

Letter from the Editors

We are pleased to present the 2002 volume of the Journal of Public and International Affairs (*JPIA*), a scholarly publication exclusively presenting the work of graduate students from professional schools specializing in public and international affairs. The Journal provides a unique forum for students of public policy to present ideas on issues of concern to them. It is also an opportunity for professional exchange, friendly interaction, and cooperative student effort among the members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA). Student editors participated in an intense Reading Weekend on the Princeton University campus, traveling from as far away as Canada and California or as near as Washington, D.C. to debate the merits of the submissions for publication.

Given the breadth and the quality of the papers as well as the sheer number of submissions, the process of choosing papers was even more selective this year than in years past. The editorial staff reviewed 58 submissions from 19 APSIA member schools to arrive at the final ten outstanding papers presented in this volume. Successful authors made significant additions to the base of scholarly knowledge in a variety of diverse and interesting policy arenas through primary and secondary research.

For example, Cheesebrough tackles the timely issue of the impact of the 1996 welfare reform on children and families in light of the new welfare reauthorization soon to take place in Congress. Eckert highlights the need for the international community to reevaluate its role in the process of constructing new states given the difficulties surrounding the birth of a number of new states in the 1990s. Using original research showing that Harvard University is enrolling a disproportionate number of biracial/biethnic and first or second generation students versus black American students, Haynie identifies policy challenges for affirmative action. Heller suggests a new approach to governing international e-commerce and Internet privacy, known as "customizable privacy." Kulzer uses field research in Tanzania to delve into HIV/AIDS prevention strategies that are compatible within the Maasai culture. MacKenzie grapples with the difficulties in tailoring a U.S. foreign policy that both supports democracy in Pakistan and allows the United States to move forward with the war on terrorism. Drawing on the Egyptian case, Moustafa looks at why many authoritarian governments have aborted their attempts at decentralization and local community development midstream and offers guidance to

international donors interested in supporting such projects. Pothoven examines the role of the United States and the United Nations in the Western Sahara conflict and makes recommendations about how Washington can facilitate a solution by becoming more active. Salman offers six policy principles that can be used to guide governments in fostering female participation in entrepreneurial activity and lead to greater economic growth in general. Thorton argues that by pursuing a National Missile Defense policy and refusing to negotiate changes to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, U.S. leaders endanger their own nonproliferation goals.

The *JPIA* is currently available in the libraries of research centers across the United States and around the world. In light of our commitment to improve the public's access to the Journal's exceptional graduate student scholarship, we are continuing to expand our electronic edition, which can be perused on our website at <http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~JPIA>. We welcome letters and comments, which can be sent to us through the Internet at jpia@princeton.edu.

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