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U.S. Sen. Gillibrand Keynotes 122nd Commencement

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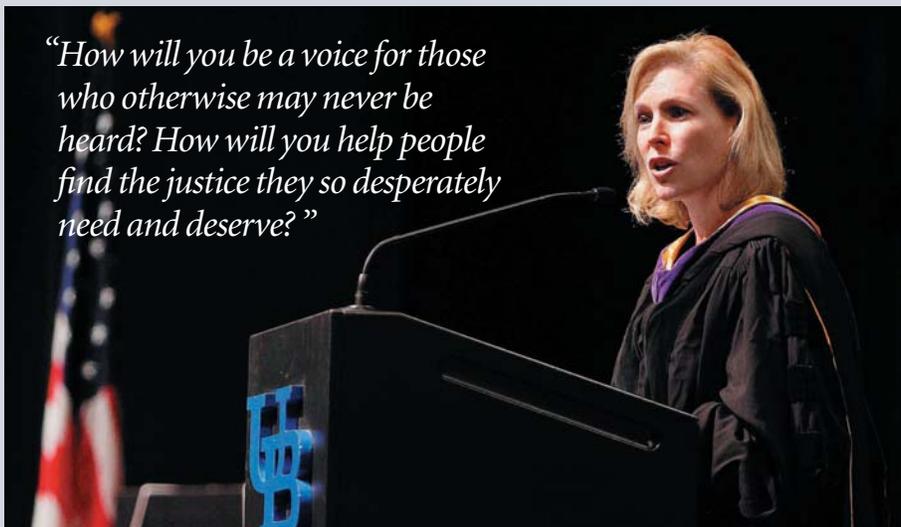
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122nd COMMENCEMENT



“How will you be a voice for those who otherwise may never be heard? How will you help people find the justice they so desperately need and deserve?”

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand addresses the Class of 2011

Sen. Gillibrand highlights UB Law’s 122nd Commencement

In the midst of a changing legal landscape, speakers at UB Law School’s 122nd Commencement exercises emphasized the core values of the legal profession and challenged the graduates to use their skills not just to do well, but to do good.

Held May 21 in the Center for the Arts, the Commencement ceremony featured as its keynote speaker U.S. Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Democrat of New York. The ceremony was the academic endpoint for 260 graduates who received Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees.

“The law is both a shield and a weapon,” Dean Makau W. Mutua said in welcoming the graduates. “You can use the law to attack, or you can use the law to defend. You must always strive to use it for the cause of justice. Go forth and conquer the world, but conquer the world for the common good.”

Satish K. Tripathi, the University at Buffalo’s newly named president, noted, “In a world that is always changing and never predictable, our Law School provides the tools, skills and innova-



Timothy C. Hannigan '11 presents the student address

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SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kenneth F. Joyce, left, presents the Ken Joyce Award for Teaching Excellence to Hon. Kevin M. Dillon '76



At left, Dean Makau W. Mutua and Pamela D. Heilman '75

Far left, Margaret W. Wong '76, right, and daughter Allison T. Chan '11

Left, Jennifer Early '11 with her grandmother Celina Marquez

LAW SCHOOL REPORT

“The law is both a shield and a weapon. You can use the law to attack, or you can use the law to defend. You must always strive to use it for the cause of justice. Go forth and conquer the world, but conquer the world for the common good.”

— Dean Makau W. Mutua

Left to right, Hassan Shibly '11, Professor Sawsan Tabbaa and Dean Makau W. Mutua



Alumni Association, Timothy C. Hannigan '11 gave the student address. “We gather here to embrace our entry into a vocation that serves as a vanguard to the intrinsically American ideal of equal justice under the law,” Hannigan said. “It’s not the job of the lawyer to represent someone who’s unable to represent themselves, it is the privilege of the lawyer to do that. As lawyers from the University of Buffalo, we must incorporate honesty and integrity into our own practice of law and be forthright and fair with our adversaries. By doing this, we will make our families, our school and our profession as proud of us tomorrow as they are today.”

Sen. Gillibrand, whose own law degree is from the UCLA School of Law, clerked for the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, then worked as an attorney in New York City for more than a decade. She served as special counsel to the secretary of housing and urban development in the Clinton administration – Andrew Cuomo, now New York State governor. She then worked as an attorney in upstate New York before her election to Con-

Nicole D. Harris '11 with family and friends.



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tive ideas to keep pace with every unexpected new challenge and each unforeseen new opportunity. As students in UB’s Law School, you have played an active part in this process. Now, as alumni, it will be up to you to determine how you will use your UB education to continue to change the world for the better.”

After greetings from Laurie S. Bloom '83, president of the UB Law

gress. She became a U.S. senator in January 2009, filling the seat vacated when Hillary Rodham Clinton became secretary of state, and won election to the seat in November 2010.

Gillibrand drew on her own experience of public service to challenge the graduates to serve the public good. “How will you use all the learning and training and the lessons that you’ve learned here at UB Law to make a dif-

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Tiffany M. Lebron '11



Left, Marize Ayob '11 with Professor James A. Gardner



Far left, left to right, Hon. Hugh B. Scott '74, with Jonathan Miles Gresham '11



Middle, Michael J. Tedesco '11

Left, Shayna Hutchins '11

LAW SCHOOL REPORT

“In a world that is always changing and never predictable, our Law School provides the tools, skills and innovative ideas to keep pace with every unexpected new challenge and each unforeseen new opportunity.”

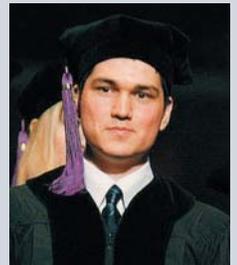
— Satish K. Tripathi, President, University at Buffalo

Reena Garg '11 with her brother.



for your future, that will be your reality. You must seize each and every opportunity that is presented to you in your life, and you must never, ever give up.”

Dean Mutua presented the Dean’s Medal – in recognition of the recipient’s commitment to justice and the rule of law – to Hon. Hugh B. Scott ’74, magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court, Western District of New York. Reflecting on the occasion, Scott said: “I really did receive a first-class legal education here in this school. If I deserve this award at all, so too does this school for giving me a chance to fulfill my dream of making a difference in the struggle for fairness and justice for everyone. The way we visit this world is really influenced by layers of conscience, and it’s a real privilege to be a lawyer. Today you’re going to start down the road in building a great career. Just remember that fairness and justice for others will never be achieved when the world is viewed through a veil of privilege.”



Nicholas J. Taranko '11



Above, left to right, Katherine L. Dibble '11, Melissa L. Overbeck '11 and Emily G. Catalano '11



At right, left to right, John P. Feroletto '82, Kathleen T. Feroletto '11 and Hon. Paula L. Feroletto '82

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ference?” she asked. “How will you be a voice for those who otherwise may never be heard? How will you help people find the justice they so desperately need and deserve? How are you going to harness the spirit to take on the challenges that we face as a country right now? How will you make a difference?”

“And whether it’s through your professional skills in the legal world or the work that you do on your personal time, I hope that each and every one of you today will find a way to engage in public service. Whatever your vision is

Hon. Kevin M. Dillon '76, a justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial District, received the Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award. Members of UB Law School’s Class of 1961, many of whom were in attendance as part of marking the 50th anniversary of their own Commencement, were recognized as well.



Kathleen A. Ellis
'11



At left, Joseph M. Hanna '05 and University President Satish K. Tripathi

Far left, Dean Makau W. Mutua places the Dean's Medal around the neck of Hon. Hugh B. Scott '74



Far left, left to right, members of the Class of 1961, Stephen E. Cavanaugh, Marie Volland Anderson and Hon. H. Kenneth Schroeder

Left, Professor Charles Patrick Ewing