

## TRIBUTE TO DR. C.M.W. TANG

*Clete D. Johnson\**

This special section on the legal issues facing the Republic of Guyana arises from an equally special (and increasingly close) relationship between the University of Georgia School of Law and Guyana's Ministry of Legal Affairs. Our law school's Guyana Legal Internship Program, in its third year this summer, has sent nine University of Georgia law students to Guyana to intern under the direct supervision of Attorney General Doodnauth Singh. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP and the administrative support of the University of Georgia's Dean Rusk Center of International, Comparative and Graduate Legal Studies, we expect that many more students will follow in their footsteps in the coming years.

These student interns conduct substantial and high-level legal work on projects including anti-terrorism legislation, international arbitration disputes, international trademark registration, government industry privatization, alternative dispute resolution, environmental regulations, and even contract negotiations on behalf of the Republic of Guyana. In so doing, they provide a valuable service to the Ministry of Legal Affairs, whose staff of approximately fifteen full-time lawyers serves as the sole legal counsel to all the branches of Guyana's government. Moreover, these students serve as an indispensable bridge between Guyana and our law school. This special section, which we believe to be the most comprehensive treatment of Guyana's legal issues in any non-Caribbean publication worldwide, is the result of their relationship-building.

We are honored to have received submissions for this special section from a highly distinguished group of legal scholars, practitioners, Guyanese Cabinet and Parliamentary officials, and even a former U.S. President and Nobel Peace Prize winner who also happens to be a Georgia native. All are experts on Guyana's legal issues, and we offer them our deepest thanks for their participation in this project. More generally, we thank them for their

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\* Editor in Chief, *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law*, and founder of the University of Georgia School of Law's Guyana Legal Internship Program.

invaluable contributions to the relationship between our law school and the Republic of Guyana.

Finally, we wish to dedicate this special section to the memory of Dr. C.M.W. Tang, former Solicitor General of the Republic of Guyana. Dr. Tang passed away unexpectedly last spring, and those who knew him will sorely miss his brilliant legal mind and his irrepressible wit and good humor. Were it not for his dedication to the University of Georgia law students who worked with him to build the Guyana Legal Internship Program, this project would not have been possible. The relationship between our law school and his government is part of Dr. Tang's lasting legacy, and with that legacy in mind, we gratefully dedicate this special section to him.