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## EDITOR'S NOTE

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

It is my honor to present the sixth volume of the Washington and Lee Race and Ethnic Ancestry Law Journal. I hope that this issue will reveal some of the new growth of our publication as well as stimulate rich debate about race, ethnicity and the law. The current Editorial Board members undertook their jobs with unprecedented excitement and vigor. Their excitement and dreams gave way to hard work and dedication, the fruits of which can be seen in the new legal issues covered, in the heavier focus on article scholarship, and in the new layout.

In the previous five volumes, we have explored the impact of domestic laws on minority communities. In this volume, however, the Editorial Board seeks to expand the awareness of the issues affecting minorities in the hopes of achieving a more global perspective. We do not live in a nation whose people are affected only by national, state, and local events. Indeed, we are profoundly and directly affected by laws and events throughout the world. Global organizations such as the UN and WTO, civil wars such as the Kosovo conflict, and human rights violations such as those recently witnessed in Rwanda undoubtedly influence national politics, the economy, and even how we view ourselves. As the world advances into the next millenium, we find ourselves more aware of our inextricable ties to our human brethren, whether they are in the Chechnya, China, or across town. In light of these influences, we hope to expand the scope of the Journal to impart a more complete perspective on racial and ethnic issues in the law.

In this volume, we present five provocative articles. Taken together, these articles indicate the interrelation of many issues involving race and ethnicity. The articles by Professor Beane and Ms. Wittman examine the state of international human rights, and illustrate how racial conflict around the globe may teach us lessons about our domestic racial issues. The articles by Professor Bernier, Mr. Gordon, and Ms. Lee remind us of the unique and invaluable perspectives that race bring to our communities. In choosing to publish their scholarship, each author has added to the racial discourse that our journal seeks to promote.

In addition to the substantive changes, we have also updated the look of the Journal. Hopefully, the aesthetic change will complement our new outlook and embody the goals of our publication. Finally, I would like to thank our faculty advisor Professor Louise Halper for her invaluable advice and encouragement and the Office of the Dean for its sponsorship.

*Karie D. Davis*