

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Reader,

We are proud to present Volume Five of the *James Madison Undergraduate Research Journal*. This volume features nine examples of undergraduate research and scholarship, the most we have ever published in an academic year. It represents multiple disciplines here on campus, showcasing work from Geographic Science, Psychology, Kinesiology, Nursing, History, and Communication Studies. We've also included a teaser from "Hackers and the Dark Net," a Media Arts & Design multimedia article available online through the *JMURJ* Scholarly Commons site.

Across two semesters, 23 students from 12 different majors and 15 minors served on the Volume 5 *JMURJ* Editorial Board. Students in two new leadership positions—managing editor and intern—put countless hours into administrative and editorial work to ensure the success of the journal. Our editing team collaborated with undergraduate researchers and scholars in more than 25 majors to revise manuscripts for accuracy, accessibility, and consistency. Our design team worked heroically, starting from blank pages, to reimagine the journal's look, layout, and artwork.

JMURJ participated in JMU's Undergraduate Research Review process and, with help from our marketing team, promoted undergraduate research and scholarship at the Spring 2018 Honors Symposium and during Centennial Scholars and JMU X-Labs meetings. Our marketers also coordinated *JMURJ*'s third annual photography contest, publishing the winning photographs on this volume's front and back covers.

We would especially like to thank the JMU faculty members, administrators, and administrative assistants who have supported *JMURJ* through the years. It is an honor to have worked with these individuals and an honor to publish a volume that truly represents the time and hard work we all put into creating it. We are excited to continue growing in the years to come and are pleased to have you, the reader, along for the journey.

All the best,

The *JMURJ* Editorial Board

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