



MEET SEBASTIANO ANDREAMA
New dental implant center lures
researcher back to UB faculty



FEELING LOVED
TV shows can foster
feelings of belonging



KENYAH PM TO SPEAK
Odinga to deliver remarks
at law commencement

UB REPORTER

Need-to-know news and views
for UB faculty and staff

UB University at Buffalo The State University of New York

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USA Today academic all-star

BY PATRICIA DONOVAN

UB senior Aaron Krolkowski has been named to the *USA Today* All-USA College Academic Team First Team, an award honoring students for their outstanding accomplishments as undergraduates.

The national newspaper announced its annual list of academic stars in yesterday's edition.

Krolkowski is one of 20 students nationwide chosen for the first team, a selection based on grades, academic rigor, leadership, activities and an essay written by the nominee describing his or her most outstanding intellectual endeavor as a college undergraduate. Krolkowski wrote about his efforts to establish a village irrigation program in northwest Tanzania as part of a project he did for the UB Honors College.

Krolkowski and the other members of *USA Today's* first team will

receive trophies and a cash award of \$2,500. Forty runners-up were named to the second and third teams.

Krolkowski is the second UB student to be named to the newspaper's first team—Daphne Basscom, B.A. '88, was the first.

He will graduate Phi Beta Kappa from UB next month with a degree in political science and interdisciplinary social sciences concentrated in environmental studies.

In the fall, he will attend Oxford University, which has awarded him a prestigious four-year postgraduate Clarendon Scholarship to pursue a doctor of philosophy degree in development studies, an interdisciplinary program that draws from the fields of economics, anthropology and political science and policy.

Although a UB Honors College scholarship covered his tuition, Krolkowski, like many UB students, supported himself financially

through his undergraduate years.

To pay for his housing and food, he worked for three years as a resident assistant and a community assistant, and also as a student as-

"I was able to support myself and do work that I loved, but one of the reasons I'm extremely excited about Oxford is that I won't have to work outside of school. I'll be able to focus exclusively on my education."

Aaron Krolkowski

stant in the Office of Admissions. He was a paid employee of the UB Regional Institute and interned with the Environmental Protection Bureau of the New York State Attorney General's Office.

He says that when he completes school, he wants to return to Western New York to help develop innovative policies that can reform

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PHOTO: BRUCE LUTHE

Commencement marks final note of UB careers

BY SUE WUETCHER

Some 5,300 students are candidates to receive degrees during UB's 163rd general commencement and 13 other commencement ceremonies, beginning tomorrow through May 23.

President John B. Simpson will speak at the general commencement ceremony, to be held at 10 a.m. May 10 in Alumni Arena, North Campus. Student speaker will be graduating senior Geoffrey E. Millard.

The 1958 football team will receive the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal, UB's highest honor. The award will be presented to team member Willie Evans by UB Council Chair Jeremy M. Jacobs.

Carl T. Hayden, chair of the SUNY Board of Trustees, and Simpson will present SUNY honorary degrees to Nobel Laureate Herbert A. Hauptman and comedy writer Alan M. Zweibel, B.A. '72.

Simpson, Provost Satish K. Tripathi and Bruce McCombe, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will confer bachelor's and associate degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences.

The 2009 commencement season will kick off tomorrow with the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' ceremony, to be held at 2 p.m. in the Center for the Arts, North Campus. Daniel Levy, director of the Framingham Heart Study and director of the Center for Population Studies at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, will speak. Simpson will confer degrees.

Continued on Page 4

ONLINE

For the names of students being recognized during the general commencement ceremony, go to www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/commencement.

UB breaks ground for engineering building

BY ELLEN GOLDBAUM

UB reached a major milestone in its UB 2020 strategic plan on Friday, breaking ground for a new \$61 million state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory building for the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the North Campus.

Designed by renowned architects Perkins + Will, the 130,000-square-foot structure will increase UB Engineering's facility space by nearly one-third, accommodating significant new growth in the engineering school's student enrollments, faculty hires and research expenditures.

Funding for the building was secured through a public-private partnership between New York State and private donors. The state provided \$49.6 million from previous budget cycles to the project, and UB Engineering is raising additional funds from private donors.

"I want to thank our leaders in state government and our generous donors for their leadership and foresight in supporting our vision for the university, its engineering school and the community at large," said President John B.

key roles in advancing two research strengths identified in UB 2020: information and computing technology, and integrated nanostructured systems.

UB researchers working in these areas will focus on such funda-



PHOTO: BART J. PAULI

Simpson. "This new building will boast facilities not previously available to UB researchers, students or industry partners. Researchers within this building will produce technological advances and engineering breakthroughs that will generate new opportunities for local companies, spin off new businesses and help create high-paying, high-skilled jobs critical to our region."

The new engineering building will be home to the departments of Computer Science and Engineering and Electrical Engineering, modernizing their programs and facilities. Both departments play

mental and applied technologies as creation of innovative sources of power for electric vehicles and devices that store energy produced by alternative energy sources like solar and wind. They will collaborate with industry partners to create new devices to personalize the delivery of medicine or protect society from bioterrorism.

"This major step forward for UB's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences is testimony to the dramatic growth in the productivity of our faculty and the significant increases we are seeing in the numbers of superior students who

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JOIN THE CONVERSATION: Members of the UB community now can post comments to the *UB Reporter* online at <http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter>. Use the "Post a comment" at the end of each story or feature. Submissions will be posted following a brief editorial review.

PROFILE: SEBASTIANO ANDREANA

Implant center, love of Buffalo lure dentist back to UB

BY ANN WHITCHER-GENTZKE

To hear Sebastiano Andreana talk about cooking, culture and why he loves Buffalo, you might forget for the moment that he's an accomplished researcher with a hectic schedule and a long list of responsibilities.

Andreana was a member of the UB dental faculty for more than a decade before moving to New Jersey in July 2005 to join Pfizer Consumer Healthcare (later Johnson & Johnson) and then to California to become a professor of periodontics at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. In December 2008, Andreana and his wife, Carla Beneduce, B.A. '02, both natives of Rome, Italy, returned to Buffalo and UB. The reasons were twofold: He relished the opportunity to direct a new Center in Dental Implants, while also serving as associate professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry in the dental school. The couple also wanted to return to a city they'd grown to love for its warmth, livability and four seasons.

Implant dentistry, Andreana explains, "is a successful clinical approach to replace missing teeth. Nowadays, it is an excellent treatment option for dental patients who want to restore their oral functions." Through surgical interventions, trained clinicians insert a titanium fixture or screw, which resembles the tooth root, into

the bone. After a certain time, the bone and the titanium become one apparatus. At a later stage, an artificial tooth, or crown, is placed on top of the titanium screw to complete the process.

Boding well for UB's future in dental implantology, Andreana says, are results of a retrospective study he co-authored with Beneduce, clinical instructor of restorative dentistry, and Robert Buhite, UB clinical associate professor of restorative dentistry, of all dental implants done at the UB dental school between 1997 and 2004. Of those implants, 97.5 percent were successful, Andreana reports of the study published recently in the *New York State Dental Journal*. "This is excellent! It's even better when you consider that the majority of these patients had some medical issues and were of a more mature age."

Andreana hopes to build on this promising foundation to create at UB the more coordinated and centralized approach that is part of leading implantology programs at other universities. The new center will emphasize hands-on training in implantology for dental students and other professionals in the field. Besides strengthening the collaboration with other departments within the dental school, he also will seek support from industry in the form of partnerships.

Away from the lab and classroom, Andreana enjoys several hob-

bies, especially cooking. His description of how he prepares Italian gourmet dishes is mouth-watering, as is his account of why he chooses to cook with local, fresh ingredients and avoid prepared food. "My wife and I grew up with the idea that fresh ingredients are the secret for a healthy and tasty dish, and so we start from scratch," he says. "Prepared food is just not how we were brought up in Italy."

Andreana and his wife also are keenly interested in Native-American cultures, and blend this interest with oral care education initiatives for Native Americans, in particular children, both in Western New York and when they were in California.

Proud of his heritage, Andreana is active in Buffalo's Dante Alighieri Italian Cultural Club. But he also likes to share food and experiences with those from other cultural backgrounds. During his previous UB tenure, he organized several international nights for the dental school's own polyglot community, an activity he plans to resume—supported by the school's administration. This involvement in cultural sharing affords simple pleasure—"I truly enjoy it," he says. But it also springs from his curiosity about other people and their way of life.

"Sometimes we have a different perception of people because we

Smart Car gets a lesson from MBAs

BY JACQUELINE GHOSSEN

David Schembri, president and CEO of Smart USA, joined about 20 Smart Car owners at UB on Monday to hear some creative strategies from UB MBA students for marketing the Smart Car.

Several other executives from Smart USA, faculty, staff and MBA students also were at the event, which was hosted by the School of Management and Smart USA as the culmination of a semester-long project for the school's MBA marketing management course.

At the beginning of the semester, Arun Jain, Samuel P. Capen Professor of Marketing Research, charged 18 teams of first-year MBAs with developing a hypothetical marketing plan for the U.S. launch of the Smart Car.

To prepare them for their research, Jain hosted a Smart Car visit in January where students test drove the Smart Car on the North Campus and learned about its creative customization options, outstanding safety rat-

ings and other features that differentiate it from other vehicles.

Smart Car representatives were impressed with the initiative and Schembri offered to

Smart Car owners parked their micro-compact vehicles in a row and joined MBA students and Smart Car executives in creating a "smart art" poster with painted

from Smart Car owners and executives alike.

"I was impressed with the caliber of students and their presentations," said Smart Car owner Alice Spies.

"They were just amazing," added Brooke Arber, brand manager of Smart Center Buffalo, who was instrumental in making the Smart Car collaboration with the School of Management a success.

The highlight of the evening was a talk by Schembri, who shared with the audience how Smart Car came to the U.S. and why it has been so wildly successful. He also lauded the student presentations, saying that Smart Car came to many of the same conclusions in its real plan.

"Your analysis was well thought out, well presented and you really captured the essence of our brand," Schembri told the student teams. "And your recommendations were spot on."

He also said the teams had a few ideas that Smart Car might use down the road.



Some of the MBA students who presented a marketing plan to Smart Car executives on Monday pose with one of the cars. Twenty Smart Car owners joined company executives and School of Management faculty, staff and students for dinner and the marketing plan presentations.

visit at the end of the semester, combining the MBA event with the company's annual celebration for Smart Car owners.

Monday's activities began with a rally in a UB parking lot where

handprints to honor the collaboration to a "lend a hand" theme.

After a buffet dinner, two of the MBA teams presented their marketing proposals to the guests, getting favorable reviews

WORKING @ UB

Lunchtime runs, w/ good health for UB

BY KEVIN FRYLING

For some at UB, lunchtime is a chance to co-workers, step out for a bite to eat or run errands. All too often, it also can be a me over a keyboard—playing catch up in ant of the afternoon rush.

But for those who've discovered the energy boost provided by physical activity, lunchtime is an opportunity to pair up with a friend for a stroll through the halls, a brisk walk outdoors—or even a spirited run across campus. UB walkers and runners include everyone from staffers in Crofts and Capen halls to librarians in Lockwood Library to faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).

"We walk together every day. In rain, sunshine, cold, whatever," says Serafino Porcari of Central Technical Services, Univ Libraries, one of many walkers on campus has paired up with the same office mate, Neumeister, for walks since the 1980s. "I've we both derived some great health benefits from it," he adds.

Although she first came up with the idea, Peter jokes that Porcari over the years has become even more enthusiastic walker than her.

"If he's not here, I don't walk," she laughs. In fact, one of the most popular reasons to v pairs or small groups is motivation.

"You're not as likely to say, 'Oh, I don't feel it' when you know someone else is depend you to go," says Susan Davis, who walks w worker Daisy Waters. Both women, also of Technical Services, prefer the indoor track i Arena, but venture outside in the fall and s

Also fans of the track are Jeffery Sherven,



Carol Wick walks east.

Continued from Page 1

Krolikowski

the Great Lakes economies by drawing on the strengths of the region, adding he thinks it is possible to improve the lives of millions by focusing on environmentally sustainable solutions to the challenges we face in this region.

"I often tell people that UB was my lecture hall, and the entire region was my campus. Of course, my family raised me in such a way that I would aim for excellence, but it was UB that cultivated that foundation. Pretty much everything I've done was facilitated in some way by UB."

A 2008 Morris K. Udall scholar,

Krolikowski recently received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. He was a finalist for both a 2009 Rhodes Scholarship and a 2009 Marshall Scholarship, and was an award-winning arranger with the Buffalo Chips, UB's male a cappella vocal ensemble, with which he sings.

"The recognition from *USA Today* is different from the other awards," Krolikowski says, "primarily because, while I am representing UB and SUNY, I am also representing top-performing students from around the country."

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Feeling the love from TV

BY PATRICIA DONOVAN

Not all technology meets human needs, and some technologies provide only the illusion of having met your needs.

But new research by psychologists at UB and Miami University in Ohio indicates that illusionary relationships with the characters on favorite TV shows can provide people with feelings of belonging, even in the face of low self-esteem or after being rejected by friends or family members.

The findings are described in four studies published in the current issue of the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*.

"The research provides evidence for the 'social surrogacy hypothesis,' which holds that humans can use technologies, like television, to provide the experience of belonging when no real belongingness has been experienced," says one of the study's authors, Shira Gabriel, UB assistant professor of psychology.

"We also argue that other commonplace technologies—such as movies, music or interactive video games, as well as television—can fulfill this need."

Gabriel's co-authors are Jaye L.

Derrick, postdoctoral associate and adjunct instructor at UB, and Kurt Hugenberg, assistant professor of psychology at Miami University.

The first study of 701 undergraduates used the Loneliness Activities Scale and the Likelihood of Feeling Lonely Scale to find that subjects reported tuning to favored television programs when they felt lonely and felt less lonely when viewing those programs.

Study 2 used essays to experimentally manipulate the belongingness needs of 102 undergraduate subjects and assess the importance of their favored television programs when those needs were stimulated. Participants whose belongingness needs were aroused revealed longer in their descriptions of favored television programs than in descriptions of non-favored programs, the study found.

Study 3 of 116 participants employed the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule and an eight-item measure of feelings of rejection to find that thinking about favored television programs buffered subjects against drops in self-esteem, increases in negative mood and feelings of rejection commonly

elicited by threats to close relationships.

Study 4 asked 222 participants to write a 10-minute essay about their favorite television program, and then to write about programs they watch "when nothing else is on," or about experiencing an academic achievement. They then were asked to verbally describe what they had written in as much detail as possible.

After writing about favored television programs, the subjects verbally expressed fewer feelings of loneliness or exclusion than when verbally describing either of the two control situations (essays about programs watched when nothing else is on, academic achievement). This is evidence, say the researchers, that illusionary or "parasocial" relationships with television characters or personalities can ease belongingness needs.

It remains an open question, say the researchers, whether social surrogacy suppresses belongingness needs or actually fulfills them, and they acknowledge that the kind of social surrogacy provoked by these programs can be a poor substitution for "real" human-to-human experience.



do not know and/or understand their background," he says. "Say I meet a person from Colombia—what do I know about Colombia? So I would say to him or her, 'tell me about your country.'"

s, walks foster collegiality, or UB faculty and staff

tional support technician in the Printmaking Program and supervisor of the experimental Print Imaging Center (ePIC), Department of Visual Studies, CAS, and Renee Ruffino, creative design director and adjunct professor of communication design, Department of Visual Studies, who've been jogging together since 2001.

"We've met a lot of people over the years," says Ruffino of the time she and Sherven have spent running in Alumni Arena. "There's a nice sort of camaraderie."

In addition to the indoor track, Ruffino and Sherven are a familiar sight on campus, especially during the summer, when their favorite routes—circuits of Lake LaSalle, the Ellicott Complex, stretches of the Amherst bike path north of campus—take them all over the campus. It only takes about 20-30 minutes to cover several miles, Sherven says.

"It's important to have a break in the middle of the day," he adds. "It's easy to get caught up and feel like you're too busy for a run."

Over in Crofts Hall, another group adheres to a similar philosophy. Even with half-hour lunch breaks, Elaine Marks, Rebecca Hemming and Barbara Fecio, all of Procurement Services, make sure to take a short stroll at noon, as well as on their 15-minute breaks in the morning and afternoon.

"Mostly we walk outside," says Marks. "We like the fresh air—and it just feels good to get out of the office."

Carol Wilczak and Mary Janik, staffers in the CAS Dean's Office, agree.

"I miss it when I make other plans," says Wilczak of her and Janik's walking habit. "It's a great way to get some exercise—and some conversation."

Campaign asks faculty, staff to give to UB

BY CYNTHIA MACHAMER

The Office of Annual Programs is reaching out to UB faculty and staff to solicit gifts for the various annual funds of the university.

The Faculty and Staff Campaign, which runs from mid-March through June 30, seeks to raise funds so that UB can offer financial assistance to the most promising undergraduate and graduate students, according to Dawn Baumgarten, director of annual programs. Approximately 60 percent of UB students qualify for need-based aid every year, she says, noting that financial assistance can be the deciding factor in a student's college choice.

The goal of the annual campaign, Baumgarten says, is to raise participation rates. Last year the participation rate was 11 percent. "With our plans to grow through UB 2020, annual gifts from faculty and staff also help UB attract the brightest faculty, who bring the classroom to life for students through their innovative teaching and research," she says, adding that the Annual Fund helps provide for enrichment workshops, special seminars and conferences.

"Faculty and staff may make a gift to any UB school or program of their choice, such as the University Honors College, a student emergency fund or the department from which they graduated or work," Baumgarten points out. "The UB Annual Fund is one option—providing the unrestricted resources necessary to fund innovative programs, address urgent needs and fund a level of excellence not supported through state assistance."

She cites several ways in which faculty and staff may donate:

- Via payroll deduction at <http://giving.buffalo.edu/z/node/424.pdf>.
- Giving online at www.giving.buffalo.edu.
- Mailing in a check, made payable to the UB Foundation Inc., to UB Foundation Inc., P. O. Box 1232, Buffalo, NY 14240-1232. Those giving should specify in the memo portion of the check where they want the gift to go.



WORKING @ UB

If you could work in any other UB job or department for a day, what would it be?

I'd like to be the guy who throws the T-shirts up to the crowd at a football game. That looks like fun. As long as it's only for a day. I doubt it pays very well.

John Crawford, M.S. '94
Director of Development
School of Dental Medicine

This is easy. I'd love to work in the Libraries, browsing, learning and hunting down obscure information.

Ain Whitcher
Senior Editor, UB Today
University Communications

Either a Lockwood or Capen librarian, or a backstage staff assistant at the Center for the Arts. Both jobs have access to the mysterious places where knowledge is housed. Who wouldn't want to have those keys?

Christian Flaugh
Assistant Professor
Romance Languages and Literatures

What would you say?

Want to weigh in on this week's question? We'll publish any responses we receive in next week's issue of the online UB Reporter at <http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/>. Send your responses to ub-word-of-mouth@buffalo.edu.



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Carol Wilczak and Mary Janik
PHOTO: NANCY J. PARELLI

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Tax prep program brings \$640,000 back to WNY

UB accounting students brought nearly \$640,000 in tax refunds back into the Buffalo community through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The UB chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the national honor society for accounting and finance students, led the initiative that provided more than 2,000 hours of tax service, preparing 676 tax returns for individuals and families with annual incomes of less than \$42,000.

"We're especially pleased that more than \$120,400 of the total was a result of the Earned Income Credit, which targets low-income families in need of additional financial support," said Adam Osteryoung, an MBA student in the School of Management and co-chair of Beta Alpha Psi's VITA committee. "It means that we helped a number of families who needed it most."

RIA seminar series continues

The spring seminar series presented by UB's Research Institute on Addictions (RIA) will continue on May 8 with a lecture by University of Kentucky faculty member Linda Dvoskin titled "Drug Discovery for Nicotine Addiction."

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 10 a.m. on the first floor of the RIA building at 1021 Main St. on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

Dvoskin is an endowed professor in pharmaceutical education at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. Her major research focus is the development of novel therapeutic candidates for the treatment of psychostimulant abuse, specifically for nicotine and methamphetamine abuse.

For more information about the seminars, contact RIA at 887-2566.

Media Study to celebrate 35th anniversary

UB's Department of Media Study—considered by many to be the birthplace of modern media study—will mark its 35th anniversary this weekend with a three-day celebration that will include lots of reminiscences, as well as screenings and presentations of departmental work.



The event will begin tomorrow and run through Sunday in 112 Center for the Arts, North Campus.

Among the participants will be pioneering media artists and founding Media Study faculty members Gerald O'Grady, Tony Conrad, Steina, Woody Vasulka and Peter Weibel.

For a full schedule of events, go to <http://mediastudy.buffalo.edu/35th/>.

UB keeping up to date on swine flu outbreak

UB's emergency preparedness team is closely monitoring developments in the rapidly changing swine flu outbreak.

Although there now are no reported cases of swine flu at UB or in Erie County, the team "believes it is prudent for members of the UB community to remain aware of this situation and follow recommendations put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and prevention regarding personal health and travel," says James A. "Beau" Willis, executive vice president for university support services and a member of the emergency preparedness team.

The team will provide updates, as necessary, to the UB community about how the outbreak may affect UB at the university's Emergency Preparedness Web site, <http://www.emergency.buffalo.edu>.

Information about travel advisories, self-monitoring and health precautions also is available at the site.

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Groundbreaking

want to study engineering and computer science at UB," said Harvey G. Stenger Jr., SEAS dean.

"Because we work with nearly 200 Western New York companies each year and a significant number of our graduates embark on engineering careers at companies in our community or elsewhere in the state, the quality of our students has a direct impact on the local and regional workforce and economy," said Stenger.

The building is expected to be completed in 2011. It will feature numerous sustainable building strategies, allowing it to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design gold certification as determined by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The building will include a 5,000-square-foot "clean room" that will allow students and researchers in electrical engineering to create such innovations as powerful solar cells, ultrasensitive biosensors and disease-curing nanoparticles in a germ-free environment. The building also will feature a "cybertorium," or "smart" auditorium, outfitted with the most sophisticated communications devices and smart technologies.



Campus View

Crofts Hall workers taking part in the "eat well, live well challenge" walked from Crofts to Flint Loop and back on Friday to log steps in the contest with Kimball Tower and the Educational Opportunity Center.

PHOTO: MARY J. FAYRE

Continued from Page 1

Commencement

The rest of the commencement schedule:

- o Biomedical Sciences, 6 p.m., May 7, Center for the Arts. The speaker will be Ronald M. Evans, professor of molecular and developmental biology at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. Simpson will confer degrees.

- o Graduate School of Education, 9 a.m., May 8, Center for the Arts. Simpson will confer degrees.

- o College of Arts and Sciences master's and doctoral ceremony, 1 p.m., May 8, Center for the Arts. Simpson will confer degrees.

- o School of Nursing, 9 a.m., May 9, Alumni Arena. Tripathi will confer degrees.

- o School of Social Work, 9 a.m., May 9, Center for the Arts. Family therapist and clinical consultant Bonnie J. Collins will speak. Simpson will confer degrees.

- o School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, 12:30 p.m., May 9, Alumni Arena. Tripathi and Dean Harvey G. Stenger Jr. will speak. Tripathi will confer degrees.

- o School of Public Health and Health Professions, 1 p.m., May 9, Center for the Arts. The speaker will be Robert M. Bennett, outgoing chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents. Robert Genco, vice provost and director of the Office of Science, Technology Transfer and Economic Outreach, will confer degrees.

- o School of Pharmacy and Phar-

- o maceutical Sciences, 1 p.m., May 9, Lippes Concert Hall in Slee Hall, North Campus. John Rodgers, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for Independent Health, will speak. David L. Dunn, vice president for health sciences, will confer degrees.

- o School of Architecture and Planning, 2 p.m., May 9, Hayes Hall lawn, South Campus. The speaker will be James A. "Beau" Willis, executive vice president for university support services. Simpson will confer degrees.

- o School of Management, 5 p.m., May 9, Alumni Arena. Tripathi and Dean Arjang Assad will speak; Tripathi will confer degrees.

- o School of Dental Medicine, 5 p.m., May 9, Center for the Arts. Scot Faulkner, a national consultant on strategic change and leadership, will speak. Dunn will confer degrees.

- o Law School, 3 p.m., May 23, Center for the Arts. The speaker will be Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga of the Republic of Kenya. Simpson will confer degrees.

Kenyan prime minister to speak at Law School commencement

Republic of Kenya Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga will deliver the address at the UB Law School's 120th commencement, to be held at 3 p.m. May 23 in the Center for the Arts, North Campus.

The ceremony also will include conferral of SUNY honorary degrees to Irene Zubaida Khan, secretary general of Amnesty International, and J. Mason Davis Jr., a practicing attorney who played a key role in the desegregation of Alabama in the 1960s.

Odinga's remarks will focus on how the rule of law can create and safeguard human rights for citizens of Kenya and other developing nations in Africa.

A pro-democracy activist, Odinga is "one of Africa's celebrated human rights figures," said Law Dean Makau Mutua, a native of Kenya himself, who, like Odinga, has played a prominent role in the advancement of democracy and human rights in the East African nation.

"Prime Minister Odinga seemed a natural choice as commencement speaker, given our school's tradition in human rights, as well as his life's epic struggle to bring democracy, the rule of law and human rights to Kenya," Mutua said.

