A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics, I am pleased to introduce the 2013 Hinckley Journal of Politics. This edition marks the 14th year the Hinckley Institute has featured exceptional research papers written by undergraduates at the University of Utah. We are proud to say that this year’s Hinckley Journal continues the outstanding tradition of previous editions in terms of academic excellence in writing and research quality.

In this edition, you will find articles on topics relevant to Utah, the nation, and the world. Each piece offers enlightening perspectives on matters such as revolutionary tactics used by women in Afghanistan, public land bills in Utah, state and federal electoral reform, and U.S. policies addressing African growth. This edition also examines the timely issue of immigration reform from a state and national perspective and considers the value of high-skilled immigrants in the United States.

In addition to student contributions, we are grateful for the articles submitted by Lieutenant Governor Greg Bell, Salt Lake County Mayor Ben McAdams, and State Senator Luz Robles; each offers compelling insights on some of our state’s most pressing issues, ranging from building a thriving community to initiating needed tort reform.

This compilation could not have been produced without the diligent efforts of its 2013 student editors, Rosalie Ann Staes and Logan Froerer. Additionally, we recognize Managing Editors Courtney McBeth and Rochelle McConkie Parker, Faculty Editor Luke Garrott, Faculty Advisors Ella Myers and James Curry, Production Editor Ellesse Sorbonne Balli, student editorial board members, and Hinckley Institute staff.

Through the various opportunities provided by the Hinckley Institute, University of Utah students can apply the theories and concepts they learn in the classroom to real world experiences. To date, the Hinckley Institute has placed and supported nearly 5,500 interns in political offices throughout the State of Utah, in Washington, DC, and in more than 35 countries on six continents. Interns are required to complete research papers based on issues pertinent to their internships and, therefore, reflect on practical ideas and draw conclusions about the significant political questions of the day. The Hinckley Journal represents some of the best and most compelling of these papers.

We hope that you enjoy reading the 2013 Hinckley Journal of Politics and appreciate your continued support of the Hinckley Institute of Politics.

Sincerely,

Kirk L. Jowers
Hinckley Institute of Politics