

UB Law Forum

Volume 19
Number 1 *Fall 2006*

Article 4

10-1-2006

Message from the Dean

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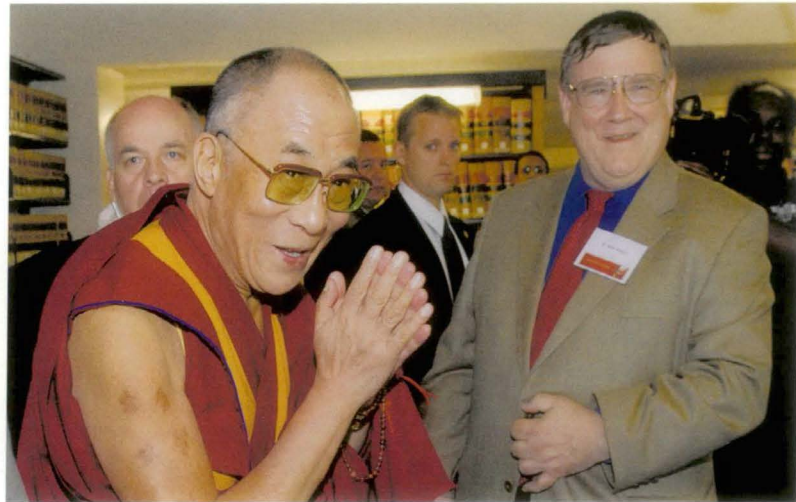
Recommended Citation

Olsen, R. Nils (2006) "Message from the Dean," *UB Law Forum*: Vol. 19 : No. 1 , Article 4.

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Another great year

Our cover story in this issue of the UB Law Forum throws a spotlight on our New York City program in International Finance and Law, which I believe will have a tremendous positive impact on the future of UB Law School. This innovative program is a twelve-week course of study conducted in New York City exclusively for UB law and management students, taught by UB professors, professors from other leading universities and alumni from major firms and corporations. Building on the close collaboration of faculty members Phil Halpern, Bert and Amy Westbrook, Jack Schlegel, Tom Headrick and Tom Disare with many of our most outstanding alumni, the program is a partnership with the School of Management and SUNY's Neil D. Levin Graduate Institute of International Relations and Commerce. Our law students can now experience a hands-on education in finance and law that is quite unique. I can't overstate the multiple benefits of having such a strong presence in New York City. We can attract our best students, provide the high-level job opportunities for our graduates and enhance our growing national reputation.

In September, we were honored to have the 14th Dalai Lama as a guest in our Law School library one day after his lecture to 30,000 at UB's football stadium. His Holiness had a 90-minute conversation with 15 selected legal scholars and delivered a message of the centrality of compassion not only for our

legal systems but also for society at large. If you would like to hear his words, visit our Web site, where a video can be played. We are indebted to Professor Rebecca French for spearheading this very special event as part of our growing religion and the law program.

Our ongoing effort to revitalize O'Brien Hall continues. In addition to the major classroom refurbishment and construction of the first-floor working courtroom, we have now created on the fifth floor two beautifully furnished suites of rooms: one, a major conference area and a smaller seminar area; the other, a new faculty lounge adjacent to a faculty reading room. I think it is the best-equipped and most useful conference facility in the University. The \$1 million-plus renovation project was made possible with the assistance of the interdisciplinary Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.

In the Giving section, you will read about the continuing success of our Annual Fund. We are especially proud of our 25.8 percent participation rate which ranks 7th highest of 74 public law schools. Our thanks go to fund chair Pamela Heilman and our terrific development staff.

All my best for a great year in 2007.