



2026

UB University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVENTH



SCHOOL OF LAW
COMMENCEMENT

Sunday,
May 17, 2026
1:00 P.M.

Center for the Arts
North Campus

S. Todd Brown
Dean
Professor of Law

Matthew Steilen
Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
William J. Magavern Faculty Scholar
and Professor of Law

Letter to the Class of 2026 from President Tripathi



Dear Graduates,

Congratulations! You have reached an important milestone—one that marks both the completion of your degree and your arrival at a threshold of new opportunities and responsibilities. For that reason, today we celebrate not only what you have accomplished, but who you have become.

Your time here has been defined by intellectual growth, perseverance and discovery. You arrived with promise; you leave with purpose, ready to make an impact in a changing landscape that needs your talents and will test your resolve.

As graduates of the University at Buffalo, you uphold a mission dedicated to advancing knowledge and serving society. Your education has endowed you with greater clarity: to understand complexity and question assumptions. If we have done our job well, you have also come to appreciate the resilience of our collective humanity while recognizing where it is fraying.

You will encounter trials in the years ahead. When confronted with division or adversity, I urge you not to turn away, but to engage. Draw on what you have learned here to mend and renew the fabric of our communities. Whatever your discipline, you possess both the capacity and the duty to champion the public good through your work, commitment and leadership.

As Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us, “We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.” The challenges you encounter will not be yours alone, nor will their solutions be found in isolation. Beyond your knowledge, you carry a shared obligation—to fortify those bonds, enrich those connections and cultivate fairness and compassion in all that you do.

It has been one of the great privileges of my life to celebrate our UB graduates and to witness your growth. As I conclude my presidency this summer, my faith in the contributions you are poised to make remains unwavering.

To the Class of 2026, please accept my heartfelt best wishes. May your efforts advance integrity and harmony across society, and may you inspire others to follow your example.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi
President

Program

Processional*

Selections from "Pomp and Circumstance"
by Edward Elgar
Cathedral Brass

Marshal & Mace Bearer

Lucinda M. Finley
Frank G. Raichle Professor of Trial and Appellate Advocacy
Director of Appellate Advocacy

Opening Declaration

Professor Lucinda M. Finley

National Anthem**

Sarah Katherine Moore '26

Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi
University President

Dean's Remarks

S. Todd Brown
Dean
Professor of Law

SUNY Honorary Degree

Jonathan S. Beane '98 (JD/MBA)
Senior Vice President
League Leadership and Inclusion
National Football League

Eunice A. Lewin
Member
SUNY Board of Trustees

President Satish K. Tripathi

Keynote Address

Hon. Gerald J. Whalen '83
Presiding Justice
New York Supreme Court
Appellate Division, Fourth Department

Alumni Welcome

Patricia S. Ciccarelli '93
UB Law Alumni Association President

Student Address

Naomi Goni '26

Presentation of Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award

Sean C. Eldridge '10

Matthew Steilen
Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
William J. Magavern Faculty Scholar
and Professor of Law

Awards & Prizes

Vice Dean Matthew Steilen

Herald

Lisa M. Patterson
Director of Externships and Access to Justice Initiatives
Teaching Faculty

Conferral of Degrees

President Satish K. Tripathi

Dean S. Todd Brown

Hooders

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
Vice Dean for Student Achievement
William J. Magavern Faculty Scholar
and Professor of Law
Co-Director of The Advocacy Institute

David E. Coombs
Lecturer in Law

John Harland Giammatteo
Associate Professor of Law

Angelyn McDuff '12 (JD), '18 (LLM)
Professor of Skills
Director of the Legal Analysis, Writing and Research Program

University Alma Mater**

Abby Tyler
BFA, Music Theatre '26

Closing Declaration

Professor Lucinda M. Finley

Recessional*

"Triumphal March" from Aida
by Giuseppe Verdi
Cathedral Brass

**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, and the New York State Rules of Professional Conduct. We support efforts to effectuate this policy with respect to all protected individuals.

Unless otherwise noted, class years indicate graduation dates from the University at Buffalo School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree.

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 was appointed to the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. During her tenure, she has been instrumental in

reinstating the Student Life Committee and in spearheading the committee's food insecurity and mental health task forces.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, Lewin is deeply dedicated to her community. She served on the Western New York Health Equity Task Force, was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee and is a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Lewin is also a member of the Hispanic Women's League and Hispanics United of Buffalo and previously served as a commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. In 2024, she was named chair of the Buffalo Urban League, where she continues to advance its mission of social parity, economic self-reliance and civil rights for underserved communities.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the United States 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.

Jerry Jacobs Jr.

Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council



Jeremy "Jerry" M. Jacobs Jr. is the chief executive officer of Delaware North, a role he shares with his brothers, Lou and Charlie. He also serves as an alternate governor to the Boston Bruins.

As CEO, Jacobs oversees the company and its operating subsidiaries, focusing on strategic growth, corporate governance and financial management. He joined Delaware North in 1986 and held progressive leadership roles before becoming CEO in 2015.

Jacobs is actively involved in numerous philanthropic, civic and business organizations in Buffalo and across the country. He was appointed UB Council chairman by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul in December 2024. His additional current board positions include The Corps Network, Mimivax and the Jacobs Institute. He is also a member of the U.S. Travel Association's CEO Roundtable and the Partnership for New York City.

Jacobs was a founding board member of Say Yes Buffalo, and he has dedicated more than two decades of service to the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, including past chairmanships of the board of directors and the annual fundraising campaign. He is a past member of the Board of Regents at Georgetown University and past chair of the Nichols School's Board of Trustees. He also served three terms on the University at Buffalo Foundation board.

Jacobs holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from Georgetown University.

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 a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Academy of Artificial Intelligence Sciences, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and the board of University Innovation Alliance. Previously, he chaired the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet2 and served on the boards of the AAU, NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

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, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including research, scholarship and

creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; inclusive excellence initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A UB faculty member since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar, teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Prior to his appointment as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Weber held several other senior administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

S. Todd Brown

Dean and Professor of Law



S. Todd Brown was appointed the 21st dean of the School of Law in May 2024, after serving as interim dean for nearly one year. A member of the law school faculty since 2009, he teaches bankruptcy, contracts,

corporations, torts, mass torts, and related courses. From 2016 to 2023, he served as vice dean for academic affairs, overseeing the law school's curriculum and leading the advancement of its academic programs.

A highly regarded expert on bankruptcy trusts, Chapter 11, complex litigation and mass torts, Brown has been frequently quoted by national and international media outlets. His scholarship has been cited in a variety of state and federal opinions, and he has testified before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, state legislatures, the American Bar Association's Task Force on Asbestos and Bankruptcy Trusts and the American Bankruptcy Institute's Commission to Reform Chapter 11.

Before entering academia, Brown was the managing partner of a small business and practiced with the law firms WilmerHale in Washington, D.C., and Jones Day in D.C. and Cleveland. He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy, summa cum laude, from Loyola University, a juris doctor degree from Columbia Law School, where he served as articles editor of the *Columbia Business Law Review*, and a master of laws degree from the Beasley School of Law at Temple University.

SUNY Honorary Degree

Jonathan S. Beane, MBA '98, JD '98

Senior Vice President, League Leadership and Inclusion, National Football League



Jonathan S. Beane, MBA '98, JD '98, is National Football League's senior vice president for league leadership and inclusion. Regarded as a visionary leader, he has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to social justice and made a profound impact on corporate culture.

Beane assumed his role with the NFL in 2020, spearheading the league's overarching diversity and inclusion strategy and implementation. His initiatives include the enhancement of the Rooney Rule, which mandates interviewing diverse candidates for head coaching and senior football operation jobs, and the establishment of the NFL's first-ever diversity and inclusion report, which tracks and shares the league's progress on its DEI goals. In 2025, Beane began overseeing talent development efforts at the league as well.

Under Beane's leadership, the NFL has launched several programs aimed at promoting inclusion, access and opportunity. Among them, NFL Source increases opportunities for small, local and/or underrepresented vendors to work with the NFL at its tentpole events and league offices. In awarding significant contracts to vendors, this initiative has helped spearhead economic growth in club markets.

Beane's additional work experience includes positions in international taxation, strategic planning, corporate responsibility and diversity and inclusion at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Johnson Controls, Novartis and Time Warner. Before joining the NFL, he was the senior vice president of global diversity and inclusion for 21st Century Fox.

Beane serves on the Dean's Advisory Council for UB's School of Law and is a member of the UB Foundation's Stewardship Committee. He previously served on the board of GLAAD, the non-profit focused on LGBTQ advocacy and cultural change.

In addition to MBA and JD degrees from UB, Beane earned a BA in American history from Dartmouth College and holds a Master of Laws degree in taxation from Georgetown University.

SUNY Honorary Doctoral Degree Recipients—University at Buffalo

1981	David Harker	1997	William Christie	2011	Ronald I. Dozoretz
1983	Alan E. Gottlieb		James Holland		Arthur E. Levine
1984	William C. Baird		Franklyn G. Knox	2012	Paula Allen-Meares
	Jacques Genest		Thomas Tomasi		Ronald H. Coase
	Wilson Greatbatch	1998	James W. McLernon	2013	Calyampudi R. Rao
	Seymour H. Knox Jr.	1999	Wolf Blitzer		Charles Wuorinen
1985	Erich Bloch		Lucille Clifton	2014	Ira Flatow
	Pierre Dejours		Clifton A. Poodry		Jack N. Lightstone
	Edwin F. Jaeckle	2000	Thomas Buergenthal		Norman R. McCombs
1986	Willard A. Genrich	2001	Alison Des Forges	2015	Christopher J. Scolese
	Gregory B. Jarvis*		Jane Goodall		David L. Shire
	Brian MacMahon		H. William Lichtenberger	2016	Leslie G. Ford
	John B. Slaughter		William H. Siemering		Helene D. Gayle
1987	George Hatem		Hatim A. Tyabji	2017	Marc A. Edwards
	Robert E. Rich Sr.	2002	Ellen Shulman Baker		Seong-Kon Kim
	Amos Tversky		Erma Hallett Jaeckle		Margaret Hempling McGlynn
1988	Louis J. Gerstman		Tom Toles		Bernard Rands
	Claude Lenfant	2003	Joseph P. Allen	2018	Gordon L. Amidon
1989	John M. Coetzee		Arthur O. Eve		Robert Peter Gale
	Philip Glass		Brad Grey		Abbe Raven
1990	Alonzo Church		Elizabeth Pierce Olmsted Ross		Margaret W. Wong
	Ira Michael Heyman	2004	John Walsh	2019	Julio Fuentes
	Wynton Marsalis		Robert G. Wilmers		Rebecca J. McCormick-Boyle
1991	James P. Comer	2005	Jack Dangermond		Donald Pinkel
	John W. Gardner		Henry A. Panasci Jr.*		Ashutosh Sharma
	Theodoor C. van Boven	2006	His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama	2020	Ruth Bader Ginsburg
1992	Marisol Escobar		Steven B. Sample		Donnica L. Moore
1994	Burt P. Flickinger Jr.	2007	Warren Bennis		Richard A. Schatz
	Robert V. Pound		Terry Gross	2021	C.K. "David" Chu
	Milton Rogovin	2008	Michael Batty		William R. Kinkel
1995	Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot		Maxine Hayes	2022	David Frank Adjaye
	Ishmael Scott Reed		Jean Malaurie		Ravinder K. Bansal
	George Widmer Thorn	2009	J. Mason Davis Jr.		Francesco Calogero
1996	Max B.E. Clarkson		Herbert A. Hauptman	2023	Agnes F. Williams
	Saxon Graham		Irene Zubaida Khan	2024	James S. Marks
	Jeremy M. Jacobs		Alan M. Zweibel		
	Florence S. Jacobson	2010	Mata Amritanandamayi Devi		<i>* Awarded posthumously</i>
	Gaynor I. Jacobson		Barry Glick		
	Northrup R. Knox		Steve Reich		
	Seymour H. Knox III*		Robert Vince		
	Helen M. Ranney				

Special Guest

Hon. Gerald J. Whalen '83

Presiding Justice

New York State Supreme Court

Appellate Division, Fourth Department



The Honorable Gerald J. Whalen, presiding justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, was born and grew up in Buffalo, NY. He received his BA from Canisius College in 1979, and his JD from the University at Buffalo School of Law in 1983.

Prior to taking the bench, Justice Whalen was in private practice for 21 years, handling complex civil and criminal cases, including as a litigation partner with Hiscock & Barclay, LLP, where he was also the firm's associate and hiring partner for its Buffalo office.

He was elected as a New York State Supreme Court justice for the Eighth Judicial District in 2005 and was reelected in 2019. In 2012, he served as president of the Supreme Court Justices Association, Eighth Judicial District. He was appointed to the Appellate Division, Fourth Department by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on October 1, 2012, and was designated presiding justice of the Appellate Division on January 7, 2016.

Justice Whalen served on the Fourth Department, Eighth Judicial District Committee on Character and Fitness from 2002 through 2012. He also taught as an adjunct professor at Canisius College and was a member of the Canisius Pre-Law Advisory Committee from 2006 to 2014.

He has been recognized on multiple occasions by the bench, the bar and the wider community. For approximately twenty-five years, he was a member of the Judge John D. Hillery Memorial Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarships for children in need, and was named the Foundation's Man of the Year in 1997. He also received the Trial Justice of the Year Award by the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Western New York Regional Affiliate in 2012; the Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert Leadership Award in 2016; the UB Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award for the Judiciary in 2017; the Jurist of the Year Award from the Judges and Police Executives Conference of Erie County, New York in 2019; the Justice of the Year Award by the New York State Trial Lawyers Association in 2024; and most recently, the New York State Bar Association's Vincent E. Doyle, Jr. Award for Outstanding Judicial Contribution in the Criminal Justice System in 2026.

He has also lectured at UB School of Law on constitutional law topics and is a frequent speaker at New York State and local bar association events.

Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award

Presented by Professor and Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Matthew Steilen to a member of the adjunct faculty for excellent teaching and longstanding service to the School of Law.

Sean C. Eldridge '10

*Assistant United States Attorney
for the Western District of New York*



Sean Eldridge is an adjunct faculty member at the University at Buffalo School of Law, where he teaches courses including Federal Court Practice and Procedure, and Persuasive Legal Writing. He regularly judges at the law school's annual Herbert Wechsler National Criminal Moot Court Competition and its Charles S. Desmond Moot Court Competition. He also serves as an appellate brief grader and oral argument judge for the American Bar Association's National Appellate Advocacy Competition.

In addition to his work at the law school, Eldridge is an assistant United States attorney for the Western District of New York. In that role, he conducts first-chair criminal trial and appellate litigation on behalf of the United States in the Western District and before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He previously served as legal counsel to the Department of Justice's Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section in Washington, DC, and before that, served as law clerk and special counsel to then-Chief United States District Judge Frank P. Geraci, Jr.

Eldridge is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program's Exceptional Service Award and the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation's Prosecutor of the Year Award. He holds a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Brockport, and a juris doctorate from the University at Buffalo School of Law.

In his spare time, he is an avid golfer, a die-hard fan of both the Buffalo Bills and the Boston Red Sox, and he loves spending time with his wife and their two rescue dogs.

Ken Joyce Award Recipients

2012	Steven R. Sugarman '85
2013	Helen A. Drew-Meosky '88
2014	Hon. Thomas (Tim) P. Franczyk
2015	Garry M. Graber '78
2016	John R. Nucheren*
2017	Christen E. Civileto
2018	Jennifer R. Scharf '05
2019	William F. Savino '75
2022	Daniel D. Kohane '79
2023	Hon. Glenn Murray
2024	William M. Murray
2025	Hon. Michael M. Mohun '80

**Awarded posthumously*

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.

Bachelor of Arts in Law Achievement Award

is presented to the member of the Law BA graduating class judged by the undergraduate faculty to demonstrate the highest scholastic achievement in the graduating class in law major courses.

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 held on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

Carlos C. Alden Award

is presented 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.

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.

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.

Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Outstanding Externship 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 externship.

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.

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.

Justice M. Dolores Denman Award

was established by the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and commemorates the Honorable M. Dolores Denman, Class of 1965, who was the first woman to be named presiding justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department. The Denman Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who is a custodial parent to offset the costs of daycare and other child-rearing expenses during the bar study period.

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 as 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.

Awards and Prizes

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.

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.

Dan D. Kohane '79 Insurance Award

is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance and shows an abiding interest in the field of insurance law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

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.

The 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 Jaeckle 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 Appellate Advocacy.

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 †.

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.

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 April 2, 2026 and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral: February 2026, June 2026 and August 2026.

Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.

Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Dean S. Todd Brown

Doctor of Juridical Science

June 15, 2026

Carlos Federico Aguirre Cardenas
LL.M., Tulane University
B.A., Metropolitan Autonomous University

Peiwei (Peter) Wang
LL.M., William and Mary Law School
LL.B., Xiamen University

Master of Laws

February 1, 2026

Claudia B. Villegas Ramos
M.A., Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez
LL.B., Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez

Master of Laws

June 15, 2026

Saif Asif
M.A., Eastern Michigan University
LL.B., Bangladesh University of Professionals

Yohannes Hiluf
LL.B., Bahir Dar University

Olivia Tanham
LL.B., University of Leeds
B.A., Brock University

Juris Doctor

February 1, 2026

Stephen E. Sercu
B.A., University of Tampa

Juris Doctor

June 15, 2026

Tyonna Jada Acoff
B.A., Canisius University

Henry C. Alaimo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Asia Alexis Alexander
B.A., Spelman College

Nicholas Alfieri
B.A., SUNY Potsdam

Caleb Anwar Azami
B.S., University at Buffalo

Cassidy Lila Baden
B.S., Fashion Institute of Technology

Gabrielle C. Baker
B.A., University at Buffalo

Aidan James Barczak
B.A., Syracuse University

Michael Scott Barry
M.B.A., Fordham University
B.S., Fordham University

Sean D. Bassler
B.S., University of Scranton

Maxwell Andrew Battaglia
B.S., Cornell University

Nicholas P. Bellino
B.A., Binghamton University

Ethan Andrew Berg
B.A., Western Kentucky University

Caitlyn Marie Binkowski
B.S., Hilbert College

Alexandra M. Bonafede
B.A., University at Buffalo

Steven J. Borodzick Jr.
B.S., Hilbert College

Blake Breidenstein
B.A., University at Buffalo

Francis Joseph Camp
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Caleigh Margaret Castlevetere
B.A., Niagara University

Jermaline Catul
B.A., St. John Fisher University

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

Sarah Chapman
B.A., SUNY Buffalo State University

Maeve Elizabeth Christ †
B.A., College of the Holy Cross

Robert Paul Cicciari †
B.A., Canisius University

Isabella Rose Clark
B.A., University at Buffalo

Danielle A. Cohen
B.A., Houghton College

Alysyn L. Colangelo
B.S., Canisius University

Sarah Courtney
B.A., DePaul University

Rachael Mae Cunningham
B.A., SUNY Fredonia

Lauren Elizabeth Daniels †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Erika R. Danzig
B.A., Michigan State University

Diana Denisova
B.A., University at Buffalo

Janae Daneen Dewan
B.A., University at Buffalo

Joseph G. DiVincenzo †
M.B.A., University at Buffalo
B.S., University at Buffalo

Rachel Madden Doane
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Jillian Rose Domm
B.A., Brigham Young University

Ian M. Donnachie
B.A., University at Buffalo

William Stewart Eaton †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Julianna Rose Falsone
B.A., Canisius University

Joshua Christian Ferullo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nicholas A. Foti †
B.A., University of Rochester

Michaela Jane Fuchs
B.A., University at Buffalo

Joseph William Gagliardi
B.A., Binghamton University

Edoardo Gheser
Laurea Magistrale in Giurisprudenza,
Universita degli Studi di Firenze

Naomi Goni
M.P.H., University of South Florida
M.S.W., University of South Florida
B.A., University of South Florida

Lennon N. Greco †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jessica C. Green
B.A., University at Buffalo

Sean A. Hannan
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Seth Hannum
B.A., University at Buffalo

Faith Elizabeth Herlan
B.A., Mercyhurst University

Elizabeth Ryan Higgins
B.A., St. John Fisher University

Momoko Hiwatashi
LL.M., Temple University
LL.B., Keio Gijuku Daigaku

Julia Katherine Hoffmann
B.S., Pennsylvania State University,
Harrisburg

Katherine Anne Huppé
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Katie Grace Internicola
B.S., University at Buffalo

Dalton William James
B.A., University at Buffalo

Cassidy Grace Jensen
B.A., University at Buffalo

Sarah Marium Jiva
M.B.A., University at Buffalo
B.S., University at Buffalo

Candace Lynn Kaminski
B.A., University at Buffalo

Spencer Katzman
B.A., University of Western Ontario

Caitlyn Marie Kelley
B.S., Northern Arizona University

Edward G. LaDuca †
B.A., SUNY Oswego

Michelangelo Lamberty Jr.
B.A., University at Buffalo

Kailyn Marie Lane †
B.A., Binghamton University

Phoenix A. Lasker
B.S., University at Buffalo

Lily Anna C. Leffler
B.A., University at Buffalo

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †



The Class of 2026: JD and LLM students



on the first day of Orientation, August 2023.

Candidates for Degrees

Evangelia Anita Letendre
*M.P.H., Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences*
*B.S., Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences*

Carly Nicole Limina
M.S.W., University at Buffalo
B.A., University at Albany

Yuxuan (Rainy) Liu
B.A., University at Buffalo

Lachlan Davidson Macintosh
B.A., Harvard University

Francesca Rose Manzella
B.A., University at Albany

Matthew Joseph Marchiony
B.S., University of Pittsburgh

Jared R. Marder
B.A., University at Buffalo

Ann Marie Elizabeth Marseglia
B.A., St. John Fisher University

Stanley Martin
M.S., University of Rochester
B.S., Old Dominion University

Maria Christine Marullo
B.A., Mercyhurst University

Emma Rose Marzec
B.S., Canisius University

Jacob Charles McGee
B.A., University at Buffalo

Ryan Chester Meller Jr.
B.A., University at Buffalo

Myah Meyerhoefer
M.S., SUNY Buffalo State University
B.A., SUNY Buffalo State University

Zachary Peter Miller †
B.S., Hilbert College

Zain Mirza
B.B.A., Baruch College

Sarah Katherine Moore
B.A., University at Buffalo

Maeve H. Morley
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Christopher M. Mostowy
B.S., Michigan State University

Khalia J. Muir
B.A., University at Buffalo

Parizoda Nasimjonova
B.A., University of Rochester

Richard Neri III
B.A., St. John's University

Colin T. O'Neill
B.A., Canisius University

Antwain M. Palmer III
M.S., Niagara University
B.S., Niagara University

Gianna Rose Palumbo
B.A., Duquesne University

Nyles Michael Panus
B.A., SUNY Fredonia

Mary Rose Pasquantino
B.A., University at Buffalo

Kayla Ann Petri
B.A., Nazareth University

Bridget Nora Pickford
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jaquelle Melina-Rose Quenan
B.A., University at Buffalo

Emily Anne Rasulo
B.S., SUNY Fredonia

Corrin Mae Raynor
B.A., University at Buffalo

Garrett Fisher Reinard
B.A., University at Buffalo

Linda Sarai Roman Marquez
B.A., Portland State University

Nadine F. Sallaj
B.A., University at Buffalo

Maxwell G. Schaffer
B.S., University at Buffalo

Joshua P. Sheets
B.A. and B.S., University of Rochester

Sarah C. Sheffield
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Dan Shimshon
B.A., Binghamton University

Hunter Thomas Siegel †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Kaley L. Skarren
B.A., University at Buffalo

Emily K. Smith
B.A., University at Albany

Mary Kalish Starr
B.A., Kent State University

Nina Maria Stockman
B.A., Nazareth University

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

Hannah Rose Sullivan
B.A., University at Buffalo

Michael D. Taylor
M.A., University at Buffalo
B.A., Canisius University

Alexandra May Teerlinck
MAT, Relay Graduate School of Education
B.A., George Washington University

Matthew W. Tellstone
B.A., Binghamton University

Sara Trifković
B.A., University at Buffalo

Stacy L. Walker
B.S.B.A., University of South Carolina

Taylor Ann Welsch †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Connor David Whitney
B.A., University at Buffalo

Taylor Deanna Wild
M.P.H., University at Buffalo
B.S., University at Buffalo

Emmanuel B. Wright
B.A., Medaille College

Xiaoyi (Yvonne) Zhao
M.A., New York University
B.A., University of Toronto

Gavin Clay Zmuda †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

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 2026 commencement program book, candidates for the June or August 2026 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2026 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through their final semester at the time of review. 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: ***

February 1, 2026

Micaela Aylward-Pigott**
Carter Benson
Azure Bolling***
Sophia G. Brown***
Danielle Corless
Kaydira Edmonds
Lesley Graham
Emylia Rose Hallberg
Alice Kamara
James Minner
Sunea Nasher
Katarina Ann Polick
Rex Rubin
Somer M. Scherer***
Bianca Taylor***

June 1, 2026

Helisa Akambasi-Watson**
Aharar Hossain Akib***
Roua Al Agedi***
Alexis Barker
Diego Eduardo Bower Bonvino
Trinity Brindeau**
Marcela Carver***
Ella Max Cohen*
Kira Collins**
Rayna Colon
Megan S. Corcimiglia
Chloe Davis**
Rick A. Delatour***
Olivia Constance Dinero***
Izabella Ducato**
Melana Marie Ellis
Angelica Faustino Restrepo*
Shiniah Rebecca France***
Grace Ileen Frania***
Tyler James Freeman**
Sophia Irene Furlong***
Violet Garcia***
Maksud Siddik Gedemenli***
Matthew Tyler Harris*
Aiyana Chantal Hernandez
Alyssa Lynn Hess**
Taylor Nicole Hyland***
Emilio J. Iniguez**

Nahin Islam*
Jenna N. Karzoun
Manjot Kaur
Ayaan F. Khan
Tiana Isan Kinlock***
Isabella Dakota Landry***
Caleb Elijah Lendo
Douglas Leung**
Alexander Anthony Lipski**
Rebecca Paulina Lockwood***
Shelby Longbine
Hannah Catherine Majewski***
Timothy Richard Majewski***
Ashley Mitchell
Mia Loren Moore*
Maisie Ann Mrkall**
Ntumba Mwepo*
Murdoch Nadrich
Van Quynh Nguyen
Kenzie Lynn O'Donnell*
Evelyn Rose Palma
Madison Pierce***
Most Purnima
James Reed Pusatier*
Ceci Rath***
Kaysie Marie Reeder***
Moncerrad Robles*
Jhennifer Romero
Elizabeth Sachar***
Ayden Michael Saglian*
Emma Sand
Eliana L. Santana
Brianna Schectman
Rafey Shahid***
Daniel Shalumov*
Matthew Shuttie
Caitlin M. Skwierczynski
Timothy John Smigiera**
Charles Stansberry*
Alyssa Michele Strozewski***
Eva A. Sutton*
Taylor Swenson***
Ruth Tefera***
Fotini Thanos***
Nazhlah E. Thompson***
Michael Treusdell*

Anthony Samuel Truilizio III***
Mary Kate Tweedale***
Ayet Ullah
Maliha Ullah***
Jacob Ullman Wishnoff
Nathan A. Upright***
Jessica Williams***
Ashley Kaitlyn Wu**
Xuling Wu Feng
Arlee Zavah
Susan Zhao
Olivia Grace Zon**

August 31, 2026

Ivory Marry
Nowshin Marzan
Nafisa Osmani
William Trembley
Ashveena Zahid

Congratulations to Jessica Williams
**Recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's
Award for Student Excellence**

This award acknowledges students for outstanding achievements that have demonstrated the integration of SUNY excellence within many aspects of their lives in areas such as academics; research; leadership; campus involvement; community service; diversity, equity, inclusion and justice; or the arts.

The School of Law Mace

Traditionally used in university ceremonies, the mace is a symbol of "enlightened authority." It is carried by the ceremony marshal and mace bearer, who leads the procession to the commencement platform and proclaims an opening declaration.

The School of Law mace is crafted from wood and embellished with a bronze replica of an early version of the university crest, surrounded by the university's name in Latin. The crest features the image of a bison mounted on an escutcheon or shield, supported by the palms of victory.



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 which 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 that of the lining 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.

Academic Recognition Items

The Coif Disk

A felt disk is awarded to J.D./LL.M. students who are graduating in the top 10% of the class. Students are denoted by †.

The Gold Cord

This cord is awarded to bachelor students who are graduating with Latin honors.

The Grey and Red Stole

This stole was received by students who are University Honors College graduates.

Non-Academic, University-Wide Recognition Items

The Kente Stole

This stole was received by students who participated in UB's ALANA Celebration of Achievement which is open to all students and historically has honored graduating African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American students.

The Rainbow Tassel and Lavender Stole

These items were received by students who participated in the Lavender Celebration, recognizing achievements of graduating students who identify as LGBTQ+ or allies.

The Red, White and Blue Cord

This cord is worn by graduating UB students who are active duty servicemembers, reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

Academic Costume

Non-Academic, School of Law Recognition Items

The Blue and White Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in one or more student social groups.

The Burgundy Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the *Buffalo Law Review*.

The Green Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in a specialty journal.

The Purple Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in moot courts and trial teams.

The Red and Silver Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in our Clinical Legal Education Program.

The Royal Blue Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in a law affinity student group.

The White Cord

This cord was received by students who exhibit a strong commitment to pro bono services while in law school, having delivered more than 400 pro bono hours, or engaged in other extraordinary pro bono service.

Graduating J.D. and LL.M. students may also wear recognition items unique to their own identity or individual student organizations. As of the printing of this program, the following student organizations have registered their own recognition items for this ceremony.

The Light Blue and White Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Society (ADR).

The Black, Green and Red Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Black Law Students Association (BLSA).

The White and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Council.

The Light Purple and White Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF).

The Red and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Gaming Regulation and Law Society (GRLS).

The Blue, White and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the International Law Society (ILS).

The Red, White and Green Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Italian-American Law Students Association (IALSA).

The Light Blue Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA).

The Hunter Green and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Labor and Employment Law Society (LELS).

The Red Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA).

The Military Green and Cream Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Military and Veterans Law Society (MLVA).

The Rainbow Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in OUTLaw.

The Dark Purple and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in Phi Alpha Delta (PAD).

The Blue and Gold Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Student Bar Association (SBA).

The Light Pink Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the Student-Wide Judiciary.

Administration

Office of the Dean

S. Todd Brown
Dean

Marlene M. Cook
Vice Dean and Chief Operating Officer

Timothy Conti
Vice Dean for Staff and Administration

Kenneth Suski
Unit Business Officer

Tess Calvert
Assistant Director of Personnel and Finance

Lisa Lovullo
Executive Assistant to the Dean

Christine Clayback
Faculty Assistant

Thomas LaPaglia
Facilities Management Assistant

Academic Programs and Services

Matthew Steilen
Vice Dean for Academic Affairs

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
Vice Dean for Student Achievement

Bernadette Gargano
Vice Dean for Experiential Education and Social Justice Initiatives
Director of the Clinical Legal Education Program

Patrick Long '00
Assistant Dean for Professional Development

William MacDonald
Assistant Dean for Academic and Bar Success

Angelyn McDuff '12 (J.D.), '18 (LL.M.)
Director of the Legal Analysis, Writing and Research Program

Laurel Root
Assistant Dean for Planning and Analytics

Mateo Taussig-Rubbo
Director of the J.S.D. Program

Admissions

Lindsay J. Gladney
Vice Dean for Admissions and Enrollment

Benjamin Rogers
Associate Director of Admissions
Director of 3+3 Programs

Katherine Szymaszek
Manager of Recruitment and International Enrollment

Justyce Ramsey
Admissions Coordinator

Advancement

Karen R. Kaczmarek '89
Vice Dean and Senior Director of Advancement

Emilie B. Rosenbluth
Director of Advancement

Jill M. Gowin
Assistant Director for Advancement Programs

Anne M. Gaulin
Administrative Assistant for Advancement

The Advocacy Institute

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
Co-Director of The Advocacy Institute

Jennifer R. Scharf '05
Co-Director of The Advocacy Institute
Director of Trial Advocacy

Lisa Bauer
Director of Trial Competitions

Lucinda M. Finley
Director of Appellate Advocacy

Steven R. Sugarman '85
Director of the Mediation Clinic

Alexandra Harrington
Director of the Innocence and Justice Project

Dawn M. Skopinski
Associate Director of The Advocacy Institute

Alumni Affairs

Stephanie A. Mack '08
Senior Associate Director of Alumni Affairs
Executive Director of the UB Law Alumni Association

Ilene R. Fleischmann
Vice Dean Emerita for Alumni Affairs
Executive Director Emerita for the UB Law Alumni Association

Amy Hypnarowski
Administrative Assistant for Alumni Relations

Madalyn Johnson
Staff Assistant for Alumni Affairs

Hannah Sigurdson
Staff Assistant for Alumni Affairs

The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy

Matthew Dimick
Director of The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy

Amanda Benzin
Associate Director of The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy

Career Services

Jennifer R. Scharf '05
Vice Dean for Career Services

Lisa Bauer
Assistant Dean for Career Services

Marc R. Davies '03
Senior Associate Director for Career Services and NYC Program in Business and Law

Ian Wojcik '24
Law Assistant

Clinical Legal Education

Bernadette Gargano
Vice Dean for Experiential Education and Social Justice Initiatives
Director of the Clinical Legal Education Program
Director of the Access to Justice Clinic

Jordyn Wysocki
Assistant Managing Director of Clinical Legal Education

Heather R. Abraham
Director of the Civil Rights and Housing Clinic

Kim Diana Connolly
Director of the Environmental Advocacy Clinic

Helen "Nellie" Drew '88
Director of the Sports Law Clinic

Alexandra Harrington
*Director of the Criminal Justice
Advocacy Clinic*

Judith G. Olin '85
*Director of the Family Violence
and Women's Rights Clinic*

Lisa M. Patterson
*Program Director of Externships
and Access to Justice Initiatives*

Matthew Pelkey '10
*Director of the Entrepreneurship
Law Center Clinic*

Steven R. Sugarman
Director of the Mediation Clinic

Alyssa Bergsten '19
Staff Attorney

Annabel Mannion
Staff Attorney

Julie Schuster
*Senior Program Coordinator
Paralegal*

Daniel A. Ortega
*Program Coordinator for
Experiential Legal Education*

Audrey Grout
*Program Coordinator
Legal Assistant*

Communications

Lisa M. Mueller '93
Vice Dean for Communications

Kristina L. Lively
*Associate Director for Digital
Communications*

Rachael L. Krupski
*Assistant Director for Marketing
and Communications*

Cynthia Watts Rogers
*News Manager and Editorial
Assistant*

Sandy Conti
Administrative Assistant

Diversity, Equity and Belonging

Kristen Kelly
*Director for the Office of
Diversity, Equity and Belonging
Director of the Discover Law
Undergraduate Scholars
Program*

Faculty Research and Support

Mark Bartholomew
*Vice Dean for Research
and Faculty Development*

Kim Diana Connolly
*Vice Dean for Innovation,
Interdisciplinarity and
Community Impact*

Christine Clayback
Faculty Assistant

Anita Gesel
Faculty Assistant

Krystin Wasser
Faculty Assistant

Law Information Technology Services

Brandon Tubinis
Operations Manager

John Christensen
Systems Administrator

Tedros Teklzghi
Help Desk Manager

International and Graduate Programs and Visiting Scholars

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

Katrin Rowan
*Assistant Dean for International
and Graduate Programs*

Law Library Services

Elizabeth G. Adelman
*SUNY Distinguished Librarian
Vice Dean for Legal Information
Services
Director of the Charles B. Sears
Law Library*

Brian Detweiler
*Associate Director of the
Charles B. Sears Law Library*

Miranda Ashby
*Administrative Assistant to the
Law Library Director*

John Beatty
*Faculty Scholarship Outreach
Librarian*

Rebecca Chapman
*Undergraduate Law and
Indigenous Outreach Librarian*

Sara Denbo
Student Services Librarian

Saadia Iqbal
*Reference and Instruction
Librarian*

Amanda McCormick
*Faculty and Clinical Services
Librarian*

John Mondo
*Interlibrary Loan and Delivery
Coordinator*

Christine Riggi
*Access and Patron Services
Librarian*

Rachel Scarborough
Daytime Circulation Supervisor

Latasha Towles
Legal Technologist

Tiffany Walsh
Instructional Services Coordinator

B. Austin Waters
International Law Librarian

Records and Registration

Emary Iacobucci
*Registrar
Associate Dean
for Records and Registration*

Susan Adams
*Senior Coordinator for Records
and Registration*

E Joo Chua '23 (LL.M.)
*Academic Records
and Scholarship Coordinator*

Student Affairs

Jamila A. Lee '15
Vice Dean for Student Affairs

Michael B. Hilburger '11
Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Ashley Abbott
*Assistant Dean for Financial
Counseling and Student Wellness
Director of Student Life*

Cheri Tubinis
Administrator for Student Services

Undergraduate Program

Melinda Saran '86
*Interim Vice Dean for
Undergraduate Studies
Vice Dean for Undergraduate
Student Affairs*

Julie Jones
*Undergraduate Law Program
Advisor and Coordinator*

Law Faculty

Heather R. Abraham
Associate Professor
Director of the Civil Rights and Housing Clinic
LL.M., Georgetown University
J.D., University of Minnesota
M.P.P., University of Minnesota
B.A., Kalamazoo College

Elizabeth G. Adelman
Teaching Faculty
SUNY Distinguished Librarian
Vice Dean for Legal Information Services
Director of the Charles B. Sears Law Library
J.D., Albany Law School
M.L.S., University at Buffalo
B.A., University at Buffalo

Mekonnen Ayano
Associate Professor
S.J.D., Harvard University
LL.M., Harvard University
LL.M., American University (Cairo)
LL.B., Addis Ababa University

Farina Barth
Professor of Skills
J.D., University of Buffalo
B.A., University of Toronto

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
Professor
William J. Magavern Faculty Scholar
Co-Director of The Advocacy Institute
Vice Dean for Student Achievement
J.D., University of California, Davis
B.A., San Francisco State University

Mark Bartholomew
Professor
Honorable Dawn B. Girard Faculty Scholar
Vice Dean for Research and Faculty Development
J.D., Yale University
B.A., Cornell University

Guyora Binder
SUNY Distinguished Professor
University at Buffalo Distinguished Professor
Bridget and Thomas Black Professor
J.D., Yale University
A.B., Princeton University

Joel Black
Undergraduate Lecturer in Law
Ph.D., University of Florida
M.A., Concordia University
B.A., University of Victoria

Michael Boucai
Professor
J.D., Georgetown University
M.Phil., University of Cambridge
B.A., Yale College

Irus Braverman
SUNY Distinguished Professor
Dr. Teresa A. Miller Professor of Law
S.J.D., University of Toronto
M.A., The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
LL.B., The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

George Brown, Jr. '17
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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)

ON THE COVER:

The modern seal for the University at Buffalo harks back to a design adopted in 1923 to reflect the evolution of the university from separate schools into a more close-knit organization. Though the seal has been revised several times over the decades, the foundational elements remain: a proud bison signifying the city of Buffalo atop a shield supported by the palm leaves of victory and emblazoned with the flames of wisdom.

