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Raymond Cross*

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Letter from the Editors

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

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Dear Reader,

At the conclusion of our 36th Public Lands Conference in 2015, we commemorated Professor Raymond Cross for his impact on the *Public Land & Resources Law Review* and the American Indian Law Program at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana. Our commemoration focused on Professor Cross' incredible impact as a teacher and mentor. His fabled lectures changed the course of many students' lives, encouraging them to pursue careers defending American Indian tribes and seeking the contours of Indian law.

We recognized a need to celebrate another aspect of Professor Cross' intellectual impact—his abundant scholarship. Professor Cross' work as a scholar in Indian law extends beyond the confines of academia. His careful examination of and challenge to the paradoxes of Indian law encouraged scholars, practitioners, and tribes to push existing boundaries and tailor law and policy to the social and legal needs of Indian tribes.

While we did not have the opportunity to attend Professor Cross' lectures, we were honored to curate this selection of his impressive scholarship. As we delved into Professor Cross' arguments, we felt transported to his classroom. Through his scholarly works, we were encouraged to critically analyze and consider new angles of the federal trust duty, tribal sovereignty, economic development, and protection of cultural and social tribal resources.

As you read through the presented compilation of Professor Cross' scholarship, we suggest you imagine sitting in a lecture, surrounded by other students, watching as Professor Cross fills the whiteboard with ideas.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Sears Ore
Editor-in-Chief

Taylor Thompson
Special Publications Editor