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## Introducing the Class of 2007

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# Introducing the Class of 2007

The 247 students who make up UB Law School's Class of 2007 – the class just now learning the legal ropes in the classrooms of O'Brian Hall – are diverse in age, geography, origins and life experience, but they share a crucial ingredient for success in law school: smarts.

Nearly one in 10 already holds an advanced degree. Their median grade point average of 3.44, and their median LSAT score of 155, demonstrate the high academic quality of this newest group of UB Law's future alumni.

"Our tradition of admitting smart, hard-working, diverse and interesting students continues," says Lillie V. Wiley-Upshaw, associate dean and director of admissions and financial aid. "There are non-traditional students, defined as anyone not directly out of undergraduate school; parents; people from out of state and throughout the state of New York; students who lived in the inner city and some who grew up in rural settings. We have war veterans, and others opposed to military service; first-generation students, and others whose mothers and fathers are attorneys."

The students range in age from 20 to 50, with 54 percent men and 46 percent women. Fourteen percent are from out of state, Wiley-Upshaw says, and 9 percent are from other countries, including Korea, China, Canada and Spain.

Coming to law school out of scientific backgrounds seems to be more common. Twenty-seven Class of 2007 students were science majors in undergraduate or graduate school, representing such disciplines as biology, chemistry, electrical engineering, and aerospace and aeronautical engineering.

Among the undergraduate institutions represented are Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Notre Dame and the University of California.



Photo by Don Dannecker

Left to right: Members of the Class of 2007 include Lisa M. Gibertoni, Kelly A. Connors, Burim Namani and Amanda Bowman.

## Meet a few of the new students:

**Harven DeShields** was forced to flee his native Liberia with his family. He earned a bachelor's degree at Appalachian State University and holds a Ph.D. in biology from UB.

**Brian Kloss** is a dental student on leave from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of the New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine.

**Claire LaVaute** is a librarian and graduate of the University of California-Santa Cruz and San Jose State University. She drove from San Francisco in a vintage Volkswagen Beetle – never breaking 55 mph.

## Class of 2007 profile

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Enrolled                       | 246      |
| Selectivity                    | 38%      |
| Median GPA                     | 3.44     |
| Median LSAT                    | 155      |
| Average age                    | 25       |
| Age range                      | 20 to 50 |
| Women                          | 46%      |
| Men                            | 54%      |
| Students of color              | 24%      |
| Out of state enrollment        | 14%      |
| States represented             | 19       |
| International enrollment       | 9%       |
| Countries represented          | 6        |
| Students with advanced degrees | 8%       |