficult to maintain that connection with the school. This is another way we keep in touch.”

So, she says, over the past year alumni steering committees have been established in **Albany, Rochester, New York City and Washington, D.C.** A new chapter in **Ohio** will alternate events between Cleveland and Cincinnati, and in the future, Mueller says, alumni chapters are likely in Boston, Chicago and Florida. Law School staffers have traveled to meet with the steering committees, Mueller says, communicating the dean’s vision of the school’s future and emphasizing the importance of broad

networking with alumni.

The Rochester chapter, she says, has been especially active, and the new chapter in Albany is crucial as the school works to press its legislative interests in the state capital.

“We have had a long history of working with different individuals in these areas, so we already have a good collection of go-to people who have always been dedicated volunteers,” Mueller says. “They then gave us leads to other alums who might be interested in helping. It’s a wonderful combination of established volunteers and new individuals who bring a fresh perspective to those areas.”

And as the school works to expand its digital footprint, she says, online tools like Facebook are a cost-effective way to stay in touch. “Economically, this is a tough time to be spending additional money,” Mueller says, “and social networking offers a great way to reach out to our alums at a minimal cost. That’s what our alums are using—they’re already networking among themselves. If we don’t join them there, we are missing out on an opportunity to connect with them.”

Where to go to contact your regional alumni chapter:

- law.buffalo.edu/AlumniDC.asp
- law.buffalo.edu/AlumniRochester.asp
- law.buffalo.edu/AlumniOhio.asp
- law.buffalo.edu/AlumniAlbany.asp
- law.buffalo.edu/AlumniNYC.asp

Saratoga Springs and Rochester

SARATOGA SPRINGS
Dean’s Dinner at the Lotos Club



Matthew R. Cosco ’05, chair of the Albany alumni steering committee with wife Mary Kate Cosco ’05, in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

ROCHESTER
CLE and Reception at the Radisson Hotel



Left to right: Karen Bailey Turner ’96, Melissa A. Meyer ’02, P. Adam Militello ’07 and Norma A. Polizzi ’01.

ROCHESTER
Lunch with the judges



Left to right: Monroe County ADA Sara S. Van Strydonck ’04, Hon. Thomas M. Van Strydonck ’73 and Kristy Karle ’97.

twitter

YouTube

flickr

For additional photos go to:
www.flickr.com/ublaw

UB Law Alumni Association elects officers and directors for 2009-10

Robert L. Boreanaz '89 has been elected president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2009-10. Boreanaz is a senior partner in the law firm Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria LLP and is the chairperson of the firm's Labor & Employment Law Department. He frequently represents labor unions, benefit funds and employees, and lectures and prepares written publications on matters including pension, education, training and welfare funds, as well as labor union administration and other issues.



Robert L. Boreanaz '89

Laurie S. Bloom '83 of Nixon Peabody LLP is the new president-elect. Vice presidents are: Lisa J. Allen '90 of Harris Beach PLLC; Paul M. Ciprich '85 of National Fuel Gas Company; Richard F. DiGiacomo '76 of Nesper, Ferber & DiGiacomo, LLP; and Tasha E. Moore '99 of the New York State Division of Human Rights.

Treasurer is Hon. Craig D. Hannah '95 of Buffalo City Court; assistant treasurer is Hon. Lenora B. Foote-Beavers '97 of Erie County Family Court; secretary is Marion K. Henderson '65, retired; and assistant secretary is Mary Penn '99 of Hogan & Willig.

Immediate past president is Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden '83 of Buffalo City Court. Ilene R. Fleischmann, UB Law vice dean, continues as executive director. Lisa M. Mueller '93, assistant dean, serves as assistant director.

New directors elected for terms ending in 2012 are: Ross M. Cellino Jr. '82 of Cellino & Barnes PC; Thomas P. Cunningham '92 of Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola LLC; Thomas K. Frederick '02 of M&T Bank; Brian D. Gwitt '98 of Damon & Morey LLP; John J. Jablonski '93 of Goldberg Segalla LLP; Hon. Jack Quinn III '03 of the New York State Assembly; and Charles C. Swanekamp '80 of Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel LLP.

Other directors include: Marc W. Brown '99 of Phillips Lytle LLP; Terrence M. Gilbride '88 of Hodgson Russ LLP; James W. Grable Jr. '96 of Connors & Vilardo, LLP; Robert P. Heary '91 of Hiscock & Barclay LLP; Pietra G. Lettieri '01 of Harris Beach PLLC; Amy C. Martoche '99 of Connors & Vilardo, LLP; Gregory A. Mattacola



Front row, left to right: Mark W. Warren, Thomas K. Frederick, Assistant Director Lisa M. Mueller, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs James A. Gardner, Executive Director and Vice Dean Ilene R. Fleischmann, Lawrence M. Ross, Hon. Craig D. Hannah, Hon. Barbara Howe, Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden and President Robert L. Boreanaz.

Second row, left to right: Hon. Leslie G. Foschio, Donald W. O'Brien Jr. and Sareer A. Fazili.

Third row, left to right: Anthony J. Colucci Jr., Vice Dean for Administration James R. Newton and Ross M. Cellino Jr.

Fourth row, left to right: Laurie S. Bloom, Lisa J. Allen and Paula M. Ciprich.

Fifth row, left to right (on stairs): Robert P. Heary, Thomas P. Cunningham, Marc W. Brown, Lynn A. Clarke, Marion K. Henderson, Kevin D. Robinson, Tasha E. Moore, Mark J. Stuhlmiller and Hon. Lenora B. Foote-Beavers.

Sixth row, left to right (on stairs): Charles C. Swanekamp, Richard F. DiGiacomo, Brian M. Melber, Terrence M. Gilbride, Brian D. Gwitt, Mary Penn and Margaret P. Gryko.

'98 of The Mattacola Law Firm; Brian M. Melber '96 of Personius Melber LLP; Catherine E. Nagel '98 of Nuchereno & Nagel; Kevin D. Robinson '92 of the United States Attorney General's Office; Mark J. Stuhlmiller '99 of Computer Task Group; and Lourdes M. Ventura '98 of the Office of New York State Senator Malcolm A. Smith.

ALUMNI CHAIRS IN REGIONAL CHAPTERS

- Matthew R. Coseo '05 Albany, N.Y.
- Michael D. Mann '06 New York City
- Margaret W. Wong '76 Ohio
- Lorisa D. LaRocca '02 Rochester, N.Y.
- Kristin Graham Koehler '94 Washington, D.C.

Join or renew your Law Alumni Association membership at:
law.buffalo.edu/forum/membershipApplication.asp



Front row, left to right: Vice Dean for Academic Affairs James A. Gardner, Executive Director Ilene R. Fleischmann, Molly L. Mallia and Stephanie Williams Torres. Second row, left to right: Amber E. Storr, Assistant Director Patricia L. Warrington and James M. O'Keefe. Third row, left to right: Carla J. Miller Montroy, Vice Dean for Administration James R. Newton and Jonathan S. Hickey. Fourth row (down stairs), left to right: Brendan J. Rich, Teia Marie Bui, GOLD Group President Jesse Baldwin and Jennifer R. Scharf. Fifth row (down stairs, left to right): James F. Auricchio, Michael E. Reyen, R.J. Friedman Jr., Christopher D. Smith, Anne E. Joynt, Michael J. Pastrick and David W. Polak.

Not pictured: Jessica M. Baker, Stephanie J. Calhoun, Joseph N. Endres, Jennifer G. Flannery, Bethany J. Hills, Rebecca Z. McCauley, Jacia T. Smith and Jack Trachtenberg.

GOLD Group officers and directors for 2009-10

Jesse Baldwin '04 has been elected president of the 2009-10 UB Law GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Group. Baldwin is an associate at Damon & Morey LLP, practicing in the firm's Litigation Department. He is also a member of the firm's Recruitment Committee.

Molly L. Mallia '05 of Damon & Morey LLP is president-elect. Secretary is Carla J. Miller Montroy '06 of the Law Offices of Carla J. Miller Montroy; secretary-elect is Anne E. Joynt '05 of Lipsitz & Ponterio LLC; treasurer is Jennifer G. Flannery '06 of Damon & Morey LLP; and treasurer-elect is Jessica M. Baker '03 of Hiscock & Barclay LLP. The immediate past president is Bethany J. Hills of Hodgson Russ LLP.

Newly elected directors are: James F. Auricchio '00 of The Auricchio Law Firm; Teia Marie Bui '08 of Andreozzi & Fickess LLP; Joseph N. Endres '05 of Hodgson Russ LLP; R.J. Friedman Jr. '07 of the Law Office of Dennis C. Gaugh-

an; Jonathan S. Hickey '01 of Burden, Gulisano & Hickey LLC; James M. O'Keefe '07 of Rupp, Baase, Pfalzgraf, Cunningham & Coppola LLC; Michael J. Pastrick '04 of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department; Michael E. Reyen '09; Brendan J. Rich '05 of Phillips Lytle LLP; and Jennifer R. Scharf '05 of Connors & Vilardo LLP.

Other directors include: Stephanie J. Calhoun '08 of the Erie County Attorney's Office; Rebecca Z. McCauley '03 of the Law Offices of Rebecca Z. McCauley; David W. Polak '00 of the Law Offices of David W. Polak; Jacia T. Smith '07 of Harris Beach LLP; Amber E. Storr '06 of Damon & Morey LLP; Jack Trachtenberg '02 of Hodgson Russ LLP; and Stephanie Williams Torres '00 of Kaleida Health.

Ilene R. Fleischmann, UB Law vice dean, continues as executive director. Patricia L. Warrington continues as assistant director.

THANK YOU, LIFE MEMBERS

Theodore Lyons Araujo '85 – Syracuse
Edward J. Barron '75 – D.C.
Thomas E. Black Jr. '79 – Texas
Douglas Coppola '75 – Buffalo
Regina DelVecchio '88 – Buffalo
Gordon Gross '55 – Buffalo
Karen Kaczmarek '89 – Buffalo
Hon. Mary Ann Killeen '52 – Buffalo
Changse L. Kim '75 – Korea
Kristin Graham Koehler '94 – D.C.
Francis Letro '79 – Buffalo
Karen Mathews '80 – Buffalo
Rebecca McCauley '04 – Buffalo
Leah R. Merritt-Mervine '07 – Rochester
Michael Olander '77 – North Carolina
Eric Ian Robins '03 – N.Y.C.
Kurt Sherman '84 – Syracuse
Michael J. Surgalla Jr. '82 – D.C.
Margaret W. Wong '76 – Cleveland



Ralph L. Halpern '53



Maryann Saccomando Freedman '58



Peter J. Martin '64

Watch an online slideshow of your reunion

Class of 1949*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class49.asp
Class of 1951*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class51.asp
Class of 1954*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class54.asp
Class of 1959	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class59.asp
Class of 1964*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class64.asp
Class of 1969*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class69.asp
Class of 1974*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class74.asp
Class of 1979*	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class79.asp
Class of 1984	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class84.asp
Class of 1989	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class89.asp
Class of 1999	law.buffalo.edu/forum/class99.asp

*Photos of these reunions will appear in the Spring 2010 Forum
Questions? Call Amy Atkinson at (716) 645-6224

Compiled by Cynthia Watts

'50s

Richard N. Blewett '51 received the Charles H. Dougherty Civility Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Blewett practices civil litigation and municipal law with Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where he resides.

Ralph L. Halpern '53 was honored by the New York State Bar Association Committee on Professional Ethics for 40 years of service to the committee. Halpern is senior counsel and a member of the business and corporate financial services and international trade practice groups of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo, where he resides.

Maryann Saccomando Freedman '58 was the keynote speaker at the Robert H. Jackson Center's award dinner for student essay winners in Jamestown, N.Y. Freedman is of counsel to Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where she resides.

Hon. Joseph D. Mintz '58, a Getzville, N.Y., resident, received the 2009

Outstanding Jurist Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Mintz, a New York State Supreme Court justice for the 8th Judicial District in Buffalo, was first elected to the Supreme Court in 1978.

J. Mason Davis Jr. '59 received an honorary degree from UB Law at the school's 120th Commencement on May 23. Davis was the first African-American to practice as a senior partner in a major Alabama firm, Sirote & Permutt in Birmingham. He represented students who participated in the historic Huntsville lunch counter sit-ins, and played a key role in the desegregation of Alabama in the early 1960s. He is a senior shareholder in Sirote & Permutt, practicing insurance law, litigation, municipal financing and securities law. He lives in Birmingham.

'60s

Peter J. Martin '64 spoke about issues facing senior citizens and their families in New York State at the Amberleigh Independent Living

Facility in Amherst, N.Y. Martin is a senior partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo, practicing corporate, tax and business law. He is a Buffalo resident.

John A. Cirando '66 of Syracuse, N.Y., was reappointed to the New York State Law Revision Commission by Gov. David Paterson. He is a partner with D.J. & J.A. Cirando in Syracuse, practicing appellate advocacy.

David G. Jay '66 received the 2009 Lawyer of the Year Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Jay, a nationally known civil rights attorney in Buffalo, lives in Tonawanda, N.Y.

'70s

Hon. Jeffrey S. White '70 was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UB Law Alumni Association. He was recognized for his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary at the association's 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. White is U.S. District Court judge, Northern District of California, in San Francisco. He lives in Moraga, Calif.

Thomas J. Wojciechowski '70 spoke to residents of Amberleigh Independent Living Facility in Amherst, N.Y., about issues facing senior citizens and their families in New York State. Wojciechowski is a senior partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo, concentrating in real estate, estate planning and elder law. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Joseph B. Mistrett '71 was honored with the Charles H. Dougherty Civility Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Mistrett is a retired chief federal public defender in Buffalo. He now lives in Chevy Chase, Md.

Hon. Leonard G. Tilney '71 received the Bar Association of Niagara County's Hon. Jacqueline Koshian Award of Merit and Honor, the highest award the association bestows. Tilney is a solo practitioner and town justice in Lockport, N.Y., where he resides.

Class of 1959



Class 1959 50th Reunion

May 22 & 23, 2009
Buffalo, NY

- Friday Afternoon Lunch at the old law school – 77 W. Eagle Street
- Friday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Park Country Club
- Saturday Afternoon Lunch at the Law School followed by Commencement

For more reunion photos visit
<http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class59.asp>

Seated: Alan L. Bernstein, Kenneth W. Knapp Jr., Gordon Gannon Jr., Richard G. Schwind, Louis A. Ryen, Richard G. Vogt, Robert W. Tills, Arthur N. Bailey

Standing: Former Professor Richard E. Heath, Former Professor Donald C. Lubick, Gerald J. O'Reilly, William H. Gardner, William E. Sugnet, Noel E. Bartlo, F. Warren Kahn, Donald M. Silverberg, Joseph F. Crangle, Robert H. Shook, J. Mason Davis Jr., James W. Kirkpatrick, G. Peter Higgins, Eugene P. O'Connor, Ronald W. Malin



Louis A. Ryen '59, Enid Z. Ryen, Leila Kahn
and F. Warren Kahn '59



Ellen Bernstein and Alan L. Bernstein '59



Arthur N. Bailey '59 and Joanne Bailey



Eugene P. O'Connor '59 and Louis A. Ryen '59



William H. Gardner '59, Former Professor Donald C. Lubick
and Former Professor Richard E. Heath

CLASS ACTION



Robert N. Convissar '77

E. Michael Semple '72 of Hamburg, N.Y., has become a member of the mediation panel for the U.S. District Court, Western District of New York. He was also selected to serve on the New York State Supreme Court Roster of Arbitrators for Civil and Commercial Matters and as a Mediator for Civil Matters. Semple is a Buffalo solo practitioner, concentrating in mediation and arbitration.



Donnalynn Darling '78

Hon. Rose H. Sconiers '73 was named chair of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman. Sconiers is a New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District in Buffalo, where she resides. She is a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association and a past recipient of the association's Distinguished Alumna Award.



Terrie Benson Murray '79

Dale A. Ehman '75 was a guest speaker at the Buffalo Claims Association's monthly meeting at the Cabaret Restaurant in Buffalo. He spoke about "Labor Law Indemnity Issues and Recent Case Law." Ehman is a senior partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo. He lives in Amherst, N.Y.

Charles P. Jacobs '75 was recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* 2009 in the area of investment funds and private equity work. He is a partner with Nixon Peabody, practicing in the Buffalo, New York City and Paris offices. Jacobs lives in Eggertsville, N.Y.

Robert Van Every '75, a Sherman, N.Y., resident, received the Jamestown Bar Association's 2009 Community Service Award. He spent more than 30 years working with the Jamestown Audubon Society, serving on the sanctuary, finance and bylaws committees. He is also a 30-year member and a past president of the Falconer Lions Club. Van Every is a solo practitioner in Falconer, N.Y.

Richard M. Miller '76 has relaunched the firm MillerMitchell in Princeton, N.J. The firm handles business law and intellectual property cases. Miller lives in Hopewell, N.J.

Brent L. Wilson '76 of Lithonia, Ga., received the UB Law Alumni

Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award on May 5 at the association's 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. He was honored for his leadership by example as a private practitioner. Wilson is a partner in Elarbee Thompson Sapp & Wilson, in Atlanta.

Robert N. Convissar '77 was elected president of the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Convissar is a Buffalo solo practitioner, practicing in criminal defense and white-collar crime. He is a resident of Hamburg, N.Y.

Donnalynn Darling '78 has been named one of Long Island's Top 50 Women by *Long Island Business News*. She is chair of the personal injury and medical malpractice groups at Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein in Mineola, N.Y., as well as chair of the firm's education law practice group. Darling lives in Glen Head, N.Y.

Mark Gaston Pearce '78 of Buffalo has been nominated by President Obama to the National Labor Relations Board. Pearce is a partner with Creighton Pearce Johnsen Giroux in Buffalo. He represents the public and private sector in labor and employment law. Pearce is a past president of the Volunteer Lawyers Project, Housing Opportunities Made Equal and the Minority Bar Association of Western New York.

Hillary Exter '79 was honored by the New York City Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild for her two decades of work in the community development program of Brooklyn Legal Services Corp. She is director of student organizations and publicity in the public interest resource center at Fordham Law School in New York City, where she resides.

Elizabeth B. Mensch '79 received the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumna Award on May 5 at the 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. She was honored for her commitment to public service. Mensch is a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Emerita from UB Law School. She lives in Rhinebeck, N.Y.

Dan D. Kohane '79 received the Claims Conference Outstanding

Presentations Award for 2009 by the Property Loss Research Bureau. Kohane is a senior partner with Hurwitz & Fine in the Buffalo office and is an adjunct faculty member at UB Law School. He lives in Buffalo.

Terrie Benson Murray '79 spoke at the seminar "Protecting Your Legacy," hosted by the Buffalo Agency Financial Services, Planned Futures Financial Services and Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo. Murray, an associate in the firm, lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Charles C. Swanekamp '79 was named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He is a partner in the litigation practice group of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

'80s

Stuart P. Gelberg '80 has been included in the 2009 New York Metro edition of *Super Lawyers*. He was previously included in the 2007 and 2008 editions. Gelberg is an attorney in Garden City, N.Y.

Anna Marie Cellino '81 was awarded the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumna Award for her exemplary performance in business. She was honored at the association's 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Cellino is president of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y., and resides in West Seneca, N.Y.

Robert M. Elardo '81 received the Award of Merit from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. He is managing attorney of the Volunteer Lawyers Project in Buffalo and a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award. Elardo is a Buffalo resident.

Richard S. Binko '82 was appointed 42nd president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. He is the first president from Western New York. Binko has his own personal injury firm in Cheektowaga, N.Y., where he resides.



**Class 1984
25th Reunion**

May 1 & 2, 2009

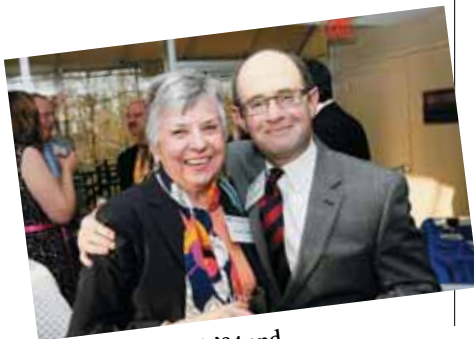
Buffalo, NY

- Friday Evening Happy Hour at WJ Morrissey's
- Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
- Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at Top of the Falls

For more reunion photos visit
<http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class84.asp>

Seated: Michael E. Reilly, Mary M. Donogher, Tracey A. Kassman, Kathleen E. O'Hara, David P. Marcus, Mary T. Sullivan, Hon. Erin M. Peradotto, Margaret L. Snajczuk

Standing: Robert M. Turkewitz, Andrew C. Hilton III, Anna Marie Richmond, Hon. Michael L. Hanuzszak, Hon. Kathy J. King, Carol Gundel Russ, Peter S. Russ, Kimberly Copeland Sheehan, Timothy J. Sheehan, Mary H. Doyle, David W. Wilson, Michelle P. Wong, George W. Collins Jr., Elizabeth G. Clark, Patrick J. Higgins, Alan J. Bozer



Elizabeth G. Clark '84 and
George W. Collins Jr. '84



Carol Gundel Russ
'84, Peter Snajczuk
and Margaret L.
Snajczuk '84



Hon. Erin M. Peradotto '84 and
Mary H. Doyle '84



Kimberly Copeland
Sheehan '84, Mary
Ellen Higgins and
Patrick J. Higgins '84



Hon. Paula L. Feroletto '82



Kurt E. Amend '84



Hon. John M. Curran '84



Paula M. Ciprich '85

Ross M. Cellino Jr. '82 and **Stephen E. Barnes '83** of Cellino & Barnes made an unrestricted gift of \$1 million to UB Law School, one of the largest cash gifts UB Law has received. Cellino is a shareholder in the Buffalo-based personal injury firm. He was also elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. He resides in West Seneca, N.Y.

Hon. Paula L. Feroletto '82, formerly a justice of the New York State Supreme Court, was appointed administrative judge of the 8th Judicial District. She resides in Buffalo.

Stuart B. Shapiro '82 was the featured speaker at the SUNY Fredonia Music Industry Forum in Fredonia, N.Y. He discussed record industry deals, copyrights and performance rights. Shapiro is a partner with Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, an author and an award-winning songwriter and performer. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Laurie S. Bloom '83 is president-elect of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is counsel in the firm Nixon Peabody in Buffalo, where she resides.

Lynn A. Clarke '83 was presented with the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumna Award at the association's 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. She was honored for her many contributions to the betterment of our community. Clarke is principal court attorney for the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District in Buffalo. She is also a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Clarke lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Robert A. Klump '83 was honored with the Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award from Canisius College in Buffalo. Klump is an adjunct professor of political science and associate director of the college's Raichle Pre-Law Center. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Stewart E. Wurtzel '83 of East Meadow, N.Y., was named Pro Bono Attorney of the Month for May by the Nassau County Bar Association. Wurtzel is a founding member of Deutsch Tane Waterman & Wurtzel in New York City. He is also a member of

Births

To **Joanna L. Silver '97** and Kevin Organ, a son, Jacob Christopher, on Jan. 6 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

To **Sheldon K. Smith '01** and Jonelle Smith, a daughter, Sadie Kathryn, on Dec. 25, 2008, in Orchard Park, N.Y.

To **Michael A. Chiantella '03** and Karen Chiantella, a daughter, Morgan Lillian, on April 7 in Venice, Fla.

To **Jennifer Biletnikoff O'Connell '03** and Desmond O'Connell, a son, Hayden Quinn, on March 30 in Estero, Fla.

To **Michael D. Mann '06** and Diana Mann, a daughter, Madelyn Sydney, on Aug. 10 in New York City.

To **Hadijat Balogun '07** and Clyde Collins, a daughter, Cara, on May 25 in Houston, Texas.

Marriages

Congratulations to the following newlyweds:

Kathleen A. Welch '91 and Shelley A. Hearne, June 27

Martin A. Polowy '03 and **Amy E. Przewozny '04**, June 20

Lynn Kwon '07 and Philip Dzikoy, May 16

the board of directors of the New York Law Institute and serves on its audit committee.

Kurt E. Amend '84 has been named senior adviser for security negotiations and agreements in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, in Washington, D.C. He will be lead negotiator of status of forces, defense cooperation, burden-sharing and other agreements with countries where U.S. military forces are deployed. Amend joined the State Department in 1988. His previous overseas assignments include Afghanistan, India, Kosovo, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Tajikistan. He is also the author of "Counterinsurgency Principles for the Diplomat," *Small Wars Journal*, July 2008. Amend lives in Arlington, Va.

George W. Collins Jr. '84 spoke on the topic of depositions at the New York State Bar Association presentation "Practical Skills – How to Commence

a Civil Lawsuit" in Amherst, N.Y. Collins is chairman of the litigation group of Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo. He lives in Snyder, N.Y.

Hon. John M. Curran '84, New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, has been named a 2008 Outstanding Citizen by *The Buffalo News*. He was recognized for resolving the conflict regarding the historic merger between Kaleida Health and Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo. Curran, a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association, lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

William J. Hochul Jr. '84 of Hamburg, N.Y., has been nominated as U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York, in Buffalo. Hochul is currently chief of the Western District's National Security Division, responsible for coordinating international and domestic terrorist investigations.



Class of 1989

Class 1989 20th Reunion

May 1 & 2, 2009
Buffalo

- Friday Happy Hour at Shea's Intermission Lounge
- Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
- Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Park Country Club

For more reunion photos visit
<http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class89.asp>

1st Row: Donnalee D. Tomaka, Kelley A. Omel, Mary Scolese Leonardi, Lauren E. Breen, Suzanne M. Garvey, Brenda M. Freedman, Lisa A. Valvo

2nd Row: Michael A. Neiderbach, Glenn D. Leonardi, Thomas R. Smith, Karen L. Nicolson, Daniel P. Boeck, Lisa A. Sizeland-Ross, Kim Sanders Murphy, Robert L. Boreanaz, Jeanne M. Vinal, Linda B. Falkson, Paul D. Weiss, Siu Lan Chan, Lynn A. Bulan

3rd Row: Michael C. Wroblewski, Charles J. Myzel, Douglas P. Smith, Eugene F. Getty, Troy X. Kelley, Kenneth J. Farrell, John K. Rottaris, Douglas W. Dimitroff, Desmond Hughes, Kevin B. Quinn, Gregory M. Vinal



Glenn D. Leonardi '89,
Dr. Grace Dimitroff and
Douglas P. Dimitroff '89



Douglas P. Smith '89
and Eugene F. Getty '89



Robert L. Boreanaz '89,
Bunnie Boreanaz, Mary
Scolese Leonardi '89 and
Glenn D. Leonardi '89

Gregory M. Vinal '89,
Alpha Ross, Lisa A.
Sizeland-Ross '89
and Jeanne M.
Vinal '89



CLASS ACTION



Daniel T. Lukasik '88



Lisa J. Allen '90



Scott B. Schwartz '91

Paula M. Ciprich '85 was elected vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Ciprich is general counsel for National Fuel Gas Co. in Williamsville, N.Y. She resides in Eggertsville, N.Y.

Kathleen A. Dooley '85 is the city attorney in Fredericksburg, Va., where she resides. Dooley is an adjunct professor in the political science department at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg and a past president of the Virginia Local Government Attorneys Association and the Virginia Women Attorneys Association.

Karen A. Korkuc '85 has become an assistant district attorney for the Erie County district attorney's office, in Buffalo. She is assigned to the integrated domestic violence bureau and is a resident of Lake View, N.Y.

Hon. John L. Michalski '87 was nominated by New York State Gov. David Paterson for a nine-year term as New York State Court of Claims judge in Buffalo. He was appointed to the bench in 2006 to fill the unexpired term of retiring judge Hon. Ronald H. Tills '59. Michalski lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Daniel T. Lukasik '88 received the Special Service Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Lukasik is a partner with Cantor Lukasik Dolce & Panepinto in Buffalo. He is a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award and is a resident of Lancaster, N.Y.

Robert L. Boreanaz '89 has been elected president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2009-10. He is a senior partner with Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria and is chairperson of the firm's labor and employment law department in the Buffalo office. Boreanaz is a resident of Getzville, N.Y.

'90s

Lisa J. Allen '90 has been named a vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is a member of Harris Beach in Buffalo, practicing in the life and asset planning practice group. Allen lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

Steven P. Maio '90 of Corning, N.Y., received the Michael F. Dillon Law Guardian Award from the Appellate Division, Fourth Department. Maio is a partner with Hutchinson & Maio in Elmira, N.Y.

Scott B. Schwartz '91 served as an adjunct professor at Drexel University Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design in Philadelphia, teaching copyrights and trademark for entertainment and the arts. Schwartz is a member of the intellectual property department at Cozen O'Connor in Philadelphia. He lives in Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

Thomas P. Cunningham '92 has been elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. Cunningham is a managing partner of Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo, concentrating in insurance defense litigation, insurance coverage and commercial litigation. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

LaMarr J. Jackson '92 was listed as a 2009 Up and Coming Attorney by *The Daily Record*. Jackson is a partner with Harris Chesworth O'Brien Johnstone Welch & Leone in Rochester, N.Y. She is the first African-American female partner in the firm and practices in the areas of matrimonial and family law, labor relations, business law, trusts and estates, and criminal law. Jackson lives in West Henrietta, N.Y.

John J. Jablonski '93 was named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He is a partner with Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo, specializing in litigation, including commercial and business, construction, products liability and railroad litigation. Jablonski lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Hope W. Olsson '94 received the American Bar Association 2009 Pro Bono Publico Award. Olsson is a partner with Olsson & Feder in Rochester, N.Y., specializing in bankruptcy law. She has helped more than 400 pro bono clients since 2002 at the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County and has also been a pro bono consultant for Farmworker Legal Services of New York. Olsson is a Rochester resident.

Charles D. Grieco '95 was a presenter at a CLE program on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. He is administrator of the environmental practice group in Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo, where he resides.

Jane M. Gabriele '95 received the New York State Bar Association 2009 President's Pro Bono Service Award. Gabriele works for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y., and lives in Fairport, N.Y.

Hon. Craig D. Hannah '95 was elected treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. Hannah is a city court judge in Buffalo, where he resides.

Sheri L. Mooney '96 received the Marilyn Menge Award at the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York Convention on June 5 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. She is a partner with Damon & Morey in Buffalo and a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

Hon. Lenora B. Foote-Beavers '97 was elected assistant treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is Erie County Family Court support magistrate in Buffalo, where she resides.

Corinne A. Carey '98 co-authored a report, "The Rockefeller Drug Laws: Unjust, Irrational, Ineffective." She used the report to advocate for reform of the drug laws, and legislation implementing that reform was passed and signed into law in April. Carey is public policy counsel with the New York Civil Liberties Union in New York City. She lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

John J. Koeppel '98 is listed in *Chambers America's Leading Lawyers for Business* 2009 in the corporate/mergers and acquisitions law category. Koeppel is a partner with Nixon Peabody, practicing in the Buffalo and New York City offices. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Tasha E. Moore '98 of Buffalo was elected a vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is regional director of the New York State Division of Human Rights in the Buffalo office. Moore is a past



**Class of 1999
10th Reunion**

May 1 & 2, 2009

Buffalo

- Friday Happy Hour at Shanghai Red's
- Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
- Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Buffalo Club

For more reunion photos visit
<http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class99.asp>

Seated: Janette Cortes-Gomez, Robert J. Gutowski, Dennis K. Schaeffer

1st Row Standing: Mary Moorman Penn, Denis J. Uminski, Christine Isaacs-Spence, Mark E. Guglielmi, Deborah Colosimo Guglielmi, Marc W. Brown, Christopher A. Wightman, Tony D. Cao, Katherine E. Cauley, David J. Hoffman, Jason C. Luna, Fidel E. Gomez, Michael Bly Santa-Maria

2nd Row Standing: Kenneth S. A. Grant, Jennifer K. Dorrer, Russell B. Klein, Theresa Merrill Stones, Joseph M. Young, Richard R. Shaw II

Stairs top to bottom: Roseanne J. Moran, Irma J. Hill, Kinda Serafi, Darleen V. Karaszewski, Amy M. McCabe, Paige L. Mecca, Mia McFarlane Markello, Amy C. Martoche, Kimberly A. Fanniff, Ronald A. Link Jr., Harry J. Forrest, Paul A. Gennari, David C. Kelly



Denis J. Uminski '99, Mark E. Guglielmi '99
and Deborah Colosimo Guglielmi '99



Kimberly A. Fanniff '99 and Amy M. McCabe '99



Janette Cortes-Gomez '99, Fidel E. Gomez '99
and Amy C. Martoche '99



Tasha E. Moore '98



Emilio Colaiacovo '01



Rashondra M. Jackson '02

president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo, and chair of the association's recruitment and retention task force. She is a past member of the board of directors of UB Law School's GOLD Group and past chairperson and current member of the Buffalo City Ballet board of directors.

Lourdes Ventura '98, counsel to Minority Leader Malcolm A. Smith of the New York State Senate, is running for New York State Assembly in the 38th District. A member of the Dean's Advisory Council, she lives in Richmond Hill, N.Y.

Robert Marinovic '99 has been named a member of Meyer Suozzi English & Klein in New York City. Marinovic previously served as an associate in the labor practice group in the firm. He lives in Madison, N.J.

Mary Moorman Penn '99 joined HoganWillig in the Amherst, N.Y., office. She specializes in civil litigation, personal injury and malpractice. Penn is assistant secretary of the UB Law Alumni Association and lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Amy E. Schwartz '99 was appointed president of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Schwartz is an attorney for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y., where she resides.

Hon. Matthew D. Witherow '99 was appointed city court judge for the City of Port Jervis, N.Y. Witherow previously served as Orange County assistant district attorney in Goshen, N.Y. In addition, he maintains a solo practice in Port Jervis, where he resides.

'00s

Karlee Bolaños '01 was named an Up and Coming Attorney for 2009 by *The Daily Record*. She is a member and practices in the labor and employment law and immigration law practice groups of Harris Beach in the Pittsford, N.Y., office. Bolaños is a Pittsford resident.

Emilio Colaiacovo '01 received the 2008 Michael F. Dillon Award at the New York State Appellate Division,

Student kudos



Laura Klossner, LLM '09, had the cover story in the summer 2009 issue of the *Florida Defender*, a publication of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Her article, "Evaluating Mental Competency in Juvenile Defendants," discussed the history of the mental incompetence defense in criminal cases and suggested some strategies for criminal defense lawyers in representing juveniles whose mental health may be compromised.

Ashley Westbrook '10 was selected as a member of Summer Corps by the group Equal Justice Works. She spent the summer working at Make the Road New York, in Brooklyn, a public-interest advocacy organization for the Latino and immigrant population.

Terry Bagia '08, LLM '10, published the book *Delta in Distress: The Politics and Perils of Petroleum Patronage in Nigeria*. The book, available at Amazon.com, looks at the increasingly important role that Nigeria plays on the world stage as it endures internal struggles over who will profit from the country's oil and gas resources.



4th Department, award ceremony on June 16 in Rochester, N.Y. He was also a presenter at the New York State Bar Association's seminar "Family Court Practice: Custody, Child Protective Proceedings and Ethics" in Buffalo and was a speaker at the New York State Parent Education and Awareness Program in Buffalo. Colaiacovo is a partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo and lives in Kenmore, N.Y.

Devin Palmer '01 has been named an Up and Coming Attorney by *The Daily Record*. He is an associate with Boylan Brown in Rochester, N.Y., where he resides. Palmer handles cases involving bankruptcy, collections and litigation and is chair of the firm's collections department.

Sheldon K. Smith '01, a senior associate in the Buffalo office of Nixon Peabody LLP, was elected vice president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York. He also served as chair of the MBA's Judicial Rating and Dinner Committees. Smith was appointed by the Fourth Department to a three-year term on the Attorney Grievance Committee. He resides in Orchard Park, NY.

Thomas K. Frederick '02 was elected to the UB Law Alumni Association

board of directors. Frederick is employed by M&T Bank in Buffalo, where he resides.

Rashondra M. Jackson '02 was named by *The Daily Record* as an Up and Coming Attorney for 2009. She works for the Rochester City School District Department of Law in Rochester, N.Y., and is a past president of the Rochester Black Bar Association. Jackson lives in Webster, N.Y.

Tara R. Johnson '02 of Webster, N.Y., was listed as an Up and Coming Attorney by *The Daily Record*. She is legal counsel for Excellus Health Plan in Rochester, N.Y.

Kimberly A. Stock '02 was promoted to counsel in the consumer and legislation branch of the legal division of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. in Washington, D.C. She is a resident of Alexandria, Va.

Joseph M. Hobaica '03 has opened 123 Credit Restoration, a credit repair/rapid rescue business with offices in Clinton, N.Y., and Florida. The Web site is www.123creditrestoration.com. Hobaica is a resident of Utica, N.Y.

Hon. Jack Quinn III '03 was elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. Quinn is a New York State assemblyman for the 146th District. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Adam Rizzo '03 is chief executive officer of Solar Liberty in Williamsville, N.Y., one of the premier integrators and installers of renewable energy technologies in North America. The New York Power Authority has chosen Solar Liberty to install a solar project at UB, which will be the largest solar installation at any college or university in New York State and one of the largest on any campus in the country. Rizzo is a resident of Williamsville.

Tracey B. Ehlers '04 of Williamsville, N.Y., has been elected to the United Way Emerging Leaders Society Advisory Council. Ehlers is an associate with Nixon Peabody in the Buffalo office, dealing with matters involving products liability and toxic tort cases.

Josephine S. Noble '04 has become associated with Ogletree Deakins in the Cleveland office. She practices in labor and employment, class action

defense and litigation. Noble lives in South Euclid, Ohio.

Tiffany M. Sorgen '04 has started her own practice in Canandaigua, N.Y., serving Ontario, Yates, Steuben and Seneca counties. She focuses on family law, criminal defense, real property and estates. Sorgen lives in Rock Stream, N.Y.

Jessica L. Leonard '05 practices matrimonial and family law with Hoffman Pollard & Furman in New York City, where she resides.

Robert C. Whitaker '05 has joined Hancock & Estabrook in Syracuse, N.Y., specializing in labor and employment law. Before joining the firm, Whitaker served as a defense attorney for the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corp. He also served as deputy staff judge advocate prosecutor and legal assistance attorney for the 2nd Marine Logistics Group in Iraq and as a legal assistance attorney for the Navy Legal Services office in Jacksonville, Fla. Whitaker lives in Camillus, N.Y.

Julie R. Bielecki '06 of Victor, N.Y., received the President's Award from the Greater Rochester Association for

Women Attorneys. She is an associate with Harris Beach in the Pittsford, N.Y., office.

Katherine E. Courtney '06 received the Doris S. Hoffman Outstanding New Lawyer Award from the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York at the association's convention on June 5 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. She also received the President's Award from the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Courtney is the staff attorney for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y.

Alicia R. Sim '07 has become assistant corporation counsel of the City of Chicago Department of Law. She practices in the revenue litigation division and is a Chicago resident.

Jennifer P. Stergion '07 has started her own practice in Buffalo, where she resides. She received the 2009 New York State Bar Association President's Pro Bono Service Award and was also awarded the Erie County Bar Association's 2008 Volunteer Lawyers Project Pro Bono Attorney of the Morning Award.

Adrian T. Dayton '08 is developing quite a following on Twitter and has about 26,000 followers on <http://twitter.com/adriandayton>. His Web site is <http://adriandayton.com>. Dayton has formed Comrad Esq. to aid firms in marketing with a focus on social media strategy. He previously practiced with Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugal in the Buffalo office and has written two books, *The Year of 12 Virtues: Old World Virtues to Save the Modern World*, to be published in March 2010, and *Associate to Rainmaker: How New Technology is Leveling the Playing Field for Lawyers*, to be published Sept. 15. Dayton is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

Liam A. Dwyer '08 is an assistant district attorney for the Erie County district attorney's office in Buffalo. Dwyer works in the Buffalo City Court bureau and previously interned with the Office of the New York State attorney general and the U.S. attorney's office.

In Memoriam

The Law School extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following friends and alumni/ae:

Albert Rydzynskini '49, Cheektowaga, N.Y.
Paul C. Stolzenfels '49, North Tonawanda, N.Y.
Hon. Thomas P. McMahon '51, Cheektowaga, N.Y.
Francis L. Pritchard '51, Grand Island, N.Y.
Patrick T. Hurley '52, Buffalo
Edwin J. Kuzdale '52, Dunkirk, N.Y.
Robert C. Schaus '53, Naples, Fla.
F. Bernard Hamsher '57, Williamsville, N.Y.
Salvatore F. Giallombardo '59, Williamsville, N.Y.
Thomas H. Harmon '66, Buffalo
John K. Currie '75, Hartford, Conn.
Mary E. Good '76, Orchard Park, N.Y.
Gary F. Papa '79, St. Davids, Pa.
Michael H. Doran '82, Amherst, N.Y.
Matthew J. Schnirel '08, Snyder, N.Y.

SAVE THE DATES

NAACP counsel will deliver Mitchell Lecture



In a year that saw the inauguration of America's first black president, the fall Mitchell Lecture will feature a strong voice for African-American progress.

John Payton is president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the nation's oldest human rights law firm. He will speak at 2 p.m., **Thursday, Oct. 22** at UB Law School as part of a two-day appearance that also includes class visits and a dinner with faculty members. Payton was invited by Dean Makau Mutua, with whom he served as an election observer in South Africa in 1994.

"Race, Law and Politics in America" is the broad theme of his address, Payton said, starting with a review of what happened in the United States during the post-Civil War Reconstruction period. "We had 10 years or less of a pretty open democracy, certainly for men," Payton said. "Black people partici-

pated and were elected to Congress, but with the end of Reconstruction, all black people were disenfranchised. That was dramatic. It happened after a contested presidential election and was unbelievably effective. It was not seen as a national problem." The lesson of that backsliding era, he said, is that "sometimes we act as though progress is in one direction and a straight line, that it never goes backward. But things don't always go in just one direction."

With that historical perspective, Payton said, he'll address the question of whether we have become a "post-racial" society — whether "we are past all of these issues that have plagued us for 200-plus years."

"Here we are now," he said, "we have made enormous progress again, and it seems far more lasting and has embedded itself in our national psyche. But there are still serious problems we have to deal with. We just went through a Supreme Court battle over the most important civil rights statute we have, Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. That was our case, and it was decided in June.

"If we were trying to figure out whether or not we were actually at a point of progress and these issues of race are really behind us — if we were in France, say, and wanted to figure out the same question and the answer to it — we'd say, how are the racial minorities doing in educational achievement? How are they doing with respect to the criminal justice system? How are they doing in terms of economic equity, political participation, health care and housing?"

On all of those measures, he said, African-Americans as a group still struggle to achieve equality — something even a black president cannot make up for. "Obama's victory didn't change any of those markers," Payton said. "But his election presents an opportunity to address some of these remaining problems. He is as aware of these problems as anybody in our national leadership has ever been, and is as committed to resolving them as anyone has ever been."

For more Law School events visit law.buffalo.edu

Jaeckle Award to be presented at NYC Alumni Luncheon



The New York City Chapter of the UB Law Alumni Association will host the annual NYC Alumni Luncheon at noon on **Friday, Jan. 29**, at the Union

League Club, 38 E. 37th St. at the corner of Park Avenue. For the first time, the Edwin F. Jaekle Award — the highest honor UB Law School and the Law Alumni Association can bestow — will be presented in New York City at the luncheon. **Kenneth B. Forrest '76**, a partner in the New York City law firm Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, and former chair of the Dean's Advisory Council, will receive the award. For details, e-mail Ilene Fleischmann at fleisch@buffalo.edu.

UB Law to visit Kenyan Embassy



The D.C. Chapter of the UB Law Alumni Association will host a cocktail reception at the Kenyan Embassy on **Thursday, Nov. 19**. The embassy is at 2249 R Street N.W.

in Washington. The event will be held at 6 p.m. The Kenyan ambassador to the United States, **His Excellency Peter N.R.O. Ogego**, will be present to greet guests. Dean Makau W. Mutua will provide an update on the state of the Law School. Alumni and students are invited to attend. For details, e-mail Lisa Mueller at lmuel@buffalo.edu.

Office of Alumni and Communications: “Call on us to help...”



LEFT TO RIGHT:

Amy Atkinson

Assistant Director of Reunions and Special Programs • aatkins@buffalo.edu

Amy Hypnarowski

Administrative Assistant for Alumni Relations • hypnarow@buffalo.edu

Ilene R. Fleischmann

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