Class of 2019 Begins to Bond

UB Law Forum
Class of 2019 begins to bond

They came as individuals, 141 separate stories all leading to Buffalo. When they leave, they’ll have a singular identity: UB School of Law’s Class of 2019.

How do they get there?

It starts on Day One. Between formal orientation activities and a Student Bar Association blitz of social events, new 1Ls begin to see themselves as part of a proud and talented class. “I saw a lot of smiles, a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of aspiration,” says Lillie Wiley-Upshaw, vice dean for admissions and student life, who coordinates orientation. “They were signing up for tons of things, so I see them as a very active class.”

Besides the nuts and bolts — details of the curriculum, a Q&A with professors, tips on networking and succeeding in law school — the orientation included an experiential session led by Wiley on discovering unconscious biases. “The idea was for them to approach this new experience with their eyes wide open and to give each other a chance,” she says.

Student Bar Association President Nicholas D’Angelo ’17 said SBA invited the new students to go bowling, to an after-party following the “Running With the BU1LS” race in Delaware Park, to a hike at Devil’s Hole State Park in Niagara Falls, and to a blowout gathering at RiverWorks downtown. There they played cornhole, KanJam, ladderball, giant pong, horseshoes and pickleball. They ate and drank.

They were also entertained by the Law Alumni Association board, and were exhorted by Vice Dean Ilene Fleischmann to “feel the love of the law alumni.”

And the Class of 2019 is born.

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Entering class profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matriculates</th>
<th>Median LSAT</th>
<th>Median GPA</th>
<th>Males</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>141</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>3.42</td>
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</table>
52% Females  
20–51 Age Range  
25 Average Age  
35% Age 25+  
10% Advanced Degrees  
18% Ethnic Diversity  
8% Out of State/International