

# LAW IN ACTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

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Honored at the Taiwan conference were (from left) UW Law School Professor Charles Irish; Ching Chang Yen, Chairman of the Fuhwa Financial Holding Company and former Taiwanese Representative to the WTO; and UW Law School Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr.

## Law School Gathers Global Investors for Taiwan Conference

The Law School's new Wisconsin International Corporate Governance Initiative (WICGI), which is dedicated to improving the quality of corporate governance internationally, especially in emerging markets, made its debut in Taiwan this spring. The WICGI conference brought international investors and top-level Taiwanese government and business leaders together to share information and suggestions regarding the regulatory, business, corporate governance, and cultural factors

affecting access to international capital for Taiwanese companies.

Representing the UW Law School were Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr.; Professor Charles Irish, Director of the East Asian Legal Studies Center at the Law School; and attorney Keith Johnson '78, WICGI Program Director, who also teaches at the Law School as an adjunct professor and is of counsel with Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren.

Davis, Irish, and Johnson returned from the conference enthusiastic about the venture.

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## Charo, Ossorio Named to National Stem Cell Advisory Committee

Professors R. Alta Charo and Pilar N. Ossorio, two University of Wisconsin Law School professors who are nationally prominent in the field of bioethics, have been appointed to the Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, a new national committee to monitor and revise voluntary guidelines on the conduct of human embryonic stem cell research. Charo will also serve as co-chair of the committee.

*The work follows on an earlier effort, for which Charo was a guiding force and committee member.*

The committee was appointed by the National Academies, the nation's most prestigious scientific organization. The work follows on an earlier effort, for which Charo was a guiding force and committee member, to draft the first set of national guidelines for the ethical conduct in the politically controversial field of embryonic stem cell research. Those guidelines have now

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## Smith Elected To ALI

**Professor D. Gordon Smith** has been elected to membership in the American Law Institute (ALI), which drafts and publishes various restatements of the law, model codes, and other proposals for legal reform. Its membership consists of judges, practicing lawyers, and legal scholars who are “selected on the basis of professional achievement and demonstrated interest in the improvement of the law.”

Smith specializes in corporate and securities law, with a particular emphasis on entrepreneurial businesses and venture capital, and is Associate Director of INSITE — the Initiative for Studies in Technology Entrepreneurship, an interdisciplinary group within the University of Wisconsin that develops innovative and competitive research programs to expand the contributions of entrepreneurship and technology on the Madison campus.

Smith earned a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 1990 and a B.S. from Brigham Young University in 1986. After graduating from law school, he clerked for Judge W. Eugene Davis in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and was an associate in the Delaware office of the international law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, where he specialized in corporate and securities transactions. Prior to joining the University of Wisconsin’s law faculty, Smith taught for six years at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon.

Smith joins ten other members of the UW Law School faculty

who have been honored with ALI membership: Gordon Baldwin, Richard Bilder, Kenneth B. Davis, Jr., Walter Dickey, Marc Galanter, Linda Greene, Marygold Melli, Susan Steingass, Gerald Thain, and June Weisberger.

## Monette Drafts New Constitutions For Tribes

**Professor Richard Monette**, who specializes in drafting provisions for constitutions and codes for Indian Tribes, has recently seen his work for several Native American tribes approved in tribal elections.

*Monette has had many years of experience assisting tribes with constitutional reform projects.*

Monette worked with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma to draft an entirely new constitution, which was approved in April 2006 in an election conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Monette also assisted the Havasupai Tribe in drafting seven substantive amendments to their constitution in 2005. All seven were adopted by a wide margin, in an election also conducted by the BIA. The Havasupai Tribe is headquartered in the bottom of the Grand Canyon’s Cataract Canyon.

Monette has had many years of experience assisting tribes with constitutional reform projects, including drafting a new constitution in 1992–93 for the Ho-Chunk tribe. He also has been actively

involved in leadership roles. Monette was a staff attorney with the Indian Affairs Committee and served as Director of Legislative Affairs for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. He has been elected twice as chairman of the Turtle Mountain Tribe, and has served as Chief Judge for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Special Judge for the Ho-Chunk Nation, and Special Judge for the Trial Court of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

Professor Monette is currently assisting the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians with a total revision of its constitution.

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*Stem cells (continued from page 1)* been adopted by universities across the country, including the University of Wisconsin, and have formed the basis for stem cell research funding regulations in California and for international research guidelines adopted by the International Society for Stem Cell Research.

“The current limitations on federal funding in this area,” Charo said, “made federal regulation impossible. Voluntary guidelines developed by the National Academies have closed this gap, and demonstrate that the scientific community is capable of bringing this promising area of medicine to fruition within the best traditions of ethical research.”

The University of Wisconsin’s tradition of interdisciplinary scholarship and collaboration has made the Law School a partner with the life sciences departments in what promises to be an exciting and innovative source of medical progress for the first half of the twenty-first century.