
EDITORS' NOTE

Reading the news can sometimes make us feel like we live in a world on the brink. Filtering out all the noise, though, one can find glimmers of hope. It is with that spirit that we present Volume 31 of *Policy Perspectives*. The articles we have chosen for this edition cover a wide array of topics, but there is a notable and intentional theme of social justice that heartens us. You will not find a dry economic policy piece here! Instead, you will find thoughtful articles tackling policy problems that people face every day. Seeing the passion for social causes within our fellow students and alumni has been a privilege. Thus, after much hard work from editors, authors, and staff, we proudly present this year's edition of *Policy Perspectives*.

The articles featured within truly embody the Trachtenberg School's motto of "doing good and doing it well." This year's journal features six new articles that speak to a wide array of policy issues, and our authors provide some actionable recommendations for policymakers. Topics include how to save for America's future with baby bonds, privatizing liquor sales, minimum wage and poverty alleviation, the disability poverty trap, medical costs and vulnerability to homelessness among DC elders, and regulating foster care. You will also find four of the best blog post contributions from *Brief Policy Perspectives* appended to this volume.

Policy Perspectives would not exist without our incredible team. We are so grateful to everyone who worked hard to make this volume successful. Our Associate Editors, Arub Butt, Emma Campbell, Mairead Crotty, Taylor Elop, Annabelle Farkas, and Carolina Gutierrez, worked with their authors and us to make each article the best it could be through multiple revisions. We are also grateful to our team of Senior Editors—past authors and editors of this publication—whose keen eyes proofread each article to ensure they uphold *Policy Perspectives*' high editorial standards. We thank our Executive Editor of *Brief Policy Perspectives*, Nathan Varnell, too, for always being willing to jump in where needed while running the blog and WonkCast.

We also owe many thanks to the staff and faculty across the Trachtenberg School and beyond, including Dr. Kathy Newcomer, for being our spokesperson, cheerleader, and trusted advisor; 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 with patience; and to Dolsy Smith, for offering guidance on the journal's design and online publication. Finally, a sincere thank you goes to the faculty reviewers for providing guidance and expertise to our authors throughout the year.

Serving as Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor of Volume 31 has been an honor and a privilege. We are excited to share the insights offered in these pages with you, and we think you will see the glimmers of hope like we did.



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