

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

Jean A. Clark*

Dear Readers and NIGP Members:

How remarkable that you are now reading Volume 3, Issue 1, of the *Journal of Public Procurement* (JoPP). Just a few years ago JoPP was just a thought, a vision. It is through our partnership with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) that we have been able to make such positive strides. Moreover, JoPP has moved from two issues last year to three issues this year. This refutes our initial concern with the lack of sufficient good manuscripts to fill even two issues a year when JoPP was launched.

The foundation of the JoPP is the combination of practical, real life experience from practitioners and the theoretical knowledge of scholars to move the world of public procurement closer to recognition as a "true" profession. Public procurement practices require a unique set of skills and knowledge that need to be performed effectively. This knowledge and skill base must be widely acquired, required, and recognized before we can achieve recognition and respect as a "true" profession. We must be able to demonstrate that these practices add significant value to the organizations we serve.

Therefore, it is through our own education, certification, and the development of a standard body of knowledge that we as practicing professionals are able to move forward individually and collectively for a highly respected and recognized profession. So, for the advancement of your individual professionalism and the advancement of our profession, I strongly encourage you to prepare a manuscript for submission to the

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JoPP. It is only through our collective knowledge sharing and a collective, recognized body of knowledge that our public procurement profession will be able to strive forward and prosper.

Recognizing the importance of practical knowledge, and reflecting practitioners' active manuscript contributions, JoPP has created a permanent section, called "Practitioners' Corner." This permanent section will continue to exist only if you are willing to submit your manuscripts to JoPP.

Sincerely,

Jean A. Clark, CPPO, C.P.M., CPPB, CPM
2003 NIGP National President