MacKinnon elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Catharine A. MacKinnon, who pioneered the establishment of legal claims for sexual harassment and the recognition of sexual harassment as a civil rights violation, has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a prestigious society that recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions in scholarly and professional fields.

Founded in 1780, the academy is an international learned society composed of the world’s leading scientists, scholars, artists, business people, and public leaders. The academy is headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The U.S. Supreme Court has accepted MacKinnon’s approaches to equality, pornography, and hate speech. MacKinnon specializes in sex equality issues under international and constitutional law.

Twelve other Law School current and emeritus faculty members previously have been named to the academy. They include Professors Phoebe Ellsworth; Bruce Frier; Richard O. Lempert, ’68; Donald Regan; Rebecca Scott; A.W. Brian Simpson; Joseph Vining; and James Boyd White; and Emeritus Professors Francis A. Allen; Robben W. Fleming; Yale Kamisar; and Terry Sandalow.

Conference celebrates Law School ties with China

Scholars from the Law School and counterparts from China met at Tsinghua Law School in Beijing in May for a special conference on “New Development for Sino-American Commercial Law.” The conference celebrated the 10th year of Tsinghua Law School, which shares a scholar exchange program with the U-M Law School.

Participants from the Law School and their presentations included:

- Irwin I. Cohen Professor Reuven Avi-Yonah, who organized the conference and presented the papers “Risk, Rents, and Regressivity: Why the United States Needs Both an Income Tax and a VAT” and “The Cyclical Transformations of the Corporate Form: A Historical Perspective on Corporate Social Responsibility.”
- Adjunct Professor Timothy Dickinson, ’79, who discussed “Evolving Norms of Anti-Corruption Law in International Commercial Transactions.”
- Alicia Davis Evans, whose paper dealt with “Regulation of the Market for Corporate Control in the United States.”
- Professor Vikramaditya S. Khanna, who presented a paper on “Significant Changes in U.S. Corporate Law after Sarbanes-Oxley.”
- Alene and Allan F. Smith Professor Robert L. Howse, whose presentation was titled “Back from the Dead? Reviving the Idea of a Multilateral Investment Agreement.”
- Professor Steven R. Ratner, whose paper discussed “The Expropriation Battles Act II: Regulatory Takings.”

Scholars from Canada and Australia also participated. Dean Wang Chenguang of Tsinghua University Law School called the conference “a success” and said the Michigan professors’ teaching was “warmly received by not only our students, but also students from Peking University, Renmin University, and China University of Politics and Law.”

The exchange of scholars between the Law School and Tsinghua began last year, when Law School Professors Avi-Yonah, Michael S. Barr, and Richard D. Friedman taught a coordinated course in Beijing. In turn, Tsinghua faculty members Tianlong Hu and Liya Rong each visited the Law School as research scholars for half of the 2004-05 academic year; both also participated in the recent conference in Beijing. Howse and Dickinson are the Law School faculty members teaching at Tsinghua this year.