

## A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITORS

Welcome to the first issue of the *Journal of Court Innovation*. We created this journal for a simple reason: to promote new thinking about how to initiate and implement change in courts.

The *Journal of Court Innovation* will publish writing by leading academics and practitioners in the field. You will find longer, in-depth examinations of complex topics. You will also find shorter pieces describing discrete experiments, as well as roundtable transcripts, interviews, and book reviews.

This eclectic format is purposeful. We have created this journal in an effort to bridge the worlds of theory and practice. We hope to address a broad audience that includes attorneys, judges and court administrators, and also scholars, researchers, policymakers, non-profit executives and others.

In this first issue, you will find articles highlighting innovative applications of technology, a new approach to working with offenders returning from prison, new techniques for involving local citizens in court strategic planning and commentary on the appropriate role of federal courts interpreting and applying state law. Also included is a roundtable discussion focusing on lessons learned from failed criminal justice initiatives that are applicable to any new endeavor.

This diversity of content reflects the breadth of expertise that our three institutions—a think tank, a judicial education center, and a law school—bring to the *Journal of Court Innovation*. We hope to offer academic rigor and useful ideas—and perhaps a few surprises—in every issue.

We invite your feedback (and your subscriptions). Please tell us what you think of our first issue and what you would like to see in future issues. And if you would like to contribute an article, do not hesitate to send us your ideas. We look forward to hearing from you.

Greg Berman

Robert G.M. Keating

Michelle S. Simon