As the Journal of Behavioral Public Administration (JBPA) enters its second year, we thought it would be a good time for us to reflect and report on what has turned out to be a very successful year for the new journal.

Since its inaugural issue in February 2018, we have received on average about one manuscript submission per week. We have desk rejected about a third of these submissions, and did so within five days, on average. The journal’s acceptance rate is 39% and the average turnover from a manuscript's submission to acceptance for publication is about 170 days.

During our first year, we had over 10,000 article downloads, which means that a typical JBPA article is downloaded over 600 times a year. These comparatively high numbers are likely due to the open access nature of JBPA, which is a key feature of the journal. To further disseminate JBPA publications, we are now indexed in the EconLit and EconPapers (RePEc) databases and will soon begin applying for commercial abstracting and indexing services such as ESCI and SCOPUS. In addition, all JBPA articles are picked-up by Google Scholar within 24 hours. Thanks to our social media editors, Asmus Leth Olsen (University of Copenhagen) and Dominik Vogel (Universität Hamburg), JBPA also has a strong presence on Twitter (@Journal_BPA), Facebook and LinkedIn.

For 2019, we have four symposia underway on topics such as ‘social norms’, ‘nonprofit management’, ‘government transparency and accountability’ and ‘work motivation’. We are grateful to our symposium editors for the many strong manuscripts they have solicited. The first JBPA symposium on social norms in public administration, which is co-edited by Peter John (King’s College London) and Michael Sanders (Behavioral Insights Team), will be published with our first issue of 2019.

Because the journal’s operations are funded with the generous support of the School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University and the School of Public Affairs at American University, there are no author costs associated with publishing in JBPA. And we aim to keep it this way! Authors can help a great deal by always using the JBPA Word template to format their manuscripts prior to submission.

Starting an open-access journal that operates outside the commercial publishing business would not be possible without the support of our home institutions as well as many others. We therefore would like to thank the entire JBPA editorial team, board of editors, authors and reviewers for their continued support over our first year of operation.

As JBPA enters its second year, we plan to continue to publish cutting-edge behavioral research within public administration, broadly defined. We thank you in advance for agreeing to serve as reviewers of JBPA submissions, for spreading the word about JBPA to interested colleagues, and for continuing sending us your best work on behavioral public administration.