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Message From The Editors

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Message from the Editors

Ethan C. Snyder

Co-Editor & Co-Founder

Barbara Payne

Co-Editor

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Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2016

Public Affairs Professionals, Students, and Interested Readers:

It is with great pleasure that the Hatfield Graduate Journal of Public Affairs staff and editors present the inaugural issue of our journal. As an academic and professional journal, the first volume is a reflection not only of the wide array of current policy challenges that professors and students are navigating, but also a presentation of the current work practitioners are contributing to in the field. We also recognize that public affairs and policy challenges cross national borders. Consequently, we have ensured that our submissions add to the policy discourse in the United States and the global community as a whole. This journal was envisioned by two Master of Public Policy candidates at Portland State University, Melanie Pascual and Ethan C. Snyder, during the Summer of 2015. Witnessing the stages of this journal from its creation to its maiden published manuscript has been a humbling process. We extend our gratitude to you for being a part of this journey with us.

One of the guiding principles of this journal was to present high quality public affairs discussions from an academic and professional lens. The area of public affairs and policy is informed through the interdependence of field observation and work coupled with academic study. As a journal, we recognize that challenges in public affairs do not simply reside in the hypotheticals of an aging text but have current, tangible impacts on real people. With a respect for informing public affairs professionals and an aspiration to archive the ever growing number of works in this field, HGJPA is committed to fostering critical analyses and diverse perspectives.

The Hatfield Graduate Journal of Public Affairs is housed in the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University. The Hatfield School of Government is dedicated to

advancing the field of public service through the lens of social justice. The school is also committed to developing strong public service leaders that embody the skills and values to have a lasting impact on the future of our communities, nation, and world. Knowing that public affairs' decisions are made in a competitive and conflicting arena of values, the Hatfield School and this journal seek to foster an environment that acknowledges and welcomes a diverse set of perspectives.

After a rigorous multi-stage peer-review process, the editorial board of the Hatfield Graduate Journal selected seven submissions to publish that range from book reviews to urban planning policy discussions. We are proud of this first publication and what it contributes to the public affairs discourse. We look forward to continuing our journey in publishing critical scholarship on contemporary policy relevant to the challenges of our time.

This endeavor would not have been possible without the exceptionally committed and relentless efforts of the Associate Editors and Peer-Reviewers of the journal. As Editors, we would like to extend our genuine gratitude to each member of the editorial team. The Associate Editors of this journal spent a vast amount of time to build the foundation of success for this inaugural edition. Furthermore, the Peer-Reviewers around the world in academics, professional practices, and graduate schools were the drivers ensuring that each submission accepted met a rigorous expectation prior to publication.

In addition to the Editorial Board, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Karen Bjork. Karen played an integral role in the development of the journal and continues to support it with zeal. With a vision to enhance the scholarship of the Hatfield School and an intricate knowledge of the impacts public affairs has on the everyday citizen, our Faculty Advisor, Dr. Bruce Gilley, has championed the journal since its original proposal. Finally, and most certainly not least, we would like to say thank you to all of the authors who submitted to the journal for its inaugural issue. We are enthusiastic that you chose the Hatfield Graduate Journal of Public Affairs as your venue to publish.

We welcome you to Volume I, Issue I of the Hatfield Graduate Journal of Public Affairs.

Regards,

Ethan C. Snyder | Co-Editor & Co-Founder
Barbara Payne | Co-Editor