Message from the Editor

Jordan I. Sandler
Pepperdine University, jordan.sandler@pepperdine.edu

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The editorial staff of the Pepperdine Public Policy Review is excited to present Volume VII of our journal showcasing the research and analytical abilities of students of public policy. This year represented a broad restructuring of the Policy Review, and I am pleased to present seven fantastic articles to the academic and policy making community that have been the results of much work and dedication from authors and editors. For the first time, the Policy Review accepted submissions from outside the Pepperdine community, and we are pleased to publish one such article from a student at the nearby Luskin School of Public Affairs at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Just as the focus of the School of Public Policy at Pepperdine University is wide, the topics covered by this year’s articles are diverse. International topics include the future of cybersecurity, combating malaria in developing countries, and an analysis of clean energy consumption on a global scale. Domestically focused articles include such topics as agricultural patenting, public-private partnerships, the minimum wage, and competing revisions of the Endangered Species Act.

The School of Public Policy hosts numerous events throughout the year covering nearly all aspects of the policy making world. One of the highlights of the 2013-2014 school year was certainly the James Q. Wilson Conference, held February 28 and March 1, 2014 at the School of Public Policy. The Conference brought together a diverse group of intellectuals and policy makers to honor and delve into the work of a man who had tremendous influence on modern
public policy, both in the academic and practical realms. This issue includes a symposium piece discussing and providing some context to the themes of the conference.

I would like to thank all of the authors and editors who contributed to this year’s edition of the Policy Review. Additionally, I extend special thanks to Dean James Wilburn of the School of Public Policy and Professor Robert Kaufman, who acted as this year’s faculty advisor, for their support and guidance throughout the production of the Policy Review.

Sincerely,

Jordan Sandler

Editor-in-Chief