

Letter from the Editors-in-Chief

The *University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Research Journal* is proud to be publishing work done by our undergraduate students and disseminating this research through open access journal hosting. We've had another successful year here at *USURJ*, which would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of many individuals. We would like to thank all of the authors for submitting their papers and working together with us during the editing process and through to publication. Thank you as well to our cover artist, Valerie Warwick, for her beautiful contribution to this issue.

Thank you to all of our dedicated undergraduate editors who volunteered their time to make all of this possible. Thanks to our faculty advisor, DeDe Dawson, and our staff advisor, Liv Marken for their valuable support throughout the year. We'd also like to thank all of our faculty and grad student reviewers; Writing Centre tutors Maaya Hitomi, Kevin Baros-Novak, Lara Larsen and Maryann Scott; and a special thank you to Kara Loy, Erin Holcomb, OVPR, and Student Learning Services for their help in making all of this possible.

This issue's articles span disciplines across campus, yet complement each other in unique ways.

Alexa McEwen's review of prenatal Vitamin D exposure and Katelyn Jones' argument for a legal right to a healthy environment examine existing discussions in the scholarship to make recommendations for improving the health of populations – on a physical level and in our constitutional rights.

Kelsi Toew's intersectional approach to addressing intimate partner violence, Sahar Khelifa's analysis of the changing perceptions of Muslims in Canada, Kendra Schreiner's insight into political processes in Myanmar, and Adam Lakusta's evaluation of recent sanctions against Russia all propose responses to these issues that carefully take into account cultural specificity, local relevance, and individual and collective needs.

Tyla Betke's discussion of British perceptions of the Six Nations Iroquois during the Seven Years' War, Daniel Ruten's examination of food trade patterns between Indigenous peoples and Canadian settlers, and Elise Lehmann's paper on the the controversial history of match production in Britain, have all identified areas for further study of historical relationships (among cultures, within economies, and in historical workplaces), and fill those gaps with new interpretations of the sources available to us.

John Hayes' writing on the Colombian peace process; Cassy Appelt's examination of bipedal and cranial adaptations in hominin evolution; and Kathryn A. Drever's discussions of masculinity during the interwar period in Britain each examine questions that on a national or more broadly human level have drastically shaped collective experience, and trace the changes in our collective understanding of the issues the papers deal with.

We encourage you to take a look at all of these papers, since they represent authors' dedicated work and intellectual engagement with the topics they depict. Thanks for reading!

Katya MacDonald & Courtney Ballantyne

Graduate and Undergraduate Editors-in-Chief

April 4, 2017