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Editorial Comment

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School of Public and Nonprofit Administration
Grand Valley State University

Volume II *2006*

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

This second issue of the School of Public and Nonprofit Administration *SPNA Review* represents real progress towards achieving the school's vision of being "a preeminent source for public service education." It is our expectation that each year the best work by our Master of Public Administration and Master of Health Administration students will not only appear in this journal, but also will receive awards and be published in national journals as evidence of the excellent work being done by SPNA graduate students. One of the papers published in this year's journal – "A Budgetary Analysis of Michigan State Parks" by Kimberly Langley has won the 2006 best paper award from the Capitol Area Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration, selected from submissions by each of Michigan's public administration graduate programs. Two more, the papers by Melissa Baker-Boosamra and Rachel Ruser, have been submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. I am confident that they will successfully navigate the peer-review process and be published within the coming year. It is exciting indeed to have our students join our faculty members in contributing to the academic literature in public and nonprofit administration.

I hope you will take the time to carefully read and consider the findings of each of these papers. They demonstrate how MPA graduates are able to grapple with the policy and administrative issues faced by today's public service. Whether you are a new or returning student, a faculty member, an advisory board member, or a public service professional, the work published here can provide both insight and inspiration for what can be accomplished in public service education.

Danny L. Balfour
Professor and Director, SPNA
July, 2006