Introduction

In the Public Interest

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By Way of Introduction

This issue of “In The Public Interest” marks the first in what we hope will be a very long-lived publication. The editorial policy of the journal is to be collectively determined by the members of the Center For Public Interest Law, a student organization at S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo Faculty of Law and Jurisprudence. The phrase “public interest law” is perhaps more amorphous in the definitional sense than it was when originally conceived. Certainly, it appears that the legal world, at least, has never been in total agreement concerning the scope of what the definition includes.

The goal of this publication, however, is to provide a lens through which we can bring our concerns and uncertainties into better focus — by attempting to explore its origins, understand its scope, and promote student and professional interest in its destiny.

It is our hope that the journal will provide a much-needed forum for analysis and debate of the issues and ideas that will shape the contours of this new and precarious decade. By no means will the journal be restricted solely to a legal analysis of these questions; the ramifications of these issues venture far beyond the confines of the legal world. We perceive the essence of this project, then, as an interdisciplinary exercise. As such, we welcome contributions from students, faculty, professionals and other interested persons from diverse fields. We welcome, too, articles and analysis which take issue with the assumptions and assertions that will be presented on these pages.

Please submit manuscripts and/or articles to: Center For Public Interest Law, John Lord O’Brian Hall, Faculty of Law and Jurisprudence, State University of New York at Buffalo, Amherst Campus, Buffalo, New York, 14260.