I think the best explanation of the 2010 Analecta comes from an anecdote about this year’s cover. The cover artist, Katie Swiental and I had talked about conveying this sense of wading through time (after all, isn’t that what college is? A period of time that we go through in order to get somewhere else?) We had discussed a horde of people worshipping a stopped clock-tower. In her sketches she drew a robot-like person which I absolutely adored. We went with the robot theme. After she completed the painting I was absolutely ecstatic and could not wait to show every single person I knew. I received a lot of different responses: man versus technology, David and Goliath, and The Day the Earth Stood Still. My favorite response came from a manager of TGI Fridays, my college employment. “Why doesn’t the guy just go around the giant robot?” I thought about this and ultimately that question best sums up this year’s ANALECTA. When faced with an obstacle, whatever that obstacle may be, we cannot simply go-around or get-over. If we do, that obstacle is still there. If we don’t fight the giant robot, the giant robot will destroy everything. As nerdy and enjoyable as that last sentence was to write, it serves as a nice metaphor. Whatever it is that obstructs a better future (in this case, a future not destroyed by a giant robot) we must get through (not over, not around, not just forget-about-it, despite the case that may present). As we go through college and onto the rest of our lives we must continue working towards a better future. After all, what is college but a period of time we go through to get somewhere else?

I hearken back to the word’s of President Carter when I ask, Is the next five years going to be better than the last? Or are we going to live in the moment, letting time and life go around us? As we live life we are faced with constant obstacles whether that be relationships, marriage, children, jobs, existential crises, broken bones, broken hearts, broken cars, and broken spirits. We cannot let them obstruct a better future, we cannot just ignore them, but rather we must must must (I feel the word is worth repeating) be willing to stand up to them and fight for a better “ahead”.

So with that, Welcome the 2010 ANALECTA, of which I have been infinity blessed to serve as Editor-in-Chief: from reading through all the fantastic submissions to working (seemingly without sleep), putting it all together. I would like to thank the following for, in some way or another, influencing this year’s edition:
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Mitchell Robinson
Editor-in-Chief of the 2010 ANALECTA