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STUDENT IMPACT
Dear Friends,

The most satisfying part of my job is spending time with students. Our students are hardworking, engaged, and inspiring. In many of our conversations, I learn about the impact Albany Law School has in their lives. I also learn about the impact our students make in our community and beyond. The impact is significant.

This year’s graduating class, for example, provided more than 42,000 hours of pro bono and public service. The graduating students worked in student-run pro bono projects serving veterans, children, the elderly, businesses, rural populations, and others. They served clients and provided legal help at the public defender’s office, the City Bar Justice Center, The Legal Project, the Gender Equality Law Center, our Law Clinic and Justice Center, and in dozens of other not-for-profits. The pages in this magazine tell some of their stories.

You’ll read about students who staffed a “pop-up” immigration clinic to provide legal help to residents. You’ll read about students who arranged attorney consultations for 50 veterans, helped unrepresented tenants defend against eviction proceedings, conducted classes on naturalization for area immigrants, and helped more than 90 non-profit and small businesses with legal advice. You’ll read about a Nigerian pharmacist pursuing his dream of law school, and a Long Island native who earned a paid fellowship at a local union representing area sheet metal, air, rail, and transportation workers. You’ll read about students who drove to Buffalo to take on an ICE lawyer before an immigration judge, gaining asylum for their client. And you’ll read about the work of the students in the Women’s Law Caucus to address sexual harassment in the legal profession.

These student stories remind many of us of why we entered the profession of law in the first place. They also evidence Albany Law School’s commitment to using law to improve our communities, a critical part of producing the next generation of lawyers and leaders.

Our commitment to providing unparalleled opportunities and a top-notch education to students is having a positive impact on our school as a whole:

- for the fourth straight year, we are poised to welcome a larger, academically stronger, more diverse entering class;
- our graduates are landing good jobs, placing us in the top 37% of the country for professional employment;
- we have enjoyed a 32-point jump in the U.S. News and World Report law school rankings over the past three years, edging us closer to the top 100, at 106;
- and this year we were named a top-20 law school for innovation, No. 8 for preparing students for careers in government, and No. 12 for prosecution and defense (preLaw magazine).

These achievements are well deserved, reflecting the hard work of our faculty, staff, and students, and telling the story of a school on the rise. Of course our work continues. We continue to focus on preparing our students to pass the bar exam. We continue to challenge our students with cold calls, tough cases, and an increased focus on writing. We also face external challenges in the legal market, and in the market for legal education. We face these challenges head-on, guided by a strategic plan that is yielding positive results. With this work, as with all we do, we maintain our focus on our first priority: our students and student learning.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support for our law school. Please stay in touch.

All my best,

Alicia Ouellette ’94 || President and Dean
Albany Law School started its new online LL.M. in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Law this spring, designed for lawyers looking to advance their careers in the burgeoning area of legal and policy issues surrounding cybersecurity and data privacy.

The 100% online program features professors and practitioners with unique expertise in information security, data privacy, cybercrime, and intellectual property. The new online LL.M. is open to both foreign and domestic lawyers.

Sample classes include: Cybercrime and Digital Evidence; Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Management; Cybersecurity Law and Policy; Public Entities; Cyberspace Law; Global Privacy Law; and Technology, Privacy and the Law.

Candidates are required to earn a total of 24 credits and are encouraged to earn at least three of those credits by engaging in a faculty-supervised research and writing project. The program affords working professionals a flexible schedule to advance career goals in cybersecurity and data privacy.

“After successfully developing the online Master of Science in Legal Studies in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy, we now extend our expertise in this area of law to attorneys,” said Alicia Ouellette, Albany Law School’s President & Dean. “We built a curriculum taught by leading experts around the country.”

The Law School is partnered with the Global Cyber Alliance (GCA), a multinational organization formed to confront and mitigate top cyber risks.

Associate Dean Antony Haynes, who leads the initiative, recruited faculty from around the country who include: the chief information security officer of N.Y. State, a deputy assistant secretary from the Department of Defense, a cybercrime expert from the N.Y. State Police, private sector information security officers, and many more.

“There is a large need for experts in this field to understand the legal issues around cybersecurity and data privacy,” said Haynes, Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives and Information Systems at Albany Law School. A graduate of the Air Force Academy and Georgetown Law School, Dean Haynes previously served as an assistant professor in computer science at the Air Force Academy, where he created an Information Assurance concentration and new courses in secure networks, cybersecurity and crytography.

The Law School also offers an online master’s degree in legal studies, with a specialization in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy, as well as a J.D. concentration in Law and Cybersecurity.

Albany Law School’s affiliation with the University at Albany gives students additional access to programs, courses and resources in the area of cybersecurity.

NEW OFFERINGS INCLUDE ONLINE CERTIFICATE AND SINGLE COURSES

A new certificate program in Cybersecurity & Privacy Law offers students the opportunity to enroll in a unique half-year to full-year, skills-oriented cyber law track. Designed for the working professional, the program consists of three courses for a total of nine credit hours and is offered in a fully-online, distance-learning format, allowing students to complete courses at times that best fit their schedules. Each course takes 14 weeks to complete and may be taken concurrently, so that all three courses can be completed in one academic semester.

The courses help students to develop skills for: assessing a business or organization’s cybersecurity and privacy program, assessing industry best practices along with state, federal and international cybersecurity and privacy rules; and making decisions and advising senior decision-makers on how to orient a business or organization to rapidly adapt to a constantly changing risk, compliance, legal, and policy environment. Single courses are also available for students who want to focus on only one topic.

All credits earned in the online graduate certificate program can be applied toward the Master of Science in Legal Studies in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Law degree.
Albany Law Rises in U.S. News Rankings for 3rd Consecutive Year

Albany Law School’s national ranking by U.S. News & World Report rose again for the third consecutive year, gaining a total of 32 positions in three years to reach No. 106.

“The health of a law school is measured in numerous ways, such as the academic achievement of our students and the quality of their employment after graduation,” said Alicia Ouellette, president and dean. “While we have been focused on implementing our strategic plan, it is always validating when our hard work is recognized by outside sources like U.S. News. I continue to feel great pride in Albany Law School.”

U.S. News rankings measure a number of categories, which include employment rate, student-faculty ratio, expenditure per student, library resources, reputation, acceptance rate, and the test scores and grade point average of the incoming class.

“This ranking follows other recent positive rankings, including one of the nation’s top 20 “most innovative law schools,” by preLaw magazine, and the only law school that the magazine named in all three of the following categories: Government (No. 8), Public Interest (No. 11), and Public Defenders and Prosecutors (No. 12).”

Teaching Courses Online, Across and Outside the Country

Professor Heverly

Students attend class from the Bronx, Chicago, Iceland, Arkansas and Albany. They work full time and engage with the class at different times through the day and night.

“They watch my weekly lecture when it works for them,” said Professor Rob Heverly, who teaches Cyberspace Law online. “I send them individual comments on their assignments, respond to course messages and email, and I expect them to participate in the discussions every week, like I would in a traditional classroom.”

He releases the new weekly modules every Friday morning, a request of the students who print the materials at their offices to read over the weekend. Occasionally he assigns a student to generate the conversation for the new module, which typically includes a 30-minute lecture, with accompanying pre-reading and post-reading material.

“The trick is to get them truly engaged so that they excite each other into deeper levels,” said Antony Haynes, Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives and Information Systems, who teaches Cybersecurity Law and Policy Seminar. “This happens at about the same frequency online as it does in a traditional classroom,” he said.

The classes also include full-time law students. “The law students often come to my office with questions,” said Haynes. “As well, the on-campus students may know each other and discuss issues, taking away from online activity. While I always encourage communication, it creates an uneven dynamic for the online students, so each professor has to resolve the imbalance themselves.”

Professors occasionally send a surprise quiz to make sure the reading is completed. They can see who watched the lecture video—a portion and the whole video—the equivalent of class attendance.

One week, for example, Professor Heverly asked the group if they would reinstate net neutrality. “I asked them to discuss it, and come to a consensus as a group. Sometimes I jump in to steer them in a direction, or reignite the exchanges among the group. There’s no one time that they all have to be there, but over time they all have to participate in a meaningful way.”

“There is a lot of literature and studies on best-practices for online teaching and learning,” said Connie Mayer, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who also teaches online. “In some ways, online teaching is maturing, but at the same time, compared to the traditional methods of a live classroom, it’s in its infancy. We’re all learning together.”

“Many of the students have no other way to take these courses,” Mayer added. “You need to keep in mind that fact and make it the best experience possible.”

preLaw magazine named Albany Law one of the nation’s top 20 “most innovative law schools.” In a separate issue, only Albany Law appeared in all three of the following categories: Government (No. 8), Public Interest (No. 11), and Public Defenders and Prosecutors (No. 12).
THE ALBANY LAW SCHOOL COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER ON TUESDAY, MARCH 27, TO CELEBRATE THREE WOMEN—TWO OF THEM GRADUATES OF THE LAW SCHOOL—FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE IDEALS OF KATE STONEMAN, THE FIRST WOMAN ADMITTED TO PRACTICE LAW IN NEW YORK STATE AND THE FIRST FEMALE GRADUATE OF ALBANY LAW SCHOOL, CLASS OF 1898.

JUSTICE WINSLOW ’86, CIOFFI ’78, AND FINEMAN RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS STONEMAN AWARDS

Cristine Cioffi ’78, and the Honorable Joanne Winslow ’86, joined the prestigious ranks of Stoneman Award recipients at the law school’s annual Kate Stoneman Day. Albany Law School Professor Donna Young delivered the keynote address prepared by Martha Albertson Fineman, who accepted the Miriam M. Netter ’72 Stoneman Award in absentia. Fineman is the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory University.

“When I went home to Schenectady to practice law in 1978, after Albany Law School, there were five women attorneys in the local bar association,” Cioffi said. After being hired as a firm’s first woman attorney, she found herself working through her maternity leave—the partners thought she would have plenty of “quiet time” to comb through client files. “The attorneys at this firm weren’t bad men, they just had no precedent to follow, which made me realize that it was my job to change the paradigm.”

Cioffi founded in 1995 what is now an all-female law firm, Cioffi Slezak Wildgrube.

“Forty years later, I am proud to have done my part,” she said. “I’m part of a law firm of all women, and with my wonderful partners, we successfully manage the business of a small firm and offer a flexible workplace.”

Cioffi was introduced by Kathryn Grant Madigan ’78, a classmate and fellow founding member of the Albany Law School Ms. Demeanors rugby club.

State Supreme Court Appellate Justice Winslow, referring to Stoneman, said she “will do everything in my power to continue to live up to such an example.”

She has served formally and informally as a mentor and role model to members of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys (GRAWA), guiding and assisting other female attorneys in their career advancement.

Honorable Elizabeth Garry ’90, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division for the Third Judicial Department, introduced Justice Winslow, calling her a trailblazer. “I also have been fortunate to have achieved many firsts,” Justice Winslow said. “But being first does not define success. It does provide you, however, with opportunity. It is what you do with that opportunity that makes a difference.”
A two-day conference on Cybersecurity and the Law in October addressed topics around breach responses, legal issues in cloud computing, law enforcement, local government challenges, and much more. The event was presented by the Albany Law Journal of Science and Technology, Center for Internet Security, the Cybersecurity and Privacy Law Center at Albany Law School, and the Sobota Lecture Series.

Dean Ouellette introduced the event and welcomed the guests.

Professor Brescia spoke about cyber issues related to innovation and entrepreneurship.

Associate Dean Haynes, the Director of Cybersecurity and Privacy Law, gave an introductory overview of the field.

Mark Zaid ’92, a Washington, D.C.-based attorney, and Albany Law Trustee, gave the keynote address.

Professor Heverly teaches cyberspace law and laid the groundwork for the upcoming sessions.

Katelynn Balsamico ’18, symposium editor for the Journal of Science & Technology.

The Honorable Arthur J. Gajarsa spent three days at the school speaking to students, visiting classrooms, and delivering a public lecture on intellectual property. A former Federal Circuit judge for 15 years, along with years of service at the Departments of Commerce, the Interior, and Defense, he is now senior counsel in the Litigation/Controversy Department and a member of the Intellectual Property Litigation Practice at WilmerHale.
“Be Your Authentic Self,” Judge Feinman Tells Students

BY JOHN CAHER

Governor Andrew Cuomo ‘82 appointed the most diverse Court of Appeals in the history of the state’s highest tribunal, and sometimes that results in unanimity, and other times dissension.

So says Associate Judge Paul Feinman, the newest judge on the Court and the first and only openly gay individual to serve on the top Court.

“The fact that we have all been appointed [by Cuomo] doesn’t mean we agree on anything or everything,” Feinman said. “We get along, and that’s great. But we bring a diversity of perspectives.”

Feinman spoke about “authenticity on the bench” at a Feb. 12 event sponsored by the school’s group OUTLaw—students who support the LGBTQ community.

In a 50-minute discussion moderated by President and Dean Alicia Ouellette, Feinman fielded a wide array of questions from both the dean and students.

Andrew Cuomo is only the second governor in state history—the other was his father, Mario Cuomo—to appoint an entire Court of Appeals. His appointees reflect racial, religious, political, ethnic, geographical and, with Feinman, sexual diversity.

“I think that contributes to people at least feeling they were heard. The public has to feel that it sees itself reflected in the institution of the judiciary….I think it makes a difference in the ability of the judiciary to continue to function, and I think we are going to see that tested,” Feinman said.

Feinman, a graduate of Columbia University and the University of Minnesota Law School, has been on the bench since 1996 when he was elected to the Supreme Court in 2007, promoted to the Appellate Division, First Department, five years later and unanimously confirmed for the Court of Appeals on June 21, 2017.

The judge said he publicly embraced his sexual identity in high school—perhaps made easier by the fact that his older brother had “come out” some years earlier—and was fortunate to have a supportive family.

“We have the family we are born into and the family we create,” said Feinman, who lives in New York City with his husband, Robert Ostergaard. “The important thing is to find a family that is supportive. I never experienced rejection from my family.

“I think that contributes to people at least feeling they were heard. The public has to feel that it sees itself reflected in the institution of the judiciary….I think it makes a difference in the ability of the judiciary to continue to function, and I think we are going to see that tested,” Feinman said.

Feinman’s recipe for success: “Follow your passion and you will do well. Be nice to people—colleagues and adversaries. People really underestimate the importance of civility. Do what you are good at. Do what you enjoy. Make connections. Be civil.”

In the age of nuclear weapons, we need to eliminate racism not only to improve all our lives, but to ensure the human race survives,” declared Professor Anthony Farley at the start of the James Campbell Matthews Black History Month Lecture.

Midway through the lecture, he sharpened his message through a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “We must see now that the evils of racism, economic exploitation and militarism are all tied together…you can’t really get rid of one without getting rid of the others.”

To emphasize his message, he told his audience, “Remember, these are the words of a man with a national holiday.”

Farley, the James Campbell Matthews Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence, moved through several theories on race, emphasizing the threat racism brings to the human race, and the idea that a society cannot be partially racist, “a society is racist through and through, or it’s not.”

The annual lecture and endowed chair is named for the school’s, and the state’s, first African-American law graduate, and judge.

As a judge of Albany’s Recorder’s Court in 1895, Matthews held one of the highest judicial positions of any African American up to that time. U.S. President Grover Cleveland nominated Matthews to succeed Frederick Douglass as Recorder of Deeds in Washington, D.C., but his nomination was blocked by Republican senators. Matthews is buried at his family plot at Albany Rural Cemetery.

The event capped a series of activity in February, organized by the Black Law Students Association, that included among other things a reception in the foyer celebrating jazz and a living history museum featuring historical black figures.

WATCH THE VIDEO ON ALBANY LAW’S YOUTUBE CHANNEL.
Hops, Barley, Apples: Helping Beverage Producers Stay on Top of Their Craft

The Rural Law Initiative hosted two daylong workshops on legal issues affecting microbreweries, wineries, distilleries, and cideries in New York State. The “Hops, Barley, Apples, and Laws” CLE program covered New York State Liquor Authority laws, labeling and packaging laws, and intellectual property basics. At each event, a panel of craft beverage business owners discussed the legal obstacles they faced while starting and operating their enterprises.

“The craft beverage industry is an integral part of our food and drink markets,” said the Government Law Center’s Taier Perlman, who organized the workshops in Oneonta and Utica, N.Y. “We put on this program not only to support the needs of business owners, home brewers, and enthusiasts, but also to train lawyers to be stronger advisors to these businesses.” Perlman also provides limited-scope legal consultations to upstate New York’s diverse businesses. Conjunctively, the Rural Law Initiative produces podcasts and legal educational materials on topics of law relevant to small business owners. Funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Initiative offers free legal education and assistance to entrepreneurs, small businesses, and farmers in rural upstate New York. Additionally, this initiative seeks to address the shortage of legal services pervasive in rural communities.

Professors, Practitioners Offer Help on New Tax Act to Community Members

Professors David Pratt and Ira Bloom, with tax law practitioners, provided students and community members a description of changes to the tax code and its effect on individuals and small companies.

The free event also featured: Jennifer Boll, Bond Schoeneck and King; Paul Bullock ’96, Ayco; Amy Earing ’07, Lavelle & Finn; and Scott Shimick, Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna.

Panel Confronts Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession

The Albany Law Students’ Women’s Law Caucus presented a panel of professionals who discussed the issue of sexual harassment in their profession. Panelists, from left, were: Norma Meacham, Co-Managing Partner, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna; Professor Donna Young, Albany Law; Lois Goland ’80, Title IX Coordinator/EEC Specialist, Siena College; Hon. Leslie Stein ’81, Associate Judge, New York Court of Appeals, who moderated the event; Shontell Smith, Chief Counsel, N.Y. State Senate Democratic Conference; Hon. Rachel Kretser, former Albany City Court judge; and Rachel Ryan ’05, partner, Drinker Biddle & Reath.
Renewing Communities, Combatting Urban Challenges

One of the most daunting issues facing local governments in the last decade has been the problem of vacant and abandoned properties, or “blight.” On Nov. 3, Albany Law School hosted “Community Renewal and Its Discontents,” an interdisciplinary conference with multiple panels and workshops exploring local government, blight, scarcity, and renewal in urban and rural landscapes.

The program was presented by Albany Law School’s Government Law Center, and the Institute for Financial Market Regulation, with the support of the Community Loan Fund of the Capital Region, and the Crawford Lecture Series.

Keynote speaker Joseph Schilling of the Urban Institute delivered the Crawford Lecture on Municipal Law.

How “Broken Windows Policing” Can Shatter a Community

The Government Law Review Symposium dissected “Broken Windows Policing,” in which police focus on the presence of disorder. Panelists argued that such a model creates an environment that encourages further crime and disorder, including serious crimes. Panelists looked at the social and legal implications for a community when police approach their work with this model. Called “Cracks in the U.S. Constitution: Broken Windows Policing and the Criminalization of Children,” the event was part of the Edward C. Sobota ’79 Memorial Lecture Series.

Candace Williamson ’18, symposium editor, Government Law Review

Andy Ayers, director of the Government Law Center, who moderated the third panel

Andrea Ritchie, keynote, author of Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color

Panelist David Rozen ’10 spoke on community oversight of law enforcement, as assistant counsel, Office of the Inspector General for the New York Police Department.
Professor Mary Lynch told her audience that the most dangerous place for a woman in the United States is her home. “A woman’s home is where she is assaulted—hit, and injured—more than any other place in the country. And that’s only what is reported,” the Kate Stoneman Chair in Law and Democracy emphasized through the Katheryn Katz ’70 Lecture Oct. 12, 2017, titled “On Femicide and Intimate Partner Violence.”

“It’s still true that the home in our country is the single most dangerous place for a woman—not the street,” Lynch said, paraphrasing Gloria Steinem.

Lynch presented a series of statistics to provide context:

- Half of women killings are related to intimate partner violence. For men the number is around 5%.
- The killings are across all racial and ethnic groups.
- Separating from one’s abuser leads to a six-fold increase in femicide risk.
- More than 1,600 women were murdered by men in 2015 and the most common weapon used was a gun.

Lynch described behavior that contributes to perpetuating domestic violence: the inability to handle the number of criminal cases, and the complexity of these cases, which are typically assigned to young prosecutors with little support; the fear of retaliation by the violent partner deters reporting; and the epidemic is yet to be seen as a community-wide public health issue.

She warned of the false sense of safety women may feel after going to the police, citing that more than half of the women who reported stalking to the police were killed by the stalker.

“This is not a situation solved by compromise,” Lynch told the audience. While acknowledging the grim picture she painted, Lynch added that she remains hopeful. “Everyone needs to keep in mind that saving one person is enough.”

Since the Katz Lecture, the “#Me Too” movement has provided a new level of awareness around the issue. “While it is incredibly encouraging to see abuse and harassment talked about as a national conversation,” Lynch said recently, “we are still just scratching the surface. It’s up to us to keep hammering away at it.”

The Katheryn D. Katz ’70 Lecture Series was established in 2015 to focus on the family law topics that Professor Katz made central to her teaching, including domestic violence, gender and the law, children and the law, reproductive rights, and inequality.

Gender Equality in Alternative Dispute Resolution

The Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee presented a panel on the inequity of women in ADR. Panelists included: Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo, former judge of the New York Court of Appeals, now at Harris Beach; Susan Hernandez, Esq., an arbitrator with the National Arbitration and Mediation; and Hon. Mae A. D’Agostino, U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York. Hon. Rachel Kretser, Albany City Court Judge (ret.), moderated the event.
Retired COA Judge Read Delivers Jones Lecture, Full Court of Appeals Attends

Hon. Susan Phillips Read, Associate Judge of the N.Y. State Court of Appeals (Ret.), delivered the annual Hon. Hugh Jones Memorial Lecture. The full membership of the New York Court of Appeals attended. Dean Ouellette introduced the event, followed by remarks from Chief Judge Janet DiFiore. Presented by the Fund for Modern Courts, Judge Read spoke on “Musings on Stare Decisis in New York’s Court of Last Resort.”

Law Review Takes on the Debate Over Assisted Suicide

Before the 118 graduates received their degrees at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in Saratoga Springs on May 18, President and Dean Alicia Ouellette told them: “We started together—you were my first class as dean and president. I am so proud of how far we all have come together….You will soon use your degree to do amazing things in this world….The world needs you more now than ever.”

The keynote address was delivered by the Honorable Michael J. Garcia ’89, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals. Judge Garcia spoke about his “favorite” alumnus, Robert Jackson, Class of 1912, noting that the era of Jackson’s Commencement speech in 1941 was similar to today’s shifting world order and tension. He emphasized Jackson’s commitment to the “rule of law,” quoting his closing statement: “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.”

James Hacker ’84 called to order his first Commencement as Chair of the Board of Trustees, calling for the graduates to feel the pride of their achievement.

HONORARY DEGREES
Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees were conferred on Edward P. Swyer, President of the Swyer Companies and a strong advocate of the law school’s public interest work, and Alexander Hamilton posthumously, one of the nation’s founders who studied and practiced law in Albany. Actor Jean-Remy Monnay played the role of Hamilton for a brief act. Afterwards, Douglas Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton’s fifth great-grandson, accepted the degree.

THE FACULTY
Annual faculty awards were presented to: Professor Melissa Breger for Excellence in Service; Professor Patrick Connors for Excellence in Teaching; and Professor Evelyn Tenenbaum for Excellence in Scholarship.

Three faculty members presented doctoral hoods to the graduates: Professor Christine Sgarlata Chung, who was promoted to Professor of Law; Professor Robert Heverly, who was promoted to Associate Professor of Law with tenure; and Professor Patrick Connors, who was voted Friend of the Class.

Daniel Speranza, President of the Class of 2018, presented the Friend of the Class award to Professor Connors and announced the class gift of solar-powered charging stations for the courtyard.

The 167th Commencement concluded with National Alumni Association President Patrick Jordan ’02 welcoming the Class of 2018 as the newest members of Albany Law School’s alumni community.
“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.”

—JUDGE GARCIA QUOTING JUSTICE JACKSON
REMARKS UPON ACCEPTING AN HONORARY DEGREE FOR ALEXANDER HAMILTON

Thank you, this is a very special honor for Alexander Hamilton. As some of you know, Hamilton attended King's College in New York City but never graduated due to the onset of the Revolutionary War. Near the end of the war, he and his wife, Elizabeth Schuyler, moved to Albany and within a year he had qualified himself as a lawyer to argue cases in front of the New York Supreme Court. From that point on for the rest of his life, every professional endeavor he undertook was from the viewpoint of a lawyer. This was particularly evident when he and 33 other lawyers were part of the process of creating the most important document in our country's history—the United States Constitution. How great you must feel to be engaged in this profession.

So, for his actions, primarily as a practitioner of law, he has been recognized today by Albany Law School. I can’t think of a more appropriate institution to make this award to a man who, for a time, called Albany home, and qualified in this city to practice law. On behalf of the Hamilton family, we appreciate your respect for Alexander Hamilton and I wish all of you similar success to that of Hamilton in your pursuit of a career in law. Perhaps even a Broadway musical of your life is in your future!

When putting together comments for today, I quite unexpectedly came across a 1795 letter written by Hamilton after having been honored by his friends in New York City. I think his response to today’s presentation would be very similar to his response 223 years ago. The letter to Dean Ouellette would read:

Dear President and Dean Ouellette,

Among the precious testimonies, I have received, of the approbation of my immediate fellow Citizens, none is more acceptable or more flattering to me than that which I now acknowledge. I beg you to convey to the Board the expression of my high sense of the honor they have done me as well as of my sincere respect for themselves.

With friendship and regard,

Your very obedient servant,

Alexander Hamilton.

Congratulations to you all and thank you for this honor!
Perceiving the law and legal education as essentially patriarchal institutions, the Women’s Law Caucus collaborated with several student groups this year to promote a message that stretched beyond its own mission.

“We realize that the experience of a female-identifying law student is not a singular identity,” said Delaney Rives ’19, who co-chaired the group with Rebecca Wager ’19. We wanted to deliver programs and activities that would intersect with other student groups, and provide a multi-dimensional experience. It turned out the events, which brought together a diverse group of students, were more interesting and unifying.”

At their Domestic Violence Vigil in the fall, they invited students and professionals to speak about the effects of domestic violence on women of color, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community. On their Women in the Law Panel, they worked with the Black, Asian-Pacific, and Latino-American Law Student Associations, as well as OUTLaw—representing the LGBTQ community—to feature speakers that each group felt represented their own identities and interests.

They organized students to attend the Albany Women’s March in the spring, and built support for “WomenCrush-Wednesdays,” where students wore black to draw attention to workplace harassment and sexual violence. In the spring they coordinated the event titled, “Women in the Law: Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession.”

“We women comprise half the student population, and women hold coveted positions on campus, like journal editors, and student representative for the Board of Trustees,” said Wager. “But the legal field remains a man’s world, and the only way for women to continue to make progress is to keep up pressure.”
A YEAR OF COMPETITION, AND SUCCESS—INCLUDING WIN IN TRANSACTIONAL LAWMEET DEBUT

It was another busy year for the Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program. From competing in and hosting intra-school competitions to representing Albany Law School on the road, the program’s competitors challenged themselves and each other while honing their courtroom skills.

The most court program sent travel teams to several inter-school contests in New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. Albany Law had a first place showing for its debut at the 2018 Transactional LawMeet regionals, advised by Professor Edward De Barbieri, advancing to the national meet in New York City.

Winners of Albany Law School’s 2017-18 intra-school competitions were: Kaleigh C. Henderson ’18 and Marissa C. Schatzel ’18 (Morse Client Counseling Competition and McGovern Senior Prize Trials); Stephen J. Maier ’19 and Paige N. Monachino ’19 (Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition); and Dannaliz L. Mieses ’19 and Jennifer L. Uhl ’19 (Morse Negotiations Competition).

Gabrielli Family Law Competition Turns 30

This past March, Albany Law School hosted 24 teams from across the United States for the 30th Annual Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition. Twenty law schools were represented from 14 jurisdictions, including the states of Utah, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. A team from Florida Coastal School of Law won the title, having best argued the problem prepared by competition chair Sydney I. Taylor ’18.

The milestone competition was led by Taylor, competition associates Claudia Cadenillas ’19 and Lauren Danza ’19, faculty advisor Professor Evelyn Tenenbaum, Associate Dean Rosemary Queenan, executive director Alyssa Rodriguez ’18, the moot court board, legal assistant Theresa Colbert, and many others.

Students Staff Pop-Up Immigration Clinic

This year students helped staff a “pop-up” immigration clinic in Columbia County to provide legal help and offer other types of information residents needed. Students of the Immigration Law Clinic, led by Professor Sarah Rogerson, also helped screen detained and non-detained immigrants at risk of deportation at the Albany County Correctional Facility.

“Students helped organize the clinic, took appointments, and were out in the community helping clients,” said, equipped with a Student Practice Order. “By taking our legal services on the road, we transformed the conventional attorney-client relationship, and were able to provide resources to individuals.”

Grace Rhee ’18, the daughter of South Korean immigrants, said that “it was difficult listening to people’s accounts of living in constant fear of deportation and separation from their families.”

Before coming to Albany, Krissa served as a first-year dean at Bard College, and managed international student experiences at Cornell University, often with students who faced immigration issues.

Rhee began her law career as a paralegal in New York City. She also volunteered her time assisting attorneys and interpreters at monthly legal aid desks stationed for low-income immigrant communities in downtown Manhattan.

“Helping clients find legal pathways to remain in the United States—often times to flee violence and abuse—has been very rewarding,” said Rhee.
Students Provide more than 42,000 Hours of Pro Bono and Public Service

While the Court of Appeals now requires 50 hours of law-related volunteer work from every student, dozens of students logged 100s of hours, some reaching beyond 1000 hours, or over 25 weeks of full-time work, exceeding 42,000 hours.

Student-led pro bono work and Clinic activity included:

- Students worked on three open cases for refugees, which included raising $1500 for a client for a medical exam needed to gain a visa.
- Helped prepare wage-and-hour complaints for a "worker's right" project.
- Organized brief attorney consultations for 50 veterans.
- Helped unrepresented tenants defend against eviction proceedings.
- Conducted classes on naturalization for area immigrants.
- Helped more than 90 non-profit and small businesses with legal advice around leasing, incorporating, intellectual property, and online business activity.
- Helped clients win child custody, orders of protection, and child support payments.

"For many students, including first and second year law students, this is the first time they have the chance to apply their skills and knowledge to actual client problems—to experience the transformative power of their education in meeting the needs of their clients," said Ted DeBarbieri, the director of the Community Development Clinic who also heads the student pro bono programs.
First-Year Student Awarded National Fellowship: Paid Summer Internship with Local Union

Even before entering law school, while at Siena College, Fabrice Michel ’20 earned a spot as a legal fellow in Touro Law School’s Mortgage Foreclosure and Family Law Clinic, representing clients of Suffolk County. He then interned at a local health center for low-income Schenectady residents.

This summer, as a Peggy Browning Fellow, he will spend 10 weeks working at SMART Local 83 in Clifton Park, N.Y., the union representing area sheet metal, air, rail, and transportation workers.

Michel was among 80 law student awardees across the country from a pool of 400.

The Peggy Browning Fund awards students who excel at law school and have demonstrated a commitment to workers’ rights.

“I’m excited to explore all the avenues I can while at law school,” Fabrice said.

“I’m in law school to one day use the law to help people, to address inequalities at an individual and systemic level.”

The Long Island native looks forward to his years in Albany after his undergraduate experience. “I like it here,” he said. “I’m open to moving anywhere, I’ll see where my career opportunities take me.”

From Nigerian Pharmacist to Pursuing Dreams of Dual J.D.-M.B.A. Degrees with UAlbany

When Wale Salis ’19 left Nigeria for the United States, he was a trained pharmacist—five years at a college of pharmacy and a year as an intern. And his sights were firmly set on living in New York.

“I thought, instead of spending another couple of years pursuing a pharmacy career in the United States, this was a good moment to pursue my dream: becoming a lawyer,” he recalled. “I didn’t always see myself as a pharmacist, but I have imagined myself on many occasions as a lawyer.”

Salis is pursuing two degrees simultaneously—his J.D. and an M.B.A. from the University at Albany. What typically takes 3.5 years he plans to complete in three years by taking summer- and winter-break courses. This year he is completing his M.B.A. after interning at the Claims Bureau of the Office of the New York State Attorney General.

Transitioning successfully from Nigeria to Brooklyn to Albany takes a certain person. “I’ve been very happy in Albany,” he noted. “Everyone has been very welcoming and they have gone a long way to provide the tangible resources I need to become a successful student and lawyer. For that, I am really grateful.”

Goralczyk’s LL.M. in Cybersecurity Leads to Firm’s New Privacy Practice

Jacqueline Goralczyk ’15 was intent on elevating her J.D. As a former business owner and now an attorney with Ianniello Anderson, P.C., focused on real estate and financial services, she completed Albany Law’s online LL.M. degree in one year.

The online LL.M. in cybersecurity and data privacy law allowed her to build and chair the firm’s new practice.

“The professors were excellent, and your classmates are mostly professionals and bring a lot of different perspectives to the classes from all over the world,” said Goralczyk. “You get a rich and diverse experience from the program. It may be online, but it’s thoroughly engaging.”

Now, she explained, “I can protect the assets of our firm and of our business clients.”

Goralczyk—who took eight courses in one year—is no stranger to challenging schedules, completing her J.D. degree three years ago while working full time and raising her toddler—now seven—with her husband.

“You work when you can,” she said.

“The courses are organized well and allow you to control your own schedule. It provided great value for me and my firm.”

UAlbany and Law Students Generate Innovative Recommendations for Land Banks in Region

Expeditre foreclosures. Integrate code enforcement programs. Make “tax recapture” mandatory. These were some of the land bank recommendations proposed by students from Albany Law School and UAlbany’s Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy who took a class together that studied the issues around blight, vacant properties, and strategies to develop these neighborhoods.

The study examined the land bank activity in the cities of Albany and Schenectady. Students presented their findings to mayors from both cities, along with county officials and non-profit organizations from the region, which generated a lengthy discussion that evolved into a working meeting.

Co-taught by Professor Ray Brescia, Albany Law School, and Professor Meghan Cook, UAlbany’s Rockefeller school, students presented their findings one-by-one, demonstrating the economic value of renewed property, impact on their neighbors, and new strategies for funding, along with sharing anecdotal stories they stumbled upon during their research.
Far More Defendants Executed for Murdering Whites than Blacks, Making the System Racially Unjust, Argues Kosineski ’19

Do judges sentence more defendants to death if their victims are white? asked Julia Kosineski ’19 in a paper she wrote and presented at a conference in June.

“Over the past 42 years,” she wrote, “over 75 percent of murder victims . . . were white” in cases involving the execution of the defendant. “This is disconcerting when only 50 percent of murder victims are generally white.”

She isolated the statistics for 2017, showing that of the 23 people who were executed in 2017, 75 percent of their victims were white. “This trend since 1976 of executing more people who committed crimes against white people than any other victim’s race is still in existence in 2017,” she wrote.

The impetus of the paper, Kosineski said, was to show the racially imbalanced results of the death penalty, and how that practice will carry forward with President Trump’s proposal to extend the death penalty to defendants who commit drug crimes.

Kosineski wrote the paper for her class, “The New Jim Crow,” taught by Professor Anthony Farley, who helped organize the two-day conference, “Race Hate: the New Normal.” She was selected by the coordinators of the Legal Scholarship Conference to present her paper at the “Works in Progress” session.

The story started when their client reached the U.S. border, told an asylum officer during a Credible Fear Interview, which all asylum seekers must undergo, that she feared persecution should she be returned to Haiti. Under current federal law, anyone who presents themselves at the U.S. border in search of asylum has the legal right to make their case before an immigration judge, though they are not entitled to legal representation.

In April, when both sides presented their case, the Judge immediately issued his decision from the bench, agreeing with the position of the students that their client was entitled to asylum based on humanitarian grounds. After officially granting her asylum request to remain permanently in the United States, the judge looked directly at their client and said the five words she had waited a very long time to hear: “Welcome to the United States.”
This year there were more than 45 students who had family members that graduated from Albany Law School, ranging from cousins to great-great-grandfathers.

Elizabeth Murad '19 & Josh Pearlman '20
Second cousins once removed

Hon. John L. Murad '57
Elizabeth’s grandfather
Josh’s great-grand-uncle

Louis T. Brindisi ’59
Elizabeth’s first cousin once removed
Josh’s grandfather

Renee James ’87
Elizabeth’s aunt
Josh’s first cousin once removed

Anthony Brindisi ’04
Elizabeth’s second cousin
Josh’s uncle

Joseph Lansing ’19
Michael Lansing ’87, uncle

Andrew Creary ’19
William J. Creary ’51, grandfather

Catherine Duggan ’19
Hon. W. Dennis Duggan ’76, father

Jessica Prashaw ’19
Kathleen Dix ’87, aunt
Brett Williams ’14, cousin

Katelyn Shea ’19
Karen Zimmers ’09, mother

Ryan McCall ’19
Kimberly McCall ’10, sister

Zachary LaForest ’19
Kathryn M. LaForest, ’15, sister

Suzanne Foote ’19
Paul Gallagher ’92, uncle
Willard Peck ’99, uncle

Graham Molho ’18
Hon. Stacy Pettit ’84, mother

Justin Reyes ’18
Robyn Weisman ’86, mother

Nicholas Testani ’20
Louis Testani ’19, brother

Bridget Cook ’20
Mary Lou Philbin ’93, aunt

Christopher Hall ’18
Adam Lounsbury ’08, cousin
Betsy Sochar ’08, cousin

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ALBANYLAW MAGAZINE  SUMMER 2018
Charlotte Rehfuss ’18
Dave Hepp ’98, uncle
Abigail Rehfuss ’14, sister
John Rehfuss ’46, grandfather
Stephen J. Rehfuss ’85, father
James Sommer ’02, uncle
Maura Sommer ’00, aunt
Hon. Thomas Walsh ’73, grandfather

Megan Crandall ’19
Karen R. Crandall ’86, mother

Nicolas Favreau ’20
William Favreau ’83, father

Philip Monthie ’18
Stephen Monthie ’84, father

Allison Bartlett ’18
George R. Bartlett ’23, great-grandfather
James Adam Bartlett ’98, uncle
John W. Bartlett ’82, uncle
George R. Bartlett III ’77, father
George R. Bartlett Jr. ’51, grandfather

Leah Nelson ’20
Jerry Nelson ’87, uncle

Martha Mahoney ’19
Stephen Helmer ’82, uncle
Robert P. Luddy ’57, grandfather
Timothy Welles ’84, uncle
Kathryn Lasch Foy ’24, great-great-aunt
George Foy ’24, great-great-uncle

Amanda Whitfield ’19
Ralph Miccio ’73, uncle

Ann Cantwell ’18
William Cantwell ’80, father
Thomas Cantwell ’40, grandfather
Francis Cantwell 1908, great-grandfather
Thomas Cantwell 1876, great-great-grandfather

Katelynn Balsamico ’18
Robert Bauer ’97, cousin
Natalie Carraway ’99, aunt
Paul Salvino ’97, uncle

David Egan ’20
Theresa Egan, ’86 mother

Julia White ’20
Frank Miller ’78, uncle

Hannah Hage ’20
Gabriel Hage ’16, brother
Heather Hage ’06, sister
JK Hage ’78, father
James J. Hage ’30, grandfather

Dean Williams ’19
David Williams ’76, father

Hayden Fahrenkopf ’20
Rose Maria Sgarlata ’72, aunt

Carly Dziekan ’20
Carl Dziekan ’85, father

Sarah Currie ’20
Kevin McCarthy ’90, uncle
STUDENTS

RECENT GRADUATES
CLERKING FOR JUDGES

Meredith Dedopulos ’15: “The New Hampshire Supreme Court is a very collegial atmosphere and I am lucky to work with such kind and smart people, especially my co-clerk and my judge,” Justice Anna Barbara Hantz Marconi.

Kayla Allgeier ’17 with Judge Shad Connolly, Erie County Court of Common Pleas.

Christine McIntyre, seen here swearing-in, where she clerked for the Hon. H. Matthew Curry, J.S.C., in the Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren vicinage, New Jersey.

Patsy Castiglia ’17: “Clerking for Judge Critchley has been such an invaluable experience. After my clerkship, I would like to begin working in Intellectual Property Law.”

Taylor Ciobanu ’16 will continue for a third year with Presiding Justice Elizabeth A. Garry, N.Y. State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department.

Joc Ohanian ’14 clerks for Hon. Leslie E. Stein ’81, Associate Judge of the N.Y. State Court of Appeals.

Jonathan Catania ’17 began his position as Chenango County Court Attorney for Criminal, Family and Surrogates Courts in October 2017, working for Acting Supreme Court Judge Frank B. Revoir, class of ’91.
ALBANY LAW SCHOOL HAS A LONG TRADITION OF PLACING GRADUATES IN JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS. WITH MORE THAN 300 ALUMNI SERVING AS JUDGES AT EVERY LEVEL, MANY TURN TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES FOR CLERKSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. DISPLAYED ON THESE PAGES IS A LIST OF CURRENT CLERKS AND THEIR POSITIONS.

## A SAMPLE OF RECENT JUDICIAL CLERKS

### CLASS OF 2017
- **Andrew Ko**
  - N.Y. State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department
- **Brian Bessette**
  - N.Y. State Court of Appeals
- **Patsy Castiglia**
  - Hon. Thomas J. Critchley, Superior Court, Chancery Division, Family Part, Morris County
- **Jonathan Catania**
  - Hon. Frank B. Revoir ’91, N.Y. State Unified Court System, Sixth Judicial District
- **Uriel Pinelo**
  - Hon. Cecelia G. Morris, United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York
- **Kayla Allgeier**
  - Hon. Shad Connelly, Erie County Court of Common Pleas
- **Andrew Matott**
  - Hon. Gary L. Sharpe, United States District Court, Northern District of New York

### CLASS OF 2016
- **Taylor Ciobanu**
  - Hon. Elizabeth A. Garry ’90, N.Y. State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department
- **Melissa Cloonan**
  - Hon. Daniel R. Lindemann, Union Vicinage Family Division
- **Kerry Cunningham**
  - The Hon. Thomas Brown, New Jersey Superior Court
- **Sean Mix**
  - Hon. Richard K. Eaton ’74, U.S. Court of International Trade
- **Shane Overgaard**
  - Hon. Peter Ryan, N.J. Superior Court
- **Richard White**
  - Hon. Mae D’Agostino, United States District Court, Northern District of New York
- **James Wisniewski**
  - N.Y. State Court of Appeals

### CLASS OF 2015
- **Edward Ohanian ’14**
  - Hon. Leslie E. Stein ’81, N.Y. State Court of Appeals
- **Danielle Quinn ’15**
  - Hon. Peter W. Hall, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- **Nicholas A. Battaglia ’12**
  - Hon. Lisa M. Fisher, N.Y. State Supreme Court, Greene County
- **Meredith Dedopoulos ’15**
  - Justice Anna Barbara Hantz Marconi, New Hampshire Supreme Court
- **Matthew Zapala ’14**
  - Hon. Robert E. Littlefield ’76, United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of New York
- **Gerald Rock ’97**
  - Hon. Daniel J. Stewart ’88, United States District Court, Northern District of New York
- **Margaret Lavery ’07**
  - Associate Court Attorney, Monroe County Surrogate’s Court
- **Justina Cintron Perino ’00**
  - Hon. Kimberly O’Connor ’94, N.Y. State Supreme Court
- **Deborah S. Kearns ’00**
  - Chief Clerk, Hon. Stacy L. Pettit ’84, Albany County Surrogate’s Court
- **Ben Loeffe ’10**
  - Hon. Gary L. Sharpe, United States District Court, Northern District of New York
THE TRIAL OF SUSAN B.

Anthony, before sentencing, criticized the laws she was subject to “made by men, interpreted by men, administered by men, in favor of men, and against women.”
“I WILL NEVER PAY A DOLLAR FOR YOUR UNJUST PENALTY.”
—SUSAN B. ANTHONY

ANTHONY:

Members of the legal community—including Albany Law students, faculty, and staff—reenacted Susan B. Anthony’s 1873 trial, where she was tried and found guilty for voting in a presidential election. The scenes and script are based on trial transcripts and letters she wrote. At the end of the trial, Judge Ward Hunt said to the all-male jury: “Upon this evidence I suppose there is no question for the jury and that the jury should be directed to find a verdict of guilty.”

The trial was presented by the Northern District of New York—Federal Court Bar Association.

ABOVE PHOTO: FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: Amy Gunnells, Government Law Center, Professor Mary Lynch, Martha Mahoney ’19, Stephanie Reighart ’20, Avery Sullivan ’19, Professor Jaya Connors, Professor Nancy Maurer. BACK ROW FROM LEFT: Eric O’Bryan ’18, Valen Zeltser ’19, Dan Martucci ’20, Dan Speranze ’18, Alex-Marie Baez ’20, and Elizabeth Murad ’19.
Dean Ouellette’s Co-authored Paper Earns “Best Research Award” from Family Medicine Group

President & Dean Alicia Ouellette’s co-authored paper, “U.S. Medical Schools’ Compliance With the Americans With Disabilities Act: Findings From a National Study,” received the 2018 STFM Best Research Paper Award at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine’s Annual Spring Conference.

The award recognizes the best research paper—based on the quality of research and its impact—published by an STFM member in a peer-reviewed journal between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017. Lead author Philip Zazo, M.D., chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School, accepted the award in Washington, D.C., in May.

The paper, published by Academic Medicine in 2016, found that medical schools across the country aren’t doing enough to accommodate students with disabilities. The authors analyzed 173 medical schools and said their findings “illustrate a concerning state of affairs as we celebrate the ADA’s 25th anniversary.”

Dean Ouellette’s research focuses on health law, disability rights, family law, children’s rights, and human reproduction. She has authored numerous articles in academic journals. In 2017, she published “Barriers to Physician Aid in Dying for People with Disabilities” in the international journal Laws.
Professor Peter Halewood. The Governor George E. Pataki Professor in International Commercial Law, published the article “Rule of Law, Activism, and Equality: Growing Antisubordination Norms within the Neoliberal University” was published in the John Marshall Law Review (2017) (with Professor Donna Young). He is publishing a chapter, “Student Activism, Ideology, and Justice,” in "STUDENT ACTIVISM IN THE ACADEMY: ITS STRUGGLES AND PROMISE" (Myers Education Publishing forthcoming 2018) (Joseph DeVitis and Pietro Sasso, eds.).

Associate Dean Antonay Haynes published “The Ethical Duties of Technology Competence and Reasonable (Cyber) Security” in the Albany County Bar Association’s February 2018 newsletter. He was interviewed for the IAPP Privacy Advisor article “new certificate in cybersecurity and data privacy law responds to student demand” published on April 24, 2018.

Professor Robert Hively ’92 is publishing the article “More is Different: Tort Liability of Compromised Systems in Internet Denial of Service Attacks” in the University of Cincinnati Law Review.


Professor Nancy Maurer published the co-edited book DISABILITY LAW AND PRACTICE—BOOK THREE: CIVIL RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, LAW, LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY FEES (NYSBA 2017) (with Simeon Goldman).

President & Dean Alicia Ouellette ’94 published “Barriers to Physician Aid in Dying for People with Disabilities” in the international journal Law (2017).


Professor Donna Young. President William McKinley Distinguished Professor in Law and Public Policy, published the article “Rule of Law, Activism, and Equality: Growing Antisubordination Norms within the Neoliberal University,” was published in the John Marshall Law Review (2017) (with Professor Peter Halewood). She authored “How Law School Rankings Change Legal Education” in Academe (AAUP May-June 2017).

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Professor Pamela Armstrong ’86 presented “Flipping Your Classroom: A Show and Tell with Our Very Own Albany Law Faculty” with Professor Ray Brescia and Patty Baia, Director of Online Learning and Instructional Technology, on September 23, 2017.

Professor Andrew Ayers. Director of the Government Law Center, presented an “Ethics Update” at the GLC’s Summer in Saratoga CLE Series in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on August 25, 2017. He presented on GLC activities at the October 11 Gathii Faculty Workshop; organized the conference Community Renewal and its Discontents and moderated the panel “Inclusion and Exclusion: Renewal, Displacement, and Community Transformation” at Albany Law School on November 3; and moderated the Albany Law Review Fall Symposium on Sanctuary Cities on November 9. He moderated the panel “Overnight” at the symposium Cracks in the U.S. Constitution: Broken Windows Policing and the Criminalization of Children presented by the Albany Government Law Review at Albany Law School on March 8, 2018. On April 3, he participated on the panel “State Power Over Immigration Law” at the Government Law Center’s Warren M. Anderson Legislative Breakfast Series event. This past year Professor Ayers received a grant to collaborate with the University at Albany’s Center for International Development on exploring international grant opportunities for the law school. He presented an incubator proposal, “Can Congress Authorize Discrimination Against Noncitizens?” at the Drexel Law School conference on “Immigration Law in, Through, and Beyond Moments of Distress” (Immigration Law Scholars and Teachers Workshop 2018). He served as a facilitator for a workshop on “Strategies for Sanctuary Spaces in the Age of Deportations” at the Harvard Law School’s "Ideas in Action Hackathon" on April 20. Finally, he presented during a CLE session on “Governments, Lawyers, and the Ethics of Disobedience” at New York Association of Towns conference on February 19.

**Professor Vincent Bonventre**, Justice Robert H. Jackson Distinguished Professor of Law, presented “Chief Judge Judith Kaye and Independent State Constitutional Law” while on a panel with former Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman and former Court of Appeals Judge Victoria Graffeo 77 at the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse in Manhattan on May 24, 2017. The panel was part of a symposium sponsored by the State-Federal Judicial Council. He also presented “Chief Judge Judith Kaye and Independent State Constitutional Law” as a panelist at the Symposium in Honor of Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye at NYSBA headquarters in Albany, N.Y., on June 14. With Professor Michael Hutter, he spoke at the 2017 Judicial Institute seminar—a program that hosted over 400 judges from around the state—on June 20. He presented “Court of Appeals Update” at the second and final Judicial Institute seminar on July 25.


**Professor Melissa Breger** was invited to join the New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition based in New York City. She presented to the coalition in June 2017. She presented “Representing Children in Cases Involving Domestic Violence” at a two-day CLE for the Office of Attorneys for Children—Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department in Latham, N.Y., on October 19. She delivered a lecture at Bethlehem Central High School entitled “Human Trafficking: What Post-Millenials Should Know” for the Our Community, Our World series arranged by Students for Social Justice, which also worked on crafting the legislation as affirmative legislation. He also presented the New York Uniform Directed Trust Act to the Executive Committee of the Capital District Women’s Bar Association and Albany Law School on February 22, 2018. She moderated the panel “Tackling Tough Cases and Complex Issues” for the Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department, Office of Attorneys for Children in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on April 27. At the Law and Society Association’s Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada, she participated in a panel discussion of the book BLAMING MOTHERS: AMERICAN LAW AND THE RISKS TO CHILDREN’S HEALTH on June 7 and presented “Reforming by Re-Norming: How the Legal System Has the Potential to Change a Toxic Culture of Domestic Violence” on June 9.

**Professor Ray Brescia** was invited to Professor of Law. He presented “Flipping Your Classroom: A Show and Tell with Our Very Own Albany Law Faculty” with Professor Pamela Armstrong and Patty Baia, Director of Online Learning and Instructional Technology, on September 23. He moderated the panel “Internet of Things” at the two-day Cybersecurity and the Law conference at Albany Law School on October 19. Also in October, he virtually presented his paper “Understanding Institutions: A Multi-Dimensional Approach” to the State and Local Government Works-in-Progress conference in St. Louis on May 24.

**Professor Christine Sgarlata Chung** moderated the panel “Municipal Fiscal Stress and Community Response” at the Community Renewal and Its Discontents conference at Albany Law School on November 3. She presented her article “The Devil You Know: A Survey Examining How Retail Investors Seek Out and Use Financial Information and Investment Advice” at a faculty workshop at Western New England University School of Law on January 23, 2018.


**NEW YORK COURT WATCHER** BLOG TOPS 10,000 VISITORS IN ONE MONTH

Using terms like “nonsense,” “gibberish” and “absurd” Professor Vincent Bonventre has attracted to his blog more than 7,000 viewers every month, surpassing 10,000 viewers per month frequently. The blog includes more than 300 commentaries—packed with charts and graphs—dissecting voting patterns of judges and judges, as well as decisional patterns of the full U.S. Supreme Court, New York Court of Appeals, and other federal and state appeals courts that fall into his crosshairs.

With a master’s in public administration and a Ph.D. in political science, Bonventre brings a perspective to his analysis beyond a typical J.D. owner. “The more we all watch the courts, the better they will be,” Bonventre said, describing the purpose of his blog. “The judges live in the same world as us, surrounded by politics and the shift of our culture. My blog examines their decisions from a realistic and practical perspective.”
**Professor Joe Connors** on May 10, presented at the New York State Department of Health’s Semi-Annual Meeting on “Improved Health Outcomes and Cost Savings Resulting From Using Medical Legal Partnerships To Address Social Health Determinants.” He also served as panelist on May 12 for the Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York on “The Ins and Outs: Child Welfare Legal 101.”

**Professor Patrick Connors,** Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor in New York Civil Practice, presented a “New York Practice Update” to the Rockland County Bar Association in New City, N.Y. on May 5, 2017. He presented a “New York Civil Practice Update” and “Ethics Update” to the New York State Bar Association’s Trial Lawyers Section at its Annual Summer Meeting in Hershey, Pennsylvania on August 7. His other presentations included: “New York Civil Practice Update” and “Ethics Update” to the Oswego County Bar Association in Oswego, N.Y. on September 22; “New York Civil Practice Update” to the Suffolk County Bar Association in Hauppauge, N.Y., on October 12; “New York Civil Practice Update” to the New York City Managing Attorneys’ and Clerks’ Association at the law offices of Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP in New York City on October 13; “New York Civil Practice Update” at the Annual New York Court of Claims Judges’ Association Meeting in Montauk, N.Y. on October 25; “New York and Federal Practice Update” to the New York Chapter of the National Docketing Association at the law offices of Dentons in New York City on January 29, 2018; “New York Civil Practice Update” to the justices and law clerks of the New York Court of Appeals and the Appellate Division, Third Department in Albany on February 1; a CLE highlighting new material in the 6th Edition of NEW YORK PRACTICE at Albany Law School on April 18; “Updates in Legal Ethics for the Practicing Lawyer” to the Chaminade Alumni Lawyers Association in Mineola, N.Y., on April 19; and “Recent Developments in Ethics and Procedure” to the Federation of Bar Associations of the Fourth Judicial District at its annual meeting in Montreal, Canada, on April 28. He was appointed to the NYBSA Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction. His scholarship continued to be cited in numerous reported decisions, with over 20 such citations from state and federal courts, including the New York Court of Appeals and Appellate Division, in 2017-18. The Court of Appeals cited his scholarship in its April 3, 2018 decision in the case of *Rodriguez v. City of New York*.


**Professor Edward De Barbieri** was named an affiliated faculty member for the University at Albany’s Institute of Nonprofit Leadership and Community Development. He presented “Public Participation and Disruptive Transportation Planning” at the Mid-Atlantic Junior Faculty Forum at the University of Richmond School of Law on May 10, 2017. He presented on “Disruptive Transportation Technology Planning” at the Association for Law, Property and Society’s 8th Annual Meeting at the University of Michigan on May 20. He presented at the annual Transnational Clinical Conference at Penn Law, June 1-2, 2017. On October 25, he presented on legal framework for anticipatory governance at a CUNY School of Law faculty forum. He took part in the discussion group “Community Economic Development is Access to Justice” at the Association of American Law Schools’ Annual Meeting in San Diego, Calif., on January 5, 2018. He participated on the panel “Self-Driving Cars: Preparing for the Autonomous Vehicle Revolution” at the Government Law Center’s Warren M. Anderson Legislative Breakfast Series event on April 24. On April 26, he participated on the panel “Incorporating Interdisciplinary Scholarship in Transnational Clinics” at the 2018 Transnational Clinical Conference at Chicago-Kent College of Law. He co-chaired the annual meeting of the Transnational Committee at the annual conference of the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education on April 30.

**Professor Shahrokh Falati** presented “Commercializing Ideas: What Science and Engineering University Research Personnel Need to Know” at The Road from Nanomedicine to Precision Medicine: 15th Annual International Conference at the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences on September 25, 2017. He presented a CLE talk on “Selecting Venue in Patent Litigation: Impact of Supreme Court’s 2017 TC Heartland Decision” at the American Inn of Court. He presented and took part in a Q&A at the School of Business and Economics at SUNY Plattsburgh on how entrepreneurs...
New Course Explores Sexual Harassment and Assault

Professor Donna Young, along with Professor Janel Hobson, who chairs Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies at University at Albany, will teach Race, Rape Culture and the Law, a 2-credit seminar class that will examine the extent to which law and social attitudes contribute to normalizing and/or trivializing sexual harassment and assault against women. The course is designed to familiarize students with the fundamentals of sexual harassment and sexual assault law and the ways in which race, gender, and identity are implicated in the legal treatment of these issues. Using case studies and historical examples, this course will address the difficult questions of how to move toward an anti-racist and anti-rape society while also examining the social and cultural causes preventing this progress.


He participated on the roundtable “The Future of Critical Race Theory” at the 2018 Yale Law School Critical Race Theory Conference on March 24. He co-organized—along with Professors Peter Halwood, Christian Sundquist, and Donna Young—the joint Northeast People of Color (NEPOC) and Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF) Legal Scholarship Conference entitled Race Hate: The New Normal? at Albany Law School, May 31–June 1. He also served as a panelist and lecturer during the conference.


He delivered live online remarks over the course of four weeks during December to audiences of up to 160 people in the Middle East as part of the University at Albany’s Global Institute for Health and Human Rights training program. He was named Chair-Elect of the Association of American Law Schools Section on International Human Rights at the Association of American Law Schools’ Annual Meeting in San Diego in January 2018. He also co-organized the panel “Immigrant Rights Under the Trump Administration” at the AALS Annual Meeting.

He addressed a live online audience in the Middle East on trade and commercial law and the right to health as part of his ongoing project with the University at Albany on March 9. With Professors Christian Sundquist and Donna Young, he participated on the panel “Slavey’s Legal Legacy at Imagining Slavery, Envisioning Freedoms: A Symposium on the 30th Anniversary of Toni Morrison’s Beloved at the University at Albany on April 27. He co-organized—along with Professors Anthony Paul Farley, Sundquist, and Young—the joint Northeast People of Color (NEPOC) and Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF) Legal Scholarship Conference entitled Race Hate: The New Normal? at Albany Law School, May 31–June 1. He also served as a panelist and lecturer during the conference.

He is co-organizing panels on “Human Rights in Commercial Supply Chains” and “Human Rights Indicators” for the 2019 AALS Annual Meeting.

Associate Dean Antony Haynes participated on the panel “Cybersecurity Issues for Local Governments” at the New York State Local Government IT Directors Association Spring Conference in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on May 16, 2017. He presented “Top 10 Issues in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Law” and “Legal Ethics and Technology” at the 20th New York State Cybersecurity Conference in Albany on June 8. He was invited to present to the Harvard Kennedy School of Government on “Immoral Software: How AI Embeds Human Bias” on September 21. He participated on the panel “Cyber 101” at the two-day Cybersecurity and the Law conference at Albany Law School on October 20. He participated on the panel “Distance Learning—Challenges and Benefits for Law Schools” at the International Trademark Association’s 2017 Leadership Meeting, November 8 in Washington, D.C.

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with electronic evidence at the annual meeting of the NYSSBA Commercial and Federal Litigation Section in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on May 21. He presented an "Evidence Update" for an Albany County Bar Association CLE program on May 25. With Professor Vincent Bonventre, he spoke on June 20 at the 2017 Judicial Institute seminar—a program that hosted over 400 judges from around the state. On July 12, he was recognized by the Northern District of New York Federal Court Bar Association and the Judges of the Northern District of New York for his pro bono service at an awards ceremony at the James T. Foley Courthouse. He presented a "New York Evidence Update" at the Government Law Center’s Summer in Saratoga CLE Series in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on August 11. His other presentations included: "New York Practice Update" at the Government Law Center’s Summer in Saratoga CLE Series on August 18; "No Fault Law Update" for the Nassau County Bar Association on October 19; "New York Practice" and "New York Evidence" updates for the Office of the Attorney General of New York on October 12 and November 9; "New York Practice" and "New York Evidence" updates for the Federated Bar Association on November 16; "Emerging Civil Practice Issues" for the law assistants in the Fourth Judicial District on November 30; "Evidence Essentials for Trial Judges" at the New York State Judicial Institute’s annual training program for newly elected and appointed judges in New York in January 2018; "CPLR Update 2018" CLE for the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers on January 16; and "No Fault Law Update" for the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association on January 23. He presented a paper before the New York Appellate Division Justices at their annual meeting in March concerning “splits” among the four departments. For a full list, go to www.albanylaw.edu

Professor Mary Lynch. Kate Stoneman Chair in Law and Democracy, delivered the 3rd Annual Katheryn D. Katz ’70 Memorial Lecture, entitled “Femicide, Intimate Partner Violence, and the Work Left to Do,” at Albany Law School on October 12, 2017. With Associate Dean Connie Mayer, she presented at the October 25 Gathii Faculty Workshop on “Peer Support and Teaching” at the University at Albany School of Public Health that will allow students to receive a Master of Public Health and a J.D. in 3.5 years.

President & Dean Alicia Ouellette ’94 served as the moderator for “Authenticity on the Bench,” a conversation with Court of Appeals Judge Paul Feinman presented by OUTLaw on February 12, 2018. Her co-authored paper, “U.S. Medical Schools’ Compliance With the Americans With Disabilities Act: Findings From a National Study,” received the 2018 STFM Best Research Paper Award at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine’s Annual Spring Conference on May 7.

Professor Lianne Pinchuk was honored by the United Tenants of Albany on June 7, 2017, for her previous work providing direct legal services to the city’s tenants. On June 15, she received the Trailblazer Award from the Albany County Bar Association Attorneys in Public Service Committee. She was honored by the United Tenants of Albany on June 7, 2017, for her previous work providing direct legal services to the city’s tenants. On June 15, she received the Trailblazer Award from the Albany County Bar Association Attorneys in Public Service Committee. She was invited to present to the faculty of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law on March 29 about “The Importance of Experiential Learning for Development of Essential Skills in Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Effectiveness.” She moderated the panel “Crimmigration: At the Border of Justice and Deportation” presented by the Criminal Law Society on April 3. She reprised her lead role in the Northern District of New York’s “Trial of Susan B. Anthony” re-enactment at the James M. Hanley Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Syracuse, N.Y., on April 19. She presented to the New York State Parole Commissioners on "Incarcerated Victims of Gender Violence" as part of a daylong meeting and training presented by the Initiative for Incarcerated Survivors of Gender Violence on April 26.

Professor Nancy Maurer was recognized at the Disability Rights New York Annual Meeting in May 2017; an original board member, she stepped down after 30 years of service. Her co-edited book series DISABILITY LAW AND PRACTICE received the Award of Professional Excellence (publications category) from the Association for Continuing Legal Education. With Professors Shahrokh Falati and Mary Lynch, she delivered a collaborative presentation about assessment at the national conference Externships 9: Essential Skills in Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Effectiveness. With Professors Shahrokh Falati and Mary Lynch, she delivered a collaborative presentation about assessment at the national conference Externships 9: Essential Skills in Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Effectiveness. With Professors Shahrokh Falati and Mary Lynch, she delivered a collaborative presentation about assessment at the national conference Externships 9: Essential Skills in Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Effectiveness.

Professor Patrick M. Connors celebrated the publishing of the Sixth Edition of NEW YORK PRACTICE, the treatise that has been cited in thousands of reported decisions and has been called “the Bible” for litigation in New York State courts, with a book signing event following a CLE.

Connors, Albany Law’s Albert and Angela Farone Distinguished Professor in New York Civil Practice, began working on NEW YORK PRACTICE over 25 years ago with his mentor and the book’s founding author, the late Professor David D. Siegel. Professor Connors published biannual supplements to the treatise after becoming its author in 2013. He started putting together the Sixth Edition in 2016 and spent about 18 months working on the project.

“Professor Siegel had such a delightful writing style, and I wanted to retain that in the book where possible,” he said. “My goal was to make sure the Sixth Edition was informative and current for practitioners and judges and also provided practical advice for resolving procedural problems. Finally, I tried to demonstrate that New York civil practice is not only important, but entertaining at times!”

Professor Connors’ CLE stretched over two hours as he highlighted significant procedural developments that were detailed in the new edition. He currently is working on the first supplement to the Sixth Edition, which will be issued in July, and has a slate of upcoming CLEs across the state. “New York Practice never rests,” he said.

James Hacker ’84, Albany Law School’s chair of the Board of Trustees, kicked off the event.

Associate Dean Rosemary Queenan joined NYSSBA’s Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction and was selected to serve as editor-in-chief of the committee’s New York Law Journal newsletter. She also was selected to serve as the 2018-2019 Chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Student Services. She moderated the panel “Women in the Law” at Albany Law School on November 6, 2017. She moderated a panel discussion on “Best Practices for Understanding the Complexity of the Reasonable Accommodation” and presented on “Lawyers as Collaborators” during a panel on orientation at the Association of American Law Schools’ Annual Meeting in San Diego, Calif., January 3-6, 2018. On May 15th, she participated as a panelist on “The Janus Case and Public Sector Unions: Where Jurisprudence Meets Politics” as part of the Government Law Center’s Anderson Breakfast Series.

Professor Sarah Rogerson was promoted to Clinical Professor of Law. She presented “The Role of New York’s Law Schools: Protecting Immigrants in Our Communities” at the Access to Justice Conference on May 18, 2017. She presented on “Immigrants and State Courts: State Law, the New York Family Court Act & Federal Immigration Law, Policy and Enforcement” for a CLE hosted by NYSSBA and the Fund for Modern Courts on June 6. She also: presented at the training for grantees of the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) on “Immigration and Domestic Violence” on August 17; participated in a press conference in which Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy pledged to protect local residents in the DACA program on September 8; co-delivered the lecture “Trump’s Travel Ban: The Legal Issues and Human Cost,” a program sponsored by City of Albany Human Rights Commission, at Albany City Hall on February 1, 2018; participated in two panels at the SOMOS el Futuro Conference in Albany on March 10; participated on the panel “Immigrants and Refugees in the Capital Region” with Albany MayorkathySheehan’94 and others at the Sage Colleges on April 18; was invited to participate at the Harvard Law School hackathon entitled Strategies for Sanctu- ary Spaces on April 20; and participated in NYSSBA’s Introduction to Immigration Law CLE program on May 24. She was appointed by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore to serve as a member of the Commission on Parental Legal Representation in April 2018.

Professor Christian Sundquist was appointed as an Adjunct Professor of Psychology in the Social-Personality Psychology Program at the University at Albany. He presented on “True Grit: Campus Activism, Academic Freedom, and the Critique of the Corporate University” at the annual Northeast People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, held at Brooklyn Law School on June 2, 2017. He co-organized and presented on a panel discussing “Critical Perspectives on Legal Personhood” at the annual Beadle Institute for Health Law and Policy symposium on Privacy, Big Data and the New Racial Bioethics at the annual Beadle Institute for Health Law and Policy symposium on Privacy, Big Data and the Demands of Providing Quality Patient Care at Loyola University Chicago School of Law on November 10. He served as a panelist for An Academic Understanding of the Travel Ban, a “teach-in” workshop held at Albany Law School on November 13. He was elected to a three-year term on the Executive Board of the Association of American Law Schools’ Section on Minority Groups during the AALS Annual Meeting in January 2018. He was also elected to a three-year term on the Executive Board for the AALS Section on Evidence. With Professors Anthony Paul Farley and Donna Young, he presented “True Advancement of African-Americans: Are We Stuck in the ‘Sunken Place’ and What Can We Do?” at the Northeast Black Law Students Association’s 50th Annual Convention in Albany on January 26, 2018. He presented commentary following the Inaugural James Campbell Matthews Black History Month Lecture at Albany Law School on February 26; gave the keynote address, “Say Her Name” and #MeToo: Law Reform and Activism at the Intersection of Race and Gender,” at Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsen Law Center’s Black Law Students Association Gala on March 29; presented on the panel “Academic Freedom in Trying Times” at the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions’ 45th Annual National Conference at the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City on April 16; was a featured speaker for the event Sexual Violence: Action and Challenges for Change at the University at Albany on April 25; participated on the panel “Slavery’s Legal Legacy” at Imagining Slavery, Envisioning Freedoms: A Symposium on the 30th Anniversary of Toni Morrison’s Beloved at the University at Albany on March 1, 2018; and presented “Ethical Concerns Regarding New Innovations in Live Kidney Donation” at Ethics Grand Rounds at Albany Medical Center on March 1, 2018, and participated on the panel “Slavery’s Legal Legacy” at the University at Albany on April 27; co-organized and participated on a panel at the joint Northeast People of Color (NEPOC) and Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF) Legal Scholarship Conference entitled Race Hate: The New Normal at Albany Law School, May 31-June 1; and participated in the Times Union Women@Work Summit, June 15.
There are 10,500 of us across the country—we like to say “every state but S. Dakota”—as well as scattered around the globe outside the United States. As the new president of the National Alumni Association for the year, I plan to do my best to mobilize and motivate our special community.

For starters, I would like to build on and steward the groundwork laid by my predecessors, particularly my friend Pat Jordan ’02, who stepped down after two years of stellar leadership. The new staff at Institutional Advancement brings fresh ideas and energy to the programming, and we’re determined to create relevant, compelling programs that should engage new members of our alumni community.

The primary areas of our strategic focus are: strengthening the regional groups that already thrive beyond the New York pockets, like Washington, D.C., Boston, Atlanta, Florida, Chicago, and San Francisco; utilizing alumni experiences and expertise to support the experience of current students through mentoring; and supporting academic endeavors through panels, CLEs, and more.

“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try,” said John F. Kennedy. I want to try new things with the new staff in an effort to enhance the alumni experience.

I am proud of our school and the direction it is heading. It continues to deliver the same extraordinary experience we all remember. It continues to produce successful, remarkable graduates. We are lucky to enjoy that career success in our lives today. As president of the NAA, I hope to inspire you all to get engaged with your law school, help the students as you were helped. Let’s be direct or behind the scenes, but let’s work together to accomplish these areas of focus.

**BOCA RATON/FT. LAUDERDALE AREA—AN EVENING WITH ALBANY LAW SCHOOL**

*March 7, 2018 • Parkland Golf and Country Club, Parkland, FL*

**U.S. SUPREME COURT GROUP ADMISSION**

*April 2, 2018 • United States Supreme Court, Washington, DC*
It is with great pleasure that I update you on behalf of Albany Law School’s new Alumni Engagement team, which includes myself as the Director of Alumni Engagement, and David Jadin (right), Associate Director of Alumni Engagement. The Trustees, and President and Dean Alicia Ouellette ’94, together with Vice President for Institutional Advancement Jeffrey Schanz, have made a true investment in the alumni program with a goal of showcasing your successes, providing sustainable networking opportunities on campus, and throughout the country and the world, and keeping you connected through communications and volunteer opportunities. After joining the team, it quickly became obvious to me that Albany Law’s alumni are passionate, sincere, and integral to the success of the law school. It seems in every instance that we reach out to you, the response is quick and marked with “happy to help, anytime.” Working with the members of the National Alumni Association, we have identified some key areas to strengthen.

Our goals are to bring consistent, thoughtful, and informational communications to you, including a new alumni website that captures all of the needs of the alumni community. We are creating a Regional Alumni Network, with the goal of building Chapter Committees that will bring regular programs and events to your hometown. This September we will launch a revamped Reunion, focused on innovative new programming while building upon many established traditions. The refreshed program will celebrate you as donors, volunteers, and stewards of the school, and feature influential speakers and interesting programs. Finally, we will work to connect alumni with students, helping to build a mentoring program with a focus on professional growth.

The Alumni Initiative in Mentoring (AIM) Program will see some new concepts and interesting programs. Finally, we will work to connect alumni with students, helping to build a mentoring program with a focus on professional growth. The Alumni Initiative in Mentoring (AIM) Program will see some new concepts and ideas as we partner with the NAA, as well as with many departments across the school.

We have a lot to do to build a powerful, sustainable, and successful alumni program. It cannot be done without the help of this alumni community. We hope you stay connected by visiting the new alumni website (alumni.albanylaw.edu), telling us about your achievements, and volunteering for or attending any of the upcoming programs and events.

Over the years, Albany Law School has hosted successful alumni gatherings during the New York State Bar Association’s Annual Meeting in New York City—and 2018 didn’t disappoint.

On Thursday, January 25, President and Dean Alicia Ouellette ’94 welcomed more than 110 alumni, guests, and friends of Albany Law School at the Hilton Midtown, the site of NYSBA’s meeting. As a part of the camaraderie and networking that took place throughout the evening, Dean Ouellette offered remarks, and recognized notable alumni in attendance, faculty, and members of the Board of Trustees.

Specifically, the law school was honored to have on hand Stephen P. Younger, Class of 1982, Albany Law School Trustee Emeritus and past president of the New York State Bar Association, as well as the Honorable Elizabeth A. Garry ’90, who this year was named Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division for the Third Judicial Department.

“As always, it was terrific to gather the proud Albany Law School alumni, especially around the NYSBA meeting, which brings to New York City our graduates from all over the state,” Dean Ouellette said.

Over 110 Alumni and Friends Attend Albany Law Gathering in New York City

Hon. Rachel L. Kretser, Hon. Shirley Troutman ’65

Olivia Orlando ’16, Travis Roher ’16, Frank Melendez ’16

It is a pleasure to have a chance to meet with such passionate, successful alumni. We look forward to reconnecting at Albany Law School events as we build additional and consistent alumni programs nationwide.”

In addition to Dean Ouellette’s remarks, the event was anchored with a keynote by Mr. Younger, who offered a genuine reflection around the success of Albany Law School, and credited the law school for launching him into a successful and distinguished career. At the end of the evening, the group celebrated the historic appointment of Presiding Justice Garry—the first openly LGBTQ presiding justice in New York State—with a celebration cake and a round of applause from the alumni in attendance.

The Office of Alumni Relations at Albany Law School is committed to continuing to bring together alumni for more networking events in the future. Regionally based alumni groups are being formed to help create those connections. We hope to see alumni at the many Albany Law School events and gatherings in the future, and as always, back on campus as volunteers, speakers, and during Reunion Weekend.
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ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Rugby Tradition Carries On at Alumni Weekend and the 33rd Annual William Watkins Memorial Tournament

The Women’s and Men’s Rugby teams continue to carry on the strong traditions, which included gatherings at the fall 2017 Alumni Weekend Games and the 33rd Annual William Watkins Memorial Rugby Tournament Weekend.

23RD ANNUAL ALBANY LAW SCHOOL AND ACBA GOLF OUTING

June 26, 2017 • Schuyler Meadows Club, Loudonville, NY

Lining up the putt

Meaghan Murphy ’12, Carol Crummey ’13, Kathryn Conklin, Cynthia Preiser ’89

Kevin Maney ’81 and Guests

Hon. Christina Ryba ’01, Marquita Rhodes
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

21ST ANNUAL DAY AT THE RACES
August 25, 2017 • Saratoga Race Course, Saratoga Springs, NY

NYC CLASS OF 2017 WELCOME AND LAW REVIEW RECEPTION
November 1, 2017 • Union League Club, New York, NY
ALUMNI WEEKEND 2017
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Class of 1967

Class of 1977

Class of 1987

Class of 1992

Class of 1997

Class of 2002

Class of 2007

Class of 2012
CLASS OF 1936
Hon. Julian R. Hanley ’36 celebrated his 105th birthday on March 29. He resides in sunny Florida.

CLASS OF 1958 60th REUNION
William R. Holzapfel ’58 was honored with the Boy Scouts of America 2017 Leadership Award, and was honored by the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless in New Jersey with the Founder’s Award for Public Service in April 2018.

Robert J. Coan ’58, William R. Holzapfel ’58, Ian G. MacDonald ’58, and Charles H. Umbrecht ’58, participated in their third consecutive luncheon at The Delta Inn, in Rome NY.

CLASS OF 1969
Charles F. Carletta ’69 was named Chief of Staff at Siena College, in Loudonville, NY.

Andre R. Donikian ’69 received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Philanthropic Planning Group of Greater New York.

CLASS OF 1972
Paul R. Kietzman ’72 has joined Barclay Damon in the Health Care and Human Services and Health Care Controversies Practice Area in Albany, N.Y.

Hon. Franklin M. Klinger ’72 has started his 30th year as a Federal Administrative Law Judge in the Office of Hearings and Appeals in Montgomery, Ala.

CLASS OF 1975
James T. Towne ’75 completed a two-week teaching assignment at the Univerzita Pardubice in the Czech Republic.

CLASS OF 1976
Hon. Robert G. Main ’76 was re-elected to a fourth term as Franklin County Court Judge.

William H. Price ’76 has retired after 36 years of service at the Southold Town Board in Southold, N.Y. The town honored Judge Price with a proclamation.

CLASS OF 1978 40th REUNION
Robert B. Stein ’78 completed his 10th year as co-chair of Blank Rome LLP’s 60 person Financial Services, Restructuring, and Bankruptcy Group.

Weeden A. Wetmore ’78 was named Prosecutor of the Year by the New York Prosecutors Training Institute.

CLASS OF 1979
Lewis B. Insler ’79 announced that he is semi-retired and now limiting his practice to writing Federal Court briefs in Social Security Disability appeals. He rode his bike over 3,700 miles this year.

CLASS OF 1981
Philip L. Burke ’81 has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Meritas, a global alliance of independent business law firms.

Hon. Peter G. Crummey ’81 was presented the President’s Award during the 117th Annual Albany County Bar Association’s NYS Court of Appeals Dinner.

Amy R. Kellogg ’81 was selected as one of 12 new Equal Justice Works Fellows who will serve at select nonprofit legal organizations as part of the New York State Family Security Project (NYSFSP).

CLASS OF 1982
Margaret Comard Lynch ’82 has joined Maguire Cardona, P.C. as an attorney.

CLASS OF 1983 35th REUNION
M. Cornelia Cahill ’83 was elected to the position of deputy managing partner at Barclay Damon.

Daniel J. Rutnik ’83 was named the Entrepreneur of the Year at Siena College. Rutnik runs Bender Lane Advisory, a wealth management firm based in Albany.

James T. Snyder ’83 has started his own practice and is a Professor of Practice in the Political Science Department at Le Moyne College.

Elizabeth L. Van Nest ’83 has retired after 38 years of service to the Albany-based Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU), where she served as Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

CLASS OF 1985
Stephen M. Dorsey ’85 was elected as President of County Attorneys Association of the State of New York.

Andrew B. Eckstein ’85 has joined Montti Hock & Hamroff LLP as counsel.

Evan H. Krinick ’85 has received a Leadership in Law Award from the Long Island Business News.

Mark Lansing ’85 has joined Dickinson Wright, PLLC in Washington, D.C., as a member.

John C. Partigan ’85 has practiced corporate and securities law at Nixon Peabody LLP, a partner in the Washington, D.C., office since 1985.

Hon. Lisa A. Proven ’85 has retired from Hammond Town Justice after 28 years, and will continue her position as Senior Court Attorney for Jefferson County Family Court.

Hon. Shirley Troutman ’85 was named one of the co-chairs to the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission in New York by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore.

Matthew E. Winter ’85 has joined the Board of Directors at H&R Block.

CLASS OF 1986
Richard S. Hartunian ’86 has joined Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP as a partner in the corporate investigations and white collar defense practice.

CLASS OF 1987
Mary C. O’Neill ’87 is working as a Court Attorney for the Albany City Court Judges with classmate Judge John Reilly.

CLASS OF 1988 30th REUNION
Thomas J. Collura ’88 was named a Fellow of The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC).

Patricia E. Saltik ’88 has received the Touro National Outstanding Social Work Leadership Award from the Touro Graduate School of Social Work.

CLASS OF 1990
Jon A. Dorf ’90 and partner Jonathan Nelson have received the General Excellence Award from the Westchester Small Business Magazine.
Sons of Joe Barnett ’29 Recall His Draw to Bridge, Fishing, Horses, and the Courtroom

Joseph N. Barnett ’29 was a fierce competitor at the bridge table playing contract and duplicate bridge as well as in the courtroom trying negligence cases. Barnett and his wife Mildred loved bridge, traveling several weekends a year to contract bridge tournaments throughout the Northeast, taking their sons Arnold and James with them. Due to their prowess in the game, they both soon earned the status of the American Contract Bridge League’s highest honor, that of Life Master. It was this competitive spirit that Barnett also showed in the courtroom, trying primarily negligence cases and winning virtually every case in his 44 years of practice. His son James recalls the time when his father’s winning record prompted insurance companies to settle with him, rather than face Barnett in court and the possibility of large jury awards. Then came a construction case where a construction company working on a state road failed to put up lights, causing a car to go over the side and critically injuring the driver. Barnett’s son Arnold remembers the case: “With Dad having settled almost two years of cases, the insurance company felt Dad could not be at the top of his game. Of course they threw out numbers and all Dad said was, ‘See you in court.’ Dad came away with the biggest victory ever awarded at that time in Montgomery County.”

Arnold proudly describes his father’s membership in the American College of Trial Lawyers. “You can’t ask for membership. You can’t apply. You have to be invited to become a member. They have to consider you as the top one percent of trial lawyers in America. And in the state in which you practice, that state cannot have more than one percent of its trial lawyers as members. Our Dad was a member of that organization.”

Balancing Work and Family

They say that if you find work you love to do, you’ll never work a day in your life. Joe Barnett loved the courtroom. He also loved his wife and two sons James and Arnold. Barnett spent summers with the family at their home in Lake George, taking the Chris-Craft speedboat with his sons early in the morning to their favorite fishing spot, returning around noon before heading to Saratoga for the races. “Dad loved the track,” said his son James. “I think he was fonder of the thoroughbred races than the harness races, but he owned three trotters with his racing partner Peter Russo. Two were average but the third, his name was Darn Game, had the heart of a stallion.”

Regardless of the situation, Dad’s family always came first,” said Arnold. “While at school in Boston I contracted staphylococcus pneumonia. I went to the hospital. They were about to send me home. Having incorrectly diagnosed the type of pneumonia, I refused to go home and also refused to go into a ward. When they finally reached my father, he was emphatic: ‘Put him in a private room. His mother and I are on the way.’ Dad’s court calendar was full at the time, but he cleared his schedule and put his son first.”

When it came to charities and helping those less fortunate, you could always count on Joe Barnett. “He was a man who gave but always gave silently,” said James. From local and national charities to the homeless, he was always ready to put his hand in his pocket. In his law practice he never charged a client or anyone who needed advice. There was never a charge for phone calls, meetings, or copying. He believed the only way to be paid was by winning and receiving the standard attorney fee of 33.3 percent.

Special Pride for Albany Law

Joe Barnett had a great pride in Albany Law School. At the time of his death in 1987, his wife Mildred (who has since passed away) and his two sons established a memorial scholarship awarded annually to an upper class student with financial needs. The scholarship is awarded first to a student from the city of Amsterdam, then Montgomery, Schenectady or Albany Counties. Over the years, the family members continued to build the scholarship with annual donations. Soon, with additional funds, the Joseph N. Barnett Memorial Scholarship will provide a full three-year ride to students who qualify.

Despite their father’s zeal for the courtroom, both sons pursued successful business careers. Jim settling in Charlotte, N.C., becoming the top 3% of residential real estate brokers nationally for Prudential Realtors, Arnold landing in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1971 he founded Creative Dimensions Advertising, what was to become the city’s largest billing agency with national and local accounts. He remained chairman for 44 years until his retirement in 2012. “My only regret is that Dad did not live long enough to see his sons complete the full success of their careers. He would have been so proud,” said Arnold.

“Our father was the best at everything he did, whether it was being a father, a husband, or an attorney, and we are proud to keep his legacy alive with the scholarship at Albany Law School,” said his son Jim.
With a “Full Sense of the Alternative,”
Garry Cherishes Her Moment to Make an Impact

“...But I also had a full sense of the alternative, having worked retail and life insurance. I knew law school would take us places.”

Elizabeth Garry remembers the moment that triggered her fascination with the law. She was living in Albany, selling life insurance after college and dating an Albany Law School student. “I was with my Albany Law friends at a party, when I remember offering an off-the-cuff opinion, based on very little thought. Law students being law students, they challenged me.” One of them, she continued, altered the facts a little, and created a hypothetical scenario for me to consider. “That’s when the light bulb went off for me,” Garry said. “I want to do this, I told myself. I want that to be my job.”

Now, as Presiding Justice of the Third Department, Supreme Court, New York’s Appellate Division, Garry said, “It’s exactly what I do now. It’s what I have been doing for years and years.”

Once in law school, she planned on pursuing tax law—or something related to finance. “I was selling life insurance, I knew the financial instruments, it seemed to make sense,” she said. “But then I started reading cases and I loved it—I loved looking at the big picture, fashioning rules to facts.”

After school she grabbed an opportunity to clerk for a Supreme Court judge in Chenango County, Hon. Irad S. Ingraham. “I would have lived anywhere to do that. It was a two-year gig, but here I am 26 years later still doing it.”

Inside those years, Garry served as a town justice and planning board member in the region where she resides with her wife Betsy. Asked about the rigor and pace of being the presiding justice, she talks about the rural sights she sees on her way home from the Capital. “I pass a lot of farmers still working late into the night,” she said. “This work I do is not back-breaking, this work is enriching—energizing—it’s a privilege to hold a position with such impact on so many lives.”

She held a similar perspective in law school. “It was easy for students to complain in law school, given how difficult it is—certainly the most difficult experience any of us knew at that time of our lives. But I also had a full sense of the alternative, having worked in retail and life insurance. I knew law school would take us places.”

Garry makes a point to enjoy quiet time in the woodsy land of Central New York. “I love the outdoors, I love all the seasons.” She often strolls through the woods near her property, exploring new areas. In the justice’s words: “I like to wander.”

Perhaps “wander” can be a metaphor for her undergraduate days at Alfred University, where, she said, she felt the bug to explore for her first time. “It was a great place for me, I had this feeling that I wanted to try everything.” This included her own radio show, where she spun eclectic 80s records on the turntable, she learned to walk backwards while conducting a campus tour for the admissions office, and a host of other new experiences. A psychology major with an inking toward business, law school was not yet on the radar.

Garry recognizes that collectively, all these experiences over the years serve her well on the bench. As presiding justice, she relishes her judicial years serving under former PJs that included Anthony Cardona, Thomas E. Mercure (interim), and most recently Karen Peters. “I have the fortune of taking the best from three remarkable leaders,” she said, noting that she expects to make appropriate shifts to the court when required, but the court in general functions at a high level and continues to progress in the right direction.

“I’m not making any abrupt turns,” Garry said, “though minor adjustments are always needed as new issues and new challenges arise.”

She is pleased with Chief Judge Janet DiFiore’s campaign to improve the movement of caseloads across the state, and reduce the wait time of the parties. “As a court, we move at a brisk pace,” she said.

The entire court meets monthly to conduct business that has included, for example, new e-file rules, live streaming of oral arguments, and amendments to filing fees. “I keep an open forum and encourage any judge to bring anything to the table, as my predecessors before me did.”

Specific cases are only discussed among the five judges assigned to the case.

Staying Close to Her Law School

Garry mentors at least one law student every year, serves on panels often at the law school, volunteers as a moot court judge, and has hired numerous clerks—currently Taylor Ciobanu ’16 serves as her clerk.

She embraces her status as an openly lesbian justice in New York, eager to open doors for the younger lawyers behind her. Recently she spoke at the law school’s LGBT Law Day, and two panels.

“I’m living inside all my hopes and dreams,” she said. “I know that. With that comes responsibility to the high standards of this seat—which includes offering guidance and sharing my experiences.”

—DS
50 Marathons, 50 States: Burke Races to Cross the Halfway Mark

Most fitness enthusiasts raise their own bar long before they reach their goal. With 16 marathons completed—four this year—Yanique Burke ’06 has already added three international races to her 50-race list—Berlin, London, and Tokyo.

“Every year I add a race,” Burke explained. “Year one I did one race, year two I did two races. Now I’m running four or five a year.”

With a marathon practically every other month—add to that training, travel time, and planning—Burke has little time outside work as a partner with Gordon & Silber in New York.

“I plan life around my work, training, and races,” she said. “My family and friends work around my running. My running friends are now some of my closest friends, given how much time we spend together and the shared commitments.”

Her 17th race was in Little Rock, Ark., and in April she ran in Louisville, Ky.

“The irony is I wasn’t an athlete in high school or college,” she said. “I moved to Brooklyn from Jamaica when I was 12.” She commuted to Stony Brook University, and beyond her time at Albany Law School, hasn’t lived outside New York City since.

“I’m seeing the country through these races,” she said. “It’s more than traveling from race to race. It’s a way to experience all the cultures in our country. I might never have visited Nashville or Alaska.”

To illustrate the camaraderie and support of the running community, she described her experience in West Virginia, where she mistakenly booked a bed-and-breakfast inn 35 miles from the race, with no cell service and no car.

“I met a fellow racer the night before and she said she’d be happy to pick me up in the morning. She drove 35 miles out of her way to get my friends and me at 5 a.m. We all try to take care of each other.”

A few races into the all-states journey, Burke recruited two friends to join her. “Now I have partners to make it all easier, and more fun,” she said. “Along with the positive social component, the group travel helps all of our budgets.”

On Tuesdays she runs three miles, Thursdays five miles, and Saturdays she runs 13.1 miles, a half-marathon, up to 20-plus miles.

When she started the marathons, she strove to improve her running time, her fastest clocking in at four hours flat in Las Vegas. Now with two friends in tow, she’s satisfied with simply completing the races. However, to qualify for Boston, based on age and weight, she needs to cut her time by 20 minutes. Burke, of course, is confident she can do it.

Her first race was Nov. 16, 2013, in Richmond, Va. She looks to finish her 50th in five years, and is already concerned about her post-quest emptiness. “I’m taking swimming lessons,” she said, laughing sheepishly, one eye already on the Iron Woman challenges. She has a seven-continent goal—she has six continents to go.

“At work, everyone always asks me about my next city, my next race,” she said. After law school, Burke worked at two small firms, then Costello, Shea & Gaffney for six years, before landing at Gordon & Silber.

She remembers finishing her first half-marathon and realizing she had plenty of energy in reserve. “I think that’s the moment I realized I need to run a marathon.” She can tell you where it started, but she can’t tell you where it ends. Two weeks after her New York City marathon, she ran an “ultra”—this one 60 kilometers, or 37.2 miles—around Central Park.

A member of the National Black Marathones Association and the New York Runners Club, she knows many people pursuing the 50-state challenge. “The training can be a grind,” she lamented, citing the endurance of cold temperatures—she likes the cold—rain, hail, and the sweltering summer heat of New York City, which she doesn’t like. “But there’s a euphoric feeling when it all comes together in the race and that makes it all worth it.”

—DS
As Rockefeller Family Fund Director, Wasserman Battles for the Environment

BY JOHN CAHER

Lee Wasserman ’83 embraced the romanticism of Bobby Kennedy as a child in the late 1960s, and never looked back.

“He combined idealism with an understanding of what it took to get things done," said Wasserman. “I greatly admired those who took on entrenched social, political or economic interests to advance the public good, whether Ruth Bader Ginsburg, then head of the Women’s Rights Project at the ACLU, or Ralph Nader, who battled companies whose products killed and injured consumers.”

As director of the Rockefeller Family Fund — and former advisor to the Pew Charitable Trusts and executive director of Environmental Advocates—Wasserman has spent his career advocating for the environment and occasionally battling with big business.

As director of the Rockefeller Family Fund — and former advisor to the Pew Charitable Trusts and executive director of Environmental Advocates—Wasserman has spent his career advocating for the environment and occasionally battling with big business.

At Albany Law, he was particularly influenced by professors Frank Anderson, Peter Preiser, and Ira Bloom.

“Frank Anderson was the straight-talking criminal law professor with a military bearing and civil libertarian bent,” Wasserman recalled. “Peter Preiser taught criminal procedure with a deep intellectual grounding and storytelling ability that made U.S. Supreme Court cases come to life. Ira Bloom made trusts and estates law unexpectedly fascinating and helped me appreciate the human and political stories behind every dense legal section of that area of law.”

After law school, Wasserman worked as assistant counsel to then-Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink and then went on to lead the Environmental Advocates. Under his leadership, the organization created a statewide Environmental Protection Fund, developed and passed a lead poisoning prevention law and helped persuade the state to enact a solid waste management plan emphasizing recycling and reduction. Wasserman received the Albany Law School Outstanding Young Alumnus Award in 1993.

In 1996, he engaged in a principled, if quixotic, primary challenge to a popular local congressman, Mike McNulty, D-Green Island, with whom he disagreed on environmental and other progressive issues.

In 2001, tragedy struck. Wasserman’s wife of 15 years, mother to their two young sons and soulmate, died of a brain tumor.

“Carol was a fierce advocate for gender equality, civil liberties and the environment, and most importantly, she was a devoted mom and friend,” he said. “Her loss underscored for me the value of each day and how important it is to demonstrate the love and commitment we have to our family and friends, and our communities. Otherwise, what’s the point?”

On that front, he got a second chance. A mutual friend set him up with Melissa Dubroff, a psychiatrist, and they wed in 2003. They live in Riverdale, a Hudson River community in the northwest Bronx.
Laura M. Jordan ’03 was named vice president of the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association in Albany.

William G. Kelly ’03 has been selected as a 2017 Irish Legal 100: Irish Rising Star.

Earl T. Redding ’03 has been selected as a 2017 Irish Legal 100: Irish Rising Star.

CLASS OF 2004
Elizabeth F. Garvey ’04 has joined SUNY as vice chancellor for legal affairs and general counsel.

Maj. Peter J. Glennon ’04 was inducted into NYS Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame on May 15, 2018. Glennon retired from military service in 2015 after 24 years with the U.S. Air Force and New York Air National Guard. He enlisted at 17 years old, earned a commission in 2000, and held numerous positions including JAG Officer.

Lisa A. Gootee ’04 has joined Loeb & Loeb LLP as a partner in the Real Estate Department.

CLASS OF 2005
Alexandra R. Harrington ’05 recently wrote a book named International Organizations and the Law which was published in June 2018.

Meghan R. Keenholts ’05 was named secretary of the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association in Albany.

Leyla A. Kiosse ’05 has received the 2017 Kimberly A. Troisi-Paton Leadership Award from the Capital District Women’s Bar Association.

William T. Little ’05 was named president of the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association in Albany.

Hon. Joseph M. Lorman ’05 has been appointed Family Division Magistrate Judge for Rutland, Bennington and Addison Counties by Vermont Governor Phil Scott.

Lorraine R Silverman ’05 has joined Copps DiPaola Silverman, PLLC as a partner.

CLASS OF 2006
Ryan T. Emery ’06 has been named partner at MacKenzie Hughes LLP.

Erica B. Howard-Potter ’06 has been named partner at McLaughlin & Stem, LLP.

PROTECTING THE FAMILY BUSINESS—$300 MILLION ANNUALLY—THAT PROTECTS WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD

BY SHANNON GORMAN

Bridget Milot Ren ’05 is vice president of administration and general counsel for Protective Industrial Products, Inc. (PIP), which supplies personal protective equipment (PPE) such as hard hats, eyewear, respiratory masks, sleeves and gloves for industrial use. PIP is the largest provider of consumable—differentially from disposable—safety gloves in the U.S. and is recognized as the global leader in hand protection.

From the company’s headquarters in Latham, N.Y., Ren protects the business interests of the company, which has two manufacturing facilities in the Midwest; distribution centers in Tennessee, California, and New York; and more than 2,500 distributors around the world. She handles anything that has a legal aspect: insurance, intellectual property issues, risk management, employment, partnerships, and more.

“Not a lot of companies like ours have an in-house lawyer, so I do have to wear many hats,” Ren said. She also oversees operations, including order management, logistics, fulfillment and customer service—all critical to protecting the reputation and success of the company, which does approximately $300 million in annual sales.

Human resources also reports to her. “The biggest challenge is that we have employees in every state in the union, and because the laws vary so significantly and change so frequently, there’s so much you’ve got to know.” Ren retains outside counsel to handle any employee disputes which may arise, but takes protecting the company’s 300 employees personally. “My ‘customers’ are our employees,” she said. “It is my job to make sure they feel they work in a safe and secure environment, where risks are minimized and they have good benefits.”

The job is more than just business to her—it’s family. Her father, Joseph A. Milot, started the company in 1984, with a business partner in Hong Kong, and still serves as president. Her brother, Joey Milot, is senior product manager for hand protection.

When asked how many hours a week she works, Ren responded, “I’ve stopped trying to count. The lines are blurred because it’s a family business. I don’t just turn it off.” Having grown up around the company, she thinks of the people who work there as family as well. For her, it’s not a matter of balancing work and family. “I think of it as balancing my work family and my personal family.”

As a teenager, Ren accompanied her father on business trips to Hong Kong, and worked at the company as a receptionist during summer breaks. In college, she worked in accounts receivable and inventory management. “I grew up believing I was going to be in some part of the business, I just didn’t know exactly what that meant,” Ren recalls. She considered going to business school, but a mentor told her that law school would make her think differently, and that appealed to her—as did the idea that a law degree would make her contribution to the family business unique.

She completed a degree in International Relations and Mandarin Chinese at Vassar College, and chose her law school. “Albany Law had that small-school feel and teachers that were great to interact with, that took the time to care. It was the right fit for me.”

She especially enjoyed Professor Nancy Ota’s contracts class, which has been very helpful in her career. She is certain that law school was the right choice. “I do use the skill of ‘thinking differently’ every day, with the great variety of things that come across my desk.”

Ren’s office fulfills the administrative needs of the company’s offices around the world, including Canada, Mexico, Panama, France, Greece, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, and China, with the company’s largest sourcing arm and branch office being in Hong Kong. “Because our business is all over the globe, there are many cross-border implications,” Ren said. “You have to know a lot about international law, which I find interesting and inspiring.”

Ren wants to pass that global perspective on to her children, Caroline, 10, and Colin, 7. Carrying on the family tradition, she brought them with her on a business trip to Hong Kong in October. “I want to make sure that their eyes are open to the bigger world.”
Matthew Skinner ’09 was a month from entering law school and only a year removed from coming out, and he found himself suddenly disillusioned: The New York Court of Appeals had just handed down its decision in Hernandez v. Robles, upholding the state’s ban on same-sex marriage and crushing the dreams of the LGBTQ community.

“I felt completely disgusted with and betrayed by our state’s highest court on the eve of starting law school,” Skinner recalled.

Yet Skinner continued to view the law as a vehicle to social reform, drawing inspiration from Professors Joseph Baum ’72, Dale Moore and Stephen Clark, and embarking on a journey that brought him to his current role as executive director of the New York court system’s Richard C. Failla LGBTQ Commission.

“For better or worse, the state court system had a complicated relationship with the LGBTQ community,” Skinner said. “The creation of the Commission in 2016 served as a clear statement in favor of a brighter future and a court system that is open and welcoming to all litigants, attorneys, court staff, and judges.”

A native of Ilion, N.Y., whose parents were both public school teachers, Skinner went off to college at Notre Dame in a state of sadness and shock; his father had died of unexpected complications from cancer treatment a few weeks before his high school graduation. Skinner was shattered but committed — like his parents — to both education and public service. He started off in engineering, but soon realized that the law was his calling.

“It was a tumultuous time for the gay rights movement starting while I was at Notre Dame and continuing into my law school years,” Skinner recalled. “We had won enormous victories with Lawrence v. Texas and Goodridge v. Department of Public Health in Massachusetts. It seemed like lawyers had an opportunity to be involved with exciting endeavors and could directly fight for a more just society.”

Still, Skinner didn’t really know what he would do with his law degree. His first summer, he worked on LGBTQ rights at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) in Boston. The second summer he was a seasonal associate at Proskauer Rose LLP, and figured he would begin his career with the large Manhattan law firm. But the national financial crisis put that on temporary hold, and Skinner landed a clerkship with Richard K. Eaton ’74, a judge on the U.S. Court of International Trade.

In 2013, Skinner took a position as executive director with LeGaL, The LGBT Bar Association and Foundation of Greater New York had one of the largest and most active organizations of its type in the nation.

“We greatly improved our direct legal services while I was there,” Skinner said. “On a personal level, I was able to get a front row seat to history, to all of the ups and downs of the movement the last four years.”

One of the major “ups” was seeing Judge Paul Feinman unanimously confirmed in June 2017 as the first openly gay judge of the Court of Appeals, the very court that had 11 years earlier rejected same-sex marriage. Another was working with pioneering gay judges like Presiding Justice Elizabeth Garry ’90, of the Appellate Division, Third Department, Appellate Judges Marcy Kahn and Rosalyn Richter of the First Department, and Fourth Department Appellate Justice Joanne Winslow ’86.

“I have seen so many things happen that seemed completely impossible when I was in law school,” Skinner said. “I went from reading Hernandez the month before I started law school to sitting behind Judge Feinman in the gallery of the State Senate as he was confirmed for the Court of Appeals.”

The Failla Commission was created to address concerns of the LGBTQ community vis-à-vis the court system. Skinner was appointed executive director in December 2017.

“I want members of the LGBTQ community to feel comfortable coming to the state court system when they need it,” Skinner said. “I also want them to have the same positive and respectful experience with the state court system no matter what part of the state they are in.”

Skinner lives in Brooklyn with his partner Michael Li.

—JC
Malika I. Johnson ’06 has joined Tanenbaum Keale LLP as partner in the Seattle office.

Emily E. Whalen ’06 has joined Brown & Weinraub in Albany.

**CLASS OF 2007**

Glinnese D. Gailliard ’07 was appointed to the Albany City Planning Board.

Jonathan A. Gripp ’07 has been recognized by Continental Who’s Who as a Pinnacle Lifetime Member in the legal field.

Larry R. Martinez ’07 has been promoted to Co-Chair of the Labor & Employment Practice Group at Meltzer, Uppe, Goldstein & Breitstone, LLP.

Michael J. Pendell ’07 has been promoted to member attorney at Motley Rice LLC.

**CLASS OF 2008**

Charles C. Dunham IV ’08 was promoted to member of Epstein Becker Green.

Matthew M. Huihian ’08 is now a partner at the intellectual property law firm of Heslin Rothenberg Farley & Mesiti P.C.

Justin T. Kelton ’08 has been named partner at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Wolf & Cerone, LLP.

Adam L. Lounsbery ’08 has joined Jackson Lewis P.C.

Nathan R. Sabourin ’08 was promoted to partner at Hinckley Allen, with focus on Construction & Public Contracts.

**CLASS OF 2009**

Matthew J. Skinner ’09 is the Executive Director of The Richard C. Failla LGBTQ Commission in New York State Courts.

Leah E. Tarantino ’09 has been elected partner in the law firm of Underberg & Kessler LLP.

While Prosecuting Was Not in Her Plans, It Opened Judicial Doors for Judge Troutman

For Shirley Troutman ’85, the law is a vehicle to change and justice — a lesson she learned by watching her hero, Justice Thurgood Marshall, from afar, and listening to the words of wisdom from three Western New York judicial legends: Judges Samuel L. Green, Eugene F. Pigott Jr., and Eugene M. Fahey.

Troutman, the sole African-American judge on the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, was impressed at how Marshall “successfully used the law to knock down just about every obstacle that stood in his way.”

In Green, the first black appellate judge in the state outside of New York City, she saw a man who beat the odds and color barriers in Buffalo and rose through ability and grit. And from judges Pigott and Fahey, men who preceded her on the Fourth Department bench before their ascension to the Court of Appeals, she learned “to use my position as a judge to improve the legal system.”

But the formation of a future judge began decades earlier, with lessons that Eddie and Janie Troutman taught their six children. “From my father, I inherited a strong work ethic. From my mother, I learned that all dreams are possible,” she said.

The Troutmans moved from Fort Valley, Ga., to Buffalo in 1966. Shirley, the second of the six children, attended Buffalo public schools while her father worked at Harrison Radiator and her mother took on the tasks of a stay-at-home mom. She graduated from the State University at Buffalo in 1982 with a degree in business administration and was lured to Albany Law by Professor William M. Watkins, and the promise of a full scholarship.

Inspired by Professor Peter Preiser’s class on the 4th, 5th and 6th Amendments and learning “both the importance and power of the Constitution,” Troutman became a prosecutor at the urging of her pastor and, over the next eight years, worked in prosecutors offices at the local, state and federal level. She prosecuted criminal cases as an Assistant Erie County District Attorney and handled civil matters as an Assistant New York State Attorney General and an Assistant United States Attorney.

“Becoming a prosecutor was not part of a plan I had for myself,” Troutman said. “However, I can say without hesitation that becoming an Assistant District Attorney was the best thing that ever happened to me. I developed self-confidence, and a passion for trial work.”

Despite “the fact that I was not politically, socially or otherwise connected” to the judiciary gatekeepers, Troutman’s extensive prosecutorial experience brought her to the attention of powerbrokers, who brought her name to Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello.

In January of 1994, Masiello appointed Troutman to Buffalo City Court, a position to which she was later elected, beginning a journey that would bring her to Erie County Court and then Supreme Court. In February 2016, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo ’82 designated Troutman to the Appellate Division bench in Rochester.

“A day in the life of an appellate judge consists of reading, writing and reviewing many different areas of law in order to be prepared for oral argument and conference with the other judges on the panel,” Troutman said. “I must admit, however, that I miss being involved with cases from their filing until settlement or verdict and directly interacting with lawyers.”

In addition to her judicial duties, Troutman was recently appointed by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore as co-chair of the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission, an entity that Judge Green helped establish in the late 1980s to address issues of racial fairness and diversity in the courts. She is also an ASTAR (Advanced Science Technology and Research), serving as a resource for judges handling complex cases with scientific evidence.

Troutman and her husband, Kenneth J. Turner, interim regional CEO of the American Red Cross of Western and Central New York, live in Buffalo. She has two children, Lauren Ashley Howard, an attorney currently pursuing a master’s degree in fine arts at the University of Illinois, and Stephen Douglas Howard, who provides Japanese interpreting services online and is currently developing a computer game.

—JC

“From my father, I inherited a strong work ethic. From my mother, I learned that all dreams are possible.”
Winkler Finds Her Professional Home in Multibrand Fashion House

When Winkler saw an in-house position at luxury accessory and lifestyle brand Coach—now Tapestry, Inc.—she jumped at it.

Each job that Erika Winkler ‘10 has held has created an important thread in her career—and those are woven together beautifully in her position at Tapestry, Inc.

She learned the anatomy of a contract working at the New York City Law Department after law school, in the Contracts and Real Estate Division. “I knew I was meant to be a transactional lawyer, not a litigator,” she recalls.

As an associate at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer US LLP in New York, she gained international experience. “Freshfields is a global, London-based firm, so the mergers and acquisitions work I did was almost entirely cross-border. It was fantastic experience working with people all over the world.”

One client was Swiss pharmaceutical giant Novartis. Winkler worked on the team that facilitated a series of portfolio transformation transactions, buying and selling different Novartis companies and divisions. That led to an opportunity to work for Novartis in-house—in Switzerland—to close out the transition.

As an in-house lawyer, she found the communication style, decision making process, and prioritization of time and resources very different than at a law firm. “I liked the differences, and I enjoyed translating our work to non-lawyers in the company.” She had long suspected that she would ultimately be an in-house lawyer; her time at Novartis confirmed it.

When Winkler moved back to New York, she reached out to Albany Law’s Career and Professional Development Center to connect her with in-house lawyers in New York City, including Amy Melican ’96, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel at Coach. “Everyone I contacted was willing to help me and was generous with their time—which I think speaks to the connection we each share with the school.”

When Winkler saw an in-house position at luxury accessory and lifestyle brand Coach—now Tapestry, Inc.—she jumped at it. “The international scope appealed to me, and I had always hoped to join a company with a creative spin, so this was the perfect thing at the perfect time.”

Now Senior Counsel, she works in Tapestry’s global headquarters at Hudson Yards, an up-and-coming commercial area on Manhattan’s west side. Their glass offices overlook the river, with views of the Statue of Liberty and World Trade Center.

Shortly after arriving, Winkler worked on “the Kate acquisition”—Coach bought designer brand Kate Spade in 2017 for $2.4 billion, and then reorganized into a multibrand fashion house called Tapestry, Inc., made up of the Coach, Stuart Weitzman, and Kate Spade brands. Working on the corporate rebranding was fascinating, she recalls, because it touched every aspect of the company. Their New York Stock Exchange ticker changed from COH to TPR, and to celebrate their new name, Tapestry’s CEO rang the NYSE Opening Bell. “Being on the floor of the stock exchange for that was one of the coolest moments of my career.”

Winkler works a great deal with international distribution for each of Tapestry’s brands, negotiating new relationships and helping to navigate existing ones. When Coach and Stuart Weitzman recently acquired some distribution businesses in key areas, she worked on those acquisitions.

“I love the international aspect of my job, I find it fascinating and exciting. The flip side is the many early mornings and late nights it requires.” She recently worked on a transaction with an Australian company, with a 16-hour time difference, and said, “I was nocturnal that week.”

She enjoys traveling internationally, such as to Beijing for work this winter. “We ate a lot of duck and dumplings, and visited the Great Wall,” she said. “We work hard, that goes without saying, but sometimes we get to squeeze in a little fun.”

Winkler also works on other wide-ranging commercial matters, and with the creative side, such as agreements for Fashion Week and photo and video shoots. “I get to work with talented people in all types of roles. That to me is the most satisfying part of the job.”

That, and the goods. She laughed, “You do end up owning a lot of beautiful things. It’s no surprise that everyone here is very stylish—lots of nice shoes and bags.”

“Being a lawyer doesn’t mean just one thing,” she said. “I’m a corporate lawyer for a fashion company. It’s nice to be able to use my training and expertise in an environment that’s fun to be in.”

—SB
Emily E. von Werlhof ’14 has been promoted to Asylum Officer at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

CLASS OF 2015

Jamie Dughi Hogenkamp ’15 has joined Barclay Damon in the Health Care & Human Services and Health Care Controversies Practice Areas.

Said Ibrahim ’15 joined Goldberg Segalla as an associate in the firm’s Workers’ Compensation Practice Group in Albany.

Kayla R. (Seger) O’Donnell ’15 has recently joined the Counsel’s Office of the New York State Liquor Authority as Senior Attorney.

Joseph R. Williams ’15 has joined O’Connell and Aronowitz as an associate attorney at Towne, Ryan & Partners, P.C. as an associate.

CLASS OF 2016

Ashley L. Fischer ’16 joined Charles Town Metro Homes as an agent.

Adam P. Grogan ’16 is now associate attorney at Aaronson Rappaport Feinstein & Deutsch, LLP

Mackenzie E. Kesterke ’16 has joined Maguire Cardona, P.C. as an attorney.

Kevin G. Murphy ’16 has joined Copps DiPaola Silverman, PLLC as an associate.

Kellan B. Potts ’16 has joined Copps DiPaola Silverman, PLLC as an associate.

Mishka A. Woodley ’16, an associate at Shenker Russo & Clark LLP, received City & State’s Overall Excellence in Promotion of Diversity Award.

CLASS OF 2017

Peter J. Evangelatos ’17 was named associate at Barclay Damon LLP.

Ryan W. Rennaker ’17 has joined the Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC).

Overseeing 107 Lawyers for Chubb’s Legal and Compliance Department

BY PAUL GRONDAHL

He was chairman of the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., charged with creating a 9/11 memorial and redeveloping the destroyed site in a fraught and emotionally charged process.

Kevin Rampe oversees a legal and compliance department of 250 people, including 107 lawyers, as Director of Global Legal Operations and General Counsel for North America of Chubb, the largest publicly traded property and casualty insurance company in the world and the largest commercial insurer in the U.S. Chubb has operations in 54 countries and a workforce of roughly 31,000 people.

Rampe ’91 leans on the real world lessons he received at Albany Law School. “More than anything else, Albany Law gave me a solid grounding in what the law is and how it operates within the real world,” he said. “It gave me a good set of practical skills that I use day in and day out. I wasn’t given only theory. The school has both feet firmly planted in the real world and that means you come out well-prepared to deal with real problems.”

While earning a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Union College, a political science professor suggested Rampe might consider applying to law school. The professor mentioned Albany Law School because of its affiliation and historical connection to Union.

At Albany Law, he was influenced by Professors Frank Anderson and Allen Redlich. “Both helped me understand law from a practical perspective and how you can apply it,” he recalled. He also gained valuable experience from an internship with Magistrate Judge Ralph Smith in the U.S. Northern District of New York. After graduation, Rampe joined Shearman & Sterling’s Litigation Group and spent 18 months living in Kuwait representing the Kuwaiti government in environmental claims from the first Gulf War.

He later worked as a counsel for Gov. George Pataki, which brought him back to Albany for four years beginning in 1995. “It was an opportunity to make a difference,” he said. “I caught the policy and public service bug and was excited to work on legislation and policy that had a real impact on how people live their everyday lives.”

In the Pataki administration, he worked on a comprehensive overhaul of the Workers’ Compensation Law, the first time it had been undertaken in decades. He worked on banking and insurance legislation, which led to a position as general counsel of the state Insurance Department for two years, beginning in 1999. He got married and he and his wife, Christine, moved to New York City.

He had just parked his car in Lower Manhattan on the morning of September 11, 2001, and was walking to work at the Insurance Department when the first hijacked plane struck the Twin Towers, and the world was changed instantly. He lost friends and colleagues in the World Trade Center attacks and the catastrophe affected him deeply. Shortly afterward, he was appointed general counsel of the Lower Manhattan Development Corp. and later became its president, and, ultimately, its chairman, charged with creating a 9/11 memorial and redeveloping the destroyed site in a fraught and emotionally charged process.

“It was a very stressful job, but it was another opportunity to make a difference,” Rampe said. “It involved creating a place for healing, while trying to build for the future. It was a very difficult assignment.”

Kevin and Christine Rampe live in Pennsylvania and have four children: William, 16, Matthew, 13, Lily, 10, and Emma, 7. He commutes to an office in New Jersey and has been with Chubb for the past 12 years.

When asked what advice he’d give to first-year Albany Law School students, he said this: “Take advantage of the many opportunities the school offers to learn about the intersection between the theory of law and the real world.”
Ceballo Tries Cases Coast to Coast

From Toronto, to NYC, to San Francisco: Ceballo Tries Cases Coast to Coast

When Brian Ceballo ‘03 entered Albany Law School, he was not the most likely candidate for becoming an attorney: he disliked public speaking.

After he competed on the Albany Law Trial Team, he overcame his public speaking fears and developed into a confident trial attorney. He credits the turnaround in part to Laurie Shanks, an Albany Law professor emerita who coached the Trial Team.

“She was a great professor who taught me how to be confident in my abilities, how to cross-examine witnesses and move things into evidence, the importance of courtroom presence and connecting with the jury,” Ceballo recalled. “She pounded those skills into all of us through repetition. Whenever I’m in a trial, I think back to what she taught us and it gives me confidence.”

Ceballo grew up in Toronto while being raised by his grandmother. A child of immigrant parents from Trinidad, Ceballo did not conceive he could attend college, let alone law school. In the midst of earning a degree in finance at the University of Toronto, he changed career plans.

“I was going to do something safe like become an accountant, but I always wanted to go to law school and decided to challenge myself,” he recalled. He chose Albany Law for its location in New York’s state capital. He received a scholarship and attended on a Canadian student visa. “Since I grew up in Toronto, I knew I could handle the winters in Albany,” he quipped.

He gained additional experience during internships at the Schenectady County Public Defender’s Office and Rotterdam Town Court. “We rolled up our sleeves and got our hands dirty,” he said. “It was great training as a litigator.”

When his visa ended, he returned to Toronto, where he clerked at a small law firm and saved his money to pursue a long-held dream to move to sunny California. He took the bar exam while living in San Diego and moved to New York City. Ceballo spent two years at Marshall Conway Wright & Bradley. He kept his sights set on his earliest law school goal: to try a court case before a jury.

“I read that the majority of lawyers never try a case and I was determined to experience a jury trial at least once,” he said. Ceballo was hired by the New York City Law Department, which employs about 800 lawyers. During his assignment in the Bronx, he won his first case involving a personal injury claim from a passenger on a city bus that hit a massive pothole. “I couldn’t believe I had a perfect 1-0 record in court,” Ceballo recalled. He argued cases in Brooklyn and Manhattan, primarily defending corrections and police officers, achieving 18 jury verdicts among 35 trials in five years. The other cases settled before reaching trial. “That was a lot of trials and I worked extremely hard during that time,” he said.

He and his wife, Marlene, a Canadian woman he met in Toronto, relocated to California to find a better work-life balance in raising their young family. His wife works as a registered dietician, while he commutes by train from their home in Walnut Creek, Calif., to his job with the San Francisco City Attorney’s Office. He has tried cases from coast to coast, with experience ranging from personal injury claims in state court to civil rights cases in federal court.

“I feel like I’m in my dream job in my dream place. I grew up poor and nobody thought I’d become a lawyer. I’m proud of the goals I’ve achieved. I’ve learned there are no shortcuts.”

—PG

MARRIAGES

CLASS OF 2007

CLASS OF 2011
John G. Griffin ’11 and Evelyn Chabot were married on May 6, 2017, in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

CLASS OF 2015
Kayla R. (Seger) O’Donnell ’15 and James O’Donnell were married on April 7, 2018.

BIRTHS

CLASS OF 1975
Peter C. Kopff ’75 welcomed grandchild Avery Ohrn on July 17, 2017.

CLASS OF 2007
Adrienne A. Feederer ’07 and her husband Michaela Kathryn on May 14, 2017.

CLASS OF 2008
Lauren L. Hunt ’09, and her husband Chris welcomed son Jackson Zane Morris on May 27, 2018.

CLASS OF 2011
Adriana Santana de Armas ’11 and her husband Julio A. de Armas ’11 welcomed their daughter Abigail Madeleine de Armas on April 14, 2018.

Eric M. Leander ’11 and his wife Tara welcomed daughter Victoria Grace in the summer of 2017.

CLASS OF 2012
Kendra J. Rubin ’12 and husband Daniel S. Rubin ’12 welcomed a daughter to their family in February.

CLASS OF 2015
Jamie D. Hogenkamp ’15 and her husband David welcomed their son Jones Robert Hogenkamp in February.
Megyn Kelly ’95 Welcomes Albany Law School at “Megyn Kelly TODAY”

Megyn Kelly ’95 and the staff at the Megyn Kelly TODAY Show graciously provided show tickets and a VIP experience to a group of Albany Law School alumni and staff in January. The group attended the show and afterwards met with Kelly, who continues to stay engaged as an active alumna of the law school.

Mentorship and Summer Program Help Build Inclusive Culture at Firm

This year 15 attorneys in the Albany office of law firm Barclay Damon each mentored an Albany Law student, providing guidance about the profession, career preparation, and other areas often outside the academic sphere.

Driven by the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the initiative is part of a larger program to foster a diverse culture throughout all the firms’ offices.

This summer the firm, which has Diversity 1L Summer Associate Programs in their Syracuse and Buffalo offices, has expanded the program to its Albany office, resulting in a paid position this summer for Jennifer Cruz ’20.

“The programs focus on students who come from backgrounds historically underrepresented in the legal field,” said partner David Cost, who heads the initiative in the firm’s Albany office.

For the summer program, Cost explained that the firm is concerned less with academic records and more on a personal statement describing what diversity means to them and how they hope to create an impact in the community.

The law firm chose 1Ls for the program because so few paid opportunities are available for them, explained Cost, particularly for those with a diverse background. The mentoring program begins with a reception at the firm, before the mentor-mentee pair off for the semester, which may include meeting for coffee or lunch, and communicating via phone and email.

“I tell my mentee that we’re here for you, don’t think you’re pestering me, I volunteered to help you out,” said Cost.

Law School Mock Trial Partners Close $27 Million Housing Project a Few Years Later

When Di Ma ’14 partnered with classmate John Bohrer-Yardley ’14 for the Senior Prize Trials competition or became Chase Evans’ law school orientation advisor, she could not know that they would come together again to close a $27 million mixed-financed housing project only a few years later.

Ma, at the Albany Housing Authority, with Bohrer-Yardley and Chase Evans ’16, both associate attorneys at Cannon Heyman & Weiss, LLP, closed the transaction to redevelop Ida Yarbrough Homes Phase II, which consists of demolishing 37 existing housing units and constructing 76 new units in Albany’s Arbor Hill community. The Authority—the owner and developer of the project—began phase two of three phases of the Ida Yarbrough Homes redevelopment this spring. The new homes will be a mix of units for low and moderate income families.

“In law school, the deans and professors tell us to treat one another with respect and professionalism because it is likely our career paths will cross in the future,” said Ma, laughing. “I spent so much time with John and Chase during the due diligence period that it felt like we were back in law school working on a group project all over again.”

Ma moved to the Authority from the New York State Gaming Commission last year to assume the General Counsel role. “This project has been incredible in further exposing me to real estate development, equity and debt financing, and construction contracts,” Ma said. “This was my first tax credit deal and I had the pleasure of working directly with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, City of Albany, our investors, and our consultants.”

Bohrer-Yardley, who served as Evans’ mentor during field placement and post-graduate employment, described CHW as a boutique law firm specializing in affordable housing and community development projects like Ida Yarbrough Homes. “This particular project meant a lot to me and it is deeply gratifying, on both a personal and professional level, to see how great the finished product turned out to be,” he said. “This type of mixed-finance transaction—leveraging multi-layered debt financing in addition to tax credit equity resulting from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits—is the complex kind of work I’ve focused my practice on since graduating from Albany Law and joining CHW.”

With the second phase in place, Ma returned to her more typical work, which includes areas of affordable housing development, employee and tenant relations, union negotiations, real estate transactions, insurance, compliance, and litigation matters. “The Authority serves a great mission and I am honored to be a part of it,” she said. “Still being on the same team as my classmates-turned-friends is a big bonus.”

From left: Phyllis Erikson ’80, Geoff Seber, Jordyn Conway, Di Ma ’14, Joseph DeTraglia ’95, Megyn Kelly ’95, David Jadin, Allison Green ’05

From left, Chase Evans ’16, attorney with Cannon Heyman & Weiss, Di Ma ’14, General Counsel, Albany Housing Authority, and John Bohrer-Yardley ’14, associate, Cannon Heyman & Weiss.
SOLDIER, BROADWAY ACTOR, COURT OF CLAIMS JUDGE:
RYAN WROTE MOTHER 320 LETTERS DURING THE GREAT WAR

“We are all dead tired and are trying to cram so much into our brains that I can’t see how we will learn anything well,” Bernard Ryan wrote to his mother in 1917. He was not talking about law school; for he graduated in 1912, the same class as Justice Robert Jackson. He was describing training as a U.S. Army infantry officer in one of more than 320 letters and 107 postcards he sent to his mother in Albion, N.Y., from May 1917 to June 1919, which are excerpted in each issue of this year’s American Legion Magazine.

“Like any good lawyer, Dad was also a good actor,” his son wrote, explaining that his father practiced law for three years at an Albion bank before joining a theater group in Buffalo and then landing an acting job in New York City, playing minor roles in four Broadway productions.

Wounded as a second lieutenant leading a platoon in the Meuse Argonne offensive, he renewed in Paris his acquaintance with Harriet Earle Fitts, from Alabama, who was touring as an Army entertainer, and eventually married.

Returning to Albion, he served as D.A. of Orleans County, served as county Democratic chairman, and was a delegate to the party’s 1928 and 1932 Democratic conventions.

In 1930 he was appointed judge of the State Court of Claims by Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt, where he retired as presiding judge in 1961. He passed away in 1976.

JUNE 23, 1917
“Well I came back from the range without a lame shoulder or a smashed face. Not that I expected either for I was determined I would hold tight onto the rifle and not let it kick me. It would seem that I did so but my score was not wonderful.”

JULY 14, 1917
“My Bunkie has just received a crate of Georgia peaches. He isn’t here and I am looking forward to his return.”

AUGUST 7, 1917
“Yesterday Capt. Marmon told us in the groups while we were drilling to get uniforms, etc., and my books have been re-issued which means that I will have a commission. It will be only a 2nd lieu, and men will be ranked above me as 1sts and as captains and I do not believe any more capable than I…and of course I feel it. I am in large measure to blame because I did not push myself forward from the start and grab things to do. But you know I never have played any game that way and have therefore always lost except in satisfaction of conscience, the value...
Congressman Parker, a Law School Founder, Describes 1937 Life in 60 Letters to his Wife

Congressman Amasa Parker wrote more than 60 letters to his wife in Delhi, N.Y., during the two years he lived in Washington, D.C. In this particular letter on Dec. 31, 1837, he drew the layout of the dinner table of the boarding house he shared with a dozen others, including Millard Fillmore of New York and James Buchanan of Pennsylvania, both future presidents of the United States.

The letter begins with Parker expressing frustration toward his wife: “You write that you are sick and have been for a fortnight and did not inform me before. Is this right? I should have informed you if I were sick… I ought to be with you to take care of you for I am sure we can take care of each other better than anybody else can.”

Through the diagram, he told his wife, Harriet Langdon Roberts, of Portsmouth, N.H., that the table was so long that it extended beyond the dining room past folding doors into the parlor.

Prior to entering Congress, Parker was a member of the N.Y. State Assembly and served as a State University of New York regent. He moved to Albany to serve as a judge on the 3rd Circuit, until he was elected a justice of the New York Supreme Court for the 3rd District. In 1854, he became an ex officio judge of the New York State Court of Appeals.

He was one of the founders of Albany Law School in 1851. Three years before being elected to the House, Parker married Harriet Langdon Roberts. Parker’s sister, Mary, married Erastus Corning, great-grandfather of Erastus Corning II, mayor of Albany from 1941 to 1983.

The Parker papers are available for public viewing at the U.S. Library of Congress’ Manuscript Division.

The letter on Dec. 31, 1837, included a diagram of his boarding house dinner table, which included two future presidents: James Buchanan and Millard Fillmore.

“MY BUNKIE HAS JUST RECEIVED A CRATE OF GEORGIA PEACHES. HE ISN’T HERE AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS RETURN.”

of which, I am coming to believe, I have overestimated…. There will be no trouble about my obedience nor enthusiasm nor thoroughness any more than in my past undertaking in the face of similar heart-aching odds…. There is a general feeling that Capt. Marmion has been very fair. Also it is not unlikely that one will have a chance for promotion at Wrightstown.”

OCTOBER 7, 1917
“ I wonder if I will ever take up with the old again. Surely I will still long for the theatre, for a good hot game of tennis, for the bustle of Times Square and the smell of grease paint, for the calm quiet of a hammock behind the vines on the porch on a still moonlight night, for the joy of the beach at Atlantic City…. When it is all over, I daresay I will want to get away entirely from all strife and struggle and just live somewhere in the great outdoors, a good strenuous athletic life, the life I have always desired.”

OCTOBER 30, 1917
“I hope you are following the daily news. The Italian defeat is received rather grimly here. As I intimated last summer, I look for the war to last for a long time, as the song goes. Have you heard it?” “It may be gone for a long, long time.”

JANUARY 24, 1918
“We went through the gas house to get the experience of meeting the gases and to get confidence in our helmets. First they sprayed some acid, which affects the eyes only and we went in with our masks on and after a few minutes pulled them off and rushed out—but we got the effects, all right. Then a little chlorine gas was sprayed into the room and we walked through without masks to get the odor and effects of that…. It is all very brutal and very interesting.”

FEBRUARY 5, 1918
“A list has come from Washington of the things an officer must have for overseas service and our Brigade Co. has ordered us to get them by Feb. 28. We’ll probably be overseas by next Feb. So imagine putting money into rubber tubs for sponge baths, spurs when one has no horse, a wool lining for one’s raincoat, tho it is not permitted to wear one here, … My salary simply can’t keep up with the times. And only a few years ago I said I could take care of you well. I can do it of course but the point is the sacrifice a man has to make financially to be an officer.”
### THE FOUNDATION

**4:00 P.M. DECEMBER 17, 1851**

The Exchange Building, Albany, New York

Amasa Parker, a Congressman, delivers the first lecture to 23 male students. Classes took place in the Exchange Building at the corner of State Street and Broadway. The course lasted 16 weeks, with two lectures a day. Cost: $40.

There were 23 students the first year, then 50 the next year, and then more than 100 each year until the Civil War.

#### FOUNDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amasa J. Parker</th>
<th>Ira Harris</th>
<th>Amos Dean</th>
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<tr>
<td>Congressman</td>
<td>U.S. Senator</td>
<td>Judge, Court of Appeals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judge, Court of Appeals</td>
<td>Judge, Court of Appeals</td>
<td>First head of Albany Law School, teacher and scholar, became first president of University of Iowa</td>
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#### CIVIL WAR ERA ALUMNI

1856-1866

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Harris Plaisted, Maine Governor</td>
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<td>1860</td>
<td>Redfield Proctor, Vermont Governor, U.S. Secretary of War, U.S. Senator</td>
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<td>1865</td>
<td>Russell Conwell, Founder of Temple University</td>
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<td>1866</td>
<td>Edwin Conger, Congressman, Ambassador to Brazil, China, and Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>William Lord, Governor of Oregon</td>
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#### SUPREME COURT JUSTICE BREWER

**DAVID JOSIAH BREWER**

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.

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#### PRESIDENT MCKINLEY

**WILLIAM MCKINLEY**

U.S. President 1897-1901

McKinley came to Albany, one of the leading cities in the United States at the time, to study the science of law, where he attended lectures by its three faculty members. After school, he returned to Ohio to finish his preparation for the bar by reading law in an attorney's office, a common practice at that time.

He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, then elected Governor of Ohio twice. In 1896 he was elected President of the United States. Re-elected in 1900, he was assassinated in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1901.

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#### JUDGE MATTHEWS

**JAMES CAMPBELL MATTHEWS**

First African-American alumnus

James Campbell Matthews is the first African-American alumnus, and New York State’s first black judge. Two years after law school he argued against the City of Albany, forcing the city to desegregate the public schools. His nomination to succeed Frederick Douglass as federal Recorder of Deeds was blocked by Republican senators.

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#### THE CASE METHOD

The Case Method is introduced as a vehicle for teaching law.
The New York State Legislature forms Union University

The act incorporated Union University, made up of Albany Medical College, Union College, and the Dudley Observatory. In 1881 the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences joined.

Decades of Firsts

1871 First Asian graduate
KOUZU SENZABURO
Known as a central figure of Ongaku-to-shi-nai-te-gakut (Institute of Music) in Tokyo, and for his major writing, Ongaku-no-nai-te-gakut (Interests of Music). His years in Albany had a definitive effect on music education in Japan at the time.

1877 First Jewish graduate
MYER NUSSBAUM
Graduated from Albany Law School in 1877, was admitted to the bar, and practiced in Albany. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1892 and the N.Y. Senate in 1895.

1881 First Native American graduate
ALINTON TELLE
In 1881 the federal court in Fort Smith, Arkansas, hired Telle as a Choctaw interpreter. In 1886 he was appointed as national secretary for the Choctaw Nation, a position he held until 1889.

Class of 1898
KATE STONEMAN
First woman to graduate and first woman admitted to practice law in N.Y. state, after petitioning the legislature.

The present day presents greater opportunities than ever before for women...my message is to younger women. They must take their opportunities as they come. Always there are opportunities to be had.
In Memoriam

Class of 1949
Hon. Quentin E. Grant '49 passed away on May 26, 2017, in Washington, D.C.
George R. Iocolano '49 passed away on Sept. 8, 2017, in Auburn, N.Y.

Class of 1950
Thomas P. Halley Jr. '50 passed away on Nov. 10, 2017, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Lewis A. Jenkins '50 passed away on October 3, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.
George A. Shaffer '50 passed away on March 26, 2018, in Utica, N.Y.
William F. Wilcox '50 passed away on Sept. 15, 2017, in Auburn, N.Y.

Class of 1953
James T. Donnelly Sr. '53 passed away on Feb. 11, 2018, in Glens Falls, N.Y.
Derrick A. Filley '53 passed away on Feb. 28, 2018, in Troy, N.Y.
Francis W. Landry '53 passed away on Dec. 15, 2017, in Cohoes, N.Y.

Class of 1955
Davis M. Elkin '55 passed away on Feb. 15, 2018, in Schenectady, N.Y.
David G. Retchless '55 passed away on March 25, 2018, in Clifton Springs, N.Y.

Class of 1956
Donald C. Barrett '56 passed away on July 19, 2017, in Rochester, N.Y.

Class of 1957
Hon. Robert F. Doran '57 passed away on Jan. 15, 2018, in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Class of 1958
Lorenz F. Loerzel Jr. '58 passed away on Oct. 5, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.

Class of 1959
Robert L. Moore '59 passed away on Dec. 8, 2017, in Morristown, N.Y.
Walter W. Smith '59 passed away on Jan. 7, 2018, in Watertown, N.Y.

Class of 1960
William J. Dwyer '60 passed away on Jan. 6, 2018, in Colonie, N.Y.

Class of 1961
Ellen B. Chmara '61 passed away on May 17, 2018, in Peabody, Mass.
Robert P. Roche '61 passed away on Jan. 9, 2018, in Albany, N.Y.

Class of 1962
John J. Lynch '62 passed away on Sept. 11, 2017, in Lake George, N.Y.

Class of 1963
Everett C. Updike '63 passed away on Dec. 13, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.

Class of 1964
Joseph P. Carey '64 passed away on Sept. 13, 2017, in Ridgefield, Conn.

Class of 1965
Craig T. Digilio '65 passed away on May 17, 2017, in New Paltz, N.Y.

Class of 1967
Stephen “Brad” Salai '67 passed away on March 2, 2018, in Rochester, N.Y.

Class of 1968
James C. Blackmore '68 passed away on May 24, 2018, in Nantucket Island, Mass.

Class of 1969
Gary R. Brown '69 passed away on Oct. 16, 2017, in Hanover, N.H.

Class of 1970
Hon. Nicholas J. Greisler '70 passed away on April 2, 2018, in Schenectady, N.Y.

Class of 1971
Terrence J. Burke '71 passed away on Feb. 22, 2018, in Naples, Fla.
Hon. John J. Elliott '71 passed away on Oct. 8, 2017, in Fulton, N.Y.
Peter S. Zogby '71 passed away on Feb. 4, 2018, in Hull, Ga.

Class of 1972
Hon. Bernard A. Trembly Jr. '72 passed away on Feb. 20, 2018, in Escondido, Calif.

Class of 1973
Michael G. Gartland '73 passed away on April 20, 2018, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Class of 1974
Patrick J. Tomasselli '74 passed away on Sept. 27, 2017, in Poestenkill, N.Y.

Class of 1975
Peter M. Margolius '75 passed away on Oct. 12, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.

Class of 1976
Daniel N. Lamb '76 passed away on Feb. 13, 2018, in Saugerties, N.Y.

Class of 1982
Patrick Barnett-Mulligan '82 passed away on March 28, 2018, in Chatham, N.Y.

Class of 1989
John E. Higgins '89 passed away on Sept. 4, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.

Class of 1990
Scott D. Staples '90 passed away on April 13, 2018, in Asheville, N.C.

Class of 2006
Brian K. Fitzgerald '06 passed away on Sept. 10, 2017, in Albany, N.Y.
John Eric Higgins ’89

John Eric Higgins, 56, of Albany, passed away on September 4, 2017. Born in Charleston, S.C., on June 28, 1961, he attended the Albany Academy for Boys, Hamilton College, and Albany Law School. He began his professional work as a labor lawyer in 1990 with Bond, Schoeneck and King, then Cusick, Hacker and Murphy, Nixon Peabody, and finally Jackson Lewis. He practiced management-side labor law for 25 years and received several awards for his litigation skills. He participated in the Albany County Bar Association, the American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Capital District Trial Lawyers Association, New York State Bar Association, the Committee on Minorities in the Profession, and was a former president of the Capital District Black & Hispanic Bar Association.

JOHN E. HIGGINS ’89 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Albany Law School, through a leadership gift from James E. Hacker ’84 and Susan H. Hacker, has established the John E. Higgins’89 Memorial Scholarship Fund to memorialize John E. Higgins, Class of 1989. John was a captain of the student rugby team, a friend and mentor to many Albany Law students and Black Law Student Association members, a loving father, and a successful lawyer whose impact reached many beyond the Albany Law School community. The scholarship will be awarded to an African-American or Hispanic student at Albany Law School, consistent with the school’s vision to assist the most capable students.

If you wish to contribute to the John E. Higgins ’89 Memorial Scholarship fund, please visit www.albanylaw.edu/higgins.

Peter Preiser

Professor Emeritus Peter Preiser, 86, of Slingerlands, passed away on October 12, 2017, in Albany. He taught at Albany Law School from 1977 until his retirement in 2010. A graduate of New York University Law School, he had a legal career that spanned over 50 years. Previously he practiced civil and criminal law, served New York State as Commissioner of Correctional Services, Deputy State Administrator of the New York Court System, Director of Probation, and Director of Office of Crime Control Planning, and was Assistant District Attorney for New York County. He authored annual commentaries on criminal procedure, served as a criminal justice consultant to state and national committees, and was a member of the American Law Institute and the Advisory Committee on Criminal Law and Procedure for the New York State Judicial Conference. His daughter Cynthia is a member of Albany Law’s Class of 1989, and his son Alexander is a member of the Albany Law Class of 1993.

Patrick Barnett-Mulligan ’82

Patrick Barnett-Mulligan ’82 passed away on March 28, 2018. He earned a degree from Albany Law School and would spend over 30 years working for the State of New York before returning to the Law School as its pro bono coordinator.
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