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Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Gifts \$4 Million to UCLA Law Endowing Two New Faculty Chairs

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. – [Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria](#) have donated \$4.265 million to UCLA Law, creating two new endowed faculty chairs in Native American law. The gift creates two chairs that are endowed in the honor of, respectively, Distinguished Professor Carole Goldberg and Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Tribal Chairman Greg Sarris. The chairs will recruit, retain and support faculty members of the highest professional caliber, who will advance the study and practice of tribal law. Chair holders will have demonstrated academic excellence in Native American law and a substantial commitment to mentoring Native American students.

The donation follows [the tribe's landmark 2020 gift of \\$15 million to UCLA Law](#), which was the largest-ever contribution that a tribe has made to a law school and one of the biggest in history from a tribe to a university. Those funds created scholarships for Native Americans and other students interested in pursuing careers as tribal legal advocates, and [the first cohort of Graton Scholars joined UCLA Law last year](#).

“The establishment of these two important chairs reflects our tribe’s commitment to supporting and defending the legal standing and rights of Native Nations. This gift enshrines UCLA Law’s commitment to advancing the rights of Native American people and to help ensure that Native American law remains a central priority for the school,” said Greg Sarris, Tribal Chairman, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

“The promotion of Native Nations and the continuation of our work as the leading institution for Native American law and policy are central to our mission of education, research and public service at UCLA Law, and we could not be more thankful for the sustained generosity of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria,” said Russell Korobkin, interim dean of UCLA Law.

“During the past year, the Graton Scholars have quickly emerged as tremendously valued members of our law school, and thanks to this visionary donation, our community will grow to include more faculty members committed to the rights of Native Americans.”

A member of the UCLA Law faculty since 1972, Goldberg is the nation's pre-eminent scholar in Indian law, the Jonathan D. Varat Distinguished Professor of Law Emerita, and the founding director of UCLA's joint degree program in law and American Indian studies. Sarris received his undergraduate degree from UCLA and returned to the university to teach English for more than a decade. An acclaimed author of several books and leader, he has been Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria since 1992.

Largely under Goldberg's direction, UCLA Law has been a broadly recognized leader in Indian law and policy for more than half a century, with professors and students who work at the forefront of scholarship and advocacy regarding Native Nations. Including the renowned [Native Nations Law and Policy Center](#), UCLA Law is home to the top faculty members, clinical instructors, and students who engage in a wide array of research projects, educational offerings, and programs in Native American law.

About the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

Graton Rancheria is a federally recognized Indian tribe comprising Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo Indians. Legislation restoring federal recognition to the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria was signed into law in December 2000. Tribal lands are located in Rohnert Park, Sonoma County, Calif. For more information, visit www.gratonrancheria.com.

About UCLA Law

Founded in 1949, UCLA School of Law is one of the top-ranked law schools in the country. Its faculty are among the most influential scholars in business law, constitutional law, critical race studies, environmental law, Indian law, evidence, immigration law, public interest law, tax law and other fields. UCLA Law's 18,000-plus alumni work in nearly every state and more than 50 countries as leaders in government, industry, social justice and the legal profession. Committed to the University of California's mission of teaching, research, and service, UCLA Law offers students a strong foundation in the law and practical training through a robust experiential education program. For more information, visit law.ucla.edu.

MEDIA, PLEASE NOTE: To request an interview with Chairman Greg Sarris or for additional images, please contact Brianne Miller at graton@landispr.com or by phone at (650) 575-7727.

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