Penelope Andrews
Albany Law School’s 17th President & Dean

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INBRIEF

New Assistant Dean of Admissions Seeks to Stay Ahead of Curve as Applicants Nationwide Drop

The new Assistant Dean of Admissions Nadia Castriota expects the 230-member Class of 2015 to come in as strong as the current classes despite a decrease in applicants nationwide this year. While applications were down in every region of the country, the northeast decreased by 18% from last year, as did Albany Law School, which received 1,800 applications for 230 seats next year.

“We continue to be seen as a solid school for applicants looking to practice law in New York, particularly due to our legacy and location,” Dean Castriota said. “We have a proven track record, we have 9,000-plus alumni practicing throughout the country, and for those interested in working in the region, there’s no other law school near the region.”

Dean Castriota most recently served as the Director of Admissions at Case Western Reserve School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio. Before that, she spent four years as the Assistant Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at the Florida International University College of Law in Miami, Fla.

Prior to working in higher education, Dean Castriota pursued a career in criminal justice and law enforcement as an investigator for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and also served as a Juvenile Detention Officer Supervisor for the State of Florida, where she conducted counseling sessions for officers and detainees as well as assisting and advising juveniles during court sessions.

She earned her B.S. at Florida International University and her M.S. in Criminal Justice Administration at Nova Southeastern University, as well as a graduate certificate in Crisis Management and Conflict Resolution from Nova Southeastern University.

Five New Members Appointed to Board of Trustees

Albany Law School has appointed Greg Butler ’88, Andrea Colby ’80, Dan Grossman ’78, and Hon. Leslie Stein ’81 as Term Trustees to the Board of Trustees, and Robert Rausch ’94 as Alumni Trustee.

Greg Butler is Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the Northeast Utilities system (NU). Prior to coming to NU, he was Vice President of Federal Affairs at New England Electric System, and senior counsel for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation. He was also a senior attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice and an associate counsel to the minority leader for the N.Y. State Assembly.

Andrea Colby is an Associate Patent Counsel at Johnson & Johnson, in New Brunswick, N.J. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, she was a patent attorney with Union Carbide Corporation and an associate with Morgan & Finnegar, both in New York City. She was a member of her 30th Reunion Committee and a panelist at Accepted Applicant Day in 2011.

Dan Grossman is Assistant Chief Legal & Compliance Officer at Bloomberg LP. From 1987 to 2011 he was with Willkie Farr & Gallagher, where he was partner in the Corporate and Financial Services Department. Before that he practiced with the New York firm Webster & Sheffield, and clerked for the Hon. Howard Dawson Jr. at the U.S. Tax Court.

Hon. Leslie Stein was appointed to the N.Y. State Supreme Court—Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department in 2008. From 2006–2008 she was the Administrative Judge of the Rensselaer County Integrated Domestic Violence Part. She was elected to the Supreme Court for the Third Judicial District in 2001. Judge Stein was a partner at the Albany firm of McNamee Lochner from 1983 until 1997. She received the Kate Stoneman Award in 2007 and is a member of the School’s National Alumni Association.

Robert Rausch joined Maynard, O’Connor, Smith, & Catalinotto in 1997 and was named a partner in 2004. He is chair of the firm’s appellate department. Prior to joining the firm, he served as Law Clerk to Hon. Irad S. Ingraham, N.Y. State Supreme Court Justice for Chenango and Otsego Counties. He is currently Vice President of the Albany Law School National Alumni Association.
Albany Law Signs Agreement with Shanghai Institute During 10-day Tour

Albany Law School recently signed a new agreement with the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade (SIFT) in China to continue and expand cooperative educational programs and research efforts for students and faculties in both countries.

The signing took place while 33 Albany Law students with faculty toured China, meeting with alumni and visiting Chinese legal institutions. The group spent five days meeting with SIFT students and professors, and participating in seminars about U.S. and Chinese law.

Under the new agreement, SIFT faculty will serve as visiting scholars at the law school, helping to teach Chinese Law classes and guest lecture.

“The practice of law is increasingly global in scope, and through this agreement, we expose our students and faculty to a greater international perspective,” said Albany Law School Interim President and Dean Connie Mayer.

Future plans include longer-term study abroad opportunities for students at both institutions, as well as Albany Law faculty teaching in Shanghai. SIFT’s Professor Yin Min, who teaches international commercial law, was a visiting scholar at Albany Law School this year, where she guest lectured, worked with faculty, and conducted research with the Government Law Center.

Richard Parsons ’71 Receives Trustees Gold Medal

Albany Law School honored Richard Parsons ’71, former chairman of Citigroup, with the 2011 Trustees Gold Medal, the highest accolade awarded by the school in recognition of exemplary support and dedication to the advancement of the school.

Since graduating as valedictorian, Parsons has made it a priority through his career to stay connected to the law school and his colleagues. He has visited the campus to speak to students, attended alumni gatherings and has contributed generously to student scholarships and other law school initiatives. Earlier this year, Parsons presented Stephen Younger ’82 with an Albany Law School Distinguished Alumni Award at an event in New York City.

Parsons was presented with the award on campus as part of Albany Law’s Alumni Reunion Weekend 2011 held in September.

Prior to becoming Citigroup chairman, Parsons served as president, CEO and chairman of Time Warner.

As Gold Medal winner, Parsons joins more than 60 alumni and friends of the Law School, including Senator Warren Anderson ’40; Hon. Lawrence Cooke ’38; E. Stewart Jones Jr. ’66; Hon. Judith Kaye; and Edward Swyer.

Richard Parsons ’71 receives the Gold Medal from Board of Trustees Chair Mary Ann Cody ’83.

FCC Commissioner Visits Campus

The Government Law Center co-hosted a campus visit with the Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission Mignon Clyburn. Above, the Commissioner responds to questions in the School’s foyer, in front of the display of Alumni in Residence photos. The New York chapter of the Federal Communications Bar Association co-sponsored the event.
Duo Wins Regionals over 23 Teams, Then Earns 5th Highest Score in Nationals

After placing first among 23 teams at the regional negotiations competition in November, Seamus Keating ’12 and Jonathan McCardle ’13 earned the fifth highest score in the American Bar Association Negotiations National Competition in New Orleans in February.

“I put these results on my cover letter and was quickly hired for a paid job at an Albany firm,” McCardle said in mid-February, noting that the national competition required near perfect scores to advance each round.

Along the way, Keating and McCardle outscored teams from William & Mary, Fordham and Cardozo. The law students from University of Minnesota ultimately won the nationals, where 200-plus teams were whittled down to 24.

“This experience was all about practicing law—you represented the interest of your client, you had ethical obligations, you applied legal theory, and you had to think on your feet,” said McCardle.

“It was a group effort between professors, coaches and other students,” said Keating. “Albany Law School gave us strong community support.”

Professors Nancy Maurer and Jenean Taranto served as faculty advisors for the team. Mark Kittel ’13 coached the team. Jessica Cherry ’12 and James Gundlach ’13 also helped prepare them for competition.

Keating, from Connecticut, earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Connecticut, while McCardle, a Capital Region native, graduated from Siena College, followed by three years working in New York City finance before coming to Albany Law.

The two-day regional competition, hosted at Albany Law for the first time in 11 years, was organized by Erin Mastrodonato ’12 and Abby Brinkerhoff ’13.

After Five Rounds Team Wins Counseling Competition at St. Johns, Then Places 4th in Nationals

Chaula Shukla ’13 and James Curran ’13 placed fourth in the ABA’s National Client Counseling Competition this spring.

The journey to North Carolina for the nationals started in New York’s St. John’s University School of Law, where they placed first over the 12 teams from eight schools, Brooklyn Law taking second and St. John’s placing third.

“They consistently offered thoughtful counsel, made the clients feel comfortable, and understood the urgency of issues,” said Professor Kathe Klare, who coached them through the competitions. “The clients left knowing exactly where they stood. The students seemed like associates in a law firm, not law students.”

Professor Elizabeth Renuart, who advised the team through the competitions, said that nationally 137 teams competed in regional competitions, leading to the finals.

Curran, captain of the rugby team, is from Salem, N.Y. Shukla, who plans to pursue public interest work, particularly after her Clinic experience, is from Mamaroneck, N.Y.
Six Years in the Air Force, One Year at a Law Firm, Bennett Looks Forward to D.A. Work | BY NICK CROUNSE

After 12-hour shifts at the airfield, Air Force Staff Sergeant Joshua Bennett ’14 would relocate to the library, where he logged on to his computer to work towards his undergraduate degree in sociology and criminal justice.

“Many of my professors were attorneys, and they would encourage me to look into law school,” Bennett recalled. “After I left the Air Force, I returned home to Kingston, N.Y., and started knocking on the doors of every law firm in town. One of the firms let me stay.”

Bennett worked at The Law Offices of Moran and Gottlieb, first as an intern then as a paid employee, for 10 months while he applied to law schools. Now entering his second year at Albany Law, he has been active with the Veterans’ Rights Pro Bono Project, Phi Alpha Delta and the Rugby Club.

Bennett connected with Major Joel Abelove, the senior defense counsel for the New York Army National Guard’s Trial Defense Service, at the law school’s Veterans’ Rights Pro Bono Project’s clinic this past spring, which provided free legal counsel to more than 80 veterans. They discussed opportunities for Bennett to remain engaged with the military in some capacity, possibly as a National Guard Judge Advocate General.

After joining the Air Force at 17, the eighth generation in his family in the military, Bennett served as a military police officer, a mechanic and crew chief for 707 aircraft, and a maintenance operations controller, which he compared to being an air traffic controller on the ground. During his six years of military service, Bennett was deployed to Ireland, Ecuador, United Arab Emirates, and several other countries around the world.

Bennett’s experience as a military police officer, as well as his undergraduate degree from Ashford University, helped influence his post-graduation aspirations: he hopes to try cases for a district attorney’s office.

“I was a military police officer and I have a degree in criminal justice. I feel confident that I have the background for district attorney work,” he said, noting that he selected classes based on this interest, such as Professor Daniel Moriarty’s criminal law class.

80 Veterans Get Free Legal Advice from Alumni Volunteers

More than a dozen area attorneys, including two from Long Island, provided free legal advice on two separate Saturdays to over 80 veterans in areas of credit, taxes, benefits, claims, wills and more. Each veteran was given an hour with a volunteer lawyer.

The project, part of the Law School’s Veterans’ Rights Pro Bono Project led by Benjamin Pomerance ’12, has already spawned two outgrowths: a visitor from Hofstra’s School of Law observed the Clinic to take the model back to his school, and the Stratton V.A. Hospital, Albany Law’s neighbor, is looking to implement a weekly clinic on the hospital site, based on the School’s model.

Volunteer Kathleen Tombs ’98, and Benjamin Pomerance ’12, who heads the student-led Veterans pro bono program.

Jack Clancy of the Tri-County Council for Vietnam Era Veterans, said he knew countless veterans with claims issues that were too complex to solve on their own.

Alumni who provided their services pro bono include:
• Maj. Joel Abelove ’95,
  Senior Defense Counsel for the U.S. Army Trial Defense Service
• Kathleen Tombs ’98
• Robert Randall ’74,
  The Randall Law Firm
• Julie Ann Calareso ’03,
  Burke & Casserly
• Louis Pierro ’83, The Pierro Law Group
• Michael W. Macomber ’09,
  Tully Rinckey PLLC
• Harry Miller ’74,
  The Herzog Law Firm
Hunter College President Delivers Stoneman Keynote; Three Leaders Join the Ranks of Past Winners

Hunter College founder Thomas Hunter and Kate Stoneman both led a crusade to help women, Hunter College president Jennifer J. Raab said in her keynote address at the 18th Annual Kate Stoneman Day, where she received the Miriam M. Netter ’72 Kate Stoneman Award.

Hunter College opened in 1870 to provide teacher training for women, when there were only eight other women colleges in the nation. In 1898, when Stoneman graduated from Albany Law School as the first female to graduate from any New York law school, Hunter hired its first female professor the following year.

Hunter’s vision toward a school for all—disregarding race, religion or politics—aligned with Stoneman’s vision, Raab noted.

Raab provided a few humorous anecdotes about her friend Professor Mary Lynch, whom she met the first day of class at Harvard Law School.

The three other Stoneman honorees were Hon. Elizabeth A. Garry ’90, Hon. Joan Kohout ’74, and Lisa Codispoti ’95, posthumously.

“There has always been another way to do things,” Judge Garry said after receiving her award. When she initially pursued the New York State Supreme Court Sixth Judicial District five years ago, she was told of the long line of names in front of her. “So I started my own line,” she explained. “And I was in the front of that line,” a position which led her to becoming the second female to win a seat from Chenango County.

Judge Kohout ’74, a Monroe County Family Court Judge for the past 23 years, told the group that she was proud and moved to join the list of previous Stoneman winners, “because so many of those people, who, at certain times had touched my life and had an amazing influence on me.” She pointed out specifically Judge Beverly Tobin ’62. She recognized Professor Emerita Katheryn
Leaders Join the Ranks of Past Winners

Judge Kohout ’74

Judge Garry ’90

Lisa Codispoti ’95, honored posthumously

Lisa’s husband Shawn Wilson, who accepted the award on her behalf.

“Being a woman is not a pre-existing condition…. We lost a champion,” said Lisa’s husband Shawn.

Katz ’70, who gave Kohout her first job. “It was Kathy who gave me the confidence to know that I can handle family matters.”

Professor Katz, recently retired, was the inaugural Kate Stoneman Chair in Law and Democracy and one of the first to open a women’s practice in the Capital Region.

Kohout thanked several of her professors who “opened my eyes to the fact that the law could be used…to protect women and children.”

Lisa Codispoti ’95 was given the award posthumously. Her husband David “Shawn” Wilson accepted the award and spoke emotionally about Lisa’s commitment to her work, her “unique perspective that most of us don’t have” due to her illness, and the injustices of the health care system which was the focus of her advocacy as

Senior Counsel/Senior Advisor of the National Women’s Law Center for five years. Before the Center, she worked for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) for 10 years. “Lisa fought for a basic human right and com-
mom decency for thousands, if not millions, of people…. Being a woman is not a pre-existing condition…. We lost a champion,” said her husband Shawn.

View it here: www.albanylaw.edu/webstream

Past and present Stoneman winners pose after a roundtable discussion held with students earlier in the day. From left: Kathryn Madigan ’78, Hon. Elizabeth Garry ’90, Hon. Mae D’Agostino, Hon. Beverly Tobin ’62, Hon. Rachel Kretser, Winifred Widmer ’54, Hon. Leslie Stein ’81, and Jennifer Raab.
Chief Judges Say Courts’ Fiscal Challenges Jeopardizing Justice

Noting that an overwhelming majority of the nation’s judicial business takes place in state court systems, that system is at risk in many states due to state budget cuts, said Christine M. Durham, Utah’s chief justice, while three other chief justices in the room nodded in agreement.

The four state chief justices were gathered at Albany Law School as part of Albany Law Review’s Sixth Annual Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke Symposium titled “The State of State Courts.” Wisconsin Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson and Connecticut Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers described their financial obstacles as the largest conflict the court system faces. New York Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman moderated the panel.

The event is part of the Law Review’s State Constitutional Commentary program, which culminates in an annual issue dedicated to state constitutional law issues. The lecture, which started five years ago, is an annual tradition to honor former New York Court of Appeals Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke ’38.

Law Review Symposium Seeks Strategies for Strengthening Workers’ Rights

A panel of professors, labor attorneys and union representatives discussed current challenges facing the labor movement, particularly with recent efforts to roll back public sector collective bargaining rights. The symposium “Protecting Workers’ Rights in a Post-Wisconsin World,” featured Melvyn Dubofsky, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History & Sociology, Binghamton University; Terri Gerstein, Labor Bureau Chief, New York State Attorney General’s Office; Jon Hiatt, Chief of Staff and former General Counsel, AFL-CIO; Pauline Kinsella, Executive Director, New York State United Teachers; Michael Wishnie, Clinical Professor of Law and Director; Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, Yale Law School. Albany Law’s professor Donna Young moderated the event.

This year the Albany Law Review celebrated its 75th volume. The journal currently publishes four books every year: two on general legal issues, one devoted to New York law and one devoted to state constitutional commentary. To see more on their publications and activity, go to www.albanylaw.edu/albanylawreview

Jon Hiatt, Chief of Staff and former General Counsel of the AFL-CIO.
DoD General Counsel Describes Repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”

Calling on moral and religious objections, numerous service members supported keeping the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. Member responses also voiced strong objections to the policy, one member noting: “We have a gay guy in the unit. He’s big and mean and kills bad guys. No one cares that he is gay.”

Jeh Johnson, the general counsel for the U.S. Department of Defense, read a wide range of candid responses from a policy-assessment report, which President Obama requested, during Johnson’s keynote address at the Government Law Review symposium.

The study he conducted surveyed 400,000 service members yielding 150,000 responses, which Johnson called the largest non-census survey in history.

Some service members wanted the act repealed to ensure recruiting all available men and women. Others likened gays and lesbians to “drug addicts and adulterers.”

While the survey results leaked before the report was issued, creating headlines with “mashed-up” numbers, the process ultimately led to the repeal of the policy starting on Sept. 20, 2011.

Johnson, the co-chair of the 2010 working group that studied the impact of repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” oversees all legal matters for the largest government agency in the world.

To hear his address, go to www.albanylaw.edu/webstream

General Counsel of Congressional Budget Office Opens Symposium

Mark Hadley, General Counsel of the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, offered some insight to the backend process of analyzing federal budgets on March 29. The symposium, which addressed building better budgets at the local level included a panel with Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino, Albany Mayor Gerald Jennings, Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner and Rensselaer County Executive Kathleen Jimino.
Wachtler Delivers Jones Lecture

The Honorable Sol Wachtler (pictured above), former Chief Judge of the State of New York, delivered this year’s Hugh R. Jones Memorial Lecture called “Federalism is Alive and Well and Living in New York” during the fall semester, where he examined New York state’s certification law, which enables the U.S. Supreme Court, federal courts of appeals and high courts of other states to send unsettled questions of New York law to the Court of Appeals for authoritative resolution.

The Hon. Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the State of New York, introduced Judge Wachtler. The lecture series, presented by the Fund for Modern Courts, is named for former N.Y. State Court of Appeals Associate Judge Hugh R. Jones.

Wachtler, who was the Chief Judge from 1985 to 1993, is currently an adjunct professor of law at the Touro Law Center, and chief executive of Comprehensive Alternative Dispute Resolution Enterprise (CADRE), an alternative dispute resolution firm based in Great Neck, N.Y.

Cyberbullying: Protect Speech or Protect Children?

The Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology held a two-panel symposium that looked at the legal aspects of cyberbullying—like issues of free speech—and the direct impact that online intimidation has on students and educators.

Moderated by Albany Law professor Robert Heverly ’92, “Cyberbullying from Classroom to Courtroom: Contemporary Approaches to Protecting Children in a Digital Age” participants included:

- Doug Abrams, Associate Professor of Law, University of Missouri
- Jonathan Bruno, Partner, Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan
- Scott Camassar, The Law Firm of Steven M. Reck
- Gregg Johnson ’92, Lemire Johnson LLC
- Lawrence Paska, Office of Educational Design and Technology, N.Y. State Education Department
- Britton Schnurr, School Psychologist
- Berin Szoka, Founder, TechFreedom
- Kimberly Wilkins, Middle School Principal, Albany

NAACP President Speaks on Racial Profiling Same Day Zimmerman is Charged

A standing-room-only crowd gathered to hear NAACP president Benjamin Todd Jealous talk about racial profiling and the Trayvon Martin shooting only hours before George Zimmerman was charged with second-degree murder.

After speaking for close to an hour, Mr. Jealous took questions from the audience before Albany Law School professors and other panelists discussed the laws surrounding racial profiling. Professors on the panel included Professor Christian B. Sundquist, Professor Laurie Shanks, and Professor Anthony Paul Farley, James Campbell Matthews Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence.

The program was presented by Albany Law School’s Black Law Students Association, led by second-year student Stefan Short and co-sponsored by Albany Law’s Diversity Affairs Office. Jealous’ cousin Damon Lipscomb ’12 attended Albany Law.
Ivory Coast Judge to GLC: “We’re all seeking justice”

Ivory Coast Judge Ehounou Manlan, below, spoke about the grinding poverty in his country and of “women who don’t even know they have rights,” at a fall breakfast hosted by the Government Law Center. A leader in the country’s anti-corruption movement, he also serves as president of the Properties Chamber of the Justice Court of Abidjan, as well as president of Transparency Justice.

“We’re all of the same family, we’re all seeking justice,” he told the group of students and faculty during his visit.

Prosecuting Nazi War Criminals Today

The Cardozo Society hosted Eli Rosenbaum (above) this fall, who talked about tracking Nazi war criminals for some three decades. Currently the director for the Department of Justice Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP), the section investigates and prosecutes cases against international criminals and human rights violators for genocide, torture, and war crimes, including recruitment or use of child soldiers. Rosenbaum talked about the suspects he’s currently investigating, along with his experience as director of the DOJ’s Office of Special Investigations.

Imprisoned Iranian Doctors Describe Eight-Month Ordeal

Dr. Aresh Alaei (pictured) and his brother Kamiar spoke to students and guests about their eight months in maximum security prison in Iran, where neither knew the charges or of the other’s imprisonment. Their sister Mahnaz Alaei, who spoke through a translator, described the impact on the family. At the time of their arrests, the brothers were running an HIV/AIDS treatment clinic.

Rising Faculty Gather to Share Research and Teaching Methods

From Florida to New York University, more than 40 non-tenured law faculty met to present and discuss in small forums their research, along with other topics such as assessment approaches, classroom strategies—i.e., teaching the disenchanted—and navigating legal education. Left, Albany Law Associate Professor Keith Hirokawa, who helped organize the event, conducts a workshop.
International Prosecutors, Assistant Secretary General and Chief Justice Highlight Conference

Professor James Gathii directed an extraordinary three-day conference on International Law—centered on Africa—that spotlighted luminaries like a United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, the Kenyan Supreme Court chief justice, and the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court at The Hague.

Never before has Albany Law hosted such notable international figures. The conference—Africa and International Law: Taking Stock and Moving Forward—drew media coverage from Albany to Kenya. Some 90 scholars and practitioners from across the country and the world participated for three days of lectures and discussion, turning the campus into a temporary think-tank for international law.

The event was kicked off with the formidable deputy prosecutor—she became prosecutor in June—of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the Hague delivering the annual Justice Jackson Lecture. While Fatou Bensouda credited Justice Jackson for building a framework for the ICC, she lamented that it took the world nearly 50 years to put the system in place, despite genocidal atrocities like Yugoslavia and Rwanda. "The world was not ready," she said.

The ICC has 122 nation-members since it began operating a decade ago (the U.S. is not a member), where it has intervened in only the "gravest situations . . . when domestic authorities don’t," she explained, such as "gender crimes, crimes against children, and boy soldiers trained to kill and rape." She noted that the court "focuses on those most responsible," citing the indictment of three heads of state.

"I am on the victims side and I do not apologize for that," she responded when asked about which side to prosecute. When questioned about handling the politics that swirl around the conflicts and her office, she said the ICC follows the legal statutes. "The statute is my holy book," calling the ICC a "global governance without a global government."

Professor Gathii is the associate dean for research and the Governor George E. Pataki Professor of International Commercial Law.

--Front row from left: Adama Dieng, United Nations; Makau W. Mutua, Dean, SUNY Buffalo Law School; Justice Mutunga, Chief of Kenya’s Supreme Court; Jonathan Klaaren, Head School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Kenyan native Willy Mutunga was arrested by his government in 1980 and detained for more than two years before being accused of possessing a “seditious” leaflet. After his release he was exiled to Canada, where he joined with other exiled Kenyans to influence their country’s welfare. He returned in 1992 when Kenya returned to multiparty democracy. Today Dr. Mutunga is the Chief Justice of Kenya’s Highest Court. He delivered a keynote lecture on April 13 to start the first full day of Albany Law’s International Law Conference. Below are some excerpts. His entire remarks were submitted into the Congressional Record by U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen (Tenn.)

“I felt honored as I read the biographies of the other participants in this conference: they read like a ‘Who’s Who?’ of international law and Africa. … My challenge to you always is to continue making transformative contributions in your work on Africa and international law. This will at times require those of you who are based outside Africa to return home and help contribute to the growing use and practice of international law in Africa.”

“We are now engaged in the challenging but difficult task of implementation [of Kenya’s new Constitution] in which a key role has been assigned to the judiciary. … The Constitution is one of the most progressive in the world. It was overwhelmingly approved in a referendum as a result of the most consultative and participatory processes of Constitution-making anywhere in the world.”

“It is not surprising that there is considerable internal and external resistance to the constitution from people who have a vested interest in bad old habits—tribalism, nepotism and corruption. This increases the responsibility of the judiciary to ensure the enforcement of the constitution.”

“Professor Gathii, who organized the conference, shows Justice Mutunga his book, which the Kenyan Chief Justice signed for Gathii in 1999, when Gathii was a “starry-eyed” student at Harvard Law. “Everyone in the pro-democracy movement looked up to him and we seized any opportunity to meet him,” Gathii said.

“Let me also emphasize that Kenya does not intend to be a ‘user’ of international law, but a producer, shaper and developer of it as well…. We intend, therefore, to be able to export progressive jurisprudence to the rest of the world.”
Penelope Andrews  
ALBANY LAW SCHOOL’S 17TH PRESIDENT & DEAN

BY DAVID SINGER

“A new dean brings new excitement and a propensity for change, and we all have to take advantage of this special time for all levels of the school.”

She grew up in apartheid South Africa, fighting for equal rights. Her writing centers on justice for women and people of color across the globe, and she believes that all human struggles for dignity and equality are international in character. Asked about her passions, she cites the education of our future lawyers, where she sees it critical that a law school compels students to reach their highest potential.

Penelope—Penny—Andrews will be the 17th president and dean of Albany Law School, starting July 1. After spending days with the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students, the overwhelming consensus found that she was the leader uniquely suited to guide the School into its new era. Dean Andrews will be the school’s first female president.

She was chosen in part because, as she says, “I believe in what you are doing here, I have great faith in this school, and I genuinely admire the faculty.”

“The combination of location—a powerful state capital—and legacy—teaching students every year since 1851—makes Albany Law School special,” Dean Andrews told the faculty during an hour-long presentation last month.

Dean Andrews is currently the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law at the City University of New York School of Law. While she is familiar with the issues a student faces in New York state, she also knows that these are challenging and possibly transformative times for legal education. Albany Law is a unique institution with its own strengths and challenges.

“The Albany Law School community expects a bold vision from their new president, and realistic steps to achieve this vision,” Dean Andrews said. “There are the universal challenges for all of legal education that must be addressed, and then there are the on-the-ground challenges for Albany Law School—the nuts and bolts—that we have to take on together. For example, some law schools are shrinking their class sizes, and it is likely that some schools may cease to operate. The law schools that will succeed are the ones that transform together, collaboratively, as an entire community.”

She likes to be upfront about the inherent tension all deans face, and her conversations are filled with revealing phrases: “Every dean today confronts an ever-changing and chal-
Confronting Bar Passage Head On
Dean Andrews cites the eight largest challenges facing law schools today (see sidebar). And while she sees them meshed together, each one pushing and pulling the others, there is one that rises to the top for her—bar passage.

“The bar passage question has several components, one which is a curriculum and teaching question,” she cites emphatically. She has been at the frontlines of this battle for years at CUNY, a school notable for its clinical and contextual learning, among other areas, but recently hampered by a low bar passage rate. “I’ve struggled for a long time to get people to make significant changes. We’ve introduced difficult ideas to confront difficult issues. Moving people to change requires a balance of carrot-and-stick.”

As a member of many site-inspection teams for the ABA, Andrews notes that she has visited several schools, where she examined “every nook and cranny” of many curricula, and has a good feel for weak links and strong spots to model.

Dean Andrews expects, initially, to look at the Albany Law curriculum to assess a few things, including how students are evaluated. She would also like to analyze the differences, if any, between Albany Law School exams and typical bar exam questions. She hopes to look across the entire curriculum for gaps, or perhaps too much overlap in courses. In essence, she wants to see what can be built upon, and what may require improvement.

“Individual faculty might not be aware that they are teaching an area of the Bar exam that is well-covered in another class,” Dean Andrews explained. “The goal is to find omissions and strengths across the curriculum regarding the Bar exam, and use what we have learned across the various courses over three years, and not in exclusive classes for bar preparation.”

She acknowledges that the School has already done this work, but the trick, she says, is to do it persistently—all the time—and that a new Dean brings new areas of emphasis, new perspectives, and new energy. But she cautions that she wants the students to be immersed in an exciting and solid program that will prepare them to not just pass the bar exam, but become excellent attorneys or legal advocates in their own right.

“A new dean brings new excitement and a propensity for change, and we all have to take advantage of this special time for all levels of the school,” Dean Andrews said.

She also sees student recruitment as part of the bar passage question. “Bar passage starts with admissions requirements; successfully recruiting a strong and diverse pool of candidates is your strongest predictor for bar passage,” she says. “Our job is to maintain rigorous courses and programs, support our students, and identify those who are struggling, so that we may provide them with the appropriate academic support.”

As dean of academic affairs in her current role, she is intimately involved in recruitment efforts as an Admissions Committee member, and plans to treat it as a critical component to the bar passage equation at Albany Law.

Turning International Local
Born in apartheid South Africa, amidst rampant poverty and violence fueled by racism and sexism—her parents divorced when she was 10, and her mother died three years later. She was sent to live with an aunt, separated from her two siblings. She attended and graduated Catholic school before studying law at the University of Natal.

She has since traveled the globe, living, teaching and researching in Germany, Australia, Holland, Scotland, Canada and South Africa. She has advocated for the rights of Australia’s indigenous population, people of color in South Africa, and disenfranchised women in Queens, N.Y.

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An annual award in her name—The Penelope E. Andrews Human Rights Award—is given by the South African law school at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. In 2005 she was a finalist for a

Strengths Dean Andrews Sees of Albany Law School
• One-of-a-kind legacy, one-of-a-kind location
• Small, private, independent, agile
• Innovative teachers with a passion to teach
• Committed scholars producing solid and cutting edge scholarship
• Ahead of the curve on graduating students who are practice-ready
• Traditional and continual emphasis on ethics and critical thinking
• An exciting time of change for legal education and amenable to such change

Top Challenges Dean Andrews Sees for Legal Education
• High tuition and high student debt
• A shrinking legal job market
• Bar passage
• Increasing accreditation and reporting requirements by the ABA
• A shrinking pool of academically competitive students
• Financial support to increase student scholarships and faculty research
• U.S. News influence over legal education
• Balancing “vocational” legal training with “theoretical” learning of law
vacancy on the Constitutional Court of South Africa, the highest court on the country’s constitutional matters.

She has consulted for the United Nations Development Fund for Women, and for the Ford Foundation in Johannesburg, where she evaluated labor law programs. She earned her B.A. and LL.B. from the University of Natal, Durban, South Africa, and her L.L.M. from Columbia University School of Law.

What initially lured her to the United States was the draw of the civil rights movement, “the way it challenged the underpinnings of American Society. I was struck by the dynamic leaders the movement generated.” As a student activist in South Africa, this fueled her desire to go to the United States.

“The Civil Right movement excited my views on the possibilities of law,” which led her to Columbia University. She considered returning to South Africa to help the struggle against apartheid, but chose to avoid possible political persecution from its government. She moved to Australia, where she gained citizenship, and tenure at La Trobe University, while supporting the indigenous population in their struggle for equality and to gain land rights. “It taught me to understand new perspectives around race relations.”

New York City still tugged at her—“so many powerful cultural intersections with the law.” She left Australia in 1993 to teach at CUNY where she continued her work incorporating human rights law into domestic constitutions, with a focus on Africa. She stayed at CUNY for 14 years, when she took the position of director of International Studies at Valparaiso Law School. In 2010 she returned to CUNY for her current academic dean position.

“What I’ve gained in my international teaching has been the facility to appreciate the similarities and differences in legal jurisdictions, while focusing on the strengths and lapses of the American legal system…. I have acquired a deep understanding of the cultural context of legal systems…. I’ve also developed a strong global network that will likely benefit Albany Law School.”

Student Centered

When Dean Andrews answers questions about legal education, she does not speak for long before steering the conversation back to students.

“We have to do a lot more than help them pass the bar,” she said. “We want them to excel in their careers. We need to be very conscious of their investment in us. The minute they walk through the door they are future alumni—we owe them a good experience—our institutional culture needs to support, encourage and excite them. We want them to become lawyers we are proud of and that will serve the profession well.”

Students have become savvy consumers, and during their short time here, the school—at the classroom level to the administration level—needs to provide opportunities for a rich, learning experience inside and outside the classroom, Andrews says. “The law school market is shrinking, and students will judge with their feet. We need to accommodate a range of students, including all styles of learners, and all manner of student ambition.”
ences of success as practicing lawyers proud of their work.”

Starting Day One

“Albany Law School is an incredible institution. I look forward to building upon what already works, replenishing and invigorating the programs. I want to bring national—and international—attention to many of the programs, some which already have national interest.”

Dean Andrews acknowledges that the legal profession is changing, still allowing for a broad general legal knowledge and training, but at the same time demanding knowledge and training in increasingly specialized areas. “A law school can’t provide everything, but it can provide the right tools for its students. Albany Law School has the advantage of independence and flexibility. As the legal profession and legal education confront another wave of change, we can move with it.”

She will call on the alumni for guidance in areas. “They are essential to the health and prestige of the institution. They remain the one link between the past, present and future.” Andrews notes that Albany Law graduates are very committed to the law school—they are impressive as a group and very loyal as a law school graduate community. “With them I look forward to articulating a bold vision, and together sustaining and raising the reputation of the school. Once we’re all on board, I expect them to shout about us from the roof tops with me.”

Dean Penny Andrews

Education

University of Natal, Durban, South Africa, LL.B. (1982)
University of Natal, Durban, South Africa, B.A. (Majors: Economic History; Comparative African Government and Administration) (1980)

Professional Experience

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law, City University of New York School of Law (2010-12)
Professor of Law & Director, International Studies, Valparaiso Law School (2007-2010); Courses included: International Human Rights Law, Gender and the Law, International Criminal Law and Torts
Visiting Professor, Touro Law School Summer Program, University of Potsdam, Germany (June 2010). Course: Comparative Constitutional Law.
Chair in Law, LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia (2008-2010) Courses: Principles of Public Law, Aborigines and the Law in Australia.
Professor of Law, City University of New York School of Law (1993-2007) Courses: Torts, International Law and International Human Rights Law, Lawyering, Comparative Law, Gender and Law.
Ariel F. Sallows Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Saskatchewan, Canada (Research Chair, January to December 2005). Course: International Human Rights Law.
Visiting Professor, Columbia Law School Summer Program, University of Amsterdam School of Law (July 2003). Course: American Tort Law in Comparative Perspective.
Parsons Visitor, Sydney University School of Law, Australia (Fall 2002). Lecture Series on Human Rights and Transitional Justice.
Stoneman Endowed Visiting Professor in Law and Democracy, Albany Law School (Spring 2002). Courses: The International Protection of Human Rights, Comparative Perspectives on Race and the Law.
Visiting Professor, University of Maryland School of Law Summer Program, University of Aberdeen, Scotland (Summer 2001). Course: Comparative Human Rights Law. Visiting Professor, University of Natal, Durban, South Africa (Summer 2000). Course: Public International Law/Human Rights Law.
Visiting Professor, University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore (Spring 1994). Course: Law and the End of Apartheid.

Associate in Law, Legal Resources Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa (April 1989 to February 1990—on leave from LaTrobe University). Duties included: consultant to Advice Centres Project; conducting training workshops for para-legal workers and trade unions, servicing legal advice centers in metropolitan Johannesburg and rural areas around Johannesburg; negotiating with government officials on behalf of community groups.

Fellowships

Columbia Law School, Legislative Drafting Research Fund Chamberlain Fellowship in Legislation (January to December 1985).

Books

From Cape Town to Kabul: Reconsidering Women’s Human Rights (Forthcoming 2012)
Law And Rights: Global Perspectives on Constitutionalism and Governance (co-edited with Susan Bazili 2008)
The Post-Apartheid Constitutions: Perspectives on South Africa’s Basic Laws (co-edited with Stephen Ellmann 2001)
For all his historic achievements—particularly his indelible mark on legal writing—Robert H. Jackson’s only formal classroom experience beyond high school was Albany Law School.

At the time, a high school diploma was enough to get you into law school—a discerning standard when only 10 per cent of the population graduated high school 100 years ago. While Jackson’s law school grades were strong by most standards—93 average first semester—they did not suggest the remarkable heights he would reach in the field of law.

Today, 100 years later, Albany Law School celebrates one of its most esteemed graduates with a permanent exhibit in the 1928 Building, lectures from internationally prominent experts, a student writing contest with notable cash prizes, and a variety of other activity.

Jackson’s career trajectory rose quickly from a country lawyer in western New York to U.S. Solicitor General, U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Supreme Court Justice, and chief prosecutor for the United States at the Nuremberg trials. He is considered the architect for the world’s first international court structure where together England, Russia, France and the U.S. prosecuted 22 Nazis in Nuremberg, leading to hangings and life-long sentences.

In its simplest form, Jackson’s life is marked by two distinct and extraordinary chapters: his writing while on the U.S. Supreme Court, and his leading role in Nuremberg as chief prosecutor for the United States.
From Lark Street to Nuremberg: celebrating Jackson’s 100-year legacy since graduating Albany Law School

“I considered Buffalo and Syracuse, but I decided on the Albany Law School for two reasons: some of the leading lawyers had been Albany Law School men and it was the seat of government. The Court of Appeals sat there, the Appellate Division sat there, the Supreme Court, the legislature and the whole state government. I thought I would learn more that was not in the books at Albany than in any other place, and that it would be useful to me in the practice of law in my community.”

—Justice Robert H. Jackson, 1954

Marries Irene Alice Gerhardt, of Albany.

Fulfills all academic requirements but is denied degree with two others—twin sisters—because they are under 21-years of age.

Admitted to the New York State Bar at age 21, returns to Frank Mott’s office.

William Eldred Jackson is born.

1912
1913
1916
1919

Nuremberg: Celebrating Albany Law School

By David Singer

BY DAVID SINGER

Spring 2012 ALBANY LAW MAGAZINE 19
The Pritchard sisters, who, like Jackson, were also under the age of 21 and therefore did not officially graduate with their class that year. The twin sisters attracted attention from the local Albany papers and the N.Y. Times since they were forced to return in 1914 to graduate.

Scheiberling in center.
SO DID JUSTICE JACKSON EARN A DEGREE FROM ALBANY LAW?

When Robert H. Jackson finished his year of attending the Law School in 1912, the school did not award a degree to him because he was not yet 21 years old, the minimum age Albany Law required for a degree at the time. He attended his 1912 Commencement and received a diploma of graduation, not a degree. Two classmates—twin sisters—who were also denied degrees because of their age, returned to receive their degrees at the 1914 Commencement. Jackson's path to legal practice and bar admission was not unusual for his time.

Before World War I, most lawyers prepared for the bar by clerking—in a lawyer's office, a structured process governed by the New York Court of Appeals. They did not attend law school, and of those who did, a substantial number attended only a year or so, to supplement their clerking. Typically they didn't earn a degree. Albany Law School, founded in 1851, gave such students a certificate of attendance, as did many schools, which counted toward the clerkship time required by the Court of Appeals.

Jackson began a clerkship in Jamestown, N.Y., after graduating from high school. The bar association at the time required only three years of clerkship for admission. In 1911, after one year as a clerk, Jackson enrolled at Albany Law School for a year—completing the second year of the two year program—and was granted a "certificate of graduation." He then returned to Jamestown, completed his clerkship and was admitted to the bar. (A similar path was taken by another Albany Law alumnus: U.S. President William McKinley.)

It is worth noting that Albany Law School's decision not to offer a degree to those under 21—consistent with the Bar not admitting members under 21—led to articles in the Albany papers and the *N.Y. Times* that year, not because of Robert Jackson, but because of the controversy over denying two twin sisters—Clara and Clarissa Pritchard—from their degree.

Years later, in 1941, the year Jackson delivered Albany Law's Commencement address, the school's trustees awarded him the degree of LL.B. And in 1951, the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him.

Jackson described his own situation in a private letter to Cornell Law Quarterly editor in 1951, 39 years later: "Albany Law School, 1912, LL.B. June 5, 1941, as of Class of 1912." —DS

1912 CLASS PRESIDENT ED SCHEIBERLING REMAINED CLOSE TO JACKSON | BY IRIS MULHERN

As president of Robert Jackson's 1912 class, Edward Scheiberling remained his lifelong friend, exchanging letters and telegrams through the years and visiting one another when Jackson came to Albany.

As president of the Alumni Association, Scheiberling hosted a dinner to celebrate Jackson's honorary doctorate from Albany Law in 1951. Together they spoke to reporters that day, sharing memories of their law school days.

After graduation, Scheiberling opened a general practice, though he was enlisted a short time after to fight in World War I. In 1934 his firm became Scheiberling and Schneider, when he partnered with his cousin John M. Schneider '17. The firm later became Rogan and Maney in 1958. The practice currently flourishes on State Street in Albany, with his great-nephew Kevin P. Maney '84 and great-niece Madeleine Maney Kennedy '81 as co-partners.

Scheiberling served as an Albany city court Justice and director of the Albany Chamber of Commerce before being elected the National Commander of American Legion. He served from 1944 to 1945, a pivotal time for the American Legion given the large numbers of veterans returning from World War II. Under his guidance, the Legion started a grassroots postwar jobs program for World War II veterans, including those disabled.

When the names of Japanese-American soldiers were erased from the honor roll of an American Legion post due to the racial tensions of 1945, Scheiberling firmly requested that they be reinstated, saying "bigotry has no place in American life, and the action of this one post was ill-considered, ill-advised and contrary to the ideals and purposes of the American Legion."

As a First Lieutenant and later Captain in the 312th Infantry, 78th Division, Scheiberling served with Pfc. Parker Dunn, who received the Medal of Honor for his actions in the War (the Dunn Memorial Bridge in Albany is dedicated to him). Dunn gave his oral will and testament to Scheiberling while they were fighting together in France, and after Scheiberling completed his service, returned to Albany and testified in Surrogate's Court on Dunn's behalf; as a result, Dunn's wishes were carried out.
Nuremberg

In 1945 President Truman asked Justice Jackson to serve as chief prosecutor for the United States in the proposed trials of Nazi war criminals. Jackson accepted, ultimately missing a full year of Supreme Court work while serving at Nuremberg. In August 1945, Jackson and British, French and Soviet colleagues signed the London Agreement, creating the International Military Tribunal (IMT), the world’s first international criminal court. Jackson’s team located and reviewed tens of thousands of captured Nazi documents, thousands of feet of film, and thousands of photographs. Jackson and colleagues prosecuted 22 individuals on charges of conspiracy, waging aggressive war, committing war crimes and committing crimes against humanity.

Justice Jackson gave his closing address at Nuremberg on July 26, 1946. He noted that the defendants received “the kind of a trial which they never gave to any man.” The IMT rendered its judgment on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 1946: 19 of the 22 defendants were found guilty, 12 were sentenced to hang.

The Nuremberg trial created the basis for our understanding of the crimes of the Nazis, and its legal precedents are the foundation for modern international humanitarian law and justice.

BUSCHMAN ’49 CLERKED FOR JACKSON

When Albany Law Dean Andrew V. Clements wrote Justice Robert Jackson to recommend Howard C. Buschman Jr., a Law Review editor, for a clerkship, Jackson invited Buschman to the Court for an interview, liked him and offered him the job.

Buschman, a Brooklyn native, started the clerkship a few weeks later in June 1949, where he stayed a year as one of two clerks—Jackson had 11 in total during his time on the Supreme Court.

After his clerks gained some comfort with the work, Jackson would let them each draft one opinion which he would edit and then circulate with the Court. He had Buschman write the opinion in Mullane v. Central Banking and Trust Co., which called on banks to give effective notice to account holders before closing the account.

Jackson asked Buschman to stay for another term, but Buschman, then 32 years old with a wife and two young sons, opted to return to New York City, where he began working for the law firm Milbank, Tweed.

Buschman, who attended Williams College, then spent six years in the U.S. Army, and went on to have a successful career in law. He died in 2009 at the age of 91.

This information comes from John Q. Barrett’s article, “Howard C. Buschman, Jr. (1917-2009): Jackson Law Clerk.”
“We must never forget that the record on which we judge these defendants today is the record on which history will judge us tomorrow. To pass these defendants a poisoned chalice is to put it to our lips as well.”

— Jackson’s Opening Statement, November 21, 1945
Robert H. Jackson was appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1941 and served until his death in 1954. Jackson is generally regarded as one of the great justices and perhaps the finest writer ever to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. He was known during his time on the Supreme Court bench for his independence, his pragmatism and his distinctively eloquent opinions.

Jackson participated in some of the most important cases of the 20th century, including the following notable Supreme Court decisions:

**INDIVIDUAL CONSCIENCE**
In *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette* (1943), Jackson wrote the Court’s opinion, which invalidated the required American flag salute that offended the religious beliefs of school children who were Jehovah’s Witnesses.

**NATIONAL SECURITY IN WARTIME**
In *Korematsu v. United States* (1944), Jackson was one of three dissenters from the Court’s decision that affirmed the constitutionality of military orders to exclude Japanese-American persons, including U.S. citizens, from the west coast of the U.S. during World War II. Jackson wrote, “Here is an attempt to make an otherwise innocent act a crime merely because this prisoner [Fred Korematsu] is the son of parents as to whom he had no choice, and belongs to a race from which there is no way to resign.”

**PRESIDENTIAL POWER**
In *Youngstown Sheet & Tube v. Sawyer* (1952) (known as the “Steel Seizure Cases”), Jackson was part of the Court majority that invalidated President Truman’s seizure of steel mills to prevent labor strikes from shutting them down during the Korean War. Jackson’s concurring opinion is today the touchstone of separation of powers analysis in constitutional law.

**SEGREGATION**
In *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), the last major case of Jackson’s judicial career, he was part of the Court’s unanimous decision to declare unconstitutional racial segregation in public schools. Jackson, who had suffered a serious heart attack seven weeks earlier, went directly from the hospital to the Supreme Court to make it visibly unanimous on the day Brown was decided.

Jackson’s relationship with Albany Law
Jackson returned to Albany several times throughout his career, including delivering the law school’s Commencement address in 1941 as the U.S. attorney general.

“It is a matter of pride to us, who will always remain in debt to the Albany Law School, that its intervening years have been marked by steadily improving facilities and advancing standards,” Jackson said early in his speech, ending the speech with this sentence, “May you never falter in the faith that a better world order can be established and that the philosophy of the law can lead the way to it.”
DAVID JOSIAH BREWER: THE OTHER SUPREME COURT JUSTICE FROM ALBANY LAW | BY NICK CROUNSE

Justice David Josiah Brewer, Class of 1858, served on the U.S. Supreme Court from 1889 to 1910, a period of great transition as the nation shifted from its agrarian roots to an industrialized society. Throughout his tenure on the bench, he was a staunch proponent for social legislation, including protecting the rights of women, workers and immigrants.

Born on June 20, 1837, in Izmir, Turkey, where his parents ran a school, Brewer soon moved with his family to Connecticut. He attended Wesleyan University and Yale University, then read law for one year with his uncle before enrolling at Albany Law School, where he graduated in 1858.

By the time he was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Benjamin Harrison in 1889, Justice Brewer had served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eighth Circuit, the Kansas Supreme Court, and several other courts. Earlier in his career he prospected for gold, worked as the Leavenworth, Kan., city attorney, and served as superintendent of the Leavenworth school system.

Brewer served on an Albany Law School committee in 1904 to raise money for a new school building. Brewer also delivered a lecture on ethics at Albany Law that was part of a nationally recognized series that included a lecture by President William Taft.

Justice Brewer authored the unanimous opinion in the 1908 case of Muller v. Oregon, in support of a law that restricted working hours for women. In other opinions, he argued passionately for the rights of marginalized Chinese and Japanese immigrants. While on the bench in Kansas, he also made history by writing one of the first judicial opinions upholding the voting rights of an African American citizen.

Brewer was on the court that voted on Plessy v. Ferguson, while Jackson voted on Brown v. Board of Education.

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Brewer was on the court that voted on Plessy v. Ferguson, while Jackson voted on Brown v. Board of Education. While a family emergency kept Brewer from voting on the case, 60 years later Jackson left his hospital bed after suffering a heart attack to physically vote on the Brown case.

Justice Brewer passed away on March 28, 1910, one year before a young Robert H. Jackson, the next Albany Law School graduate to serve on the Supreme Court, would come to Albany to study law.

A typical three-bedroom flat in Albany was $12 per month. Robert Jackson spent considerable time ice skating in Albany’s Washington Park, where he met his wife. And a Civil War general—and alumnus—Thomas Hubbard endowed a legal ethics lecture series which featured another notable alumnus, U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Brewer.

Jackson’s Albany days as a student were brought to life by a panel of presenters who first described Albany in 1912, then depicted Albany Law School in 1912, and finally discussed Jackson’s life before, during and after 1912. The Feb. 2 event before a filled Dean Alexander Moot Court Room launched a series of activities celebrating the Justice Jackson Centennial.

Historian and reporter Paul Grondahl described Albany life in 1912, citing the political, cultural and social tenor of the already-peaked but still-bustling Albany. While the 10th most populated U.S. city in 1850, it had already slid to 19th by 1912 (today it is considered 57th when looking at media markets). Grondahl noted that while the first parachutist jumped from a plane that year, the Titanic sunk.

Victoria A. Graffeo ’77, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, traced legal educa-
Students Win $2,000 for Justice Jackson Papers

Albany Law School recognized three students as the winners of the Justice Robert H. Jackson Centennial Student Writing Competition; two of them presented their papers at Albany Law’s conference on Africa and international law.

The top prize for $1,000 was won by Daniel Levin ’12 for his outstanding paper, “Has the Legacy of the Nuremberg Trials under Justice Jackson Waned in Light of the Guantanamo Bay Terrorist Proceedings?”

The second prize for the $750 was won by Melanie D. Sanders ’12 for her paper, “An International Prosecutor’s Legacy.”

The third prize and $250 went to Nicholas Battaglia ’12 for his paper “Grassroots and Balanced Approaches to Justice, Lessons from Robert H. Jackson’s Legacy for Guantanamo Bay Piracy and the Affordable Health Care Act.”

Levin and Sanders presented at the conference on Africa and International Law. The Deputy Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, presented the prizes.

MOVIE NIGHT

Alumni, students and faculty watched the movie “Nuremberg” one evening after classes. The movie stars Alec Baldwin as Jackson.

From left, Daniel Levin, Melanie Sanders, and Nicholas Battaglia.

Professor John Q. Barrett, St. John’s University School of Law and Elizabeth S. Lenna Fellow at the Robert H. Jackson Center, took attendees through the arc of Jackson’s life, including his boyhood farm days, his pursuit of a legal career under the apprenticeship of his uncle—against his father’s blessing—and his days in Albany where he met his future wife whom he invited to Commencement and later married in Albany.

The event was attended by Erica Rangel ’12, whose grandfather Jack Stewart graduated with Jackson 100 years ago. Madeleine Maney Kennedy ’81 also attended, the great-niece of Edward Scheiberling who was president of Robert Jackson’s 1912 class, as well as a life-long friend.

Above: Prof. Barrett pointed out that while Jackson was one of the youngest students in the group, he managed to plant himself in the center of the photo.

Left: Prof. John Barrett addresses a filled Dean Alexander Moot Courtroom. Panelists Paul Grondahl and Judge Victoria Graffeo listen.

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Alumni, students and faculty watched the movie “Nuremberg” one evening after classes. The movie stars Alec Baldwin as Jackson.

From left, Daniel Levin, Melanie Sanders, and Nicholas Battaglia.
The first European schools of law can be traced to the 12th century, when four legal scholars founded the University of Bologna in Italy. Its prominence led to the creation of other law schools in Europe, but in England, legal training took a different direction. There, universities such as Oxford and Cambridge did not consider the study of the common law to be a suitable academic pursuit; law was generally viewed as ancillary to the study of philosophy or history. As a result, institutions known as the Inns of Court assumed responsibility for training members of the legal profession. The Inns of Court—a collection of practitioners—undertook to train apprentices by having these clerks observe court proceedings, attend substantive lectures and participate in moot court sessions. This emphasis on practical skills training was formalized in 1729 by an Act of Parliament addressing the apprenticeship training of solicitors. And, the tug of war that continues today regarding how much emphasis should be placed on academic study versus skills training was evident even in the mid-1700s when Blackstone argued that the study of law should not occur in Inns of Court but be conducted in universities in order to better teach foundational legal principles. Eventually agreeing that the training of barristers needed improvement, in 1846, the English Parliament began to recognize the value in a course of legal academic study.

With this historical perspective in mind, we cross the ocean to the American colonies. As one would expect, most of the attorneys in the Revolutionary period acquired their legal training in England so the apprenticeship model was the prevalent means of entering the profession. As early as 1730, New York accepted a seven-year clerkship as a qualifying credential for admission to the legal profession. About 30 years later, New York added another option for eligibility, that of a four-year baccalaureate degree, paired with a five-year clerkship and passage of an examination. Later, the college education requirement was reduced to two years, but the interesting point is that the Inn of Court apprentice model was not wholly embraced in the colonies—the value of some academic study was recognized early in the development of professional credentials in America.

Yet, apprenticeships remained the common route to becoming a lawyer through the end of the 18th century. A worthwhile clerkship that adequately prepared an aspiring lawyer required two things: the self-discipline to independently study precedents and doctrines and the good fortune to locate a suitable attorney-mentor willing to guide and train an apprentice. As with many things, in theory the clerkship model was to provide a balanced approach between doctrinal study and skills training, but in practice, many clerks were misused by law practices and their studies were woefully inadequate and poorly supervised.

Beginning in the early 1800s, colleges and universities began offering courses in legal theory and legal doctrine, and small proprietary law schools were started by groups of lawyers interested in providing lectures on the law to better prepare candidates for admission to the bar. But with the growth in popularity of university-based law schools, most of the proprietary schools disappeared.

We can be especially proud that Albany Law School is the oldest law school in New York State, having been established in 1851. In the 19th century and into the early decades of the 1900s, it was not uncommon for students to have first spent time as an apprentice in a law office before undertaking the formal study of law.

Against this backdrop, what was the state of legal education in 1912 when Robert Jackson arrived in Albany? At that time, there were about 125 law schools in the United States, compared to the 210 ABA-accredited institutions that operate today. There are currently approximately 155,000 law students in the United States, while in 1912 the number would have been about 20,000—still, not insignificant. And, of course, in the early 20th century, students in law schools represented a fairly homogenous population—white, male and usually of upper economic and social status. In this pre-World War period, law schools employed experienced professionals to teach the law—judges and lawyers—there were no career academics as we think of legal scholars today. And the curriculum would have been state-specific, with state courts exercising controlling authority over what needed to be taught. No globalization of the profession could have been conceived of a hundred years ago.

Albany Law was one of nine law schools in New York at that time, today there are 15. The law school occupied a building on the corner of State and South Swan Streets, where the Alfred E. Smith State Office Building now stands. This gave its 135 students, primarily from upstate New York, an opportunity to see the State Legislature in action across the street at the State Capitol.

As the second smallest law school in the State in 1912 (for comparison purposes, New York University had 700 students), the school had only two full-time employees—a Dean and a Registrar. Its 13 faculty members were all judges or practicing attorneys.

Typical of the era, law schools employed active practitioners to teach the law. For example, Judge Irving Vann from the New York Court of Appeals taught Insurance Law. The admission standards were consistent with Court of Appeals Rules requiring college graduation or a Regents’ law...
certificate, meaning that an applicant had a high school diploma and had taken certain subjects, such as English literature and Latin. At a time when only 10 per cent of the American population had completed high school, this was a relatively stiff requirement. And a college education was even less common: In Robert Jackson’s class, only about one-third of the students had attended college.

Albany Law was also less elitist than most Ivy League or larger institutions. Although there were no African-Americans in Jackson’s class (the first African-American, James Campbell Matthews, had graduated from Albany Law in 1870), three females, two students from Puerto Rico, and at least one Jewish student were classmates. By following a relatively open admissions policy subject to the requirements imposed by the Court of Appeals, Albany Law had a more equalitarian approach to legal education than many other law schools.

In 1911, the New York
And, the tug of war that continues today regarding how much emphasis should be placed on academic study versus skills training was evident even in the mid-1700s when Blackstone argued that the study of law should not occur in Inns of Court but be conducted in universities in order to better teach foundational legal principles.

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This article is part of a larger lecture given by the Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo ‘77, Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, on Feb. 2, 2012, to celebrate the Centennial of Justice Jackson.

Robert Emery, Acting Director, Head of Reference, Schaffer Law Library, helped with research.

Court of Appeals had approved a three-year curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Laws degree (an LL.B.), the standard law degree. Albany Law therefore duly instituted a new three-year program in 1912. The catalog from that year declared “New York Law and Practice a Specialty” of the law school and the curriculum reflected a detailed study of New York substantive and procedural law; there were no electives. The catalog further stated that instructional methods did not rely entirely on the Socratic method, but instead, used a mixture of casebook instruction, lectures, readings and classroom discussion. Clearly, the curriculum was designed with the New York bar examination in mind.

At a time when half of New York law school graduates did not pass the bar examination, Albany Law had the highest bar passage rate among the State’s law schools. Students went to Albany Law School to receive a solid grounding in New York practice and New York law as most of them intended to establish practices in upstate New York.

Even in 1912, the issue of real-world practice skills was relevant to legal education. With its strong emphasis on practical orientation, Albany Law undertook several initiatives to ensure that its graduates had lawyering skills. In conjunction with his civil procedure course, Dean Fiero conducted “practice court” sessions in which students took a hypothetical case through all stages of civil litigation, from service of process and the preparation of pleadings to trial and appeals, with moot court competition at the trial phase. Furthermore, all Albany Law students were required to take a legal research course entitled, “Books and their Uses,” taught by Federick Colson, the state law librarian and a former Cornell Law School faculty member. Albany Law was therefore one of the first schools to offer formal instruction in legal research.

The third initiative garnered the school national attention. An alumnus of its class of 1861, Thomas Hubbard was a Civil War general, railroad magnate and one of the drafters of the original ABA Canons of Legal Ethics. He endowed a lecture series on Legal Ethics, a topic that up to that point in time had received little attention in academic circles. The lectures were given by prominent public figures, such as David Brewer, a U.S. Supreme Court Justice who had graduated from Albany Law, and Franklin Fort, the Governor of New Jersey. Today, no one questions the importance of legal ethics training for law students but Albany Law was one of the first to accept responsibility for instilling solid ethical standards in young lawyers.

Along with the three-year degree program, Albany Law also offered a two-year diploma course of study, which the Court of Appeals would credit toward the four-year law office clerkship alternative to bar admission in New York. This was the program that Robert Jackson enrolled in since he had been apprenticing at his cousin’s law office in Jamestown, N.Y., prior to applying to law school. With his superior intellect and work ethic, he successfully completed year two of the two-year program. He passed the New York bar exam in 1913. By the way, the Court of Appeals’ Rules still allow a clerkship alternative for eligibility to take the bar examination, although not many folks have opted for it in recent years.

I find it particularly interesting that Justice Jackson had much in common with 19th century attorneys who self-studied the law, yet he was a 20th century visionary in recognizing the importance of the rule of law in American society and the role of the judiciary in the structure of American democracy. The beginning of the 20th century marked the major transition in preparation for a legal career from the 19th century apprenticeships to formal legal education. Robert Jackson experienced both of these methods of legal training and he obviously benefited from both as he went on to achieve a remarkable career in private practice and government service and they provided a sound foundation for him to devote his professional life to the pursuit of justice in the United States and in Nuremberg.
Preparing Students to Practice Law

“The things we have to learn before we do them, we learn by doing them.” –Aristotle

Theoretical. Practical. The tension between the two schools of thought is as old as education itself. Students for centuries have toggled back and forth between rote learning and doing. But it doesn’t have to be this way.

Albany Law School has a storied past of preparing students in a practical, concrete manner by integrating the two camps, producing 160 years of able practitioners. Back to the early 1900s, against the national tide of scholarship emphasis, Albany Law took several initiatives to ensure lawyering skills in its graduates, which included “practice court,” pioneering courses on ethics, and required research classes like “Books and their Uses.”
The integration of doctrine, skills and values begins in the first year with the Lawyering Program and continues in the second and third years through a variety of programs.

In MELISSA BREGER’s course Children and the Law, students draft a Termination of Parental Rights Petition and conduct mock delinquency disposition hearings and suppression hearings.

Students play the role of individual Supreme Court justices in conference arguing cases on the upcoming Court’s docket in STEPHEN GOTTLIEB’s course on the Court.

In KEITH HIROKAWA’s course State and Local Environmental Law, students examined the plans and files of a local 60-acre development seeking approval, as well as conducted simulated third-party negotiations at a local Town Hall to go over a development proposal.

NANCY MAURER has her students work with Albany Medical Center residents together on an ob-gyn related case. The process forces both sides to expose each other to the realities of their fields.

As one of several faculty who teach the required first-year Lawyering program, ROSEMARY QUEENAN’s students represent a party in a simulated legal dispute, interview and represent a mock client, and write a legal analysis in a trial court memo and in an appellate brief.

In DALE MOORE’s Products Liability class, students collaborate to apply the law in problem-based exercises to address questions raised in real practice.

In CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, LENESE HERBERT assigns material a practitioner would likely read to become current on the legal issues of a case, such as reviewing legal publications or appellate arguments.
Today, the pendulum of legal education swings back to a vocational pedagogy, and Albany Law again finds itself at the forefront of student-centered learning. Through coursework, classroom exploration, innovative clinical and field programs, teaching-focused scholarship, and a vibrant campus culture always striving to advance teaching and learning, Albany Law School continues to hone its pedagogic approach as the oldest independent law school in the country.

Some of the large school-wide innovative programs that promote the integration of doctrine, skills, and values include:

**The Lawyering Program:** The program for first-year students teaches the legal system, ethics, and values of the profession through a year-long simulated case where each student represents a fictional client from the start to the end of the case.

**Clinic:** The Albany Law Clinic and Justice Center combines theory and practice through its in-house public interest law firm and its field placement program. In a typical academic year, approximately 300 students enroll in the Clinic and Justice Center and represent more than 600 clients. Students work with clients, appear in court, write briefs, and conduct themselves as practicing attorneys. In the Field Placement Clinic, students choose among 140 opportunities.

**CELT:** The Center for Excellence in Law Teaching (www.albanylaw.edu/CELT), directed by Professor Mary Lynch, is an in-house center that supports best practices initiatives at the school and contributes to the national discussion of legal education reform by hosting the Best Practices for Legal Education Blog (http://bestpractices-legaled.albanylawblogs.org/). As of this writing, the blog has received over 103,000 views and more than 360 posts.

**Grants:** Albany Law School awards several $10,000 Summer Curriculum Grants, the stipend equal to Summer Research Grants, to faculty to create new courses or to revise currently taught courses to incorporate the kind of engaged learning and assessment methods demanded by the profession.

**Teaching Assistants:** A separate budget has been set aside specifically for faculty to use teaching assistants to support innovative instructional methods and provide feedback to students through the semester.

**Teaching Awards:** A financial Excellence in Teaching award is presented each year to the faculty member who demonstrates an unparalleled dedication to the students. The professor is recognized at Commencement (see page 41).

### Concentrations Offered
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Law
- Civil and Constitutional Rights
- Civil Litigation
- Criminal Law
- Environmental Law
- Estate Planning
- Family and Elder Law
- Governmental Administration and Regulation
- Health Law
- Intellectual Property
- International Law
- Labor and Employment Law
- Tax Law

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In **ELIZABETH RENUART’s Consumer Transaction course**, students learn by reading and interpreting actual financing documents.

**EVELYN TENENBAUM** taught a course jointly with the Albany Medical College and Albany College of Pharmacy approaching issues from either a legal, medical or pharmacy-related view.
While the Law School strives to support innovative, contextual teaching, individual faculty members also drive much of the activity, delivering lessons and creating experiences for students to develop a sense of ethics and professionalism. As the legal field continues to transform, so must the education for that field. Below are some of the activities teachers are pursuing to continually develop their students and themselves.

Workshops Series Address Teaching Strategies

The Center for Excellence in Law Teaching arranged several workshops for faculty to discuss classroom strategies and share innovative solutions. Two examples this year included:

Kim Novak Morse, St. Louis University School of Law, studied student laptop behavior in class over a semester to correlate off-task use with final course grade and LSAT scores. Patterns of use suggested ways for teachers to re-direct student attention back to class.

Andi Curcio, Georgia State School of Law, described two studies that concluded that formative assessment improves students’ performance on final exams.

Teaching Interviewing through Reporters, Doctors and Therapists

A psychotherapist, a medical doctor and an investigative reporter shed light on interviewing and counseling techniques during a two-day workshop for law faculty on teaching law students.

The fall program, coordinated by Clinical Professor Laurie Shanks, pictured right, featured workshops where topics ranged from rapport to grading. Above left, Evelyn Cruz, Arizona State University, talks about teaching client communication.

Albany Law Joins Elite Consortium

Albany Law School joined an elite, invitation-only group of 20 law schools with the mission to encourage innovation in legal education and train new lawyers to the highest standards of competence and professionalism.

Connie Mayer, interim president and dean, who led the effort, said that “the Consortium recognized the rich resource Albany Law School can be to other law schools seeking to transform their programs toward graduating practice-ready lawyers.”

Formally called “Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers: Putting Knowledge into Practice,” the Consortium is a project of The Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at the University of Denver.
One-Hundred Law Professors Gather on Campus for CELT Teaching Conference

Albany Law’s Center for Excellence in Law Teaching (CELT) hosted its inaugural conference that brought faculty from all over the country to transform teaching and learning across all areas of legal education. Infusing professional values into the curriculum, identifying skills and characteristics modern lawyers need, and properly using learning plans in externships were a few of the areas explored during the two-day conference. Most of the leading legal educators were on hand to share strategies to meet the standards set by the American Bar Association, while addressing other critical requirements like bar preparation and developing profession-ready graduates.

The Center’s mission is to help legal educators provide sound and innovative instruction to meet the changing needs of law students and legal educators, as well as the clients lawyers ultimately serve.

The Center, led by Professor Mary Lynch, has garnered a national reputation through its shared blog bestpracticeslegal-ed.albanylawblogs.org/, which has evolved into an online Town Hall for faculty around the country keen on improving legal education, with education principles driven by two works: Roy Stuckey’s Best Practices for Legal Education and the Carnegie Foundation’s Educating Lawyers.
Publications


Professor Christine Sgarlata Chung. Assistant Professor of Law, is scheduled to publish “Municipal Securities: The Crisis of State and Local Government Indebtedness, Systemic Costs of Low Default Rats, and Opportunities for Reform (Cardozo Law Review forthcoming).


Professor Danshera Cords will publish the article “Tax Court Appointments and Reappointments: Improving the Process” in 45 University of Richmond Law Review (forthcoming 2012).


Professor James Thuo Gathii, Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship and Governor George E. Pataki Professor of International Criminal Law, is scheduled to publish “Curtailing International Criminal Law, is scheduled to publish “Curtailing International Criminal Law” in Temple International and Comparative Law Journal (forthcoming 2012).


Professor Dorothy E. Hill authored the article “Guest Worker Programs Are No Fix for Our Broken Immigration System: Evidence from the Northern Mariana Islands” in 41 New Mexico Law Review 131 (2011).


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**Sunquist on Affirmative Action**

Professor Christian Sundquist at the Wadsworth Auditorium in Albany’s Empire State Plaza, where he delivered his talk, “Affirmative Action and the Myth of a Post-Racial World.”

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**At Yale, Lytton Discusses Book**

Professor Timothy D. Lytton spoke at Yale’s Rudd Center Seminar Series on the topic of his upcoming book, which addresses how private kosher certification agencies have transformed kosher supervision in America from a tool of fraud and corruption into a model of non-governmental industry regulation. Lytton is the Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor of Law.

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**Finkelman Lectures in Japan, Returns for “Jay Prize”**

Professor Finkelman received the “Jay Prize” medal when he delivered the 2012 John Jay Lecture, titled “Jay is for Justice: From Slaveholders to Abolitionists, the Jay Family and Racial Justice,” at the Jay Heritage Center in Rye, N.Y., an event co-sponsored by Pace Law School. Earlier this year, Professor Finkelman, through a Japanese science fellowship, performed a speaking tour of five Japanese universities, covering such topics as immigration, slavery and constitutional law. Professor Finkelman is the President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy.


Professor Timothy D. Lytton, Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor of Law, is scheduled to publish his book *Can You Believe It’s Kosher?* *Trust, Reputation, and Non-Governmental Regulation in the Age of Industrial Food* in Spring 2013.


Professor Dale L. Moore authored the article “Please Watch Your Language!: The Chronic Problem of Assumption of Risk” in 61(1) *Catholic University Law Review* 175 (2011).

Professor Alicia Ouellette ’94, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, will publish a column titled “Organ Transplantation and Disability Discrimination” in the spring edition of the *Labey Clinic Journal of Medical Ethics*. She also published the article “Body Modification and Adolescent Decision Making: Proceed with Caution” in the *University of Maryland School of Law’s Journal of Health Care Law & Policy*.


Professor Rosemary Queenan contributed “The Legal Implications of Green Policies by State and Local Government Employers” to *Legal Strategies for Greening Local Government*, forthcoming from the American Bar Association and co-edited by Professor Patricia Salkin and Professor Keith Hirokawa.


Professor Laurie Shanks will publish “The Mirror Exercise—A Quick and Easy Method to Begin Discussing Race, Gender, Ethnicity, Age and Other Differences with Your Students” in The Law Teacher (forthcoming Spring 2012), and she published the article “Evaluating Children’s Competency to Testify: Developing a Rational Method to Assess a Young Child’s Capacity to Offer Reliable Testimony in Cases Alleging Child Sex Abuse” in 58 Cleveland State Law Review 575 (2011). 


Faculty Share and Develop Scholarship at Weekly Workshops

Below is a sample of workshops which occurred every Wednesday for faculty over the past two semesters. 

Alexandra Harrington ’05, Albany Law School, presented her research through a talk titled: “Institutionalizing Human Rights in Latin America: The Role of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights System.” 

Danshera Cords, Albany Law School, maintained that changes to the innocent spouse rules in the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 created true equitable relief for innocent spouses. 

Eric Blumenson, Suffolk Law, considered the moral claim that all persons have a human right to the material necessities of life, and that governments are obligated to assure them to individuals who have no other way to obtain them. 

Melissa Breger, Albany Law School, delivered the paper: “The (In) Visibility of Gender and Motherhood in Family Court.” 

Robert Heverly (left) ’92, Albany Law School, presented “Killing the Cyborg: Internet Kill Switch Authority and The Embodied Internet,” which addressed the questions raised by the Government implementing a “kill switch” to shut down the Internet in time of emergency. 

Elizabeth Renuart, Albany Law School, presented “Property Title Crisis in Non-Judicial Foreclosure States: The Ibanez Time Bomb?” She discussed the likelihood that clear title to foreclosed properties is jeopardized by glitches in the handling and transfer of notes and mortgages. 

Amy Yin, Visiting Scholar at Albany Law School from Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade, spoke about Chinese education from college through law school. 

Tim Lytton, Albany Law School, discussed his book that traces the history of kosher food certification in America from the widespread fraud and corruption that characterized the kosher food industry a century ago to today’s network of more than 300 private kosher certification agencies that are highly effective in protecting consumers.
Two-hundred and thirty law students joined the ranks of Albany Law School graduates at the law school’s 161st Commencement Ceremony, held at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC) on May 11.

The Honorable Victoria A. Graffeo ’77, Associate Judge, New York Court of Appeals, delivered the keynote address. “You made it,” said Judge Graffeo shortly after stepping to the podium to deliver her remarks. “You made it,” said Judge Graffeo shortly after stepping to the podium to deliver her remarks. “We don’t know which of you will be managing law firms, directing the affairs of nonprofit organizations, acting as corporate legal advisors, business leaders, serving as elected officials, counseling government agencies or teaching the next generation of lawyers. The list is endless.”

“Go out there and make history,” she said.

Albany Law School’s 161st Commencement Ceremony was dedicated to Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson, Class of 1912, to celebrate his legacy 100 years after attending the law school.

After degrees were conferred, Class of 2012 President Natalie Bernardi announced the second largest class gift on record: $18,500 to be applied to scholarships for future classes. Bernardi also presented the Friend of the Class Award to Robert Emery, the retiring acting director and head of reference for the Schaffer Law Library, who accepted the award along with a standing ovation from the law school faculty.

Dean Connie Mayer followed the award presentation by announcing that the reference section in the library would be named the “Robert A. Emery Reference Area” in recognition of his many years of exemplary service with the law school.

After remarks about the value of mentor relationships by National Alumni Association President Keiki-Michael Cabanos ’97, Dean Mayer returned to the podium, asking the Class of 2012 to turn around to thank the audience of family members and friends for their support.
Albany Law presents three awards at Commencement every year to recognize outstanding faculty for contributions in scholarship, service and teaching.

**Professor Pamela J. Armstrong ’86** received the Albany Law School 2012 Award for Excellence in Teaching for her “remarkable dedication and passion over her 20-year career.”

Dean Mayer referred to her as a “go-to professor” for first-year students, noting that she brings to life the teaching of legal writing, and that her students often seek her counsel when preparing for their second year.

**Professor Raymond H. Brescia** received the Albany Law School 2012 Award for Excellence in Scholarship by distinguishing himself as an “unusually significant, prodigious and successful scholar.” Deemed a “rising star” by Dean Mayer, Professor Brescia, who recently returned from a year-long visiting position at Yale Law School, published 10 articles in flagship law reviews, as well as numerous book chapters and articles in the popular press, including regular contributions to The Huffington Post. His work addresses the mortgage crisis, access to the civil justice system, climate change, firearms and the financial crisis.

**Professor Nancy Ota** received the Albany Law School 2012 Award for Excellence in Service for her recent work as chair of the faculty committee for this year’s dean search, as well as her ongoing work as a member of the law school’s admissions committee, where she reviews applications. Professor Ota has worked hard to enhance diversity in the student body, and she serves as an advocate for underrepresented student groups and as an advisor for first-year students. Beyond the law school’s campus, she took the Bar exam in Washington, D.C., this year to help expand the school’s pro bono program in that city. —NC
Albany Law School has produced a long line of outstanding legal practitioners, scholars and jurists, as well as distinguished leaders in business and government. Numbering more than 10,000 worldwide, Albany Law alumni maintain connections through many resources and events. The powerful network of alumni comprise the backbone of the law school.

To get involved with alumni activities in your area, contact Christina Sebastian, Director of Alumni Affairs, at 518-445-3361 or cseba@albanylaw.edu or visit www.albanylaw.edu/alumni to view upcoming events.

**August 5**

15th Annual Day at the Races
Saratoga Race Course, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Alumni and friends join in the winner’s circle for the Honorable DeForest C. Pitt ’32 Albany Law School Race with jockey Ryan Curatolo.

**October 5**

Syracuse Alumni Happy Hour, Bull & Bear Pub, co-sponsored by the Onondaga Bar Association, Syracuse, N.Y.

Courtney Radick ’05, Timothy Fennell ’83, Stephen Helmer ’82, John Callahan ’81

**October 18**

Glens Falls Alumni Reception
The Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, N.Y.

Robert McMillen ’69, Jill Archambault ’13, Timothy Barlett ’13

**November 2**

Rochester Alumni Reception, Rochester City Hall Atrium with Mayor Thomas Richards, Esq., Rochester, N.Y.

Brett Farrow ’04, Dean Connie Mayer, Adriana Begley ’06, Michael Dreher, Amanda Ordyk ’06, Victoria Lagoe ’08
November 9
Atlanta Alumni Reception, Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP, hosted by Neil Wilcove ’98, Atlanta, Ga.

Neil Wilcove ’98, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez ’05, Mary Rivers, Aaron Smalls ’99

November 17

Vonzell Jones ’09, Anna Binau ’11, William Pendergast ’72, Jonathan Abrams ’12, Lisa Ugelow ’10

November 30

Prof. Paul Finkelman, Ellen Brotman ’87

Albany Law Review Alumni Receptions

November 15, Jack’s Oyster House, Albany, N.Y.

James Potter ’80, Susan Dautel ’81

April 19, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, hosted by Matthew Herman ’94, New York, N.Y.

Editor-in-Chief Patrick Woods ’12, Matthew Herman ’94, Interim President and Dean Connie Mayer

Trustee Constance Boland ’86, William Conway ’02
**January 25**
New York City Alumni Reception, Le Parker Meridien Penthouse, New York, N.Y.

*Donna Roberts ’01, Christina Roberts-Ryba ’01, Arlene Osterhoudt ’09*

*Gerald Jospitre ’01, Adam Herbst ’04, Kasim Razvi ’06, Aditya Surti ’06*

*Hon. Elizabeth Garry ’90, Skip Laisure ’90, Lori Stern Feldman ’90, Chester Rothstein ’90*

**March 29**
Science & Technology Alumni Reception, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, hosted by Todd Friedman ’98, New York, N.Y.

*John Hodge ’12, Alexa Ashworth ’12, Kevin Gildea ’94, Keiki-Michael Cabanos ’97*

*Professor Robert Heverly ’92 (left), Allen Wolff ’92*

**April 25**
Utica Alumni Reception, Hage & Hage LLC, hosted by J.K. Hage ’78, Utica, N.Y.

*Interim President and Dean Connie Mayer, Board of Trustees Chair Mary Ann Cody ’83, Trustee J.K. Hage ’78*
Alumnus in Residence Nolland ’77 Advocates for ADR

Christopher Nolland ’77, a Dallas-based mediator and arbitrator who serves as a neutral for some 90 cases a year, told students this October that alternative dispute resolution offers a “sense of completion” far more often than litigation.

Nolland spent two days on campus this past fall as the 2011 Alumnus in Residence, where he talked about his career since graduating Albany Law 35 years ago.

Nolland started as an appellate law clerk, and from there practiced in New York City and Dallas. In 1993, Nolland began his own practice with an emphasis on complex business and commercial disputes, bankruptcy and debtor/creditor related matters and with an additional focus on the development of a mediation/arbitration practice. Since that time, Nolland has mediated or arbitrated more than 1,500 cases.

In-House Counsel Alumnae Share Issues and Advice at Sidley Austin

A panel comprised of alumnae who have achieved great success as in-house counsel at top corporations told a group of colleagues—male and female—of their personal and professional challenges and triumphs, and offered advice to those starting their careers.

The event, hosted by Maria Melendez ’92, Partner, Sidley Austin LLP, New York City, took place in November 2011.

ALUMNI INITIATIVE IN MENTORING (AIM) PROGRAM

The AIM program encourages alumni to help Albany Law students succeed both academically and professionally. The Office of Alumni Affairs is looking for mentors for our 2012-2013 program. Please contact Kristin Herrling, Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs, at 518-445-3220 or kherr@albanylaw.edu to learn more.
More than 400 people attended the 2011 Reunion Weekend (September 23-25) at the law school, including alumni and their guests, faculty, staff and students. Many reconnected with friends to celebrate and reminisce about their time at Albany Law School.

On Friday, golfers completed a round at Capital Hills at Albany, followed by a TGIF event. Saturday’s activities included the 4th annual 5K fun run/walk around the law school’s neighborhood; alumni played students in rugby matches during the annual picnic; and alumni caught up with classmates during Saturday’s cocktail reception and dinner.

The Class of 1991 earned the Class Award for the highest increase in participation to their reunion class gift. The Class of 1976 was recognized for having the largest attendance of classmates. Trophies were awarded and are currently displayed in the law school’s Alumni Lounge.
Former Professor Patricia Reyhan, Charles Youngblood ’86, Concetta Lomanto ’86

Reunion Weekend 2012
SEPTEMBER 21–23, 2012
For members of classes ending in 2 & 7

For those interested in helping plan the next Reunion, contact Christina Sebastian, Director of Alumni Affairs at 518-445-3361 or cseba@albanylaw.edu.

Thea Hoeth ’76, Trustee Thomas Mullin ’76, Carol Smith Mullin ’76, Kathleen Nally Peer ’76

Thomas Callaghan ’66, Fred Ackerman ’66

Jennifer Chung ’01, Tiffany Bullitt ’01, Elisha Tomko ’01

From left, Robert Conway ’76, Hon. Randolph Treece ’76, Carol Hoffman ’76, Christopher Collins ’76
DEAR FRIENDS,

The most popular law school “rankings” measure criteria often at odds with ABA priorities. For example, over the last 10 years, Albany Law School has increased the LSAT and GPA of its incoming class, increased its quality and quantity of faculty scholarship, advanced an innovative curriculum that integrates doctrinal and experiential teaching and learning, along with several other initiatives. But our rankings in most charts moved very little during this period.

What no list measures is the richness of an alumni body—the breadth of graduates who lead firms, head corporations, drive government agencies and run national non-profit organizations. No metric attempts to measure the commitment of our alumni concerned with seeing their alma mater succeed. How an institution engages and fosters relationships with their graduates is what differentiates a law school.

So how do we measure this engagement? There are four metrics that serve as lead indicators of alumni engagement:

• annual giving
• participation rate in annual giving
• career services support
• alumni engagement through the year

ANNUAL GIVING

You often hear from us how important annual giving is to an institution. In 2010, Albany Law School raised $1,842,000 in current restricted and unrestricted private funds. Most of these gifts support the scholarships awarded to students. Regardless of where alumni direct their gifts, annual giving is a key indicator of an institution’s fiscal health and alumni commitment to the mission and vision of the institution. Gifts to the School’s annual fund rise every year in total dollars. In many ways this is the best communication we receive from alumni—a gift, and particularly an increased amount from the year before, indicate support for the direction of the school.

PARTICIPATION RATE IN ANNUAL GIVING

Albany Law School is on track for 18% alumni participation this year. While this is considered a high number for law schools—the national average is typically several percentage points below this—we aim to raise the number every year. Ironically, while the total dollar amount of gifts we receive from alumni increase every year for the past 10 years, our participation rate has not. Clearly your gift matters to the school and the students. We ask that you let a classmate know that you give and why it is important to you. Like the dollar amount that speaks loudly about your support, so does the rate of participation from our alumni.

CAREER SERVICES SUPPORT

This year more than 1,000 employers interviewed our students on and off campus. A large majority of those interviews were conducted or facilitated by alumni. Our alumni respect the integrity of an Albany Law education, and trust the quality of our graduates. Our summer associates are consistently rated as top-performing. Firms of all sizes—local small firms and the largest New York City firms—look to our new graduates every year. This happens because our great network of alumni make it happen.

At the internship level we receive fantastic support from alumni in local and state government, law firms, businesses and the many associations who offer opportunities for internships and field placements. Because of our unique location and alumni network, every student who seeks an internship can receive one.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT THROUGH THE YEAR

In 2011, 870 alumni participated in a school-related program. Alumni Initiative in Mentoring (AIM), Bar Preparation Mentoring, Reunion planning committees, career panels, alumni-in-residence, guest lectures, symposia, mock interviews and even helping to recruit students make up the majority of our alumni activity. Over 25 alumni gatherings were held around the country this year, all well attended.

Clearly Albany Law graduates are proud of their school and look to give back in a variety of ways, ways that have evaded the myriad of metrics that law school’s face. We have more than 3,000 engaged alumni who are making an impact every day—your gift, your time, your access to employment or internships. While your giving may not always have statistical impact, you each help the institution help the next class of students.

This institution depends on you. Thank you for keeping Albany Law School strong.

Sincerely,

Helen Adams-Keane
Vice President
Institutional Advancement
1966

Judge Frederic B. Rodgers retired from the Gilpin County Colo. Court bench.

1969

Elaine O. Youngblood practices as Of Counsel at Ortale, Kelley, Herbert and Crawford in Nashville, Tenn.

David B. Mahoney was appointed to town justice in Livonia, N.Y.

1970

Hon. Nicholas J. Greisler has retired from Lemery Greisler LLC in Albany, N.Y.

Hon. Frank B. Williams, retired Supreme Court Justice, has joined Towne, Ryan & Partners, P.C. of counsel, in the firm’s Saratoga Springs, N.Y., office.

1972

Bartley J. Costello was elected chairman of the Destroyer Escort Historical Museum. A Navy veteran, he is also an attorney at the Albany, N.Y., law firm Hinman Straub.

1973

Robert J. Bergin has been selected as Corporation Counsel for the city of Rochester.

1974

Jonathan D. Deily of Deily Mooney & Glastetter, LLP, Albany, has been selected as a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America.

Richard E. Rowlands and James J. LeBrou ’91 have opened a new law firm Rowlands and LeBrou, PLLC located in Latham, N.Y.

Richard E. Hurley was awarded the 2011 Association of Certified Fraud Examiners “Educator of the Year” at the annual meeting of the ACFE.

1975

Kenneth R. Adamo has joined Kirkland & Ellis, LLP in their Chicago, Ill., office as partner.

Rory J. Radding has joined Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP as a partner in the firm’s New York, N.Y., office.

1976

Mark M. Rider of Ballston Spa joined Towne, Ryan & Partners, P.C. of counsel, in the firm’s Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Office.

Peter C. Kopff is the 2012 Section Chair of the NYSBA Trial Lawyers Section.

Daniel Green was recently named partner in the Westport, Conn., law firm of Begos Horgan & Brown LLP.

1977

Leslie D. Kelmachter has been named president of the N.Y. State Trial Lawyers Association.

Gregor N. Macmillan has joined Hiscock & Barclay’s Albany Office as Of Counsel. He was also appointed to the Board of the American Red Cross Blood Services, New York–Penn Blood Region.

John R. Polster has been selected as Corporation Counsel for the city of Schenectady, N.Y.

Robert J. Boehlert of Latham, N.Y., was named director of Quality Assurance for Catholic Charities Disabilities Services.

1978

Richard T. Cassidy, an attorney in Burlington, Vt., has been appointed to serve a two-year term as Chair of the Committee on Scope and Program of the Uniform Law Commission (ULC).

Marjorie A. Rogers, a shareholder in the law firm of Modrall Sperling in Albuquerque, N.M., has been elected as a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

Kathryn Grant Madigan, partner at Levene Gouldin & Thompson, LLP in Binghamton, N.Y., has been selected for the inaugural edition of the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers.

Carl T. Baker has been elected chairperson of the 5,000-member Trusts and Estates Law Section of the N.Y. State Bar Association.

Wendy M. Lazerson joined Sidley Austin LLP as a partner in the firm’s Labor and Employment and Immigration practice in the Palo Alto, Calif., office.
Advising High Net Worth Clients of $30 million-plus, Treyz ’77 Finds People Similar Regardless of Assets

BY PAUL GRONDAHL

J.P. Morgan does business in more than 50 countries and at some point in her 35 years with the private bank, Managing Director of Wealth Advisory Debra Treyz ’77 has traveled to nearly all of them. Her job entails helping the world’s wealthiest individuals and their families to grow, manage and sustain their wealth. J.P. Morgan handles more than $600 billion in client assets worldwide and Treyz crisscrosses the globe advising her clients, many of whom are “Ultra High Net Worth Individuals”—those with at least $30 million in investable assets.

Treyz finds common ground among the families she works with from London to Dubai to Hong Kong to Buenos Aires, no matter their net worth. “People are more similar than different whatever their wealth level is,” she said. “They all want the same things: that their children are happy and successful, that their families stay together and that their philanthropic objectives are achieved.”

Treyz began her study of human nature growing up in Glens Falls. Her late parents were both research scientists, but science was not her strength. She discovered she was great at developing loyal customers as a teller at the First National Bank of Glens Falls, where she worked during summers while at Albany Law. By remembering her clients’ names and memorizing personal details, she earned their admiration and built a rapport.

After graduating from Vassar College with a degree in political science, she chose Albany Law School because of its proximity to Glens Falls. “I wanted to stay close to my family,” she recalled.

Dean John C. Welsh’s class on Property and Professor Harold Dubroff’s courses on taxation influenced her eventual career. “I really enjoyed their teaching and courses on property, trusts and estates, and tax,” she said. She recalled Prof. Dubroff tackling some particularly challenging tax material wearing Mickey Mouse ears and wielding a huge serving utensil to “spoon feed” the content. The tactic worked because she never forgot that material. Still, her career path was not clear-cut. “I didn’t take the upstate route or the typical lawyer route,” recalled Treyz, who clerked for a Surrogate Judge in Warren County and worked as a summer associate for a Glens Falls law firm before moving into financial services.

She married James O. Treyz just after law school and when her husband landed a marketing job in New York City, she accepted a position with Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, which recruited at Albany Law.

She has held numerous positions in J.P. Morgan’s Asset Management business, including Assistant Resident Counsel, two decades in senior roles, and as CEO of the firm’s Wealth Advisory and Trusts & Estates businesses globally (overseeing two major mergers, with Chase and Bank One), and four years overseas as CEO of J.P. Morgan Private Bank for Europe, Middle East and Africa. Based in London and Geneva, she oversaw the opening of new markets in Germany, Turkey, Russia and South Africa. Each assignment has drawn upon her law degree. “I use my legal skills every single day as a way to gather facts, identify issues and assess options,” she said. “Albany Law was tremendous preparation for business because it taught me a way of thinking that is very disciplined and thorough and effective at problem-solving.”

Increasingly, Treyz is called upon by clients to help families negotiate what is projected to be the largest intergenerational wealth transfer in history, with estimates of at least $41 trillion to be transferred in the United States by 2052. “The Baby Boomers are aging in the U.S. and we’re seeing an explosion of new wealth in Asia and all that is part of the record wealth transfer,” she said. “We help clients understand their risks and mitigate them as much as possible.”

Treyz credits her husband with being a supportive spouse who helped her balance work and family as they raised two daughters, Elizabeth, 28, and Alexandra, 25. The couple lives in Westchester County and share a passion for restoring old houses. They’ve restored six late-18th and early 19th-century properties, including their current project, a 1780 Colonial home in Charleston, S.C.

“I like complexity and problem-solving,” she said. “It’s very rewarding to help clients achieve their financial, business, family and philanthropic goals. My work has very real human outcomes and that’s important to me.”
1979

Sheldon W. Boyce has celebrated 15 years of the Law Forum on 1180 WHAM radio in the Rochester, N.Y., area.


Eugene M. Sneeringer Jr. has joined the board of Chemung Financial Corp.

Holly E. Leese is a 2011 honoree for the Crain’s Detroit Business, General and In-House Counsel Awards 2011.

George H. Weissman was one of 14 people that N.Y. Gov. Andrew Cuomo and legislative leaders named to serve as a member of the Joint Commission of Public Ethics Board.

Larry P. Schiffer has joined Patton Boggs LLP as a part of its Commercial Litigation practice in the firm’s New York, N.Y., office.

1980

Gary M. Hind was presented with the 2011 Minerva Award by the Potsdam Alumni Association at the College’s annual Reunion Weekend.

1981

Amelia A. Albano, the city attorney for Thousand Oaks, Calif., has been chosen to be the city attorney for Burbank, Calif.

Christopher A. Amato has been hired to run the downtown Albany office of Sive Paget & Riesel, a Manhattan-based law firm known for its environmental work.

1982

Michael J. Murphy has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors, ALFA International, the Global Legal Network. Murphy has also been selected as a member of the Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM).

David A. Harper was elected chairman of the Saratoga Springs, N.Y., GOP committee.

1983

Andrew D. Goldsmith was promoted to National Criminal Discovery Coordinator, a position in the Office of Deputy Attorney General in Washington, D.C.

James T. Snyder has become a board member of Aurora of CNY, the only non-profit that works exclusively with people in Central New York who are deaf, blind, visually impaired or hard of hearing.

1984

Michael J. Danaher has been designated to serve as a Public Integrity Officer for the State of New York.

1985

Jamie A. Hastings is vice president of external and state affairs of the CTIA-The Wireless Association in Washington, D.C.

Frances E. Cafarell has been named Clerk of the Court for the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department.

1986

Paul M. Predmore has been elected to the Board of Managers of the Syracuse, N.Y., firm Green & Seifter, Attorneys PLLC. He has been with the firm for 23 years and is the principal attorney overseeing all tax controversies at both the federal and state levels.

Richard G. Chalifoux was appointed as Managing Director and Senior Trust Officer for First Republic Bank, New York, N.Y.

1987

James E. Hacker was elected to the Board of Directors of the Albany County Bar Association.

Paul McCurdy has been elected Chair of the law firm Kelley Drye & Warren LLP in New York, N.Y.; he is also the chair of the firm’s broker-dealer practice.
Karen Bulich Moreau has joined the New York State Petroleum Council (NYSPC), a division of the American Petroleum Institute, as executive director.

Jean Ferguson Gerbini is the new chair of the 2847-member Torts, Insurance and Compensation Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Martin J. Somelofske has joined Hay Group as a Senior Principal and Northeast Practice Leader for Executive Compensation in Hay Group’s Metro New York office.

1986

Bradley W.B. Bodmer has been appointed to the position of Director of External Development at Siena College in Albany, N.Y.

Christopher C. Booth was named chief executive officer for Excellus BlueCross BlueShield in Rochester, N.Y.

Kathleen M. Ryan has joined the firm of Thorn, Gershon, Tymann and Bonnani, LLP in Albany, N.Y.

Gary E. Phelan has become a principal of the firm Cohen and Wolf PC in Samford, Conn.

1987

Charlie M. Johnson was sworn in as a criminal appellate judge on the U.S. Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals (USCG CCA).

Nora Mann, Massachusetts Assistant Attorney General, joined the Board of Directors of On The Rise, Inc., a non-profit day program for homeless women in Cambridge, Mass.

John C. Turi has been chosen as the new Rensselaer, N.Y., County public defender.

1988

Michael E. Michetti has joined Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP as partner in the Corporate practice in the Manhattan office.

Jan R. McConnaughey, Senior Counsel, Legal Department, has been named Senior Marketing Director, Business Strategy, Inkjet Systems.

Dianne R. Phillips is being honored at Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Top Women in Law event. She is currently a partner at the law firm of Holland & Knight in Boston, Mass. Phillips was also named Board President of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD).

1989

Professor Bridgit M. Burke has received an award from the Clinical Legal Education Association for Excellence in A Public Interest Case.

Hon. James A. Carlucci was sworn-in as new Kinderhook, N.Y., Town Justice.

Chris M. Scaringe was recently elected as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Christian Brothers Academy.

Paul B. Harding was the recipient of the 2011 ‘Legal Project Champion Award’ from The Legal Project.

Heather C. Briccetti was named the new President and CEO of The Business Council in Albany, one of the state’s largest lobbying groups.

1990

Jon A. Dorf, founder and managing partner of The Dorf Law Firm, LLP, has been selected by the Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV) to receive the 2012 Equal Access to Justice Award. Dorf was also inducted as the 2011-2012 Secretary of the Westchester County Bar Association (WCBA) where he also serves as a member of the Board of Directors.

Frank C. Sarratori was elected first vice president for the Unity House board in Albany.
Excellus CEO-Elect Credits Albany Law for Meeting his Wife, Launching Career, Making Lifelong Friends

Christopher Booth ’86, CEO-elect of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, believes Albany Law School offered him at least three lasting benefits. He met his wife there. He landed an internship that led directly to a position in the Albany law firm Hinman Straub. And he made lifelong friends among buddies who played together on an intramural basketball team.

Booth met Gail Ingenito ’87 in her first year (his second year) at Albany Law when they both lived on the second floor of the law school’s dormitory. Both remained all three years in the dorm, where a romance blossomed. “I’m grateful to the dorm because it’s the reason that I met my wonderful wife,” he said. The couple lives in the Rochester suburb of Pittsford with three daughters, aged 16, 18 and 21. Relocating to Pittsford in 2004 was a difficult family decision after Booth received an unexpected offer in 2004 to join the 1.8-million member Rochester-based health care plan as its chief counsel.

“I was very happy at Hinman Straub, we loved living in the Capital Region and I wasn’t seeking another job,” Booth said. “I got recruited because of my previous work with Excellus at Hinman Straub. It was a great opportunity and I accepted the offer.”

He’s been steadily promoted in executive positions during eight years at Excellus and on Jan. 1, 2013, Booth, currently President, will take over as CEO of Excellus and its parent corporation, The Lifetime Healthcare Companies, a $6.2 billion not-for-profit holding company with more than 6,500 employees across upstate. It’s been a natural progression since his law school days.

Following an Albany Law internship at Hinman Straub, Booth joined the Albany firm full-time after graduation. During 17 years with the firm he rose to partner and managing director of its Health Law area and oversaw a staff of 10 attorneys. “I found that work very challenging because there’s always so much going on with health care and health insurance, which is continuously changing,” he said. “I think I’ll still be learning whenever I decide to retire.”

Booth is no longer practicing law at Excellus, but draws each day upon his foundation of legal expertise. “The skills of a lawyer are important for a CEO, particularly the ability to work analytically and being able to communicate well, verbally and in writing,” he said. “What’s helped me most in my career is the discipline I learned in law school. That analytical nature and being expected to write clearly and effectively were ingrained in me at Albany Law.”

A legal career was not on his radar when he graduated from Holy Cross with a bachelor’s degree in English. “I wasn’t sure what my life path would be at that point,” he recalled. “I got great advice when a college advisor said I should go to law school because you can do a lot of different things with a law degree.”

Booth’s education went well beyond the classroom at Albany Law. In fact, some of the most important lessons came on the basketball court. He played intramural basketball, where he was the team’s point guard. “We forged lifelong friendships on the court,” he said, noting that he was going to have lunch with a teammate in a few days.

“To be honest, we were a bunch of hacks, but we loved playing together,” he said. “It was just a lot of fun.” —PG

Susan Bartkowski was highlighted in the January 2012 edition of the *ABA Journal* in the ‘Lawyers Giving Back’ section for her efforts with Kenyan school children. She started a pen pal program with U.S. students in the Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and Scotia/Glenville school systems.

David R. Ross has been named shareholder at O’Connell & Aronowitz in Albany. He practices in the firm’s Health Law and Healthcare Fraud and Abuse practice areas.

Denise V. Gonick was elected to the Board of Trustees of Union Graduate College in Schenectady, N.Y.

James J. LeBrou and Richard E. Rowlands ’74 opened a new law firm, Rowlands and LeBrou, PLLC in Latham, N.Y.
Corporate Imprudence Drives Feldman ’90 for the Plaintiffs

Lori (Stern) Feldman ’90 has recovered more than $150 million for her class-action plaintiffs, which range from employees of cement companies to telecommunication providers to major banks.

“Fraud and imprudent management of retirement assets transcend all industries,” said Feldman, a partner in the New York office of Milberg LLP, specifically the securities and ERISA litigation practice areas. “Many investor claims are against companies who put too much of its own stock in a 401(k) when it’s imprudent to do so. It’s an unfortunate and irresponsible practice in all types of companies.”

Her recovered investments may grow substantially based on her current caseload, where she represents participants of defined contribution retirement plans in ERISA litigation involving British Petroleum, Morgan Stanley, Macy’s, Textron and others.

“In the BP case, for example, they placed cost savings ahead of safety and prudent investing,” she said. “Their investments were far too risky for retirement plans.”

Recently Feldman redirected a portion of a settlement to the Law Clinic & Justice Center, partly for the crucial lessons she learned at Albany Law that still informs her work today, but also to inspire other firms to use the same model for giving to the law school.

“A driving force behind the gift was simply supporting an important Albany Law program. Someone made it possible for me to have a great experience when I was in school, and now I can do the same for the next person.”

Feldman attended the University at Albany, where she met her future husband, Bradley Feldman. She graduated magna cum laude from UAlbany in 1987, with a major in criminal justice, a minor in biology and a potential plan to attend medical school. She shifted her focus to a legal career and enrolled at Albany Law School. On the same day she graduated J.D. with high honors, her husband proposed to her.

During her law school days, Feldman worked as a summer associate for Seward & Kissel on commercial litigation cases. She continued full time at Seward & Kissel after law school, then moved laterally to Milberg to work on securities fraud. “My practice has been fascinating; complex, dynamic and cutting edge.”

When her husband took a job with Microsoft in Washington State, she moved to the Seattle office of a D.C.-based firm. “At the time there was no reciprocity, so I had to take the Washington bar, even with six years of firm work at Milberg in New York under my belt,” she noted.

Thereafter, she opened a Seattle office for Milberg, which she led for five years. “The smaller federal practice bar in Seattle enabled me to meet the area’s top practitioners,” she said. In 2005 she returned to the New York office and expanded her management and litigation responsibilities. She now heads the firm’s ERISA litigation practice. Ms. Feldman still works on cases pending in Washington State, such as securities fraud litigation against Washington Mutual and its former top officers. That matter recently settled for $41.5 million.

Feldman directed a portion of the firm’s recent settlement toward the Law Clinic & Justice Center, partly for the crucial lessons she learned at Albany Law that still informs her work today, but also to inspire other firms to use the same model for giving to the law school.

Recently Feldman redirected a portion of the firm’s recent settlement toward the Law Clinic & Justice Center, partly for the crucial lessons she learned at Albany Law that still informs her work today, but also to inspire other firms to use the same model for giving to the law school.


“So many Albany Law professors inspired me and instilled a work ethic that I live with today,” Feldman said. “They taught me the discipline and patience to properly analyze fact patterns. Professor Youngblood’s clarity, her approach, her body of knowledge, was inspiring. With Professor Deutsch I gained a lifelong appreciation for statutory code.”

In 2010 Feldman attended the first reunion for the Albany Law Review, where she was an executive editor. “I connected with my friend, who was my editor at the time, Skip Laisure ’90. It was great to see him and so many others.”

Recently, she attended a 2012 Albany Law event where she connected with additional friends from the Class of ’90, including Justice Elizabeth Garry and Chester Rothstein, an intellectual property attorney.

Feldman, who grew up in Brooklyn, lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn, with her husband and their teenage son. —PG
1992

Kyran D. Nigro has joined D’Agostino, Krackeler, Maguire & Cardona, P.C. as Of Counsel in Albany.

W. Michael Reickert has joined the board of directors at Albany Medical Center.

Lisa L. Weinberg is being honored at Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Top Women in Law Event. She is currently a Political Asylum Lawyer with the Community Legal Services and Counseling Center in the Greater Boston Area.

1993

Jolene M. Casatelli has been promoted to Director of Field Claims Operations and Workers Compensation Claims Director at the Utica National Insurance Group.

Catherine J. Palermo, a Watertown attorney and former Jefferson County senior assistant attorney, was nominated by Mayor Jeffrey E. Graham for the six-year term as part-time city judge.

1994

Patricia A. DeAngelis will be leading SUNY Delhi’s Criminal Justice Studies baccalaureate degree program at Schenectady County Community College.

Michelle L. Haskin has received the Hon. Judith S. Kaye Distinguished Attorney Member award from the Capital District Women’s Bar Association.

1995

Kristen H. Martin has been named Corporate Secretary to the Utica Mutual and the Graphics Arts Mutual Insurance Company Boards of Directors.

1996

Noelle M. Kinsch is Senior Attorney at the Iberdrola USA Management Corporation.

Peter A. Lauricella has been elected vice chair of the Bethlehem, N.Y., YMCA.

1997

L. Micha Ordway has been appointed to the Town of Lysander Zoning Board of Appeals and will act as Chairman of the Board. Ordway has also been appointed to the Onondaga County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

Ross M. Piscitelli, has joined DeCrescente Distributing Co. as general counsel.

Holly E. Steuerwald has been practicing veterinary medicine since 2009. She has returned to the Capital District and is a small-animal veterinarian in Hudson, N.Y.

1998

Martin A. Bruehs, has joined SNR Denton in Washington, D.C., and will serve as chairman of the chemical patent practice.

Leo M. Loughlin has joined Rothwell, Figg, Ernst & Manbeck, P.C. in Washington, D.C., as Of Counsel.
Stephany Phelps-Fahy has been appointed Director of Financial Affairs at The Phelps School in Malvern, Pa.

Mary Tanner-Richter will be honored by the NYS Stop-DWI Foundation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving of N.Y. State with a 2011 Recognition Award.

Andrew R. Safranko and George E. LaMarche ’00 announced the formation of their new firm LaMarche Safranko Law PLLC in Albany.

James G. Talbot is now the Vice President of Investments at UBS Financial Services in Northbrook, Ill.

1999

Cara J. Brousseau has been named President-Elect of the Capital District Women’s Bar Association, Albany.

Susanne H. Dolin has been named president of the Capital District Women’s Bar Association, Albany.

Benjamin M. Farber, recently named partner with Phillips Lytle LLP in Albany, will serve as a judge in the American Bar Association (ABA) Law Student Division Region 2 Negotiation Competition.

Shelli A. Healy was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott Monday to the Judicial Nominating Commission that recommends candidates for judicial vacancies in Palm Beach County, Fla.

Jennifer M. McDonnell was named a firm partner at the Estate Planning Law Center.

Melinda J. Reed has received the 3rd Annual Citation for Special Achievement in Public Service by the N.Y. State Bar Association.

Daniel R. Ryan has been elected partner at the firm Smith Sovik Kendrick & Sugnet PC in Syracuse, N.Y.

2000

George E. LaMarche and Andrew R. Safranko ’98 announced the formation of their new firm LaMarche Safranko Law PLLC in Albany, N.Y., on Feb. 1, 2012.

Douglas R. Kemp has joined the Vincellette Law Firm in Albany. He will be working on Real Property Tax Assessments.

John R. Vero, partner with Couch White LLP in Albany, was appointed by the Albany Common Council to the City of Albany Industrial Development Agency (IDA) and the Capital Resource Corporation.

William J. Decaire has been elected as a Shareholder of the firm Carter Conboy in Albany.

Shawn W. Yerdon was promoted to partner at Stockton Barker & Mead LLP in Albany.

Christopher J. Watt has joined Carter, Conboy, Case, Blackmore, Maloney & Laird, P.C. in Albany.

2001

Elizabeth G. Adelman has received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence at the University of Buffalo.

R. Andrew Feinberg has been recognized as an “Up & Coming Attorney” in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

James A. Muscato II has been promoted to partner at Young/Sommer LLC in Albany.

April M. Wilson, of McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams in Albany, was elected to the board of the Capital Region Medical Research Foundation. Wilson has also been named 2nd Vice President of the Capital District Women’s Bar Association.

Gilbert L. Carey has joined the firm O’Connell and Aronowitz in Albany.

Dennis J. Annechino has opened the firm of Santiago Burger Annechino LLP in Rochester, N.Y. The firm will focus in the areas of labor and employment, trusts and estates, commercial and corporate disputes, insurance coverage, and civil rights.

Carrianna C. Eurillo-Travinski was promoted to Campus President at Mildred Elley Business School.

2002

Natasha Kerry has received The Capitol’s 40 Under 40 award as a rising star in New York government.

Kimberly J. Raab is a personal injury attorney at The Joel Bieber Firm in Richmond, Va.

Katherine Suchocki of Halfmoon was named director of law practice management for the N.Y. State Bar Association.

Mia D. VanAuker has joined the firm of Thorn, Gershon, Tymann and Bonnani, LLP in Albany.
Despite an ongoing debt crisis and recession-battered U.K. real estate values, David Merson ’01 is beating all projections and proving the naysayers wrong. After forming their London law firm JD Law LLP two years ago during a severe economic downturn, Merson and his three founding partners tripled the size of their legal staff and grew their business dramatically since 2010.

“People were saying we were crazy to be starting this firm in the worst post-war recession in history and specializing in real estate when the bottom had fallen out,” Merson recalled. “We believe that since we’ve survived and even thrived when the economy is at rock bottom, we’ll be really ready to soar when things pick up.”

Their practice has already taken flight working with clients on the acquisition, development and disposal of a range of properties, including mixed-use developments, hotels, restaurants, office buildings and industrial estates. Merson is currently working on a large-scale property transaction worth about $50 million that includes a landmark building in one of London’s most well-known districts. His firm is also working with a client developing a project with 270 apartments and a hotel near the 2012 Olympic site in Stratford outside London. Although most of their work is based in the U.K., Merson has represented clients on projects in Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia. “We’re lucky that many of our clients are cash clients so we don’t have to wait around for bank financing. That makes it very attractive for sellers of distressed properties who want to move quickly and deal with our clients,” Merson said.

Merson’s success in real estate law rests upon a foundation of classes in New York Practice, Real Property Tax and others taught by Professors Patrick Connors, David Siegel and Timothy Tippins. “I wasn’t interested in the esoteric or theoretical parts of the law,” Merson said. “I put that practical knowledge in my pocket when I left law school and I look back on my time there with fond memories.”

Merson, who grew up in Rockland County, had his sights set on a legal career at a young age. He worked as a part-time paralegal at Nixon Peabody while an undergraduate majoring in political science at George Washington University. He accepted a full-time position in Nixon Peabody’s New York City office on the public finance team and met Albany Law School alumni, including Frank Penski, Connie Boland and David Fernandez. “They were all good ambassadors for the law school,” Merson said. On their recommendations, he applied to Albany Law and after graduation joined the small Rockland County firm where he had worked during high school.

He worked there until his wife, Nicky, who grew up in London, convinced him to relocate to her hometown in 2003. He’s fully immersed in British culture now speaking in clipped sentences. “My friends in New York like to give me a hard time about it. It felt slightly foreign originally, but I consider it home now. I did have to get used to the fact that the pace in London is quite a bit slower than in New York City.” Merson and his wife, an accountant and internal finance director for a private U.K. firm, have a four-year-old son.

Before launching JD Law—the name comes from one Jeremy and three Davids who are the founders—Merson worked in the London office of SJ Berwin, a large international law firm. “Although a brilliant firm with many amazing lawyers, it was too big for me and wasn’t a good fit,” he said.

As a transactional lawyer, Merson is a solicitor. That means he represents clients but does not go to court. He is not a barrister. “Barristers wear the white powdered wigs and black robes,” he said. “I assure my friends I don’t have a wig and hope I won’t need one for a long time.” —PG

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Yat Fai Lau ’05 can spot a counterfeit Coach handbag in a matter of seconds. “I don’t even have to pick it up. I can tell right away just by looking at a photograph,” said Lau, an in-house counsel for Coach. He specializes in combating counterfeiting and goes to great lengths to protect the luxury fashion accessory designer’s trademark and copyright by investigating and prosecuting criminals who try to pass off imitation products as authentic brand-name Coach goods. It’s more than just a forward-looking business strategy. Counterfeiting has been linked to organized crime, child labor abuses and terrorism and costs the U.S. economy an estimated $250 to $500 million a year.

The counterfeiting threat is both near and far for Lau, who was known as Fai at Albany Law. He has cracked down on street vendors selling counterfeit Coach handbags a few blocks from his office on 34th Street in Midtown Manhattan, where he is one of seven attorneys in the general counsel’s office. He’s also traveled to Guangzhou, China, for a warehouse raid where 10,000 pieces of counterfeit items were recovered. Being fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin makes Lau’s job easier when he travels to Asia as part of Coach’s global anti-counterfeiting program. His Albany Law degree also gives him a solid foundation for his career.

“It’s a never-ending challenge because they keep moving and changing their counterfeit operations,” said Lau, a native of Hong Kong who earned a bachelor’s degree at St. John’s University and chose Albany Law School because he wanted a break from New York City. He noted that courses in New York Practice II and Federal Jurisdiction with Professor David Siegel helped solidify his career choice. “I had great professors and I got involved in Law Journal, the moot court team and trial competition. I learned a lot that way.”

He met his fiancé, Hailey Choi ’06 at Albany Law. After law school, Lau worked as an Assistant District Attorney in the King’s County District Attorney’s Office for three years. He moved to Garson DeCorato & Cohen in New York and worked on civil litigation, mainly medical malpractice defense. While he was at the firm, he earned a master’s degree in corporate finance and banking law at Fordham Law School.

Lau joined Coach as counsel in 2011.

Cracking down on counterfeiters involves a multi-pronged approach. He provides training for Customs inspectors and Border Patrol officers to help them spot counterfeit Coach handbags, which most commonly are manufactured in China for $2 or $3 and are sold by street vendors or through illegal websites for $40 to $50. An authentic Coach handbag, by contrast, might retail for $400 to $500. Even an untrained person could pick out a counterfeit purse by holding it, since the material is usually cheap vinyl instead of high-quality leather and the stitching and finishing is shoddy.

Even when Lau and his investigators make a bust, the laws often lack teeth and the penalties are so weak that counterfeiters operate brazenly. They’ve been making headway in some jurisdictions, including New York, where a task force set up by Mayor Bloomberg helped shut down stores flouting the law and openly selling counterfeit Coach bags and other brands on Canal Street. Still, getting caught selling counterfeit items is typically a misdemeanor with a modest fine as a penalty.

“Luckily, the quality is not getting any better on counterfeits,” Lau said. He has also joined an effort to crack down on counterfeit middlemen who import and export counterfeits for a fee. “We do periodic market sweeps and factory raids in the major cities in China,” he said. “It’s exciting work and reminds me a little bit of working in the D.A.’s office.”

Lau is resigned to the fact that counterfeiting can never be completely stamped out. “My job is to make it as difficult as possible for counterfeiters,” Lau said. “There’s no way to stop it completely. I’m satisfied if I make them think twice before they sell something that is clearly counterfeit.” —PG
Graig F. Zappia has joined the firm Tully Rinckey as a partner in Albany.

2003

Christina M. Brescia joined the firm Goldberg Segalla in White Plains, N.Y.

JulieAnn Calareso has been promoted to partner at the firm Burke & Casserly in Albany.

Peter M. Damin has joined the firm Lemery Greisler LLC in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Jessica R. Giroux has joined Bond Dealers of America as Vice President of Government Relations in Washington, D.C.

Elisabeth B. Mahoney became a principal at the firm Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C. in Glens Falls, N.Y.

Janet M. Silver has been elected Secretary of the Albany County Bar Association.

Lee M. Zeldin has received The Capitol’s 40 Under 40 award as a rising star in New York government.

2004

Adam H. Cooper, a Director at Carter Conboy in Albany, has been appointed Chair of the GenNEX Young Professional’s Council, a joint initiative of the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce.

Carey Ann Deneffio has been recognized as an “Up & Coming Attorney” in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

Sarah E. Gold has started her own firm in Colonie, N.Y. The Gold Law Firm is a business and consumer transactional law firm.

Jeffrey V. Jamison has been appointed head of the Division of Building Codes in the city of Albany.

2005

Bridget N. Amicone was a Business Review 40 Under 40 winner.

Brian C. DeCarolis has been recognized as an “Up & Coming Attorney” in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

Christopher J. DeFilippis joined the West Orange, N.J., firm Wolff & Samson PC.

Jessica A. Reinhardt was named manager of N.Y. State Government Relations for Con Edison.

Cheryl L. Sovern has been named partner at the law firm DuCharme, Harp & Clark LLP based in Clifton Park, N.Y.

2007

Evan S. Cantor, a first-year medical student at the Medical School for International Health, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center, was a presenter at an event organized by the Medical School for International Health’s chapter of American Medical Student Association in Beer-Sheva, Israel.

Stephen P. Gruberg has joined Proskauer Rose LLP in New York, N.Y., as an associate in the Corporate Department.

Kathleen K. Hogan was a Capital Region Business Review 40 Under 40 winner.

Cassandra A. Kazukenus has joined Hurwitz & Fine, P.C. in the firm’s new Albany office.
Quinn M. Morris has been named assistant director of the National Federation of Independent Business.

Michael J. Pendell joined the firm Motley Rice located in Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Ronney L. Rosenberg will be working as a compliance officer at Credit Suisse in New York, N.Y., responsible for commodity and emerging markets securities trading and sales in the Americas.

2008

Sarah I. Goldman has joined Towne, Ryan & Partners, P.C. as an associate attorney in Albany.

Ryan V. Horstmyer joined the law firm Pennock, Breedlove & Noll LLP in Clifton Park, N.Y.

Justin T. Kelton joined the firm Dunnington Bartholow & Miller in New York, N.Y. He was also appointed by Judges Lippman and Pfaus to serve as a member of the N.Y. State Court System’s E-Discovery Working Group.

Ryan V. Horstmyer was one of the Knickerbocker Ledger’s 30 under 30 winners

2009

Andria L. Bentley has joined the N.Y. State Bar Association as executive services council.

John A. Degasperis joined the firm Basch & Keegan in Kingston, N.Y.

Robert G. Magee was one of the Knickerbocker Ledger’s 30 under 30 winners

Joshua B. Boone has published How Developing Countries Can Adapt Current Bilateral Investment Treaties to Provide Benefits to their Domestic Economies.

Jeremy A. Cooney is Vice President of Development for the YMCA of Greater Rochester.

Brian M. Dunn has joined the law firm of Kowalczyk, Deery, Hilton and Broadbent in New Hartford, N.Y.

Anthony F. Griffin and Kathryn F. Kosstrin started a new law firm in Roseburg, Oregon. It will focus on criminal defense, family law, juvenile dependency and estate planning.

2010

Andrea L. Holupko recently joined Towne, Ryan & Partners in Albany as an Associate.

Matthew B. Kellogg joined the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) as government relations staff in Washington, D.C.

Mitchell J. Pawluk has joined Harris Beach PLLC as an associate in the firm’s Albany office.

Lauren A. Holupko

Lourdes P. Rosario is staff attorney in the family court program at The Hiscock Legal Aid Society in Syracuse, N.Y.

David A. Rozen was one of the Knickerbocker Ledger’s 30 under 30 winners.

Robert M. Salkin was appointed Membership Officer of American Mensa, Ltd.

Jeremiah M. Yourth joined the firm Owen & Owens PLC in Richmond, Va.

2011

Alicia M. Dodge has joined the firm Maguire and Cardona, in Menands, N.Y.

James P. Girvin was recently hired as an associate at Girvin & Ferlazzo P.C in Albany.

Benjamin A. Lee has joined the law firm of Carter, Conboy, Case, Blackmore, Maloney & Laird, P.C. as an associate attorney in Albany.

Elizabeth V. Marchionni, joined the firm Robert S. Beehm, Attorney at Law in Binghamton, N.Y.

Phillip Perry has joined Tully Rinckey PLLC in Albany.

Christopher J. Stevens has joined the Syracuse, N.Y., firm Gilberti, Stinziano, Heintz & Smith as an associate attorney in the litigation department.

Luke S. Malamood has joined the firm Carter Conboy as an associate attorney in Albany.

Carmina K. Tessitore is an Associate at Law Offices of Burt M. Hoffman, LLC in Stamford, Conn.
MARRIAGES

Adam Lounsbery '08 and Betsy Sochar '08 were married on May 5, 2012.
Jonathan Victor '08 married Jennifer Christensen on June 10, 2011.

BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

Brandy Murphy '02 and her husband John Murphy welcomed their second son Tristan John Murphy, on October 26, 2010.
Moshe Bonder '03 and his wife Sara Klein Bonder welcomed their daughter Ella Maren Bonder on February 27, 2012.
Peng Jiang '03 and his wife Li Tang '03 welcomed their daughter Shan on January 18, 2012.
Jeffrey Jamison '05 and Kathleen Hogan '07 welcomed their son John Sullivan Jamison on March 22, 2012.
Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez '05 and her husband Juan Carlos Alvarez welcomed their second child Eric Matthew on March 1, 2011.

William Little '05 and Erica Putnam Little '06 welcomed their son Miles William Little on February 25, 2012.
Jonathan Tingley '06 and his wife Jaime Rubin Tingley welcomed their son Benjamin Cooper Tingley on March 26, 2012.
Blaise DiBernardo-Hover '07 and her husband Adam Hover welcomed their daughter Gabriella on April 7, 2012.
Margaret Nyland Wood '07 and Andrew Wood '05 welcomed their son John on September 26, 2011.
Cory Kestner '08 and his wife Sara Kestner welcomed their son Benjamin David Kestner on November 2, 2011.

Answers from the last issue.

< Top photo: James T. Townsend '71, Albert M. Pellegrino '71, Dale M. Thuiliez '72
< Bottom Photo: Top: Jon L. Krahulik '92, William J. McCann, Jr. '92, Timothy J. Quinlivan '91
Middle: Mary M. Farley '92, Laura M. DiLallo '91, Susann D. Estroff '93, Megan Brown '93, Pellegrino L. Certa '93, Judith M. Nolfo '93
Bottom: Kathleen Duffett '91, Kristen (Merrihew) Wright '91, Laura (Shannon) Hartman '91

The first five alumni to correctly name anyone in either photo win an Albany Law School cap. The first two to correctly name any five in either photo, including graduation year, win a Law School sweatshirt.

Submit your answers to Christina Sebastian, Director of Alumni Affairs, at 518-445-3361 or cseba@albanylaw.edu.
Presiding Justice Anthony V. Cardona passed away Dec. 4, 2011. Judge Cardona, a Trustee of Albany Law School since 1994, and member of the Class of 1970, was a tireless supporter of the school and its graduates. He was the 2002 Commencement Speaker, where he also received an honorary degree.

He has presided over numerous induction ceremonies for the Law Clinic & Justice Center. In 2001 he was awarded the Distinguished Alumni in Government Award.

He was designated a Justice of the Third Department on Sept. 8, 1993, appointed Presiding Justice on Jan. 1, 1994, and reappointed Jan. 1, 2005. His judicial career started as Albany County Family Court Judge in 1985, where he served until he was elected to the Supreme Court effective Jan. 1, 1991. Reelected to the Supreme Court in 2004, he was appointed Administrative Judge for the Third Judicial District in January 1992 and served in that capacity until his designation to the Third Department.

Prior to his judicial career, he practiced law for 14 years, a span which included a two-year period as a part-time attorney with the Albany County Public Defender’s office and service as a Law Guardian in Albany County Family Court.

He was a graduate of Manhattan College in 1962. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1963 to 1967, as a Naval officer in the Vietnam War. Following his honorable discharge, he attended Albany Law School and graduated in 1970.

The Albany Law School Board of Trustees established the Justice Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Memorial Scholarship Fund to honor his legacy. In accordance with Judge Cardona’s family and friends, Albany Law School will annually award the scholarship to a student who displays a strong sense of citizenship and the desire to make a meaningful contribution to the legal profession and society.
1952
Vincent Francis Kirsch,
July 22, 2010,
Scarborough, Maine

1953
Linwood W. Anderson,
October 3, 2011,
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

William M. Burke,
January 12, 2012,
Troy, N.Y.

1954
Francis J. Holloway,
August 10, 2011,
Bermuda Run, N.C.

Romolo U. Versaci,
December 30, 2011,
Schenectady, N.Y.

1955
Anthony J. DeGaetano,
January 19, 2012,
East Berne, N.Y.

1957
Honorable John L. Murad,
January 10, 2012,
Utica, N.Y.

William J. Doyle Jr.,
January 18, 2012,
Brunswick, N.Y.

1958
Joseph R. Scully,
July 30, 2011,
Lake George, N.Y.

Forrest Greeley Weeks IV,
August 10, 2011,
Glenmont, N.Y.

Anthony B. Sgarlata,
September 26, 2011,
Schenectady, N.Y.

1960
Richard S. LoManaco,
May 19, 2011,
Rochester, N.Y.

Edgar N Best,
August 15, 2011,
Cathedral, Calif.

John J. Bellizzi Sr.,
November 7, 2011,
Delmar, N.Y.

1961
John J. Cavanaugh, Jr.,
May 10, 2011,
Albany, N.Y.

Charles P. Garvey,
July 12, 2011,
Ticonderoga, N.Y.

Roland L. Faulkner,
July 18, 2011,
Niskayuna, N.Y.

1967
Richard P. Wallace,
September 15, 2011,
Troy, N.Y.

Patrick John Fish,
January 15, 2012,
Ballston Lake, N.Y.

1969
Charles E. Snow,
June 16, 2011,
Albany, N.Y.

1974
James F. Seeley,
June 15, 2011,
Albany, N.Y.

Timothy P. Fitzgerald,
October 23, 2011,
Waterville, N.Y.

John P. DeMatteo, Father Figure to Countless Students

John P. DeMatteo passed away on Dec. 10, 2011, at the age of 82. For more than 34 years he served as the maintenance superintendent at Albany Law School, where he was known as “Dad” to his crew members and the law school community. The gymnasium that bears his name was dedicated to him in 1989.

While working here, John lived for 10 years until 1976 with his wife and two sons in the 1928 Building in an apartment that now serve as the Law Review offices.

For many older alumni, John represented the small, caring environment Albany Law School offers, as he went out of his way to accommodate the students, faculty and staff. He was seen as always working, always on the job, and the stories are numerous: he brought students coffee and donuts during late night study sessions; he saved books for students when clearing out lockers; his wife brought spaghetti dinners to his student workers.

DeMatteo served in the Army during the Korean War and was awarded the Bronze Star three times.

William W. Pulos may have said it best in his “Eulogy for Dad.”

“So, in the end, John DeMatteo was much more than he appeared at Albany Law School. He was a fighter, a war hero, a soldier decorated for bravery and valor. He was a great husband and father: very loyal, very protective and very proud of his family. He was a one-of-a-kind icon at his workplace. He selflessly took care of people, thousands of people. He never sought the limelight, never wanted promotions.

To read the full “Eulogy for Dad” by William W. Pulos ’80 www.albanylaw.edu/eulogyfordad
Charlotte Pitt, Generous Donor and Friend

Charlotte Blandy Pitt passed away on February 20, 2012. As the widow of Justice DeForest C. Pitt, Class of 1932, she was a long-time generous supporter of Albany Law School. This year she was honored with a portrait that hangs next to the main entrance of the law school’s 1928 Building, opposite from the central staircase that bears her and her husband’s name. Her portrait hangs closely to the portrait of her late husband, a former New York State Supreme Court Judge.

Calling the Albany Law community her extended family, she gave regularly to the school, including contributing to the Annual Fund, the school’s endowment, and supporting alumni events like the Annual Day at the Races.

“Albany Law School gave the love of my life the ability to achieve a successful career and life,” she once said. “He loved the school.”

IN MEMORIAM

1975
Ross A. Peters,
May 21, 2011,
Salamanca, N.Y.

1976
Wesley A. Daniels III,
July 11, 2011,
Watertown, N.Y.

Marc David Snyder,
November 17, 2011,
Elizabeth, N.J.

1986
John Sciortino,
March 12, 2012,
Rochester, N.Y.

1987
Stephen Grifferty,
October 24, 2011,
Colonie, N.Y.

1989
Nancy Bogan,
September 3, 2011,
Amsterdam, N.Y.

Jeffrey S. Rosenberg,
September 17, 2010,
Dunwoody, Ga.

1991
Laura Shannon Hartman,
May 25, 2011,
Marietta, Ga.

1993
Debra S. Finelli,
January 8, 2012,
Glenmont, N.Y.

1995
Lisa M. Codispoti,
October 6, 2011,
McLean, Va.
(Stoneman Award recipient. See page 6.)

2006
Marcia F. Roth,
April 6, 2011,
Delmar, N.Y.

2010
Nicholas John Attanasio,
September 24, 2011,
Kingston, N.Y.

Friends of Albany Law


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Friends of Albany Law

AS ANOTHER ACADEMIC YEAR COMES TO A CLOSE, PLEASE ACCEPT OUR STUDENTS’ GRATITUDE.

Your giving helps students.

- Generates scholarship support
- Bolsters journals, moot court and other co-curricular enhancements
- Provides for practice-ready learning inside and outside the classroom
- Maintains pro bono opportunities

Thank you for your part in helping our students realize their goals. Now won’t you take action to help yourself?

Your giving helps you.

- Maintains the law school’s reputation and strengthens the value of your degree
- Counts you as a supporter for the 2011-2012 Albany Law School Fund Year
- Provides for a tax deduction to the full extent under the law

It’s easy to give.

www.albanylaw.edu  518-445-3218  use the enclosed envelope

Please respond by June 30.
SAVE THESE DATES

June 18
17th Annual Albany Law Golf Outing
Schuyler Meadows Club, Loudonville, N.Y.

August 12
16th Annual Day at the Races
At the Rail Pavilion, Saratoga Race Course,
Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

September 21–23
Reunion Weekend 2012
Albany Law School, Albany, N.Y.