

Legal Upgrade

STEVE SARTORI

SU's College of Law enters its second century in expansive fashion.

hil Burns spent part of his final semester of law school surrounded by teen-agers. He and three other third-year students from Syracuse University's College of Law visited near-by Fabius-Pompey High School once a week as part of SU's Street Law Program, in which college students become teachers.

"We covered criminal law, civil law, and fundamental rights such as the First

students as they did from me," says Burns, who graduated in May. "Someday, I might want to teach on the college or law school level. The Street Law Program provided me with an excellent opportunity to get my feet wet in the teaching arena."

The Street Law Program is one of the College of Law's 15 applied learning opportunities and a good example of the educational expansion of the college, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary.

"The Street Law Program benefits the high school students because it gives them a broad course in criminal justice that is fun for most of the kids," says Travis H.D. Lewin, law professor and program director. "The program is valuable for our students because they will soon be lawyers and community leaders involved with people of all types, including youth. We will be doing more of these kinds of programs and getting more students involved in the community."

The College of Law has changed dramatically since its founding in 1895, when 23 students attended classes in rented rooms in the Bastable block of downtown Syracuse.

"In the early part of the history of this law school, the student body was primarily male and from New York," says Dean Daan Braveman. "Today, we have a wonderfully diverse student body in terms of race, gender, ethnicity, and geography."

More changes are on the way. "Our theme at the law school is innovation building on tradition," says Braveman. "The history of Syracuse University has been one of innovation built on traditional approaches. We've been involved in some of the most progressive

changes in legal education, including having a very good early clinical program and a good international law program."

To fuel this innovative spirit, the college is expanding physically. A \$12.5-million construction project, now under way, will add 40,000 square feet to the existing quarters of White Hall, which will undergo extensive renovation.



Syracuse University's current College of Law faculty recently gathered for a "family portrait" similar to the one taken of the school's initial members a century ago. Physical and academic Improvements will help position the college for continued success in the 21st century.

Amendment right to free speech," says Burns. "We also taught the high school students the basic concepts of opening and closing arguments, and cross examination and direct examination."

The SU students also directed a simulated trial, with the law students donning judges' robes and listening to arguments from the high schoolers.

"I probably learned as much from my

"A large part of what's driving the building addition is really a need to change the overall physical space to accommodate what we're trying to do with our academic programs," says Braveman. "We are building new classrooms, new clinical space, two new moot court rooms, a student lounge, new student office space, as well as a new dining room. These improvements will better accommodate the student population by providing more individual and small-group work with faculty in addition to more hands-on training experiences."

The construction also will allow for use of the latest technology.

"The new building will make it much easier for the faculty to become involved in lab projects where students will get computer assistance," says Lewin. "The technology will be a big help not just in moot court but in a variety of our programs. Now, for example, if I want to do something in my evidence class for a laboratory, I have to reserve a room and have video equipment brought to me. It's really a nuisance. In the new building, the equipment will already be in the room.

The new facility may also allow students to observe actual court proceedings on campus.

"The new building will have a much nicer and bigger courtroom," says Sarah Ramsey, director of the Family Law and Social Policy Center. "We would like to invite the United States federal court to actually have a session here at the law school. This will be the kind of facility where we can have a sitting court come to campus to conduct sessions."

Several years ago, a committee of the American Bar Association issued the MacCrate Report, which challenged law schools to better prepare students for their future careers. Braveman believes SU's enhanced programs and facilities will help the College of Law meet that challenge.

"There's a wonderful quote attributed to Benjamin Franklin that, in a way, sums up what we're trying to do in our applied learning programs," says Braveman. "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." -PAULA MESEROLL

New Deans Named. Raymond F. von Dran has been named dean of the School of Information Studies (IST). Von Dran previously served as dean of the School of Library and Information Sciences at the University of North Texas. "I want to make IST the number one school in the nation," he says. To that end, von Dran plans to form coalitions and



partnerships between IST and other University schools and colleges. "I think it's possible to leverage existing resources and come up with high-quality programs," he says.

Howard Johnson, former associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, has been named dean of SU's Graduate School. A professor of mathematics and mathematics education, Johnson had served as the school's interim dean since 1994. "Graduate education in the United States is recognized to be of the highest quality throughout the world, and SU has contributed to that recognition," says Johnson. "I look forward to the challenges of enhancing exceptional graduate education here."

Howard Johnson

Lacrosse Update. In the wake of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) ruling that SU must vacate its 1990 lacrosse championship title, the University has successfully appealed the decision that the program also lose two lacrosse scholarships for the 1996-97 academic year as a penalty for rules violations. As a result, no grants-in-aid will be forfeited.

The SU lacrosse team, which finished the 1990 season 13-0 and defeated Loyola College 21-9 in the national championship game, had its title removed after the NCAA determined that SU fielded an ineligible student athlete, senior All-American Paul Gait.

Gait's eligibility was compromised when he and his wife had a car loan co-signed by Nancy Simmons, wife of SU lacrosse coach Roy Simmons Jr. The University appealed the NCAA ruling, arguing that Nancy Simmons was not a representative of the University's athletic interests and that the lacrosse coaching staff had no knowledge of the co-signing when it occurred. The appeal was denied.

The results of the 1990 title game will remain in the NCAA record book but will include an asterisk indicating the title was vacated. The Orangemen have won five other championships under Roy Simmons Jr., in 1983, 1988, 1989, 1993, and 1995.

Basketball Player Leaves. Michael Lloyd, expected to be the starting point guard for the 1995-96 men's basketball team, informed the University in August that he had signed with an agent earlier in the year and therefore would not be returning in the fall. According to NCAA regulations, once student athletes enter into a contractual agreement with an agent, they cannot compete in intercollegiate athletics. Lloyd's report that he signed with an agent is under University review, as are compliance matters involving Lloyd's transfer to Syracuse University. Lloyd indicated he plans to seek a career in professional basketball.