It’s hard to believe that spring of 2023 marks three years since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Although we fully returned to the classroom and met in-person for journal activities this year, the world we live in is a fundamentally changed one. The pandemic laid the groundwork for us to re-examine how governments respond to pressing challenges and to consider how public policy directly impacts our lives. This edition of Policy Perspectives provides insightful remarks on these questions and many others. After months of work fine-tuning the important policy messages the articles contain, we are proud to present this year’s edition of Policy Perspectives.

Our milestone 30th volume provides policy recommendations for some of the most important topics we face every day, brought to you by multiple voices from the Trachtenberg community. This year’s journal features seven new articles that speak to a wide array of policy issues, and our authors provide guidance for policymakers and everyday folks alike. These topics include right-to-work laws, clean energy policy, carbon border adjustments, federal policies affecting mass incarceration, outcomes-based payments in healthcare, forced marriage policy in the United Kingdom, and an analysis of a colorectal cancer screening program.

We are immeasurably grateful to the wonderful team of people who worked hard to make this volume a success. Our Associate Editors Frank Bewkes, Mairead Crotty, Sarah Mohammadi, Anisha Sahni, Steven Watson, Amanda Windley, and Grace Wofford made each article stronger with every round of editing and fact-checking. We are also grateful to our team of Senior Editors—past authors and editors of this publication—who proofread each article to ensure excellence in the final stages of the editorial process. And thank you to Lancy Downs, Executive Editor of Brief Policy Perspectives, for running the blog and WonkCast with the care and leadership they deserve.

Many thanks to the staff and faculty across the Trachtenberg School and beyond, including Dr. Kathy Newcomer; for being our spokesperson and always offering helpful guidance; Dr. Mary Tschirhart, the Director of the Trachtenberg School, for her constant championship of Policy Perspectives; Gregory Nelson, for supporting us through budgetary and administrative weeds; and to Dolsy Smith, for offering guidance on the journal’s design and online publication. Lastly, a sincere thank you goes to the faculty reviewers for providing their guidance and expertise to our authors throughout the year.

It has been an immense honor to serve as Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor of Volume 30, and we look forward to seeing what the next 30 years hold for Policy Perspectives. We hope you enjoy reading this issue and learn as much from it as we have.

Evan Linett
Editor-in-Chief

Kody Keckler
Managing Editor