Editor's Note

<u>Jeffrey Layne Blevins</u>

emocratic Communiqué is back! While this issue of the Communiqué (Vol. 30, No. 1) was originally scheduled to be published in Spring of this year, the editorial team was swept into the pandemic-related vortex (same as our readers, authors, and reviewers) as we adjusted to remote and hybrid teaching modalities at our home institutions, as well as other personal and professional challenges at the time. Unfortunately, Katelyn Lusher had to step down as associate editor of our journal during this period, and she was greatly missed. I wish Katelyn all the best in completing her Ph.D. at the University of Cincinnati and I am grateful for her work on the journal.

I am pleased to announce the new associate editor for the *Communiqué*, Peter Stiver, who took over during a critical time, as the journal was transitioning from its previous home at Florida Atlantic University to its new one at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Peter has been nothing short of a godsend and I am deeply indebted to him for his incredible work in such a short amount of time. The *Communiqué*'s digital archive has been successfully transferred to our current home at https://scholarworks.umass.edu/democratic-communique/ thanks to Peter's painstaking efforts. Peter has also brought much needed technical organization that should keep our journal working effectively and efficiently well into the future. What's more? Peter did all of this while defending his M.A. thesis in political science this summer. Kudos and thank you!

I also want to express my sincere gratitude for the time and support of Erin Jerome (Open Access & Institutional Repository Librarian at UMass) and Anne Luca (Digital Commons Consultant for bepress) in managing this transition during such challenging times.

Finally, I want to acknowledge each of the peer-reviewers for this volume: Joshua Atkinson (Bowling Green State University), Christina Ceisel (California State University, Fullerton), Sonia De La Cruz (University of Washington), Michelle Rodino-Colocino (Penn State

62 Blevins | Editor's Note

University), Alicia Kozma (Washington College), Catherine McKercher (Carleton University), Vincent Mosco (Queen's University), Leslie Regan Shade (University of Toronto), Rhon Teruelle (Purdue University Northwest) and Jim Wittebols (University of Windsor). Thank you.