

# Strickland: School student-centered

Continued from Page 1  
can happen.

**Q** What got you interested in law?

**A** In the very broadest sense, I think it was because I was a smart aleck, argumentative child. (laughs) People would say to me, "You ought to be a lawyer." So that was a part of it. Also, when I was in high school and college, I was very active in interscholastic and intercollegiate debate. I think I tend to be someone who is verbal, and someone who is interested attacking particular problems in society. And I think those are things that led me naturally into law.

**Q** Any "problems in society" in particular?

**A** Most of my career has been devoted to American Indian law. So that's a crucial one that is interesting to me. I've also been very much interested in what we can do to provide opportunities to enfranchise individuals in this society both in political and economic sense. So I'm interested in economic development, particularly in Native American, African-American and recent immigrant communities — how it is possible to bring people who are either new to the society or new to the opportunities of the society into the mainstream of the system. I have a sense that if there really is one thing that has been responsible for much of the prosperity and achievement of this country, it has been that as new groups have come into the country, we provide the opportunity for people to be educated, to move into the professions and see their sons and daughters in the next generation have a chance to do things that they couldn't.

**Q** I understand that your family background is Native American.

**A** Yes, my father is Cherokee. My mother is Osage (pronounced oh-sayge). I grew up in a little town called Muskogee, Ok., which was the administrative capital for a group of southeastern Indian tribes. The college I went to, the undergraduate college which was Northeastern Oklahoma, was the first college-level education founded by an Indian tribe. It was founded by the Cherokees just before the American Civil War. When Oklahoma became a state in 1907, the state took over the operation, what had been called the

Cherokee Seminary.

**Q** So, do you feel that your family and the area in which you grew up influenced you?

**A** Oh, absolutely. Sure.

**Q** Have you ever had a private practice?

**A** No, I went directly into teaching. I've been actively involved primarily as an expert witness or as an arbitrator in a number of cases over time. I just finished 3 1/2 years as chair and arbitrator of a commission appointed by the federal court to revise the Osage Constitution. I've been an academic.

**Q** What programs do you hope to improve, and what are some of the successful current programs that you hope to maintain?

**A** I think the wonderful thing about this particular law school is that it isn't a violin with a single stroke. It is an institution that has a long and historic contribution in a number of areas. The Ocean and Coastal Law program, particularly its international aspect, is a world-class program.

The Environmental Law Program is again one that is a pioneer in the program, has great strength and is widely respected. The Law and Entrepreneurship Program, which is a more recent program, is also, I think, a truly significant program. The thing I really hope we can do is not just strengthen those programs, but to receive the synergy that exists between many of the programs in this institution. For example, my hope is that with Law and Entrepreneurship, we will work with the Environmental Program and work on things like green capitalism — methods by which it is possible to simultaneously build an economy and build an ecology.

I obviously have an interest in looking at things like "what are we able to do to assist in economic development and the use of entrepreneurship on Indian reservations?" Isn't there something besides gaming that can build sustainable economic growth?

I think if you were to ask outside the State of Oregon, "What is the strength of the University of Oregon Law School?" people would probably say it is an institution which has a very strong tradition of training and educating students in the fundamentals of the practice of law.

**Q** What are some special skills or experience that you bring to this law school that you think will benefit?

**A** With my usual modesty — (laughs) — why am I wonderful? Basically.

**Q** I think one of the things I bring is 30 years of being part of higher education in a range of institutions. I think having been president of the Association of American Law Schools, I had an opportunity to work with and in many ways be intimately familiar with what is happening in a range of law schools across the country.

I think one of the things that I bring, and every place I've been in, faculty members will say is the case, I bring a very strong commitment to the law school being a student-centered place. Students are the reason we are here, so it is important to me we understand that. I think because my field of specialty is American Indian law, legal anthropology and legal history, I have an appreciation of the importance of change in our ability to prepare students to deal with a world that's changing.

**Q** Do you have any specific goals for minority students as far as recruitment and education?

**A** As you may know, one of the things that I have done, and proudest of having done, was I chaired the original minority enrollment task force of the Law School Admission Council, which produced a million to LSAT fees to be used for minority recruitment. What I really want to do is to have programs here that are so strong that we are attracting a diverse student body based on the education experience that we can give students. My commitment and belief is that the real beneficiaries of diversity of a law school and legal community are the non-minority people who are enrolled. They have an opportunity to understand and see the law and what it can do from different viewpoints.

But, I've observed over the years that often some of the greatest contributions that are made in fields of concern are made in fact by non-minorities. A graduate of ours, who is at the University of Washington, taught one of the very first classes on Indian law. He's not Native American, but his work really produced the great fishing rights cases.

## Why rent when you can own?

**BEFORE** you decide to stand in line to rent, check out these great Cougill & Hansen "class" opportunities.

• **Operation of Hospitality Services 110:**

This large 4 bedroom, 2 bath home is close to the hub of Eugene activity! \$129,900.

• **Management Fundamental of Business 206:**

This great condo is a real investment opportunity. \$63,000.

**FACT:** Four years ago there were 171 houses in the University area available for sale in the \$75-\$90,000 range. Today there are 71 houses available in this price range. The cost of housing in the University area are rising, which means the cost of renting is on the rise as well.



Interested in checking out these classes and more?  
Call Charlotte O'Ryan, professor emeritus of houses  
684-6432.




Since 1943...  
celebrating over 50 years  
Continuous Service



## LOUIE'S VILLAGE

Restaurant and Lounge



**Chinese and American Food**

**ORDERS TO GO**  
**343-4480**  
947 Franklin Blvd.

Mon.-Thur. — 11:00am to 10:30pm  
Fri. — 11:00am to Midnight  
Sat. — Noon to Midnight  
Sun. — Noon to 10:30pm

Monthly Parking Available

# Summertime

in the



# New Hours



**Skylight Dining**

9:30-3:00 Monday-Friday



**Mobile Coffee Station**

7:30-4:45 Monday-Friday



**AAA Cafe** in Lawrence Hall

8:00-3:00 Monday-Friday



**Daily Grind** in Knight Library

8:00-3:00 Monday-Friday



**Atrium** in Willamette Hall

8:00-3:00 Monday-Friday