

2021



UB University
at Buffalo®

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ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SECOND



SCHOOL OF LAW
C O M M E N C E M E N T

Sunday
May 16, 2021
3:00 P.M.

Commencement Pavilion
North Campus

AVIVA ABRAMOVSKY
Dean
Professor of Law

S. TODD BROWN
Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
Professor of Law

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



Program

**Selections from
Pomp and Circumstance**
by Sir Edward Elgar

Marshall & Mace Bearer
S. Todd Brown
*Professor and Vice Dean
for Academic Affairs*

Opening Declaration

National Anthem
Anna Fernandez, BFA '21

Greetings
A. Scott Weber
*Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs*

Dean's Remarks
Aviva Abramovsky
Dean and Professor of Law

Keynote Address
Hon. Shirley Troutman
*Associate Justice, New York State
Supreme Court
Appellate Division, Fourth Judicial
Department*

Greetings
Anne E. Joynt '05
UB Law Alumni Association President

Student Address
Aldiana Jose Anthony '21

Awards and Prizes
S. Todd Brown
*Professor and Vice Dean
for Academic Affairs*

Rina M. Hernandez '21
Student Bar Association President

Herald
Meredith Kolsky Lewis
*Professor and Vice Dean
for International and Graduate Programs*

Conferral of Degrees
A. Scott Weber
*Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs*

Aviva Abramovsky
Dean and Professor of Law

Hooders
Kim Diana Connolly
*Professor and Vice Dean for
Advocacy and Experiential Education*

Matthew Steilen
Professor

****University Alma Mater**
Anna Fernandez, BFA '21

Closing Declaration
S. Todd Brown
*Professor and Vice Dean
for Academic Affairs*

*Recessional

**Selections from
Pomp and Circumstance**
by Sir Edward Elgar

*Audience will remain seated during the
Processional and Recessional.
** Please stand if able.

*The University at Buffalo School of Law
is strongly committed to a policy against
discrimination based on race, color,
religious creed, sex, disability, national
origin, age, marital status and sexual
orientation, in accord with the non-
discrimination policies of the State of New
York, the SUNY Board of Trustees, the
University at Buffalo, the Association of
American Law Schools, the American Bar
Association, the New York State Rules of
Professional Conduct. We support efforts
to effectuate this policy with respect to all
protected individuals.*

SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

Eunice Ashman Lewin

Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin joined the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. She helped reinstate the Student Life Committee, on which she is co-chair. In that capacity,

she spearheaded the creation of the Food Insecurity and the Mental Health task forces. Lewin serves on the board's Executive Committee and the committees for academic affairs, communications and external affairs, community colleges, and academic medical centers and hospitals.

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Earlier this year, she was named to the Western New York Health Equity Task Force to coordinate vaccine distribution for the region's counties.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, Lewin is a champion for STEM education.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies, and in educational administration, from UB.

Jeremy M. Jacobs

Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council



Jeremy M. Jacobs was appointed to the UB Council in 1997; in 1998, then-Gov. George Pataki named him chairman. Jacobs is chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality company with customers in the United

States, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The company's operations include food and retail at airports and sports venues, sports facility ownership and management, operations of parks and major tourist attractions, hotel ownership and management, gaming operations and fine dining.

Jacobs owns the Boston Bruins and serves as chairman of the National Hockey League's Board of Governors. In 2018, he received the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

An alumnus of UB's School of Management and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, Jacobs holds honorary doctorates in humane letters from UB, Canisius College, Niagara University and Johnson & Wales University. In 2015, his family donated \$30 million to advance UB's medical school, which was renamed the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Jacobs has served Western New York for more than four decades with his business expertise and philanthropic leadership, and Delaware North has received multiple awards for social responsibility, community service and environmental stewardship.

A longtime friend and supporter of UB, Jacobs has served as chairman, trustee and director of the UB Foundation, chairman of the President's Board of Visitors and adviser to the School of Management.

Satish K. Tripathi

University President



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California-Riverside from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. A fellow of the IEEE and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he holds honorary doctorates from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Canada.

A leader in the national higher education community, Tripathi serves as chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and on the boards of the NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors and College Football Playoff Board of Managers. A member of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Reimagine NY Commission, he has served on the boards of the Association of American Universities, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. In 2011, Gov. Cuomo appointed Tripathi inaugural co-chair of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council, a position he held until 2017.

A. Scott Weber

Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, responsible for leading the development and implementation of the

university's academic vision. Weber provides leadership across the academic enterprise including research, scholarship and creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; diversity and inclusion initiatives; and university libraries.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, where he helped establish UB's transportation engineering program and oversaw the department's significant rise in national rankings among U.S civil engineering programs. Weber has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost and vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and the nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience on campus and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber's research focuses on biodegradation of chemicals in water and soil and the reclamation of environmentally impacted brownfield sites. He earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

Aviva Abramovsky

Dean and Professor of Law
University at Buffalo School of Law
The State University of New York



Aviva Abramovsky is the law school's 19th permanent dean and the first woman to hold the position. She is an expert in insurance law, commercial law, regulation of financial entities and legal ethics, and she has written numerous articles and

legal treatises, including authoring McKinney's Uniform Commercial Code forms for New York. She is the current editor of *LSN Insurance Law, Legislation, & Policy*, and she served as the editor and academic advisor for the *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal* from 2010 to 2011. She also contributed to the British Insurance Law Association's (BILA) 2013 Book Prize winner, *Research Handbook on International Insurance and Regulation*, and her scholarship has been recognized as a "litigation essential" by LexisNexis.

Abramovsky has served twice as an academic evaluator for the American Bar Association's federal judiciary committees, once for U.S. Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito and again for U.S. Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor. Among other professional leadership positions, she has acted as chair and later executive board member of the insurance law section of the American Association of Law Schools, and as chair of its Committee on Sections. She has also served as chair of the New York State Bar Association's Taskforce on Autonomous Vehicles and the Law.

Prior to her appointment as dean of the School of Law, Abramovsky was the Kaufman Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation and an associate dean at Syracuse University College of Law, where she led the school's internationalization efforts.

Special Guest

Hon. Shirley Troutman

Associate Justice, New York State Supreme Court
Appellate Division, Fourth Judicial Department



Hon. Shirley Troutman is an associate justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department and the co-chair of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission. She previously served as a trial judge in New York State Supreme Court, assigned to

the Eighth Judicial District, where she handled matrimonial and general civil litigation matters. Prior to her election to Supreme Court, Justice Troutman was a County Court Judge where she handled felony criminal cases, appeals and civil matters.

Before joining the bench, Justice Troutman was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, Assistant State Attorney General and an Assistant District Attorney.

She has served as an adjunct professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law. She has served as a lecturer for the New York State Judicial Institute, as well as CLE programs and seminars, including serving as a faculty member for the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence. She is also a member of the Ethics Commission of the New York State Unified Court System and has served as a member of the Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics.

Justice Troutman received a B.S. from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a J.D. from Albany Law School of Union University. She is also designated as an Advanced Science Technology and Resource (ASTAR) fellow, which is a program sponsored by the United States Department of Justice.

She is the recipient of many honors.

Awards and Prizes

Max Koren Award is presented to the member of the graduating class, who, in the judgment of the faculty and the dean, has exemplified the highest standards of the profession by virtue of scholastic achievement, leadership and dedication to the ideals of the law. The selected student will receive a certificate and a prize. This award is supported by a gift from M. Robert Koren, Class of 1944, and son of Max Koren.

John N. Bennett Achievement Award is presented to the member of the graduating class judged by the faculty to demonstrate the highest scholastic achievement in the graduating class. The winner's name is inscribed on the Bennett Cup, which is displayed in the School of Law. The award is named in honor of John N. Bennett, Class of 1933.

Dale S. Margulis Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who has contributed the most to the School of Law and the community. Candidates for the award are nominated by members of the graduating class, and the recipient is selected by the deans. Dale S. Margulis, a member of the class of 1982, died suddenly in August 1982. His classmates, family and friends established this award to honor his memory.

The Faculty Award recognizes an outstanding member of the School of Law faculty as voted on by the graduating class.

The Staff Award recognizes an outstanding member of the School of Law staff as voted on by the graduating class.

The following awards and prizes were announced at the Student Awards Convocation broadcast earlier today.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the area of health law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the area of intellectual property. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the areas of labor and employment law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Carlos C. Alden Award is presented by the Bar Association of Erie County to the member of the graduating class making the greatest contribution to the *Buffalo Law Review*, as decided by the *Law Review* editors and the faculty adviser. Carlos C. Alden was dean of the School of Law from 1904-1936 and Professor of Law from 1904-1955.

Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Outstanding Student Award is presented to a student who has excelled in assisting or representing individual or organizational clients and who has provided thoughtful exploration of legal, ethical, strategic, professional, and other pertinent issues raised in a particular clinic.

Robert J. Connelly Trial Technique Awards are presented to the students who have the best performance record in the course in trial technique, as selected by their instructors. The award is presented in honor of Robert J. Connelly, who was an exceptionally able trial lawyer prior to his tragic and untimely death at age 44.

CourtCall Awards are presented to the graduating students who have distinguished themselves in intramural or national competitions and possess strong academic grades, as selected by The Advocacy Institute directors. This award is presented by CourtCall.

Professor Louis DelCotto Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of taxation is outstanding, as recommended by the faculty. The award commemorates Louis A. DelCotto, Class of 1951, a beloved professor who taught tax law from 1961 to 1998, and developed the sequence of courses in taxation taught at the School of Law.

Monique E. Emdin Memorial Award is given to one or more graduating students who are members of groups traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession and who demonstrate a commitment to community service, including significant service in faith-based communities, and/or have made significant contributions to the law school through involvement in student groups. This award memorializes Monique E. Emdin, a graduate of the class of 2007, a former associate at Hiscock & Barclay LLP, and a dedicated member of the Bethesda World Harvest International Church.

Maurice Frey Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of family law is most exceptional. It is named to honor the memory of Maurice Frey, a prominent attorney who cared deeply about legal education, created the Trial Technique Program, and taught at the School of Law for a number of years. He also worked tirelessly in the community to ensure that our legal system served and protected all members of our society.

William R. Greiner “Committed Humility” Award is presented to the student in the graduating class who, in the opinion of the Vice Dean for Student Affairs and the two most senior members of the faculty, best exemplifies the style of leadership that distinguished Bill Greiner. In his roles as Associate Dean of the School of Law, and as Associate Provost, Provost, and for 13- years President of the University, he exemplified an openness to the opinions of others, humane compassion for individuals, a sense of perspective and proportion, a love of humor and irony, and, most importantly, an acceptance of personal fallibility.

Justice Philip Halpern Award is given to the member of the graduating class for excellence in writing on the *Buffalo Law Review*. Prior to becoming a justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Justice Halpern was dean of the School of Law and a member of the faculty for 27 years. The winner is determined by the editorial board and the faculty adviser.

Professor Thomas E. Headrick “Trees and Forest” Award is given to the student of corporate finance who most clearly recognizes that a corporate practitioner needs both to understand the transaction fully and to get the details precisely correct.

Judge Matthew J. Jasen Appellate Practice Award is presented to the member of the graduating class who in course work and Moot Court Competition has shown outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy. The award is given to honor the memory of Judge Jasen, Class of 1939, and is supported by his friends and former clerks.

Milton Kaplan Award in Law and Social Development is named to honor the memory of Milton Kaplan, Professor of Law from 1965 to 1986. As teacher and colleague, Professor Kaplan is admired for his selfless dedication to students and colleagues and for his penetrating yet admirably unassuming scholarship. Throughout his career, he was committed to the shaping of law to improve the conditions of public life in local communities around the world. The Milton Kaplan Award honors a member of the graduating class who best demonstrates exceptional commitment to the study of law and social development in an American, comparative, or international context.

James M. Kieffer Trial Excellence Award is presented to the member of the graduating class whose proficiency in trial advocacy has been most outstanding. Selection is based on performance in both coursework and trial competitions. The award is named in memory of James M. Kieffer, a nationally recognized trial attorney who practiced in Western New York.

Awards and Prizes

David Kochery Award is provided by the family and friends of David Kochery who taught at the School of Law from 1953 to 1980. It is awarded to a member of the graduating class who best exemplifies the traits of community leadership through service outside the school and involvement in one or more student organizations.

The Lavender Gavel Award recognizes a graduating student for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments in the pursuit of LGBTQ+ visibility, dignity, and civil rights.

Professor Virginia Leary Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of international law is outstanding, as recommended by the faculty. The award is given in memory of Virginia Leary, a beloved SUNY Distinguished Service Professor who taught international law from 1976 to 1995, and developed the sequence of courses in international law taught at the School of Law.

Minority Bar Foundation's Legal Commencement Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who, in the judgment of the Minority Bar Foundation and the School of Law, has exemplified the high standards of the profession by virtue of scholastic achievement and leadership, and who has demonstrated a significant commitment to effectuating changes within the legal system that address the needs of the minority community.

Moot Evidence Award is presented to the member of the graduating class for the best performance in the area of evidence as determined by the faculty. The award is given in honor of Welles and Caroline Moot and in remembrance of Adelbert Moot, who taught evidence in the founding years of the School of Law.

Albert R. Mugel Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated the greatest proficiency in future interests and estate planning law. The award is named to honor the memory of Albert R. Mugel, Class of 1941, a founder of the law firm of Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel. He taught future interests and estate planning at the School of Law as an adjunct professor for over fifty years. During his long career in practice, he served the community with great distinction.

Ryan J. Mullins Award is given to the member of the graduating class demonstrating the greatest commitment to and proficiency in criminal law and criminal trial practice skills. Ryan J. Mullins, a member of the class of 2005, died suddenly in September 2003. To honor his memory, his classmates, family, friends and members of the School of Law community established this award.

The Order of Barristers is a national oralists honors society. The members include students who have shown dedication and who have excelled in the art of oral advocacy and service to the law school's moot court program. Each year, eight to ten students are elected to membership in the organization as nominated by the Director of Moot Courts.

The Order of the Coif is an honorary scholastic society whose philosophical roots stretch back to medieval English jurisprudence. Coif membership is offered to graduating students who display excellence in legal education by demonstrating a spirit of careful study and academic success. New members who demonstrate such scholarly success join lawyers, judges, and teachers who have attained high distinction for their continued scholarly or professional accomplishments. UB School of Law has been a member since 2014. Students selected for this distinction are denoted in the list of JD candidates by †.

The Harry A. Rachlin Prize in Real Property Law and Real Estate Transactions was established by the family of Harry A. Rachlin, Class of 1926, who during his lengthy and renowned career was a leading authority regarding the New York State Lien Law. Mr. Rachlin served as a lecturer and maintained an ongoing interest in the welfare of University at Buffalo School of Law students. The prize is awarded to members of the graduating class who exhibit excellence in research, clinical and academic performance in the areas of real property law, housing, housing finance and real estate transactions as determined by the faculty and administration of the School of Law.

Judge William J. Regan Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated the greatest proficiency in estates and surrogate's law, and who is motivated by a strong concern for public service and public welfare. The award is named to honor the memory of Judge William J. Regan, Class of 1938, and Erie County Surrogate from 1963 to 1981. During his long career in practice and on the bench, he served the community with great distinction. This award is supported from a fund donated by friends of Judge Regan.

UB Law Alumni Association's GOLD Group Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills in advancing the mission of the School of Law and enhancing its reputation for excellence in legal education.

Cornelius W. Wickersham, Jr. Award is presented to the member of the graduating class who is the highest ranking student in the field of Constitutional Law. This award is given by the Federal Bar Council. The Federal Bar Council was formed in 1932 after breaking away from the national bar association to protest its refusal to admit minority bar members. Mr. Wickersham was its president from 1955-1957.

Women Lawyers of Western New York Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who contributes to the advancement of women in our society, promotes the issues and concerns of women in the legal profession, and who has demonstrated academic achievement as well as a commitment to service to others. The recipient is selected by the board of directors of the Women Lawyers of Western New York.



Candidates for Degrees

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by May 1, 2021 and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral: February 1, 2021; June 15, 2021; and September 1, 2021. Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.

Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Aviva Abramovsky
Dean
University at Buffalo School of Law
The State University of New York

Master of Laws

Feb 1, 2021

Olubukola Esther Akinlua
B.L., Nigerian Law School
L.L.B., Lagos State University

Jerome Aondongu Nenger
LL.M. Obafemi Awolowo University
LL.B. Hons, Benue State University
Bachelor of Law, Nigeria Law School
Diploma in Law, Benue State University

June 15, 2021

Fozzia Hassan Aden
Doctor of Jurisprudence, Barry University
School of Law
B.S., University at Buffalo

Dinara Karimova
Master, International Law, KIMEP University
Bachelor of Legal Studies, International
Law, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University

Cristina Mercader Pérez
Master for the Practice of Law in the Courts
of Spain, International University of La Rioja
Master in Business Management, Madrid
School of Business
Law Degree, University of Cadiz

Sahana Ramdas
Master of Environmental Law,
Pace University Law School
Master of Animal Law, Lewis & Clark College
Bachelor of Laws, Bangalore University

Master of Laws Criminal Law

Feb 1, 2021

Axelle Lecomte Mathewson
Master Droit, Université Pantheon Assas
Bachelor of Civil Law, University College
Dublin

Master of Laws Cross-Border Legal Studies

June 15, 2021

Akbar Mubinovich Vokhidov
L.L.M., Tashkent State Institute of Law
Bachelor's Diploma, Tashkent State Institute
of Law

Olga Voronovich
Bachelor of Jurisprudence, Moscow State
Institute of International Relations

Juris Doctor

February 1, 2021

Elisabeth Anne Hall
M.S., Mercyhurst University
M.S., St. Bonaventure University
B.A., Allegheny College

Benjamin Eric Holwitt
B.A., Binghamton University

Zarianna E'lyssa Peterson
M.S., Niagara University
B.S., Niagara University

Elena Marie Spence †
Bachelor of Liberal Studies, Boston University

Luke Edward Wochensky
Lawyer, Specialization of Jurisprudence, Herzen University
M.A., Ohio State University
B.A., Union College

June 15, 2021

Jonathan Abrams
M.B.A., Medaille College
B.A., SUNY College at Buffalo

Elizabeth Grace Adkins
B.A., Niagara University

Madeline E. Aldrich
B.A., University at Buffalo

Ayman Ali
Honours Bachelor of Science, University of Toronto

Christina Marie Alicea
B.S., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

Adam William Amirault
Bachelor of Commerce, Saint Mary's University

Aldiana Jose Anthony
B.S., Monroe College

Alexa Leigh Archambault
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nichole Marie Austin
M.A., University at Albany
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Makallie Banker
B.S., The University of Rhode Island

Kristopher Joseph Bartz †
B.S., SUNY College at Brockport

Jenna Lynn Bauer
B.S., SUNY College at Brockport

Alana Marie Becker
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jacqueline Ruth Bellrose Lloyd
B.S., Western Governors University

Kali London Benjovsky
B.S., Binghamton University

Rebecca Marie Bentley †
B.A., University at Albany

Allana S. Benton
B.A., Binghamton University

Daylyn Tara Marie Blackman
B.A., Canisius College

Catherine E. Kutzuba Blanchette †
B.A., Messiah College

Jena Louise Pedersen Boise
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Ranja Bose
Bachelor of Technology, Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Courtney L. Bow
B.A., St. John Fisher College

Florian Bruno
M.A., Columbia University
LL.M., Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
LL.B., University of Munich

Luke Anthony Catalano
B.S., University at Buffalo

Daniel Michael Caves †
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Daniel Nicholas Celani
Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Xavier University

Jake Cercone
B.S., University at Buffalo

Aarti Chandan
B.A., University of Pittsburgh

Macky J. H. Cherif
Bachelor of Laws, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone

Yoo Ri Cho
B.A., New York University

Trent Joseph Citarella †
B.A., San Diego State University

Hannah Elizabeth Cominsky
B.A., University at Buffalo

John M. Conti
B.S., Canisius College

Christina Cottone
B.A., University of Western Ontario

Courtney Elizabeth Dec
B.S., Syracuse University

Jaynie Sandra Tamara Doe †
B.A., SUNY College at Buffalo

Michael Mann Dolce †
B.S., Cornell University

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

Candidates for Degrees

Marc Andre Dudley
B.A., SUNY College at Buffalo

Justice K. Dunwoody
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Claire Austin Esmonde
B.A., Binghamton University

Ann Barbara Fahey
B.A., University of Pittsburgh

Ryan W. Falk
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Jillian Elizabeth Faltyn
B.A., SUNY College at Buffalo

Steven James Farnholz
B.A., Elmira College

Peter James Farruggia
M.B.A. Candidate, University at Buffalo
M.P.H., University at Buffalo
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Leah Nancy Farwell
B.A., Syracuse University

Savannah Mari Figueroa
M.S.W. Candidate, University at Buffalo
B.A., University of Delaware

Kristen Sarah Fischer
B.A., University at Buffalo

Katherine Ann Fleming
DPLP, University of Aberdeen
Bachelor of Laws, University of Aberdeen

Morgan Christina Flitt
B.A., John Carroll University

Jake R. Forken
B.S., Cornell University

Ryan Anthony Fortuna †
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Lucas John Fromen †
B.A., Canisius College

Abbi Lee Fuhrken
B.A., Nazareth College

Joseph Bernard Fumerelle †
B.A., Niagara University

Gabrielle Gannon
B.S., Canisius College

Tyler J. Gately †
B.S., University at Buffalo

Connor Thomas Godfrey
B.S., Fordham University

Ashley D. Gordon
B.S., St. John Fisher College

Sarah Afoa Gyimah
Bachelor of Laws, University of Ghana

MacKenzie Elizabeth Hamill
Honours B.A., University of Ottawa

Hatem Kamal Hammad
LL.M., Girne American University
LL.B., Girne American University

Kevin Hartnett †
M.S., SUNY Maritime College
B.S., Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

James J. Hatton
B.S., SUNY College at Brockport

Alisha Irene Herald
B.A., Seton Hill University

Rina Maria Hernández
B.A., Fordham University

Thomas Joseph Heubusch
B.A., University at Buffalo

Amin Hfaiedh
Master's Degree, University Pantheon
Sorbonne
Bachelors in Law, University Pantheon
Sorbonne

Trejahn J. Hunter
B.A., Niagara University

Kaitlin Gail Jacobbi
B.A., SUNY College at Oswego

Keith Gregory Jensen
B.A., University of Rochester

Kennita M. Jose
B.S., Herbert Lehman College, CUNY

Alexander C. Kaczmarek
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nicholas Edmund Kaiser
B.A., Canisius College

Niki Kalantari
B.A., York University

Zachary Tyler Kiel
B.S., University at Buffalo

Andrew S. Kij
M.A., University at Buffalo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jordan Joseph Kilijanski †
B.S., D' Youville College

Haekyung Kim
B.A., Hunter College, CUNY

Briana Nicole Krawczyk
B.S., Niagara University

Keith Patrick Kronenberg
B.S., Florida Gulf Coast University

Kaitlyn J. Lauber
B.A., SUNY College at Buffalo

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

Emily C. Liao
B.S., Stony Brook University

Chuancheng Lin
B.S., Dalhousie University

Alyssa Leigh LoGrasso
B.A., Canisius College

Lindsay M. Lougen
B.A., Canisius College

Michael A. Mahr Jr.
B.A., Stony Brook University

Jacob Ethan Manny
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jenna R. Mastronardo
B.A., SUNY College at Geneseo

Steven Gertler McDermott
M.S., University of Pennsylvania
B.S., Union College New York

Davewin Meade
M.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Bachelor of Laws, University of Technology, Jamaica

Desmond D. Metzger
B.A., Canisius College

Cecilia Meyer
B.A., University at Buffalo

Miles Christopher Michienzi
B.A., Niagara University

Deja L. Middlebrook
M.S.W., University at Buffalo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Franco A. Mirolo
Master of Intellectual Property Law, Universitat de Barcelona
Bachelor of Laws, Universidad Nacional de Cordoba - Facultad de Derecho

Renee S. Moore
B.S., University at Buffalo

Charles Benjamin Moran
B.S., North Park University

Jack Robert Morgan
B.A., SUNY College at Fredonia

Hoda A. Moussa
M.S., SUNY College at Buffalo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Ryan R. Mulcahy
B.A., American University

Heather Paige Murcin
B.A., University at Buffalo

Frank Sebastian Pardo Narvaez
Bachelor of Laws, Universidad del Norte

Tyler John O'Neill
B.S., Hilbert College

Joshua J. Parucki
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nicholas D. Pistory
B.A., Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Catherine Polanco
B.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

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B.S., SUNY College at Buffalo

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Bachelor of Law

Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. To qualify for Latin honors, students must present a minimum of 60 credit hours of UB undergraduate coursework, at least 54 of which must be graded credits (i.e., not satisfactory or unsatisfactory [grades of ‘S’ or ‘U’]). The UB GPA must be a minimum of 3.2 (to 3.499) for cum laude, 3.5 (to 3.749) for magna cum laude and 3.75 (to 4.0) for summa cum laude.

To receive the Latin honors designation in the printed 2021 commencement programs, candidates for the June 2021 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2021 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through the Spring 2021 semester. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

Legend

Cum laude is denoted by *.
Magna cum laude is denoted by **.
Summa cum laude is denoted by ***.

June 1, 2021

Henry Carmen Alaimo

Christopher Allan Rybak

August 31, 2021

Kaleigh Elizabeth Botta***

Academic Costume

The traditional costume worn at the Commencement Exercise is a record of academic achievement of the individuals taking part. Its use, which originated at English and European universities during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, came to the United States in 1754 with the founding of what is now Columbia University.

In 1895, the Intercollegiate Commission, a group of leading American educators, met at Columbia to draft a code that would serve to regulate the design of gowns and hoods for various degrees as well as to fix the colors that indicate the various faculties. This code has been adopted by most of the colleges and universities in America. It was revised in 1932 and again in 1959.

The level of degree held is indicated by the gown's cut. Doctoral gowns have full sleeves, which are round and open. Gowns worn by bachelors have long pointed sleeves, and those worn by masters have long, closed, somewhat fuller sleeves which reach nearly to the wearer's knees. The arm goes through a slit, giving the appearance of short sleeves.

The color as well as cut of the gown varies. Although most doctoral gowns are black, in some cases their color is that of the university conferring the degree. The doctoral gown is trimmed in velvet; it has three two-inch bars on the sleeves and a five-inch border extending from the back of the neck down the two sides in front. Although usually black, the velvet may be of a color that indicates the nature of the degree.

Master's and bachelor's gowns have no facing. The hood seems to have had a more practical origin. During the Middle Ages, monks wore them to protect their shaved heads in the winter and as a container in which to collect alms. It is the most significant part of the academic dress. Its shape and size indicate the degree of the wearer, the color of the velvet border indicates the academic field, and the lining indicates the color or colors of the institution granting the degree. The bachelor's hood is three feet long and has a two inch velvet border, the master's is three and one-half feet long and has a three-inch border, and the doctor's is four feet with a five-inch border. The University at Buffalo hood is lined with blue and gold stripes.

The mortarboard cap has been conventionalized from the skull cap which was worn by monks of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The mortarboard is usually black. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter by degree holders; candidates wear the tassel over the right front quarter until the degree is conferred.

Graduates wearing color cords were given cords as recognition of their participation in certain student groups by these groups as follows:

Buffalo Law Review – gold cord

Law Journals – green cord

Moot Court Boards and Trial Team – purple cord

Students of Color groups – royal blue cord

Other student groups – tri-color cord of red, white and blue

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UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for
contemporary use.*



Verse 1:

The pride of our spirit and tradition,
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.
Celebrate our history and wisdom,
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

Refrain:

To Buffalo all hail to thee,
Noble and strong it's our university!
To blue and white pledge loyalty,
Singing, I will always remember thee!

Verse 2:

We'll ever keep our standards high,
And sing UB's praises to the sky.
Receiving the finest education,
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.
(Repeat refrain)

Verse 3:

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,
A union of our spirit, heart and mind.
Together we'll continue life's journey,
O may dear Buffalo forever be.
(Repeat refrain)

The University at Buffalo has come a long way since its founding in 1846 as a small, private medical school in downtown Buffalo. Today it is an internationally renowned public research university—the largest institution in the State University of New York system—with three vibrant campuses, 13 schools and colleges, and most importantly, upward of 30,000 students every year developing the knowledge, confidence and passion to make the world a better place.

In the words of President Satish K. Tripathi, “UB has always been defined by our community’s intellect, innovations and contributions to humanity. And it will continue to be for the next 175 years—and beyond.”

