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Submission is welcome from all over the world from both the scientific and legal community. Submitted articles will be evaluated for possible publication according to their topical relevance and the importance of their contribution to scholarship. In support of the timely nature of this material, articles are published very quickly upon acceptance.

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RESPONSIBLE EDITOR Grace Preston, Texas Tech University School of Law, USA,
Email: grace.preston@ttu.edu

JOURNAL MANAGER Alexander Goerlt, De Gruyter, Genthiner Straße 13, 10785 Berlin, Germany, Tel.: +49 (0)30 260 05 – 234, Fax: +49 (0)30 260 05 – 250,
Email: alexander.goerlt@degruyter.com

RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS Claudia Neumann, De Gruyter, Genthiner Straße 13, 10785 Berlin, Germany, Tel.: +49 (0)30 260 05 – 226, Email: anzeigen@degruyter.com

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*This volume is dedicated to the remembrance of
Adam Brzostowski (1989–2015)
Associate Editor, Journal of Biosecurity, Biosafety, & Biodefense Law (2014–2015)*

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Introduction to Volume VI

We are pleased to publish Volume VI of the *Journal of Biosecurity, Biosafety and Biodefense Law*. This volume continues the *Journal's* tradition of shining light on emerging and important issues within the fields of biosecurity, biosafety, and biodefense law, both from a practical as well as a theoretical perspective.

The lead article of Volume VI is a transcript on a panel lecture entitled *Public Policy Drivers during Global Public Health Emergencies: Focus on Ebola*. Facilitated by Dr. Annette Sobel, Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, the eleven member panel discussed the biggest issues facing public policy makers and how those policies should be approached concerning the Ebola Virus. The remaining articles selected for Volume VI are divided into four subject-matter areas. The first addresses mass gatherings and mass casualties. The second addresses scientific research in biodefense. The third focuses on international travel and global bio-emergency regulations. Finally, the fourth addresses agro-defense law and agro-terrorism.

The first section provides health concerns in mass gatherings and mass casualty incidents. Grace Preston highlights common health issues that arise both in refugee camps and mass gatherings in her article *No Safe Haven: How the Chasm Between the Laws Governing Refugees and Mass Gatherings Has Contributed to Health Crises*. Ashley Tseung addresses how effective mass casualty preparedness is needed in hospitals to prepare and protect both the public and doctors in *Die a Hero or Live Long Enough to Become the Villain: Mass Casualty Preparedness in Hospitals and Protecting Doctors from Liability During Mass Casualty Events*.

The second section analyzes the benefits and penalties for developing medical and animal research against biologics and eco-terrorism. Joel Aldrich begins by examining legal impediments against the development of vaccines and questions whether these impediments are outweighed by legal benefits in his article *Legal Framework Surrounding the Development of Vaccines for Select Agents: Do the Legal Incentives Outweigh the Legal Burdens?* In *Eco-Terrorism: A Legal Update on the Laws Protecting Scientific Research from Extremist Activists*, Josh Leamons presents threats extremist eco-activists pose to scientific researchers and recommends improvements to the law regarding animal research.

The third section addresses the global spread of infections and development of biological weapons. Melissa Tran explores past disease outbreaks on cruise ships and the concern the potential threat of weaponizing a cruise ship for

biological terrorist attacks in *Lost at Sea: Plunge into Cruise Ship Jurisdiction: Which Governmental Agency Regulate Health on Passenger Vessels, Which Governmental Agency Responds in the Event of a Biological Attack on a Vessel, and What Can Be Done to Prepare*. William Wells analyzes pop culture references to diseases spread by international travelers and the importance of improving international health regulations through these hypotheticals in *I Saw it in a Movie: The Effectiveness of Health Regulations on International Travel*. Jennifer Wissinger highlights the importance of defining and determining the objective tests defining biological weapons as found in the Biological Weapons Convention in her article, *The BWC Gray Area: Locating the Blurry Line of Defining Biological Weapons*.

The final section features one article on agro-defense law. Author Jordan Hunter in his article *Preparing for Agroterror: How is the Texas Animal Health Commission Implementing Federal Food Security Regulations?*, discusses how the U.S. Department of Agriculture prepares for an agro-terrorism threat and in what ways the Texas Animal Health Commission works in cooperation with the USDA and agricultural industry to carry out these regulations.

The interdisciplinarity of the *Journal* requires a broad range of talent in the biological sciences as well as law and legal writing. It is also a peer-reviewed law journal, which is the exception rather than the rule in law journal publishing. The production of Volume VI is due to the many talented people across these disciplines for who a warm thank you is in order. I thank the anonymous peer reviewers and Board of Editors for their steadfast dedication to this growing area of law and to the *Journal*. Sincere thanks also go to our Student Board of Editors: Editor-in-Chief, Grace Preston; Executive Managing Editor, Ashley Tseung; Lead Articles Editor, Theda Strickler; Organizational Development Editor, Neel Gandhi; and Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, Joel Aldrich. Each member of the Student Board of Editors devoted themselves to preparing articles for publication and day-to-day management of Volume VI. Additionally, our outstanding Associate Editors ensured every detail of the editing process was skillfully executed to meet the deadlines for Volume VI. Finally, a special thanks to Professor Brie Sherwin who has continued to serve the *Journal* as Managing Editor since its founding. Her contributions continue to be vital to the *Journal's* success.

Dr. Victoria Sutton, MPA, PhD, JD
Paul Whitfield Horn Professor
Founding Chief Editor