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Focus on an Alumnus: M. Robert Koren

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FOCUS ON AN ALUMNUS

A Lifetime of Involvement

M. Robert Koren ('44), distinguished alumnus, Statler Foundation Trustee and University Council Chairman, is a person very special to the Law School, the University and the local legal community.

A native of Brooklyn, Koren entered the Law School from the University of Buffalo during the war. As an undergraduate, he played football and worked his way through college. His law class was small and it learned from a distinguished faculty. After graduation and a hitch in the Navy, Koren returned to Buffalo to build a substantial general practice and give generously of himself to many University and community activities. His colleagues elected him president of the Erie County Bar Association and later honored him as Lawyer of the Year in 1975.

After many years of involvement in University affairs Koren assumed the chairmanship of the University Council in 1981 and served as a member of

the Search Committee that recommended the appointment of current SUNYAB President Steven Sample.

Koren's unselfish service and his uncanny ability to get things done have been recognized over the years by every honor that the University and Law School bestow. He has received two Distinguished Alumni Awards, the Samuel Capen Award and the Edwin F. Jaeckle Award. Additionally, in October the M. Robert Koren Center for Clinical Legal Education was dedicated in the UB Law School (see below).

Koren has established the Max Koren Award in memory of his father, to honor an outstanding law graduate each year.

"Success has not altered his (Koren's) congenial nature or unpretentious style but it does testify to his wisdom, his fine judgment, his love for people and his uncommonly abundant supply of common sense," says Dean Headrick.



M. Robert Koren

Clinical Center Named for Koren



M. Robert Koren (left) is honored at the dedication ceremony of the audio-visual center by (l-r) UB President Steven B. Sample, Dr. Robert Baker and Law School Dean Thomas Headrick.

UB law students can now watch themselves on television to assess their oral advocacy skills, and client and job interviewing techniques.

The M. Robert Koren Center for Clinical Legal Education, officially dedicated last fall, consists of five rooms on the law library's fifth floor where students can videotape simulated legal sessions. Each of the rooms is like a small TV studio equipped with video cameras and display terminals.

The Center honors Koren, whom UB President Steven B. Sample called a "generous and devoted friend of the University for many years." A major contributor of funds for the center was Dr. Robert Baker, an Ithaca orthodontist and friend of Koren.