As New Voices in Public Policy starts its sixth year, I'm delighted to introduce the Winter 2012 issue. With this issue, the editorial staff is publishing some of the best masters-level work at George Mason’s School of Public Policy.

This issue features work on Afghanistan after international military forces have departed, entrenched arms trafficking in Yemen, payday lending in Virginia, and risks of increasing insolvency of unemployment insurance funds in the United States. This selection of articles demonstrates the scope of student interests in the School, from regional to international, and on a variety of topics.

NVPP continues to play an important role in the increasingly vibrant student culture on the Arlington Campus. The editorial staff has increased markedly in size, and the group's energy is palpable in our new building. I am continually impressed with the leadership and dedication of students to the enterprise, and look forward to its success in the coming years.

Dr. Todd M. LaPorte
Faculty Advisor
Associate Professor of Public Policy
George Mason University