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Alumni Notes, and Reunions for the Classes of 1959, 1984, 1989 and 1999; Births and Marriages; Student Kudos; in Memoriam

Cynthia Watts

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Richard N. Blewett ’51 received the Charles H. Dougherty Civility Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Blewett practices civil litigation and municipal law with Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where he resides.

Ralph L. Halpern ’53 was honored by the New York State Bar Association Committee on Professional Ethics for 40 years of service to the committee. Halpern is senior counsel and a member of the business and corporate financial services and international trade practice groups of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo, where he resides.

Maryann Saccomando Freedman ’58 was the keynote speaker at the Robert H. Jackson Center’s award dinner for student essay winners in Jamestown, N.Y. Freedman is of counsel to Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, where she resides.

Hon. Joseph D. Mintz ’58, a Getzville, N.Y., resident, received the 2009 Outstanding Jurist Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Mintz, a New York State Supreme Court justice for the 8th Judicial District in Buffalo, was first elected to the Supreme Court in 1978.

J. Mason Davis Jr. ’59 received an honorary degree from UB Law at the school’s 120th Commencement on May 23. Davis was the first African-American to practice as a senior partner in a major Alabama firm, Sirote & Permutt in Birmingham. He represented students who participated in the historic Huntsville lunch counter sit-ins, and played a key role in the desegregation of Alabama in the early 1960s. He is a senior shareholder in Sirote & Permutt, practicing insurance law, litigation, municipal financing and securities law. He lives in Birmingham.

Peter J. Martin ’64 spoke about issues facing senior citizens and their families in New York State at the Amberleigh Independent Living Facility in Amherst, N.Y. Martin is a senior partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo, practicing corporate, tax and business law. He is a Buffalo resident.

John A. Cirando ’66 of Syracuse, N.Y., was reappointed to the New York State Law Revision Commission by Gov. David Paterson. He is a partner with D.J. & J.A. Cirando in Syracuse, practicing appellate advocacy.

David G. Jay ’66 received the 2009 Lawyer of the Year Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Jay, a nationally known civil rights attorney in Buffalo, lives in Tonawanda, N.Y.

Hon. Jeffrey S. White ’70 was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UB Law Alumni Association. He was recognized for his conscientious and diligent performance in the judiciary at the association’s 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. White is U.S. District Court judge, Northern District of California, in San Francisco. He lives in Moraga, Calif.

Thomas J. Wojciechowski ’70 spoke to residents of Amberleigh Independent Living Facility in Amherst, N.Y., about issues facing senior citizens and their families in New York State. Wojciechowski is a senior partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo, concentrating in real estate, estate planning and elder law. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Joseph B. Mistrett ’71 was honored with the Charles H. Dougherty Civility Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Mistrett is a retired chief federal public defender in Buffalo. He now lives in Chevy Chase, Md.

Hon. Leonard G. Tilney ’71 received the Bar Association of Niagara County’s Hon. Jacqueline Koshian Award of Merit and Honor, the highest award the association bestows. Tilney is a solo practitioner and town justice in Lockport, N.Y., where he resides.
Class of 1959

50th Reunion
May 22 & 23, 2009
Buffalo, NY

• Friday Afternoon Lunch at the old law school – 77 W. Eagle Street
• Friday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Park Country Club
• Saturday Afternoon Lunch at the Law School followed by Commencement

For more reunion photos visit http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class59.asp


Louis A. Ryen ’59, Enid Z. Ryen, Leila Kahn and F. Warren Kahn ’59

Ellen Bernstein and Alan L. Bernstein ’59

Arthur N. Bailey ’59 and Joanne Bailey

Eugene P. O’Connor ’59 and Louis A. Ryen ’59

William H. Gardner ’59, Former Professor Donald C. Lubick and Former Professor Richard E. Heath
Terrie Benson Murray '79 spoke at the seminar “Protecting Your Legacy,” hosted by the Buffalo Agency Financial Services, Planned Futures Financial Services and Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo. Murray, an associate in the firm, lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Charles C. Swanekamp ’79 was named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He is a partner in the litigation practice group of Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

’80s

Stuart P. Gelberg ’80 has been included in the 2009 New York Metro edition of Super Lawyers. He was previously included in the 2007 and 2008 editions. Gelberg is an attorney in Garden City, N.Y.

Anna Marie Cellino ’81 was awarded the UB Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumna Award for her exemplary performance in business. She was honored at the association’s 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Cellino is president of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y., and resides in West Seneca, N.Y.

Robert M. Elardo ’81 received the Award of Merit from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. He is managing attorney of the Volunteer Lawyers Project in Buffalo and a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumna Award. Elardo is a Buffalo resident.

Richard S. Binko ’82 was appointed 42nd president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. He is the first president from Western New York. Binko has his own personal injury firm in Cheektowaga, N.Y., where he resides.
Class 1984
25th Reunion
May 1 & 2, 2009
Buffalo, NY
• Friday Evening Happy Hour at WJ Morrissey’s
• Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
• Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at Top of the Falls

For more reunion photos visit http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class84.asp


Elizabeth G. Clark ’84 and George W. Collins Jr. ’84

Carol Gundel Russ ’84, Peter Snajczuk and Margaret L. Snajczuk ’84

Hon. Erin M. Peradotto ’84 and Mary H. Doyle ’84

Kimberly Copeland Sheehan ’84, Mary Ellen Higgins and Patrick J. Higgins ’84
Ross M. Cellino Jr. ’82 and Stephen E. Barnes ’83 of Cellino & Barnes made an unrestricted gift of $1 million to UB Law School, one of the largest cash gifts UB Law has received. Cellino is a shareholder in the Buffalo-based personal injury firm. He was also elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. He resides in West Seneca, N.Y.

Hon. Paula L. Feroleto ’82, formerly a justice of the New York State Supreme Court, was appointed administrative judge of the 8th Judicial District. She resides in Buffalo.

Stuart B. Shapiro ’82 was the featured speaker at the SUNY Fredonia Music Industry Forum in Fredonia, N.Y. He discussed record industry deals, copyrights and performance rights. Shapiro is a partner with Cohen & Lombardo in Buffalo, an author and an award-winning songwriter and performer. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Laurie S. Bloom ’83 is president-elect of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is counsel in the firm Nixon Peabody in Buffalo, where she resides.

Lynn A. Clarke ’83 was presented with the UB Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumna Award at the association’s 47th Annual Meeting and Dinner on May 5 in the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. She was honored for her many contributions to the betterment of our community. Clarke is principal court attorney for the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District in Buffalo. She is also a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Clarke lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Robert A. Klump ’83 was honored with the Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award from Canisius College in Buffalo. Klump is an adjunct professor of political science and associate director of the college’s Raichle Pre-Law Center. He lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Stewart E. Wurtzel ’83 of East Meadow, N.Y., was named Pro Bono Attorney of the Month for May by the Nassau County Bar Association. Wurtzel is a founding member of Deutsch Tanne Waterman & Wurtzel in New York City. He is also a member of the board of directors of the New York Law Institute and serves on its audit committee.

Kurt E. Amend ’84 has been named senior adviser for security negotiations and agreements in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, in Washington, D.C. He will be lead negotiator of status of forces, defense cooperation, burden-sharing and other agreements with countries where U.S. military forces are deployed. Amend joined the State Department in 1988. His previous overseas assignments include Afghanistan, India, Kosovo, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Tajikistan. He is also the author of “Counterinsurgency Principles for the Diplomat,” Small Wars Journal, July 2008. Amend lives in Arlington, Va.

George W. Collins Jr. ’84 spoke on the topic of depositions at the New York State Bar Association presentation “Practical Skills – How to Commence a Civil Lawsuit” in Amherst, N.Y. Collins is chairman of the litigation group of Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo. He lives in Snyder, N.Y.

Hon. John M. Curran ’84, New York State Supreme Court justice, 8th Judicial District, has been named a 2008 Outstanding Citizen by The Buffalo News. He was recognized for resolving the conflict regarding the historic merger between Kaleida Health and Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo. Curran, a past president of the UB Law Alumni Association, lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

William J. Hochul Jr. ’84 of Hamburg, N.Y., has been nominated as U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York, in Buffalo. Hochul is currently chief of the Western District’s National Security Division responsible for coordinating international and domestic terrorist investigations.

Births

To Joanna L. Silver ’97 and Kevin Organ, a son, Jacob Christopher, on Jan. 6 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

To Sheldon K. Smith ’01 and Jonelle Smith, a daughter, Sadie Kathryn, on Dec. 25, 2008, in Orchard Park, N.Y.

To Michael A. Chiantella ’03 and Karen Chiantella, a daughter, Morgan Lillian, on April 7 in Venice, Fla.

To Jennifer Biletnikoff O’Connell ’03 and Desmond O’Connell, a son, Hayden Quinn, on March 30 in Estero, Fla.

To Michael D. Mann ’06 and Diana Mann, a daughter, Madelyn Sydney, on Aug. 10 in New York City.

To Hadijat Balogun ’07 and Clyde Collins, a daughter, Cara, on May 25 in Houston, Texas.

Marriages

Congratulations to the following newlyweds:

Kathleen A. Welch ’91 and Shelley A. Hearne, June 27
Martin A. Polowy ’03 and Amy E. Przewozny ’04, June 20
Lynn Kwon ’07 and Philip Dzikiy, May 16
Class of 1989

Class 1989
20th Reunion
May 1 & 2, 2009
Buffalo
• Friday Happy Hour at Shea’s Intermission Lounge
• Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
• Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Park Country Club

For more reunion photos visit http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class89.asp

1st Row: Donnalee D. Tomaka, Kelley A. Omel, Mary Scolese Leonardi, Lauren E. Breen, Suzanne M. Garvey, Brenda M. Freedman, Lisa A. Valvo


1st Row: Glenn D. Leonardi ’89, Kelley A. Omel, Mary Scolese Leonardi, Lauren E. Breen, Suzanne M. Garvey, Brenda M. Freedman, Lisa A. Valvo


Douglas P. Smith ’89
Eugene F. Getty ’89

Glenn D. Leonardi ’89, Dr. Grace Dimitroff and Douglas P. Dimitroff ’89

Gregory M. Vinal ’89, Alpha Ross, Lisa A. Sizeland-Ross ’89 and Jeanne M. Vinal ’89

Robert L. Boreanaz ’89, Bunnie Boreanaz, Mary Scolese Leonardi ’89 and Glenn D. Leonardi ’89
Paula M. Ciprich ’85 was elected vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. Ciprich is general counsel for National Fuel Gas Co. in Williamsville, N.Y. She resides in Eggertsville, N.Y.

Kathleen A. Dooley ’85 is the city attorney in Fredericksburg, Va., where she resides. Dooley is an adjunct professor in the political science department at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg and a past president of the Virginia Local Government Attorneys Association and the Virginia Women Attorneys Association.

Karen A. Korkuc ’85 has become an assistant district attorney for the Erie County district attorney’s office, in Buffalo. She is assigned to the integrated domestic violence bureau and is a resident of Lake View, N.Y.

Hon. John L. Michalski ’87 was nominated by New York State Gov. David Paterson for a nine-year term as New York State Court of Claims judge in Buffalo. He was appointed to the bench in 2006 to fill the unexpired term of retiring judge Hon. Ronald H. Tills ’59. Michalski lives in Williamsville, N.Y.

Daniel T. Lukasik ’88 received the Special Service Award from the Bar Association of Erie County, in Buffalo. Lukasik is a partner with Cantor Lukasik Dolce & Panepinto in Buffalo. He is a past recipient of the UB Law Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and is a resident of Lancaster, N.Y.

Robert L. Boreanz ’89 has been elected president of the UB Law Alumni Association for 2009-10. He is a senior partner with Lipsitz Green Scime Cambria and is chairperson of the firm’s labor and employment law department in the Buffalo office. Boreanz is a resident of Getzville, N.Y.

Steven P. Maio ’90 of Corning, N.Y., received the Michael F. Dillon Law Guardian Award from the Appellate Division, Fourth Department. Maio is a partner with Hutchinson & Maio in Elmira, N.Y.

Scott B. Schwartz ’91 served as an adjunct professor at Drexel University Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design in Philadelphia, teaching copyrights and trademark for entertainment and the arts. Schwartz is a member of the intellectual property department at Cozen O’Connor in Philadelphia. He lives in Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

Thomas P. Cunningham ’92 has been elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. Cunningham is a managing partner of Rupp Baase Pfalzgraf Cunningham & Coppola in Buffalo, concentrating in insurance defense litigation, insurance coverage and commercial litigation. He lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

LaMarr J. Jackson ’92 was listed as a 2009 Up and Coming Attorney by The Daily Record. Jackson is a partner with Harris Chesworth O’Brien Johnstone Welch & Leone in Rochester, N.Y. She is the first African-American female partner in the firm and practices in the areas of matrimonial and family law, labor relations, business law, trusts and estates, and criminal law. Jackson lives in West Henrietta, N.Y.

John J. Jablonski ’93 was named to the UB Law Alumni Association board of directors. He is a partner with Goldberg Segalla in Buffalo, specializing in litigation, including commercial and business, construction, products liability and railroad litigation. Jablonski lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Hope W. Olsson ’94 received the American Bar Association 2009 Pro Bono Publico Award. Olsson is a partner with Olsson & Feder in Rochester, N.Y., specializing in bankruptcy law. She has helped more than 400 pro bono clients since 2002 at the Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County and has also been a pro bono consultant for Farmworker Legal Services of New York. Olsson is a Rochester resident.

Charles D. Grieco ’95 was a presenter at a CLE program on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. He is administrator of the environmental practice group in Jaekle Fleischmann & Mugel in Buffalo, where he resides.

Jane M. Gabriele ’95 received the New York State Bar Association 2009 President’s Pro Bono Service Award. Gabriele works for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y., and lives in Fairport, N.Y.

Hon. Craig D. Hannah ’95 was elected treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. Hannah is a city court judge in Buffalo, where he resides.

Sheri L. Mooney ’96 received the Marilyn Menge Award at the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York Convention on June 5 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. She is a partner with Damon & Morey in Buffalo and a resident of Orchard Park, N.Y.

Hon. Lenora B. Foote-Beavers ’97 was elected assistant treasurer of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is Erie County Family Court support magistrate in Buffalo, where she resides.

Corinne A. Carey ’98 co-authored a report, “The Rockefeller Drug Laws: Unjust, Irrational, Ineffectual.” She used the report to advocate for reform of the drug laws, and legislation implementing that reform was passed and signed into law in April. Carey is public policy counsel with the New York Civil Liberties Union in New York City. She lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

John J. Koeppel ’98 is listed in Chambers America’s Leading Lawyers for Business 2009 in the corporate/mergers and acquisitions law category. Koeppel is a partner with Nixon Peabody, practicing in the Buffalo and New York City offices. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Lisa J. Allen ’90 has been named a vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is a member of Harris Beach in Buffalo, practicing in the life and asset planning practice group. Allen lives in East Amherst, N.Y.

Tasha E. Moore ’98 of Buffalo was elected a vice president of the UB Law Alumni Association. She is regional director of the New York State Division of Human Rights in the Buffalo office. Moore is a past
Class of 1999

10th Reunion
May 1 & 2, 2009
Buffalo
• Friday Happy Hour at Shanghai Red’s
• Saturday Morning Brunch at the Law School
• Saturday Evening Reunion Dinner at the Buffalo Club

For more reunion photos visit http://law.buffalo.edu/forum/class99.asp

Seated: Janette Cortes-Gomez, Robert J. Gutowski, Dennis K. Schaeffer
1st Row Standing: Mary Moorman Penn, Denis J. Uminski, Christine Isaacs-Spence, Mark E. Guglielmi, Deborah Colosimo Guglielmi, Marc W. Brown, Christopher A. Wightman, Tony D. Cao, Katherine E. Cauley, David J. Hoffman, Jason C. Luna, Fidel E. Gomez, Michael Bly Santa-Maria
2nd Row Standing: Kenneth S. A. Grant, Jennifer K. Dorrer, Russell B. Klein, Theresa Merrill Stones, Joseph M. Young, Richard R. Shaw II
Stairs top to bottom: Roseanne J. Moran, Irma J. Hill, Kinda Serafi, Darleen V. Karaszewski, Amy M. McCabe, Paige L. Mecca, Mia McFarlane Markello, Amy C. Martoche, Kimberly A. Fanniff, Ronald A. Link Jr., Harry J. Forrest, Paul A. Gennari, David C. Kelly

Denis J. Uminski ’99, Mark E. Guglielmi ’99 and Deborah Colosimo Guglielmi ’99
Kimberly A. Fanniff ’99 and Amy M. McCabe ’99
president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, in Buffalo, and chair of the association’s recruitment and retention task force. She is a past member of the board of directors of UB Law School’s GOLD Group and past chairperson and current member of the Buffalo City Ballet board of directors.

Lourdes Ventura ’98, counsel to Minority Leader Malcolm A. Smith of the New York State Senate, is running for New York State Assembly in the 38th District. A member of the Dean’s Advisory Council, she lives in Richmond Hill, N.Y.

Robert Marinovic ’99 has been named a member of Meyer Suozzi English & Klein in New York City. Marinovic previously served as an associate in the labor practice group in the firm. He lives in Madison, N.J.

Mary Moorman Penn ’99 joined HoganWillig in the Amherst, N.Y., office. She specializes in civil litigation, personal injury and malpractice. Penn is assistant secretary of the UB Law Alumni Association and lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Amy E. Schwartz ’99 was appointed president of the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Schwartz is an attorney for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y., where she resides.

Hon. Matthew D. Witherow ’99 was appointed city court judge for the City of Port Jervis, N.Y. Witherow previously served as Orange County assistant district attorney in Goshen, N.Y. He lives in Madison, N.J.

Devin Palmer ’01 has been named an Up and Coming Attorney by The Daily Record. He is an associate with Boylan Brown in Rochester, N.Y., where he resides. Palmer handles cases involving bankruptcy, collections and litigation and is chair of the firm’s collections department.

Seth K. Smith ’01, a senior associate in the Buffalo office of Nixon Peabody LLP, was elected vice president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York. He also served as chair of the MBA’s Judicial Rating and Dinner Committees. Smith was appointed by the Fourth Department to a three-year term on the Attorney Grievance Committee. He resides in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Tasha E. Moore ’98

Rashondra M. Jackson ’02

Emilio Colaiacovo ’01

Karlee Bolaños ’00 was named an Up and Coming Attorney for 2009 by The Daily Record. She is a member and practices in the labor and employment law and immigration law practice groups of Harris Beach in the Pittsford, N.Y., office. Bolaños is a Pittsford resident.

Emilio Colaiacovo ’01 received the 2008 Michael E. Dillon Award at the New York State Appellate Division, 4th Department, award ceremony on June 16 in Rochester, N.Y. He was also a presenter at the New York State Bar Association’s seminar “Family Court Practice: Custody, Child Protective Proceedings and Ethics” in Buffalo and was a speaker at the New York State Parent Education and Awareness Program in Buffalo. Colaiacovo is a partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo and lives in Kenmore, N.Y.

Laura Klossner, LLM ’09, had the cover story in the summer 2009 issue of the Florida Defender, a publication of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Her article, “Evaluating Mental Competency in Juvenile Defendants,” discussed the history of the mental incompetence defense in criminal cases and suggested some strategies for criminal defense lawyers in representing juveniles whose mental health may be compromised.

Ashley Westbrook ’10 was selected as a member of Summer Corps by the group Equal Justice Works. She spent the summer working at Make the Road New York, in Brooklyn, a public-interest advocacy organization for the Latino and immigrant population.

Terry Bagia ’08, LLM ’10, published the book Delta in Distress: The Politics and Perils of Petroleum Patronage in Nigeria. The book, available at Amazon.com, looks at the increasingly important role that Nigeria plays on the world stage as it endures internal struggles over who will profit from the country’s oil and gas resources.

Student kudos

Laura Klossner, LLM ’09

Ashley Westbrook ’10

Terry Bagia ’08, LLM ’10

4th Department, award ceremony on June 16 in Rochester, N.Y. He was also a presenter at the New York State Bar Association’s seminar “Family Court Practice: Custody, Child Protective Proceedings and Ethics” in Buffalo and was a speaker at the New York State Parent Education and Awareness Program in Buffalo. Colaiacovo is a partner with Bouvier Partnership in Buffalo and lives in Kenmore, N.Y.

Devin Palmer ’01 has been named an Up and Coming Attorney by The Daily Record. He is an associate with Boylan Brown in Rochester, N.Y., where he resides. Palmer handles cases involving bankruptcy, collections and litigation and is chair of the firm’s collections department.

Seth K. Smith ’01, a senior associate in the Buffalo office of Nixon Peabody LLP, was elected vice president of the Minority Bar Association of Western New York. He also served as chair of the MBA’s Judicial Rating and Dinner Committees. Smith was appointed by the Fourth Department to a three-year term on the Attorney Grievance Committee. He resides in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Tara R. Johnson ’02 of Webster, N.Y., was listed as an Up and Coming Attorney by The Daily Record. She is legal counsel for Excellus Health Plan. She is a resident of Alexandria, Va.

Kimberly A. Stock ’02 was promoted to counsel in the consumer and legislation branch of the legal division of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. in Washington, D.C. She is a resident of Alexandria, Va.

Joseph M. Hobaica ’03 has opened 123 Credit Restoration, a credit repair/rapid rescore business with offices in Clinton, N.Y., and Florida. The Web site is www.123creditrstoration.com. Hobaica is a resident of Utica, N.Y.
Hon. Jack Quinn III ’03 was elected to the board of directors of the UB Law Alumni Association. Quinn is a New York State assemblyman for the 146th District. He lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Adam Rizzo ’03 is chief executive officer of Solar Liberty in Williamsville, N.Y., one of the premier integrators and installers of renewable energy technologies in North America. The New York Power Authority has chosen Solar Liberty to install a solar project at UB, which will be the largest solar installation at any college or university in New York State and one of the largest on any campus in the country. Rizzo is a resident of Williamsville.

Tracey B. Ehlers ’04 of Williamsville, N.Y., has been elected to the United Way Emerging Leaders Society Advisory Council. Ehlers is an associate with Nixon Peabody in the Buffalo office, dealing with matters involving products liability and toxic tort cases.

Josephine S. Noble ’04 has become associated with Ogletree Deakins in the Cleveland office. She practices in labor and employment, class action defense and litigation. Noble lives in South Euclid, Ohio.

Tiffany M. Sorgen ’04 has started her own practice in Canandaigua, N.Y., serving Ontario, Yates, Steuben and Seneca counties. She focuses on family law, criminal defense, real property and estates. Sorgen lives in Rock Stream, N.Y.

Jessica L. Leonard ’05 practices matrimonial and family law with Hoffman Polland & Furman in New York City, where she resides.

Robert C. Whitaker ’05 has joined Hancock & Estabrook in Syracuse, N.Y., specializing in labor and employment law. Before joining the firm, Whitaker served as a defense attorney for the Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corp. He also served as deputy staff judge advocate prosecutor and legal assistance attorney for the 2nd Marine Logistics Group in Iraq and as a legal assistance attorney for the Navy Legal Services office in Jacksonville, Fla. Whitaker lives in Camillus, N.Y.

Julie R. Bielecki ’06 of Victor, N.Y., received the President’s Award from the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. She is an associate with Harris Beach in the Pittsford, N.Y., office.

Katherine E. Courtney ’06 received the Doris S. Hoffman Outstanding New Lawyer Award from the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York at the association’s convention on June 5 in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. She also received the President’s Award from the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. Courtney is the staff attorney for the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y.

Alicia R. Sim ’07 has become assistant corporation counsel of the City of Chicago Department of Law. She practices in the revenue litigation division and is a Chicago resident.

Jennifer P. Stergion ’07 has started her own practice in Buffalo, where she resides. She received the 2009 New York State Bar Association President’s Pro Bono Service Award and was also awarded the Erie County Bar Association’s 2008 Volunteer Lawyers Project Pro Bono Attorney of the Morning Award.

Adrian T. Dayton ’08 is developing quite a following on Twitter and has about 26,000 followers on http://twitter.com/adriandayton. His Web site is http://adriandayton.com. Dayton has formed Conrad Esq. to aid firms in marketing with a focus on social media strategy. He previously practiced with Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel in the Buffalo office and has written two books, The Year of 12 Virtues: Old World Virtues to Save the Modern World, to be published in March 2010, and Associate to Rainmaker: How New Technology is Leveling the Playing Field for Lawyers, to be published Sept. 15. Dayton is a resident of Amherst, N.Y.

Liam A. Dwyer ’08 is an assistant district attorney for the Erie County district attorney’s office in Buffalo. Dwyer works in the Buffalo City Court bureau and previously interned with the Office of the New York State attorney general and the U.S. attorney’s office.