

Indiana University Journal of Undergraduate Research

Volume IV, 2018



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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Reader,

We are thrilled to present Volume IV of the *Indiana University Journal of Undergraduate Research (IUJUR)*. What an incredible year it has been for *IUJUR*. As the fourth publication cycle comes to a close, we are reminded of the invaluable administrators, advisors, and students who made this collaborative effort possible, inspiring a rich culture of curiosity throughout the IU community.

As a student-run, faculty-mentored research journal, *IUJUR* strives to promote passion for undergraduate research and provide a forum for academic curiosity in all disciplines. With the guidance of IU Libraries and the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, we continued an Academic Writing and Publishing class that trained our staff with academic goals, outstanding lessons involving group work, and techniques for developing our publication process. In addition, the continued support of our faculty advisors and the Faculty Advisory Board furthered our efforts to grow in the right direction.

This year's success is entirely attributed to the zealous dedication of our staff. The faculty relations and student outreach efforts headed by our Communications Board have been critical. We established the Online Creative

Content Board (OCC), whose frequent articles highlighted issues pertinent to the research community and have received substantial attention on social media. We would also like to recognize our newly established Task Force, an internal consulting team that took a step back from *IUJUR*'s daily operations and addressed long-term organizational goals. Our Student Editorial Boards (SEB) did an exceptional job handling this year's influx of submissions. They made immense efforts to not only maintain the quality of accepted papers but also provide extensive feedback and revisions to authors. Finally, we would like to recognize our Visual Design and Production Board (VD&P), whose members have worked tirelessly to design, produce, and proofread all contents of the journal. Year after year, the quality of *IUJUR*'s final output is entirely credited to them, and we are always amazed by the quick turnaround and phenomenal quality of their work.

We received more submissions this year than in any previous year, reflecting the ever-expanding undergraduate research community at IU. This year's publication also features submissions from multiple IU campuses, showcasing an exquisite variety of academic and creative subjects. Topics in Volume IV range from an analysis of linguistic

patterns in Cameroon to a description of protein homology for lipid binding. The manuscripts exhibit both the diversity of creative thought and genuine passion of IU's undergraduate researchers. Each submission serves as a testament to the author's dedication towards research and highlights the importance of student-faculty collaboration. We wish to recognize the faculty mentors, whose inspiration and support is imperative for the success of undergraduate researchers.

As we move into our fifth publication cycle, we look forward to progressing as an academic journal that fosters passion for undergraduate research. We are excited to further recognize scholarly endeavors and feature pieces that cast a critical glance towards society. As you explore the journal, we hope that its pages may impart didactic value and inspire you to never stop contemplating meaningful topics. Thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoy this volume.

Sincerely,

Kaveet Pandya & Kushal Shah
Editors-in-Chief

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