

## EDITORIAL FOREWORD

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Each year, the *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law* produces three issues: two traditional issues with full-length articles and student notes, and one symposium issue. For the symposium issue, the Editorial Board finds conferences or programs pertaining to timely issues of international and comparative law that will produce publishable papers for the issue. With the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law's strong LL.M. program in international trade and business law and the close collaboration with its affiliated National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade (NLCIFT), which is actively involved in applied legal reform to promote economic development in the Americas, the *Journal* is regularly presented with outstanding opportunities to publish symposium issues dealing with significant programs at the intersection of law, economic development, and poverty reduction.

This year's symposium issue falls directly within that niche. The conference spearheaded by the NLCIFT gave us another such opportunity for the *Journal* to present a topic relevant to the publication and to our international academic and legal community: Enhancing Mexico's Competitiveness and Economic Development through Administration of Justice Initiatives. This issue is a presentation of critically important and groundbreaking work, delivered in the context of workshops, roundtables, and working groups, and resulting in recommendations for legal and institutional reforms, model contracts, and best business practices. All of this work was undertaken by the NLCIFT in close and productive collaboration with the highest court of Mexico's Federal District (*the Tribunal Superior*), that court's Judicial Training Institute (*Instituto de Estudios Judiciales – IEJ*), USAID-Mexico, and distinguished members of Mexico's judicial, legal, notarial, business, and academic communities.

We on the *Journal* thank the NLCIFT for its hard work and dedication to the project. And, in a special way, I want to thank the *Journal* members who worked on this and other issues throughout the year. The publication is only as good as those who participate in it. The quality of our issues evidences the quality of the students who work so hard to put it together.



