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Marlene Cook Wins SUNY Chancellor's Award

Marlene Cook was recently appointed assistant dean for resource management in the Law School. She replaces Charles H. Wallin, who plans to retire at the end of this year after a 17-year career.

Cook received the 1988 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. The medal and certificate was personally presented to her by University President Steven B. Sample at a formal ceremony in September. She was one of only two UB staff members selected from 54 honorees on 35 SUNY campuses.

It was the second consecutive year that a member of the Law School staff was recognized by the Chancellor’s Award. Last year, Nina Cascio, an international law librarian, was presented with the 1987 Chancellor’s Award.

“Marlene Cook will bring an impressive array of knowledge, enthusiasm and good judgement to the job,” says Dean Filvaroff.

“She has already made a big difference, even in the few months she has been here,” he added.

Her philosophy is “a little different from the norm,” Cook believes. “Many people think that the numbers alone should dictate the academic program, but I feel the academic program should dictate the finances,” she says.

According to some faculty members, she excels in being able to expedite matters through the state system with a minimum of hassle, a talent that is in great demand.

Cook was assistant dean in the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics from 1985 to the present. In that position, she was responsible for supervising a $20 million budget. She also designed a computerized accounting system, and supervised the production of a departmental magazine.

From 1979 to 1985, she was assistant dean for academic affairs and financial management in the School of Management. During that time, she coordinated Management’s move from Main Street to Jacobs Center. She also taught as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Organizations and Human Resources.

Cook holds a Ph.D. from UB in educational administration, an M.S. degree in higher education administration from Buffalo State College and a B.S. in education, also from Buffalo State.

She serves as a senator in the Professional Staff Senate and is a Life Associate on the Board of Trustees of Studio Arena Theater.

Assistant Dean Charles H. Wallin to Retire

Charles H. Wallin, assistant dean since 1971, will retire at the end of 1988. Wallin’s responsibilities included key budget and administrative functions.

During his 17 years at UB Law School, Wallin has watched it develop into one of the country’s leading public law schools.

“I feel that over the years we have made this much more of a national law school,” he observed. “I feel good that I was a part of that.”

In 1973, he was instrumental in the move to the Amherst campus. “The move was one of the reasons I wanted to come to the Law School. You could just feel that things were going to happen,” Wallin said.

Wallin supervised the Admissions and Records staff, who maintain all student records and provide the first contact for students on matters relating to their academic programs, course selection and scheduling. For many years, he supervised the admissions procedure. His responsibilities also included management of Law School financial accounts and records and he compiled all class and exam schedules.

A resident of Tonawanda, New York, Wallin graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a B.S. in Business Administration. Future plans include traveling with his wife, Lorraine.