EDITOR'S NOTE

The Asian-Pacific Law & Policy Journal (APLPJ or Journal) was the first web-based legal journal to focus on issues concerning Asia and the Pacific. As a web-based journal, the Journal reaches a wider audience than traditional law reviews and journals, and offers services not available through traditional print mediums, providing immediate access for interested parties to the latest legal information. APLPJ continues its leadership role, using the web as a medium of expression allows the Journal to employ the latest technologies and stay at the forefront of the information age. The APLPJ is in its third year of publication and is pleased to announce the publication of Volume III, Issue 2.

The APLPJ proudly features an article by Ed King, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia, analyzing the role custom played in the Court's constitutional interpretations. This article provides a unique opportunity for legal scholars and practitioners to examine the judicial thought process involved in balancing the application of traditional practices with constitutional requirements.

This year, the APLPJ co-sponsored a symposium that featured a discussion of Native American/Native Hawaiian rights issues and the ramifications of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Rice v. Cayetano. This is a particularly controversial topic of interest to the people of Hawaii and native peoples everywhere. The Journal is pleased to publish the variety of viewpoints presented.

The APLPJ also hosted an International ADR Conference entitled "New Paradigms in Conflict Resolution: Dispute Resolution in the International Environment," April 10-12, 2002. This was a unique opportunity for legal and dispute resolution professionals from around the world to gather in Honolulu and discuss the latest trends in ADR. Conference faculty used a realistic simulation of a complex international trade dispute involving private businesses and government departments from different countries to foster discussions on model international dispute resolution systems and skills training. Once again, the APLPJ wishes to thank its co-sponsors, the East-West Center and the Inter-Pacific Bar Association, for their support. The APLPJ also extends its gratitude to Lawrence Foster, Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law, who is retiring next year, for his help and support for the APLPJ. We would also like to extend special thanks to the Marian C. and Walter G. Chuck Endowment and the Frank Boas for their generous funding of the International ADR Conference.

Finally, the APLPJ is publishing a comment addressing China's growing importance within the maritime transport shipping industry and the China Maritime Arbitration Commission's increasingly important role in resolving maritime disputes. The APLPJ is pleased to announce the publication of Volume III, Issue 2. Mark S. Hamilton Editor-in-Chief 2001-02

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