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UB Law Forum

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# LAW SCHOOL NEWS

## Magavern Gift Supports Teaching, Research

Samuel D. Magavern, whose family has been associated with the UB Law School for four generations, has pledged a \$100,000 gift in honor of his father, the late William J. Magavern, to support special teaching and research by law school faculty members.

In acknowledging the gift, Law School Dean Thomas E. Headrick said, "We are pleased to honor William J. Magavern and the many other dedicated and public-spirited lawyers who gave their time and, more importantly, their broad learning and legal acumen to the development of this School and to the profession. Much of our current stature rests upon the solid foundation which they created."

Under the terms of the gift, the Magavern Pool Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, will provide \$10,000 a year over a 10-year period to establish the William J. Magavern Fellows

Fund.

Viewed by the donor as a means to attract or retain outstanding teachers, the fund is earmarked to support special teaching and research projects in William J. Magavern's field of property law. Recipients will be designated by the law school dean, who may supplement the salary of a single recipient or up to three recipients annually.

William J. Magavern (1866-1945) decided to become an attorney before the Buffalo law school was founded in 1887, so he studied law as a law clerk with the firm of Ford and Ferguson. He subsequently served as counsel to the developers of major Canadian mining companies as well as the mining companies themselves. In 1889, he became a partner in his firm and its name was changed to Ferguson and Magavern.

Magavern's association with the

Buffalo law school began around 1905 when he enrolled in post-graduate courses. He later taught personal property law at the school for approximately 10 years during the World War I era.

When Magavern's son Williard, a UB Law School alumnus, joined the law practice in 1925, the firm became known as Magavern and Magavern. Four members of the Magavern family presently are associated with this law firm and all attended UB Law School.

In addition to Samuel Magavern, they are William J. Magavern II and James L. Magavern, sons of Samuel, and Willard J. Magavern Jr., son of the late Willard J. Magavern. A great-grandson of the honoree, William Joseph Magavern III, continues the family tradition and is currently a student at UB Law School.

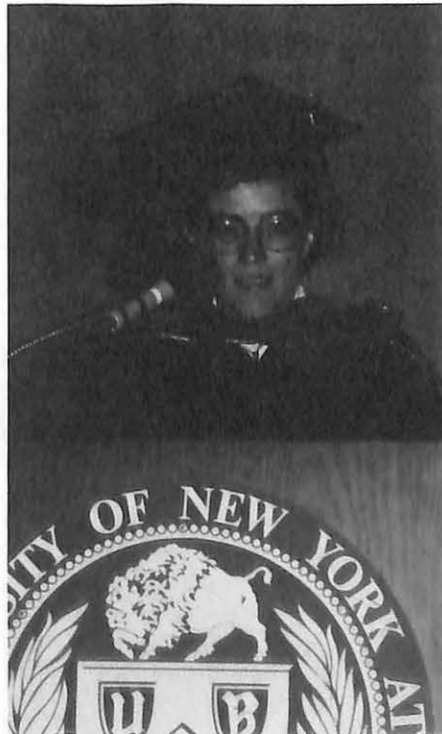
## Commencement: 1985

Some 280 UB Law School graduates were honored at the 96th Annual Commencement exercises held May 19 at the Amherst Campus Alumni Arena.

Commencement Speaker Elizabeth Holtzman, Kings County District Attorney, told the Class of 1985 that many difficult challenges lie ahead of them. "You are entering a world full of turmoil," she said. "But you all have the capability and the intelligence to help solve its problems."

Also extending greetings to the graduates in the two-hour ceremony were: University Provost William R. Greiner; Law School Dean Thomas E. Headrick; Erie County Bar Association President Frank J. Offermann; Law Alumni Association President Rose H. Sconiers; Law Professor Wade J. Newhouse; and graduating senior Michael G. Zapsen. Professor Newhouse and student speaker Zapsen were selected by the graduating class to address the commencement crowd.

Service awards, voted on by the graduates, were presented to Professor Kenneth F. Joyce and secretarial staff member Marie McLeod.



Elizabeth Holtzman  
Commencement Speaker

## Weinstein Retires

Aaron Weinstein, director of the UB Trial Technique Program since 1977, retired last spring after being with the law school for 13 years.

Associate Dean Alan S. Carrel will succeed Weinstein as director of the trial program, as well as continue with his present responsibilities.

A former assistant corporation counsel for the city of Buffalo, Weinstein ('34) was a director of the Erie County Bar Association and the 1977 recipient of the association's Lawyer of the Year Award.

Carrel ('67) was in private practice for 11 years in Buffalo before joining the law school administration in 1978 to develop the career placement office.