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Association Honors Five

Five graduates of the University at Buffalo School of Law were honored as Distinguished Alumni at the 30th Annual Meeting and Dinner of the UB Law Alumni Association May 8 at the Buffalo Hyatt Regency. A cheering crowd of colleagues, classmates and law faculty paid homage to Hon. Thomas P. Flaherty, Daniel T. Roach, Harold J. Brand, Jr., William H. Gardner and Joseph G. Makowski. Law alumni President Jean C. Powers spoke glowingly of each and presented them with inscribed plaques.

She also gave a warm tribute to Dean David B. Filvaroff, who will return to teaching in the Law School in July. Presenting him with a crystal Buffalo on behalf of the Alumni Association, she said he was always accessible to alumni and responsive to alumni concerns.

Justice Flaherty, Class of 1950, was acclaimed for his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary. A New York State Supreme Court Justice, Eighth Judicial District, he is president of the Supreme Court Justices Association and a member of the New York State Committee on Judicial Ethics. He is also chair of the Committee's Fourth Department panel. Justice Flaherty was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1982.

Roach, Class of 1953, was cited for leadership by example as a private parteritioner. A senior partner with the Buffalo law firm Maloney, Gallup, Roach, Brown & McCarthy, P.C., Roach is a lecturer in trial practice law at UB. A Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, he is a former board member of the Trial Lawyers Association of Erie County and special counsel to the Erie County Water Authority and the Buffalo Sewer Authority.

Brand, a 1967 UB Law graduate, was honored for his commitment to public service. A former president of the Erie County Bar Association and the Erie County Bar Foundation, Brand is executive assistant to the District Administrative Judge for the Eighth Judicial District.

Gardner, Class of 1959, was lauded for his contributions to the betterment of the community. A general partner with the law firm Hodgson, Russ, Andrews, Woods & Goodyear, he has represented many clients pro bono, particularly in areas of draft prosecutions, homosexual/gay rights, and individuals who appear to be victims of an overpowering "system." He is president of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., and board member of the AIDS Community Services of Western New York.

Makowski, a 1979 UB Law graduate, was praised for exemplary performance in business. He is general counsel and secretary of Computer Task Group. Activities include director and secretary of The Buffalo Philharmonic Society, past president of Leadership Buffalo Inc., the UB Law Alumni Association and Neighborhood Legal Services. Formerly an associate with Albrecht, Maguire, Heffern & Gregg, P.C., Makowski in 1985 was named first corporate counsel of Computer Task Group Inc., a $300 million international computer software services firm headquartered in Buffalo.

Gathered at the Annual Dinner are (seated left to right): Hon. Thomas P. Flaherty, Joseph G. Makowski and Daniel T. Roach. (Standing left to right): William H. Gardner, Jean C. Powers and Harold J. Brand, Jr.