

Thursday, June 30, 2005

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Kudos

Maria Runfola, associate professor, Department of Learning and Instruction, Graduate School of Education, received a special award from the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Erie County Council of Music Coordinators during a recent BPO Classics Concert in Kleinhans Music Hall.

Undergraduates in the Department of Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences, presented **Claude E. Welch Jr.**, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in the department, with the Lisa Hertel Award. The Hertel award, named in honor of a young woman who was killed in a traffic accident a few weeks after graduating from UB with a major in political science, is given to the faculty member who, in the judgment of the students, is the finest teacher in the department.

Ilene R. Fleischmann, associate dean in the Law School, was presented with a Women in the Law Award from the Eighth Judicial District of the State of New York United Court System. Hon. Sharon S. Townsend, chief administrative judge of the Eighth Judicial District, presented the award at the fourth annual Celebration of Women in the Law luncheon, held last month in the Adam's Mark Hotel. Fleischmann was recognized for her "pioneering achievements, outstanding leadership, dedicated commitment and service, which have significantly impacted the legal profession, women in the law and the Western New York community."

Russ Miller, director of the Center for Computational Research and UB Distinguished Professor, has been inducted into the adult division of the Town of Amherst's Avenue of Athletes, which honors adults who have made outstanding contributions to athletics in the town. Miller has managed Little League baseball teams in Lou Gehrig Youth Baseball and Softball and Mathewson McCarthy Babe Ruth Baseball. While he was president of Amherst Youth Basketball, Miller oversaw a dramatic increase in participation in the league, from 350 to nearly 1,000 boys and girls in grades 4-12. He also has coached teams that travel nationally.

Thirty-six Western New York business owners, operators and high-level managers have graduated from the **Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (CEL)** Core Program in the School of Management. The graduates completed a 10-month program for experienced entrepreneurs and business leaders who wish to grow, refocus or better manage their businesses. They performed an in-depth analysis of their own businesses while developing expertise in such key areas as strategic planning, employee relations, capital acquisition and marketing. "The Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership provides a crucial link between these businesses and the School of Management. The relationship building and sharing of expertise that takes place in the core program are invaluable to both the school and participants," said Althea Luehrsen, executive director of the CEL. Luehrsen added that the center's alumni network is now nearly 550 strong, and estimated that CEL alumni employ more than 15,000 Western New Yorkers and are worth more than \$2 billion to the local economy.

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