

COMMENT FROM THE EDITORS OF IPMR

We believe this issue of IPMR is one of our best. It features articles by L. R. Jones and Donald F. Kettl, Michael Barzelay and co-authors, Jiannan Wu and Stuart Bretschneider, and Michael E. Milakovich. The final article in this issue is by Patrick von Maravic and Christoph Reichard. It consists of analysis and a dialogue that took place among members of the International Public Management Network on the topic NPM and corruption. The dialogue transpired spontaneously in comments from IPMN members on our list server in response to an inquiry made by Christoph Reichard in November 2002. Readers have told us they enjoy these dialogues, both as they occur on the list server and later as edited articles with additional analysis and comment. The editors are grateful to all those who contributed to this dialogue. A review essay of the book *Managing Public Expenditures in Australia* by John Wanna, Joanne Kelly and John Forster concludes the issue.

The essay by Jones and Kettl, "Assessing Public Management Reform in an International Context," was written and is published to honor the memory of our colleague, an internationally recognized scholar of great distinction, the late Frieder Naschold.

This is the first issue of the fourth volume of the International Public Management Network e-publication The International Public Management Review (IPMR). IPMR is published twice per year on the IPMR website at www.ipmr.net. Volume 1, Number 1 appeared in December 2000 as a double issue to inaugurate the series. Volume 2, Issue 1 was published in March 2001 and Issue 2 appeared in November 2001. Volume 3, Issue 1 came out in May 2002 and Volume 3, Issue 2 was published in December, 2002. Back issues are available at www.ipmr.net.

Why does IPMN publish an electronic journal? First, e-journals are a recent innovation in the publishing business and we want IPMN to lead in this area. Second, we want IPMR to have a slightly more practitioner focus than IPMJ. Third, IPMR provides an additional outlet in which IPMN members and others can publish their work in the rapidly expanding discipline of public management.

The editorship of IPMR is organized on a regional and international basis with Associate Editors for regions and by nation in some cases. The Associate Editors share the task with the IPMR editorial group of finding good manuscripts for review. The Editorial Board of IPMR is composed of the leading public management scholars and practitioners around the world.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles in this issue and that you consider using them on-line with your students in instruction. We also encourage you to submit your work to IPMR at ipmnet@aol.com for peer review and publication consideration.

Lawrence R. Jones
Senior Editor

Kuno Schedler
Senior Editor

ABOUT IPMR

IPMR	<p>The International Public Management Review (IPMR) is the electronic journal of the International Public Management Network (IPMN). All work published in IPMR is double blind reviewed according to standard academic journal procedures.</p> <p>The purpose of the International Public Management Review is to publish manuscripts reporting original, creative research in the field of public management. Theoretical, empirical and applied work including case studies of individual nations and governments, and comparative studies are given equal weight for publication consideration.</p>
IPMN	<p>The mission of the International Public Management Network is to provide a forum for sharing ideas, concepts and results of research and practice in the field of public management, and to stimulate critical thinking about alternative approaches to problem solving and decision making in the public sector.</p> <p>IPMN includes over 600 members representing sixty different countries and has a goal of expanding membership to include representatives from as many nations as possible. IPMN is a voluntary non-profit network and membership is free.</p>
Websites	<p>IPMR: http://www.ipmr.net/ (download of articles is free of charge)</p> <p>IPMN: http://www.inpuma.net/</p>