

Letter from the Director

This 20th volume of *Policy Perspectives* represents 20 years of student experience. From the beginning, even from the conception of a journal by Founding Editor Celeste Murphy Greene when she was an MPA student in the early 1990s, *Policy Perspectives* has been a student publication.

It's been a joy to watch student editors and contributors grow and learn through the process. I take pride in this issue as well as the 19 volumes that preceded it.

When I look at the covers, I remember the faces of editors and writers who sometimes wondered if they really did have what it takes to produce true, publication-worthy scholarship related to public administration and policy. I remember the glow on those same faces when the journal would return from the printer and they would bring me my first copy.

From the beginning, the journal has explored public administration and public policy in action. In the first issue, articles examined economic opportunity on Indian reservations, U.S. nuclear waste policy and lessons from the Savings and Loan disaster.

Over the years, topics explored include welfare reform, caring for people with HIV/AIDS while they are on Medicaid, e-government and the changing roles of public administrators, free trade and the widening gap between rich and poor countries, emergency appropriations following the September 11 attacks, and retirement of the baby boom generation.

This year, I look forward to reading student scholarship about deforestation in Brazil, the wind energy production tax credit, state-level Earned Income Tax Credit programs, heterarchical government structures, and more.

The topics have varied widely, but each volume has shown how public policy and administration theories and frameworks apply to real-world issues and challenges. Each volume contains solid research and suggestions for improving systems and influencing change. Our faculty take pride in the thoughtful perspectives on policy and administration our students have presented.

It has also been especially rewarding to watch our editors and authors rise to leadership positions in government and nonprofits across the country and around the world. They have left an impressive legacy that I know will continue for the next 20 years.

Kathryn Newcomer, PhD

Director

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