

A Note From the Editor

For the past five years Gary Gray has labored long and hard to develop a respectable journal for the Society. As the initial editor Gary had to organize the Editorial Board, seek a reliable printer, maintain an up-to-date membership and institutional list, and prepare the journal for mailing. Gary should be congratulated for his efforts! He can be proud of a job well done and respected by many. The society and its membership are indebted to Gary Gray for the establishment of the JLAS. He will always be remembered as the founding Editor of JLAS.

It is with great pleasure and humility that I assume the editorship of the JLAS. It will be a challenge to follow in Gary's foot steps. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gary Gray who made the editorial transition so easy.

As the new editor I have made a number of changes in the journal. Hopefully these changes will be viewed as positive modifications. Feel free at any time to write [E-Mail address: pmsawyr@scifac.indstate.edu] or call [812/237-2186 or 812/894-2113] or FAX [812/237-4338] me to discuss the journal and its future.

A journal editor's job involves several administrative duties, chief among them, facilitating the speedy review and disposition of manuscripts. Each manuscript is reviewed by one member of the editorial board and two guest reviewers. Upon receipt of a manuscript the editor makes an initial review to determine whether or not its is suitable for JLAS. If it is suitable it is immediately sent to the reviewers and a notice sent to the author(s). Reviewers are given three weeks to respond. The reviews are reviewed by the Editor and a response is sent to the author(s) within 4-6 weeks of initial receipt of the manuscript.

The editor is also responsible for typesetting, layout, printing, and mailing of the journal to all members and institutions. Beyond these important tasks, the editor has an opportunity to nudge the editorial policies of the journal in a particular direction. Such nudging needs to be done with care, especially when the journal has a distinguished history, as JLAS. Unlike any other sport law journal in the field, JLAS provides a multidisciplinary forum for exploring, analyzing, and synthesizing ideas that are both theoretical and practical.

If I am able to do any nudging, it would be only to build on these strengths by leaning a bit more toward communication across the discipline and toward connecting scholarship with practice. One way to nudge is in the appointment of the editorial board and in the selection of guest reviewers (vaguely akin to loading the Supreme Court).

The following changes are scheduled over the next two years: (1) beginning with Volume 7 there will be three issues [winter, spring, fall], (2) accepting both APA and Blue Book style manuscripts will be accepted, (3) copyrighting all articles will be in the name of JLAS and SSLASPA, (4) providing in each spring issue the annually updated Reference List by Betty van der Smissen, (5) including book reviews, (6) including case studies, and (7) preparing an annual index of all articles published in the Winter issue.

Tom Sawyer