H. Carl Mccall Pays A Visit: SUNY's Head Trustee Gets Law School Grand Tour

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New York State’s public law school entertained a visitor with deep roots in public service to the state – and by all reports, he liked what he saw.

H. Carl McCall, the former state comptroller, current member of the state’s fiscal control board for the City of Buffalo and chairman of the State University of New York Board of Trustees, toured SUNY Buffalo Law School on May 2. He met with Dean Makau W. Mutua, who spoke at length to him about significant recent developments that have moved the school toward academic excellence. These include a large cohort of excellent faculty hires, the rising caliber of incoming classes of students, the school’s increased support for faculty scholarship at the highest level, and successful efforts aimed at fundraising and mobilizing the school’s 10,000 alumni across the nation and worldwide.

The dean also laid out for McCall some of the challenges facing law schools generally, and detailed a program, Panel on Legal Education Excellence, that brought four nationally recognized experts to UB on May 8 and 9. They met with key stakeholders to assess the school’s status and recommend how best it can move forward.

McCall’s visit also included a tour of the Law School’s newly renovated facility in John Lord O’Brian Hall, with improvements including a new student lounge, a revamped and more welcoming first floor, and improved teaching technology in classrooms. He also spoke with a number of students as they came near to semester-ending examinations, and interacted with senior Law School administrators and staff.

As chairman of the SUNY Board of Trustees, McCall leads an 18-member governing body for the 64-campus system, the nation’s largest public higher education system. He was appointed to that post by New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo.