

**LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
GOVERNMENTAL PURCHASING'S NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

William B. Irish*

Dear Readers and NIGP Members:

On behalf of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc, (NIGP), a non-profit, professional educational association established in 1944, and the 2,100 agency members, and 18,000 governmental procurement professionals, welcome to the *Journal of Public Procurement (JoPP)*.

While the private sector has attracted a tremendous amount of attention in research and education in the areas of purchasing and supply management, public procurement research and education has remained a neglected area. Indeed, there does not exist a single academic degree in public procurement, below the federal level, nor does there exist a single scholarly journal in the field. As a first step to fill this vacuum, we, NIGP, and our academic partner at Florida Atlantic University, are proud to inaugurate this new journal!

JoPP seeks to further the understanding of public procurement by exploring theories and practices of public procurement keyed to:

- Functional areas, including but not limited to procurement policy, procurement strategic planning and scheduling, contract formation, contract administration, procurement methods and techniques;

* *William B. Irish, CPPO, C.P.M., is the 2001 President of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc. He is Purchasing Manager, Procurement Division, County of Northampton, Pennsylvania.*

- Substantive areas such as government procurement laws and regulations, procurement economics and politics, and procurement ethics; and
- Topical issues such as e-Procurement, green procurement, and procurement transparency.

JoPP covers not only procurement at the federal, state and local government levels in the United States and Canada, but also government procurement in other developed and developing nations. As the body of public procurement knowledge has not been well developed, *JoPP* will be published semi-annually for the first two years. It will include research studies, narrative essays, exemplar cases, commentaries, book reviews, and occasionally, reprints of informative published government reports. Gradually, as the body of knowledge becomes well developed and as *JoPP* generates more interest in manuscript submissions, *JoPP* will be published quarterly.

As NIGP President, I hope that you, as readers, researchers, practitioners, and particularly NIGP members, are willing to share your exemplar experiences and/or meaningful research by contributing manuscripts to *JoPP*. The success of *JoPP* relies very much on your willingness to contribute manuscripts to the journal.

Finally, I would like to thank the NIGP Board of Directors for their strong support for the new journal, Mr. Rick Grimm, NIGP's CEO, for his support and effective leadership in this new venture, Dr. Khi V. Thai, professor at Florida Atlantic University for his tremendous efforts in successfully launching *JoPP*, and all Section Editors and the Editorial Board members for taking seriously their respective roles in the journal. I strongly believe that through this impressive collective effort, *JoPP* will be a great success and will be a major force in advancing the body of knowledge of governmental procurement.

Sincerely,

William B. Irish, CPPO, C.P.M.
2001 NIGP National President