FOREWORD

EARTH OBSERVATION, THE ENVIRONMENT, SPACE, AND REMOTE SENSING LAW IN THE PACIFIC RIM: MEETING AND LIVE BLOGCAST

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This volume of the JOURNAL OF SPACE LAW contains most of the papers presented at the Earth Observation, Environment, Space, and Remote Sensing Law in the Pacific Rim: Meeting and Live Blogcast (Meeting) hosted by the National Center for Remote Sensing, Air, and Space Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law (Center) and held in Hawaii, U.S., on June 16 - 18, 2010.

The purpose of the Meeting was to build upon the success of the first Pacific Rim National Space Law Summit (Summit) hosted by the Center in 2009. The 2009 meeting focused on the national space laws of Pacific Rim nations. The 2010 meeting addressed the law of Earth Observation, the environment and related topics of various Pacific Rim nations. Like the first event, this meeting also provided a forum for an in-depth experience in which the participants had the opportunity to learn from one another and to discuss, in detail, remote sensing and related law and their developing features in the Pacific Rim. As with the original Summit experts from Australia, China, Hong Kong (special administrative region of China), Japan, Korea

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(South), the United States of America, and the United Nations participated. New to this year’s gathering were scholars from the Group on Earth Observations, Colombia, and Mexico. The private bar was represented as well this year with practitioners from the Hawaiian, U.S., and Sydney, Australia bar. Also new this year was an interdisciplinary paper addressing both science and law.

The meeting format was designed to promote the exchange and understanding of information. This was accomplished by providing each speaker with half an hour to present his or her paper and each presentation was followed by at least another half hour during which the participants—and, new this year, commentators—raised questions and discussed the details of the presented paper. For most of the participants, it was the first time they had had the opportunity to meet one another, and this added another dimension to the learning experience. Exchanges were lively, sometimes heated, but always professional and informative. In addition to the exchange of information and ideas that was occurring at the Meeting itself, distant participants kept informed of its contents via a live, real-time blogcast.

This volume of the Journal of Space Law includes the papers of Prof. Setsuko Aoki of the Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University, who addresses the quickly changing topic of Japanese Law and Regulations Concerning Remote Sensing Activities; Fermín Romero, Director para Asamblea General y Organismos Internacionales Dirección General para la Organización de las Naciones Unidas Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores and Sergio Camacho Lara, Centro Regional de Enseñanza de Ciencia y Tecnología del Espacio para América Latina y el Caribe who, in their paper, recommend What Lawyers Need to Know About Science to Effectively Make and Address Laws for Remote Sensing and Environmental Monitoring; Prof. Steven Freeland, Professor of International Law and Associate Head of School (Research), School of Law, University of Western Sydney, describes the legal possibilities presented by Australia’s new space policy in Sensing a Change? The Re-Launch of Australia’s Space Policy and Some Possible Legal Implications; Prof. Jae Gon Lee, Professor of Law, School of Law, Chungnam National
University, raises *Remote Sensing Issues as they Relate to Korea*; some of China’s law is described by Prof. Yan Ling, Faculty of International Law, China University of Political Science and Law in her paper, *Remote Sensing Data Distribution and Application in the Environmental Protection, Disaster Prevention, and Urban Planning in China*; and in *Regulation of Remote Sensing Activities in Hong Kong: Privacy, Access, Security, Copyright, and the Case of Google*, Dr. Yun Zhao, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, the University of Hong Kong continues the data distribution discourse.

Two papers, *Legal Aspects of Reducing Green House Gases Emitted by Aircraft Registered in Korea: A Ripple Effect of EU Initiatives* by Prof. Won-hwa Park of Korea Aerospace University, and *Access to Water on the Moon: Lessons from Water Law in Hawai’i and Elsewhere* by Dr. Jon M. Van Dyke, Professor of Law and Carlsmith Ball Research Fellow, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, provide inquiry into practice and precedent from the Pacific Rim that have relevance to larger environmental considerations and space law as a whole. Dr. Van Dyke’s paper provides an excellent segue to the only paper in this volume written independently from the meeting papers, *The Moon Agreement in the 21st Century: Addressing its Potential Role in the Era of Commercial Exploitation of the Natural Resources of the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies* by Dr. Fabio Tronchetti of the Harbin Institute of Technology School of Law.

Rounding out this professional discussion were the commentators Ms. Ikuko Kuriyama and Dr. Masami Onoda. Other participants, who made presentations but who do not have papers in the current volume include, Prof. PJ Blount and Dr. Sara M. Langston, both from the National Center for Remote Sensing, Air, and Space Law, University of Mississippi School of Law; Ms. Sherry P. Broder, Law Offices of Sherry P. Broder; Ms. Donna Lawler, Corporate Counsel, SingTel Optus Pty Limited; Dr. Ricky Lee, Senior Associate, Schweizer Kobras, Sydney NSW; Mr. James T. Mahoney, Lead Counsel, Space Operations Missions Directorate, NASA; and Dr. Sylvia Ospina, S. Ospina & Associates.
Overall, when the meeting ended, the participants came away knowing more about space law in the Pacific Rim as well as the Pacific Rim space law community itself. The readers of the *Journal of Space Law* will now also have the same opportunity by reading the contents of this volume and the on-line blogcast at http://www.spacelaw.olemiss.edu/event_Pacific%20Rim%202010.html.