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Editor's Introduction

Cody Smith ’99
Illinois Wesleyan University

Eric Wesselkamper ’00
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Introduction

Now in its fourth year of publication, this edition of *Res Publica* tackles a broad array of sub-disciplines within the field of Political Science. The research works and essays included in this volume represent what the Illinois Wesleyan Department of Political Science considers to be the embodiment of intellectual excellence.

This edition is unique in that it focuses exclusively on a diverse range of topics concerning American political institutions, political thought, and public policy. We hope that the works presented in this edition not only contribute to the broader discipline, but also prove to be informative and interesting.

Cody Smith and Eric Wesselkamper
Editors-in-Chief