A Letter from the Editors-in-Chief

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MPA ‘14

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Dear Readers,

On behalf of the Editorial Board, we are pleased to present the fourth edition of the Evans School Review. The Evans School Review is a student-run journal which strives to allow students to share innovative and diverse perspectives with a wide audience. We believe it is critical that Evans School students have the opportunity to share their original research with the world so that we can further the mission of the Evans School of Public Affairs to advance ideas which strengthen public policy. Over the last year it has truly been an honor to work with such a passionate group of students. The editorial board and staff editors dedicated a monumental amount of time and energy towards improving the journal, and their tireless efforts have made this year’s edition a great success. It has been exciting to see the journal develop as it enters into its fourth year and continues to mature. While there were many challenges to overcome, this experience was remarkably enjoyable and rewarding.

We received a number of excellent submissions and it was wonderful to see the diverse topics to which Evans School students have devoted themselves. This year’s articles start at home, with analyses of a ban on the sale of plastic bottles as well as steps to improve liability insurance in Washington State, and reach into the international arena, with an assessment of the health challenges facing children in Cambodia and the future of pollution regulations in the Russian North. The passion our students put into these articles is readily apparent and their work truly represents the breadth of perspectives which make the Evans School unique.

The editorial board made the decision to devote a significant portion of this year’s journal to the perspectives of Evans School alumni. In our spotlight piece, an Evans alum gives us a glimpse into her career with the federal government, sharing the experience of taking the tools she gained at the Evans School and applying them to real world issues. The in-depth analysis in the Alumni Perspectives article presents a true depth of knowledge on the open data movement in a compelling show of how classroom training combined with on the ground experience can translate into a level of genuine real world expertise.
We would like offer thanks to our faculty advisor Laura Evans, as well as Dean Sandra Archibald. Without your support and generosity this year’s journal would never have become a reality. We are especially grateful for last year’s staff, particularly Bridgette Savino, who not only strengthened the journal through the dramatic changes she implemented but took the time to mentor this year’s executive board as we took our first steps. We would also like to thank the entire editorial board and staff editors for their dedicated and thoughtful work throughout the year.

Lastly, we would like to thank you, the reader, for your continued support and interest in the Evans School. We hope that you enjoy the fruits of our labor and that these innovative ideas can help to shape the current dialogue and strengthen public policy and management.

Cheers!

Rachelle Harris and Benjamin Roe
Editors-in-Chief