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This issue begins with a condensed version of UW–Madison Chancellor and longtime IRP Affiliate Rebecca Blank's Keynote Address at the 2016 IRP Summer Research Workshop. It then summarizes articles that will appear in a forthcoming double issue of *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* focusing on antipoverty policies for the United States. The two-issue volume will be co-published by the Russell Sage Foundation and the Robin Hood Foundation.

Chancellor Blank delivered her address, "Making a Difference Over 50 Years," at IRP's 26th annual Summer Research Workshop in June of 2016, which marked IRP's 50th anniversary. She highlighted key aspects of IRP's history and major accomplishments. It was particularly fitting that she delivered this address at the Summer Research Workshop, which is one of IRP's most successful and long-standing events. The Workshop provides a structured opportunity for emerging scholars to participate alongside senior researchers in a multi-day event featuring presentations of works in progress and research papers related to low-income populations. It is explicitly designed to promote and encourage poverty-related research and build a community of researchers at all career stages who are focused on low-income populations, their social and economic opportunities and outcomes, and social policy.

The subsequent articles in this issue are summaries of a select set of antipoverty policy proposals that are included in the forthcoming *RSF Journal* double issue co-edited by Lawrence Berger, Maria Cancian, and Katherine Magnuson. It highlights innovative and specific antipoverty policy proposals for the United States that are grounded in sound social science evidence. The proposals range in size, scope, and breadth, as well as target populations and approaches to poverty reduction. However, each seeks to move antipoverty efforts into new territory. The proposals selected for inclusion here are linked by their focus on cash or near cash social welfare programs and policies, including tax transfers and minimum wage policy. As the editors point out in their introduction to the journal issue, although much of the current political debate is directed at shrinking or eliminating social welfare programs, exploring new approaches and potential policy innovations for reducing poverty continues to be important.

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Focus distills poverty research items of interest for dissemination to a broader audience, with a specific focus on educators, policymakers, policy analysts, and state and federal officials.

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Edited by Emma Caspar.

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