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## Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law

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## *Letter from the Editor-in-Chief*

Every so often, people find themselves with the opportunity to challenge norms and reshape the status quo. It is an even rarer circumstance to be at the forefront of change. When these conditions occur, it may take bravery or risk to effectuate change. Above all else, change requires an open mind. It requires the willingness to be different—not for yourself but for progress.

It is my once-in-a-lifetime honor to write the editorial note for the first-ever law journal issue focused on the intersection of the brewing industry and the law. Within this issue, you will see the law through a very different lens. It is important to set aside any pre-conceived notions about this topic. While it is easy to be dismissive and downplay the relationship between the brewing industry and the law as purely regulatory, readers with an open mind will see that belief is far from the case. The brewing industry touches many areas of the law, which causes interesting patterns and phenomena to emerge. Open-minded readers will see an abundance of possibilities, across the legal spectrum, as it relates to a multi-billion dollar industry.

This issue contains articles written by scholars and practitioners who are experts in their specific fields. These authors recognize the interplay between their expertise and the brewing industry. Their scholarship contains new and refreshing approaches to traditional areas of the law, like Contracts and Trademarks. There is also an interesting discussion about how and why the craft brewing industry does not utilize the full spectrum of Intellectual Property protections.

Thank you to everyone who helped produce this issue, from our fantastic authors to our in-house editorial team. A special thank you to our Chief Articles & Symposium Editor, Nico Chapman, for working tirelessly to obtain the scholarship for this issue and plan the corresponding symposium. This issue would not be possible without Professor Daniel Croxall, whose passion for educating, learning, and advancing the law is infectious. But for Professor Croxall, I too would not have an open mind to the Law of Beer. To Jennifer—my wife, my muse, min elskede—thank you for always encouraging me to pursue my dreams. With you by my side, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

Thomas A. Gerhart  
Editor-in-Chief  
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