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Letter from the Editors

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Dear Readers,

We are thankful for you and for what this *Journal* has brought to our lives. From this publication, some of our greatest triumph has come. To date, *The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy*'s articles have been downloaded over fourteen thousand times. For this fifth issue, we once again had many submissions and are publishing here the best—with topics that range from anti-satellite testing to immigration policy to legal teleology.

Many of our Senior and Editorial staffers were children that fateful September morning in 2001. 9/11 marked our childhoods, and for several of us, it helped chart our journeys into adulthood. Several of our Faculty Advisors and Editors were working that day—it was the first attack on U.S. soil since Pearl Harbor. We are grateful to Professors Scott Roenicke, Christopher Rhoades, Grayson Story, and U.S. Army Captain Christopher Wilson for their reflections, which we have published here.

This past spring, we held our second public policy conference, entitled, “A Nation Divided? Assessing Freedom & The Rule of Law in a Post-2020 World,” which tackled several issues including how to balance freedom and the rule of law from different worldviews. Students, faculty, alumni, and friends of Liberty presented research on legal, regulatory, foreign and international issues, focusing on liberty and justice. We were joined by Governor Glenn Youngkin, Governor Bob McDonnell, Governor George Allen, Speaker Todd Gilbert, the Honorable Steve Newman, and several distinguished Helms Faculty, as well as our friends from The Heritage Foundation, Family Research Council, Forge Leadership Network, and the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. This upcoming Spring of 2023, the *Journal* along with the Helms School of Government, will hold our third public policy conference.

This publication would not have been possible without the guidance of Dean Robert Hurt and Associate Dean Joel Cox. In addition, the help of Faculty Advisors Dr. Mary Prentice and Dr. Kahlil Fischer proved to be invaluable. Mr. Titus Pettman offered great assistance. Additional help was given by Dean Ronald Miller, Associate Dean Jason Ross, and Administrative Online Dean Suzanne Caruso.

Special thanks to the several faculty and staff editors, including Dr. Melissa Beaudoin, Dr. Dean Curry, Dr. Kahlil Fischer, Dr. David Holt, Dr. Timothy O'Brien, and Dr. Mary Prentice.

Special thanks to the Assistant Editors in Chief, Gracelyn Hedrick, Christian Butler, Lucy Lambert, and John Kebles; and the many student editors that helped along the way: Rachel Solsman, Giana DePaul, Ashley Gore, Savannah Snyder, Paul Prentice, Derartu Berrios, Sharon Higel, Faith Chudkowski, Lucas Curley, Natalie Cawston, Nicole Wellington, Madison Martin, and Travis Younce.

The *Journal* has many opportunities to stay engaged, including attending our upcoming conference or submitting to our next edition. Submissions for the next volume of the journal open on February 15, 2023, and close on May 15, 2023. We routinely publish research articles (up to twelve pages single spaced) and book reviews (up to six pages single spaced). Submit to our journal [here](#).

C.S. Lewis once wrote in his *The Four Loves*, “Patriotism has, then, many faces.” The *Journal* represents many of those faces. In a post-9/11 world, it can be easy to be cynical about a myriad of issues, ranging from current political philosophies to national security strategies, but we at the *Journal* argue that America's best days are before us squarely because of the valor, patriotism, and hope which we see both in the past and the present. We live in interesting times, and we live in the greatest of days. We can cling to hope in this world because we seek the next.

The next edition of the journal will be published in the Winter of 2023. We look forward to meeting you at our conference this coming spring, as well as reviewing your submissions for our upcoming winter edition!

Sincerely,

The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy Editors-in-Chief

Bess Blackburn, Shaddi Spencer, Catherine Latchford, & Hayden O'Connor