Message from the Editors

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This publication marks the fifth volume of the Pepperdine Policy Review. This yearly journal represents the very best scholarly work that the Pepperdine School of Public Policy student body has to offer. This year’s volume visits the four main areas that our School emphasizes: we look at the global interactions of nations in articles having to do with International Relations, we consider how we chose to govern in our country with our American Politics section, our State and Local section puts specific community issues under the microscope, and finally our Economics section considers the subjective value of decision making and how that affects our policy choices. Also, we have some shorter articles that serve to address specific topics and book reviews.

There is no easy transition, but we would like to take a moment to honor the memory of Dr. James Q. Wilson, Pepperdine’s Ronald Reagan Professor of Public Policy. Dr. Wilson was an accomplished and revered man, one whose extensive career and inspiration will undoubtedly continue to enrich the University and the nation for generations to come.

Born towards the beginning of the Great Depression, James Q. Wilson was well educated, receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He taught at Harvard University, Boston College, UCLA, and our own Pepperdine University. Perhaps, he is best known for his scholarly work, including his best-selling text book on American Government, his work on crime, culture, and morality. His lectures always provoked thought, and from our own experience, a few laughs. More can be read about this prolific man in many places, and his work will be read for many years to come, but these notes do not properly express the impact that Dr. Wilson had on many at Pepperdine.

The Pepperdine Policy Review is representative of the extensive time and effort the students of the School of Public Policy afford, and the high quality product that ensues. As such,
we would like to dedicate this publication of the Review to the memory of Dr. James Q. Wilson, to honor his commitment to scholarship and the lasting influence he has bestowed upon Pepperdine and the greater academic community.

Michael Crouch
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