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Faculty

UB Law School graduates establish fund in honor of former professor

Louis Del Cotto

Seven former students of Louis A. Del Cotto '51, a highly respected tax authority and professor emeritus in the University at Buffalo Law School, have established an endowment fund — kicking it off with \$75,000 in gifts and pledges — to honor the man they credit with providing the foundation for their own successful careers.

An expert in the intricacies of the tax code, statutes and regulations, Del Cotto taught at the Law School for more than 40 years, redefining the curriculum in tax law. In addition to his teaching, Del Cotto collaborated on the *Bittker Federal Income Estate and Gift Taxation* treatise, was counsel to the New York State Commission on Estates, and served on the New York State Society for Certified Public Accountants and New York University/Internal Revenue Service Board of Advisors, along with a host of other tax panels and institutes.

In appreciation for his devotion to the law and his dedication to teaching, his former students have created the Louis A. Del Cotto Fund for Excellence in Tax and Tax-Related Studies and are urging fellow alumni to join the effort.

"Professor Del Cotto was pivotal in my life and the lives of so many other successful UB Law School graduates," said Dianne Bennett '75, recently retired chair, Hodgson Russ LLP. "He helped launch the careers of his former students, many of whom have gained prominence and stature in the legal profession and assumed leadership roles in their communities."

In addition to Bennett, the other fund-raising committee members are Paul R. Comeau '73, Barry K. Gassman '71, David E. Jacobson '74, Barbara D. Klipfert '75, Erik D. Lindauer '81 and Richard L. Reinhold '76.

According to UB Law School Dean Nils Olsen, "During my tenure of more than 25 years at the Law School, Lou Del Cotto, along with Al Mugel, Ken Joyce and Bill Greiner, created a tax program with a national reputation that profoundly affected the careers of our graduates, many of whom now lead their firms in tax law. Lou and Bea are close personal friends of all of us at UB Law, so it is particularly appropriate that we honor him — just as he brought honor to us for so many years."

For more information or to make a gift, please contact Deborah J. Scott, vice dean for development, UB Law School, at djscott@buffalo.edu or (716) 645-2113.

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— Dianne Bennett '75



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