Welcome from the Editor-in-Chief

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Born of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, homeland security matured to address the all-hazards and meta-disciplinary nature of the field. Recent mega-events including a series of earthquakes in Puerto Rico (2020), Hurricane Dorian, the Virginia Beach mass shooting, and the Facebook cyber breach in 2019 as well as concerns about climate change hazards and the security of the 2020 U.S. presidential election are emblematic of the homeland security threat landscape. The most recent National Terrorism Advisory System report (January 4, 2020), promulgated over concerns about possible Iranian and extremist groups’ retaliatory terrorist strikes in response to U.S. actions against Iranian-sponsored terrorists and officials, reminding us of the continuing terror threat to the U.S. homeland.

The homeland security threat landscape is a call for national preparedness and resilience. The 2019 National Preparedness Report found that the Nation’s state of preparedness strengthened across all five mission areas, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery due in large part to the cohesion of all levels of government, the private sector, academia, and the American citizenry. From its inception, academia and higher education played a vital role in developing the field of homeland security. Those efforts built upon the hard work of existing emergency management, intelligence, and related disciplines’ initiatives. Facilitated by the Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s University and Agency Partnership Program, FEMA’s Higher Education Program, and the International Association for Intelligence Education at least 400 U.S. colleges now offer over 1,200 homeland security, emergency management, and intelligence programs.

JSIRE was designed to facilitate and propagate academia’s and higher education programs and initiatives. JSIRE will provide the latest in homeland security, emergency management, and intelligence’s educational practices and resources to the still evolving and growing fields in the U.S. as well as internationally. The journal will help identify and develop significant contributions toward these needs. Look to future issues for articles concerning theory development, the Science of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), accreditation, applied and basic research, assessment, conference proceedings, textbook reviews, and the practitioner’s corner. We welcome your input and suggestions for improvement. This is your journal, and its main goal is to move the fields of homeland security, emergency management, and intelligence and related disciplines ahead by enabling faculty from diverse disciplines to improve their content, methods, and outcomes. We look forward to your valuable contributions.

Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve as your Editor-In-Chief.

Dr. John Comiskey
Editor-in-Chief