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, inside, 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

**LETTER FROM THE EDITORS**

**VOLUME FIVE EDITORIAL BOARD**

**MANAGING EDITOR**
Catherine Evans

**INTERNS**
Matt Cappo
Maria Castro

**ADVISORS**
Kevin Jefferson
Kurt Schick

**EDITING**
Callie Bingen
John Corvari
Olivia DePasquale
Eric Fox
Caroline Henry
Marissa Kircher
Wyatt Lam
Magi Jo Linscott
Caroline Mohan
Becky Reid
Fiona Wirth

**DESIGN**
Paige Franklin
Isabel Kerr
Maddie Matarazzo
Jenna Welch
Catie Willett

**MARKETING AND OUTREACH**
Skyler Campbell
Dylan Owens