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Introduction

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CALIFORNIA WESTERN LAW REVIEW

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UCSD CIVIC COLLABORATIVE—LAW, LEGACIES AND PUBLIC POLICY

INTRODUCTION

MARSHA A. CHANDLER*

The publication of this special edition of the *California Western Law Review* is an important milestone, not only for the school itself, but for the entire community. By bringing together legal scholars, researchers from several universities, medical professionals and other local practitioners, this work breaks new ground in San Diego's development.

Until now, the area's unique economic, cultural and environmental elements were typically absent from academic literature. Moreover, there was limited evidence of the institutions of higher education and the community operating effectively together. The publication of this collection is an important beginning. The Law Review special edition, focusing on public policy and community in San Diego, was conceived by Ellen Dannin, Professor of Law at California Western School of Law, and has been guest-edited by Michael Schudson, Professor of Communication at University of California, San Diego. The authors who have contributed to the issue are affiliated with a variety of academic institutions in San Diego and Los Angeles. Each article considers a topic critical to San Diego's current phase of development, providing a scholarly analysis from a truly a regional perspective.

The timing of this volume is of paramount importance, for this is a period of extraordinary change. The urbanization of the region is progressing at a rapid pace, growing not only in the density of its population, but in its role within an increasingly technological and global economy, based less and less on the military infrastructure around which San Diego was built. Ours is also a region that is vastly multi-cultural, a trend that is now reaching many locales, but is much further along here. This multiculturalism, certainly a re-

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gional asset, at the same time raises new issues about education, legal jurisdiction, and equality that have not formerly been addressed. The many insights in this volume contribute to an important civic conversation as San Diego forges its future under new, and ever-changing, circumstances. San Diego's scholarly investigation of concerns related to economic development and planning, international borders, balancing environmental protection with urban development, the commingling of cultural and governmental mores, protecting the health of a growing population, and the new rules of a high-tech, global economy will also be of benefit to many other regions facing similar circumstances.

As the Chief Academic Officer at UCSD, I am gratified that our faculty and graduate students were an integral part of a team addressing these important issues. Instead of each institution and local entity trying to solve the same issues independently, this collaborative approach will no doubt prove more fruitful. I commend the vision of California Western School of Law and all those who helped to bring this project to fruition, and congratulate them on pioneering this important dialogue.

MICHAEL SCHUDSON**

The UCSD catalog features a course on "The History of Los Angeles," but there is no course on the history of San Diego. Nothing is listed on the politics or economics or sociology of San Diego, for that matter. The university is located in San Diego and most of its faculty live in San Diego, but for most of us who teach and do research at UCSD and at many of the other institutions of higher education here, San Diego is not a place we study. It is not a place we give much of our professional attention, even those among us who are active citizens in our communities.

This is beginning to change, and this special issue is a sign of change. Awareness is growing of San Diego's recent and rapid emergence as a major American city. There is a growing consciousness, and even some civic pride, in the region's uniquely twenty-first century profile—a city, county, and region at an international border, looking south to Mexico and west to Asia, endowed with an expanding corps of powerhouse businesses in computer, information, and biotech industries. Even our social problems, although nothing to be proud of, have a cutting-edge quality to them—urban sprawl; the battle between development and environment in an environment of extraordinarily precious, and precarious, natural features; a growing divide between those who have profited from the past decade's economic growth and those who have not; the cultural and political challenge of forging common bonds and some sense of shared identity while honoring the multifarious identities of newcomers from increasingly diverse backgrounds. Now schol-

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ars are beginning to recognize that some of the national and global problems they have long pondered have local manifestations that are of great interest and that offer great opportunities for study.

This is the broad context in which this special issue was conceived. The narrower context is, as is the case with most projects that actually get off the ground, more personal and more happenstance. Two years ago Ellen Dannin, Professor of Law at California Western School of Law, got together with Peter Zscheische from the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council (AFL-CIO) to discuss how to start up a conversation between local union officials and academics who study aspects of labor and the labor movement. Could a dialogue begin that would enrich both the work of the scholars and the perspectives of the labor activists?

The San Diego Labor and Academic Network emerged out of their effort. It is both an e-mail "listserv" and a face-to-face meeting of interested persons that has gathered at the Labor Council offices in City Heights every other month for the past two years. I began attending the meetings when I became co-director of the UCSD Civic Collaborative. This effort, begun in 1998 with a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts, seeks to create new links and new conversations between UCSD's faculty and the broader San Diego community. The Labor Academic Network seemed exactly the sort of bridging institution to encourage and support—and one where a number of my colleagues at UCSD were already involved.

Once we had come to know each other at the meetings, Ellen Dannin suggested to me that the UCSD Civic Collaborative's efforts to stimulate new knowledge and new research about San Diego might be encouraged if we could hold out to likely partners the prospect of early publication of their work. Ellen had previously had a very successful collaboration with the California Western Law Review on a special issue (on New Zealand labor law, one of her own research specialties) and she volunteered to inquire if the Law Review would be interested to produce a special issue on public policy and law in San Diego.

Editor Natalie Vance was most encouraging and with the support of her fellow student editors, the project went forward. Ellen Dannin took the lead in recruiting authors, I took responsibility for editorial supervision, and the Law Review editors took on the arduous task of copy-editing and bringing articles to law review style and citation form.

I think the result is a significant publication, a genuine collaboration across research institutions in San Diego, a collaboration made possible by new attempts at the Labor Council, at California Western, and at UCSD to not only think "out of the box," as people say, but to make new personal ties, and develop them and trust in them, out of the institutional boxes in which we grow all too comfortable.

It is possible to live in San Diego for years or for a lifetime as an outsider to it. In fact, it is easier to do this than it is to reach out across the mul-

tle divides that routinely separate us. This is only a small step toward that extension, but it is a step in the right direction.

NATALIE VANCE***

As the Executive Editor of the Law Review, it has been my pleasure to work with everyone involved in this collaborative effort. The idea to merge academic disciplines to create a unique portrait of law and public policy in the San Diego area came to us from Professor Ellen Dannin, an employment law and civil procedure professor at California Western and Professor Michael Schudson, professor of communications at the University of California, San Diego. Together, they helped the Law Review approach authors and solicit articles for this unique collection of research and works concerning law and public policy issues in one of the fast growing cities in the country.

Michael Schudson then graciously volunteered to guest edit the issue, going over each article and making revisions before the Law Review ever saw them. Law Review took up the task of making sure the articles conformed to the proper format for publication in a law review, keeping in mind that most of the authors had never written for a legal journal.¹

The finished project is both exciting and informative, providing an eclectic collection of work by scholars in a variety of disciplines. The issue underscores the importance of the social sciences, communication and the academic contributions of individuals, who have never ventured near a law school, to the legal community.

Several articles have already created a buzz. We have already received a response to Erie's controversial piece on the Metropolitan Water District. It will be published along with a reply from Professor Erie in the Fall 2000 issue of the Law Review.

The Law Review would like to thank Professor Schudson, Professor Dannin and all of the authors who contributed to this collaborative effort. In addition, I would like to personally thank Susan Maga, Executive Lead Articles Editor, who worked tirelessly while working full time and studying for the bar in Arizona, Kim Phillips, Lead Articles Editor, who helped get things rolling while we were still working on the Fall issue of Law Review, Brad Hasler, Lead Articles Editor, who stepped up to the plate and kept our head above water whenever it looked like we were not going to make it, and Dean Moody, Editor in Chief, who helped bring everything together. Finally, all of our efforts are overshadowed by the work of Lana Linderman, our anchor of support and the person who makes it all come together. Thank you.

*** Natalie Vance, J.D., *summa cum laude*, California Western School of Law, January 2000, B.A. Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1990. Currently working as an associate at Klinedinst, Fliedman & McKillop, in their San Diego Office.

1. While the Law Review has done its best to ensure that the articles conform to the Bluebook, a Uniform System of Citation, some sources were unavailable for inspection. In those cases, the authors have warranted the validity of their research and the sources cited.