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A SPECIAL DEDICATION TO PROFESSOR JON M. VAN DYKE

As this China Symposium issue was in preparation, we learned of the passing of Jon M. Van Dyke, a great friend of this journal and a distinguished oceans law scholar. Professor Van Dyke was Professor of Law and Carlsmith Ball Faculty Scholar in the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, where he taught Constitutional Law, International Law, International Human Rights, and International Oceans Law.

After graduating from Yale College and Harvard Law School, and after completing a judicial clerkship, Professor Van Dyke embarked on a remarkable career of teaching, scholarship, and public service. Throughout his life, he sought to advance human dignity and to ensure the enjoyment and conservation of oceans resources for all. Professor Van Dyke was most generous in mentoring many students, faculty, and practitioners in international law, human rights, and oceans law.

Professor Van Dyke was a tireless advocate filing amicus briefs in state and federal appellate tribunals, representing clients in criminal and civil trial matters, and appearing before international tribunals. He served as co-counsel in a consumer class-action civil suit against milk, pineapple, and pesticide companies in 1982-84 for the contamination of Hawaii’s milk supply with heptachlor that lead to a $4,000,000 settlement that went on to fund scientific studies on the effect of heptachlor on children; he was co-counsel in a human rights class action civil suit against Ferdinand Marcos on behalf of the victims of torture, murder, and disappearances during the martial law period in the Philippines; he was counsel in a case before the Supreme Court of the Marshall Islands in 1992 that established the due process rights of attorneys appearing before the Nuclear Claims Tribunal; he was counsel for the Clerk of the Hawai‘i State Senate in successful litigation defending the 1994 ratification of six amendments to the Hawaii State Constitution; he was counsel for the Senate of the Republic of Palau in successful litigation before the Supreme Court of Palau defending the Senate’s right to act as sole judge to determine the qualifications of its members; and he was counsel for Greenpeace International and the World Wildlife Fund in 2010 before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in
"Responsibilities and Obligations of States Sponsoring Persons and Entities with Respect to Activities in the International Seabed Area."

At the time of his passing, Professor Van Dyke was a member of the American Society of International Law, consultant to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, while serving on the Board of Advisors of the Center for International Environmental Law in Washington, D.C., and the International Advisory Board of the Law of the Sea Institute at the University of California at Berkeley Law School. He was a member of the editorial boards of Marine Policy, the International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law, the editorial committee of Kyung Hee Law Journal, Seoul, Korea and the editorial board, Journal of Korean Law of Seoul National University.

Professor Van Dyke published across numerous fields of law. Among his many books are, JON M. VAN DYKE, JORDAN J. PAUST, & LINDA A. MALONE, INTERNATIONAL LAW AND LITIGATION IN THE U.S. (2009); JON M. VAN DYKE & MELVIN M. SAKURAI, CHECKLISTS FOR SEARCHES AND SEIZURES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (2010); JON M. VAN DYKE & SEOUNG-YONG HONG, MARITIME BOUNDARY DISPUTES, SETTLEMENT PROCESSES, AND THE LAW OF THE SEA (2009); and JON M. VAN DYKE, CONSENSUS AND CONFRONTATION: THE UNITED STATES AND THE LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION (1985). His numerous articles encompassed every aspect of oceans law from boundary delimitation, to fisheries, international straits, navigation, conservation, maritime sovereignty claims, and beyond. He was in constant demand as a speaker at international venues in Europe and Asia. We are grateful that Professor Van Dyke spoke at the University of Maine School of Law conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Gulf of Maine judgment (US v. Canada) and contributed to the 2010 Ocean & Coastal Law Journal’s Gulf of Maine Symposium issue with his article, The Romania v. Ukraine Decision and Its Effect on East Asian Maritime Delimitations.

Through his caring teaching, wide-ranging scholarship, and generous advocacy, Professor Van Dyke was a beloved pillar of a global community of oceans custodians. He was among the leading scholars in the West on the oceans issues of the East, especially the South China Sea and the region. He brought to challenging problems the ability to bridge special interests and to clarify the real common interests for us all. We dedicate this OCLJ Symposium issue on China and the Oceans to Professor Jon M. Van Dyke.

—The OCLJ Editors and Faculty Advisor