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## Editor’s Note:

It has been an incredible honor to be the editor of this wonderful volume. This year has been outstanding for many reasons, not the least of which is our number of submissions. The 2011 Undergraduate Research Journal received 64 submissions, a record number—more than double last year’s total. We were also able to accept over twice the number of papers as were accepted last year, and I am pleased to present this volume as a relatively representative slice of the Indiana University South Bend campus.

These 22 papers show the diversity of subjects and disciplines which inhabit our university. They also show how those disciplines are interconnected, medicine with anthropology, law with literature, sociology with economics, music with gender, and so much more.

The entire process of narrowing 64 submissions down to 22 is excruciating. Before coming to me, these papers are seen, graded, and signed off on by the dedicated professors here. There were so many inherently publishable papers, the decision was difficult and complicated, even though I had a fantastic editorial team to assist me. For their help, patience, and promptness, I would like to thank Jenn Zellers, Steve Richards, Hannah Stowe, Jeff Tatay, Chloe Lawrence, Timothy Dann-Barrick, and my co-Editor-in-Chief April Buck.

I would also like to thank our incredibly diverse group of authors. Not only did they each produce a high-quality and fascinating paper, they worked on an extremely tight deadline, editing their work and coming to an agreement with my assistants on their edits in considerably less than a week. Regrettably, due to space constraints and so we could present you with the largest group of student authors possible, each paper had to be cut down to its essence. Full versions of many of the papers are available on our website, in the online version of the 2011 URJ.

To have a publication to your name is to guarantee your immortality. We remember writers, long after they or their civilizations, empires, descendants or followings have crumbled. We quote men and women who lived and wrote centuries ago in different languages and different parts of the world. We speak their words because each author has the power to both add something new to the human experience and to tap into that which we recognize as universal memes or ideas.

Please join me in proudly congratulating all of our new authors on their contribution to the university and to history, and enjoy the new and interesting knowledge these pages bring you.

*Rebecca Gibson*  
Editor-in-Chief  
IU South Bend Undergraduate Research Journal-2011