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EDITOR'S NOTE – COVID, TRANSITIONS, AND FORWARD

Quite a challenging year for all. This will also mark the last year that the JLSB will be in hard copy and my last volume as Editor-in-Chief (for the foreseeable future). The journal recently joined the Digital Commons and will continue to expand digital presence and aim for greater impact in a more environmentally friendly and sustainable e-format. It thus seems fitting that our 2019 award winning article for this final hard copy volume is associated with environmental impact concerns as well. We are extremely grateful to our publishing partner, Cengage, for their generous support over many years and putting in the extra effort to see us published in hard copy one last time despite the challenges they face as well.

I am also incredibly thankful for the many colleagues turned close friends I have made over the nearly decade of my time involved with the Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business (SEALSB; our regional organization) and the Academy of Legal Studies in Business (ALSB; our national academy affiliate). This includes our wonderful past and present JLSB editorial board members who I have turned to frequently for assistance.

Lastly, it would be historically inappropriate not to remark on the impact of the coronavirus/Covid on all aspects of life in academia and outside the academy. I personally have taught exclusively online since January 2020 after a great faculty uproar at my university once the virus surfaced and yet some colleagues at other institutions were obligated to continue teaching in-person despite a great deal of uncertainty regarding viral spread. Additionally, the long-term survival of many smaller colleges and universities has been brought under the microscope and renewed questions regarding the relevance of academia have re-emerged. The latter underscores the continued importance of practical, impactful, and applied, both pedagogical and discipline-based, research. But, most importantly, we must also reflect on the greater ramifications of Covid- lives permanently altered or lost, and what sort of future we want to shape going forward.

-Kevin J. S. McGarry
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