

# ALBANY LAW MAGAZINE



THE LONG  
HISTORY OF  
ALBANY LAW  
SCHOOL JUDGES  
CONTINUES  
TODAY

**ALSO**

Dean Ouellette's Vision  
for Albany Law's Future

President Andrews'  
Enduring Achievements

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PROFILES OF ALUMNI LEADERS IN HEALTH CARE

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## Study Lists Albany Law as a Top School for Partners in the 100 Largest Law Firms

In a new study looking at 33,000 partners in the nation's 100 largest law firms, Albany Law School was ranked 63 of some 200 schools. The study, considered the most comprehensive of its kind, also considered the school's proximity to major legal markets as well as the size of the school.

"Even for those individuals who do not wish to become big-law partners," stated the report, "this method of critiquing schools allows for a better prediction of graduates' ability to secure the job they hope for, regardless of the job."

"We've always known our students graduate with the ability, and the opportunities, to practice law at every level," said Dean Alicia Ouellette. "This study not only affirms this, but is a testament to the commitment of our many alumni at the world's leading law firms for hiring our graduates."

The article, written by University of Minnesota Law Professor Edward S. Adams and Samuel P. Engel, appears in the May 2015 issue of the *Buffalo Law Review*.

## Students Provide Legal Help to Immigrants, Detainees, in New Clinic

Albany Law School students now provide direct legal assistance to detained and non-detained immigrants as part of a new pro bono project and Immigration Law Clinic.

The new clinic, which will take on its first cases for the fall 2015 semester, received funding in the state budget. It will be directed by Professor Sarah Rogerson, who has extensive experience in immigration law and policy and launched the Immigration Project at the law school three years ago in conjunction with the New York Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. For academic credit, students will represent immigrant clients in removal hearings, visa applications and other applications for humanitarian immigration relief. The new clinic adds faculty-supervised live client opportunities to the existing field placements for students in the immigration field.

Prior to the launch of the new clinic, students volunteered their time through the Pro Bono Society to provide legal resources to detained immigrants through presentations in English and Spanish. After establishing their reputation with Albany County jail officials and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the student-led project expanded to offer regular, attorney-supervised intake and referral services for detainees.

"People have been coming to this country for a very long time, but our broken immigration system has lost the ability to keep families together and to address the plight of child refugees," said Rogerson, director of the Albany Law Clinic & Justice Center. "Our community partners have been working with us to address the need quickly and compassionately."



From left: Taylor Ciobanu '16, Princy Abraham '15, Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple, Eno-Obong Essien '16

Partners include Empire Justice Center, The Legal Project, Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple and Joanne Macri '94 of the New York Office of Indigent Legal Services. Legislative support of the Immigration Law Clinic included Assembly members Patricia A. Fahy, John McDonald, Phil Steck, Carl Heastie and Marcos Crespo, Chair of the New York State Assembly Task Force on New Americans and Senator Neil Breslin.

Recent Albany Law graduates Chris Scoville and Kristin Rogers, both class of 2014, were instrumental in developing the student-led pro bono initiative, and Princy Abraham '15 helped expand the project from legal presentations to intake and referral services.

## NEW MEDIATION CLINIC FOR SMALL CLAIMS CASES

The Law Clinic & Justice Center will launch a new Mediation Apprenticeship Clinic in the fall, where students will mediate small claims and other appropriate cases throughout the Capital Region.

As a prerequisite, the students will have completed an intensive 30-hour

training in mediation theory and skills.

"This new clinic will supplement our already robust clinical program by giving students yet another opportunity to work on real cases and develop at an early stage the practical skills that will carry them through their careers," said Professor Sarah Rogerson. "The students

will work on a variety of small claims actions, including landlord-tenant disputes and contract disputes."

The incoming class in the fall, the class of 2018, will be required to take a Clinical course, a new law student mandate for the state of New York.

**A new mandate for New York law students requires that all students, starting with the incoming class in the fall—the class of 2018—take a Clinical course.**

## Professor Hutter Wins Case for 9/11 Volunteer, Impacts Hundreds More

Jamie Hazan missed years of work for symptoms he said were the result of his volunteer action at the World Trade Center's Ground Zero shortly after the 9/11 events. A trained paramedic, he was prevented from collecting workers' compensation. His presence at Ground Zero wasn't in doubt due to camera images capturing him providing help. But he rushed to the scene as a volunteer on his own, rather than as a member of an authorized rescue agency.

Over the years he sought legal help but was unsuccessful. This past year Professor Michael Hutter took the case and, 13 years after the injury-causing incident, he successfully argued on Hazan's behalf.

The N.Y. Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, unanimously ruled in Professor Hutter's favor, with the potential to impact hundreds of other volunteers.

"This was the first time that an appeals

court has come forward with a decision on this issue," said Professor Hutter in the *New York Law Journal*, which ran the story on its front page. "I suspect that a lot of people may have decided to not pursue a claim because they could not show that they worked for a sponsoring agency. Clearly, there are a lot of people who are going to be impacted by this."

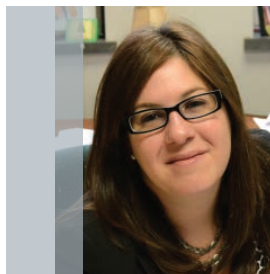
Professor Hutter took on the case pro bono through the New York State Bar Association's Pro Bono Appeals Program for the Third Department.

"Here was a paramedic who lived in Manhattan and felt it was his duty, his obligation given his training, to run to the scene and help however he was needed," Hutter said. "It seemed to me the state should recognize and value this type of action. Fortunately, at long last, they have. As a result, we saw hundreds more affected like Jamie—exposed to toxins that rendered them too ill to work—get their due workers' compensation."

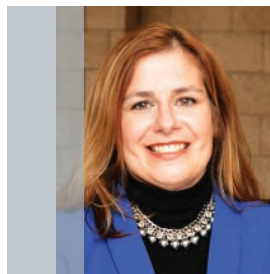


Prof. Hutter conducting TV interviews with his client after the ruling.

## Visiting Professors Enhance Offerings



Professor Sarah D'Alessandro is a Visiting Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Albany Law School's Tax and Transactions Clinic. She is a former staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York. Previously she served as Law Clerk to Hon. Michael A. Guadagno, the Presiding Judge—Family Part in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County. She also served as a Revenue Officer in the Internal Revenue Service's Small Business/Self-Employed division. She holds her J.D. from Fordham University.



Professor Elizabeth Nowicki, who graduated among the top in her class at Columbia Law, taught Sales and Payment Systems and Secured Transactions. She has been a tenured professor at Tulane University School of Law. She has clerked for Judge Jack B. Weinstein, Eastern District of New York, Judge James L. Oakes, Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and then joined the General Counsel's Office at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. She then entered private practice with Sullivan & Cromwell, where she stayed until joining the University of Richmond School of Law faculty.

## Prof. Lynch's Blog Wins ABA Blawg Award



The "Best Practices in Legal Education" blog, edited by Professor Mary Lynch, earned a spot in the ABA Journal's Blawg 100, an annual list of the best blogs about lawyers and the law.

The blog serves as a source of information on current reforms in legal education, as well as a place where those interested in the future of legal education can freely exchange ideas, concerns and opinions.

Prof. Lynch manages the blog as part of her work as director of the school's Center for Excellence in Law Teaching (CELT), which serves as a national resource for legal educators. Along with its web-based clearing house for law teaching reform issues and curriculum development, the Center's work serves to promote Albany Law School's historic approach to a practical and innovative legal education.



## 5th of 15 N.Y. Law Schools, Employment Stats Brighten for 2014 Class

The employment rate for 2014 graduates was considerably higher than previous years, with 161 of 204 students, or 79%, of the class of 2014 working in professional positions nine months after graduating.

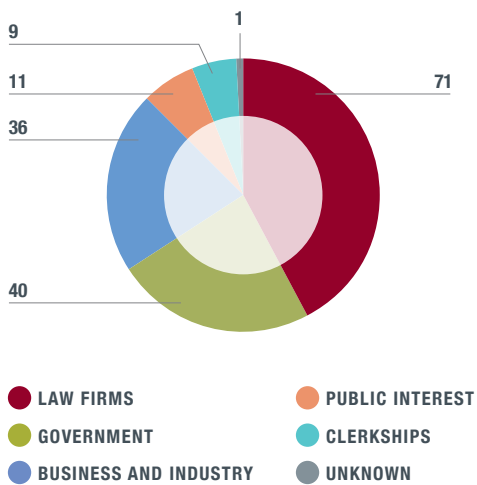
While most of the students' jobs require JD degrees—129 or 63%—some of the positions are considered “JD advantaged,” where 32 students, or 16 percent, will be working. Specific JD Advantaged jobs for the class include banking and finance, accounting positions, management consultants, insurance positions and legislative jobs.

A large majority of the positions are located throughout New York, with concentrations in the Capital Region, New York City, Syracuse and Rochester. There are numerous graduates who will work in law firms and other legal positions in Colorado, Vermont, Pennsylvania, California, Virginia, Florida, Connecticut and more.

Positions include judicial clerkships for state and federal judges, large and small law firms, the legislature, state agencies, numerous district attorney offices across the state, many public interest organizations, the governor's office, and the military.

“While our goal is always to secure employment for 100% of our graduates, and we will keep working hard to help our graduates still looking for positions,” said Dean Alicia Ouellette, “these numbers show signs of improvement for the legal profession, and we remain optimistic moving forward.”

EMPLOYMENT TYPE // CLASS OF 2014



From left, Dean Ouellette '94, Associate Dean Mayer, Associate Dean Queenan

## Bar Exam Changes? SBA's Budget? SUNY Affiliation? Frequent Town Meetings Helped Information Flow Accurately

Town Meetings were held frequently through the year to keep students and alumni apprised of developments they might want to hear more about. Typically Dean Alicia Ouellette, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Connie Mayer and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Rosemary Queenan fielded questions about SBA budgets, a growing affiliation with University at Albany, bar prep opportunities and more. Along with these meeting, the Administration also sent Monday morning emails to the student body reflecting on the previous week's activities and developments.



Board of Trustees' Chair Dan Nolan '78, with the National Alumni Association, led a Town Meeting—webcast live—for students, alumni and others about the University at Albany affiliation goals, as well as other issues.



## Revealing Law School as a Real Possibility for Area High School Students

Albany City Court Judge Helena Heath talked to local high school students at Youth Law Day in February. Some 80 high school students from the region spent the day learning about the legal profession. The goal: help high school students envision law school as a realistic opportunity. **A**

# STUDENTS

## The White House, Pfizer among Students' Full-Time, Semester-Long Internships

BY ELYSE OOSTERMAN

In the spring semester students immersed themselves in judicial, governmental and public interest positions for a semester-long placement experience. Students spent 35 hours a week under supervising attorneys participating in the legal work of their choice. Albany Law placed students around the Capital District, New York City, and the White House in Washington, D.C.

"Few things are as important in the education of a law student as the experience of working on the front lines of legal work," said Professor Ray Brescia, Director of the Government Law Center, who oversees the program. "Their studies come to life through these experiences and they develop, firsthand, and before they graduate, a range of skills that will help them in their careers, while learning if their placements offer them a path in the law that they may want to pursue after graduation. School is the time for students to learn their craft and explore their interests. This program lets them do both."

Here are some of the students in the program.



Alexis Osborne '16, from Watervliet, N.Y., interned at the National Economic Council at the White House, where she worked on a number of policy initiatives, and helped with a press conference where President Obama spoke. "Interning at the White House is an indescribable feeling," Osborne said. "While I sit in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building which is part of the White House complex, every day I walk past the West Wing and realize just how amazing this opportunity is."



Patricia Monroe '15, from Suffern, N.Y., interned with two legal service providers: Her Justice, in Manhattan, and JASA Legal Services for the Elderly, in Queens. Interested in family and elder law, she assisted low income women in matrimonial and family law issues, helped on the intake hotline, researched probate issues, attended a housing court clinic, put together motion papers, and served subpoenas.



Jordan Choy '15, from Pleasantville, N.Y., interned at the New York Police Department Legal Bureau in the Civil Enforcement Unit for the fourth time. She started interning with the Civil Enforcement Unit in June of 2013. She worked with the Vehicle Seizure Unit, which seizes vehicles that are used in the commission of a crime and are then subjected to a civil forfeiture action.



Michelle Frankel '15, from Hewlett, N.Y., interned on Pfizer's Worldwide Public Affairs Policy team. She worked on policy and regulatory projects. "This opportunity is enabling me to round out my prior healthcare-related experiences by learning about the pharmaceutical industry first-hand."



Andrew Howard '15, from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., interned for Senator Kevin Parker (21st District, Brooklyn), where he worked on drafting, amending and passing bills.

## Pro Bono Program Continues to Thrive

This year the Pro Bono Program offered 17 projects for students to choose from. While every student is required to perform 50 hours of pro bono work prior to admission to the New York State bar, at least 15 students logged 75-plus. Many of them were recognized at an April celebration featuring Judge Leslie Stein '81 as keynote speaker.



Rosemary Queenan, associate dean for student affairs, congratulated the students, staff and school partners for their work.



Hon. Leslie E. Stein '81, Associate Judge, New York Court of Appeals, spoke at the annual Pro Bono Recognition Ceremony.



Kevin Murphy '16, President, Pro Bono Society



## Senior Citizens' Law Day Attracted Several Hundred Again

Hundreds of seniors, their family members and caretakers, received legal and financial assistance through 25 workshops and one-on-one 30-minute consultations.



Louis Piero '83, left, from the Piero Law Group, LLC, a sponsor of the event, interviewed the Nancy M. Sills '76 Memorial Lecture Speaker Assembly Member John McDonald.

## Special Needs Planning Day Provides Needed Service

A program for individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities provided them and their families opportunity to receive information about their most pressing legal, financial and care giving concerns. Participants also heard from keynote speaker Roger Bearden, General Counsel, New York State Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, in a talk titled "Planning for the Entire Family—A Holistic Approach to Special Needs Planning."

## A SIXTH VETERANS' LAW DAY IN SPRING SEMESTER AFFIRMS NEW TRADITION

Once again students held a successful Veterans' Law Day with support from volunteer attorneys and various advocacy groups. Dozens of area veterans received free legal consultations on legal issues around estate planning, VA benefits and employment questions.

Sarah Barry '15, with a student team, coordinated the day. Lt. Col. Roy Diehl '92 delivered the keynote address.







Gregory Meyers '15 talks to a patron



Patrick Barnett-Mulligan '82, Pro Bono Coordinator



Dean Alicia Ouellette



Kimberly Verner, Volunteer attorney



Paul Sautter-Walker '15, student coordinator



From left, Elaine Garrett, Assistant Director of Admissions, Nadia Castriota, Assistant Dean of Admissions and Diamond Overby '13.



From left, Rachel Cox '16, Lorraine Silverman '05, Joseph Williams '15, Kayla Molinaro '14, and Gracjia Nowak '12.

## Albany Law Holds School's—and Possibly Nation's—First LGBT Law Day

BY MEGAN LOUNSBURY

Albany Law School attracted some 300 people for its first LGBT Law Day on March 21, which provided programs to educate and assist the public on civil rights, adoption, child custody, name changes, and many other legal concerns.

Structured similarly to the other Law Days held by the school, participants

attended workshops, received one-on-one free legal consultations, and heard from two keynote speakers: Cathryn Oakley of the Human Rights Campaign, and the Honorable Elizabeth Garry '90.

“The day was a perfect example of how dedicated, empowered lawyers and law students can make a real change in

the world,” said Dean Alicia Ouellette.

The project was led by Paul Sautter-Walker '15, Adam Grogan '16, and Pro Bono Coordinator Patrick Barnett-Mulligan.

Sautter-Walker and Grogan will accept the National LGBT Bar Association's Student Leadership Award in Chicago at its annual conference in August.

Justice Garry told the audience that she had always questioned if she received her position due to merit. Today, six years after her 2009 appointment to the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, Garry said she could finally say, “I have earned my place at that table.”

# THE LAW SCHOOL IN NEW YORK'S CAPITAL

Students in the Family Violence Litigation Clinic & Immigration Project, directed by Professor Sarah Rogerson, spent an afternoon walking the Capitol meeting with Assemblyman Marcos Crespo, Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy, and Senator Neil Breslin. Rogerson, Director of the Law Clinic & Justice Center, involves students in exploring system-wide change as a way for achieving social justice through her systemic advocacy class. This approach involves multiple prongs, including legislation, government policy, and offering technical assistance to the agencies providing services to the population at issue.



Assemblyman Crespo, whose district includes parts of the Bronx, met with the class to discuss immigrant issues.



## PRO BONO SCHOLAR PROGRAMS LETS STUDENTS TAKE BAR IN FEBRUARY, PERFORM PRO BONO FULL TIME FOR FINAL SEMESTER

Four students took advantage of a new statewide Pro Bono Scholars Program that allows them in their final year to take the bar exam before graduation, then devote their last semester of study to providing pro bono legal services through an approved externship program. All four students passed the February bar and spent their semester working for the following organizations: Kyra Thornton '15, Empire Justice Center; Barry Fitzgerald, Legal Aid Society of NE NY (Albany Office); Heather Davis, Albany Law Clinic and Justice Center; and Nathan Writer, Schenectady Public Defender.

From left, all from the Class of '15: Nathan Writer, Heather Davis, Kyra Thornton and Barry Fitzgerald.





Professor Rogerson finds a teachable moment as she walks her class through the Capitol's halls.

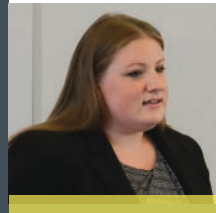


Senator Breslin, whose district includes Albany, poses with students on the speaker's podium.

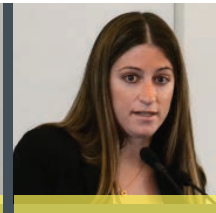


### STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH STATEWIDE AT NYSBA CLE EVENT

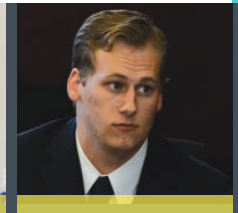
Second-year law student Rebecca Cerny presented to a room full of health care law attorneys, as part of a NYSBA CLE program, findings from research this summer to develop a standard definition for telehealth and telemedicine. Following Cerny, Courtney Alpert '15 talked about her work examining telemedicine and medical malpractice. And Brent Frary '16 closed the student portion of the day with a discussion on privacy issues and telemedicine. The event was broadcast on-line across the state for virtual CLE participants. The three students served as summer interns for the Health Law Section of the NYSBA as part of the Bar Association's partnership with Albany Law School on E-Health. Dean Ouellette, whose research focuses on health care law, introduced the event.



Rebecca Cerny '16



Courtney Alpert '15



Brent Frary '16



Donielle Maier '15 and Matthew St. Martin '15 won the ABA's regional Client Counseling Competition at Brooklyn Law, and finished in the top 10 in the nationals in Durham, N.C.

## Moot Court Program Draws Dozens of Students, Includes Yet Another Top-10 Finish in National Client Counseling

Spanning national and intra-school competitions, students in the Anthony V. Cardona '70 Moot Court Program had another banner year, including a top-10 finish in a national American Bar Association contest.

Third-year students Donielle Maier and Matthew St. Martin won the ABA's regional Client Counseling Competition at Brooklyn Law School in February, then finishing in the top 10 in the national competition in Durham, N.C.

Maier and St. Martin's success marks the third time in the past four years that an Albany Law student team reached the national Client Counseling finals.

Also in February, the Moot Court Program hosted 17 teams from 14 law schools around the country to compete in the 27th Annual Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition. Final round judges for the competition included Hon. Elizabeth A. Garry, New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Dept.;

Hon. David N. Hurd, United States District Court, Northern District of New York; and Hon. Howard A. Levine, former New York State Court of Appeals.

Other Moot Court travel teams represented Albany Law well throughout the school year. Brian Henchy '15 and Brienna Christiano '15 competed in Brooklyn Law School's evidence competition, and Max Lindsey '15 and Alex Cooper '15 traveled to Central Islip to compete in the 2nd Annual Touro Law Center National Moot Court Competition in Law and Religion.

The Moot Court Program provides more than half of the law school's students with intensive practical training in oral and written appellate advocacy, trial advocacy, and client counseling and negotiation skills. Intra-school competitions include Morse Client Counseling, Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy, McGovern Senior Prize and Morse Negotiations.

## BLSA BRINGS NATIONAL CONVERSATION TO CAMPUS

The Black Law Students Association held several events through the year in response to the racial events occurring at the national level. The group organized campus activities to generate conversation around the role of law with race, culture and civil rights. Led by president Lakeshia McLoud '15, with the support of faculty, BLSA plans to continue the dialogue next year as the national conversation on race is expected to sustain its new prominence.



## Albany Law Students Reach Final Round in \$100,000 Business Plan Competition

Albany Law School students competed on three of the teams that presented their startup ideas at the final round of the sixth annual New York Business Plan Competition in April, in Albany. The three teams, which also included representatives from other Capital Region institutions, competed against the top teams from 10 semifinal competitions held around the state.

Vincent DiCocco '15 and Laura Gulfo '15, with a partner from the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE), comprise the LuxOrioN team, which makes a novel LED phosphor technology that offers a 40 percent reduction in cost when compared to incumbent LED lighting device manufacturing processes.

Shawn Lescault '15 is working with partners from CNSE and the University at Albany School of Business on Aureonic, a venture to develop high-temperature nano-sensors to detect greenhouse gas emissions in turbine engines, coal-fired power plants and other combustion environments.

BrewMinder, a team comprised of Alexandra Scoville '15 and Kevin

Murphy '15 and students from CNSE and the University at Albany School of Business, is also developing a nano-sensor, and analytic software, that will allow breweries to monitor their product without taking physical samples.

The Albany Law students are participants in an entrepreneurship class offered at the CNSE, which they can do as part of the partnership between Albany Law and SUNY Polytechnic Institute's CNSE.

More than 1,130 student teams from almost 75 of New York's colleges and universities have pitched their ideas and ventures at the competition over the years. The winners are selected each year by esteemed judges, including venture capitalists, angel investors, investment bankers, other public and private investors, and seasoned entrepreneurs. At the end of the 2014 competition, more than \$1,300,000 in cash and in-kind prizes were awarded to student entrepreneurs in New York.

SUNY Polytechnic Institute's Colleges of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, University at Albany's School of Business and Syracuse University hosted the New York Business Plan Competition.



From left, Laura Gulfo '16, Gourav Bhowmik, College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE), Kevin Murphy '16, Alexandra Scoville '16, Ian Bynum, CNSE, Adam Weber, UAlbany School of Business, Jake Terracina, CNSE

## Class of '17 Kicks off Fund Raising Campaign at Fort Orange Club



Board of Trustee Chair Dan Nolan '78 speaking on the importance of giving back.

Students launched their three-year legacy campaign to raise money for their class gift, which they will announce at their Commencement in 2017. Class gifts from recent years largely include scholarships for future students. Last year's gift went to a new sound system, tables and umbrellas for the courtyard.



Class president Kesi St. Louis '17 talks to her classmates.




Glenna Morgan '17, Legacy Fund Trustee, closes the event.



From left, Mishka Woodley '16, Anne Marie Judge, Institutional Advancement, Justice Thomas, President Andrews and Alexis Osborne '16.

## Justice Thomas Meets with Albany Law Team

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas hosted a brief meeting with a team from Albany Law School, led by President Penelope (Penny) Andrews. Thomas told the group he was familiar with Albany Law School through Justice Robert Jackson's work. 

# CAMPUSEVENTS



President Andrews, right, led the consortium portion of the event. Next to her, from right, are student veterans James Faucher '16, Ian Hunter '16, Aristreas Tzovaras '16, and Dean Ouellette.



The relatives of Kearney came from as far as Florida to celebrate the Congressman.



Alphonso David, New York State Deputy Secretary

## Law School Veterans Consortium and G.I. Bill Conference Celebrate Kearney's Legacy

The morning of the G.I. Bill conference, President Andrews hosted the consortium of New York law schools to discuss how the schools can collectively better assist veterans with their law school experiences. Participants shared information about effective programs and talked about increasing services.

Following the session, Alphonso David, New York State Deputy Secretary and Counsel for Civil Rights, delivered a keynote address to kick off the afternoon event: The Bernard W. Kearney, Class of 1914, G.I. Bill Conference.

A framed portrait of Kearney was presented to the School by the family, who came to the event from as far as Florida.

The first panel of the day addressed efforts to serve veterans' legal needs through law schools, legal services programs and the private bar. That followed with the "G.I. Bill Education Benefits: How Law Schools Can Better Serve Law Students Who are Veterans."

## Long Battle to Pass G.I. Bill in 1944 Ends with Kearney's Critical Help

BY EIRINN NORRIE

After seven months of battling to pass the first G.I. bill, the Senate and House conference committee members seemed deadlocked yet again on a Friday night, June 8, 1944. House Committee member Congressman Bernard Kearney, class of 1914, was not about to let his bill stall anymore.

"We can't hold this thing together much longer," he told his House colleagues, demanding they somehow get the seventh member of their House group, Frank Gibson, up from Georgia, by 9 a.m. the next morning to break the tie when the group reconvened.

Along with several contentious issues in the bill, one provided \$20 a week for 52 weeks in unemployment benefits for any World War II veteran. This provision, opponents said, would encourage the lazy veterans

to avoid employment. "The assumption... was that too many WW2 veterans would sit back on their rumps for a solid year to draw the \$20 a week before stirring themselves," stated one American Legion magazine article, a group that supported the bill.

Kearney made an effort to contact Gibson by phone but couldn't find him. He mobilized a team to contact the state police and the state's newspapers that supported the bill—organizations with working phone lines—to help locate Gibson. Georgia radio stations announced the need to find Gibson. After locating Gibson, who agreed to rush back to Washington, D.C., Kearney had to find him a flight. The nearby military base couldn't help, but they found an Eastern Airlines flight late that night, which they



Oct. 6, 1936: Kearney, as commander-in-chief of the veterans of foreign wars, assured President Roosevelt that world war veterans "are chiefly concerned with steady jobs rather than a general pension system."

held up until Gibson boarded. That morning the conference committee endorsed the bill. On June 22, 1944, President Roosevelt signed the bill.

Kearney was a Gloversville, N.Y., native who served eight terms in Congress from 1943 to 1959. He eventually rose to become the ranking Republican member of the renowned House Un-American Activities Committee. A native of Ithaca, N.Y., he

practiced law in the counties of Hamilton and Fulton, served as city judge for Gloversville for two terms, held the position of assistant district attorney in Fulton for five years and went on to serve as district attorney from 1931 to 1942. He fought in World War I, was promoted to Brigadier General and was later elected in 1936 as the National Commander in Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

## U.S. Wealth Gap Larger than Apartheid South Africa, Higginbotham Says

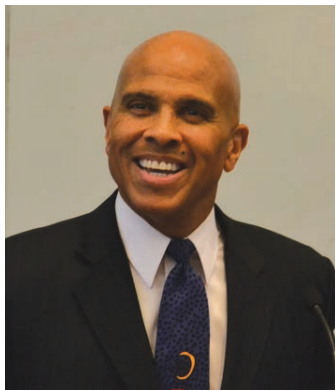
The wealth gap between white and black families in the United States today—18 to 1—is larger than the gap during apartheid South Africa, Professor F. Michael Higginbotham told a group during his James Campbell Matthews Lecture on Feb. 10.

“No one disputes the stats of these gaps,” he said, rattling off other numbers for the gap between employment, education, incarceration and life span. “But the causes are disputed.”

Higginbotham offers solutions in his recent book *Ghosts of Jim Crow: Ending Racism in Post-Racial America*, not the least, “recognizing we still have a problem.” In that regard, he praised the audience for attending, for “stepping into the arena. . . It’s not easy to talk about race in this country. It’s a divisive arena and you deserve credit.”

Judge Randolph Treece spoke about the background of James Campbell Matthews, Class of 1870, describing his struggles and triumphs as “the first alumnus who can be identified with certainty as African-American. He is also New York State’s first black judge.

“We gain strength from these stories,” Higginbotham said, quoting the lyrics of 1930s blues matriarch Bessie Smith, which he said describes Matthews’ approach to the world: “Picked up my bag, baby, and I tried again.”



Professor F. Michael Higginbotham



Judge Randolph Treece '76



President Andrews



Lakeshia McCloud '15, BLSA President

## Chief Judge Lippman Introduces Judge Eng at Hugh Jones Lecture

Hon. Jonathan Lippman, chief judge of New York, introduced keynote speaker Randall T. Eng, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department, for the annual Hugh Jones lecture series presented by the Fund for Modern Courts in October.



## BREGER DELIVERS INAUGURAL KATZ LECTURE ON HEALING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN

Albany Law School Professor Melissa Breger delivered the inaugural Katheryn D. Katz '70 Lecture in April titled “Healing Trafficked Children: A Domestic Family Law Approach to an International Epidemic.”

The new Lecture Series was established last year to focus on the family law topics that Professor Katz made central to her teaching, including domestic violence, gender and the law, children and the law, reproductive rights and inequality.

Professor Breger has been teaching at the law school level for 16 years, first at The University of Michigan Law School and then at Albany Law School since 2002. Prior to teaching, Professor Breger dedicated her career to children, women and families, with her formative years practicing in New York City in a number of capacities. She is the co-author of the two-volume treatise *New York Law of Domestic Violence* and numerous law review articles.



ALBANY LAW REVIEW



Michael Lieberman '15 with U.S. Attorney Hartunian and President Andrews

**Albany Law Review's Loaded Debate: The Right to Keep and Bear Arms in the 21st Century**

Legal experts talked about state and local responses to Heller and McDonald, mass shooting and its impact on policy, Second Amendment implications for Native American tribes, and the NY SAFE Act.

Richard S. Hartunian '86, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York, moderated the first panel, and is shown above with Michael Lieberman '15, the Journal's executive editor for symposium. The second panel, moderated by President Andrews, addressed the N.Y. SAFE Act.

**Chief Justices from Opposite Coasts Convene for Law Review Symposium**

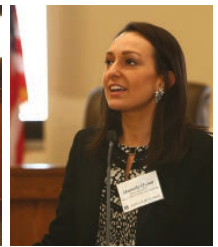
Albany Law Review's spring event featured five chief justices from around the country, including New York's Chief Jonathan Lippman, who moderated the event. The high-court judges spoke about the varying structure and processes of their respective states, the make-up of their courts, and the perils of judges who face elections. The March event served as the Ninth Annual Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke State Constitutional Commentary Symposium and was part of the Justice Jackson Lecture Series.



Members from New York's Court of Appeals attended: From left, Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam, Hon. Leslie Stein, Hon. Eugene Pigott, and Hon. Jenny Rivera (not shown).



From left: Dean Ouellette; Vermont Chief Justice Paul Reiber, Oregon Chief Justice Thomas Balmer, New York State Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman, Iowa Chief Justice Mark Cady, and Maryland Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera.



Danielle Quinn '15, executive editor for the symposium.

ALBANY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



David Verbraska '96, Vice President, Pfizer



Susan Helper, Chief U.S. Commerce economist



Victoria Graf '15, Journal symposium editor



Dr. Jacob Reider, formerly with U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services

**Chief Economist for U.S. Commerce Dept. Calls Approach "Opposite of Trickle-Down Theory"; Journal Celebrates 25th Anniversary**

The Obama Administration approach to building the economy is essentially the opposite of the trickle down effect, Susan Helper, Chief Economist for the U.S. Department of Commerce, told an audience in the Dean Alexander Moot Courtroom. "Everyone does better when the middle class does better."

Helper talked about creating ladders for people to join the middle class, and said that the economy is best when the top, middle and bottom grow together.

The day-long event featured numerous high-profile panelists including afternoon keynote speaker Andrew Kennedy, Deputy Director of State Operations for N.Y. State; David Verbraska '96, Vice President of Worldwide Public Affairs and Policy at Pfizer; Dr. Jacob Reider, former Deputy National Coordinator, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, physician-in-residence at Khosla Ventures; Dr. Pradeep Haldar, Interim Dean of the College of Nanoscale Engineering and Technology; and more than a dozen others.



## FOIL at 40

Looking at its evolution over the past 40 years and what may lie ahead in an age of ubiquitous data, a panel representing media, activists, and government discussed the Freedom of Information Law with both optimism for its intentions and trepidation for its frustrations.

The event was sponsored by the Government Law Center, the New York State Committee on Open Government, and the Albany County Bar Association's Attorneys in Public Service Committee.



Moderated by radio host Susan Arbetter (at podium) of the Capitol Pressroom, the panel included, pictured above from left, Jeffrey Pearlman '00, Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Governor; Tim Hoefler, Empire Center; Peter Henner, Committee Member, NYCLU; Brendan Lyons, Albany Times Union; Camille Jobin-Davis, N.Y. State Committee on Open Government, Department of State.

## Discussing Detroit

Could pension rights in New York municipalities face impairment? What might happen to bond covenants if a New York town is forced to follow Detroit's fiscal path?

Former New York Lieutenant Governor Richard Ravitch, who served as special advisor to the U.S. Bankruptcy Judge in Detroit, delivered the keynote speech on his experience with the Detroit process and what lessons New York can learn from the occurrence. A range of panelists gave their analysis and suggested implications from their respective vantage points on November 19.

The event was presented jointly by the Government Law Center, the Albany Law School/University at Albany Institute for Financial Market Regulation, and the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government.



Kathy Sheehan '94, Albany mayor (left), and Professor Christine Chung, Albany Law professor and Co-director of the Institute for Financial Market Regulation.



From left, Richard E. Mulvaney, General Counsel to the New York State Troopers' Police Benevolent Association, Donald J. Boyd, Ph.D., Senior Fellow at the Rockefeller Institute of Government, Peter J. Kiernan, Of Counsel at Schiff Hardin LLP and Chair of the NYS Law Revision Commission.



Prof. Sundquist moderated the panel



Judge Sterling Johnson



Brendan Cox

## U.S. Judge Johnson Delivers Riveting Speech on Race Relations

Judge Sterling Johnson, Eastern District of New York, talked about his life as a prosecutor, police officer, judge and African American man. He delivered alarming statistics, along with revealing personal anecdotes—he was pulled over in South Carolina on an empty highway at sunrise on his way to the airport, where he was ordered to open his trunk to prove he had luggage—during his 40-minute talk. Johnson was the 2015 Edwin L. Crawford Memorial Lecturer on Municipal Law. His talk, titled "Police-Community Relations: Moving Forward," was presented by the Government Law Center.

A panel followed the lecture that included Dr. Alice Green, Center for Law & Justice; Rev. Edward Smart, Albany Citizens' Police Review Board; Mark Mishler, Civil Rights Attorney; and Brendan Cox, Albany's interim police chief. Professor Christian Sundquist moderated the panel.

## Startup Law Day

A series of workshops for early-stage companies and entrepreneurs addressed areas like creating the company, intellectual property transactions, leveraging IP assets, and more. Modeled after other Albany Law "Law Days," participants also received one-on-one counsel from volunteer attorneys.



Above, Professor Christine Chung leads a session on early-stage capital funding. With her are Richard Honen '85 and John Cococcia '94. The Government Law Center organized the day-long event.

GOVERNMENT LAW CENTER

**Anderson Legislative Breakfast Series Packs House for All Four Sessions**

When crises hit—health crises, natural disaster, civil unrest—is the region prepared? This was the topic of the second of four monthly breakfast panels held at the Assembly Parlor in the New York State Capitol.

Other topics covered: Emerging Issues in State-Based Immigration Reform; Unchaining Local Government: Opportunities in New York State; and Wrongful Convictions: Causes and Cures.

The Warren M. Anderson Breakfast Seminar honors a distinguished alumnus and a former member of the Government Law Center Advisory Board who served in the N.Y. Senate as President Pro Tem and Majority Leader from 1973 to 1988.



Panelists, from left: Terry Hastings, Senior Policy Advisor for the N.Y. State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services; Scott Heller, Director of Emergency Management at Albany Medical Center; Bruce Gyory, Government and Regulatory Policy Division of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips; and David Soares '99, Albany County District Attorney.



Above, Prof. Ray Brescia, Director of the Government Law Center, introduces the panel.

**Prison Nations: Protecting Human Rights in the Age of Mass Incarceration**

A day-long symposium in October featuring several panels examined the conflict between a commitment to human rights and the volume of incarceration occurring today. Panels also addressed incarcerated women and children, and the practice of solitary confinement.



Karen L. Murtagh '85, Executive Director, Prisoners' Legal Services of New York



Soffiyah Elijah, Executive Director, Correctional Association of New York

GOVERNMENT LAW REVIEW

**GLR's Symposium on Animals and the Law Ignites Emotional Debate**

Keynote speaker Wayne Pacelle, president of the Humane Society of the United States, presented worldwide examples how industries, from circus companies to farming, were beginning to change their practices in positive ways. A panel later in the day tackled the controversial videos, often taken undercover, depicting mishandled animals at meat-producing facilities, prompting heated debate from panelists and the audience.

The Government Law Review's symposium, "Four Legged Clients: The Place of Animals in Our Lives and the Law," featured legislators discussing current and proposed New York laws. Separately, Kay Johnson, CEO of industry advocate Animal Agriculture Alliance, debated Mariann Sullivan, an adjunct law professor in New York and an activist for the protection of animals.



Jeffrey Pritchard '15 introduces the keynote speaker.



Wayne Pacelle, president of the Humane Society of the United States, delivered the 2015 Edward C. Sobota '79 Memorial Lecture.



From left, Navi Pillay, President Andrews, Professor Melissa Breger



Thea Hoeth '76 presented Karowe her award.



Professor Lynch, Judge Rosado '97



Marjorie Karowe '74

## Stoneman Recognition for Women Pioneers

Navanethem (Navi) Pillay, former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, delivered the Kate Stoneman Day keynote address in October. She also received the Miriam M. Netter '72 Award.

Other Stoneman honorees included the Hon. Sondra Miller, a Family Court Judge who became the first Democrat in a century to win a contested election to the State Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District; Marjorie Karowe '74, who traveled to law school in a psychedelically painted VW bus which also shuttled her six children, before her career ascent to general counsel of CSEA; and Ruth Miner '20 (posthumously), who became the first attorney for the newly established Legal Aid Society of Albany.

Stoneman Special Recognition was given to Professor Mary Lynch, Director of the Center for Excellence in Law Teaching, and Director of Domestic Violence Prosecution Hybrid Clinic. Her award was presented by former student the Hon. Llinet Beltre Rosado '97, Bronx Family Court.

### SO YOU WANT TO BE A JUDGE: A HOW-TO PROGRAM FOR THE AMBITIOUS

Ethical requirements, election law, securing nominations, understanding the evaluation process, working toward an appointment, and getting on the ballot included some of the topics covered in a full day of instructive guidance for aspiring judges titled Everything You Need to Know About Becoming a Judge.

The event, held in September, was chaired by Hon. Karen K. Peters, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Third Department, and Hon. Rose H. Sconiers, Appellate Division, Fourth Department and Chair, Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission.

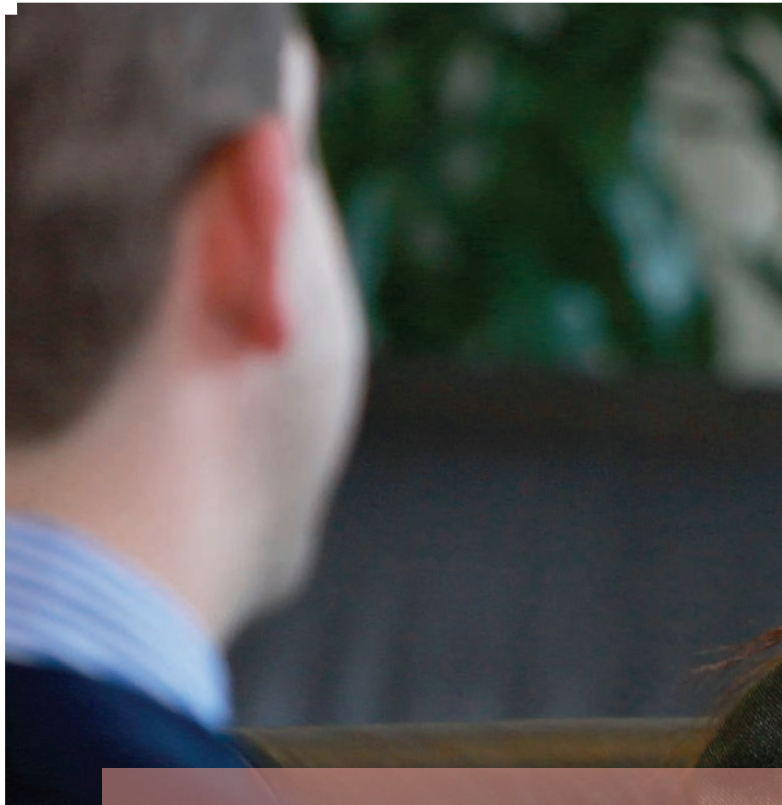
Along with welcoming remarks by Penelope (Penny) Andrews, President, Albany Law School, speakers included dozens of prominent officials and members of the judiciary. **A**

President Andrews with Presiding Justice Karen Peters, Third Department



# AT END OF TENURE, PRESIDENT ANDREWS

LEAVES A LEGACY OF ACHIEVEMENT  
AND A CLEAR PATH FOR THE SCHOOL



**WHEN PENELOPE (PENNY) ANDREWS TOOK OVER AS PRESIDENT AND DEAN** three years ago, she invited the entire class of 2015 to her downtown Albany apartment for wine and cheese, and then a tour of the city for those new to the area.

Through her tenure it was routine to see a morning email go to all students, stating: “My lunch appointment has been canceled. If you have time, please join me for lunch in the cafeteria today at noon.”

Dean Andrews, Albany Law’s 17th president and dean, and first woman at the post, will step down this year, leaving several legacies in place, but none more powerful than bringing a student-centered culture to new heights at Albany Law.

“Our mission is to make their three years the richest experience possible,” she said from day one. “They come here for many different reasons, and we need to make sure we meet all their different expectations.”

Andrews quickly deployed a system for all faculty and staff members to play an expanded role in helping a student develop as a professional and ultimately find them employment.

“We all have different connections, we all know different people, all of us can help all of our students make career connections, it’s our responsibility,” she said.

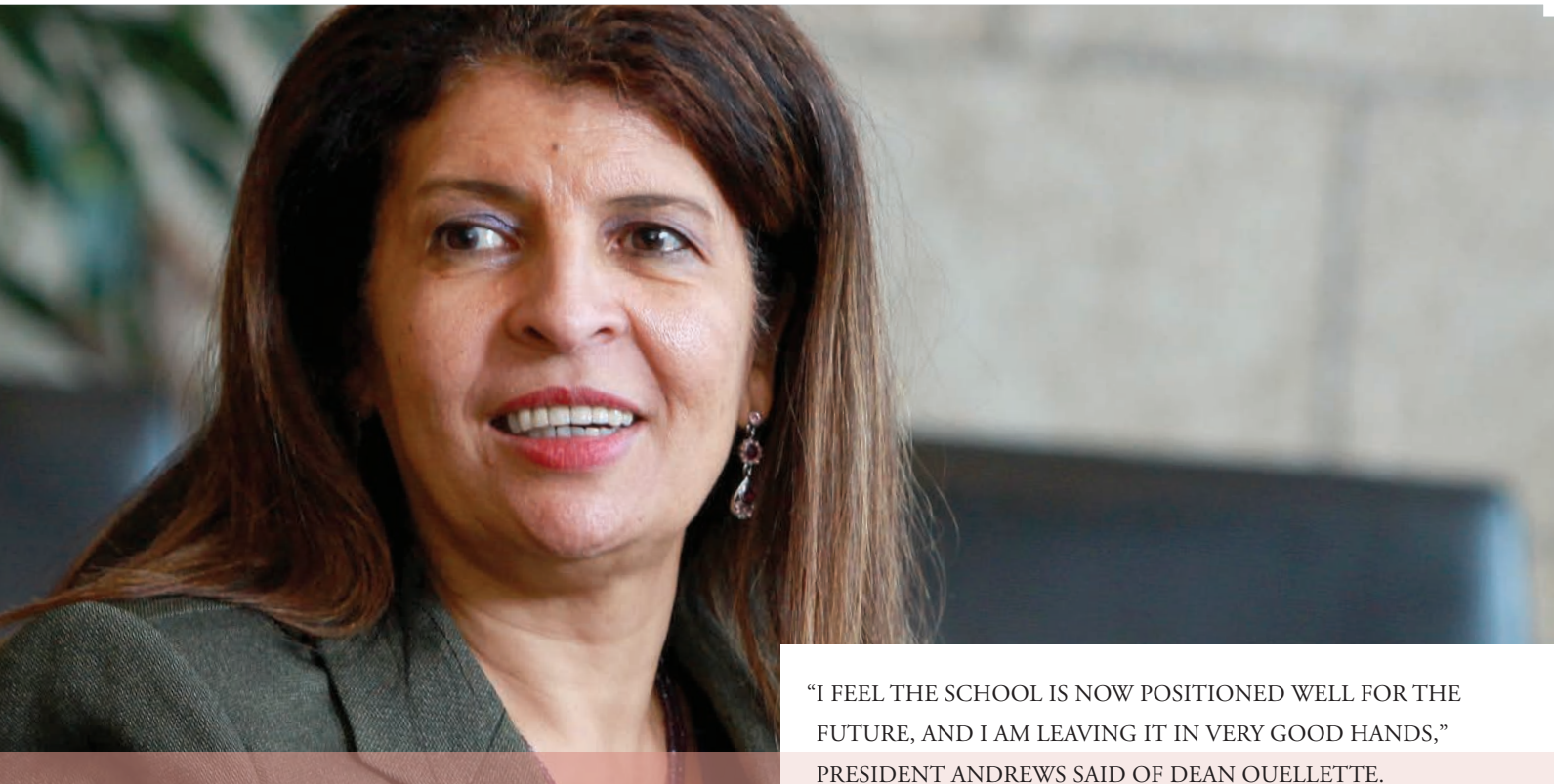
In this spirit, she hosted a Dean’s Book Series, whereby prominent authors in law and society read their work to the Albany Law School community. Authors who visited

included Bernard Schlink, Randall Kennedy, Ruthann Robson, Michael Higginbotham, Tanya Hernandez, Clare Huntington and Larry Gibson.

Andrews’ first deanship started and ended during one of the most tumultuous times for legal education and the legal profession. The number of law students nationwide and the number of legal jobs decreased significantly during her years in Albany. To address the employment challenge, the school has organized itself around specific career-focused pathways that draw on Albany Law’s historical strengths while recognizing the current and emerging opportunities in the legal job market.

“A large-scale vision for a strategic plan rarely comes easily when you are looking for genuine change and strive to engage all the stakeholders in a real way,” Andrews said. In this case, trustees, alumni leadership, faculty, students and staff all had their own ideas for Albany Law School’s future. Working with her successor, Alicia Ouellette, the academic dean at the time, they drove a process to develop consensus. The result is a detailed blueprint to bring the Law School into its next stage of operation, centered on career pathways. By engaging all the stakeholders, they produced a Strategic Plan that lays out the steps to achieve the larger vision.

There are several notable projects in the works that Andrews inspired which, she says, she is “leaving in good hands.” Three projects are worth noting:



“I FEEL THE SCHOOL IS NOW POSITIONED WELL FOR THE FUTURE, AND I AM LEAVING IT IN VERY GOOD HANDS,” PRESIDENT ANDREWS SAID OF DEAN OUELLETTE. “GIVEN THE QUALITY OF FACULTY, THE COMMITMENT OF ALUMNI, THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE BOARD, THE CAPABLE STAFF, I KNOW THE SCHOOL WILL CONTINUE TO THRIVE. I HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ALBANY LAW SCHOOL FAMILY.”



- Perhaps the largest effort in place, one that will reshape the future of the school, is Andrews' role in pursuing and deepening the school's affiliation with the University at Albany. The two schools will begin several joint initiatives next academic year, with the intent to further explore all levels of collaboration.
- Andrews spearheaded an effort to provide broader services to Albany Law students who served in the military. The project established the school as a “military-friendly” institution which may result in an increase in veteran applicants.
- Andrews initiated a Rural Legal Project in the last year of her presidency. The plan will place paid graduate fellows in rural areas in upstate New York and in need of legal support and economic development. This project has been particularly pleasing for her as the current U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas Vilsack, is a graduate of Albany Law.


When Andrews arrived in the Capital Region three years ago, she directed some of her energy toward strengthening relations with area business leaders, members of the Bar and Bench, community groups and her higher education counterparts.

“Penny Andrews was chosen for the position three years ago with overwhelming support,” said Daniel Nolan, chair of the Board of Trustees. “She accomplished precisely what she set out to do. We were privileged to have such a dynamic, motivated leader to move us through a tough time and into our next era. We wish her the best in her next endeavor and thank her for setting us on the path we now travel.”

Andrews likes to point out that while the school is grounded in the Capital Region as a strong regional school, it was important for the students to appreciate the global context of law. Along with integrating global events and opportunities for the students and faculty, she raised money for student fellowships for internships with judges in South Africa, India and Australia, along with internships in public interest law organizations in South Africa, Ireland, India, Ghana, and Uganda. She arranged for teaching positions for faculty in Paris, France and Cape Town, South Africa.

Despite her long list of achievements, she always brings the focus back to the students. “Our most important challenge, our most important work, is to ensure that students who walk in the door have a transformative experience here, an experience that provides them with the tools for a prosperous future and rich enough to create a lifelong connection to the school.”

Looking forward, she is eager to return to her research and scholarship, as well as her human rights advocacy. She has always been active in her native South Africa—where she has recently built a house at the ocean.

“I feel the school is positioned well for the future, and I am leaving it in very good hands,” President Andrews said of Dean Ouellette. “Given the quality of faculty, the commitment of alumni, the stewardship of the Board, the capable staff, I know the school will continue to thrive. I have been very fortunate to be a member of the Albany Law School family.” 

GUIDED BY A STRATEGIC PLAN,

# DEAN



# OUELLETTE

## PREPARES TO REDEFINE ALBANY LAW SCHOOL

A MESSAGE FROM ALICIA OUELLETTE '94, THE 18TH PRESIDENT & DEAN OF ALBANY LAW SCHOOL, AS OF JULY 1.

What will law school look like in five years? Where will the legal job market be strongest? What will the market look like in the Capital Region? These answers are moving targets.

Albany Law School is prepared to redefine legal education to get ahead of the fast-changing legal market.

After much work and continuous research over two years, we developed a strategic plan that calls on us to prepare our students for success in six career-related pathways. The pathways will organize the student experience and define our learning and curricular goals. Courses, internships, clinical experiences, mentoring and more will define each pathway.

The plan calls for flexibility. The pathway approach will ensure students master transferable skills and knowledge. The pathways themselves can change in response to market changes.

The plan leverages our core strengths: government law and policy, criminal and civil advocacy, business law, and public interest advocacy. These will not change. Our exclusive location lends itself to supporting these areas of law. Our alumni have always served as ready resources for support, mentorship and employment.

National law school rankings have never accurately measured the quality of our programs in these areas, but we know we deliver an education in these pathways that is as strong as any law school, and better than most.

As we move into the future, the plan has us building programs in developing legal markets. We have the foundation to deliver a strong experience in health law, as well as in the areas of entrepreneurship, innovation, and financial market regulation. Before we commit resources to increasing capacity, we will do the research—specifically in our region—to ensure the legal market will sustain these offerings.

We will also rely on experts in each field to redefine our program of legal education. We are holding focus groups and conducting surveys in each pathway domain to determine what outcomes should be the hallmark of an Albany Law School education.

We think this plan reflects an accurate, thoughtful and realistic assessment of the past, present and future. President Andrews and I spent enormous amounts of time working with the Board of Trustees, alumni groups, faculty, staff and students to build this vision. I am excited by the opportunity to implement the plan with its precise, measurable goals.

### **Affiliating with University at Albany**

Leveraging strategic partnerships is part of our vision for the law school of the future. Many of you know we have been working with the University at Albany for the past several months, exploring how our students can benefit best from aligning our programs and operations. We believe the University's educational resources create ample opportunities for our students. We already share numerous joint-degree programs, such as the JD/MBA, JD/MSW, and JD/MPA (Public Administration and Policy). There is also a 3+3 accelerated program where a student's fourth year at UAlbany is spent as a first-year at Albany Law School.

There are obvious areas of alignment between the two schools, such as with UAlbany's highly ranked School of Business, School of Criminal Justice, Rockefeller Institute, the School of Public Health, and School of Social Welfare. There are other areas faculty committees from both schools are discovering together: environmental, international, accounting, and cybersecurity, to name a few.





## Resume in Brief

### EDUCATION

Hamilton College, A.B.  
Albany Law School, J.D.

### EXPERIENCE

Editor-in-Chief, *Albany Law Review*  
Dean, Albany Law School

Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs and Intellectual Life

Associate Dean for Scholarship and  
Faculty Development

Associate Dean for Student Affairs  
Professor of Law

Professor of Bioethics in the Union  
Graduate College/Mt. Sinai School  
of Medicine Program in Bioethics.

Confidential law clerk to Judge  
Howard A. Levine on the New York  
State Court of Appeals.

Assistant Solicitor General in the  
New York State Attorney General's  
office. Briefed and argued more  
than 100 appeals on issues  
ranging from termination of  
treatment for the terminally  
ill to the responsibility of gun  
manufacturers for injuries  
caused by handguns.

Associate, *Whiteman, Osterman  
& Hanna*

### WRITINGS

Most recent book: *Bioethics and  
Disability: Toward a Disability  
Conscious Bioethics*, Cambridge  
University Press, 2011

Published in *American Journal of  
Law and Medicine*, the *Hastings  
Center Report*, the *American  
Journal of Bioethics*, the *Hastings  
Law Journal*, the *Indiana Law  
Journal* and *Oregon Law Review*.

### COURSES TAUGHT

Constitutional Law; New York  
Practice I & II; Bioethics  
Seminar; Human Reproduction;  
Introduction to Lawyering; Law  
and the Disadvantaged

Essentially, the more we explore with each other, the more opportunities we discover for students of both schools. Regardless of where the relationship goes, we are still the same school and our strategic plan will serve to ground us in our core strengths. Our career pathways will be strengthened by access to UAlbany programs, faculty, and facilities beyond the capability of a small, independent law school. While this relationship creates exciting opportunities as it develops, we will advance in this direction carefully and be mindful of engaging all our stakeholders. We will continue to communicate our progress every step of the way.

### Albany Law Right Now

In the past three years we have become a much smaller school. Our Class of 2017 is 119 students. Our entering

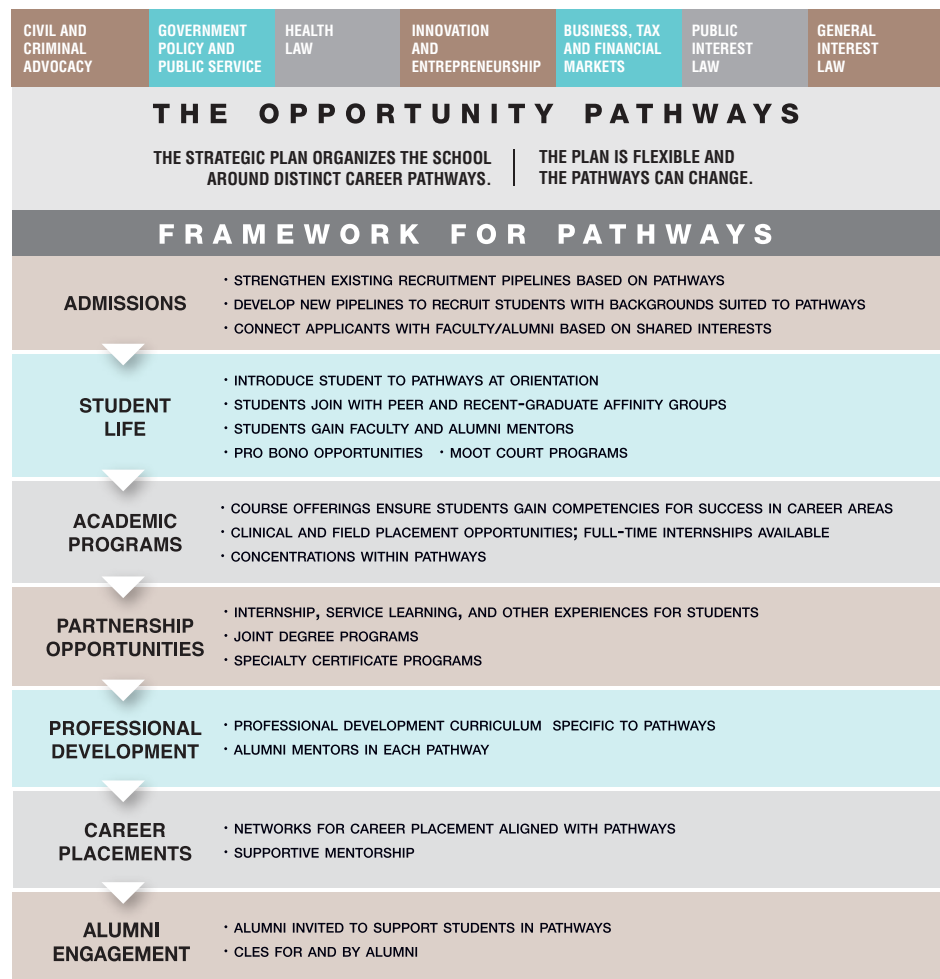
class in the fall will be about the same size. The small class size represents two things: decreased law school applications nationwide, and a firm commitment to maintaining the quality of our student body. We can operate at this size. Our traditionally strong programs remain strong. We are financially sound, our endowment is at its largest level in recent history, and we have our generous alumni to thank for that.

We remain the same school that you attended. Our alumni continue to be there for us. They continue to believe in us and demonstrate this by the generous gifts we continue to receive. No one knows the school or this region's legal market more than our alumni. We make up the bulk of attorneys in the area. We will continue to engage the collective knowledge and intellect of our alumni.

These are challenging times. We have to be aggressive and creative with our student recruitment strategies. It is an extremely competitive environment. We need to be smart.

We don't know what the future brings, but we are confident in our current state and sturdy position with a farsighted and realistic strategic plan. President Andrews spent three years putting us on a steady course. I am fortunate to be taking leadership with the school already moving in the right direction.

As a former student, graduate, professor, academic dean, and soon-to-be president and dean, I have spent most of my professional career at Albany Law School. This is my law school. I am proud of it. I believe in it. The students are great, the faculty is great, and my fellow alumni are great. I look forward to working for you. **A**





# THE LONG HISTORY OF ALBANY LAW SCHOOL JUDGES CONTINUES TODAY

ALBANY LAW SCHOOL HAS A HISTORIC TRADITION OF PRODUCING JUDGES AT ALL LEVELS OF THE BENCH. CURRENTLY THERE ARE SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 300 SITTING JUDGES FROM THE MUNICIPAL, TO CITY, STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS, SPANNING AT LEAST SEVEN STATES. SINCE THE SCHOOL'S BEGINNINGS IN 1851, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES, INCLUDING TWO ON THE U.S. SUPREME COURT—SOMETHING FEW LAW SCHOOLS CAN BOAST—LIKELY SURPASSES 1,000, A NUMBER THAT HAS CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SHAPING OF STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.

HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF OUR CURRENT ALUMNI WHO PRESIDE OVER THE COURTROOM.



## HARD WORK AND TWISTS OF FATE FIND JUDGE STEIN '81 ON THE COURT OF APPEALS

Judge Leslie Stein's path to her recent appointment on the New York State Court of Appeals required determination, hard work, and some good fortune at a few key junctures.

For starters, she entered law school at the University of Minnesota's School of Law, only after having been rejected from her first choice—a Master's program in social work. This came somewhat as a surprise to her, since she graduated from Macalester College Phi Beta Kappa. Then, following in both her parents' footsteps, she entered law school. After a year at Minnesota Law, she transferred to Albany Law School to return to the Capital Region.

Entering Albany Law as a second-year student, Judge Stein kept her head down, worked hard, and spent considerable time at a paid internship. "I wasn't very involved with the school at that time," she noted. "I would have liked to participate in Law Review and other activities, but I needed to work." Her involvement with the Law School increasingly deepened as her career advanced, including serving on the National Alumni Association board, mentoring students, participating on panels, and eventually becoming a member of Albany Law School's Board of Trustees.

After graduating second in her class and lacking a clear vision for her future, she applied for clerkships, ultimately securing a position with the Schenectady County Family Court. She is quick to relate that she was rejected for a position as a court attorney with the Appellate Division, Third Department, a story she takes pleasure in telling, since she eventually served as an Associate Justice on that Court for seven years before her latest appointment.

Next, Judge Stein landed a job at the Albany law firm of McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, another unexpected, but fortunate, turn of events. She learned of the opening at the McNamee firm during an interview with a different prospective employer, was hired as an associate and was ultimately promoted to partner. She remained at the firm for nearly 14 years before leaving to become an Albany City Court Judge. At McNamee, she practiced matrimonial and family law, fulfilling some of her initial career desires to practice psychology.

"I speak with a lot of students; I tell them events will undoubtedly occur in their lives. And I encourage them to keep an open mind. You never know where your path may take you."

### Different Courts, Different Experiences

"There are no easy cases here," Judge Stein said about the difference between the two appellate courts upon which she has sat. "I've worked hard all my life. But I've never worked this hard. I cannot imagine fulfilling my responsibilities without the support of three extraordinary law clerks." At the Third Department, each justice is assigned one clerk.

But the most significant difference between the two appellate courts might be the process that leads to the writing of the Court's opinions. "We don't know which judge is assigned to write the opinion until after oral argument is completed. We draw cases immediately after the completion of arguments, and we meet the next morning to report on how we view the issues. Clearly, we have to be fully prepared for every case at the time of oral arguments."

Judge Stein explained that, during the morning conference, the judges determine if the assigned judge is in the majority for the case being reviewed. If so, the first dissenting judge to the right of the assigned judge—they sit according to seniority—writes the dissent. If the assigned judge is in the minority, that judge writes the dissent, and the first judge sitting to his or her right authors the majority opinion.

Judge Stein saw one of her roles at the Third Department as a consensus builder. She hopes to serve in that capacity in some measure on the high court. "I believe an important consideration is to try to seek consensus, particularly if it will add clarity and predictability to the law." —DS



## EATON MOVES FROM BIG LAW TO SEN. MOYNIHAN—TWICE— BEFORE HIS FEDERAL BENCH APPOINTMENT

BY JOHN CAHER

Weaned in the law by his father, nurtured at Albany Law to think like a lawyer and shown the power of ideas by a renowned U.S. Senator, Richard K. Eaton '74 parlayed small town practice into big-time experience and, ultimately, a federal judgeship.

Eaton, a senior judge on the U.S. Court of International Trade in Manhattan, followed his father (Paul F. Eaton Sr., 1932), uncle (William Eaton, 1927) and brother (Paul F. Eaton Jr., 1972) to Albany Law after graduating from Ithaca College with a degree in international relations.

"Both my parents believed that education was what mattered most to succeed," Eaton said, adding that his mother had been a school teacher. "With my father, uncle and brother all attending Albany Law, if I was going to law school, Albany was where I was going."

After leaving Albany Law, Eaton eventually garnered partnerships at two mega firms—Mudge Rose Guthrie Alexander & Ferdon, and Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. But he got his start first in Cooperstown and then in Walton, Delaware County, where he joined his father in practice.

"While working for Dad, I volunteered to work on then Ambassador Daniel Patrick Moynihan's senatorial campaign in 1976. He asked me to join his staff, and I had become chief of staff by the time I left in 1983. Senator Moynihan taught me the power of ideas."

Eaton worked for Moynihan from 1977 to 1983. He left the Senator's staff in 1983 and worked with Mudge Rose in Manhattan, where he remained until 1991 when again summoned to Washington by Senator Moynihan.

"I went back to Senator Moynihan's office in the early '90s because he asked me if I could lend a hand as he became successively chairman of the Environmental and Public Works Committee and then the Finance Committee," Eaton said.

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### **"...Senator Moynihan thought that since the court heard mostly appeals I would be able to judge the discreet issues that arose."**

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Eaton was a partner with Stroock & Stroock & Lavan until 1999, when President Clinton—at Senator Moynihan's urging—appointed him to the U.S. Court of International Trade.

"Although I had little international trade experience, Senator Moynihan thought that since the court heard mostly appeals I would be able to judge the discreet issues that arose," Eaton said, adding that his broad based experience upstate, in New York City and in Washington has served him well on the Trade Court bench and while sitting by designation on the 2nd and 11th Circuit Courts of Appeals. "Even though the statute has been around since 1980, the judges are often presented with questions of first impression. Those questions often have complex factual histories. The cases are interesting, and working with clerks who are right out of law school is refreshing."

Eaton said that while he has worked with many attorneys who graduated from "better known law schools" than Albany Law, he "never felt that anyone I met had better instruction in the law." That's one of the reasons most of his clerks are Albany Law grads, including current clerks, Elie Salamon '13, and Brynne Grady '14.

Eaton, who took senior status last August, lives in New York City. His wife, Susan Henshaw Jones, is president and director of the Museum of the City of New York. They have two grown daughters.

## A VACUUM CLEANER DEALER AND A FASCINATION WITH TAX LAW LANDS LITTLEFIELD ON BANKRUPTCY BENCH

Northern District U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert E. Littlefield Jr. '76 owes his career to a jilted vacuum cleaner dealer.

When Littlefield was a newly admitted neophyte in his father's firm, a senior partner encountered a vacuum cleaner dealer at a social function. A customer had filed a bankruptcy petition, and the dealer wanted his vacuum cleaner back. It wasn't exactly a legal barn burner, and the matter got tossed over to the new guy—who at the time had no inkling he would someday be a bankruptcy judge.

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### **"I have had interns, summer clerks and full time clerks from Albany Law, and they have been tremendous."**

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"I had absolutely no bankruptcy background when I got out of school," Littlefield recalled. "None. Zero. I sometimes wonder what would have happened had the senior partner not met the vacuum cleaner dealer. It started me on a life adventure."

Even as a child attending parochial school in Albany, Littlefield figured he would follow in the footsteps of his father, Robert E. Littlefield Sr. '52, and his uncle, Charles Littlefield '50. But he took a bit of a detour on his way to New Scotland Avenue, spending his undergraduate years at the University of Denver, studying political science and geology.

At Albany Law, Littlefield quickly became enthralled with tax and commercial law. "I was fascinated with how the tax code worked and seeing how it all came together in a corporate structure," Littlefield said. One of Littlefield's first professors at Albany Law, Dean Ralph D. Semerad, was one of the most influential.

"He was just the best, everything a professor should be," Littlefield said. "He knew the work inside out and had a genuine desire to impart that to his students. I always had the impression that his interest was to make sure we were thoroughly educated in contracts and would go out of his way and do anything to help us succeed."

Littlefield's father had a general law firm and brought his son into the family business. The vacuum cleaner escapade brought him into the bankruptcy court and the discovery that bankruptcy law fascinated him for the same reason he was intrigued by tax law: the interplay of sometimes conflicting economic, societal, legal and human interests.

In time, the resident bankruptcy jurist, grad Justin Mahoney '49, assigned Littlefield a trustee position. His work as a trustee grew and, after Mahoney died in 1994, Littlefield was named to succeed him by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He has been on the bankruptcy bench since 1995, and served as chief judge from 2009-14.

Littlefield said Albany Law grads, all else being equal, have a "leg up" on clerkships in his chambers.

"I have had interns, summer clerks and full-time clerks from Albany Law, and they have been tremendous," Littlefield said, pointing to his current clerk, Cynthia Platt, '89, as Exhibit A. "Cindy has really expanded the role of clerk," the judge said. "She is a tremendous writer, but she also runs a number of different programs. We try to do different, creative things, and she is right at the cusp of it." —JC



## RIVERA BREAKS 120-YEAR COLOR BARRIER WITH ELECTION WIN, SEES SIGNALS FOR A NEW ERA

In the nearly 120-year history of the Third Department, not a single person of color has ever been elected to state Supreme Court in any of the 28 counties that comprise the sprawling district. Richard Rivera, '91, the first person of color elected to a countywide judgeship in Albany County, and the first Hispanic jurist to sit on any judicial bench in the county, aims to break the barrier.

Rivera has been a judge only since January 2015, but his election broke a mold and, he hopes, signals a new era.

"Change may be on the horizon with the upcoming Supreme Court elections," Rivera said. "I do aspire to be the first, unless someone else is granted that privilege."

Rivera's ascension to the Albany County judiciary followed a script written years ago at Albany Law, when Professor Alex Seita provided a long-term roadmap to pursuing a judgeship. He set the foundation by working as an assistant public defender/ conflict defender and assistant county attorney in Albany County—positions that brought him into contact with the local legal and political establishment. Then, Rivera spent close to five years serving as a support magistrate in Albany County Family Court, garnering the experience that qualified him for the bench.

"Even though judges are not politically active, there is a certain amount of politics involved once you decide to run or seek re-election," Rivera said. "You have to run on a party line, which means you have to reach out to the leaders of the parties and other elected officials, in order to get their endorsements." Rivera had no Albany connection until he enrolled in Albany Law. His parents, neither of whom attended high school let alone college, came from Puerto Rico and instilled in their five children a love of learning and a goal of higher education. Rivera graduated early from high school, and enrolled in Colgate University when he was only 16.

At rural Colgate, Rivera was well out of his urban element, but wisely ignored an advisor who told the 16-year-old freshman that he was out of his league and should go home and enroll in a trade school.

He graduated in 1986 with a dual major in Spanish Literature and Latin American Studies and set his sights on law school.

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**"Change may be on the horizon with the upcoming Supreme Court elections....I do aspire to be the first, unless someone else is granted that privilege."**

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At Albany Law, Rivera did not encounter any of the administrative indifference he experienced with the advisor at Colgate. Rather, he was encouraged and nurtured by professors Anthony Baldwin, the advisor to students of color, Robert Tyman, "who taught that a good lawyer is able to consider a case from every angle and uncover issues that aren't immediately obvious," and Seita.

Rivera said the key to getting minority representation in the Third Department is two-fold: party leaders need to actively recruit persons of color, and persons of color need to become involved in local politics.

"If the different parties wanted candidates, they could find us, because we are here," Rivera said. "But to a certain extent, it could be a lack of involvement on the part of attorneys of color. It is a dual thing—party leaders aren't looking for minority candidates, and minority lawyers are not as active in seeking out the party leaders as they should be."

—JC

## SMITTEN BY TROY CRIME TRIAL AS A TEEN, SISE SET SIGHTS EARLY FOR COURTROOM LIFE

For Richard E. Sise '82, the "eureka!" moment came in the early 1970s, when, as a high school student, he sat in awe at what amounted to a Capital District version of a legal all-star game.

It was a high-profile criminal trial in Troy. The prosecutor was then-Rensselaer County District Attorney Con. G. "Gus" Cholakis '58. The defense attorney was Harry O. Lee '40, already a local legend. And the judge was a highly regarded jurist named Robert J. Sise '49, the high school student's father.

"My dad took me out of school for the better part of a week to watch this trial," recalled Sise. "I was smitten. I knew then that I wanted to be a trial lawyer."

Forty-odd years later he is the acting presiding judge of the Court of Claims.

After graduating from Siena College, Sise enrolled at the University of Miami Law School. It was Cupid who brought him home to the Albany area.

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**"My dad took me out of school for the better part of a week to watch this trial...I knew then that I wanted to be a trial lawyer."**

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"I felt right at home at Albany Law, as my brother Jack '79 had recently graduated and my brother Tom '81 was a third-year student" (another of his eight brothers, Joseph, graduated in 1988), Sise said "Furthermore, that girlfriend of mine, Connie Cahill '83, was a first-year student."

Sise came under the spell of professors Peter Preiser and Norman Redlich. "Professor Preiser had such a breadth of experience, having chaired a number of different state agencies. He was very influential. Professor Redlich, my evidence teacher, delivered his twice weekly lectures in the Socratic method with a side of benign sarcasm. His teaching style prodded me to study further the rationale for the particular rules on evidence," Sise said.

After graduation, Sise again left the Albany area and became a prosecutor in the Bronx, where he served District Attorney Mario Merola in the juvenile offense, Supreme Court and homicide bureaus over a span of five years. He then practiced plaintiff's personal injury law with Dienst & Cahn in New York City and, later, personal injury defense with Rivkin Radler Dunne and Bayh on Long Island. In 1989, Sise came home to Amsterdam, where he, brothers Jack and Tom and their father formed a family firm, where he remained as head of the litigation department until Gov. George E. Pataki appointed him to the Court of Claims in May of 2000. He was designated presiding judge four years later.

He has been an Albany Law adjunct professor for the past 13 years. His law clerk, Robert J. Foley '84, is an Albany Law grad. Judge Sise credits the school equipping him with courtroom skills, and the ability to "think like a lawyer."

"The transition of thinking like a lay person to that of a lawyer is a subtle matter," Sise said. "It was my training at Albany Law that launched my legal career in the Bronx DA's Office, which led to a long, successful period of private practice before returning to public service as a Judge of the Court of Claims. I am indebted to the law school and the many fine professors and adjuncts who showed me the way." —JC



## LONG CAREER OF UPS AND DOWNS, TREECE LOOKS FORWARD TO RETIRING, TACKLING NEXT PHASE BY DAVID SINGER

The Hon. Randolph Treece '76, a federal magistrate judge in the Northern District of New York, is ambivalent about his upcoming retirement in September. After an accomplished 40-year career in the legal profession—working typically 60-plus hours a week—he is not certain retirement will suit him.

"I've heard mixed reviews," he said recently from his office in the James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse in Albany. "I look forward to having time to reflect, to try to understand and appreciate the lessons learned over the years, but I don't have any concrete plans other than international travel."

The reflection has begun. "I've learned that everything doesn't always happen on your time and as one's heart may crave. I've learned to be patient, fair, and accept life's vicissitudes hopefully with a modicum of grace. Yes, my career has had hills and valleys. Those challenges required me to work hard, sometimes to the detriment of my family life. I didn't always see the bright lights of this profession, and yet, in the long term, a career in the law has bode well for me."

Treece recalls facing uphill challenges immediately after graduating from law school in 1976, when few would hire a young African American. Always prepared to regale with a story, he mentioned that when he sought employment, he went door to door with his resume to almost all of the law firms in Albany and Troy. At his very first visit, the partner of the firm took his resume and promptly threw it into the trash. "It was a different time, then, obviously the country was still going through a bewildering racial transition. Hopefully, time has changed and that I have been fairly embraced by my colleagues and peers."

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### **"I've learned that everything doesn't always happen on your time and as one's heart may crave."**

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He eventually received an employment offer from Fritts and Whiting, a small, local firm. "I presume that Roger Fritts '66 and Sam Whiting '64 were not making a lot of money at that time, and yet they took a risk on me on so many levels. I am truly and deeply indebted to them."

For the next 10 years he worked at the firm developing a general practice mostly steeped in criminal litigation. He also worked part-time as an assistant public defender at the Rensselaer County Public Defender's office in Troy, logging some 70 hours a week from both jobs, while also teaching at various colleges. He eventually left his practice and the public defender office to become an assistant attorney general in New York's Department of Law.

### **Defending Clients on Death Row**

In 1995 he received a call for recommendations to serve in the Capital Defenders Office. That job was eventually offered to him, where he served as First Deputy, one of four within the state, for the Capital District region. His principal responsibilities included managing a staff of 20, representing people charged with murder in the first degree and facing the death penalty, and providing counsel to other lawyers who were defending persons charged with first degree murder. In those four years, Treece represented mass murderers, serial murders, double homicides, parricide, fratricide, and much more.

"It was more demanding than anything I've done in my life; it was, intoxicating, exhilarating, and seriously stressful," he said. "It was at that moment that I really learned how to practice law. The law was complicated and often convoluted requiring your greatest attention. Gathering facts and preparing a defense to save the accused's life was daunting. And, all of this, especially the burden of saving your client's life, required us to develop significant and insightful client relationships," he said, rattling off a few names like it was yesterday—Gary Evans, Kendall Francois, and Steve Williamson. "You always had to be on your toes, be prepared for many unexpected developments, and typically there was heightened media around these cases."

After four years of long and emotional days in the searing realm of the death penalty, in 1999 he went to serve as counsel to the Comptroller's Office under Carl McCall, where he oversaw 60 attorneys and other staff. In 2001 he was appointed to his current job as a Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of New York. Treece is the first African American to serve as a judge in the northeastern region of the State of New York 103 years after James Campbell Matthews, Albany Law's first African American graduate, was elected to serve as judge in Albany's City Court in 1898. When such an appointment should be lauded, Treece subtly laments that it took a century to have a person of color serve in the judiciary in this region, especially when others so deserve to serve.

"This is the appointment where all my experience culminates, this is where I reaped the benefits of my long and varied career," Treece said with gratitude, unfazed by the job's demands of 10- to 12-hour days. "This judgeship has been a splendid experience."

### **Outside the Courts**

For all his skepticism toward retirement, Judge Treece's outside interests should flourish without 12-hour workdays. A jazz aficionado, it's hard to see him at an event or attending a concert in the region without locating him front and center wearing resplendent suits and distinct and commanding ties. Until seven years ago he was a force in area pick-up basketball games, particularly with his ability to shoot from the outside. He still works with young players, honing their shooting form.

"As I got older I got better," Treece said deferentially musing about his basketball game, a rare boast from the judge.

But an aging body hasn't stopped him from playing tennis, though a troubling rotator cuff has temporarily sidelined him from that passion. "Oh, the woes of growing old," he bemoaned.

Consider his devotion for jazz. "Jazz offers absolute freedom to both the artist and the listener. The musician is free to express anything and everything, large or small. It is the quintessential form of freedom. There is structure, there is democracy at play among the band, but that improvised solo is a flight of freedom, liberating, and, at its best, genuine... jazz is a big tent. It's broad, it's comprehensive, it can be intellectual, it's filled with blues, you never know what to expect." He catches himself and smiles. "Because it appeals to me both intellectually and emotionally, I can talk for days about jazz."

Treece considers himself an inconsequential collector of African-American, Afrocentric, and music-centric art. His office walls are dotted with paintings, posters, and sculptures by such artists as Jacob Lawrence, Gordon Parks, and Johnathan Jackson. Those paintings and posters depict the likes of Louis Armstrong, John Coltrane, Miles Davis and other jazz pioneers. There are other paintings and posters depicting significant and impactful civil rights history and civil rights personalities—Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther

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**“The School gave me everything...It gave me a foundation in the law and wings to fly in the profession. It thoroughly challenged me.”**

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—HON. RANDOLPH TREECE



King Jr., Barack Obama, Langston Hughes, and Muhammad Ali—peering behind his fistful gloves—and Norman Rockwell’s famous “The Problem We All Live With,” where six-year old Ruby Bridges is being escorted to school by four guards, and more.

### Discussing Race in College

You cannot talk about Judge Treece’s life without talking about race. What is gripping are his poignant stories about being the only person of color matriculating in the day program at Siena College in 1966, arguably, he said, where he experienced some of the darkest personal racism of his life. “It was an ugly time for race in America, and I was not spared,” he said. “Because of several harsh and blatant incidents, I became emotionally isolated and depressed. It was a tumultuous struggle for me, and I almost gave up.” What he experienced then, he added, does not exist today. “It is a different community today during a different time.”

He transferred to Howard University, but when he was unable to obtain a student loan, he returned to Siena to finish his degree, something he did not want to do as the only black man at the school. During this time, he found refuge in the school’s library and resorted to its music collection, “Ray Charles was my relief and my comfort.”

An accounting major, he worked a few years after college before going to law school, which was always on his mind. “The community wanted me to be a minister, but I took the second calling, and wanted to be an advocate for the downtrodden and despised. I wanted to be a lawyer.”

“By the time I entered Albany Law, I was older, more mature, and I was determined to get my degree.” He steeled himself for a similar experience as his undergrad years, but found law school very different. “People here were on a serious mission, they were focused on law school, and so was I.” If there was any racism, he said, it was extremely subtle and likely to escape the lens of an African American sensitive to the matters of race.

In his entering class there were seven African Americans. By the end of the first year, only three remained and eventually graduated. “Generally speaking, the professors at that time were not warm and fuzzy, but rather remote, just expecting you to do the work,” although he fondly remembers Bernard Harvith, Sandy Stevenson, and Howard Levine as professors who went out of their way for him.

With a wife and child, who was born during his first semester, Treece did little besides attend class, study, play ball in the gym, and work 25 hours a week in the Albany Public Defenders’ Office. “We still had to put food on the table and keep a roof over our head, however, without financial assistance from the School, what would have been my fate? I am forever grateful.”

An Albany Law Board of Trustees member for the past 15 years and an adjunct professor for nine years in the ‘90s, he said he has been involved with the law school in some way every year.

“The School gave me everything,” he said matter of factly. “It gave me a foundation in the law and wings to fly in the profession. It thoroughly challenged me.”

Over four decades he has served on numerous community and educational boards of directors and has received numerous awards, too many to note here, recognizing his commitment to the community at large.

Treece currently lives with his wife, Deborah in Albany on State Street looking onto Washington Park which he calls his spacious backyard. His daughter and granddaughter live in Atlanta, a frequent destination too during retirement.

### EGAN’S EXPERIENCE WITH PRISONS KEEPS HIS COURT DECISIONS GROUNDED

BY JOHN CAHER

As a young man, Justice John C. Egan Jr. ’80 figured he was destined for state prison.

Justice Egan’s grandfather, father and uncle—all men he admired for their work ethic and dedication—worked in the state corrections department, and he was born in Clinton County, not far from a maximum security penitentiary. He envisioned life as a corrections officer, or in law enforcement. Law school just wasn’t in the cards.

Then, Egan happened to notice a sign on the bulletin board at Bryant College for the LSAT. With a what-the-heck shrug, he signed up for the test. His high score got him into the only law school to which he applied, Albany Law, and perhaps was an omen for things to come: Egan is now an associate justice of the Appellate Division, Third Department.

Still, the family roots run deep.

“I go and visit the jails periodically,” Justice Egan said. “I think it’s good to do that, because when you are deciding whether a person should remain in prison you ought to have been there yourself, and you should know what it looks like, what it would be like to live there.”

Justice Egan’s post-graduate career, in retrospect, began blazing a trail to the judiciary, a trail that inevitably runs through a political gauntlet. Shortly after he was admitted in 1981 he supplemented his private practice working as a part-time assistant Albany corporation counsel and part-time clerk in Surrogates Court. The connections he made in those positions, and as counsel to the Third Department Judicial Screening Committee, put him on the judicial track.

“I think meeting and appearing before a lot of the local judges, and working as an assistant corporation counsel, I was exposed to the different mayors and common council members and county legislators and senators—the people who held political office,” Justice Egan said. “When a judicial opening eventually occurred, it helped to know those people.”

His chance came in 1996, when a spot opened on the Albany City Court bench. He ran with the support of the local Democratic Committee, won, and has been in robes ever since.

“The best judicial job I ever had was in City Court,” Justice Egan said. “You were meeting, between defendants, victims, witnesses and the different lawyers, maybe 100 people a day. It was a lot of fun and the day went quick, and I miss that.”

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**“But it is more intellectual, more cloistered, more set off from the parties.”**

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Justice Egan left the City Court bench after he was elected to Supreme Court in a contested 2005 election. Four years later, he was elevated to the Appellate Division.

“It is a great job, intellectually stimulating, but a little cloistered,” Justice Egan said. “I’m with a group of appellate judges who are wonderful to work with, and it is great to, in a small way, have a say in making our law,” Justice Egan said. “But it is more intellectual, more cloistered, more set off from the parties. You do not typically meet the parties, which I miss. It is a lot harder to size somebody up reading about them in papers rather than having them right in front of you and having a conversation and hearing their side of the story.”

At court, Justice Egan often encounters one of his former professors, Michael Hutter, who has an active appellate practice with Powers & Santola in Albany.

“Professor Hutter appears before us on a regular basis and just does an excellent job for his clients,” Justice Egan said. “He comes in on all sorts of cases.”

His advice to lawyers appearing before the Third Department: “Be prepared, because we are. On the other hand, be at ease because we are generally a pretty friendly group. I hope we are.”



# FAMILIES LAWYERING TOGETHER

## LEGACY ALUMNI AT ALBANY LAW

BY PAUL GRONDAHL

**Albany Law School is a family tradition for many alumni. The roots of these legacy families run deep and link multiple generations to their alma mater across two centuries in some cases. Members of these legacy families talk about feeling welcome and a home-like atmosphere they encountered at Albany Law, or how they were drawn to internship opportunities in the state capital, or of wanting to continue a long-established family practice of choosing Albany Law over other law schools. Their stories are as varied as their family histories. While there are countless family stories at Albany Law, we selected seven to profile.**



**Daisy Ford Paglia and Donald Ford**

### THREE GENERATIONS OF FORDS, INCLUDING LAW PROFESSOR AND TEXTBOOK AUTHOR

Donald P. Ford Jr. '76 recently went through the archives of his grandfather, Roland Ford, class of 1907, who also taught at Albany Law School and founded the Albany firm where his grandson is a partner, Thuillez, Ford, Gold, Butler & Monroe. Ford cherishes his first edition copy of his grandfather's multi-volume textbook, "Ford on Evidence," and he

enjoys meeting attorneys, who are now in their 80s, who tell him stories about taking his torts and evidence courses at Albany.

"My grandfather taught classes half of the day and went to his private practice on State Street in Albany the other half of the day," Ford said. "He lived on Eileen Street in Albany and also had a large home law library and lots

of file cards. It's been fascinating to go through all that."

Ford was intrigued by the law ever since he was a young boy and heard his grandfather talk about cases at holidays and other family gatherings. In addition, on his maternal side, his mother's father, John McCall, was a medical doctor and lawyer and her brother, also John McCall, became Albany County Surrogate Judge in the 1960s and '70s. Ford was a history major at Boston College, but knew early on that he would pursue a law degree.

His years at Albany Law were marked by many happy memories, but none happier than meeting his future wife, Mary Frances Filippone Ford '76. "They sat us alphabetically, so we were near each other in a class and I noticed her, but I guess I didn't make as much of an impression on her because she said she didn't remember me," said Ford. They began dating later in law school. His wife worked as a counsel for the state Senate's health committee until the birth of her first child, a daughter, Daisy Ford Paglia '06. His wife never returned to work as she raised six kids and helps babysit two grandkids. "When Daisy is at the office, my wife is watching her young son and daughter and that's a nice arrangement," he said.

**He wrote law textbooks for Matthew Bender Co. of Albany in order to pay off his debts after he purchased stocks on margin prior to the 1929 stock market crash.**

Ford enjoys working with his daughter, who graduated at the top of her law school class and served as executive editor of the Albany Law Review. She clerked at the New York Court of Appeals for four years before joining in 2011 the practice her great-grandfather founded more than a century before. She handles appellate research and motions, while her father focuses on insurance defense, medical malpractice insurance coverage and personal injury litigation. His firm's special counsel, Dale M. Thuillez '72, is an Albany Law trustee and a longtime adjunct professor who taught trial advocacy.

Ford's maternal ancestors, the McCalls, donated historic material to Albany Law and Ford is determining what to do with the archives of his grandfather, who died in 1970. Among his fascinating discoveries: He wrote law textbooks for Matthew Bender Co. of Albany in order to pay off his debts after he purchased stocks on margin prior to the 1929 stock market crash. Also, he found two letters that George Bernard Shaw, the famous Irish playwright and co-founder of the London School of Economics, wrote to Ford's grandfather. They came in response to Ford's request to use some of Shaw's writing in elementary and secondary education coursework that would be taught using puppets. "Shaw gave his permission and also asked for \$5 in compensation," Ford said. "These things mean a lot more to me at my age than they did when I was in my 30s. My appreciation for my grandfather is growing."



**Roland J. Ford**

**"He lived on Eileen Street in Albany and also had a large law library and lots of file cards. It's been fascinating to go through all that."**

## **TRUSTEE HAGE, WITH CHILDREN, MAKES FOR THREE GENERATIONS**

Heather Hage '06 is the third generation of her family to graduate from Albany Law School. Her brother, Gabriel Hage, is a third-year student at Albany Law. There is an 88-year connection between the family and the law school that includes their father, J.K. Hage III '78, and grandfather, James J. Hage '30.

James Hage's parents lived in Lebanon and they were Maronite Christians, a Roman Catholic rite. They fled religious persecution at the hands of the Ottoman Turks. They emigrated in 1889, settled in Amsterdam in central New York and worked in the carpet mills there for a decade. They returned in 1900 to their homeland and rejoined their children who had remained behind living with relatives.

"My grandfather was very disappointed that his parents had returned to Lebanon because he had spent his childhood dreaming of going to America," J.K. Hage III said. "After a short sojourn with his parents, my grandfather emigrated to Amsterdam, N.Y., to work in the Mohawk Carpet mills. My father, James J. Hage, grew up in Amsterdam and Fonda," said Hage.

James J. Hage fulfilled his dream by enrolling in Union College in 1926, where he thrived academically. His

money ran out after his freshman year, though, and he had to leave Union to work full time at a carpet mill in Amsterdam. James Hage's German professor at Union, who was also his boxing coach, led an effort to raise money from other faculty members to pay for James Hage's tuition. The donations made it possible for James Hage to enroll and begin classes at Albany Law. The arrangement was that James Hage would board with an Albany family who operated a coal business. In exchange for food and lodging, he shoveled coal for several hours early each morning before heading to classes at the law school. James Hage graduated at the top of his class in 1930 and was hired by N.Y. Congressman Frederick Sisson from Utica, N.Y., both as his legislative aide and as his private law practice clerk. James Hage opened his own practice in Utica the following year. He practiced law for 72 years and died in 2003 at 95.

"It was a miracle he got to attend law school in the first place," said J.K. Hage III, who noted his father was one of the first Arabic-speaking lawyers in upstate New York. "He taught me that the law could be almost a kind of ministry.



**Hage siblings Heather '06, Gabriel '16 with their father J.K. Hage III '78**

**In exchange for food and lodging, he shoveled coal for several hours each morning before heading to classes at the law school.**

When I was 12, I asked him to explain what it's like to be a lawyer. He said it's like being a priest, but you're allowed to marry. It was an afterthought for him to send a bill to a client. He was beloved by the community because he was the people's lawyer."

During his third year of law school, Hage's mother, Minya, was diagnosed with cancer and she died in 1979 at 56. "There was no way I could leave my father. It wasn't my plan, but I went to work in my father's law firm," Hage said. In fact, Hage was a Spanish scholar who completed course work for a Ph.D. in Romance Languages at New York University and was considering an academic career before going into law. As sole member of Hage & Hage in Utica, he has transformed the practice into business consulting and law firm with the addition of attorneys, a CPA, an analyst and paralegals. The firm's practice areas include startup, entrepreneurial and business advice, business succession, estate planning, green technology and sustainable strategies that grew out of the firm's design and construction of its own LEED gold-certified office building in 2006.

Hage also draws upon his experience as an entrepreneur. He founded Independent Wireless One Corporation, a national Sprint PCS affiliate, and was the organizer and first Executive Director of the Griffiss Institute, a national clearinghouse in cyber security. "So much of life is accidental and much of my career has been serendipitous," said Hage, an Albany Law board member and an active member of the National Alumni Association.

It is yet to be determined if a third-generation Hage will join the family firm. His daughter, Heather, is an attorney at the State University of New York Research Foundation and his son, Gabriel is a former professional athlete and an accomplished musician and composer. Gabriel, his father and one of his sisters are also Hamilton grads. "My children are ruggedly independent," Hage said. "I hope they might want to take over the firm one day, but I have no idea about their plans, and I do not ask."



**Albany Law graduates are: standing second from right with hat, Paul Cantwell '66; standing third from right, James Campbell '73; in the center back Craig Carriero '01; center in the dark blue dress Ginger Carriero '02; and farthest left is Nathan Race '00. Second from left, standing, is Kathleen Cantwell, also an attorney.**

## **CANTWELL PARENTS, DAUGHTERS, IN-LAWS PART OF ALBANY LAW FAMILY**

Behind his desk at his family law firm, Cantwell & Cantwell, in Malone, N.Y., in the Adirondacks near the Canadian border, Paul M. Cantwell Jr. '66 keeps what he calls "a rogues' gallery" of the firm's lawyers, reaching back to his great-grandfather, William P. Cantwell, who founded the firm in 1853. "When another one dies, we hang him up," he said with characteristic dry wit.

The gallery documents a firm's history that stretches from Montreal—where the founder grew up and learned the legal profession by apprenticing at a law firm—to the halls of Albany Law School, from which several members of the Cantwell family graduated. "We were never particularly pressured to go into law, but I always felt a natural affinity for it," Cantwell said.

His younger brother, James B. Cantwell '73, had a long career in New York state government, including service in the Attorney General's Office, as the Deputy Counsel to the State Board of Elections, and as counsel to Sen. Ronald Stafford and Senate Majority Leader Ralph Marino, and

as Chief Counsel to the New York State Department of Transportation. He now lives in Charleston, S.C.

Cantwell has three daughters. His youngest daughter, Ginger Carriero '02, is vice president of medical practices at Alice Hyde Medical Center in Malone. Her husband, Craig Carriero '01 is with the Cantwell & Cantwell law firm and is a part-time Franklin County Assistant District Attorney who is running for District Attorney this November. "They sat next to each other in class at Albany Law because their names both started with C," Cantwell said. His eldest daughter, Julia also works at Alice Hyde Medical Center. Her husband Nathan Race '00 has his own law firm in Malone, Nathan Race, PC. "He's a competitor, which makes for interesting Sunday suppers," Cantwell said. Daughter Kathleen, also a lawyer, works for the federal government in Washington, D.C., as Director of the Office of Strategic Operations and Regulating Affairs at CMS.

Cantwell and his wife, Susy, who is



**“I have three daughters and only one managed to escape the law. But she ended up marrying an Albany Law grad anyway.”**

office manager at the family law firm, met at Papa's Tavern on New Scotland Avenue, a popular watering hole for Albany Law students in decades past. She was a graduate student at the University at Albany. The couple lives in a Victorian home his grandfather, John Cantwell, built in 1903. The home included a large collection of Greek and Latin texts his great-grandfather read for pleasure. They've been donated to Yale and Oxford. Cantwell's father, Paul M. Cantwell Sr., and an uncle, John Miles Cantwell, were both Harvard Law School graduates and both practiced in the family firm, which has been in three different buildings on Malone's main public square. It has always been a general law firm that focuses on estate planning, wills and trusts, corporate, real estate and municipal law. There was confusion sometimes with another family law firm named Cantwell & Cantwell located in nearby Saranac Lake. A cousin

of Cantwell's grandfather started that firm in the 1920s.

The Cantwell family law firm in Malone has long been associated with another family institution in town, Citizens National Bank of Malone, which his grandfather founded in 1921. Cantwell served as President and Chairman and his father and uncle also were bank officials. The local bank had five branches and assets of \$113 million when it was sold to Community Bank System Inc. in 2001. Cantwell has served as Chairman of Community Bank System Inc., which, during his tenure on the Bank Board, grew to \$7.3 billion in assets and 180 branches across upstate New York and northeast Pennsylvania.

“I've enjoyed the variety of being a banker, a lawyer and a politician,” said Cantwell, who became the first Democratic Town Attorney in Malone since the Civil War when he took the job in 1969, three years out of law school. “I was one of

the youngest county attorneys, and at the Association of Counties meetings, I'd get looks like they thought I wandered into the wrong room,” he said. He gave up the job after six years. He occasionally had to confer with his younger brother, James, the Deputy Counsel to the State Board of Elections. Cantwell also served for 11 years as attorney for the Alice Hyde Medical Center, where two of his daughters now work. “I had to scale back because I was doing too much,” he said. “My Albany Law School degree gave me a lot of versatility in analyzing things from a variety of perspectives. It's also been important in making critical decisions.”

Since before the Civil War, the law has been a natural fit for the Cantwell family, and continues to be. “I have three daughters and only one managed to escape the law,” Cantwell said. “But she ended up marrying a lawyer anyway.”

## SAMUEL WARNER '12 PARTNERS WITH BROTHER, WELCOMES ALUMNA MOTHER'S GUIDANCE

It was a case of like mother, like sons when it came to Albany Law School for Samuel Warner '12 and his brother, Jonathan D. Warner. The brothers are partners in Warner & Warner, founded in 2013 after Samuel left his position as staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York to join his older brother in the family-owned firm. Their mother, Lois Pasternack '79, was one of their inspirations for attending Albany Law. She worked for Nolan & Heller in Albany and in the legislative office of the firm's founding partner Sen. Howard C. Nolan. Her late husband, Richard Weiner, who died in 2012, was a Stanford Law School graduate and former managing partner of Nolan & Heller.

“Our mother felt compelled to give up her legal career to raise her kids,” Samuel

Warner said. “She worked at Nolan & Heller in its early years and it's helpful to hear her stories about how they built up that law firm because we're in that growth phase with Warner & Warner right now.”

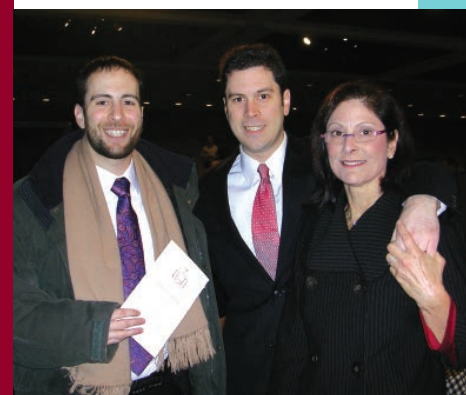
It was a natural path to law school for the Warner brothers, both of whom did part-time office work at Nolan & Heller as teenagers. “It wasn't drilled into our heads to become lawyers or to attend Albany Law,” said Samuel Warner, whose brother graduated from Michigan State University College of Law. “It was just sort of a natural development after spending so much time in our dad's law office and conversations about the law over the dinner table.”

The fact that both parents were attorneys made for an easier transition for their sons to attend law school and

Albany Law was a natural fit. As law partners in their family-owned firm in Colonie, they play to their strengths. Samuel practices Social Security disability law, along with debt relief and foreclosure law, while Jonathan handles bankruptcy law and foreclosure law. “It's far more fulfilling and interesting running a law practice than I ever imagined,” Samuel Warner said. “The biggest plus in having my brother as my law partner is my trust in him.

We also are growing and hope to add more attorneys and expand our practice to another location.”

In the meantime, they enjoy old Albany Law stories and the occasional advice on running a legal practice from their mother. “Even when it's unsolicited, we like to hear from her,” Samuel Warner said.



Samuel Warner, left, Jonathan Warner and their mother, Lois Pasternack '79

**“We both had about 240 students in our classes and I was No. 5 going into my last semester. I thought I had her beat. I was prepared either to gloat or to be humbled. It turned out I came in No. 6. We tied.”**



Law firm Salazar & Erikson opened its doors this year.

### **MOTHER-DAUGHTER, BOTH 6TH IN THEIR CLASSES, TEAM UP LATER IN LIFE**

Phyllis Erikson '80 had raised five children as a stay-at-home mother and part-time teacher. At the age of 37 she informed her husband, Fred, a rhetoric and language professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: “It’s my turn and I’m going to law school.” She was the second-oldest in her class and her determination and grit influenced her children, particularly her daughter, Dana Salazar '05, who followed in her mother’s footsteps. So did her son, Frederik Erikson '99, senior vice president and legal counsel at Webster Bank in Waterbury, Conn.

“I took a tour of Albany Law and kind of fell in love with the place because it felt like home,” recalled Salazar. “I teased my mom that it was a lot easier for her when she went to law school because she had five kids around the house to help her with her housework and I only had one.”

Although they attended Albany Law in different eras, mother and daughter kept up a good-natured competition. “My mom finished No. 6 in her class and she liked to remind me of that,” Salazar said. “We both had about 240 students in our classes and I was No. 5 going into my last semester. I thought I had her beat. I was prepared

either to gloat or to be humbled. It turned out I came in No. 6. We tied.”

Mother and daughter pursued divergent paths in their legal careers, but they recently joined forces. In January 2015 they formed a law practice, Salazar & Erikson, based in East Greenbush, N.Y. “It’s a bit of a throwback to start our own firm,” Salazar said. “We’re hanging out a shingle like lawyers did in the past upon graduation from law school.”

The practice capitalizes on their respective strengths: Salazar handles a range of litigation and her mother focuses on commercial transactions.

“I like working with Dana because she’s really smart,” Erikson said. “We have different talents and we combine them to be a full-service law firm.”

While at Albany Law, Erikson was recruited by the lawyer development program of the General Electric Co.

“The majority of the GE lawyers came from Harvard, but the second-largest group was from Albany Law,” she said. “We held our own against the best of them because we had been very well prepared.”

Erikson’s 16-year career with GE carried her from the steam turbine division

in Schenectady to silicone and plastics divisions and assignments in Europe. The couple lived in Belgium, a short commute to her office in the Netherlands, and her two youngest children lived there for a time.

“It was the best job I ever had,” she said. She left GE to work as general counsel for 10 years at J.M. Huber Corp. in Edison, N.J., a manufacturer of silica for toothpaste, food additives and a wide range of engineered materials. After retirement in 2006, she traveled widely with her husband, including extended stays with her relatives in Italy until Salazar made her an offer she couldn’t refuse. “I was happy with the idea of going into practice with my daughter,” said Erikson, who plans to work a couple days a week initially. “She has a good business sense and clients like her because she’s very practical.”

After graduating from Albany Law, Salazar clerked for two years for Susan Phillips Read, Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals. “It was wonderful,” she said. She left to take a job with Jones Day in New York City, a large firm that meant “working on a small piece of a big case for a very long time and focusing completely on that.” She decided to return to Albany and worked at Tabner, Ryan and Keniry, where she got satisfaction out of working on a case from start to finish and handling a variety of cases.

In starting a law firm, she has drawn upon her experience in business management for Paychex, the payroll service company. She also “loves the battle of litigation.” She said Albany Law provided her with “scholarship, friendships and connections that continued long after law school.”

She and her mother enjoy returning to their alma mater for lectures and alumni events. Salazar’s daughter, Emma, is a high school senior who may become a third-generation attorney. “She says she’s not interested in law school at this point, but she’s done two years of mock trial and I think she’d make a good lawyer,” Salazar said. Of course, she’d have to try to beat a No. 6 class ranking.

**COUSINS KENNEDY AND MANEY PRESERVE FAMILY FIRM FROM 1912**

Madeleine “Mandy” Maney Kennedy ’84 is the archivist of her family’s narrative and keeper of her law firm’s history, which are inextricably linked. She cares for historic photographs, boxes of archival material and old newspaper clippings in the office of Scheiberling, Rogan & Maney on State Street in Albany. The firm was founded 103 years ago when her great-uncle, Edward N. Scheiberling, Class of 1912, founded his solo general practice after graduating from Albany Law. She has preserved the shingle he hung out on September 12, 1912, at 95 State St.

“My great-uncle was like a rock star in Albany,” Kennedy said. “The newspaper reported 40,000 people met his train in Albany after he was elected National Commander of the American Legion in 1944. I have seven scrapbooks filled with newspaper clippings about him and lots of old photographs. My father was a saver of everything and I’ve become the family archivist.”

Her father, Stephen Maney ’52, who died in 1993, also practiced in the family law firm. Today, she and her law partner Kevin Maney ’81—her cousin—focus on wills and estates, trust and estate

administration and real estate closings. “We’re now handling the wills and estates of children and grandchildren that my great-uncle and father worked on,” she said. “We’re sort of a bread-and-butter law firm. We don’t advertise. We’re old-fashioned in that we help families from the cradle to the grave, as my father used to say.”

The firm’s founder still casts a long shadow. Scheiberling was president of his 1912 Albany Law class, which included future U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson. The two men remained lifelong friends. After Scheiberling’s service in World War I, he returned to Albany and resumed his law practice. He later served as a City Court judge and director of the Albany Chamber of Commerce in addition to leading the American Legion in 1944 and 1945. His law firm became Scheiberling and Schneider in 1934 when he partnered with his cousin, John M. Schneider ’17. John’s daughter, Jane Schneider ’71, worked in state and local government. Kennedy’s grandfather, Edward G. Rogan ’18, a longtime Albany County Surrogate Judge, joined forces with her great uncle and her father in



Madeleine “Mandy” Maney Kennedy ’84



Kevin Maney ’81



Kennedy’s great uncle, Edward Scheiberling, was class president of Robert Jackson’s class of 1912.

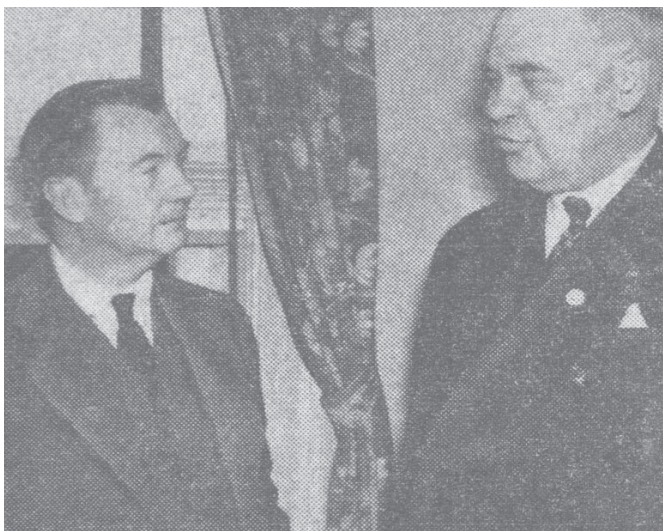
**“We’re now handling the wills and estates of children and grandchildren that my great-uncle and father worked on.”**

1958 and the firm became Scheiberling Rogan & Maney. Hon. Gerard E. Maney and John E. Maney ’87 were also at one time associated with the firm. Its offices have remained on State Street for more than a century and Albany Law is the thread that runs through its history.

“I can remember how thrilled I was when I got accepted to Albany Law and my father was thrilled, too,” Kennedy said. “I lived at home and it made sense to follow in the family tradition. My father was my greatest influence. It was great to work with him because he knew everyone.”

One of Kennedy’s three children, Theresa Kennedy, a 2014 Princeton graduate, who helped out in the law office last summer, has talked about pursuing a law degree. Her family, of course, is biased as to which law school she should apply.

“I got a great education at Albany Law, it prepared me well for the Bar and our family has such a deep connection to it,” Kennedy said. “I couldn’t imagine her going anywhere else.” **A**



Scheiberling and Jackson at the Fort Orange Club

# WHY I TEACH?

## Confessions From a Few of Our Adjunct Professors



ANN WILLEY

*Director of Cytogenetics, N.Y. State Department of Health's Wadsworth Center; Former Director, Laboratory Policy, The Wadsworth Center, Albany*

**TEACHES:**

**Genetics in the Law and Public Health Law**

"I have been teaching one way or another for my entire professional career regardless of what my actual job description may have been. I have always enjoyed being a 'student' and what better way to refresh what you know about a subject but to relearn it so that you can teach the latest developments to someone else. Teaching "Genetics in the Law" and "Public Health Law" at the law school has really allowed me to combine my areas of professional practice and my love of sharing my enthusiasm with others while also providing the opportunity and obligation to keep up with both rapidly changing fields."



JENNIFER M. BOLL

*Partner, Hodgson Russ LLP, Albany*

**TEACHES:**

**Federal Taxation/Corporations & Shareholders**

"I love to shock the students into considering new ideas. The best new idea for some students is that tax can be creative and interesting and fun. Believe it or not, many students are intimidated by tax and maybe by tax professors too. I try to make the topic accessible. When I reach students and get them interested, that's a good teaching day for me. Once they are interested, the substantive knowledge starts to stick and, all of a sudden, I've created some tax geeks. I'm even pleased if I've created future litigators who understand a bit about tax."



HON. ELEANOR STEIN

*Administrative Law Judge, Albany*

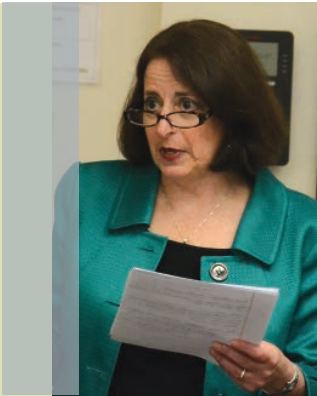
**TEACHES:**

**Law of Climate Change**

"We were one of the first law schools in the nation to teach this topic when I designed the class 10 years ago. Now every law school probably teaches a similar class. It is the critical and moral issue of our time. I teach this class because these students are our next generation of leaders, and there is no better tool than the law to make change. It is a tremendously gratifying experience. I teach a similar class to UAAlbany undergraduates, and I am getting my LLM at the Univ of Strathtelide, in Scotland. It is fascinating to see how differently Europe approaches the topic and I bring this perspective to my students."

“FOR ME, THERE IS A CERTAIN ENERGY THAT LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE WHEN DISCUSSING CIVIL RIGHTS CASES AND THE LAW THAT IS REJUVENATING, AND THAT REMINDS ME OF WHY I ENTERED THE PRACTICE TO BEGIN WITH.”

—DANIEL J. STEWART, ESQ. '88



LINDA S. KINGSLEY '82

*Private Practice, Rochester*

**TEACHES:**

**State and Local Government**

“I travel in from Rochester to teach the class. Having spent most of my career in the field, I love teaching my students about the realities and unique considerations of government law. We study emergency preparedness in the current climate of terrorism, the major impact Indian Law issues have in a state like New York, the practical issues of representing police, and how to effectively defend municipalities. The syllabus changes every year based on what is happening in the world. Nothing is more satisfying than when a former student representing a state or local government tells me that the course inspired them to work in the field. Serving as an adjunct professor, particularly at my alma mater, is one of the most rewarding experiences of my career.”



HON. RYAN T. DONOVAN '01

*Founding Partner, Harris, Conway & Donovan, Albany*

**TEACHES:**

**New York Practice: Practice Module**

“I truly enjoy making connections with my students. They are so eager to learn the practical application of the law. While at law school I developed strong relationships with my professors, and I am fortunate to be able to give back to the school as an adjunct professor. We examine key areas of practice and procedure in the New York courts from commencement of the action through the completion of depositions. Working with students is extremely rewarding; their enthusiasm and work ethic are inspiring.”



MATTHEW ALPERN

*Felony Trial Attorney, Albany County Division of the Alternate Defender, Albany*

**TEACHES:**

**Trial Practice I: Criminal Pretrial Skills, Trial Practice I**

“Throughout my legal career I have been extremely fortunate to benefit from the efforts of a diverse group of highly skilled attorneys who were committed to helping me become the best attorney possible. After 20-plus years of practice as a trial attorney, I feel a responsibility to do the same for the next generation of attorneys. Second, on a personal level, teaching is both highly challenging and rewarding. The challenge stems from constantly having to evaluate and adjust my teaching methods and the reward from seeing students gain confidence and develop their skills during the course of each semester.”




DANIEL J. STEWART '88

*Brennan and White, Queensbury*

**TEACHES:**

**Civil Rights Liability Legislation**

“I assume that the entire adjunct faculty will tell you it's about the joy of teaching. For me, there is a certain energy that law school students have when discussing civil rights cases and the law that is rejuvenating, and that reminds me of why I entered the practice to begin with. My students have given to me much more than I have given to them. I spend considerable time preparing for the class; I want to be as prepared as if I was going into court. Since I demand significant work from the students, I want to show that I am doing it as well. I still get nervous, surprisingly.” 



# HEALTH CARE LEADERS

ARRIVE WITH DIFFERENT PATHS AND PURPOSES

BY PAUL GRONDAHL

HEALTH CARE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF CHALLENGING AND REWARDING PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALBANY LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI. THOSE WHO PRACTICE HEALTH LAW OR USE THEIR LEGAL TRAINING AS ADMINISTRATORS OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES OR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS SPEAK ABOUT THE FIELD'S COMPLEXITY AND THE EVER-CHANGING REGULATORY LANDSCAPE OF THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES. THE CAREER PATHS THEY PURSUED ARE AS SINGULAR AS THE ALUMNI THEMSELVES AND RARELY FOLLOWED A STRAIGHT LINE. HERE ARE SOME OF THEIR STORIES.

## A Leader in the Field from the White House to Venture Capital Firm

"My career has not followed a linear path," said David Beier '73, Managing Director of Bay City Capital, a life sciences venture capital firm in San Francisco that has invested \$1.3 billion in more than 100 companies worldwide since its founding in 1997. He joined the company in 2013 after a lengthy career in public service in Washington, D.C.; two decades as a member of the senior management teams for Amgen and Genentech, the two largest biotechnology companies in the world; and several years as a partner focused on health law at Hogan Lovells, a global firm with more than 2,500 lawyers. Beier's high-profile career, including serving in the White House as the Chief Domestic Policy Advisor to Vice President Al Gore during the Clinton Administration, has made him a globally recognized leader in health care policy, regulatory affairs and health care economics.

He became intrigued with the political process while a student at Albany Law, when he worked in the state Legislature for Assembly Speaker Perry Duryea and Sen. Chester Straub from Brooklyn. He also helped manage George McGovern's Democratic presidential campaign in upstate New York in 1972. After working briefly with the American Civil Liberties Union in Rochester and the Monroe County Legal Assistance Corp., Beier was hired as staff counsel for the State Commission on Criminal Justice Reform under Gov. Hugh Carey. He left Albany for Washington and a position as counsel to a subcommittee of the Committee on

the Judiciary, where he helped rewrite the federal criminal code. Although the resulting legislation ran into political roadblocks and never passed Congress, the experience deepened his interest in public policy and sharpened his knowledge of patent law.

"Working in the White House was a very rewarding experience," he said. "I'd enjoyed being a congressional staffer and working in state government, but there are a very small number of people who have the privilege to work in the White House and I was fortunate to be in a relatively senior position."

Vice President Gore tapped Beier to oversee White House policy on domestic and international telecommunications shortly after he was hired in 1998. "I had three weeks to prepare to convene the first task force that brought together all the different federal agencies that worked on telecommunications issues," he recalled. "I started off being completely petrified and then realized that eventually someone has to decide. You try to do the best you can do with the maximum information you can gather in the time available. It's like managing a six-dimensional chess game that has to take into account the political environment at the federal level, interest groups, the press, the public, polling data and altruism. You sort all that out in real time and come up with a coherent position that is incredibly succinct. I developed that skill over time, aided by my legal education, informed by

life experience and the advantage of being able to draw upon a business background."

As Managing Director at Bay City Capital, his work requires as much business acumen as legal skill. "Some of our portfolio companies have regulatory problems and I'll get involved in those, but we use very good outside law firms and I know enough not to compete, but to ask good questions," he said.

His time at Albany Law provided a solid foundation. "I spoke to the general counsel committee of a biotechnical industry organization last year and saw they went to all different types of law schools," he said. "There's less focus on where you went to law school and more on whether you had the right experience."

Beier has written numerous law review articles and has contributed to several books on legal issues.

Beier doesn't believe in the notion of retirement. "Right now, my goal is to work with people I like, doing things that are difficult, and to have fun," said Beier, who also teaches as an adjunct lecturer at the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley. He and his wife—an attorney who served as a special judge who heard vaccine-related injury cases in the Court of Federal Claims—spend time each week with their two adult daughters, who live nearby in the Bay Area. One is a lawyer and the other works in health care, influenced no doubt by their parents' careers.



VICE PRESIDENT GORE TAPPED BEIER TO OVERSEE WHITE HOUSE POLICY ON DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SHORTLY AFTER HE WAS HIRED IN 1998.



SHEARER KNEW THIS WOULD BE HER CAREER PATH SINCE SHE TOOK A HEALTH LAW ELECTIVE COURSE AS A SECOND-YEAR LAW STUDENT WITH THE LATE BARRY GOLD '70.

### One Elective Changed this Biologist's Path from Patent Law to Health Law

Carolyn Shearer '79, Senior Counsel at Bond Schoeneck & King, is one of 12 attorneys in their health care practice group in Albany and her 35 years' experience in the health care field has taught her to anticipate additional expansion and more complexity. "The entire environment of health care and health facility regulation has become exponentially more complex in the decades I've practiced health law," she said. "Health law is a multi-dimensional matrix, and the axes are always shifting."

Shearer knew this would be her career path since she took a health law elective course as a second-year law student with the late Barry Gold, an adjunct professor who was a well-known Albany attorney practicing health law. "That class turned on all the lights for me," recalled Shearer. She was a biology major at the University at Albany, and had planned to become a patent lawyer until the health law class changed her direction. "Health law was an emerging discipline at that time. I was intrigued by the interplay between public policy and the practice of law, and the impact of law on health care facilities and health care providers."

She worked in the Division of Legal Affairs of the New York State Health Department for five years after law school and gained a wide range of experience, including prosecuting medical misconduct cases and combating patient abuse in nursing homes. She left state service to work as the first in-house attorney at Albany Medical Center, where she established its legal department in 1984. By the time she left in 1998, there were four in-house lawyers. Her work involved the full range of legal issues affecting the activities of the hospital, the medical school, and the multi-specialty faculty physician practice. The legal issues "ran the gamut from clinical research to organ donation, and from anti-trust to zygotes; she said."

"I felt a strong sense of mission at Albany Med," she said. "I was part of a team, supporting dedicated people who were doing important work for important reasons. Being a member of the hospital's Ethics Committee was especially meaningful to me. I have the highest regard for health care professionals and all the other individuals who do difficult work in health care settings."

She left Albany Med for private practice

because she was drawn to the opportunity to work with a broader range of health providers and other businesses that relate to the health care industry. Her work with Bond, Schoeneck & King includes representing hospitals, nursing homes, medical practices, dentists, physical therapy practices, programs for the developmentally disabled and long-term care providers. Her work with individual health care professionals includes licensure matters and professional discipline defense. "A major current challenge is DSRIP, the New York State Department of Health initiative that requires health care providers to collaborate with each other in unprecedented ways," said Shearer.

At Bond, Schoeneck & King, Shearer is on a team of 230 attorneys in 11 offices, working collaboratively with dozens of other attorneys in the firm's large health care practice group. "Health law is a burgeoning field of law, and it will continue to grow," she said. In the past, she taught a seminar elective on advising health care clients as an adjunct at Albany Law. She still gives an annual lecture for Professor Nancy Maurer's health law class. "I enjoy staying in touch with the law school and interacting with students," she said.



### Koblenz Serves as Counsel, Board Member, Family Member, and Now CEO

Mark Koblenz '78, CEO of the Daughters of Sarah Senior Community in Albany, reinforces his long association with the facility when he speaks at an orientation session. "I can tell you it's a fantastic place because I've seen it as a lay leader, an employee, a family member and as CEO. The only way I haven't experienced it is as a resident."

Koblenz first served on the board more than three decades ago, he rose to the position of board president and later

was hired as counsel to the Daughters of Sarah and his law firm Roland, Fogel, Koblenz & Carr also represented two other nursing homes. His mother, Eleanor Koblenz, spent her final three years at the nursing home. He said it made perfect sense to apply for the CEO position when it came open in 2005. "It was a good fit since I had been involved with it for a long time and I understood the organization," he said.

It's a complex organization composed

of three entities with an overall annual budget of \$22 million. It's a not-for-profit, community-supported, faith-based organization. He oversees a 210-bed nursing home, 56 assisted living units and a Jewish foundation that owns the vacant property surrounding the complex and manages fundraising. Koblenz works with three separate boards and a total of 48 volunteer board members. He uses his legal training on a daily basis, including reviewing contracts and conferring with



## MVP CEO Gonick Credits Gov. Mario Cuomo for Inspiring Her Career Path

As President and CEO of MVP Health Care, Denise Gonick '91 runs a community-based, not-for-profit health insurer with 1,500 employees and more than 700,000 members across New York and Vermont. It is a large and sprawling organization, but it feels like home to Gonick, who has worked for the organization for 20 years. She began in MVP's legal department and worked her way up the management ranks. Each promotion brought new challenges.

"Health care is so complex and it's changing so fast, but not always in a cohesive way," she said. "Managing changing regulations of states and the federal government is part of the balancing act. What drives me is figuring out how we can make this health care system better and more useful for people now and in the future. I think of my own children and wonder if we are developing a system that will make sense when they're working adults?"

The growth of MVP's legal staff underscores her point. When she joined the organization in 1995, there were two attorneys. Today, there are seven attorneys and three paralegals.

Gonick majored in theater and writing at Hofstra University and had her sights set on a career in the arts when a political

science professor helped her land a summer internship before her senior year with Gov. Mario M. Cuomo. She worked at the governor's World Trade Center office and was assigned to research policy areas and speech topics for Cuomo. The daughter of a New York Police Department officer and a secretary who grew up in a blue-collar household in Queens, Gonick was inspired by Cuomo's commitment to public service. At the end of the summer, Cuomo invited all the interns to Albany for a softball game and a cookout afterwards at the Executive Mansion. The governor took the time to ask each intern about career goals. "I told him about my arts background and that I didn't know what I wanted to pursue in the area of fine arts. He talked to me about the importance of public service and giving back to my community," Gonick recalled. "It resonated with me and instilled that idea of public service in me. Gov. Cuomo was the real reason I ended up going to law school."

At her second job after law school she worked for the Governor's Office of Employee Relations under Cuomo. She worked in labor and education law and was involved in contract negotiations with state employee unions. "I ended

up doing litigation full-time and realized that I didn't like it that much," she said. "I tend to be a problem solver and cause oriented. I wanted to settle things where we could instead of litigating them." The Cuomo administration was in its final months when she joined MVP. "I didn't have a health care background and I'm glad they took a chance on me," she said. "I learned health care from the ground up, from the concerns of physicians to the challenges of hospitals. It's been a great experience, even though it is very different from what I thought my career would be."

After the retirement of David W. Oliker as MVP's CEO in 2012, Gonick applied. "I felt I had something to offer coming from the inside with ideas for moving the company forward," she said. "After a national search, they took a chance on me again. I'm very grateful for that."

The mother of two teenage girls, Gonick also serves on several boards in the community, including the theater called Proctors. "I joke with Philip Morris (CEO of Proctors) that he has the job I wanted. I get to exercise that fine arts side of my brain being part of Proctors. I chose a different path and I'm very grateful about how well it turned out," she said.



"AFTER A NATIONAL SEARCH, THEY TOOK A CHANCE ON ME AGAIN. I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR THAT."

"THE COMPLEXITY OF HEALTH CARE KEEPS INCREASING EACH YEAR AND IT'S A MOVING TARGET."

outside attorneys on labor law and federal government reimbursement issues.

"My law degree helps me as a manager and I'm able to communicate better with my staff," he said. "My experience representing nursing homes in private practice helped me understand the many pieces of the nursing home legal puzzle. I always look to understand problems and help find solutions."

His interest in the law began at a young age when he visited the law office of his father, A. Abba Koblenz, who graduated from Albany Law School after Army

service in World War II, and with his brother he formed Koblenz & Koblenz. Three months after Mark was admitted to the practice, his father died and the son continued with the attorneys from his father's firm. After a few years, Koblenz left and set up a practice with Murray Carr '79 and Koblenz handled trusts, estates, wills, real estate and transactional law. "I have no regrets about making the transition. As CEO, I have flexibility with my schedule and I get a regular paycheck. In private practice, meeting payroll was often a concern and there

may not have been much left over for myself at the end of each week."

He enjoys the challenge of running a large organization and values its mission of assisting seniors. "The complexity of health care keeps increasing each year and it's a moving target," he said. "The challenge is to get control of rising costs, to comply with changing regulations and actively work to build partnerships with all the health care providers in the area. For me, the fulfilling part is helping individuals in need. That's why I went into law in the first place."



LATCHMANSINGH HANDLES OVERSIGHT OF MEDICAL AND LEGAL RISKS FOR NEARLY 500,000 CLIENTS WHO RECEIVE PSYCHIATRIC AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT AT NUMEROUS FACILITIES.

### Latchmansingh Relies on His MBA, JD and Nursing Degrees to Make Decisions

Michael Latchmansingh '13 has had a clear career goal to run a hospital ever since he earned a bachelor's degree in nursing at the State University of New York at Binghamton. "I was always interested in health care and my first idea was to be a provider. I quickly realized I wanted to be in hospital leadership some day," he said. He decided that the MBA/JD joint degree program through Union College and Albany Law School was his best option.

"I knew I didn't want to be a practicing attorney, but legal background is very important for hospital administration. I had several classes that were very helpful, including a medical malpractice course with Mae D'Agostino and a class on legal issues of medicine with Nancy Maurer. I'm happy to say my plan worked and I'm doing exactly what I want to be doing."

He is associate director of behavioral health and risk management at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center in New York City. The 120-year-old not-for-profit health care system includes 4,000 employees, more than 1 million annual patient visits

and roughly 650 beds between two major hospital divisions, a comprehensive psychiatric program, two specialized long-term care facilities and an extensive network of medical practices serving low-income and underserved populations in the South and Central Bronx.

Latchmansingh handles oversight of medical and legal risks for nearly 500,000 clients who receive psychiatric and substance abuse treatment at numerous facilities that include inpatient units, outpatient clinics and residential halfway houses that are part of Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center. In addition to risk management, his job involves preventing inefficient care, sub-par treatment and avoiding potential lawsuits against the hospital. "I got my position thanks to my MBA, but the irony is that most of my work involves my legal background," he said. "I have to develop expertise in mental health regulations and proficiency in health law."

His job involves dealing with several New York City agencies, multiple state agencies and a dozen different federal

agencies. "A lot of the overbearing regulatory requirements are driving providers out of New York and into Connecticut or New Jersey, where the regulations are profoundly more relaxed," he said. "I worry that we're turning a lot of people off from working in the mental health field."

Latchmansingh admits his job can be stressful because the hospital has financial challenges and more than 85 percent of the patients are covered by Medicaid or Medicare. "Mental health has always been called the stepchild of health care and there's some truth to that," he said. "We focus on the small victories and making meaningful progress with our clients."

"I need all three of my degrees to do the job well," he said. "The MBA helps me look at problems globally, the JD helps me understand what the regulators expect from me as a provider and the nursing degree helps me understand the clinical side. They all coalesce as I go about my work."



### Kelton Estimates Defending More than 300 Physicians

Michael S. Kelton '77 is one of the most experienced lawyers in the state when it comes to defending physicians before the New York State Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) and the New York State Department Office of Professional Discipline (OPD). He has spent 35 years focused on this highly specialized area of defense. Kelton estimates he has represented over 300 physicians at OPMC, and at any given time has a case load of between 25 and 40

pending OPMC/OPD cases.

"They are very difficult cases to win outright," said Kelton, a partner of Abrams Fensterman in Manhattan and director of the firm's medical malpractice defense practice and OPMC/OPD defense practice. Most cases get resolved through a Consent Agreement. "You don't have the right to a trial by jury in court. The hearings are held at the OPMC office before members of the State Board for Medicine and they can be very tough on doctors. There is typically a significant

amount of evidence of misconduct that has been gathered against the doctor by the time the case goes to hearing. It is a tough venue and it's much harder to get a successful outcome in an OPMC hearing than a medical malpractice case where we try the case before an independent jury."

Kelton planned to study economics in graduate school before he changed course. "I felt more comfortable in law and a course on legal medicine taught by Barry Gold helped me decide that's where I wanted to focus my career,"

## Herbst Left Private Practice for Community-Based Health and Housing Work

Adam Herbst '04 rides his bicycle to work to his office in Harlem where he works as EVP, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer for Heritage Health and Housing Inc. The organization has nearly 500 employees and operates several federally qualified community-based health centers throughout northern Manhattan, providing a full range of primary care services (women's health, dental services, behavioral health, pediatric and adult services). No patient is turned away regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. As a part of the senior leadership, Herbst ensures the staff reflects the cultures and values of the community it serves. The organization also provides affordable and supportive housing, counseling, education, and training for individuals with special needs including homeless, mentally disabled and the elderly.

"My motivation is to make a difference and to provide services to people who might not otherwise have health care," said Herbst, who worked in private practice before joining Heritage Health and Housing four years ago. "I believe that my work helps to provide a valuable

voice for both healthcare providers and consumers by serving as an integral part of the vital health care safety net in New York City. Moreover, I have helped to implement a care model to serve those who have difficulty accessing care at local hospitals or other traditional health care facilities. It's very gratifying," he said.

Herbst finds lasting value in his joint MBA/JD degree from Union College and Albany Law. "The dual degrees were crucial to my career and provided a stepping stone," he said. "From a financial and operational perspective, my business background flows through my desk every day. It has really helped me." His passion for creative solutions has led to reaching new understandings with labor representatives, implementing data collection and communication methods to facilitate collaboration with other providers, and developing outreach efforts specifically targeted to key underserved communities.

Herbst manages a team of seven lawyers and his work is varied, ranging from negotiating contracts to legal matters involving patients or employees to legal issues that arise from grants

with a multitude of city, state and federal agencies. "Everything that affects the organization flows through my desk and our overall operational goal is to improve the quality of our services," he said.

"I learned a fundamental empathy from my parents. They gave me the core values I hold today," Herbst said. "I am glad to be able to look beyond contracts and litigation and try to make a difference in this world. We're all here to be the best people we can be. I learned that from my parents and I'll try to pass that along to my children."

Herbst and his wife, Shanna, a physician at a New York City hospital, had their first child last September. He serves on several boards, including a regional food bank and the Union Settlement Association of East Harlem, as well as a group that helps youths with autism and mental illness prepare for higher education and college admission. He feels that his job matches his commitment to social justice. He is also an adjunct professor teaching health care law at a New York City law school.



"MY MOTIVATION IS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO PEOPLE WHO MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE HAVE HEALTH CARE."

HE'S CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN A MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASE THAT INCLUDES 10 DEFENDANT DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS—FOUR OF THEM HIS—AND SEVEN DEFENSE ATTORNEYS.

he said. After gaining several years of legal experience, he established his own law practice before merging with the Manhattan firm of Lippman Krasnow & Kelton LLP, where he was a partner in charge of the firm's litigation and health care work. He spent 27 years with that firm, which disbanded in 2006, and he then formed Michael S. Kelton & Associates, LLC. Two years later, he merged his practice into Abrams Fensterman. "What keeps me interested in this area is the melding of medicine and the law," he said. "I've studied the principles of medicine and I've learned

how medicine is practiced."

He's currently involved in a medical malpractice case that includes 10 defendant doctors and hospitals and seven defense attorneys. Kelton represents four separate defendants in the multi-million dollar lawsuit. One of the other defense attorneys is fellow Albany Law alumnus Peter C. Kopff '75, who is also a trustee.

Kelton is nearly always hired by a medical malpractice insurance company with whom the physician has coverage. "Physicians today are working in an environment where they know they're

likely to be sued if there's an unfortunate outcome with a patient," he said. "It's not a happy or healthy environment for doctors, knowing they're working day in and day out with targets on their backs."

Kelton never tires of his specialty area. "I get great satisfaction in doing a good job for my client. I'd rather win than lose, but I'm a realist. When you've done this as long as I have, you're going to win some and lose some. If the client feels he was well-represented and is satisfied with the work we did, that's the most important thing for me."



“THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A SHARP RISE IN DATA-DRIVEN ANALYSIS IN THE EFFORT TO IMPROVE DELIVERY AND OUTCOMES WITHIN HEALTH CARE. UNFORTUNATELY, WE STILL HAVEN’T GOTTEN IT RIGHT WHEN IT COMES TO THE REIMBURSEMENT STRUCTURE AROUND HEALTH CARE.”

## Morano-Lattuca Maintains Service Mission with Public and Private Positions

Regina Morano-Lattuca '95 realized early in her studies at Albany Law School that she had discovered her career path. Prior to law school, she had worked as a Jesuit volunteer with Healthcare for the Homeless in Baltimore. She ended up taking all three of Professor Dale Moore's Health Law courses in what was then a developing Health Law track. "I knew early on that I wanted to specialize in the field, and Albany Law gave me the opportunity to do that," Morano-Lattuca said.

She was initially influenced by her mother, a chemist who had worked in hospital laboratories in Miami and in Rochester where she grew up. She also participated in a Disabilities Law Clinic led by professors Joseph Connors and Nancy Maurer. "I worked as part of a team that assisted children with profound disabilities and serious health needs," she said. "I was captured by that experience." She spent summers and several semesters as a part-time law clerk with the New York State Assembly Minority Conference.

A summer internship with Higgins, Roberts, Beyerl & Coan led to a full-time position with the Schenectady law firm after graduation. She represented local hospitals, rehabilitation centers, individual physicians and the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists. She worked on contracts, transactions, compliance and legislative advocacy. After four years, she left to become

special counsel to the Chairman of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, Robert R. Snashall '78. "Chairman Snashall had and continues to have an enormous impact on my professional success. He took an interest in my career, gave me valuable advice and many opportunities to excel," said Morano-Lattuca. As special counsel at the Board, she provided legal and policy advice for the statewide agency, which administered five separate benefit programs for injured workers. A highlight from her five years in that position was drafting legislation that protected the confidentiality of injured workers' medical records, signed into law in 1998. Three years later, she was charged with drafting a set of regulations that implemented the Injured Workers Protection Act. After multiple legal challenges, the regulations were unanimously upheld by the New York State Court of Appeals in 2003.

She left the public sector to work most of the next decade in managed care, including as associate director in the legal department of MVP Health Care under Denise Gonick '91, who is now MVP's President and CEO. "Denise has always been a sort of guiding light for me and another Albany Law alumni who helped shape a rewarding career in Health Law for me," she said. Morano-Lattuca also worked as vice president and general counsel for Thompson Health in Canandaigua, N.Y.

She handled all legal and regulatory affairs for the regional health network that included a 100-bed hospital, 200-bed nursing home and 13 physician practices. Her next position was senior vice president of compliance and ethics at Ameritox, a national clinical laboratory specializing in medication monitoring and genetics based in Baltimore.

She currently serves as chief legal and compliance officer at the University of Maryland Faculty Physicians Inc., the corporate arm of the university's medical school and physician practices. The company provides legal, financial, managerial, billing and human resources, as well as contracting and compliance support for 2,000 physicians that staff the University of Maryland medical system's 41 medical specialties and 12 hospitals in the Baltimore area.

"I've had equal footing in the private sector and public service over the last 20 years and I have followed a service mission in every area of health care law that I've had the opportunity to work," she said. "Over the last two decades I have seen a tremendous increase in the complexity and regulation of health care. There has also been a sharp rise in data-driven analysis in the effort to improve delivery and outcomes within health care. Unfortunately, we still haven't gotten it right when it comes to the reimbursement structure around health care." ■

# FACULTYNOTES

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

**Professor Ira Bloom**, Justice David Josiah Brewer Distinguished Professor of Law, published the 2014 Supplement to Fundamentals of Trusts and Estates, 4th ed., LexisNexis 2012 (Roger W. Anderson, co-author); the Teacher's Manual to Accompany Fourth Edition of Federal Taxation of Estates, Trusts, and Gifts, LexisNexis, 2014 (Kenneth F. Joyce, co-author); and the Federal Taxation of Estates, Trusts, and Gifts, Fourth Edition, LexisNexis, June 2014.

**Professor Melissa Breger** published Transforming Cultural Norms of Sexual Violence Against Women, *Journal of Research in Gender Studies*, Volume 4(2), 2014; and the New York Law of Domestic Violence, Cumulative Supplement 2014 (co-authors Judge Elkins, Desiree Kennedy, Jill Zuccardy).

**Professor Ray Brescia's** article "Embracing Disruption: How Technological Change in the Delivery of Legal Services Can Improve Access to Justice" is forthcoming in the *Albany Law Review*. He published "The Community Reinvestment Act: Guilty, but Not as Charged" in 88 *St. John's Law Review* 1 (2014) and "The Price of Crisis: Eminent Domain, Local Governments, and the Value of Underwater Mortgages" in *Temple Journal of Civil & Political Rights* (2014). Professor Brescia also published "The Politics of Procedure: An Empirical Analysis of Motion Practice in Civil Rights Litigation under the New Plausibility Standard" in 46 *Akron Law Review* 329 (2014).

**Professor Christine Chung** published "Municipal Bankruptcy, Essential Municipal Services, and Taxpayers' Voice" in 24 *Widener Law Journal* 43 (April 2015). She also published "Government Budgets As The Hunger Games: The Brutal Competition For State and Local Government Resources Given Municipal Securities Debt, Pension and OBEP Obligations, And Taxpayer Needs" in 33 *Review of Banking and*

*Financial Law* 663 (2014) and "Zombieland/ the Detroit Bankruptcy: Why Debts Associated with Pensions, Benefits, and Municipal Securities Never Die... and How They Are Killing Cities Like Detroit" in 41 *Fordham Urban Law Journal* 771 (2014).

**Professor Stephen Clark** will publish his article "Conflicts Originalism: The 'Original Content' of the Full Faith and Credit Clause and the Choice of Marriage Law" in the *West Virginia Law Review*, and he will publish "But for Sex: Equal Protection and the Individual Opportunity to Marry One's Chosen Partner Without Regard to Sex" in the *South Dakota Law Review*. Professor Clark, with several other constitutional law scholars from around the country, also authored and filed an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of the pending challenges to state bans on same-sex marriage.

**Professor Patrick Connors** published his July 2014 and January 2015 Supplements to *Siegel*, New York Practice (5th Ed. 2011; West; also available on Westlaw). He also published several articles in the *New York Law Journal*, including "Courts Reconsider Rule Permitting Use of Affidavits on CPLR 3211(a)(7) Motion" (January 20, 2015); "Court's Decisions Include Resolution of Nonparty Disclosure Conflict" (August 25, 2014); "Impact of Recent U.S. Supreme Court Decisions on Practices in New York"

(July 21, 2014); and "Impact of Supreme Court Decisions on New York Practice" (June 18, 2014). His scholarship was cited in 30 reported decisions in New York State and Federal Courts during 2014.

**Professor Anthony Paul Farley**, James Campbell Matthews Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence, will publish "Critical Race Theory Now" in the *Florida A & M University (FAMU) Law Review*. He also published "Jackals, Tall Ships, and the Endless Forest of Lies: Foreword to Symposium on the Voting Rights Act in the Wake of Shelby County v. Holder" in *Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy* and *Touro Journal of Race, Gender & Ethnicity* (April 2015).

**Professor Peter Halewood** published "Any is Too Much: Shelby County v. Holder, Voting Rights and Diminished Citizenship" in the *Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy* and *Touro Journal of Race, Gender & Ethnicity* (April 2015).

**Professor Robert Heverly '92** published "The State of Drones: State Authority to Regulate Drones" in 8 *Albany Government Law Review* 029 (2015) and "Telemedicine, Telehealth, and Cybersecurity" in the *Health Law Journal* published by the New York State Bar Association (2015).

**Professor Michael Hutter** authored three evidence columns for the *New York Law Journal*: "Expert Testimony: Necessity or Helpfulness Standard" (June 4, 2015), "Proposed Evidence Rules Cover Privilege" (April 2, 2015) and "Ambac v. Countrywide Analysis" (Feb. 15, 2015).

**Professor Mary Lynch** co-authored the chapter, "Teaching the Newly Essential Knowledge, Skills, and Values in a Changing World, Section E: Intercultural Effectiveness" in *Building on Best Practices: Transforming Legal Education in a Changing World* (Lexis, forthcoming 2015).

**Professor Timothy Lytton**, Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor of Law, published "Oversight in Private Food Safety Auditing: Addressing Auditor Conflict of Interest" in *Wisconsin Law Review* (2014) with co-author Lesley McAllister.

**Professor Nancy Maurer** co-edited and wrote a chapter for *Learning From Practice: A Professional Development Text for Legal Externs*, 3rd Ed., West Academic Publishing (forthcoming 2015).

**Associate Dean Rosemary Queenan** published "School's Out for Summer— But Should it Be?" in 44 *Journal of Law & Education* 165 (Spring 2015).

## DEAN OUELLETTE'S BOOK STARTS SELLING IN JAPAN

Dean Alicia Ouellette's book *Bioethics and Disability: Toward a Disability-Conscious Bioethics* was recently translated into Japanese. The book, originally published in English in 2011, takes on the tension between disability rights scholars and bioethicists. According to some disability rights activists, bioethicists focus too broadly on the concept of patient rights at the expense of the practical challenges facing individuals with disabilities.

"The book explores why this tension exists, and it takes seriously the charge that medicine in general, and bioethics in particular, would better serve people of all abilities if it were more mindful of disability issues," said Ouellette.



## Sharing Scholarship, Building Teachers

On Feb. 7 law professors seeking tenure from around the country came to Albany Law to share their scholarship, provide feedback to one another, and discuss their approach to teaching. Led by Professor Sarah Rogerson and Assistant Dean Rosemary Queenan, the program is co-sponsored with New England Law, which will host next year's event.



Professor Christine Chung talks about how retail investors use financial information.



Professor Dede Hill

**Professor James Redwood** published "The Incense Maker" in 37 (No. 2) *The Chariton Review* 51 (Fall 2014), and "When the War Ended" in *Notre Dame Review*, (June 2015).

**Professor Christian Sundquist** published "A Post-Oppression Analysis of the Voting Rights Act" in the *Touro Journal of Race, Gender & Ethnicity and Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy* (2015).

**Professor Donna Young** published "Domains of Policy: Law & Society Perspectives on Anti-Discrimination" in *The Wiley Handbook of Law and Society* (Austin Sarat and Patty Ewick, eds.).

### FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

#### President Penelope (Penny)

**Andrews** delivered the Black History Month lecture "A Champion for African Freedom: Paul Robeson and the Struggle Against Apartheid" at The Center for Law and Justice on Feb. 10, 2015. In January 2015, she was named to *Lawyers of Color's* Fourth Annual Power List Issue, marking her fourth consecutive year on the compendium of "the nation's most influential minority attorneys and non-minority diversity advocates."

She gave the keynote talk titled "Empowering Others through Leadership" at the New York State Minorities in Criminal Justice Annual Symposium in Albany on Oct. 1, 2014. President Andrews delivered a talk to FBI employees on Aug. 25, 2014, as part of a program to recognize Women's Equality Day.

President Andrews delivered an address at the University at Albany Graduate Commencement Ceremony on May 16, 2015, at SEFCU Arena. She also gave a talk at "Careers, Choices, Challenges, Changes: A Conversation with Penelope Andrews, President of Albany Law School," put on by the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

**Professor Ira Bloom**, the Justice David Josiah Brewer Distinguished Professor of Law, presented his paper to a meeting of the State Laws Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel at the Fall ACTEC meeting in New Orleans. The paper is titled: New York's Ongoing

Evaluation of the UTC: Can UTC (and Non-UTC) States Benefit? He presented his paper, "Powers of Appointment under the New Uniform a Powers of Appointment Act: Planning and Drafting Considerations," in November at the 40th Notre Dame Tax and Estate Planning Institute; he reported to the Executive Committee of the Trusts and Estates Law Section of NYSBA in December on the progress of the Interim Report on the Proposed New York Trust Code.

**Professor Ray Brescia** was appointed to Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan's blue ribbon panel on rail oil safety.

**Professor Melissa Breger** delivered the inaugural Kathryn D. Katz '70 Memorial Lecture, titled "Healing Trafficked Children: A Domestic Family Law Approach to an International Epidemic," on April 15, 2015, at Albany Law School.

**Professor Christine Chung**, on behalf of the Albany Law School/University at Albany Institute for Financial Market Regulation, organized and moderated a panel on dark pools, high-frequency trading, market structure, and related issues in August 2014. Panelists included senior staff from the Securities and Exchange Commission and FINRA.

**Professor Stephen Clark** filed an amicus brief to the 8th Circuit regarding the pending marriage equality decisions in Missouri and South Dakota. In April 2015, he presented as part of a faculty workshop exchange at Western New England University School of Law, and in March 2015, he presented at the South Dakota Law Review Symposium entitled "Many Voices: A discussion of LGBTQ Marriage Rights and Transgender Rights."

**Professor Patrick Connors**, who will be a Visiting Scholar in Residence at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center for the fall 2015 semester, presented a program on Recent Developments in New York Civil Practice and Procedure at the New York State Bar Association's Bridging the Gap Program in New York City on March 18, 2015. He presented a program at the CUNY Law School Faculty Scholarship Exchange entitled "Strange but True Stories from the World of New York Civil Practice" in Long Island City, Queens, N.Y.,

on March 4, 2015. Professor Connors delivered a presentation on new consumer credit transaction rules and a new rule requiring redaction of confidential information in papers filed in New York state courts to the New York State Association of County Clerks at its Annual Legislative Conference on Feb. 3, 2015. He presented a program on recent developments in New York Ethics at the Chaminade High School Alumni Lawyers Association Meeting, in Mineola, N.Y., on Dec. 16, 2014, and he presented the New York Civil Practice Update to the New York State Association of County Clerks at their Annual Conference in White Plains, N.Y. on Nov. 19, 2014. Professor Connors presented the New York Civil Practice and Ethics Update to the Suffolk County Bar Association in Hauppauge, N.Y., on Oct. 29, 2014. He presented the New York Civil Practice Update to the Judges and Justices of the New York Court of Appeals and the Appellate Division, Third Department, and the law clerks of these courts, in Albany, N.Y. with John R. Higgitt '01 on Oct. 28, 2014. Professor Connors presented a New York Civil Practice Update to the New York City Managing Attorneys' and Clerks' Association at the law offices of Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP in New York City on Oct. 17, 2014. He presented a New York Civil Practice Update presentation at the Annual New York Court of Claims Judges' Association Meeting in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on Sept. 12, 2014, and he presented on "NYRA Re-Organization: Rounding the Far Turn" at the 2014 Saratoga Institute on Racing and Gaming Law. He presented the New York Civil Practice and Ethics Update to the NYSBA Trial Lawyer's section at the Annual Summer meeting in Sonoma, Calif. in July 2014. He gave a New York Practice Update to the Onondaga County Bar Association in Syracuse, N.Y., on June 20, 2014. His scholarship was cited in 30 reported decisions in New York State and federal courts in 2014.

**Professor Robert Heverly '92**, who was elected chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Internet and Computer Law, presented a talk on "Social Media and its Effect on the Law" to a meeting of judges from the State of New York's Sixth Judicial District held on Feb. 27, 2015, in Watkins Glen, N.Y.

**Professor Dorothy Hill** provided testimony before the New York State Wage Board in favor of efforts to eliminate the tipped minimum wage in New York in December 2014, and she presented "Challenges at the Race Track" at the Fall Meeting of the Capital District chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association in October 2014.

**Professor Michael Hutter** presented the opening paper in a conference sponsored by the Reform Alliance of New York, titled "The Daubert Dilemma: Cutting Edge Science and Law in the 21st Century", in New York City on April 29. On April 25 he presented a paper on developments in New York's tort law as part of several presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Federated Bar Associations of the Fourth Judicial District in Montreal. He presented a 2014 CPLR Update to the Academy of Trial Lawyers in February 2015, and his materials were distributed statewide to the Academy's membership. He presented "No Fault and Related Tort Issues" before the Nassau County and Suffolk County Academy of Law on June 11 and 26, 2014.

**Professor Mary Lynch's** "Best Practices for Legal Education" blog won first place in the ABA Journal Blawg 100's Careers/Law School category. In January 2015, Professor Lynch began her co-presidency of the national Clinical Legal Education Association, an organization of more than 1,200 members.

**Professor Timothy Lytton**, Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor of Law, presented a paper titled "Addressing Conflict Of Interest Among Rule Intermediaries: Oversight In Private Food Safety Auditing" at the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) in a workshop on Regulatory Intermediaries & Transnational Governance in Chicago on July 10, 2014. He presented "Comparing Kosher Fraud Laws in the U.S. and Israel: Is There a Tension between Consumer Protection and Religious Liberty?" at the Capital District Board of Rabbis Annual Meeting on June 12, 2014.

**Professor Connie Mayer** was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Albany Law School.

**Dean Alicia Ouellette '94** moderated a panel on "Death with Dignity: A Conversation with Lawmakers" at the University at Albany on April 10. She presented "Clinical Ethics Consultation in Cases Involving Sudden On-Set Disability" and the "Top Ten Legal Developments in Bioethics" during the American Society of Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting in San Diego from Oct. 16 to 19. She was a guest blogger in June 2014 for the HealthLawProf Blog, writing several posts, including "Legal Issue or Culture War: Conversion Therapy in the Courts and Beyond" and, with Meredith Dedopoulos '15, "The World Cup and Health: If You Can't Stand the Heat, Don't Play in Manaus."

**Associate Dean Rosemary Queenan** presented "The Private School Advantage: Examining the Myth About Private Placement for Children with Disabilities," at the "Workshop on Vulnerability and Education" at Amherst College, Mass.

**Professor James Redwood's** book "Love Beneath the Napalm" (University of Notre Dame Press), a collection of short stories, was reviewed in the May/June 2014 issue of the *American Book Review*.

**Professor Sarah Rogerson** participated in a panel on "Emerging Issues in State-based Immigration Reform" as part of the Government Law Center's 2015 Warren M. Anderson Legislative Seminar Series on Feb. 24. She was invited by the federal Office on Violence Against Women to participate in a roundtable on July 22, discussing how OVW and law school clinical programs can collaborate to increase access to legal services and support for survivors.

**Professor Christian Sundquist** was Visiting Scholar in Residence, Institute for Research in Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison for the spring 2015 semester.

**Professor Evelyn Tenenbaum** participated in a panel discussion at Albany Medical College on March 25, following a screening of the Frontline documentary "Being Mortal," exploring the relationships that doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life and discussing crucial issues related to caring for the dying. Also in March, she presented "Legal and Ethical Issues Related to Paired Kidney Donation and Kidney Chains" at Touro Law School. She presented "Medicine and the Law" at Albany Medical College on Dec. 17, and she presented "Mandatory Immunizations for Health Care Workers" to the Health Law Society in November. Professor Tenenbaum presented "Legal and Ethical Issues Related to Paired Kidney Donation and NEAD Chains" at the Health Law Professor's Conference at Hastings College of Law on June 7.

**Professor Donna Young** participated in the panel *Tenure, Austerity, and Academic Freedom* at U.C. Davis Law School, ClassCrits Conference, "Poverty, Precarity & Work: Struggle & Solidarity in an Era of Permanent(?) Crisis." November 14, 2014; she is the founding president of the Albany Law School AAUP Chapter.

For a complete list, go to [www.albanylaw.edu/faculty](http://www.albanylaw.edu/faculty)

## Dean's Book Series Features Two Star Authors



Betty Medsger, author of "The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover's Secret FBI."



Clare Huntington, author of "Failure to Flourish: How Law Undermines Family Relationships."

### KEEPING TEACHING AND RESEARCH SKILLS CURRENT AND SHARP

Over the past two semesters, the faculty held some 20 professional development workshops, using the time to bring in outside experts on a variety of teaching methods, as well as sharing their own research among themselves for feedback. Named for a former professor, teaching topics for the Gathii Faculty Workshop Series looked at legal research and writing methods, integrating the teaching of doctrine and skills, identifying learning outcomes for students, and more. Research areas explored included Social Security, labor law, balancing government accountability with destroying government records, the length of a public-school year, and drones. ▲



# ADVANCEMENT MATTERS

## Building Connections, Building Careers for Albany Law Students

BY ANNE MARIE JUDGE

INTERIM ASSISTANT DEAN FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT



THERE IS NO ONE LIKE AN ALBANY LAW ALUM WHO CAN UNDERSTAND OUR STUDENTS AND THE CALIBER OF THEIR EDUCATION.

It has been a great year for Albany Law alumni and our alumni relations staff. As we travel the east coast to Washington, D.C., Boston, New York City and to upstate New York, we are always impressed by the enthusiasm of the alumni we meet and the new connections we help them to make with the school, with each other, and with our students and prospective students. This year, Dean Alicia Ouellette '94 will continue to attend events around the state and country to meet her fellow alumni.

On campus the Dean, our faculty and staff are energized to be moving ahead with our strategic plan initiatives. It is no secret that the legal profession and the practice of law are changing. Our goal is to do even better at not only

preparing the next generation of lawyers, but enabling our graduates to hit the ground running with the skills they need to thrive in their careers.

That means that the Law School is using the career pathways model to help students focus their curricula, focus their work with a mentor, plan their internships and ultimately achieve their career goals. There will always be a place here for traditional law, but we are helping students strengthen and build new skills that fit the new workplace.

There is no one like an Albany Law alum who can understand our students and the caliber of their education. Your experience is valuable to us. We need you to visit our campus and spend time with students, talk about your career, answer their questions and help them

to visualize career choices. We are so fortunate to have alumni serving as mentors, lecturing in our classrooms and CLEs, working in the clinic, visiting the career center and doing pro bono activities—because you bring insights and real-world perspective to their studies. And you are helping to make new connections that could lead to employment.

Help our students learn about new ideas and make new connections to make Albany Law even better. If you live or work near the school, attend some of our many campus events. If you are farther away, connect with us when we have alumni events in your city, and meet some of our young (or older) alumni. Volunteer to help out with admissions events in your area. It is a

competitive landscape out there and whatever help our alumni can provide is extremely valuable. Thank you for your part in this.

We are doing well, but we always need your financial support. Your continued gifts to the Annual Fund each year ensure a dependable and ongoing source of funds for our operating budget and other important needs such as student scholarships, faculty retention and recruitment, student organizations, activities and journals, well-maintained facilities, computing and library resources, among others.

Thank you for your shared commitment to excellence, collaboration and continued improvements that make Albany Law School stronger—and stay connected. **A**



## Panels Help Students Learn of Career Paths, Meet Contacts

Dozens of panels through the year focused on a range of career pathways—some narrow, some broad—helping students build their own paths and understand the context of their classroom experiences.



Above, a panel talks about using the J.D. degree for non-traditional career paths. From left: Laura Brundage, Court Administration, Connecticut and New York; Johanne Floser, Chief Manager, Teal, Becker and Chiaramonte; Tara Venditite, Technical Director, Ayco Company, a Goldman Sachs Company; Jennifer Walters, Director, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Career Center; and Kathy Ann Waburton, Personnel Director, City of Oneonta.

## Students Introduced to State Bar Sections

The New York State Bar Association sections set up tables around the gym to introduce students to the range of the Bar's services, at the same time exposing students to the breadth of careers awaiting them with a law degree.



David Miranda '88, president of NYSBA, speaks to students about opportunities as Bar members.



NYSBA event helps students understand breadth of opportunities awaiting them.

## Panel Describes In-House Legal Careers



Debbie Hoffman '96, Chief Legal Officer, DigitalRisk



David H. Verbraska '96, Vice President, Worldwide Public Affairs and Policy, Pfizer

## Public Sector Forum Seen as Start of Long Relationships



More than 60 public sector employers set up stations in the East Foyer of the 1928 Building to meet students, and talk about their organizations which included non-profits, public agencies, and court systems. Countless relationships that have started at these annual events have led to employment matches, said Joanne Casey, Interim Assistant Dean of the Career Center. **A**

## Albany Law Rugby Football Club Anniversary Weekend *April 17-18, 2015*



Pictured from left: Father Kenneth Doyle '78, President Andrews, Bill "Buckwheat" Pulos '80 and John "Buzz" Aldrich '76



Father Doyle '78, patron "saint" of the rugby club at dinner, held in his honor.



Albany Law Rugby Football Club's Lady Misdemeanors!



Jim Ferguson '13 (center) spirals the ball. Photo credit: Allison Bradley '11



Rugby alumni group shot!



Fans come in all shapes and sizes.

## Annual Golf Tournament & Tennis Outing *Schuyler Meadows Club, Loudonville, June 16, 2014*



Stacey Whiteley, Executive Director, Albany County Bar Association, and event co-host, salutes our event sponsors, including Westwood Capital, our Eagle sponsor!

## Give Day a Success!



Our alumni gave 350 gifts in our second annual 24-hour give day held on May 1st. Frank Willey '78 jump-started the event with a \$25,000 challenge match. Thank you Frank! From left, his son Michael '16, Frank and his wife Karen.

## Annual Day at the Races

*Saratoga Race Course, August 10, 2014*



Winners of the Best Hat and Tie Contest, from right, Clotelle Drakeford '11 and Justin Law '11 with President Andrews and NAA President Amy Kellogg '02.

## Albany Law Grads Recognized by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York for their Pro Bono Work



From left: Executive Director Karen Murtagh '85, Nicholas Faso '12, Grace Mellen '14, Mary Cipriano-Walter '14, and Laura Mona '12; Samantha Howell '10, PLS Director of Pro Bono and Outreach.

## Alumni Basketball Boasts Wins over Wide Range of Other Law Schools

An Albany Law alumni men's basketball team has been competing for a number of years against other law schools. They recently defeated teams from Syracuse and Western New England alumni before losing to Rutgers Law in the tournament.



From left, front row: Adam Briskin '11, Andrew McNamara '09, Alex Shmulsky '07, James Morrill '09, Justin Law '11. Back row: Steve Goldman '08, Michael Hinkley '05, Keith Halabuda, Jacob Wilkinson '07 and Anthony Santoro '13.

## Rochester Alumni Reception at Constellation Brands *May 5, 2015*



Trustee Tom Mullin '76 with his wife Carol '76 hosted the Rochester Alumni reception.



Jonathan Ferris '12, Katerina Kramarchyk '14, John Forbush '12 and Sanjeev Devabhakthuni '10 with some Albany Law spirit!



Ronald Bircher '71; Tom Gilman '76; Robert "Buzz" Schild '74; Richard Doyle '78; The Hon. Daniel Barrett '78

## Rochester Alumni CLE *May 6, 2015*



Albany Law's National Alumni Association offered 8 free CLE credits on hot topics in the law. NAA Board Member Peter Glennon '04 and J. Michael (Mick) Woods '94, present on litigation and discovery.

## NYC Welcome Reception

*Union League Club, New York City, December 4, 2014*



Trustee Jack Withiam '74 (fifth from right) next to Dean Ouellette '94 generously hosted a welcome reception for recent graduates to the Metro NY Alumni Chapter.



Michael Garcia '89, partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, speaks with students during a campus visit.

## Metro NY Alumni Reception *The London NYC, April 30, 2015*



Abigail Nitka '05, Beth Cooper '05, Dean Ouellette '94, Sofya Borchard '05, Ilana Goldfarb '05, NAA Board Member Joel Binstok '81, Amanda Jehle '05



Minerva John-Stull '98, Melanie Sanders '12, Patrick Woods '12 and NAA Board Member Ginnesa Gailliard '07



## A Foundation for Success

TOM GILMAN '76 TALKS ABOUT FRIENDSHIPS, LESSONS THAT ESTABLISHED HIS CAREER.

Raymond “Tom” Gilman recalls the early morning chill on the Albany Municipal Golf Course. He remembers the rise and fall of the robins’ songs and the crack of a drive off the first tee even before the groundskeeper had arrived.

A senior at Albany Law in the spring of 1976, he and three friends—two of them upperclassmen—had established a routine in preparation for the bar exam. After playing a round and paying the groundskeeper, they returned to campus for an audio review course and a long afternoon of study, leaving time for a late dinner of pizza and beer.

The rhythm of recreation and study kept them focused, he says, and moving forward in the face of pressure. It was miles beyond his freshman year, when no amount of study had seemed enough and worry could quickly become counterproductive.

Indeed, all four passed. Tom credits upperclassmen at Albany Law for modeling out the habits that got him through, and the university for equipping him to serve clients well.

“I often hear other lawyers saying that the real education began the day they got out of law school,” says Tom, a partner with Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP in Rochester, established by his grandfather, 1910 Albany Law graduate Andrew Gilman. “I’ve always disagreed completely. I do use the fundamentals I learned at law school every day, even now, nearly 40 years later.”

A trust and estate lawyer, Tom also practices what he preaches. “I’m not the school’s biggest donor,” he says, “but I’ve been an annual donor consistently since I walked out the door.” He has also made provisions for Albany Law in his will.

Tom’s loyalty doesn’t end there. He and his foursome have been back almost every year for the homecoming golf tournament.

“For us, law school wasn’t just a prerequisite to getting the jobs we wanted,” he says. “We were building a foundation upon which to build a career. The education was, and remains, valuable to my role as I strive to do what my clients need and expect of me, day after day.”

## Years of Hard Work Pays Off

TARA ANNE PLEAT '02 CREDITS ALBANY LAW FOR THE RECOMMENDATION THAT CHANGED HER LIFE.

Tara Anne Pleat is talking about life-changing moments—times when years of hard work invested in a dream come to fruition. In this case, it’s a job interview in 2004.

“The synergy was evident immediately,” Tara Anne says.

She had graduated two years earlier from Albany Law School and worked for firms in Boston and Albany. She also had stayed in contact with professors she’d admired at Albany Law.

When a Clifton Park firm contacted Professor David Pratt requesting recommendations for an open position, Tara Anne came to mind. They gave her a call.

“I knew it was a firm with a great reputation,” she says. It was also closer to her extended family at a time when she and her husband had just had their first child.

In the interview, she connected immediately with the partners’ focus on client respect and collaboration. It was clear that her strengths in trust and estates law dovetailed with theirs.

She took the job—and a few years later, when her son was diagnosed with Asperger’s syndrome, the relationship proved even more synergistic. Ed Wilcenski, one of the firm’s partners, had a developmentally disabled brother and had focused his career on special needs planning and trust administration.

Tara Anne began to also advocate for clients managing the complex world of disability services. “There’s a built-in understanding and empathy,” she says. “The issues, frustrations, fears and concerns in working through the delivery system are ones we have for our loved ones, too.”

Now a partner and co-owner with Wilcenski & Pleat PLLC, she marvels at the serendipity of that 2004 interview. She’s also grateful for the deep satisfaction the work brings. “When you’re able to help your clients find the right pathways to a better quality of life for their loved ones, you don’t forget that and your clients don’t forget that,” she says.

Tara Anne has made annual contributions to Albany Law and named the school as beneficiary of a whole-life insurance policy.

“A lot of my success can be attributed to what I learned and the relationships I forged when I was there,” she says. “I will give to Albany Law until I’m dead or broke. I wouldn’t be where I am without it.”

## Right Place, Right Time—Right Career

ROBERT COAN '58 RECALLS THE CHANCE THAT SHAPED HIS FUTURE

Robert Coan marvels when he describes his admission to Albany Law. A 1955 graduate of the State University of New York at Albany, he had been offered a position teaching history and English on Long Island. He’d also worked part-time for the New York State Assembly throughout college, and his mentors there urged him to consider law school.

Now, about to accept the teaching job, he considered the salary and wondered: Did he have what it took for law school?

He put on a sport jacket and tie, grabbed his transcripts and met with Dean Andrew Vernon Clements at Albany Law. Yes, he was aware that May was late in the application process. No, he hadn’t taken the law aptitude test.

He was unaware that two Albany Law graduates were scheduled to arrive shortly, each an hour apart. Each man’s son had applied for fall admission, but Dean Clements was concerned that neither candidate seemed academically ready.

### A PIVOTAL DECISION

The dean paused and read quietly through Bob’s transcripts, finally asking: “Can you afford it?”

“Yes, sir,” Bob replied.

“OK,” the dean responded. “Go tell the registrar you’ve been accepted.”

Looking back, Bob recalls the rigorous coursework at Albany Law, Dean Clements’ pointed questions in criminal law and how Prof. Samuel Hesson stepped up to help with a loan for tuition the semester his car transmission went out.

He recalls graduating in the top 10 of his class and Dean Clements recommending him for his first job, with the esteemed Schenectady firm Higgins, Roberts, & Beyerl, P.C.—which added him as a partner four years later.

### INSPIRED TO GIVE BACK

It’s why he has given back to the law school through annual donations, and now, a bequest.

“I earned a good living all those years, and I’ve been happy with my career,” Bob says. “I’ve been fortunate, all because I went to Albany Law at that exact hour on that exact day.”

He chuckles. “If I’d gone the next day, it would have been all over—the dean would have already made his choice. God had a hand in that.”



The DeMatteo Gymnasium transformed into an elegant dinner venue. Special thanks to designer Aimie Wockenfuss for her incredible talent.

## ALUMNI WEEKEND 2014



Albany Law gear for sale at our new bookstore located in the ACP Student Center.



Cassandra Kelleher-Donnaruma '04, Colin Donnaruma '05 and their daughter, anticipated member of the Class of 2030!



Watching Jeanne Benas draw caricature of parents Alla Reyfman-Melamed '04 and Gary Melamed '05



Professor David Pratt "holding court" in the Courtyard



Adrienne Bonilla '03, Ann McBride '03, Jenetta Howe '14 and Autondria Minor '04



Bill Horne '84, Nick Canelos '84, Richard Hoyt '84 share a laugh.



The Honorable Robert P. Best '54 and wife Sue celebrate his 60th Reunion with Helen Monaco '94 (far right).



Interim Assistant Dean for Institutional Advancement Anne Marie Judge with The Honorable Tom McAvoy '64 and his wife Sandra.



**Class of 1964:** James Spencer and wife Eleanor, Hon. Tom McAvoy and wife Sandra, Thomas Dolin '64 and wife Nancy



Steven Farer and Harold Bonaquist receive trophy from President Andrews for the class who raised the most money in celebration of the Class of 1974's 40th Reunion. We thank you!!



**Class of 1979:** Scott Duesterdick, Claudia Ryan, Susan Antos, Prof. Debbie Mann, Peter Klein; backrow: Paul Herrmann, Art Domy, NAA Board Member, and past president, Larry Schiffer, Jane Scott



**Congratulations to Class of 1984 for highest attendance!** Front row: Elizabeth Hileman, Richard Hoyt, Donna Ross, Tom Callahan (holding trophy), Betty Lugo, Bill Horne, Barbara Sheehan; back row: Paul Sieloff, NAA Board Member Liz Loewy, Adele Taylor Scott



**Class of 1989:** Glenn Fjernermedal, James Carlucci, James Christo, Dawn Jablonski, Gennaro (Jerry) Bruni



**Class of 1994:** Front row: Debra Reisenman, Rob Rausch, Ted Robinson, Albany Mayor and Trustee Kathy Sheehan, NAA Board Member Megan Rurak; Back row: Dean Alicia Ouellette, Trisha Schell-Guy, Helen Monaco



**Class of 1999:** Jonathan Whalen, NAA Board Member Joshua Vinciguerra, Christine Cronin, Claudia Ima, Bridget Scally, NAA Board Member Jason Cooper



The Class of 2004 has a lot of spirit! Autondria Minor, Karen Rhoades, Paula O'Brien



## COMMENCEMENT



### Albany Law School Celebrates Class of 2015 at 164th Commencement

BY NICK CROUNSE

Approximately 170 students crossed the Saratoga Performing Arts Center's stage during the law school's 164th Commencement, held May 15, 2015, in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. The ceremony began with a welcome from Board Chair Dan Nolan '78 and a stirring rendition of "America the Beautiful" by Barbara Chandler, a paralegal in the Law Clinic & Justice Center who is retiring this summer after 27 years at the law school.

"The average age of your class when you started was 23," Dean Ouellette told the class. "I bet you feel a bit older today."

President Penelope (Penny) Andrews introduced the Commencement speaker, The Honorable Leslie Stein '81, a member of the law school's Board of Trustees who was recently confirmed as an associate judge of the New York Court of Appeals.

"One of the strengths of Albany Law School is its active alumni network, many of whom are sitting here today," said President Andrews before detailing Judge Stein's many accomplishments. "I encourage you all to stay connected."

"Becoming a lawyer opens up infinite possibility," said Judge Stein. "You should be open to everything."

Judge Stein described her path to New York's highest court, a somewhat circuitous route through a clerkship, firm practice and judicial positions.

"Life is not predictable. It's not meant to be. Life is a challenge," said Judge Stein. "Mark my words: you all will find success. But it probably will not be in precisely the way you imagine it today."

After Judge Stein's address, President Andrews presented Glenn Lau-Kee, the 117th president and first Asian-American president of the New York State Bar Association, with the Albany Law School Dean's Medal for his exemplary service to the legal profession.

Max Lindsey, president of the Class of 2015, addressed his classmates and other attendees after the conferral of degrees, presenting the annual Friend of the Class award to Associate Dean for Student Affairs Rosemary Queenan. He also announced the class gift of \$2,500 for a sound system in the law school's gymnasium.

The 164th Commencement ceremony concluded with National Alumni Association President Amy Kellogg '02 welcoming the Class of 2015 as Albany Law School's newest alumni.

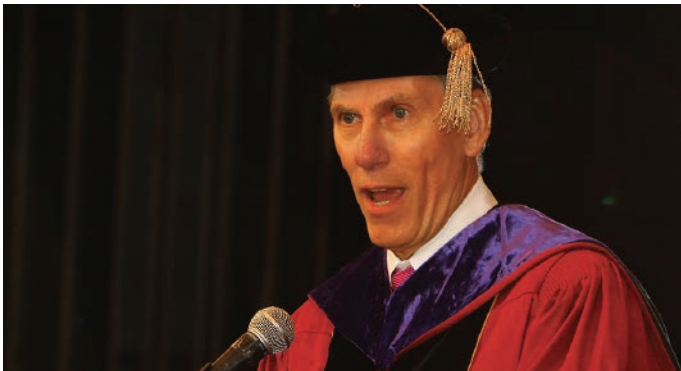




President Andrews



Associate Dean Queenan accepting the Friend of the Class award, presented by Max Lindsey '15.



Board Chair Dan Nolan '78 conferred degrees



Commencement speaker Judge Stein '81



Staff member Barbara Chandler sang America the Beautiful. She will retire this year after 27 years.

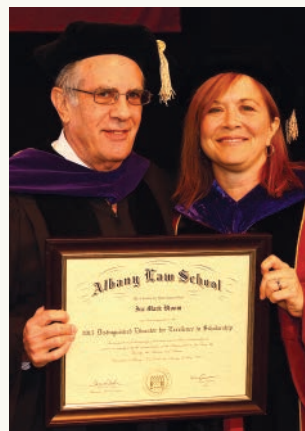
## Three Professors Honored at Commencement for Teaching, Service and Scholarship



Professor Michael Hutter



Professor Nancy Maurer




Professor Ira Bloom

At each Commencement ceremony, Albany Law recognizes three outstanding members of the faculty in three award categories: teaching, service and scholarship. This year, Professor Michael Hutter, Professor Nancy Maurer and Professor Ira Bloom received the awards.

Professor Michael Hutter received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching after a number of students submitted enthusiastic, detailed and heartfelt nominations on his behalf. Many of the nominations shared common themes, including Professor Hutter's exceptional teaching inside and outside of the classroom, his availability and willingness to share his wealth of knowledge, and the real practice experience that he brings to his instruction.

Professor Nancy Maurer was recognized with the Faculty Award for Excellence in Service for her dedication not only to the students at Albany Law, but also to the greater community. Professor Maurer places students in meaningful field placements and travels with her students to moot court competitions. She also serves the regional and statewide disability advocacy community and the national and international clinical community.

Professor Ira Bloom received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Scholarship for producing a body of work that is seen as influential and required reading in his field for New York state and the country. Professor Bloom is the author of numerous law review articles, co-author of nine law school casebooks on tax and trusts and estates, and principal author of the two-volume treatise *Drafting New York Wills and Related Documents*. 

# CLASSNOTES

## CLASS OF 1966

**Hon. Stephan Ferradino** has retired from the New York State Supreme Court.

## CLASS OF 1968

**Stephen E. Ehlers** has retired from many years of federal litigation.

## CLASS OF 1971

**Hon. Joseph Teresi** has retired from the New York State Supreme Court.

## CLASS OF 1974

**Marjorie Karowe** received Albany Law School's Kate Stoneman Award.

**Richard A. Mitchell** has been recognized by the Hudson Valley, N.Y., Council of the Boy Scouts of America with the 2014 Distinguished Citizen Award.

**Thomas J. O'Connor** has received the Brigid Nolan Memorial Award for Pro Bono Service to Victims of Domestic Violence from The Legal Project in Albany.

**Francis D. Phillips** has retired as Orange County, N.Y., district attorney.



**Doreen Simmons** has been ranked as a "2014 Lawyer of the Year" by Corporate LiveWire magazine.

## CLASS OF 1975

**Hon. David Brockway** has retired as a Family Court/Acting Supreme Court Judge of Chemung County, N.Y.

**James T. Towne Jr.** has been appointed to the Ethics Board for the Town of Ballston, N.Y.

## CLASS OF 1977

**Edward G. Watkins** has been elected President of the American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys.

**Hon. Victoria Graffeo** has joined Harris Beach PLLC as a partner in their Albany office.

**Hon. Kathleen Martin-Rogers** has retired from a successful career as a St. Lawrence County, N.Y., Surrogate Court Judge.

**Harold Semanoff** has been selected as a Legal Leader and Top Rated Lawyer in Medical Malpractice for 2015.

## CLASS OF 1978

**Richard Casserly** will be serving as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Uniform Law Commission.

**Rev. Kenneth Doyle** has been appointed Chairman at the Albany Airport Authority.

## CLASS OF 1979

**Charles A. Marangola** has joined Karpinski, Stapleton & Tehan, P.C. in Auburn, N.Y., as Of Counsel.

## CLASS OF 1980

**Donald G. Dunn** has been elected chair of the Labor and Employment Section of the New York State Bar Association.

**Prof. Marina Lao** has been appointed Director of the Federal Trade Commission's Office of Policy Planning in Washington, D.C.

## CLASS OF 1981

**Robert J. Rock** has been made managing partner for Tully Rinckey PLLC's headquarters in Albany.

## CLASS OF 1982

**Kevin M. McArdle** has returned to private practice at Campany, Young & McArdle, PLLC in Lowville, N.Y., after his long career as a municipal attorney and law clerk.

## CLASS OF 1983

**Louis Pierro** has been recognized for his excellence in pro bono service from the New York State Bar Association.

## CLASS OF 1984

**James W. Orband** has been re-elected to serve as managing partner at Hinman, Howard & Kattell LLP in Binghamton, N.Y.

**Andrew C. Rose** has received the Building Sustainable Communities Award in the Capital Region, from The GOBY Awards.



**Arthur J. Siegel** has been admitted to The American College of Trial Lawyers.

## CLASS OF 1985

**Frank G. Hoare** has been appointed general counsel of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services in New York.

**David Scott Sloan** has been named Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Boston Conservatory.

## CLASS OF 1986

**Richard S. Hartunian** has been named vice chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee as announced by Attorney General Eric Holder. He has also been inducted into the Niskayuna, N.Y., High School Hall of Fame.



**Peter J. Pullano** has been named managing partner for Tully Rinckey PLLC in their Rochester, N.Y. office.

**Jeffrey A. Siegel** has joined O'Connell and Aronowitz in Albany as a shareholder.

## CLASS OF 1987

**Terresa M. Bakner** has been elected chair of the Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

**Ellen Brotman** has been named in the 2014 "Women of the Year" in "The Legal Intelligencer."

**Richard J. Licht** is the Executive Director of the Integrated Intelligence Center at the Center for Internet Security in East Greenbush, N.Y.

**Mark R. Marcantano** has been named president and chief operating officer of Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island.

## CLASS OF 1988

**Cailie A. Currin** has been appointed to the Board of Trustees at SUNY Adirondack in Queensbury, N.Y.

## CLASS OF 1989

**Sandra M. McDermott** has joined Goldberg Segalla in Albany as a partner in its Global Insurance Services Practice Group.

**Christopher M. Scaringe** was voted the CFO of the Year—2014 by the Albany Business Review. He works at North American Services Group.

**Regina Treffiletti** was recognized for her excellence in pro bono services from the New York State Bar Association.

## CLASS OF 1990

**J. Kevin McCarthy** has become Senior Vice President and General Counsel at BNY Mellon in N.Y.

**Pamela A. Nichols** has received the Heart of Business Award in the Capital Region from The GOBY Awards for her volunteer service.

**Valerie Parlave** has been named the FBI's Executive Assistant Director of Human Resources in Washington, D.C.

## Zeldin '03 Enjoying His Moment as Freshman Congressman



**As the only Jewish Republican member of Congress, he found himself quickly thrust into a visible position on Middle Eastern issues, particularly involving Israel.**

Congressman Lee Zeldin's classmates would not have voted him "most likely to run for office." Between working part-time for a state senator and fulfilling his ROTC obligations, he was stretched to his limits with time.

"During law school my goal was to pursue a career in the military," Zeldin said, who represents Suffolk County (New York's 1st Congressional District), the eastern portion of Long Island. "I had no intention of becoming politically active."

After law school he spent four years in the Army serving as a military intelligence officer, federal prosecutor and military magistrate. He then returned to his Long Island home, transferring from active duty to the Reserves with a rank of major.

The urge to return to public service quickly began to gnaw at him. "When I returned home I was paying more attention to politics and policies at local, state and national levels." He ran for Congress in '07 but lost. He then started his own practice. "I considered joining a small firm, but after talking to several firms and crunching the numbers, I realized I could do as well or better on my own."

He tried again for public office, running for state senate in 2010 and winning, where he served for four years until his election to Congress in November 2014, defeating incumbent Congressman Tim Bishop.

As the only Jewish Republican member of Congress, he found himself quickly thrust into a high-profile position on Middle Eastern issues, particularly involving Israel, after only a few months in office. (Congress has 21 Jewish Democrats.) He has been interviewed by most major national news outlets several times for his position on issues around Iran, Israel and related areas.

Along with serving on three committees, he co-chairs the 100-member House Republican Israel Caucus.

"My experience in Congress has been amazing so far," Zeldin said. "I don't take any moment for granted. The challenge is to stay grounded, to balance between Congressional work and family."

Zeldin looked back at the path that led him to his current position, noting, "If I had to chart the path again, I would choose Albany Law School again." Focused on law school from the start, he participated in the "3+3" joint program with University at Albany and Albany Law School. However, Zeldin earned the 90 UAlbany credits required for the program after only his second semester at UAlbany. At the time of law school graduation, he was New York's youngest attorney at age 23.

"I remember the happy hours on Fridays when I started, and I might have been the only student not old enough to drink," he joked.

Zeldin lives in his hometown, Shirley, with his wife and two daughters. —DS

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NAME	DATE OF ALBANY LAW SCHOOL GRADUATION OR ATTENDANCE	YEARS OF SERVICE IN CONGRESS
Bailey, John M.	1864	1878-81
Bennet, William S.	1892	1905-11, 1915-17
Camp, John H.	1860	1877-83
Carrigg, Joseph L.	1924	1951-59
Cole, William S.	1929	1935-57
Conger, Edwin H.	1866	1885-90
Davidson, James H.	1884	1897-1913, 1917-18
Gardner, Washington	1876	1899-1911 (Michigan)
Holmes, Charles H.	1855	1870-71
Kearney, Bernard W.	1914	1943-59
King, Carleton J.	1926	1961-74
Martin, David O.	1973	1981-93
McClellan, George	1880	1913-15
McEwen, Robert C.	1947	1965-81
Miller, William E.	1938	1951-65
Mitchell, John H.	1901	1910-11, 1913-15
Powers, Llewellyn	1860	1877-79, 1901-08 (Maine)
Sanford, Rollin B.	1899	1915-21
Seymour, Henry W.	1856	1888-89
Southwick, George N.	1885	1895-99, 1901-11
Taylor, Dean P.	1926	1943-61
Warner, John	1876	1891-95
Wharton, James E.	1922	1951-65
Whitley, James L.	1898	1929-35
Zeldin, Lee M.	2003	2014-

*All served from New York except the two noted.*

## Against the Odds, Ma Gambles on New York and Draws Her Ace



**“I went to law school for this exact position.”**

With a Master's degree focused on casino operations from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, Di Ma '14 next searched for the right law school. She looked at the states most likely to allow commercial gambling in the near future. She placed her bet on New York and decided the state's capital offered her the best odds.

Today, a year out of school, she is the Manager of Commercial Gaming for the New York State Gaming Commission, a new position created to manage the upcoming commercial casino activity.

“I went to law school for this exact position,” she said.

She sits at ground zero for the state's soon-to-be running commercial casinos. She has collected and examined 20-plus sets of rules and regulations from across the country for guidance as she helps develop regulations for New York.

“I believe in the positive aspects of gambling,” Ma said. “We are going to promulgate the gold standard of gaming regulation. The potential is enormous. We want to make it the safest environment possible for all stakeholders. Strong, sensible rules will demonstrate the value that properly-managed gaming can provide to the community.”

An early affinity for casinos lured Ma to Las Vegas after earning a Bachelor's at the University of Maryland College Park. In Las Vegas she watched first-generation immigrants and other underprivileged people prosper in the gaming industry. “There was no barrier to entry,” she said. “You don't need a degree to achieve success in this field.”

But seeing so many workers unaware of their employment rights, managers uninformed about compliance issues, and lawyers unfamiliar with business operations, Ma considered learning the law. Fast forward to today, where the precise role she set out to fill materialized for her. “The regulations are needed to protect the employers, the consumers and the business. That's the goal and there are models for us to draw from, as well as make it unique for us.”

Priorities for the state include addressing diversity issues, access for those disabled and problem gambling—a serious problem for a small portion of the gambling population, Ma said.

Ma is grateful for Professor Christine Chung's class “Hot Topics in Financial Market Regulation,” where, she said,

the professor pushed her to understand the principles of a robust regulatory framework. “What is the best approach for regulation, regardless of the industry,” Ma said. “I apply Prof. Chung's lessons every day at this job.”

Ma is part of the Excelsior Service Fellows program selected by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo '82. Started two years ago, 10 of Albany Law School's 2014 graduates joined 12 fellow Albany Law alumni from the previous class. The program places the graduates in full-time positions for two years alongside senior members of the administration with the intent to grow the next generation of public policy leaders. The fellows come together monthly to hear speakers talk about issues like open meeting rules and freedom of information laws.

As manager of commercial gaming, Ma said the staff is expected to grow toward the end of her fellowship and hopes for the opportunity to stay with the position. “This is an historic time for New York and I'm very fortunate to be here, right now, doing exactly what I had hoped to do with my law degree.” —DS

### CLASS OF 1991

**Denise Gonick** has been elected to the Business Council of New York's Board of Directors.

**Hon. Richard Rivera** was elected Albany County Family Court Judge. He is the first person of color elected to the bench at the County level and the first Hispanic judge elected at any level in Albany County.

### CLASS OF 1992

**James Barriere** has joined Hinckley Allen & Snyder LLP in Albany as a partner.

**Karen Guyder Felter** has joined Smith Sovik Kendrick and Sugnet in Syracuse, N.Y., as a partner.

**John Sassaman** has joined Boeing's Government Operations program in Chicago as the ethics director.

**Kevin M. Walker** has been working at the FBI in Washington, D.C., as an Equal Employment Opportunity officer.

**Mark Zaid** has been named a Washington, D.C., Super Lawyer in Administrative Law for his 2014 work in national security.

### CLASS OF 1993

**Elena DeFio Kean** has received a certificate in Labor-Relations Collective Bargaining Studies from Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. She has been elected member-at-large on the Executive Committee of the New York State Bar Association.

**Debra J. Lambek** has been appointed to the board of Community Maternity Services in Albany.

### CLASS OF 1994

**Michelle L. Haskin** has received the Professionalism Award by the Committee on Attorney Professionalism of the New York State Bar Association.

**Peter Ziparo** has joined Visteon Corporation, in Van Buren Township, Mich., as vice president and general counsel.

**CLASS OF 1995**

**Diana B. Cavall** has started her own practice—The Cavall Law Firm, PLLC in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Megyn Kelly** has been named to the list of The 100 Most Influential People in the World by TIME magazine.

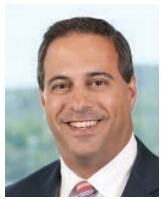
**Stephen Kirkwood** has been named an In-House Counsel winner at the Philadelphia Business Journal's 2014 Corporate Counsel Awards breakfast.

**Hon. Kevin Law** has been appointed Administrative Law Judge for the NYS Division of Tax Appeals.

**James S. Rizzo** has joined Hilton Estate & Elder Law, LLC in Utica, N.Y.

**Kenneth A. Rosenberg** has been installed as president of the Essex County (N.J.) Bar Association.

**Peter J. Weishaar** has been appointed President and Managing Partner at McConville Considine Cooman & Morin, P.C. in Rochester, N.Y.

**CLASS OF 1996**

**Peter Lauricella** has been selected to lead Wilson Elser's litigation practice in their Albany office.

**Seth Pachter** has joined Kogan & DiSalvo P.A. in Boynton Beach, Fla., as an associate.

**John Queenan** has been named managing partner at Iseman, Cunningham, Riestler & Hyde, LLP in Albany.

**Carla R. Shouldice** has been elected senior vice president and chief of staff to New York Life Insurance Company's Chairman in Manhattan.

**CLASS OF 1997**

**Shannon K. Corbitt** has joined the Albany County District Attorney's Office as the lead in the Major Crimes Unit.



**Larry P. Cote** is serving as the subject matter expert in Drug Enforcement Administration Compliance Online Training in Washington, D.C.

**Eric M. Galarneau** has joined the Albany County District Attorney's Office as the head of the Street Crimes Unit.

**Lt. Col. George McHugh** has been selected to serve as staff judge advocate for the New York National Guard, 42nd Infantry Division in Troy, N.Y.

**Hon. George D. McHugh** has received a lifetime appointment as a federal judge. He will be a Federal Administrative Law Judge for Social Security's Office of Disability Adjudication and Review in Albany.

**CLASS OF 1998**

**Megan Malone** has joined the Rensselaer County District Attorney's office.

**Lisa Mills** has been recognized for her excellence in pro bono service from the New York State Bar Association.

**Keith Starlin** has joined the New York State Attorney General's office.

**CLASS OF 1999**

**Michelle H. Ladouceur** has joined the St. Lawrence County, N.Y., Surrogate Court as court attorney for the Hon. John F. Richey.

**Tara Moffett** has been promoted to partner at Girvin & Ferlazzo, P.C. in Albany.

**Milinda Reed** has received a Trailblazing Woman Award for the Community Foundation Women's Fund in Albany.

**Tania F. Seaburg** has been promoted to Chief Policy and Operations Officer at NYSARC, Inc. in Delmar, N.Y.

**Megan B. VanAken** has joined McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, P.C. in Albany as an associate attorney.

**CLASS OF 2000**

**Frank H. Hamlin III** has been appointed to serve as the Grassroots Chairman for the New York Banker's Association.

**Catherine Hedgeman** has received the Stakeholders Founders Award from The GOBY Awards. She was recognized for her exemplary volunteer services in New York's Capital Region.

**Alumni Association President Applied to Albany Law on a Dare**

BY NANCY KELLY



**At 15, Fernandez left the Dominican Republic for the United States, arriving unable to speak English.**

"I applied to law school on a dare," said Thania Fernandez '85.

At 15, Fernandez left the Dominican Republic — where an attorney-diplomat half-brother was military attaché, Ambassador to Italy and Secretary of State — for the United States, arriving with no English. Finishing high school in New York City, she enrolled at Utica College of Syracuse University, graduating in 1983 with a B.A. in International Studies. But she knew she wasn't finished with school.

"I always knew that I would be a lawyer," she said. "I just did not know when." She had good reason to question her timing. She married, raised three children, now grown, and ran her first-husband's commercial plumbing and heating business.

Then came the law school dare at a family gathering.

She and a relative both applied; she was admitted, he wasn't. Her then-husband said, "OK, you won... now life can go back to normal." Fernandez went forward instead.

"I never had to work as hard as I needed to in law school," she said. "I needed to become well organized and expeditious," especially as she added volunteering to the challenges of her studies and to family obligations. She photographed for the law school yearbook, served as co-editor in her third year, and did translations for a federal judge.

"My first job out of law school was a result of my volunteerism," she said. "I did not choose (state service), it chose me." Graduating in 1985 and passing the bar, she became an Assistant Public Defender in Albany County, then Assistant County Attorney, Averill Park Town Attorney, then Associate Counsel in the New York State Legislature and Deputy General Counsel in the New York State Consumer Protection Board.

During that time she volunteered with a state political committee, "100 Hispanic Women, Capital District Chapter," Airline Ambassador International, Albany Law's NAA, and the School's Diversity Program.

At Albany Law's 2011 Commencement, she personally handed her daughter Allison Bradley her diploma.

Fernandez loves her work as Assistant Counsel to the New York State Department of Education Office of the Professions (OP) where she advises members of various state boards for the professions and OP staff.

She is excited to be incoming president of the Albany Law School National Alumni Association. "Students need alumni to mentor them, new graduates need alumni to offer continuing legal education, and the school needs successful alumni to provide venues for recent graduates to do their required pro-bono work."

"I am hoping that in some way I can reach Albany Law School alumni and let them know that their law school needs them now."

## A Miller's Tale: At 91, Vernon Miller Talks about Intense Poverty, Law School, and a Rich Military Career

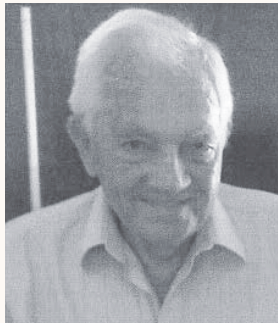
BY COL. VERNON MILLER



Miller at his retirement ceremony in October 1982, receiving the Legion of Merit, the highest civilian award from the Department of Defense.



Miller on a trip to Canada in July 1951 after graduating from law school.



Miller at his 90th birthday in March 2014.

I credit the law degree that I received at Albany Law School in 1951 as one of the most important events in my life. It not only provided me with a sound legal education, but it also convinced me that I could compete successfully against others.

I was born in 1924, in Au Sable Forks, N.Y., a paper-mill town in the Adirondacks. My father was the town Constable. Our residence in this town of 2,000 residents was on the third floor of an apartment house in town. When I was a year-old, a town fire leveled 47 buildings, including our apartment house. Fortunately, we were not home that night.

In the new residence, we had neither water nor electricity, so we had to go outside to a well and outhouse. We had kerosene lamps, a small kitchen stove and a wood stove. Heat for the two bedrooms on the second floor was provided by the stove pipe which passed up through the center of the building. Most of our food every week was furnished by my grandparents who had a farm about 10 miles away and came to town in the earlier days by horse and wagon. Every Saturday they

furnished us with vegetables, eggs, butter and sometimes meat.

The Depression had commenced in 1929 and I remember my father doing part-time jobs to supplement his meager constable salary. . . . There was never enough extra money for a movie, or even an ice cream cone, so my hopes of ever owning a bicycle was merely a dream. The word "college" was never mentioned in my home as the only academic goal set for us was graduating from high school, which I did in 1941. My GPA placed me 9th in a class of 51. Only one graduate, the local M.D.'s daughter, went on to college.

I took the State exam and passed it in June 1948 and was awarded a certificate stating that I was qualified to attend "any law school in the State of New York." I immediately applied to Albany Law School and, after considerable delay, was accepted.

I proudly reported to school in the fall of 1948. It was an over-crowded class as we numbered 125 and there were only a hundred seats in the room. Consequently, the overflow were placed at tables and

**Amy Royal** has been named Campaign Co-Chair of the United Way of Hampshire County, Mass., 2015 fundraising campaign.

**John Vero** has been elected to serve as vice chair of the Leadership Council for the New York Chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business.

### CLASS OF 2001

**Anzala B. Alozie** has been selected as the Vice President of Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.

**Vincent DeLeonardis** is the new attorney for the city of Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

**Creston Laager IV** has joined the Rensselaer County District Attorney's office.

**Dean LaClair** has been named partner in the law firm Falge, LaClair, Hvozda and Cassidy, P.C. in North Syracuse, N.Y.

**Maureen Maney** has been named co-chair of Onondaga County, N.Y., Bar Association's trial lawyers.

**Matthew Mozian** has made partner at Campoli & Monteleone in Pittsfield, Mass.

**Jennifer P. Nigro** has been named of counsel at Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelley, Dubin and Quartararo in Riverhead, N.Y.

### CLASS OF 2002

**Samuel J. Kaufman** has been elected president of the Math Science Innovation Center Foundation Board in Richmond, Va.

### CLASS OF 2003

**Jessica Giroux** has been promoted to Senior Counsel & SVP, Federal Regulatory Policy at The Bond Dealers of America in Washington, D.C.

**Jessica J. Hall** has joined the Rensselaer County District Attorney's office as Chief Assistant ADA.

**Janet M. Silver** has been elected President of the Albany County Bar Association.

### CLASS OF 2004

**Adam H. Cooper** has been named co-chair of the Leadership Tech Valley Steering Committee with the Albany-Colonie and Schenectady Chambers of Commerce.

**Erica Detraglia** received the Dutchess County, N.Y., Bar Association's Ameer VanTassell Young Attorney's Award.

chairs on either side of the teacher's rostrum for the first semester. I assumed that most, if not all, had college degrees so I never discussed my pre-law days at Champlain College. I simply went to work to prove myself and was shocked when 47 people in our class were handed pink slips at the end of the first semester. I recall being 62nd in the class at that time, not too far from the bottom, which was 78. We had been cautioned by Dean Clements on the first day that only about half of the class would graduate and were obviously headed in that direction. We lost another dozen at the end of the second semester so I worked even harder. I realized from the start that everyone was better prepared for law school than I was so I probably worked twice as hard as anyone else in the class.

As the Centennial Class, our graduation in June 1951 was a two-day affair and we were honored by having a host of dignitaries there including Justice Jackson of the Supreme Court who had been the Chief Prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials.

We had 74 graduates (62 from the original class) and only 43 (including me) passed the two-day bar exam. Although low, the percentage of only 61% passing in our class was higher than the overall State percentage that year. It was obvious that the method by Dean Clements, specifically concentrating on the top half of the class, would always result in a more competitive group when taking the bar exam. In those days, Albany Law School was the leader in the State. We had only one female in our graduating class.

I had taken all the tests for the FBI at the Albany Federal Office but the Korean War, which had started earlier, caused me to change my mind following graduation. I felt obligated to the government as my success to that point was all due to the assistance of the VA. As a result, I walked into the Air Force recruiting office and asked if they needed a lawyer. As the Air Force (formerly Army Air Corps) was only four years old at that point, the USAF commissioned me as a 1st Lt. within weeks. I was asked if I would volunteer for Korea and said "yes".

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**Although low, the percentage of only 61% passing in our class was higher than the overall State percentage that year.**

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That assignment was the beginning of an extremely rewarding 30-year career as an attorney for the Air Force. At the end of my second year there, I completed an extension course in "Foreign Affairs" given by Cambridge University.

Following three years of active duty, I was employed as a Civilian Attorney in our International Law branch. Although I resided in Germany, my work covered a large area of responsibility, which extended to and included Saudi Arabia.

During my career, I spent the first eight years in Europe followed by seven years at Patrick AFB in Florida, which supported all Defense activities at Cape Canaveral. After 12 years as a military officer or civilian lawyer, I left the Air Force JAG department while at Patrick AFB to become a Foreign Affairs Officer and the Special Assistant for International Affairs as the Commander of the newly organized National Range Division, which supervised defense missile operations on the Eastern and Western Test Ranges.

After 10 years in the United States, I returned to Wiesbaden in 1970 as the Director of Foreign Affairs in Europe. Essentially, my overall work involved implementation of agreements with foreign countries as well as the enforcement of all rights, immunities and privileges that were relevant to NATO countries.

I never gave thought to practicing law in New York State as I loved my job in the federal government. Although I had achieved a high level of success as a civilian attorney, I had remained in the JAG reserve where I had been promoted to the rank of Colonel. I retired in 1982 and never hung up a shingle in the state.

Thinking back to my early childhood, I honestly believed that I'd never live the American Dream. I am very grateful to Albany Law School for their role in my successes in life!

*FOR THE FULL STORY, GO TO  
WWW.ALBANYLAW.EDU/MILLERS\_TALE*

**Peter J. Glennon** has established his own firm, The Glennon Law Firm PC in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

**Susan Plonski** has been appointed the first woman to lead the Ulster County, N.Y., Department of Public Works.

#### **CLASS OF 2005**

**Forrest Andrews** has joined the Office of the City Attorney in Miami, Fla.

**Scott P. Quesnel** has been promoted to partner at Girvin & Ferlazzo, P.C. in Albany.

**Ricja Rice** has been elected First Vice President of the Capital District Black and Hispanic Bar Association.

**Rachel Ryan** has been appointed as a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission advisory committee on small and emerging companies.

#### **CLASS OF 2006**

**Kelly M. Naughton** has been named a partner at Burke, Miele & Golden, LLP, and has been named a 2014 New York Rising Star Super Lawyer.

**Sergio D. Simoes** has been named partner at Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper in Westfield, N.J.

**Ariel Solomon** has been chosen as a 40 Under 40 winner by the Capital District Business Review.

**Adam H. VanBuskirk** has joined Karpinski, Stapleton & Tehan, P.C. in Auburn, N.Y. as an associate attorney.

#### **CLASS OF 2007**

**Justin Birzon** has joined Deily & Glastetter, LLP in Albany as an associate.

**Kathryn E. Jerian** has been promoted to General Counsel for NYSARC, Inc.

**Scott D. Lukowski** has joined Slockli Slevin & Peters LLP in Albany.

**Zachary Pratt** has joined Goldberg Segalla in Albany as an associate.

#### **CLASS OF 2008**

**Megan E. Coleman** has joined Burke & Casserly in Albany as an associate attorney.

**Kurt Haas** has joined the Law Office of Cheryl Coleman in Albany.

**Nathan Sabourin** has joined Hinckley Allen & Snyder LLP in Albany as an associate.

**Adam Silverman** has received the Stanley A. Rosen Memorial Award from The Legal Project in Albany.

**Carmina K. Tessitore** has been recognized as a Top 40 under 40 of Family Lawyers in the State of Connecticut for 2014 and 2015.

## With a Packed Car and Journalism Degree, Sheehan's Youthful Move to Albany Proves Worthwhile



When Albany Mayor Kathleen Sheehan '94 left her home state of Ohio for a job in the Capital Region, she packed her red Dodge Shadow and drove east without a second thought.

"You go where the work is," she said. "That's what my family did when I was growing up. I've always associated new places as a new job opportunity, a new adventure."

Albany has been her home since she first arrived nearly 30 years ago, where her career took several 90-degree turns all within the region. A broadcast journalism major, she initially came east to work on a local television home show. After that job she worked as the communications director for the Catholic Diocese.

After five years of working the two jobs, she attended Albany Law School. Older than most of her classmates and engaged to be married by time she started law school, Sheehan's boundless capacity for work was already in play. She served on *Law Review* as note and comment editor, held work-study positions for Professor Ira Bloom and Professor Mary Lynch, interned at the Department of Environmental Conservation, and worked at the area firm Bond Schoeneck and King in her third year.

"Law school was a great experience for me. It gave me multiple opportunities to see what I could do with my degree," she said. "I was interested in public policy, I figured I'd work in government after law school." But after her internship at the DEC, she learned that she didn't want a career in a regulatory environment.

**Sheehan was married in the summer before her second year of law school, and lived around the corner from classmate and *Law Review* peer Dean Alicia Ouellette '94, who, Sheehan recalled, brought her son Sam to class occasionally.**

Before Albany Law, Sheehan said she applied to other law schools around the country and received generous scholarship offers. "But I loved the city, I loved the environment of the school, that the professors seemed to be involved and engaged, and that the school was here in the capital."

Sheehan was married in the summer before her second year of law school, and lived around the corner from classmate and *Law Review* peer Dean Alicia Ouellette '94. "We had a great class, we were like a family. Where else can you have those Halloween parties in the gym?"

After graduating she stayed on full time with Bond Schoeneck and King, working in the area of labor law. From there she joined Intermagnetics General Corporation (IGC) and stayed for 11 years, leaving about a year after Philips Medical Systems bought the company. She ran for the office of Albany treasurer, won the election and served a term before becoming the city's first woman mayor—dating back some 325-plus years.

### Life as Mayor

As city treasurer, the work was non-stop and intense, but she was able to walk downtown, eat at a restaurant, food shop without fanfare. As mayor, stopping at the store on the way home could tie her up for hours talking to people.

"That's something I had to get used to, and that's what being a mayor is about." She likes to emphasize that her job is

more about providing on-the-ground services for people than promising large "pie-in-the-sky" long term change that may or may not happen. She rattled off a list that included items like clearing snow or fixing a bad intersection.

While she has well-documented big-picture goals for the city, what feels best, she said, is when a neighborhood comes to her with a plan and needs the city's help as a partner. "A group will come to us, say, to fix up their park, rather than the city coming in on its own and implementing its own plan. That's when we make things happen as a community."

With the loaded calendar of a city mayor, and civic groups large and small demanding her time, Sheehan keeps her commitment to the law school as a Board of Trustee member. "I've always been busy and worked hard," she said, suggesting that a "24-7" job is not new. "But it's important to give back to the school because I had a great experience."

She started small with her engagement with the law school, she said, helping students with mock interviews and serving on panels to talk about careers. As her career elevated, she raised the level of her commitment, culminating in her current role as board member and generous donor.

Asked how her classmates would characterize her back in law school, the Mayor responded after some thought, smiling: "I probably talked too much in class. I raised my hand a lot." —DS

### CLASS OF 2009



**Kathryn Coleman** has joined Wilson Elser in Albany as an associate attorney.

**Daniel Lindenberg** has joined the North Shore—Long Island Jewish Health System as Associate General Counsel.

### CLASS OF 2010

**Destini K. Bowman** has received the Daily Record's Excellence in Law award as an Up and Coming attorney in Rochester, N.Y.

**Sanjeev Devabhakthuni** has received the William E. McKnight Award for his pro bono services for the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County, N.Y.

**Sara Ostrander** has joined Zwiebel and Fairbanks, LLP in Kingston, N.Y., as an associate attorney.

**David Rozen** has received the Civic Engagement & Advocacy Award in the Capital Region from The GOBY Awards for his volunteer service.



**Ryan S. Suser** has joined Bousquet Holstein PLLC in Syracuse, N.Y., as an associate attorney.

### CLASS OF 2011

**Jessie R. Cardinale** has joined Pedowitz & Meister, LLP in New York City as an associate.

**Clotelle Drakeford** has opened her own firm in Hudson, N.Y., and has received the Trailblazer Award from the Albany County Bar Association. She has been elected secretary of the Capital District Black and Hispanic Bar Association.

**Jordan T. Haug** has joined Handel & Carlini, LLP in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., as an associate attorney.



**Christopher Stevens** has joined Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC in Albany, as an associate.

**Ashley Weiss** has joined the Rensselaer County District Attorney's office.

## CLASS OF 2012

**Mark Belkin** has joined the New York State Bar Association as a CLE Program Attorney.

**Kyle W. Crandall** has established his own law firm in Herkimer, N.Y.

**John Kenefick** has joined the Law Office of Andrea J. DiDomenico in Mechanicville, N.Y.



**Laura Mona** has been awarded the Paul J. Curran Award for Pro Bono Service by the Prisoner's Legal Services in Albany.

**Swarna Ramakrishnan** has joined Seeger Weiss in New York City, N.Y., as an associate.

**Erica Rangel** has been named a "2014 Rising Star" from the New York Law Journal.

**Daniel S. L. Rubin** has joined Girvin & Ferlazzo, P. C. in Albany as an associate attorney.

**Kendra C. Rubin** has joined the NYS Governor's Office as Assistant Counsel.

**Chad Caplan** has joined Hinckley Allen & Snyder LLP in Albany as an associate.

**Nicholas Davoli** has joined The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission as a prosecutor.

**Gregory S. Demarco** has joined Schiller & Knapp, LLP in Latham, N.Y., as an associate attorney.

**Elizabeth M. Emery** has joined Fotheringill & Wade, LLC in Baltimore, Md., as an associate attorney.

**Alex Hill** has joined The Thenell Law Group in Portland, Oregon.

**Edward R. Hitti** has joined Ianniello Anderson P.C. in Clifton Park, N.Y., as a loss mitigation attorney.

## Circuitous Route Takes Deskalo from ESPN to FOX Sports

BY MICHAEL HOCHANADEL



Was there a "DETOUR" sign outside Yaron Deskalo's ('07) Milwaukee home?

Deskalo's circuitous, rapid route to L.A.-based coordinating producer of Fox Sports Live led through print and TV news internships, journalism school, Albany Law School and an MBA at the same time, and an Emmy-winning stint at ESPN.

"I peaked athletically at the age of nine," joked Deskalo. A fan of the Packers, the University of Wisconsin Badgers and the Brewers, he quickly gravitated to sports journalism. In high school, he interned at a Milwaukee newspaper and CBS TV outlet simultaneously. By graduation summer, he was producing the sports segments for the 5, 6 and 11 p.m. newscasts there.

Studying at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, he worked at the same radio station where Bob Costas, Mike Tirico and Sean McDonough had worked; then he interned at ESPN Classic, producing long-form stories. "I worked on a two-part documentary celebrating 100 years of the New York Yankees and loved it," he said. Graduating a semester early (winter '03), he joined ESPN Classic's 25th anniversary project. By May he was working on a documentary about 9/11 shutting down the sports world, "a life-changing experience."

**Among many amputees from Liberian civil wars, Deskalo found two soccer teammates: one minus a leg, the other an arm. Once enemies, "They were all healing together, on this team, and trying to put the past behind them."**

Those stories convinced Deskalo to continue working at ESPN, but he realized a law degree and an MBA would offer advantages in the industry.

"Unlike many who go to law school, I didn't have a specific vision of myself as a lawyer," said Deskalo, who liked Albany, living on Quail Street, then Lenox Avenue. "I really liked the people and the community," he said. In three years, he completed law school plus an MBA in International and Global Studies from Union Graduate College. "I was confident that understanding other cultures would be important to my success." He spent scarce downtime at the Lionheart, Bomber's and Andy's; the Saratoga track, golf at Capital Hills and Mill Road Acres.

While studying for the bar he joined E:60, a new ESPN outlet for long-form stories. Just 12 days after E:60 launched, "I was headed to Spain to produce a story on baby bullfighters," Deskalo recalled, "still one of my favorite stories."

At E:60, he won Emmy Awards for stories on a former Binghamton University basketball player and a Liberian amputee soccer team.

The ex-Binghamton basketballer assaulted a fellow student in a bar, then fled to his native Serbia when his mother brought him fake papers. "We traveled to Serbia and found him playing basketball

for a pro team two hours north of Belgrade," said Deskalo.

Among many amputees from Liberian civil wars, Deskalo found two soccer teammates: one minus a leg, the other an arm. Once enemies, "They were all healing together, on this team, and trying to put the past behind them."

Wife Erin's snowy commute across Hartford helped persuade her to move to Los Angeles where Deskalo joined a staff of 45 on Fox Sports Live.

"It's been incredibly challenging," said Deskalo. "To create a show from scratch is trial by fire."

Albany Law School helped him thrive in this 60-hours-a-week pressure cooker. "Law school taught me how to think, and think differently," he said.

"In broadcasting, that's the key to success... We're constantly evolving. Having a JD/MBA has continued to push me into thinking about content in ways it doesn't yet exist; and to solve problems that seem unsolvable."

"Early at E:60, I often was assigned stories that involved digging through documents and case files," he said. "That came very easy to me, based on my training. It was the way of thinking that really has allowed me to be successful in this field. I also think having those degrees at 25 gave me a level of credibility as soon as I walked in the door. I then had to prove it."

## After Decades in Albany, Salkin Enjoying New Life as Dean of Touro Law



**“I love to be creative, that was the best part of directing the GLC... Except I no longer need permission from the Dean to pursue projects. I am the Dean.”**

After calling Albany home for 30 years, former Albany Law School Associate Dean and Director of the Government Law Center Patricia Salkin '88 moved to Long Island to serve as Dean of Touro Law Center in July 2012.

Despite suggestions from Touro faculty and staff that the weather was better on Long Island than in Albany, on her first day Salkin was ushered down to the basement during a Tornado warning, only to be followed three months later by Hurricane Sandy, and then a 'Noreaster shortly thereafter.

“I guess I took the place by storm,” Salkin joked.

The challenging climate on Long Island that year proved to be an opportunity for Salkin who quickly created a clinic to serve the storm victims, which earned national attention.

Fast forward two years and Salkin has settled in well to her new surroundings. She has developed a firm handle on the culture of the school, formally called the Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, as well as the area's legal and business communities.

The campus is located in Central Islip, Long Island, across from a federal and a state courthouse, providing direct access for students. While the law school is part of the larger Touro College and University System—which includes more than 30 other schools—the campus is located more than an hour from the main headquarters in Manhattan. Salkin has pursued joint

degree programs and other initiatives designed to bring faculties together. As co-chair of the State Bar Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, she reminds everyone that the clock still ticks quickly as challenges mount for legal education across the country.

Her accomplishments include the establishment of new institutes on land use and sustainable development, aging and longevity law and an international justice center for post-graduate development, which includes helping to establish the Community Justice Center of Long Island, a law-school supported incubator for start-up law firms. She has led the development and adoption of a strategic plan, expanded the Law School's Board of Governors, created an Alumni Advisory Council, and launched a planned giving legacy society for the school.

Salkin's most ambitious initiative at the moment is the building of student housing. She still blogs daily on Law of the Land for her more than 2,000 subscribers and keeps current her comprehensive land use publications: the 4-volume 4th edition of *New York Zoning Law & Practice* (1999-present) and the 5-volume 5th edition of *American Law of Zoning* (2008-present).

“I'm having a great time,” she says about her new life. “I love to be creative, that was the best part of directing the GLC... Except I no longer need permission from the Dean to pursue projects. I am the Dean.”

**Anne Marie Lusk** has started a solo practice, The Lusk Law Firm, PLC in Minnesota.

**Lawrence P. Magguilli** has joined the office of the NYS Medicaid Inspector.

**Alexander E. Mainetti** has joined Mainetti, Mainetti & O'Connor, P.C. in Kingston, N.Y., as associate attorney.

**Stephen Maloney, Jr.** has joined Gabriele & Marano in Garden City, N.Y., as a law clerk.

**Jonathan S. McCardle** has joined Featherstonhaugh, Wiley & Clyne, LLP. in Albany as an associate attorney.

**James R. McHenry** has joined McHenry, Horan & Pilatsky, PLLC in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

**Benjamin Pomerance** serves as Counsel for the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs.

**Steven Sacco** has joined African Services Committee in New York City, N.Y., as a staff attorney.

**Matthew Simone** has joined the DeLorenzo Law Firm in Schenectady, N.Y., as an associate.

**Merima Smajic** has joined the City of Utica, N.Y., as a legal assistant.

**Dana Stanton** has joined McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams in Albany as an associate.

**Bradley Stevens** has joined Lemire Johnson & Higgins LLC in Malta, N.Y.

### CLASS OF 2014



**Gina T. Angrisano** has joined Carter, Conboy, Case, Blackmore, Maloney & Laird, P.C. in

Albany as an associate attorney.

**Bryan Bergeron** is an Excelsior Service Fellow working at the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.

**Alexandra N. Besso** has joined E. Stewart Jones Hacker Murphy Law Firm in Troy, N.Y., as an associate attorney.

**Malcom Butehorn** has joined CICU in Albany as their Director of Government Relations.

**Jessica R. Coombs** has joined Burke and Casserly, P.C. in Albany as an associate attorney.

**Courtney Denette** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NY State Liquor Authority, Office of Counsel.

**Francis Dwyer IV** is an Excelsior Service Fellowship at the NYS Department of Public Service.

**Steven Friedman** has joined Allianz in New York City, N.Y., as a legal specialist.

**Sean D. Glendening** is an Excelsior Service Fellowship at the NYS Department of Transportation.



**Brianne Goodwin** has joined Carter, Conboy, Case, Blackmore, Maloney & Laird, P.C. in Albany

as an associate attorney.

**Daniel Hubbell** has joined Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP in Albany as an associate.

**Jellisa Joseph** has joined the Brooklyn DA's office as an assistant district attorney.

**Di Ma** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Gaming Commission, Division of Gaming.

**Vanessa A. Murphy** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

**Mary Ellen Nocero** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs.

**John J. Phelan** has joined Smith, Sovik, Kendrick & Sugnet, P.C. in Syracuse, N.Y., as an associate attorney.

**Kristin A. Rogers** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance.

**Stephen Rosemarino** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Workers Compensation Board, Office of Waiver Agreement Management.

**Felicia Valle** is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance.

**Matthew M. Zapala** has joined Ganz Wolkenbreit & Siegfeld LLP in Albany, as an associate attorney.

## MARRIAGES

**Kelleena Richards '98** and Grant Roberts were married in October 2014.

## BIRTHS

**Alissa Yohey '01** and her husband, Christopher Templeton, welcomed their son, Nolan Christopher, on May 3.

**Brandy Murphy '02** and her husband, John, welcomed their third son, Maveryck, on July 10, 2013.

**Jessica R. Giroux '03** and her husband, **Bob Lalley '05**, welcomed their daughter, Asis James Lalley, on November 24, 2014.

**Lisa M. Ogden '03** and her husband, Joe, welcomed a son, John Richard, on April 30, 2014.

**Jacqueline Zore-Smrek '03** and her husband, Rob, welcomed their second son, Austin Ryan, on March 11, 2014.

**Christopher Hemstead '05** and wife, Brook, welcomed their daughter, Tess Elinore, on March 2, 2015.

**Jennifer Albright '06** and husband, **Mark Kaplowitz '06**, welcomed daughter, Rosemarie, on Sept. 27, 2014.

**Heather Hage '06** and husband, Christopher Rositano, welcomed a son, Jamison, their third child, on May 13, 2014.

**Lincy Jacob '07** announced the birth of her daughter, Anna Marie, in March 2014.

**Rebecca L. Kannan '09** and husband **Naresh Kannan '13**, announced the birth of their daughter, Margot, in April.

**Benjamin Loeffke '10** and his wife Megan, announced the birth of their son, Cullen Frederick.

## The Jiang's, Despite Distance, Stay Close to the Law School



Li and Peng Jiang continue to keep Albany Law School in their thoughts. Both members of the class of 2003, both from China, they met at law school the first semester, started dating soon after and married a month after graduating.

Peng grew up in Qingdao, a coastal city famous for its beer. He attended Qingdao University, then Iowa State University for his master's degree in hotel management before law school. Li grew up in Chongqing in the southwest of China, along the Yangzhi River. She went to the Southwest University of Political Science and Law in China, earned her Bachelor's degree, then studied for her Master's in Business at the University of Bridgeport, Conn., before attending Albany Law.

They then moved to New York City, where Peng worked for Sullivan & Cromwell and Li worked for Kevin Kerveng Tung P.C. They moved to Hong Kong, where they lived for seven years, and

had their two daughters, Peng worked for Sullivan & Cromwell initially, then moved to Debevoise & Plimpton, Latham Watkins, and Skadden Arps while Li worked for Ng & Shum Solicitors, a Hong Kong law firm.

In 2012 they moved to Beijing, where Li now works at the law firm Jincheng Tongda & Neal, and Peng works as in-house counsel for the China Investment Corporation, a PRC sovereign wealth fund. Their daughters are Nan and Shan.

The Jiang's continue to stay connected and support the law school. They offered tours of their firms to Albany Law students during the School's former annual trips to China over spring break.



## They'll Always Have the DAMC

Every spot on the Albany Law campus means something to someone. Chaula Shukla '13 and Matt Tulio '13 had Contracts together in 2011 in the Dean Alexander Moot Courtroom. Matt proposed to Chaula in the same room this past fall, the room where they are pictured above. They will be married in October in—not the DAMC—Westchester County. This year Chaula finished her two year position as the Clinic & Justice Center's Barry A. Gold Health Law Fellow. Matt is an Excelsior Service Fellow at the N.Y. Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance (OTDA)—Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).



Guin Steward '10 and Rob Shore '10 were married in Toronto on Sept. 13, 2014. Guests, from left, are: Earl Redding '03, Marisa Floriani '10, Linsey Capaceltro '09, Peter McCormack '10 Chris and Kim Michaels '10, Andrea Sisca '10, John Braunstein '10, Lisa Ugelow '10, Courtney Kelly '10 Jeremy Moon '07 and Jennifer Kim—former staff at the clinic.

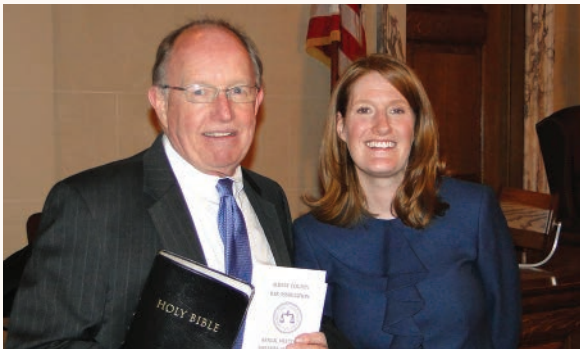
## U.S. Attorney Hartunian '86 Appointed Vice Chair of the U.S. Attorney General's Advisory Committee



Richard S. Hartunian, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York, was appointed to serve as vice chair for the Attorney General's Advisory Committee. The committee serves as the voice of the United States Attorneys and advises the Attorney General on policy, management and operational issues impacting the offices of the United States Attorneys.

## Silver '03 Serving as Albany County Bar President

BY ELYSE OOSTERMAN



Silver at her swearing-in with former New York State Supreme Court Justice Bernard J. Malone, Jr. '72

Janet Silver '03, president of the Albany County Bar Association, is the youngest woman to lead the Albany County Bar Association in its 115-year history.

Silver is a principal with Hinman Straub, where she focuses on education, economic development, health, human services and research. She has been an active member of the County Bar for more than a decade, currently serving on the Albany County Bar Association's Court of Appeals Screening Committee and overseeing the Association's Pro Bono Programs.

She is a delegate to the New York State Bar Association.

## Parlave '90, FBI Director, Spends Day on Campus as Alumna in Resident

Valerie Parlave '90 spent her afternoon encouraging Albany High School and Troy High School students to consider a career in the FBI. She then met with Albany Law students discussing the career opportunities throughout the agency. The day culminated in a one-hour talk titled *"Building on Our Past to Protect Our Future."*

In her current role, Parlave leads the FBI's Human Resources, Training, and Security Divisions, as well as its Leadership Development Program. Prior to this assignment, Parlave was the Assistant Director in Charge of the Washington Field Office, the second



largest field office of the FBI. As Assistant Director, Parlave was responsible for all FBI operations throughout the nation's capital region, including the investigation of the September 16, 2013, Navy Yard shootings in Washington, D.C.

## Storace '58 Passes Away Before Lost Class Ring Is Returned to Him

A package postmarked from Vermont was mailed to the Albany Law School Alumni Office with information about a found class ring. "I found this ring at a grocery store in Ghent, N.Y., years ago. I posted a sign but no one ever claimed it. One of my kids recently dug it out of my jewelry box and I thought I should try again."

The alumni office looked for A. Thomas Storace, the name engraved on the ring, finding his residence at The Eddy Village Green at the Beverwyck, in Slingerlands, N.Y. But it was too late. His executrix, Patty McKay, a friend of Storace, told us, "Al passed away before I received the ring, so he didn't learn the story but he would have been tickled, I'm sure."

A. Thomas Storace, or "Al" to his friends, passed away just nine days before he could be reunited with his class ring. McKay said that Storace was fond of his memories of Albany Law. "His license plate was A58, the year that he graduated from Albany Law School."

Storace spent most of his legal career in public service, starting in the 1960s as counsel to the New York State Office of Substance Abuse Services. A classical music listener, Alphonsus—his formal name—attended Siena College before Albany Law.

According to information presented by Edward O. Spain for the Rensselaer County Bar Association's Annual Memorial Service, "Al was a very quiet man, a very humble man... He was known for his attention to detail, a stickler for following the policies and rules of the agency to a 'T'. He has been described by others as being very kind and respectful to all he dealt with... with a wonderful dry sense of humor."

Described as a "quiet and private person," he sang "loudly and clearly at church services. "



## A Peripatetic JAG and a Natural Teacher

BY NANCY KELLY



Ralph Capio '73 has never stayed in one place for long. A decorated veteran also once named the U.S. Air Force's outstanding senior attorney of the year, Capio grew up with Air Force life as the son of a WWII Air Corps colonel. He earned his bachelor's degree in business in 1965 at Rutgers, where he became "the guy at the head of the parade": ROTC cadet colonel and commander of the cadet corps.

After graduation and flight school training at the height of the Cold War, Capio was assigned to Plattsburgh AFB as a navigator/bombardier on a B-52 Superfortress, armed with nuclear weapons on continuous alert in Operation Chrome Dome. "We'd take off and fly up over the North Pole for 6 or 8 hours, find a tanker and refuel, on 25 hour missions. It was right out of Dr. Strangelove. It was pretty tense up there." He then flew 50 combat missions in Vietnam from bases in the Pacific. Returning to Plattsburgh, he decided on a military career. "I liked the sense of discipline, the camaraderie, the feeling that you are committed to something besides just making money, doing something for your country." But after this tour, he also decided to go to law school.

Capio had never met an attorney, but he wanted the skills to move beyond work on an air crew. He drove from

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**"We had \$100 million in contracts the first year alone. We sold them frigates and F-15s. Then we had a murder in the kingdom. I had to court-martial a general and do war crimes investigations."**

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Plattsburgh to hand-deliver his Albany Law School application to assistant dean John Welch, and two weeks later, his acceptance letter arrived. He also joined the New York Air Guard unit in Schenectady. Capio also completed a Masters of Public Administration at the University at Albany in 1974. He earned a top score on the NYS Civil Service professional exam and from a number of offers, selected the Department of Transportation. But Capio grew restless, so he applied for the JAG program. He spent the next 25 years as an active-duty JAG. "I liked being an attorney, and I liked being an officer, so it was the best of both worlds."

Capio also has a yen for education. He taught night school for three-plus decades, including introductory law and business courses. He has published articles on international contract law and on topics such as the organizational longevity of the Papacy, the atomic bombings in Japan, and military courts of the Russian federation.

He's had one interesting job after another, in some unusual places. An early JAG assignment was in Misawa, Japan. Siberian swans wintered there, and an airman on the base shot one. "It turns out that all wild animals belong to the emperor. So we had to take care of that." Capio adjudicated the incident. Eager to move on in his career, Capio

applied to an Air Force graduate law program and earned an LLM degree in contract law at George Washington University. "I like contract work. It's a nice discrete little body of the law. And you deal with a better class of people than criminals. Although I spent a lot of time on court-martial cases, prosecuting everything from AWOL to murder." Sent to Weisbaden, Germany, Capio wore two hats: one as legal counsel for the Courts Martial and one as general counsel for the U.S.A.F. Europe Contracting Center for all service, supply and construction contracts from the Azores to North Africa. All of the contracts were under U.S. law, and the team had to work on many issues.

Then he returned to the States to earn yet another master's degree, in International Business Studies at St. Louis University. Shortly after, he became diplomatically accredited to the Republic of Italy as legal advisor to the U.S. Ambassador. There he met Pope John Paul II.

During the first Gulf War, Capio returned to active duty as JAG, and then was assigned to contract work in Saudi Arabia. "It was fascinating, and there was a lot going on, all kinds of contract issues. We had \$100 million in contracts the first year alone. We sold them frigates and F-15s. Then we had a murder in the kingdom. I had to court-martial a general

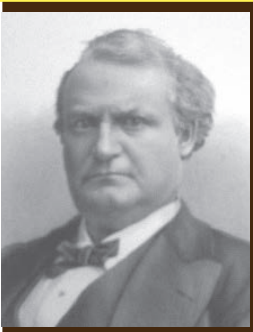
and do war crimes investigations." His final Air Force duty returned him to St. Louis, where he retired and joined a law firm, but the work didn't suit him. He joined the adjunct faculty at St. Louis University. Today, he has a consulting firm and has worked with clients ranging from the World Bank, setting up legal counsel in Afghanistan, to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Graduate School, leading training programs throughout the Pacific island nations. He also teaches seminars on government contract administration around the country.

"I always had a real warm spot in my heart for the law school because it really was such a major change in my life. It gave me a career and a life I wouldn't have had otherwise. I had a chance to see the world, and it all started in Albany," said Capio. "It was such a rewarding career, to do interesting work and good work. Contracts is a nice little body of rules, there is always a place to start and the rules are easily ascertained. Unless they cheat on the contracts."

Capio married the "woman who stole his heart" in Plattsburgh. He and Heather have a son and twin baby granddaughters in St. Louis. "La famiglia" is keeping him closer to home these days.

## COLTON AND HIS DESIRE TO RUN WITH THE BIG FOUR

BY LISA SUTO | PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARY ASSISTANT



The “Big Four” were the robber barons who created the Central Pacific Rail Road: Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, Charles Crocker, and Collis Huntington. David Colton, class of 1859, was an ambitious man who wanted to join their ranks. Had he been asked, would Colton have described himself as an adventurer and self-made man? He traveled west to work in the mines, was sheriff of Siskiyou County, Calif., was named a general in the state militia, and traveled back east to study law at Albany Law School. His fellow classmate Ralph C. Harrison convinced Colton to return to California to open a law partnership together. Colton eventually left the partnership because he wanted to achieve greater financial success than his practice could provide. Unfortunately for Colton he would not achieve the kind of success he wanted for himself.

How did Colton become involved with the Big Four? His neighbor was Charles Crocker. He developed a friendship with Crocker that led to him being introduced to Stanford, Hopkins, and Huntington. The problem for Colton was that he was not liked by Stanford and Hopkins, but luckily Huntington realized he needed Colton to help with the complexities of running a monopolistic railroad. Even though they allowed him into their inner circle Colton was forced to sign a contract that protected the Big Four’s interests but left him vulnerable. According to the contract, he was given shares in the Central Pacific and Southern



Pacific, but he had to pay the Big Four \$1 million dollars within five years or lose everything. Also, the contract could be canceled by either Colton or the Big Four anytime within the first two years. In 1876 Colton almost lost everything because the Big Four thought his ego was out of control as a result of his bragging about his association with them—they spared him.

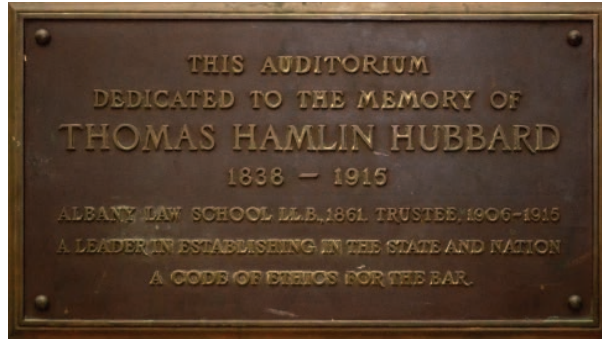
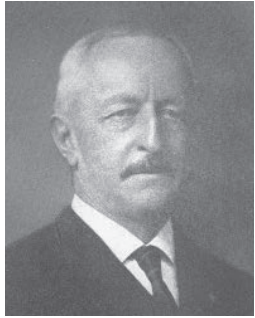
How was Colton going to raise enough money to pay off the loan? Both the Big Four and Colton had shares in the Western Development Company. Colton’s scheme to pay a Western Development dividend to meet his obligations surprised and angered the Big Four so much that Colton was forced to sign a contract that he could not sell his shares, use them to pay his debt, and they could demand the amount back at any time.

Colton died unexpectedly in October 1878 leading to speculation he was murdered. He actually died from injuries from falling off a horse. Colton’s wife inherited his estate and fought two court battles against the Big Four. She lost both cases, but through her husband’s letters destroyed their reputations.

Colton wanted to play with the big boys, but he just did not have what it takes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COLTON’S CAREER, SEE OSCAR LEWIS’S BOOK, *THE BIG FOUR*, PUBLISHED IN 1938.

IT WAS THE DAYS WHEN THE OCTOPUS—THE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD—OWNED THE GOVERNMENT OF CALIFORNIA.



Often credited as the donor who financed the gym, the plaque in the gym states: This auditorium dedicated to the memory of Thomas Hamlin Hubbard 1838-1915

## Thomas Hamlin Hubbard: The Ethical Robber Baron

BY ROBERT EMERY | REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

Albany Law alumni may not recognize the name T. H. Hubbard (1838-1915), class of 1861, but they surely remember the gym that his money built. In fact, Hubbard was among the most successful and prominent graduates of the law school's early years. A native of Maine and a graduate of Bowdoin College, Hubbard was already a member of the Maine bar before he attended Albany Law; his admission to the New York bar followed soon after. Like many other Albany Law graduates, he had a distinguished career in the Union Army during the Civil War, rising from lieutenant to brigadier-general in the Maine volunteer infantry. After the war, Hubbard practiced law in New York City, specializing in corporate litigation and reorganization. It was this specialization that gave his career a turn away from law.

When we think of the railroad promoters and investors in the post-Civil War gilded age, the “robber barons,” we see them in a lurid light. It is in view of the stock machinations, irresponsible financial maneuvers, and overbearing political manipulations of figures like Jay Cooke, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Collis Huntington, or Leland Stanford,

that we think of the “railrooges” (Ambrose Bierce’s term) who dominated corporate finance of the time. Those were the days when the Octopus (to use the title of Frank Norris’s novel), the Central Pacific Railroad, owned the government of California.

In the 1880’s Hubbard entered this world. One of the primary clients of his law firm was Mrs. F. F. Searles, who had inherited vast railroad interests from her first husband Mark Hopkins, one of the “big four” investors who had created the Central Pacific. By 1888, Hubbard had entirely withdrawn from the law, and had become full-time manager of Mrs. Searles’s widespread railroad interests; he himself also made substantial investments in these enterprises. Over time, he served as vice-president of the Southern Pacific, president of the Houston & Texas Central and of the Mexican International, and director of the Wabash. He also headed companies that controlled railroads in Guatemala and the Philippines. He made a great deal of money as a corporate executive—far more than he likely would have in the practice of law. If anything, however,

he seems to have been rather more ethical than most railroad executives of his time.

It is in the context of ethics we remember Hubbard—not business ethics but legal ethics. Legal ethics had long been one of Hubbard’s primary interests. He was one of the promoters, and principal drafters, of the American Bar Association’s 1908 Canons of Professional Ethics, and of the New York State Canons based on the ABA standards. In 1902, as a trustee of Albany Law, Hubbard endowed a course of legal ethics lectures that, at least up into the 1920s, brought a series of legal luminaries to the law school to speak on the subject. Figures of the caliber of former President and future Chief Justice William Howard Taft, 1904 Democratic presidential candidate and ABA president Alton B. Parker (Albany Law 1873), and U.S. Supreme Court Justice David J. Brewer (Albany Law 1858) spoke at the law school under the auspices of the Hubbard lecture endowment.

General Hubbard was thus an ethical robber baron, and one of Albany Law’s foremost benefactors.

## Conwell, Class of 1865, Was Founder and First President of Temple University

Born in 1843 in South Washington, Mass., Russell Conwell left life on the farm to attend Wilbraham Wesleyan Academy, and then to attend Yale University. Before graduating from Yale, Conwell joined the Union Army in 1862, where he spent nine months during the Civil War. After fighting in the war, Conwell studied law at Albany Law School, graduating with the class of 1865.

After law school Conwell worked as an attorney and a journalist. He wrote and published some 10 books, as well as wrote for presidential campaigns including Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, and Ulysses S. Grant. A Baptist minister and pastor at the Grace Baptist Church of Philadelphia, he was known for his passion for religion and educating young people. In 1882 he founded Temple University.

Conwell became famous for a speech called “Acres of Diamonds,” where he called on people to look for opportunities in their own communities. “Dig in your own backyard” rather than look elsewhere for opportunities, the resources one may need to gain fortune are presented at their own doorstep.

To commemorate Conwell as the first president and founder of the university, Temple’s football team wears diamond decals on their helmets in reference to his famous Acres of Diamonds speech. Buried in the Founders Garden at Temple, Conwell passed away in 1925. **A**

Conwell’s “Acres of Diamonds” speech inspired the diamonds on the helmets today of Temple’s football teams.



# IN MEMORIAM

**WE LOST TWO BELOVED  
LONGTIME, RETIRED STAFF  
MEMBERS THIS YEAR.**

Retired Shaffer Law librarian **Nancy Lenahan** passed away on December 24, 2014, at the age of 75.

**Donna Parent**, former legal assistant, passed away on January 7, 2015, at the age of 69.

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## 1948

**John L. Gray**  
August 30, 2014  
Columbus, Ohio

**Allen Samuels**  
July 15, 2014  
Greenwich, Conn.

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## 1949

**Hon. John T. Casey**  
December 25, 2014  
Troy, N.Y.

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## 1951

**James E. Fey**  
September 12, 2014  
Utica, N.Y.

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## 1957

**Robert L. Briskie**  
September 29, 2014  
Amsterdam, N.Y.

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## 1958

**Robert B. Gilbert**  
June 28, 2014  
Schenectady, N.Y.

**Louis J. Piccarreto**  
March 14, 2015  
Webster, N.Y.

**George A. Schindler**  
January 1, 2015  
Troy, N.Y.

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## 1960

**Arne E. Heggen**  
March 19, 2015  
Clifton Park, N.Y.

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## 1961

**John U. Washburn**  
February 16, 2015  
Gansevoort, N.Y.

---

## 1963

**John T. Ryan Jr.**  
November 10, 2014  
Cortland, N.Y.

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## 1966

**Frank M. Spada**  
July 5, 2014  
Accord, N.Y.

**Donald Zahn**  
November 5, 2014  
Austin, Texas

---

## 1969

**David R. Dudley**  
March 13, 2015  
Valatie, N.Y.

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## 1971

**Alan Lottner**  
July 21, 2014  
Englewood, Co.

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## 1972

**Wendell Van Lare**  
July 11, 2014  
Great Falls, Va.

---

## 1973

**Hon. Madonna Stahl**  
December 17, 2014  
Ithaca, N.Y.

---

## 1974

**Philip M. Johnson**  
August 19, 2014  
Burlington, Vt.

**William E. VanDuser**  
June 17, 2014  
Bloomfield, NY.

---

## 1975

**Jonathan M. Brandes**  
June 21, 2014  
East Greenbush, N.Y.

**Joseph B. Carr**  
June 21, 2014  
Albany, N.Y.

**Brian J. O'Donnell**  
October 6, 2014  
Delmar, N.Y.

---

## 1978

**Andrew S. Fusco**  
March 19, 2015  
Auburn, N.Y.

**Diane Rosenbaum**  
July 1, 2014  
Colonie, N.Y.

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## 1981

**Irene Ropelewski**  
January 4, 2015  
Clifton Park, N.Y.

**David J. Skiba**  
August 31, 2014  
Eastham, Mass.

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## 1982

**Patrick M. Harrigan**  
August 20, 2014  
Rensselaer, N.Y.

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## 2002

**Anthony Wilmarth**  
September 14, 2014  
Albany, N.Y.

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## 2003

**Norine E. Allen**  
August 29, 2014  
Hudson, N.Y.





## Richard Bartlett

Richard Bartlett passed away on May 6. The 11th dean of Albany Law School, serving from 1979 through 1985, he also served on the Board of Trustees, and he was awarded The Trustees Gold Medal in 2007 for his exemplary support and dedication to the advancement of Albany Law School. Dean Bartlett served as the state's chief administrative judge before his deanship. In 1959, he was elected to the state Assembly. Under Governor Nelson Rockefeller, Dean Bartlett headed a panel that revised the state's criminal statutes for the first time in 80 years. After the prison uprising at Attica in 1971, Dean Bartlett was named to the commission that recommended improvements to the state correctional process. In 1973, he sat briefly on the state Supreme Court, before being tapped to become the state's first administrative judge. After his time as dean at Albany Law, he became principal at Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C., in Glens Falls, N.Y. The New York Bar Foundation honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011. Dean Bartlett's daughter, Amy Bartlett, and his son-in-law, Robert Regan, both graduated from Albany Law School in 1989, and his grandson, Timothy Bartlett, graduated in 2013.



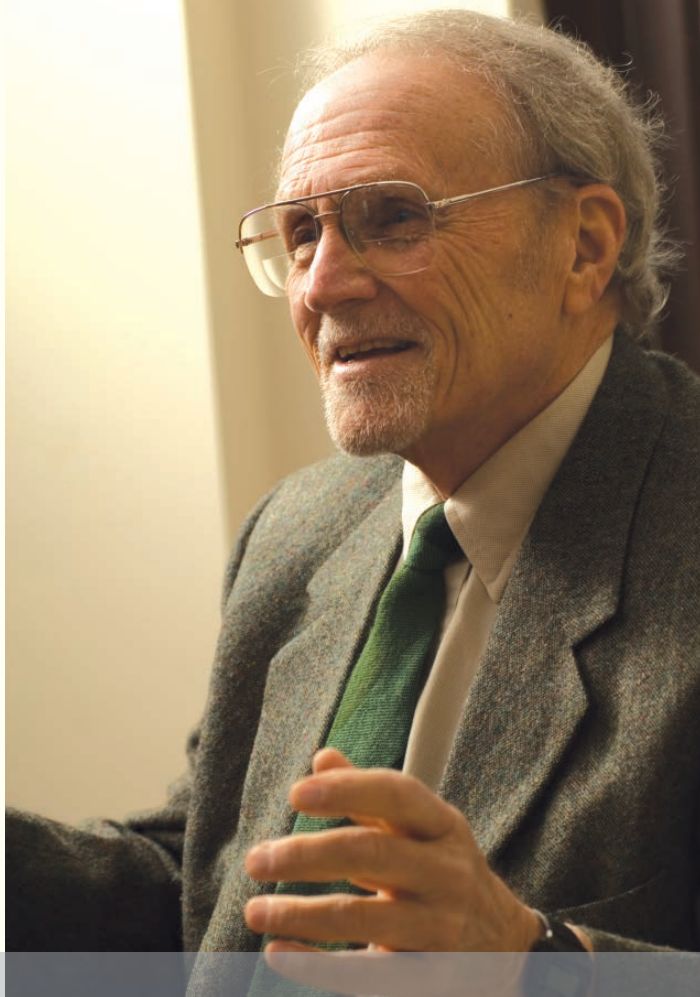
## Wendell J. Van Lare '72

Wendell J. Van Lare '72 passed away on July 11, 2014, at the age of 69. He retired in 2010 as senior vice president for labor relations and a member of the management committee at Gannett Co., Inc. He began studies at Albany Law in 1967, but suspended them to serve as a U.S. Navy ensign aboard the USS Hancock. He graduated from Albany Law in 1972. He was an associate at the Rochester law firm of Wisner, Shaw, Van Graafeiland, Harter & Secrest before joining the labor law department of Gannett Co., Inc. in 1977. He was admitted to the New York and Virginia bars as well as that of the United States Supreme Court. An ardent supporter of the arts, he served as president of the Opera Theater of Rochester, then spent 28 years supporting the Young Artists Program at the Wolf Trap Center for Performing Arts, advancing the careers of more than 20 artists. For many years Wendell was very active with Albany Law alumni in the Washington, D.C., area. He is survived by his wife, Karen, four children, and six grandchildren.



## Hon. John T. Casey '49

Hon. John T. Casey '49 passed away on Christmas Day 2014, at the age of 93. He retired as Associate Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, after 35 years on the bench. Judge Casey served in World War II as the Navy commander of a destroyer and attended Albany Law School on the G.I. Bill. Elected three times as Rensselaer County District Attorney, he earned a reputation as a tough prosecutor. In 1963 he was elected Rensselaer County Court Judge, and in 1968 as New York State Supreme Court Justice. In 1979, he was appointed to the Appellate Division, Third Department, serving until his retirement in 1997. At Albany Law School, Judge Casey taught criminal practice and procedure from 1955 to 1977, mentoring generations of Albany attorneys. While in law school, Casey met and married Dorothy Carroll, a nursing student at Albany Medical Center. They had six children, including Jack Casey '87, and seven grandchildren, including Molly Casey '12. Over his long career Judge Casey earned the love and respect of the people of his native Troy, and the Capital Region bench and bar, for his pragmatic approach to the law. A favorite saying was, "I'm never wrong, although I'm sometimes reversed." ■



Rachel Siegel (left) and Rosemarie Duffy Siegel



Michael Garcia



Professor Connors



Hon. Victoria Graffeo

## THE MAESTRO RESTS

BY JOHN CAHER

A memorial event honoring Professor David D. Siegel, who passed away in October, celebrated a man who was a veritable legal icon, a professor extraordinaire, an unparalleled expert on New York practice and the longtime author of practice commentaries for McKinney's Consolidated Laws whose work was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court. But speakers delved well beyond the public David Siegel, and revealed the man behind the legend—the one who had countless sushi-plus-one-beer dinners with students, was a fierce competitor in racquetball, leveraged his extraordinary credibility to help graduates find jobs and progress in their careers, and was uniquely devoted to his wife Rosemarie and their daughters Sheila and Rachel.

A towering and often intimidating intellect whose stern admonishments were delivered with a twinkle in his eye and a spark in his soul, Siegel was memorialized during a February tribute in the Dean Alexander Moot Courtroom. Comments from colleagues and former students painted a portrait of a man who was not only respected—nay, revered — by the Albany Law School community, the bench and the bar, but beloved.

"I knew several Professor Siegels," said Daniel Nolan '78, president of the Board of Trustees and president/ CEO of Hugh Johnson Advisors, noting that it wasn't until after he graduated when he got to know "David Siegel the man. That was the best David Siegel. That was the David Siegel who put his family first, the David Siegel who was tender, the David Siegel who kept in touch with his students and the law school."

Siegel's daughter, Rachel Siegel, offered a glimpse of the unyielding taskmaster who believed there was a right way—his way—and a wrong way to do everything. One reminiscence that brought her tears was when she won a spelling bee at the age of 12. "He told me he would have been just as proud if I hadn't won," Rachel said. "That meant so much that he felt that way."

"David's legacy is so much more than his writings on the law," said Victoria Graffeo '77, a former Court of Appeals judge. "He impressed on us the importance of embracing life to the fullest, that outside interests would make us more passionate and better lawyers."

Jon Whalen '99, vice president and senior counsel at the Ayco Co., said he first felt the "gravitational pull of Professor Siegel" during his second year, and was immediately captivated. "I admired his optimism...I respected his honesty...I admired his compassion."

"The real tribute we can pay to Professor Siegel is to practice our craft and live our lives as he did, with passion, industry, humor and kindness," said Matthew Sava '94, general counsel of Afa Dispensing Group.

Professor Patrick Connors, who had been a research assistant to Siegel at St. John's, said a recommendation from Siegel was so valuable that it got him five different jobs.

"We went into practice with students from Fordham, Columbia, NYU, but because of what Professor Siegel gave us in the classroom we knew that we could represent our clients more effectively than those other graduates because he really taught us about the practice of law," Connors said.

Professor Michael Hutter described Siegel as a professor of "incredible talent" who "went the extra mile" for his students.

Michael Garcia '89, a partner at Kirkland and Ellis and former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, said that even with Siegel gone students will be influenced by his legacy. "Students who enter now are not going to see Professor Siegel in the classroom, but in the commitment the school has in continuing what he built and has done, those students too can get a sense of Professor Siegel, the man," Garcia said. Former Chief Judge Judith Kaye submitted a letter for the event that Professor Connors read to the crowd, which included: "Please know that the admiration, friendship and devotion indeed continue unbroken." **A**

FOR THE FULL LETTER, GO TO [WWW.ALBANYLAW.EDU/JUDGEKAYELETTER](http://WWW.ALBANYLAW.EDU/JUDGEKAYELETTER)



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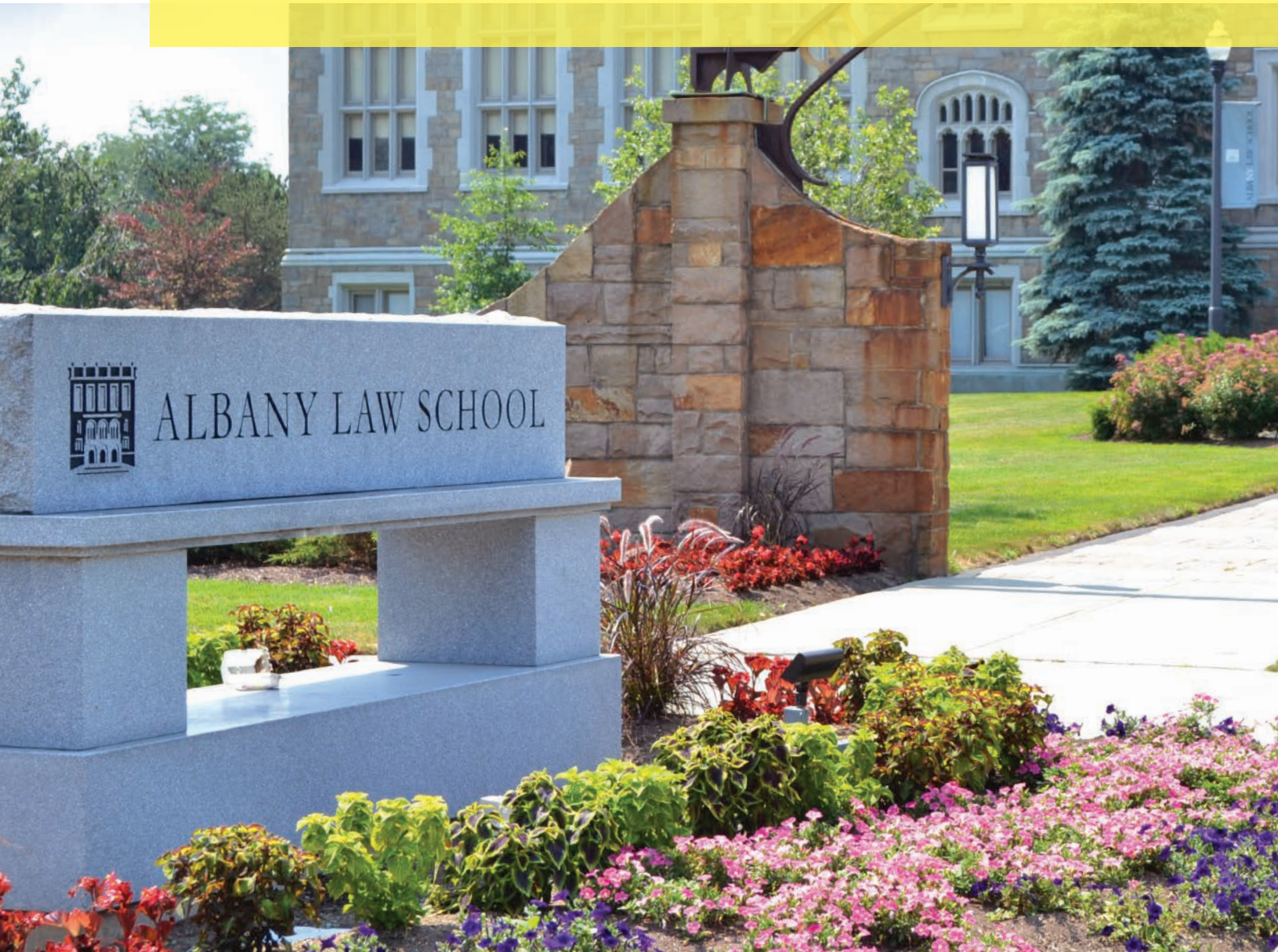
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