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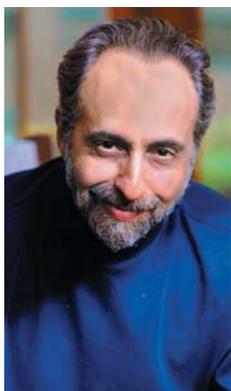
# Top honors

## *UB Law faculty members Binder and Gardner named SUNY Distinguished Professors*

**T**wo key professors at the University at Buffalo Law School have been elevated to the rank of Distinguished Professor by the State University of New York board of trustees. Professors Guyora Binder and James A. Gardner were among 25 SUNY faculty members given the title, the highest honor that SUNY confers upon its teaching faculty. A total of five were from the University at Buffalo.

“It is with great pride that we recognize the brilliant scholars and teachers whose service merits one of the SUNY distinguished ranks,” said board Chairman Carl T. Hayden. “The board joins with the recipients’ families and campuses in celebrating their academic, service, research and teaching accomplishments.”

The rank is conferred upon individuals who have achieved national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation in their academic field. This distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the fine and performing arts. The candidate’s work must be of such character that his presence will elevate the standards of scholarship of colleagues both within and beyond the individual’s academic field. Appointment is a promotion to SUNY’s highest academic rank.



**Guyora Binder**  
A.B., Princeton  
University, 1977  
J.D., Yale Law School, 1980

An expert in criminal law and in the interdisciplinary field of law and literature, Guyora Binder is one of the nation’s leading legal theorists. He has been recognized as one of the “50 Most Prolific Law Professors” for his consistent publication of substantial articles in leading

law journals. His book *Felony Murder* (Stanford University Press) is forthcoming this year and another book, *Criminal Law: A Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press), is due out next year. His book *Literary Criticisms of Law* (Princeton University Press, 2000), praised by the *London Times* as “immensely learned,” is considered a definitive treatment of literary methods in legal scholarship. A graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School, he joined the UB Law School faculty in 1982. He has led faculty recruiting efforts at the Law School for many years, and currently serves as chair of the President’s Review Board.



**James A. Gardner**  
B.A., Yale University, 1980  
J.D., University of  
Chicago, 1984

Jim Gardner balances teaching, administrative work and scholarship at a dizzying pace. A pioneer in the study of state constitutional law, he too is known for producing a great volume of scholarly work, having published 13 articles in the top 25 most-cited law reviews.

Gardner’s works have been cited over 1,000 times. He is a frequent commentator in both state and national media on constitutionalism and elections law and has been voted the best teacher in the Law School. A graduate of Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School, and a former Department of Justice civil attorney, Gardner joined the UB Law faculty in 2001 and currently serves in the demanding role of vice dean for academic affairs. His most recent books include *What Are Campaigns For? The Role of Persuasion in Electoral Law Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2009) and, with a co-author, *New Frontiers of State Constitutional Law: Dual Enforcement of Norms* (Oxford University Press, 2010). He also directs the Law School’s Edwin F. Jaekle Center for State and Local Democracy.