

Editors' Note

This publication marks the 20th volume of *Policy Perspectives*. For two decades, the journal has published graduate student research and analysis, highlighting student study at the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration. In addition, *Policy Perspectives* provides an outlet for members of the student body not only to learn about the publication process, but also to develop critical writing, editing, research, and revision skills.

This year, we are including two special sections of the journal. In recognition of the 20th volume, the first section features letters from individuals who have been an integral part of the publication: Kathy Newcomer, Director of the Trachtenberg School; Celeste Murphy Greene, Founding Editor; and Eleanor Copeland Weis, Editor-in-Chief of Volume 1.

This year also marks a major milestone for the school: the 50th year of public policy and public administration education at GW. In the journal's anniversary feature section, we are honored to include an article written by President Emeritus Stephen Joel Trachtenberg about the field of public administration. Also featured is a recap of the Trachtenberg School's 50th Anniversary celebration, including quotes from this year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

Like the 19 volumes that have preceded it, Volume 20's articles reflect the many interests and areas of study that students of the Trachtenberg School explore. We are pleased to publish the following eight articles written by current students:

Dana Hecht's article, *Effects of Farm Bill Commodity Subsidies on US Corn Production, Farm Income, and Market Price*, describes the subsidies that are available to farmers and analyzes the effect these subsidies have on planting decisions, overall production, and the market price of corn.

In *Equitable Development Movement: A Progressive Response to the Urban Redevelopment Landscape Nationwide and in Washington, DC's Shaw Community*, **Liz Sablich** looks at how the equitable development movement is used to help protect the interests of long-term residents in changing neighborhoods.

Helaina Matza's article, *Battling Deforestation in Brazil: Implementing a REDD Framework to Combat Global Climate Change*, examines the issue of deforestation and provides suggestions related to the application of the United Nations' Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) framework in Brazil.

Why All States Should Adopt a State-Level Earned Income Tax Credit: A Policy Argument by **Eric J. Stokan** presents a case for why the Earned Income Tax Credit should be expanded at the state-level to help reduce poverty, enhance employment, and equalize the tax burden.

In *Multi-Systemic Model of Juvenile Justice Reform: Adopting the Missouri Model in California*, **Ana Gioconda Jara** presents a cost-benefit analysis of a juvenile justice policy reform proposal for California that's based on a state-wide model that was adopted in Missouri.

Banking the Unbanked: A Mechanism for Improving the Financial Security of Low-Income Individuals by **Emily Robbins** explains the causes and effects of not using traditional banking services, and highlights how public-private partnerships can help expand financial literacy.

Jay Sher's article, *The Wind Energy Production Tax Credit as an Alternative to a Carbon Tax*, describes the growth of the wind energy market and conducts an analysis to determine the optimal level for the wind energy production tax credit.

Heterarchy: An Interorganizational Approach to Securing the United States Against a Pandemic Threat by **Diane Mars** looks at heterarchies and explains how they provide the optimal interorganizational structure for securing against and responding to a pandemic threat.

We would like to acknowledge Volume 20's exceptional editorial staff, and thank them for their dedication and contribution to the journal: Mara Andersen, Josette Arevalo, Max Bentovim, Hasan Bhatti, Rebecca Blackmore, Michael Holzer, Tanya Joshua, Brandon Kruse, Erin Lockett, and Julia Watts. We are also grateful for the support of Trachtenberg School Director Kathy Newcomer, and thank her for serving as the *Policy Perspectives* faculty advisor. In addition, we thank the members of the GW faculty and administration who contributed their time and provided valuable insight and guidance throughout the publication process.

Finally, in recognition of this 20th volume, we'd like to thank all previous *Policy Perspectives* contributors (editors, writers, faculty readers, designers, reviewers, etc.) whose influence has made the journal what it is today. We are honored to have had the opportunity to continue the tradition of publishing high-quality student research and analysis, and look forward to reading future volumes of *Policy Perspectives*.

Anne Berry
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