

# A Note From the Dean



TODAY WE ARE WITNESSING A SEA CHANGE IN AMERICAN politics and policy, fueled by the rise of populism, the erosion of trust in our institutions and increased political polarization. At the McCourt School, these trends are informing our approach to innovative policy training, as we focus on giving students the tools to design, manage and evaluate evidence-based policy.

This issue of Policy Perspectives outlines some of the key efforts we believe will have a long-lasting impact in shaping tomorrow's policy leaders.

Our commitment to diversity and increasing the number of diverse voices in public service is animated by our selection as the new academic home of the National Urban Fellows. The program will bring 30 to 40 people of color and women to McCourt to pursue a Master's of Policy Management degree.

In this issue you also will meet two of the McCourt School's newest faculty members—Donald Moynihan and Pamela Herd. Donald and Pamela are highly qualified scholars who will add to McCourt an extraordinary level of expertise, research productivity and teaching excellence in public management and social policy.

In the spirit of intellectual inquiry and Georgetown's commitment to civic discourse, McCourt recently hosted a number of conversations examining the breakdown of trust in institutions. Our annual LEAD Conference, our Whittington Lecture and the Baker Center for Leadership & Governance's annual Baker Forum this year all focused on examining this loss of trust and how it can be rebuilt.

At this critical juncture, we are delighted to welcome Maria Cancian, who will be the new dean of the McCourt School, effective February 1, 2019. On page 4 of this issue, you'll learn more about Dr. Cancian's extraordinary experience as a distinguished scholar, public servant and leader, who has dedicated her career to the wellbeing of the most vulnerable families and children in America.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Policy Perspectives.

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