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A Tribute to Franklin Gill, Esq. and Mary Gill

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SCHOOL
OF LAW
SMALL SCHOOL.
BIG VALUE.

A TRIBUTE TO FRANKLIN GILL, ESQ. AND MARY GILL BY THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO LAW JOURNAL AND THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO LAW INSTITUTE

The Editorial Board of the United States-Mexico Law Journal and the Board of Directors of the United States-Mexico Law Institute dedicate this twelfth issue of the Journal to Professor Franklin Gill, Esq. in grateful recognition of his tremendous dedication and eleven years of exemplary service.

Professor Gill served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal and as Executive Director of the Institute from 1992 until 2003. He also served as Secretary and Treasurer of the Institute's Board of Directors. The Institute operates in cooperation with the University of New Mexico School of Law, the Mexican Law Committee of the International Law and Practice Section of the American Bar Association, and the *Asociación Nacional de Abogados de Empresa*. Frank represented the Institute at the meetings of the Mexican Law Committee during the time he served as Executive Director. He has been a dedicated leader of the Institute's efforts to present and discuss legal issues involving Mexico and the United States. He thought constantly about the issues that we should address, and was instrumental in the preparations for and the presentation of our first eleven annual programs.

In order to understand the contribution that Frank has made to the Institute, it is important to put it into context. When the Institute was first organized, one of the hurdles that had to be overcome—perhaps the largest hurdle—was to find someone to take charge and move the Institute forward. The UNM School of Law and the charter members and organizations were initially at a loss as to who could assume this role. Providentially, at about the same time Frank joined the law school's faculty. He had the background, the courage, the motivation, and the desire to become the first Editor-in-Chief of this Journal and the first Director of the Institute.

One of Frank's most difficult jobs was to supervise the production of the Journal, which is published each summer. As Editor-in-Chief, Frank oversaw the transformation of transcripts and papers by the law student editors into the eleven prior issues that reflect the efforts of many speakers and writers in our programs. United States courts and other writers are now citing United States-Mexico Law Journal articles, which indicates that what is presented in our conferences and later published in the Journal is worthwhile to the bar and to our other readers.

Frank also worked very hard to produce first-class programs for the Institute through his close collaboration with the conference-site hotels to assure that everything went smoothly. Anyone who has organized a conference can appreciate how much effort and diligence are required behind the scenes. Frank also searched out very interesting restaurants and museums for our conference's social gatherings, which generally enhanced the development of lasting relationships among our speakers and members. Those experiences have enriched our programs, and we are duly grateful for Frank's efforts in this regard.

We also must recognize Mary Gill, Frank's wife, because they truly have worked as a team. Mary took a keen interest in the work of the Institute from the beginning. She helped Frank plan and organize the conferences, and attended every one. The Journal and the Institute would not exist as they do today if it were not for Frank and Mary's enormous contribution of service and talent. *Con nuestro más sincero agradecimiento*, we wish Frank and Mary Gill continued success in their future endeavors.

