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To our readers:

This fifth issue of New Voices in Public Policy represents some of the best original work produced by students at George Mason’s School of Public Policy in 2009. New Voices is proud to present papers on combating the illicit trade in drugs in Afghanistan, mental health stresses and services for military peacekeepers, human trafficking in Georgia, the intertwining of agriculture and land policy in Africa and the European Union, and a close look at the Congressional politics of the economic stimulus.

This issue also introduces something new to New Voices: a short review of an important piece of academic or policy research, in this case a critical look at Michael Ross’ “Oil, Islam and Women.” The staff will be introducing new elements to the journal in the coming months. They welcome your feedback.

Academic rigor and policy relevance are the watchwords of New Voices. We hope you find this issue interesting and useful.

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