

## FOREWORD

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The *Richmond Journal of Global Law & Business* publishes articles that address timely issues at the intersection of law and business. The *Journal's* annual symposium is a hallmark of the organization. Through its symposium series, the *Journal* has brought nationally and internationally recognized lecturers to campus, including such notables as R. James Woolsey, former director of Central Intelligence, and the Ambassador of Algeria.

The subject of this year's annual symposium was "Online Vice: Legal Issues in Online Gambling." To join the ranks of past speakers, the latest annual symposium featured Professor Nelson Rose, Professor Charles Nesson, Andrew Woods, the Executive Director of the Global Poker Strategic Thinking Society, Professor John Kindt, and Professor Frank Vandall. Articles in this symposium issue include transcripts of Professor Rose's remarks at the symposium, a Socratic exchange between Professor Nesson and his "best student" Andrew Woods, and congressional testimony of Professor Kindt regarding the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act.

To begin the symposium, Professor I. Nelson Rose provided a historical frame of reference for modern gambling law. The first article is a transcript of Professor Rose's remarks. Professor Rose is an internationally recognized authority on gambling law. A Professor of Law at Whittier Law School, he has taught gaming law to the FBI, the University of Nevada Reno, University of Macau, and at other colleges in China, Spain and France. Professor Rose described the rise and fall of gambling and the laws that alternately permitted and prohibited it. This historical journey began with river boat gambling, progressed through Prohibition, the Great Depression and the 1961 Wire Act and has most recently culminated in the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act. Professor Rose also examined the changing characterization of "gambling" over time from sin, to vice, to entertainment.

The symposium continued with a presentation by Professor John Kindt describing the social and economic ills caused by gambling. John Warren Kindt is a Professor of Business and Legal Policy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. An accomplished scholar, Professor Kindt's specialty research has been focused on the societal, business, and economic impacts of decriminalizing gambling activities. Professor Kindt's testimony before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security regarding the "Internet Gambling Prohibition Act" accounts for the final article in this issue. In his congressional testimony, Professor Kindt delineates the socio-

economic harms associated with “Internet Gambling,” a term he defined to include gambling via the Internet, the Web, cyberspace and cell phones.

Charles Nesson and Andrew Woods followed Professor Kindt’s presentation with a delightful and insightful Socratic exchange in which they suggest that the social costs of other forms of gambling do not necessarily apply to poker playing. This issue’s second article is a transcript of their discussion. Charles Nesson is the William F. Weld Professor of Law at Harvard Law School where he founded the Global Poker Strategic Thinking Society. Andrew Woods is the Executive Director of the Global Poker Strategic Thinking Society. Professor Nesson and Mr. Woods distinguish poker from other forms of gambling as a game of skill. Together, they are leading efforts to legitimize poker as a strategy for teaching game theory and life skills.

Rounding out the distinguished symposium panel was Professor Frank Vandall of Emory School of Law. This foreword would be incomplete without mentioning the contributions of Professor Vandall. A recognized scholar in the area of torts and products liability, Professor Vandall also concentrates his research in the area of bricks and mortar gambling establishments and the societal impacts of gambling.

I congratulate the *Richmond Journal of Global Law and Business* on assembling a fascinating collection of speakers who generated lively debate on a controversial topic. I also take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Journal for inviting me to moderate the symposium.

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