

Law School Welcomes Tai and Alexander

Assistant Professors Stephanie Tai and Lisa T. Alexander are the newest members of the UW Law School faculty. Tai will teach administrative law and environmental law. Alexander will teach contracts, business law, and community development law.

"I am delighted that these two outstanding young scholars have chosen to teach at Wisconsin," commented Law School Dean Kenneth B. Davis, Jr. "Professors Tai and Alexander come to us with superlative recommendations and impressive expertise in cutting-edge areas of law. They will make tremendous contributions to our students and our community in general."

Stephanie Tai received her Ph.D. in chemistry from Tufts University and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. She was raised in the South by two chemists, and decided to combine her chemistry background with a legal education to improve the use of science in environmental protection. At Georgetown, she was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Georgetown International Environmental Law Review* and was a member of the Georgetown Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Team.

After graduating from Georgetown, Tai served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Ronald Lee Gilman on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She then worked as an appellate attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she briefed and argued cases involving a range of issues, from the protection of endangered cave species in Texas to the issuance of dredge and fill



Stephanie Tai (left) and Lisa Alexander join the Law School faculty.

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permits under the Clean Water Act.

Professor Tai has written on the consideration of scientific studies and environmental justice concerns by administrative agencies, and is currently studying the role of scientific dialogues before the judicial system. She was an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown from 2002–2005 and a visiting professor at Washington and Lee University School of Law during the 2005–06 academic year. Her teaching interests include administrative law, environmental law, property, environmental justice, risk regulation, and comparative Asian environmental law.

Lisa Alexander, a native New Yorker, received her J.D. from Columbia University Law School, where she served as a Teaching Assistant in Constitutional Law, Co-Chair of the Civil Rights Law Society, Articles Editor for the *National Black Law Journal*, and a staff member of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*. She

was also identified as an "Emerging Leader" by the National Congress for Community and Economic Development (NCCED) and received an Earl Warren Civil Rights Scholarship from the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Prior to joining the faculty, Professor Alexander practiced in the Chicago Office of Miner, Barnhill & Galland, P.C., where she focused on community economic development, nonprofit organizations, affordable and fair housing, and residential and commercial real estate. She was also awarded a competitive Equal Justice Works Fellowship (formerly NAPIL), and with it worked as a staff attorney at the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc. (2002–2004).

Alexander focuses her scholarly interest on the study of transactional legal strategies that foster equitable urban community development. The goal of these strategies is to minimize displacement, mitigate poverty, and promote racial and social justice.

Through spring 2007, Professor Alexander will continue as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Affordable Housing & Community Development Law*, a publication of the American Bar Association (ABA).