

J. WESLEY LECKRONE

Editor-in-Chief

Kudos are in order for two longtime supporters of the journal. First, Tom Baldino has retired from Wilkes University. Over the years Tom has served as the Editor, Associate Editor, and Book Review Editor of *COMMONWEALTH*. Congratulations also go out to Joe McLaughlin who has retired from Temple University. Like Tom, he is a longtime student of Pennsylvania politics and a member of the Pennsylvania Policy Forum, and he was instrumental in helping transform the journal to a state-specific publication. On a sadder note, David Y. Miller of the University of Pittsburgh passed away in late 2020. He was both an Associate Editor of *COMMONWEALTH* and a member of the Pennsylvania Policy Forum. He will be missed.

This issue marks a turning point for *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Pennsylvania Politics and Policy*. After eight years, I am stepping down as editor-in-chief of the journal to pursue other writing projects about the Commonwealth. I have greatly enjoyed being part of the evolution of this publication from its last hard-copy issue as *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* to its reinstitution as the open-access online *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Pennsylvania Politics and Policy* published by Temple University Press. I'd like to thank Joe McLaughlin, Paula Holoviak, Tom Baldino, and Chris Borick, all of whom got the process of transforming the journal underway before I became editor, and all of whom were important

sources of support throughout my editorship. Thanks are also in order to all the people at Temple University Press who have produced a professional, high-quality journal and series of books of which we can all be proud. Particular thanks go out to Aaron Javscas and Mary Rose Muccie. I would also like to thank Jennie Sweet-Cushman, who will become the new editor-in-chief after this issue is published. I look forward to her innovations with the journal and have no doubt *COMMONWEALTH* has been left in good hands. Finally, Michelle Atherton has been my partner-in-crime during my time at *COMMONWEALTH* as the managing editor, and we also coedited the two volumes of *Pennsylvania Politics and Policy: A Commonwealth Reader*. Thanks to her for keeping this whole production going.

One last thought that is evident to all the supporters of *COMMONWEALTH*: the best politics is state politics. And Pennsylvania is right up there with the best of them.