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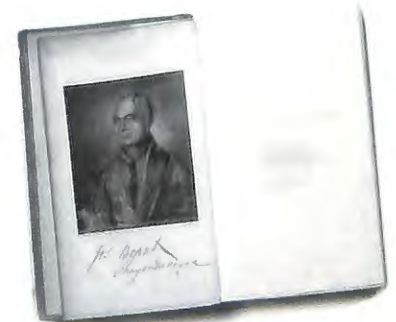
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Holden Olsen

Message from Dean Nils Olsen

We at UB Law School begin the 2002-03 academic year with high spirits and great expectations. It is always a

good feeling to be riding a winning streak, and we are in the midst of several:

- The hiring of Professor Lynn Mather, who has been the Nelson Rockefeller professor of government at Dartmouth College, to head the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy is an exciting development for the Law School and University. We know she will accomplish great things in furthering the mission of this important part of our interdisciplinary focus.

- Our beautiful new courtroom is up and running, and with its first "real" trial and proceedings, it has field-tested beautifully. We are looking forward to working closely with the bench and bar for many years to come as we all enjoy this terrific new facility.

- On the development front, our statistics place us among the top public law schools in the nation – a tribute to alumni and friends who recognize the value of supporting their Law School. Since 1998 – 99, for example, giving to the Annual Fund has risen from \$514,000 to \$657,000; the number of donors has increased from 1,244 to 1,905; and the proportion of alumni participating has grown from 15.8 percent to 22.5 percent. In addition, as the Campaign for UB Law enters its final year,

the total in that capital campaign has grown to \$11.1 million, and we fully expect the campaign's \$12 million goal to be reached by June 30, 2003. My thanks to Terrence M. Connors '71 and his committee, who have worked long and hard to make this dream a reality, as well as to the legion of supportive and generous alumni who have helped us reach this ambitious milestone.

- Finally, we have had another banner year in student recruiting. From a record number of applicants, we are welcoming a first-year UB Law class full of bright, talented and diverse students. They are sure to be a credit to the school, both now and when they join the ranks of alumni.

None of this would be possible without your support. As dean, I have come to appreciate just how much energy and enthusiasm UB Law School's alumni and friends pour into the school, and know the tangible and intangible ways that support pays off for our school and our students. Bench and bar, students, faculty, staff and alumni – it is a synergy that is doing great things for an institution we all cherish. Let's keep the momentum going!

Best wishes,