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# Law professor at USD publishes book on Indian law



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VERMILLION, S.D. -- Frank Pommersheim, J.D., professor of law at The University of South Dakota, has published a new book on Indian law, "Broken Landscape: Indians, Indian Tribes, and the Constitution." In celebration of the book's release, the Hagemann Center for Empirical Legal Research is hosting a discussion with the author and a book signing at the Al Neuharth Media Center at 3 p.m. Oct. 20.

"Broken Landscape" is a sweeping chronicle of Indian tribal sovereignty under the United States Constitution and the way that legal analysis and practice have interpreted and misinterpreted tribal sovereignty since the nation's founding. The Constitution formalized the relationship between Indian tribes and the United States government -- a relationship forged through a long history of war and land usurpation -- within a federal structure not mirrored in the traditions of tribal governance.

A nationally-recognized Indian law expert, Pommersheim joined the USD School of Law faculty in 1984. Prior to that, he lived and worked on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation for a decade. Additionally, Pommersheim has served on a number of tribal appellate courts and currently serves as Chief Justice for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Court of Appeals and the Rosebud Sioux Supreme Court. In addition to "Broken Landscape," he is the author of "Braid of Feathers: American Indian Law and Contemporary Life," and "East of the River: Poems Ancient and New."

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