

Note from the Editor

This year graduate students make up 6.9% of the student population. For the first time graduate students from multiple disciplines are able to showcase their work in one place. My hope, as founder of the Graduate Research Journal, is to facilitate community between the graduate programs at IU South Bend and create a place for students to gain experience for their future pursuits.

This year the Graduate Research Journal is proud to publish four Master of Liberal Studies articles, four Master of Arts in English articles, two Master of Public Affairs articles, and one Masters of Music article. This collection personifies the original, intellectual work the editorial board believes demonstrates the value of graduate work at IU South Bend.

I would like to thank Kyoko Takanashi for volunteering her time to take on the advising position for the Graduate Research Journal and fighting to help keep it alive in the coming years. She has been integral in creating a strong foundation for displaying research and communicating between academic departments. I would also like to thank the publications board for supporting a new journal with such fervor.

This journal would have been impossible if not for the editorial committee who were patient and willing to work through some of the bumps that come with a new project, which I appreciate more than they will ever know.

I would like to thank all of the students who submitted papers this year; your submissions allowed for this journal to be possible. I hope this journal encourages more graduate students to submit their work in the coming years. More importantly my goal as Editor-in-Chief, this year was to illustrate to undergraduate students, the caliber of work being produced to inform more undergraduates about IU South Bend's graduate programs.