

## EDITOR'S NOTE

The *Asian-Pacific Law & Policy Journal (APLPJ)* was the first web-based legal journal addressing issues concerning Asia and the Pacific and continues in its leadership role, using the web as a medium of expression allows the *APLPJ* to employ the latest technologies and stay at the forefront of the information age. The *APLPJ* is pleased to announce the publication of Volume III, Issue 1.

The *APLPJ* regularly features practitioner articles and actively seeks practitioner submissions. It is a particularly important aspect of legal scholarship too often neglected. Craig Wagnild amazed participants at last year's International Litigation Symposium with his knowledge of Japanese discovery procedures and evidence collection. The *APLPJ* is fortunate to have an article by him on the recent changes in Japan's civil discovery laws.

We are also fortunate to have a talented group of staff writers. Shellie Park has written a comment on the women who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese government during World War II, the "comfort women," and their efforts to obtain an official apology and adequate compensation. Anthony Quan has written a comment on the political status of the Chamorros, the indigenous people of Guam, and their struggle to assert their rights to self-determination and self-government. Mathew Moneyhon has written on recent developments in Xinjiang, China and the efforts of the Uighurs, a Muslim people, to achieve greater political autonomy. Mark Hamilton has written about an opportunity for the United States and China to assume leadership roles in negotiating an international agreement governing port access and maritime transport services.

Translations are extremely important for those wishing to do business in foreign countries but who lack language skills to interpret the foreign country's laws. Although attorneys should not rely on a translation but should seek the advice of competent native speakers, translations can help attorneys prepare to represent clients in foreign forums. In August, the *APLPJ* published a translation of the *Horei*, Japan's Conflict of Law statutes, for Professors Yasuhiro Okuda and Kent Anderson, to allow them to present their work at conferences around the world and to provide immediate access for interested parties via the web. The *APLPJ* is including the *Horei* in this issue and is also publishing translations of Japan's Administrative Procedure Law by Professor Mark Levin and of Japan's Information Disclosure Law by David Schultz. These translations were previously published in *Law in Japan* and we are especially thankful of Professors Norio Higuchi, Kiichi Asaka, and Daniel Foote for their kind permission to include them in this issue.

To complete this issue, Professor Kenneth Port has provided the *APLPJ* with an insightful book review of Richard Rabinowitz's *THE GENESIS OF THE JAPANESE FOREIGN INVESTMENT LAW OF 1950* (examining the influence of the Supreme Command for the Allied Powers on Japan's economic policies). We hope you enjoy reading Volume III, Issue 1.

Mark S. Hamilton  
Editor-in-Chief, 2001-02