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Letter from the Editor

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second issue of *Steeplechase*, Murray State University's undergraduate and graduate research journal!

We are so excited to present such a variety of content in the journal this semester. We're happy to showcase two interviews, several creative projects, and several research projects, including the completed Honors thesis of one of our interviewees from our previous issue. Our student researchers come from a variety of backgrounds and fields of study, so we hope you'll take the time to hear directly from these students about their research through our interviews and short bios.

Each of the students participating in the journal this semester presented their research at Murray State University's Scholars Week in recent semesters. If you haven't had the opportunity to see these students present their work in person, we hope these articles will give you a chance to see what kind of amazing work is being done here at the university. From poetry and visual arts to more traditional research, these students are a notable example of the true variety of research and creative thought coming from our university. We also hope this journal will inspire our current students to think of the ways their interests and curiosities can drive them to begin their own research journey. Research is not just reserved for traditionally research-heavy fields—independent research is a fantastic opportunity for students in any field to push themselves to discover new things and get the most out of their undergraduate or graduate studies.

As always, thank you to our student submitters, faculty reviewers and mentors, student editors, and everyone working with the Office of Research and Creative Activity for making this journal possible. This content wouldn't be available without their hard work and creativity!

Thanks for reading,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Wood". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Rachel Wood, Editor-in-Chief