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## Keeping Up With the Profs

UB Law Forum

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# Keeping Up With the Profs

## Girth Named Dean of Georgia State College of Law

Marjorie L. Girth, the first tenured female faculty member at UB Law School, has been named dean of the Georgia State University College of Law. She will continue to teach at UB for the fall term and will begin her new post on Jan. 1, 1992.

"Obviously, Georgia State's gain is our loss. Congratulations are due Marjorie, but we and her students will miss her," said Dean David B. Filvaroff. Girth is looking forward to taking the helm of a law school that is relatively new — less than a decade old — yet which she believes is emerging as a significant presence in the legal arena.

"My colleagues in many circles regard Georgia State as a spunky law school that has earned the respect and affection of the legal community. It will be a wonderful opportunity for me to be involved in its continued growth," she said.

Girth was selected after a national search that yielded 39 candidates including three women and two minorities. Girth's long experience in public higher education plus her familiarity with the urban university environment are two factors that Georgia State has cited in selecting her to lead the College of Law.



Girth joins a growing list of former UB Law professors who have gone on to become deans at other law schools. Among them are: Peter Simmons, dean of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, S.I. Newhouse Center of Law and Justice, in Newark; Lee E. Teitelbaum, dean of the University of Utah College of Law, in Salt Lake City; and Lance Tibbles, dean of Capital University Law School, in Columbus, Ohio.

A 1959 graduate of Mount Holyoke College and a 1962 graduate of Harvard Law School, Girth was in private practice in Trenton, N.J., before joining the Brookings

Institution staff in Washington, D.C.

In 1971, she joined the UB Law faculty, where her teaching interests include bankruptcy and reorganization, commercial law, comparative law, contracts and gender-based discrimination.

She has served as associate dean at UB Law and as visiting professor at the University of Virginia School of Law. Most recently, she was Visiting Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute Professor of Law at Emory University.

While at the Brookings Institution, she co-authored a nationwide study of the administration of the bankruptcy laws, *Bankruptcy: Problem, Process, Reform*. She has also written *Poor People's Lawyers* and *Bankruptcy Options for the Consumer Debtor*.

She served as a consultant to a congressionally mandated study evaluating the implementation of a salaried U.S. bankruptcy trustee system in selected judicial districts throughout the nation. Additional research focuses on the consequences of implementing the substantial provisions of the 1978 Code, including its 1984 amendments.

Girth is also a consultant on local government's financial problems. She recently chaired the Erie County Task Force on the Status of Women. She works with local and national bar associations on legislation that seeks reforms in commercial law and the administration of justice. ■

## Boyer to Receive NYS Bar Environmental Award

Professor Barry B. Boyer has been chosen by the New York State Bar Association to receive the Environmental Law Section Award for 1991. The award, which will be presented in October in Alexandria Bay, is given to individuals who make noteworthy contributions to the environment of New York State.

Director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy at UB Law, Boyer teaches in the area of administrative law, consumer protection and safety and environmental regulation.

His publications include "The Warren Court: A Critical Analysis," and "Legal Education Today: An Agenda for Research and Reform" in the *Cornell Law Review*. He has been a member of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Low-Level Nuclear Waste since 1987.

Boyer graduated from Duke University in 1966 and the University of Michigan School of Law in 1969. Before coming to UB, he served as law clerk to Judge Edward Tamm, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and to Mary Gardiner Jones, Federal Trade Commission. He was also a staff attorney in the Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice.

## Gov. Cuomo Taps Szczygiel for Medical Advisory Committee

Professor Anthony Szczygiel is one of seven persons named by Gov. Cuomo to serve on the state Medical Advisory Committee to the

Department of Social Services. His term will expire May 31, 1993.

The 20-member volunteer body is composed of health care professionals and consumers who advise the Social Services Department on proposed changes in Medicaid regulations and policies.

Szczygiel, a law faculty member since 1982, received his bachelor's degree from UB and his juris doctor degree from the University of California at Berkeley. He supervises the Legal Services for the Elderly Clinic at the Law School and has helped to organize several conferences examining developments in home health care and related services for the elderly and disabled.

He also organized and chairs the Coalition of Medicaid Advocates (COMA), a group that shares information about Medicaid between public interest lawyers and lawyers in private practice. He writes the bimonthly newsletter that goes out to members.

"Medicaid policy changes come about and are not well publicized. Now I'll be in a good position to get information and to have a platform to respond to those proposals," he said.

## Gov. Cuomo Names Scales-Trent to Roswell Park Board

Professor Judy Scales-Trent was nominated by Gov. Mario Cuomo and confirmed by the state Senate in May as a member of the Board of Visitors of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, the well-known cancer research center in Buffalo, N.Y.

A graduate of Oberlin College, she received a master's degree in French at Middlebury College and a juris doctor degree from Northwestern University. At the Law School, her teaching interests include

employment law, civil rights and civil liberties. Her scholarship deals with the interplay between the legal theories which have developed in the fields of sex and race discrimination, including the place of women of color in the law.

## Rimar Honored for Refugee Work

Sister Kathleen A. Rimar, who directs the Asylum and Refugee Clinic at UB Law, was presented with an honorary doctor of laws degree from Niagara University at its commencement ceremonies. President Rev. Brian J. O'Connell presented the degree.

She also was the recipient of the 1990 Mother Cabrini Award for her service to migrants and refugees. That award was presented in October by Auxiliary Bishop Edward M. Grosz of the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo.

A lawyer, Sister Rimar has worked with refugees for more than 10 years. She co-founded the Center for Justice in Buffalo, which deals with such social justice concerns as hunger and the environment, as well as refugees.

Before assuming her current position at the Law School, she was director of the immigration and legalization office of Catholic Charities of Buffalo.

Sister Rimar resides in Stella Niagara, where the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis is located. She serves on the provincial council of her order.

# Faculty Notes

*The following compilation briefly describes some recent scholarly pursuits and civic activities of our law professors. If you would like any additional information — such as a reprint of an article or its citation — Ilene Fleischmann will be happy to help. Call her at (716) 636-2107.*

## **Professor Lee A. Albert,**

associate dean for student affairs, published the article "Cruzan v. Missouri Department of Health: Too Much Ado" in the *Journal of Legal Medicine*. His lectures on the legal issues surrounding health care have included "Refusing Treatment and the Costs of Health Care," an address to the Alumni Convocation of the UB Medical School, this spring; and a discussion of "Proxies, Living Wills and Incompetents" for the Erie County Bar Association last fall.

Albert also spoke over the winter at the annual reunion dinner for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White, for whom he once clerked. He is a member of the Medical School's Health Policy Council and a consultant to the Community Action Agency of Erie County.

## **Professor James Atleson**

published "Prospects for Labor Law Reform" in the Fall 1990 issue of *Policy Studies Journal*. He presented his paper "World War II and Labor Pluralism" at two conferences: the Southwestern Labor Studies

Conference, in Stockton, Calif. and the Law and Society Association Conference in Amsterdam, Holland.

Atleson developed the course "Law and the Visual Arts" for spring semester. He serves as a tenure and manuscript reviewer for both UB and Vermont Law School. He will spend the fall semester at Georgetown University Law Center.

**Professor Guyora Binder,** who was on leave this year at the University of Michigan, has accepted the Leah Kaplan Visiting Professorship of Human Rights at Stanford Law School for the 1991-1992 academic year.

**Professor Charles E. Carr** published "Voices, Text, and Technology: Evidence Law Confronts Tapes and Their Transcriptions" in the *St. Louis University Law Journal*. He serves on the Buffalo Board of Ethics; on the advisory committee of the Community Alliance for Minority Adoption; on the advisory board of the Buffalo Urban League; and as secretary of TransAfrica Buffalo.

**Professor Louis A. Del Cotto** published an article, "Debt Discharge Income: Kirby Lumber Co. Revisited Under the 'Transactional Equity' Rule of Hillsboro," in the *Buffalo Law Review*. A member of the first Law Review Editorial Board for that journal, he gave the keynote address at the Law Review's 40th anniversary dinner on April 23 (see article in this issue of *UB Law Forum*).

Del Cotto has resigned from the full-time faculty and has accepted Emeritus status as of Sept. 1. However, he will continue to teach on a part-time basis. He will be offering two courses this fall.

Media attention for a new book by **Professor Charles P. Ewing**, *Kids Who Kill*, included a lead article in the Sunday Lifestyles section of *The Buffalo News*. He also published "Preventive Detention and Execution: The Constitutionality of Punishing Future Crimes" and "Psychological Self-Defense: A Proposed Justification for Battered Women Who Kill," both in *Law & Human Behavior*. He presented his paper "Scientific and Forensic Issues in the Validation of Child Sexual Abuse" at a symposium at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, in Boston.

Ewing, who has lectured widely on child abuse and battered women, co-edits *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, and serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*.

This year he was elected a fellow of the American Psychological Association, and appointed to the APA's National Commission on Youth and Violence. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award of the Psychological Association of Western New York.

## **Professor Lucinda Finley**

contributed a chapter titled "Legal and Policy Issues of Child Care" to the book *Parental Leave and Child Care* for Temple University Press.

In April she presented a lecture, "Harmful Speech and the First Amendment," at a symposium at Rutgers University Law School, and discussed abortion jurisprudence at a symposium at the Catholic University Law School.

Finley, who is on the board of directors of the Pro-Choice Network of Western New York, also submitted amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court in the cases *Johnson Controls v. UAW* and *Bray v. Alexandria Women's Health Clinic*.