

October 2023

## Letter from the Editorial Board

Rodney Ford

Gracelyn Hedrick

Mary Prentice

Bessie Blackburn  
*Liberty University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/jspp>

---

### Recommended Citation

Ford, Rodney; Hedrick, Gracelyn; Prentice, Mary; and Blackburn, Bessie (2023) "Letter from the Editorial Board," *Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy*. Vol. 4: Iss. 1, Article 5.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/jspp/vol4/iss1/5>

This Editor's Introduction is brought to you for free and open access by the Helms School of Government at Scholars Crossing. It has been accepted for inclusion in Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy by an authorized editor of Scholars Crossing. For more information, please contact [scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu](mailto:scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu).

A special thanks is in order to those who helped to make this publication possible. The *Journal* team is grateful for the direction of Faculty Advisors Dr. Mary Prentice and Dr. Kahlib Fischer and for their leadership and diligence this past cycle. As the *Journal* surpasses 25,000 downloads, we acknowledge the impossibility of such a feat without their guidance. We also wish to thank Dean Joel Cox for his willingness to oversee the publication process as he steps into a new role. Faculty and staff editors must also be recognized for their invaluable contributions to this edition. Among others, we are thankful to Jennifer Holmquist, Dr. Melissa Beaudoin, Dr. Fred Newell, Dr. Jesse Chupp, Larry Presley, Travis Younce, and Aaron Van Allen. Special thanks to the Editors-in-Chief, Bess Blackburn, Catherine Latchford, Shaddi Spencer, and Hayden O'Connor, and the Assistant Editors-in-Chief, Zachary Cary, John Kebles, Christian Butler, and Henrique Krigner, as well as the legion of student editors that helped along the way. A complete list of the entire team who serve on the *Journal* can be accessed [here](#).

A warm thank you to Gracelyn Hedrick for her dedication as the public face and creative mind of the *Journal*. As she embraces a new role as the Director of Promotions, her ingenuity and professionalism will undoubtedly widen the breadth and raise the quality of biblical scholarship for the years to come. The *Journal* is indeed growing in readership and scope, and there are an ever-increasing number of opportunities to stay engaged. We encourage everyone to attend our annual spring public policy conference, this year entitled, "American Revival: Citizenship and Virtue." You can stay updated with conference news on Helms School of Government social media, and learn more about the annual event [here](#) or see the adjoining page for more details. We also encourage students and faculty members to submit to our next edition of the *Journal*. Submissions will open on February 15, 2024, and close on May 15, 2024. We routinely publish research articles (up to twelve pages single-spaced) and book reviews (up to six pages single-spaced).

Lastly, the editorial board is pleased to announce our newly launched Research Teams. Beginning in the fall of 2023, we are introducing seven distinct Research Teams in which participants can connect and collaborate with other like-minded individuals who share an interest in scholarship in either a specific subject or region of the world. The seven research teams include: 1) Domestic Public Policy; 2) Indo-Pacific; 3) Mediterranean; 4) National Security; 5) North Atlantic; 6) Political Philosophy, Jurisprudence, and Christian Thought; and 7) South Atlantic. Students and faculty members are invited to join a research team by submitting their applications [here](#). We also look forward to our expanded international presence in many countries and developing partnerships with scholars around the world, including our new Romanian-European advisor Daniel Fodorean.

As always, the entire *Journal* team is thankful for our readership; none of this would be possible without you! We are looking forward to engaging with each and every one of you throughout this upcoming academic cycle. Thank you,

Rodney Ford, Director of Communications  
Gracelyn Hedrick, Director of Promotions  
Mary Prentice, Faculty Advisor  
Bess Blackburn, Editor-in-Chief of Political Philosophy



Liberty without virtue is no liberty at all and only leads to growing tyranny and moral decay. In turn, to say that liberty requires limited government is to simultaneously say that liberty involves the virtue of engaging in love for our neighbors and caring for one's community. This care is itself an investment in and exercise of virtue. We believe that virtue and liberty are harmonious. Part of Liberty's mission includes training in the values, knowledge, and skills essential to impact the world. In the world, a leap in liberty has been the mainspring of unprecedented human progress, not only for Americans, but for people around the world. Sponsored by the Helms School of Government and the *Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy*, our 4th annual Public Policy conference focuses on the development and installation of virtue in all areas and all levels of the public policy context.

We hope you will join us!

We will be accepting papers in the following general policy areas:

- Legal & Regulatory Issues
- Upholding Liberty and Justice
- Foreign Policy & International Issues

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**September 27, 2023:**

Abstract submission opens

**January 15, 2024:** Abstract submission closes

**February 12, 2024:** Paper submission closes

**Public Policy Conference:**  
April 10-12, 2024

---

Please visit the [Conference website](#) to both register for the conference and submit an abstract.

---