

## EDITORS' PREFACE

The impressive volume before you represents the broad vision and hard work of many scholars, but most particularly Edward McGlynn Gaffney, former Book Review Editor for the *Journal* and currently an active member of its Board. Ed believed that the historic moment represented by the Williamsburg Charter should not be left to the vagaries of human recollection, but rather should be celebrated by publication of the Charter and related documents, and public commentary and critique. From its conception, he did the lion's share of the work, convincing this distinguished collection of people to write for the issue, collecting documents, raising money for publication, even producing the volume on his computer and doing much of the cite-checking and proofreading. He has done much more than the work of a guest editor.

Within, you will find insightful contributions on the meaning of religious liberty from many significant figures in American public life, from practicing lawyers and judges, sociologists, religious and legal scholars, to notable political and social figures. Parts I through VI are devoted to the Charter and direct commentary from forums on the Charter, surveys about religion in American public life, articles on issues related to the Charter and other important religious liberty documents. Part VII is an impressive resource for scholars, classrooms, and thoughtful people making public policy on these issues. It contains reviews on fifty-nine of the most significant books published on religious liberty in the U.S. in the last several years. Because we expect that the volume will achieve a wider readership than our regular issues, we have elected to follow *The University of Chicago Manual of Legal Citation* (Lawyers Co-operative, Bancroft-Whitney and Mead Data Central, 1989). This will be most evident in footnoting, a hybrid between traditional law review footnotes and the footnote style employed in other humanities disciplines.

We hope that this volume will constitute a significant contribution to the literature on religious liberty, and will serve to create as broad a community of discussion as the authors published in these pages represent.

*Patrick R. Keifert*  
*Marie A. Failing*  
General Editors

*Howard J. Vogel*  
Book Editor