

RICHARD MONETTE

STACY FRIEDMAN

Richard Monette, the first Native American on the tenure track at the Law School, considers his role not just that of a professor but as an opportunity for Indians and the University to work together for society's improvement.

After studying law at the University of Oregon and working in Washington, D.C., Wisconsin beckoned him because he wanted to be closer to home.

Monette is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain band of Chippewa-Cree-Michif. "I grew up and went to school on that reservation, and to find it, look for the heart of Turtle Island, the geographical center of North America."

Discussion of issues such as the environment led Monette to Wisconsin. "I wanted to be back in Chippewa Country. Indian issues are discussed here as well as water issues, and I wanted to be closer to that area."

He is grateful for his position in this university as well, and hopes to educate his students about the mutual benefits of working with the tribes in this state. His students can "in turn educate wider and wider groups of people about Indian tribes, their citizens, their cultures and



RICHARD MONETTE

their relationship with the rest of us."

Monette is organizing a Great Lakes Indian Law Center; the faculty recently passed the charter for it, and he wants to serve as the Faculty Adviser for it to provide the direction for the programs.

Eight students worked on reservations last summer and drafted complaints for tribal courts. "One of them was working on a taxation ordinance all by herself; one of them was studying deeds and land abstracts for potential land claims and clarifying land titles with the tribes and members of the tribes," Monette said. He

hopes his students will want to learn about relationships with the Indians and will keep this education in mind if they come across Indian issues in their profession.

"My scholarly academic role is to help clarify what the relationship is between the tribes, the states and the federal government," Monette said. "All things considered, it's not nearly as clear as it should be in this day and age, not nearly as clear as some people think it is."

According to Monette, Wisconsin has graduated as many or more Native attorneys than any other law school in the country, and the UW Law School consistently has one of the higher numbers of native students than any law school in the

country. "That's often times without a lot of recruiting and often times without a lot of patting itself on the back."

Though having an Indian faculty member is long overdue, Monette plans to awaken the tribes, tribal people and other Indian people to the fact that the University and its resources are available for them as well as anyone else. Monette's dedication to his people should help make some changes, and he considers the tasks ahead of him a challenge.

BEVERLY MORAN

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Beverly Moran's resume reads like a book, and she is proud of her successful academic and governmental career. Wisconsin has found a place in Moran's heart, and she enjoys the many benefits the University offers.

"Wisconsin has a wonderful reputation, and I was really bowled over by the faculty when I gave my presentation," Moran said. She taught Taxation at the University of Cincinnati and Agency at the University of Colorado at Boulder before arriving in Madison last year. "When you work in the tax area, you tend to be fairly isolated because most lawyers in legal academics are just not interested in taxation, so to be in a group of 20 or 30 people who are really willing to engage was a new and very pleasant experience for me."

Teaching Introduction to Taxation fascinates Moran because the subject matter is new to students. "It's where a lot of the students for the first time learn what a bond is, what a loan is and what a mortgage is," she said. "I think it just brings so many different things together, and it's exciting to see the students learn those different things and feel as though they have a stronger background as attorneys because of it."

The Law School's sense of history is a positive force on Moran. "This school has such a tradition, that coming here puts on me an obligation to try and live up to that



BEVERLY MORAN

tradition," she said. "It's quite a challenge."

Moran seems to thrive on challenges. She has taken sailing lessons and plans to start horseback riding.

Academic achievement means a lot to Moran, it allowed her an alternative to a permanent life of anger. "I have an article in the Berkeley Women's Law Journal where I talk about how I spent my whole life in a constant state of rage because I felt I was so poorly treated, and what a remarkable thing it was for me to become a law professor and all of a sudden attain the status that allowed me so much better treatment," she said.

After earning her J.D. at the University of Pennsylvania she worked as an associate attorney for Cullen and Dykman in New York. She served as the Executive Director for the New York City Business

Relocation Assistance Corporation and was on the General Counsel, Industrial and Commercial Incentive Board.

She is currently writing three articles. One is a history of the Burger Court and its treatment of taxation issues. Another piece is entitled "A Black Critique of the Internal Revenue Code," and she is planning a third article on the history of the taxation of American Indians.

These articles, in addition to her other publications, add to Moran's extensive list of writings.

Moran's dedication to her field should serve as an inspiration to her students.

"One of the things I think that people don't tell students going into law school is that the law degree is very flexible, but you have to take advantage of that flexibility," Moran said.

As a professor Moran tries to enlighten her students about the many ways the law degree can open doors for them as it did for her.

"Just as I've been impressed by the professors at this Law School, I'm very impressed by the students," Moran said. "I think that the students here seem to have richer experiences and a broader range of skills outside of the law. So I hope they will be able to take advantage of the tremendous flexibility in the law degree and that they'll be able to have rich and varied careers in which they find they can fulfill themselves as well as help other people."