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LAW REVIEW DINNER

The Review in review

23rd annual dinner marks a successful year for journal

In good company and in the august confines of the Buffalo Club, the members of the Law School's premier student-run legal journal gathered to celebrate a successful year of publication and scholarship, and to honor two of SUNY Buffalo Law's most accomplished alumni.

The April 17 *Buffalo Law Review* Dinner drew about 150 people and marked the end of a five-issue publication year for the journal. "We have

had an incredible year of hard work," said Jonathan P. Cantil '12, managing editor.

The *Law Review's* outgoing editor in chief, Cristin L. Murray '12, cited several highlights of the year, including an April issue that reprinted U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson's 1946 address at the then-University of Buffalo, summarizing his experience as chief U.S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials following World War II.

For the year, Murray said, "Our goal was to carry on the tradition of quality and excellence that our alumni set for us, and our entire staff has much to be proud of in living up to those high standards. Our articles team gave priority to high-quality pieces, striving to maintain our position as a generalist journal. The quality of our issues is a testament to the strength of our publications team."

Law Review editors chose to honor two alumni for their contributions to the legal profession and the Law School: Jean C. Powers '79 and David E. Franasiak '78.

Powers, who practices real estate law with the Buffalo-based firm Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel LLP, told how she ended up studying law in the first place, saying her only



David E. Franasiak '78 makes a point at the podium.



Jean C. Powers '79, right, with students Erin Kulesus '13, center, and Angelyn Delgato '12, left



David E. Franasiak '78, Dean Mutua and Jean C. Powers '79



Left, the *Law Review's* outgoing editor in chief, Cristin L. Murray '12

Far left, Jonathan P. Cantil '12, managing editor

inkling of what lawyers did came from watching Perry Mason on television, and even as an undergraduate she knew that was far from realistic. So she majored in English, became a teacher, married and had a child – and then, when her husband was transferred from New York City to Buffalo, decided to take the plunge into law school.

“Before I finished unpacking our boxes, I registered for the LSAT,” Powers said. “I applied to exactly one law school – UB – and I was very, very fortunate, because I was accepted. They sent the letter out on a Friday, it arrived on Saturday, and I’m not exaggerating to say that at 9 o’clock Monday morning I was at the registrar’s office with my deposit check.

“One of my favorite parts of law school was the *Law Review*,” Powers said. “My daughter loved to accompany me to the *Law Review* offices as well as to the library. She even attended two classes when her babysitter wasn’t available. She was probably the only 4-year-old who knew how to Shepardize a case.”

Powers also took the opportunity to encourage the students and alumni to help build a stronger Law School, such as by mentoring students, judging moot court competitions and volunteering with the SUNY Buffalo Law Alumni Association or administrative committees. And she pointed to the continuing need for alumni contributions, noting, “When I was in Law School, our school got 90 percent of its funding from New York State. Now it’s closer to 30 percent. That means that we all have to help our Law School all the more.”

In accepting his award, Franasiak noted that he never served on the *Law Review*, and indeed never intended to work in a law firm. With a back-



ground in history, economics and business, he said, “I always wanted to go to Law School to think like a lawyer. That was the real key.

“The law is an extraordinarily important part of the United States,” said Franasiak, a principal with the Washington, D.C., firm Williams & Jensen, “and the fact that you’re on *Law Review* and just starting your careers, you have a wonderful career ahead of you. For one thing, the financial meltdown has spawned a lot of statutes and a lot of regulations that someone is going to have to interpret and someone is going to have to implement.”

Furthering his career advice, Franasiak said, “There’s more than just law. There are interests with other interests that can open up new opportunities for you. You’ve got to really do what you love. If you don’t do what you love, you’re not going to be very good at it. But if you do, you will end up being so invested in your work that you don’t even realize it’s work –

it’s going to be fun.”

Also honored at the dinner were the four *Law Review* associates whose articles will be published in the coming year of the journal: Kenneth L. Bostick, for a piece about cloud computing; Stewart E. Forbes, on stateless asylum seekers in the United States; Eric T. Glynn, on the credit industry and identity theft; and Joshua M. Talent, on hydraulic fracturing.

The Justice Philip Halpern Award, presented to a senior for excellence in writing on the *Law Review*, went to Nicole J. Ettlinger '12 for an article titled “You Have the Right to Remain 13.” And the Carlos C. Alden Award, presented to the senior making the greatest contribution to the *Law Review*, went to Cristin L. Murray '12 for her tireless work as editor in chief.

Caitlin M. Higgins '13 is the incoming editor of the *Law Review*.

From left to right: Kinsey Davidson '13, Andrew R. Borelli '13, Caitlin M. Higgins '13, Karen M. Oddo '12, Jennifer L. Karnes '12, Jennifer Yates '13, Amanda E. Dermady '13, Reg J. Miller '13