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## Dedication

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# University of Florida Journal of Law and Public Policy

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## DEDICATION

*Chesterfield Smith\**

The inauguration of the *Journal of Law and Public Policy* marks a significant development in the scholastic progress of the University of Florida. It is a needed forward step into the rapidly developing field of public policy analysis. It is also a commendable effort to expand the benefits of a professional journal experience to more members of the law and other graduate programs at the University of Florida. It is an acknowledgement of the national trend towards integrating social science disciplines and the law. It will thus more firmly place the University of Florida in the front ranks of legal and social science scholarship.

The *Journal of Law and Public Policy*, in my opinion, is an innovative, mature, and worthwhile effort by both graduate students and faculties from several of the University's colleges. It exemplifies to me the finest traditions and features of academic scholarship and leadership. Scholastic publications, like the *Journal of Law and Public Policy*, have long provided a valuable forum for debating issues of importance to our nation, our state, and our local communities. The *Journal of Law and Public Policy* will also provide students with an additional chance to develop their research skills and to engage in critical analytical thought. It fills an existing gap in opportunities for scholastic development.

Forty years ago as I graduated from law school, a group of students with whom I was involved had just established the *University of Florida Law Review*. With pride and pleasure, I note that the *Law Review* has provided four decades of scholarship and service to the state's academic and legal communities. The writing and editorial responsibilities of law review members quite clearly prepare them to be better lawyers, judges, law professors, and public servants. The student law review participants at the University of Florida have received

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invaluable educational experiences and, thus, have enhanced their career opportunities. During this same forty-year period, the University has blossomed into a nationally recognized institution with outstanding programs in a number of different disciplines. Thus, it is heartening to see that participants from several of the University's colleges have embarked here upon the same type of initiative undertaken in the College of Law forty years ago.

I am particularly pleased to see in this inaugural issue the comments of my friend and former law partner, Justice Stephen Grimes of the Florida Supreme Court. Justice Grimes is an ardent and acknowledged advocate of scholarly undertakings that foster and develop the professional competence of law and graduate students. His laudatory remarks on the *Journal of Law and Public Policy* and its members' undertaking are most pleasing to all who are involved.

I look forward to future editions of the *Journal of Law and Public Policy*, believing that it is destined to play a meaningful and purposeful role in university life.