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Editor in Chief

Kevin Armonio

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Editor in Chief

On behalf of the *West-Northwest* staff and editors, it is our pleasure to present the second issue of the 2015-2016 academic year. This is the second issue of *West-Northwest* to be published on an all-digital format. We have received positive response to this new digital format and look forward to continuing this environmentally friendly version of the journal.

The public debate regarding the state of our environment continues to change as we continue moving forward in the 21st century. And for the first time in our planet's history, all the nations of the world were able to come together and voice their desire to preserve our Earth. In December 2015, in Paris, the nations of the world reached agreement to limit global warming to less than 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels. While there are some issues with the Paris Agreement, we can all agree that necessary steps were made, and cooperation among nations achieved. It is in the spirit of global cooperation and partnership that we present this second issue of *West-Northwest*.

This issue covers a wide array of environmental topics. From California water issues, like water management and groundwater regulations, to curbing sulfur emissions using domestic and international solutions, to the legality of the Clean Power Plan. As always we hope that these discussions continue a meaningful debate about the future of the environment.

In *Keeping the Desert at Bay: Adapting California Water Management to Climate Change*, Paul J. Pearah discusses the extent of the authority of the State Water Resources Control Board to reallocate water rights to adapt to climate change under common law, the Reasonable Use Doctrine, Public Trust Doctrine, and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

In *California's Groundwater Crisis: A Case for the Regulation of Groundwater Substitution Transfers*, Chelsea Scharf discusses the California State Water Resources Control Board's regulation of "temporary groundwater substitution transfers" and provides recommendations so that Board can better comply with the law.

In *Solving Smog Outsourcing: Domestic and International Solutions for Curbing Transboundary Sulfur Emissions*, James Bonar-Bridges discusses the issue of transboundary air pollution, particularly between China and the United States, and provides recommendations to address this issue.

And finally, in *Out of Thin Air: Evaluating the Legality of the Clean Power Plan under the Equal Sovereignty Principle*, Deepa Sharma discusses the Clean Power Plan and its legality, especially application of the Equal Sovereignty Principle in analyzing the Clean Power Plan.

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In keeping with tradition, we have included several photographs and works submitted by our staff and friends.

Kevin Armonio
San Francisco, California
Summer 2016
