

# COMMONWEALTH

A Journal of Pennsylvania Politics and Policy

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** J. Wesley Leckrone, *Widener University*

**MANAGING EDITOR** Jennie Sweet-Cushman, *Chatham University*

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS** Thomas J. Baldino, *Wilkes University*  
Christopher Borick, *Muhlenberg College*  
Paula A. Duda Holoviak, *Kutztown University*  
Joseph P. McLaughlin, Jr., *Temple University*

## **EDITORIAL ADVISORY**

### **BOARD**

Bruce Caswell, *Rowan University*  
Beverly A. Cigler, *Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg*  
Richardson Dilworth, *Drexel University*  
John J. Kennedy, *West Chester University*  
John Kincaid, *Lafayette College*  
Joseph Marbach, *Georgian Court University*  
Richard A. Stafford, *Carnegie Mellon University*

**COPY EDITOR** Meredith Phillips

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT** Alexa C. Leckrone, *University of Pittsburgh*

### **FOUNDING EDITOR**

**EMERITUS** Donald G. Tannenbaum, *Gettysburg College*

### **EDITORS EMERITUS**

Thomas J. Baldino, *Wilkes University*  
Gerard J. Fitzpatrick, *Ursinus College*



Published by Temple University Press on behalf of  
The Pennsylvania Political Science Association

# The Pennsylvania Political Science Association

**F**ounded in 1939, the Pennsylvania Political Science Association (PPSA) is the nation's oldest state political science association. Its mission has always been to promote scholarship, research, and the exchange of ideas within the Pennsylvania community of political scientists. PPSA draws its membership principally from the political science and public administration faculties of Pennsylvania's public, state-related, and independent non-profit colleges and universities as well as government professionals and faculty members from surrounding states.

PPSA's annual conference includes panels and poster sessions covering a wide variety of subjects. While university faculty and undergraduate presenters compose the vast majority of participants, legislators, legislative staff, and executive officials have also participated. For more information on the activities of PPSA and membership rates, please visit the association's website at <http://www.papolisci.org/>.

---

# THE PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT

**Sarah Niebler**

*Dickinson College*

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

**Jeffrey Carroll**

*Chestnut Hill College*

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

**Dan Mallinson**

*Pennsylvania State University*

SECRETARY

**Paula Holoviak**

*Kutztown University*

TREASURER

**Steve Lem**

*Kutztown University*

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

2020–2023

**Joshua Weikert**

*Immaculata University*

**Matthew Zarit**

*Slippery Rock University*

2021–2024

**J. Wesley Leckrone**

*Widener University*

**John Kennedy**

*West Chester University*

2022–2025

**Meri Long**

*University of Pittsburgh*

**Jessie Defendorfer**

*Bloomsburg University*

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

PAST PRESIDENT

**Michael Greenberg**

*Shippensburg University*

PAST PRESIDENT

**Lanethea Mathews-Schultz**

*Muhlenberg College*

## EDITORIAL STAFF OF COMMONWEALTH:

### *A Journal of Pennsylvania Politics and Policy*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**J. Wesley Leckrone**

*Widener University*

MANAGING EDITOR

**Jennie Sweet-Cushman**

*Chatham University*

EDITORS EMERITUS

**Thomas J. Baldino**

*Wilkes University*

FOUNDING EDITOR EMERITUS

**Donald Tannenbaum**

*Gettysburg College*

**Gerard J. Fitzpatrick**

*Ursinus College*

# Pennsylvania Policy Forum

**C**OMMONWEALTH collaborates with the Pennsylvania Policy Forum to plan special issues and attract high-quality content to the journal. The forum is a consortium of faculty members and academic and policy institute leaders from Pennsylvania colleges and universities who share an interest in generating ideas, analyses, and symposia that might prove useful to citizens, elected officials, and civic leaders in addressing major issues confronting the Commonwealth and its local governments. As educators who have helped train students for careers in public policy, members also share an interest in helping to improve the skills, knowledge, and tools of leaders in the public and civic sectors.

Members of the forum have expertise in public policy analysis as well as a wide range of substantive issues, including, but not limited to, education, transportation and public infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, energy, elections, water policy and the environment, health care, social policy, urban development, emergency management, information technology, public finance, and constitutional law. Members also share an interest in improving both the policy process itself and the institutional structures through which issues and problems are addressed.

Forum members have contributed to public policy debates in Pennsylvania and a number have also served in state and local government and in nonprofit and civic organizations that engage in policy development and implementation. Some members of the forum are associated with other academic and public policy-related organizations, but the forum itself is independent of these relationships and has no formal connections to any government entity. Members obviously benefit from the intellectual resources and environments of their universities, but unless otherwise indicated, they do not act on behalf of their institutions when they sponsor forum projects. The premise of the forum is that through the consortium, members can jointly develop and sponsor nonpartisan research, symposia, and education and training programs of value to elected officials, civic leaders, and the public, and thereby enhance their ability to contribute to more intelligent and informed policy making.

---

## **PENNSYLVANIA POLICY FORUM MEMBERSHIP (2022)**

**Theodore R. Alter**, Pennsylvania State University

**Thomas J. Baldino**, Wilkes University

**Vincent Cannizzaro**, York College of Pennsylvania

**Beverly A. Cigler**, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

**Richardson Dilworth**, Drexel University

**Michael R. Dimino, Sr.**, Widener University Commonwealth Law School

**(Chair) Paula A. Duda Holoviak**, Kutztown University

**Mark Alan Hughes**, University of Pennsylvania

**John J. Kennedy**, West Chester University

**John Kincaid**, Lafayette College

**Robin Lauermann**, Messiah College

**J. Wesley Leckrone**, Widener University

**(Vice Chair) Joseph P. McLaughlin, Jr.**, Temple University

**Randall M. Miller**, St. Joseph's University

**Joseph Sabino Mistick**, Duquesne University School of Law

**Richard A. Stafford**, Carnegie Mellon University

**Craig Wheeland**, Villanova University

# Contents

Volume 22, Number 1 | 2023 | ISSN 2469-7672

## EDITOR'S NOTE

- **COMMONWEALTH Matters** | *J. Wesley Leckrone, Editor-in-Chief*

## ARTICLES

- **The Evolution of Sentencing Policy in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania** | *Courtney E. Broschius and Kathy S. Javian*
- **The 2018 Pennsylvania Midterm Election: No Escaping Trump** | *Berwood A. Yost and Jacqueline Redman*
- **Gauging Gerrymandering in Pennsylvania: A Monte Carlo Approach Using Methods from Spatial Statistics** | *James Russell and Benjamin Lieberman*