

### *Letter from the Editors*

The 1998 issue of the *Journal of Public and International Affairs (JPIA)* marks the ninth year of the *Journal*'s publication. The *Journal* remains the only North American scholarly publication exclusively presenting the work of graduate students from professional schools of public and international affairs. As such, it provides a valuable forum for interaction between students, and offers a rare opportunity for cooperative student efforts across the participating schools. For the first time ever, the *Journal* benefited from the participation of every North American member of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA). In addition, the number of editors participating in the annual Reading Weekend was the largest in the *Journal*'s history.

As in the past, the quality of scholarship in the *Journal* remains impressive. The collective body of articles reflects a wide range of pressing policy concerns, ranging from environmental and social, to diplomatic and organizational. Laude Kuhlow, Konisky, and Kojima et al. explore the integration of environmental issues into existing international mechanisms. Ferguson provides a convincing rationale for Russo-Japanese rapprochement, and its implications for U.S. foreign policy. Ronen's comprehensive analysis lends a fresh look at the possibilities wind power adds to the U.S. energy equation. Baxter and Bishop offer fruitful insights into opportunities for flexible and creative international treaty formation, using Canada's leading role in the negotiations to ban landmines as an example. Miller depicts the challenges to U.S. military preparedness in the wake of the Cold War. Wanis St. John portrays the evolution of the National Security Council over several presidential administrations. Menocal takes a historical look at Mexican technocratic politics, with clear implications for today. Peters and Peters tell of the challenges Zimbabwean women face in securing land tenure.

The *JPIA* can be found in the libraries of prominent research centers across the nation and around the world as we have extended our commitment to increasing the public's access to the *Journal*'s exceptional graduate student scholarship. In addition to adding more libraries and readers to our subscription list, we have improved our electronic edition, which can be perused at our Website: <http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~JPIA>. We welcome letters and comments, which can conveniently be sent to us through the Internet.

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