

## *Letter from the Editor*

I am pleased to present the 2006 edition of the *Journal of Public and International Affairs (JPIA)*. Now in its seventeenth year, *JPIA* publishes exclusively the work of graduate students from schools of public and international affairs, providing young scholars with a unique forum to present original research and analysis on issues of domestic and international concern. *JPIA* also provides an opportunity for professional and intellectual exchange among the members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA).

Contributing editors from APSIA schools across the globe actively participated in a rigorous discussion of the Journal submissions. Reading Weekend, held at Princeton University in early February, brings these graduate students together to select the ten articles to be published and posted on the *JPIA* website, as well as the two additional articles to be published on the web only. The contributing editors reviewed and debated the merits of the 40 pre-screened submissions from 15 APSIA member schools before deciding on the articles collected in this volume.

This year, three articles analyze contemporary issues in U.S. domestic policy. Ginger Moored makes recommendations toward maximizing the impact of cultural exchange within an interracial community. Using examples from Washington, D.C., Moored discusses the use of public spaces to overcome racial tensions and spatially concentrated poverty. Also with a focus on low-income urban areas, Matthew Wolfe discusses prenatal care outcomes. Wolfe proposes a set of policy options based on a holistic view of maternal and child health determinants and their related interventions. In the realm of education policy, Laura Duke, Adam Karson and Justin Wheeler examine the impact of mentoring and induction programs on teacher retention. Using logistic regression analyses, they find that, among other results, teachers who have had mentors or gone through induction programs are more likely to be committed to the teaching profession.

Both Steven Yarger and Victoria Hopkins tackle issues related to intellectual property rights and developing countries. Looking specifically at software, Yarger offers solutions for sharing the value of software through partnerships between local governments and software intellectual property owners. Hopkins analyzes the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and the barriers to promoting global public health present in the implementation of the agreement's flexibilities.

Also in the area of international trade, two authors in this year's Journal analyze the implications of trade agreements. Katherine Walraven looks into the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) with a focus on its implication for the provision of social services. Jeff Colgan concentrates on the implementation of international trade agreements, using the Canada-U.S. dispute over softwood lumber imports to improve the theoretical understanding of state behavior.

Other articles tackle diverse issues in development policy, from nuclear proliferation to conflict reconciliation to alternative crop programs in drug producing regions. Richard Bruneau analyzes India's nuclear status and the legitimacy of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). After conducting an extensive set of interviews with Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, Virginie Ladisch argues that the power sharing agreements need to be bolstered by truth commissions, revised history curriculums, and joint projects. The Bolivian government's Alternative Development programs are the focus of the article by Maggie Ball, Ramón Escóbar, Steven Grin, and Leslie MacKeen. The authors address the planning and implementation deficiencies and offer solutions towards meeting the program's goals of eliminating coca production.

*JPIA* is available in academic libraries and research centers across the United States and around the world. The selected works, as well as additional information about *JPIA*, subscriptions, and past years' editions, can be found at [www.princeton.edu/~jpia](http://www.princeton.edu/~jpia). *JPIA* staff welcomes your thoughts and ideas at [jpia@princeton.edu](mailto:jpia@princeton.edu).

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