

## WELCOME LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITORS OF THE JOURNAL OF FINANCIAL RESEARCH

To our friends and colleagues in the Southern Finance Association,

As the incoming editors of the *Journal of Financial Research* (JFR), we would like to thank the Southern Finance Association and the Southwestern Finance Association for the honor of being entrusted with stewardship of the journal. We are excited by the opportunity and look forward to building on the strong foundation laid by our predecessors.

We thank the outgoing editorial team of Erik Devos, William B. Elliott, and Murali Jagannathan for their excellent work increasing the reputation of the journal. The JFR has an impact factor of 3.5 (Clarivate Journal Citation Report, 2023), which compares favorably to other prestigious journals. The JFR is also listed among the *Social Sciences Citation Index* (SSCI) collection of influential journals.

Our editorial philosophy is to maintain and enhance the JFR's reputation as a premier generalist finance journal, seeking to publish impactful research from all areas of finance. During our tenure, we aim to increase the JFR's visibility and make it the first publication outlet for our colleagues. To this end, we intend to expand the journal's presence on social media to publicize the contributions of papers published in the journal, thereby increasing the JFR's recognition and that of the outstanding scholars who publish in it.

There are some exciting changes in store for the JFR. As always, submitting authors should expect a fast, fair review process. To foster this even further, we intend to recognize the hard work of referees by offering stipends for on-time reviews. Second, in addition to recognizing our best papers annually, we intend to recognize the top paper in each issue by spotlighting them as the lead article and offering an honorarium to the authors for their outstanding contribution to the journal.

We sincerely thank the membership of the Southern Finance Association for your ongoing support of the journal and look forward to your submissions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Cline, John "Nutie" and Edie Dowdle Professor of Finance, Mississippi State University

Melissa Woodley, CFA, Associate Professor, Creighton University

Adam Yore, Stephen Furbacher Professor of Organizational Change, University of Missouri