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COLLEGE

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the 7th issue of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research*. You are about to experience an excellent interdisciplinary colloquium. Whatever your special interest, you will be nudged to expand your horizons.

The authors will speak for themselves, so I would like to speak briefly in praise of the journal. *MJUR* is not alone, far from it. The Council on Undergraduate Research lists 232 similar journals, a number far greater than I would have guessed. Has *MJUR* made a place for itself? I think it has. Whereas many journals are dedicated to one discipline or showcase the work at the home institution, *MJUR* is interdisciplinary and draws its leadership, editors, and authors from many colleges. Since 2011 it has published articles from 27 different schools, mostly from the Central Midwest, but ranging from Minnesota to Maryland to Alabama to Colorado.

MJUR standards are high. Only about 25% of submitted articles are accepted. John Updike said that reviewing books is like “candling golden eggs.” *MJUR*’s faculty and student referees could well describe their work the same way.

As a Monmouth College undergraduate in the 1950s, I produced two pieces of research. One was a chemistry project on fluoridation of water, the other was on the critical moment in the thought of several existentialist philosophers. Neither of those papers would come close to qualifying for publication in *MJUR*, and that pleases me immensely.

When I study the articles in the present issue, I see that they have contemporary relevance. The authors have their eyes on the world and human experience. They work and write in academic towers, but they are looking out.

At a time when public support for science, humanities, and the arts is under threat, *MJUR* has an important role to play. May it continue to flourish!

Sincerely,

Charles Courtney, MC '57
Professor of Philosophy, emeritus
Drew University

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Special Thanks...

The editorial board of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* extends a special thanks to the faculty and deans of the ACM colleges for encouraging students to submit to the seventh issue of our journal. We would also like to thank President Clarence Wyatt, Dean David Timmerman, the Monmouth College Board of Trustees, and our anonymous reviewers for providing the resources to make this journal possible. Finally, we would like to thank Monmouth College alumna Caitlin Mehta for designing our cover and logo.

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Thank you all for your contributions.

Call For Papers

The editors of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* invite undergraduate students at any college or university to submit manuscripts from any discipline to be considered for publication in our journal's ninth issue (2018).

Works may be submitted at <http://research.monm.edu/mjur/call-for-papers/#submission-form>

Requirements:

- Abstract of no more than 200 words
- 5-35 pages in length
- 12pt Times New Roman or Calibri font, double spaced
- Name at front of manuscript only — no header
- Sequential page numbers required on all pages
- No track changes (mark-ups)
- Submit as a single Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) file unless the text of your manuscript requires a different format (such as extensive mathematical notation, tables, or figures)
- If your manuscript includes figures or images, include a list of figures and identify the file format (e.g., JPEG, TIFF, PDF) of any graphics and images submitted
- Submissions may be from any discipline as long as they are research based
- May use MLA, APA, or Chicago Style
- Accompanying your submission, you must provide the following information:
 - Name
 - School/Graduating class
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 - Citation style used
 - Daytime phone number
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 - The name and contact information of a sponsoring professor
- Research involving human subjects requires documentation of Institutional Review Board approval or exemption.

Deadlines:

The submission deadline for the 2018 issue is January 15, 2018. Submissions received after this date will be reviewed for publication consideration in the 2019 issue.

Submission Policy:

As a journal dedicated to undergraduate scholarship, the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* only accepts submissions from current or recent undergraduate students (see below for “authorship exceptions”). For recent graduates, your submission must be received within 8 months of conferral of your first undergraduate degree.

Manuscripts that have been published or have been accepted for publication elsewhere, or are under review with another publication, are not eligible for review or publication.

“Submission guidelines of all academic journals require that authors vouch for the originality of their work and that the manuscript is not currently under review by any other publication. While the lengthy review and publication cycle of an academic journal may be frustrating, offering a manuscript to one journal at a time is compulsory. Authors will also need to guarantee to the editor that the copyright for the material is held by no other entity.”—Henscheid, Jean and Jennifer Keup. *Crafting and Conducting Research on Student Transitions*. Columbia, SC: National Resource Center for The First Year Experience & Students in Transition, 2011. (96).

Authorship Exceptions

We understand that some faculty wish to include themselves as co-author on student projects, especially if the student's independent work was generated from a larger project that originated with the faculty advisor. In disciplines where the practice of including the faculty advisor as co-author is customary, we will accept the faculty recognized as such. The author must provide written permission of acknowledgement from those faculty advisors being recognized as contributors or co-authors in the manuscript.

Acknowledgments

In instances where students wish to acknowledge a faculty advisor, they may do so by prominently recognizing the faculty advisor as a contributor at the bottom of the first page of the manuscript in both the online and hard copy published versions. Here, the faculty advisor's contribution may be specified.

For questions you may contact us at:

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About the Authors...

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Monmouth College, 2016

Hind Allouch is a recent graduate of Monmouth College with a Bachelors of Arts in Psychology. Hind's primary academic area of interest is research, especially research exploring mood disorders. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, biking, and playing basketball. Hind is hoping to obtain a Masters in Clinical Psychology in the near future.

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Crown College, 2017

Brittany Andrews is a senior history major at Crown College, located outside of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. During her time at Crown, she has enjoyed being a part of the Honors Program and singing in the chamber choir on two European tours. She is passionate about travel, books, and discovering people's stories. She would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Glenn Myers for his continued guidance and support on this project, as well as to the friends and family who are always willing to listen to incessant talk about *The Lord of the Rings*.

Matt Bersell

Monmouth College, 2016

Matt Bersell graduated *summa cum laude* from Monmouth College in May, 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. While at Monmouth, Matt was employed as a Resident Assistant while also serving as a volunteer assistant coach for the local YMCA's swim team. He is currently in his first semester at Western Illinois University and is working towards a Master's degree in History. Matt especially wants to thank Dr. Frederick Witzig for initially presenting him with the idea of getting his senior research paper published and for all of the advice and support along the way.

Rachel Crane

Macalester College, 2017

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Anesce Dremen

Carthage College, 2017

Raised in a little town in North Carolina, Anesce Dremen took wing to the frozen winter land of Wisconsin to attend Carthage College as a double major in Chinese and English literature (creative writing concentration). A twice recipient of the Critical Language Scholarship (Xi'an 2015, Suzhou 2016), Anesce (许梦安) also served as a Gilman Scholar to study in Beijing and Chengdu for a total of thirteen months in China. In Chengdu, Anesce was the first foreigner to join a Mandarin-specific, local tea society; she participated in a tea harvest and interpreted the manufacturing process into English. She is currently serving as a CLS Alumni Ambassador and is writing two chapbooks: The first combines motifs of shame, silence, and survival to raise awareness of domestic violence; the second is written in Chinese and will infuse tea, traveling, and memory into 108 stories. When not working in the Writing Center, Anesce can be found brewing tea (with gaiwans or yixing teapots) or cooking scrumptious vegan dishes. Following graduation, Anesce will volunteer at mind and body wellness centers in China while preparing chapbooks for publication. This thesis and Anesce's knowledge benefited greatly from the support and guidance of Dr. Carrig, Dr. Brennan, Dr. Udry, Dr. Choffnes, and Ren Laoshi. Thank you.

Austin D. Hoffman

University of Missouri—Kansas City, 2015

Austin D. Hoffman received undergraduate degrees in Sociology and Philosophy from the University of Missouri--Kansas City. Since 2014, he has been an activist and organizer on behalf of the Black Lives Matter Movement, the Fight For \$15 campaign, Food Not Bombs, and various other progressive causes. He is currently the Educational Coordinator at Mission: Wolf, a wildlife sanctuary for wolves and wolf-dogs in southern Colorado. He plans eventually to go to graduate school to continue studying social movements and culture.

Garrett Jones

University of Central Missouri, 2017

Garrett Jones is a senior undergraduate student at the University of Central Missouri, double majoring in English Literature and Philosophy. He is a member of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society, and has participated in events sponsored by this organization as an undergraduate. He has been accepted to the M.A. program at the University of Central Missouri, where he plans to pursue a Master's degree in English Literature with an emphasis in modernist and post-modernist literature. Upon receiving the Master's degree, Garrett plans to work towards a Doctorate and continue researching and teaching literature. He would like to extend his thanks to Dr. Joshua Taft of the University of Central Missouri for his indispensable feedback during the production, writing, and revision process for this paper.

Rebecca Mendelsohn

Macalester College, 2017

Rebecca Mendelsohn is a senior Political Science and Human Rights & Humanitarianism major at Macalester College. She is currently completing an Honors Thesis titled, *Transforming the state, challenging the nation: the role of identity politics in the Brexit vote*. Outside of the classroom, Rebecca has been an active member of Macalester Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights and the Committee for Refugee Student Access. After graduating she hopes to connect her passion for refugee and migration studies to work in public policy. Rebecca would like to thank Professor David Blaney for his mentorship and support on this project.

Kayla Morrow

Mount St. Mary's University, 2017

Kayla Morrow is from Athens, Ohio but most recently lived in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii before attending college. She is in her final year at Mount St. Mary's University in Maryland, double majoring in English and Philosophy. She has worked as a graduate/undergraduate writing tutor, archives intern, and news reporter, and was given the opportunity to study literature at the University of Cambridge, King's and Pembroke Colleges during the Summer of 2016. She is particularly intrigued by projects at the intersection of literature and philosophy, and is currently working on a project which examines the philosophy of marriage in Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*. She would like to express sincere gratitude to Professor Jessie Jordan for his continued feedback, mentorship, and inspiration throughout the research process, as well as the professors of the Mount St. Mary's Philosophy and English departments for contributing to her development as a liberally educated individual.

Jacob Pelegrin

University of Wisconsin—Green Bay, 2017

Jacob Pelegrin is a senior at the University of Wisconsin—Green Bay majoring in Environmental Science. Jake is from Pulaski, Wisconsin, and enjoys hiking, bird watching, and running. He works as a research assistant at the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, a partner of UW—Green Bay’s College of Science and Technology that promotes environmental science research and involvement. Jake Pelegrin would like to thank his adviser, Dr. Ryan Holzem, for his support and guidance throughout this project.

Anthony Peterson

Coe College, 2016

Anthony Peterson graduated with distinction from Coe College in 2016 with degrees in Economics and Business Administration. During his time at Coe, Anthony was on the executive board of the Iota chapter of Phi Kappa Tau and the editing board for the college newspaper, the *Coe College Cosmos*. He also was the teaching assistant for all finance-related courses. Currently, he works in the banking industry in Des Moines, Iowa. Anthony conducted his research under the guidance of his academic advisor, Dr. Jay Chen. This research project was made possible through generous stipends from the Spellman Research Fund, a private fund for skilled undergraduate research in the fields of business, accounting, and economics. After earning the McElroy Research Grant, Anthony was able to present his research at the Economics Scholars Program for Undergraduate Research hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Nathan Porter

University of Utah, 2017

Nathan Porter is a senior Philosophy major at the University of Utah. He plans to do graduate work in theology. His interests include the intersection between postmodernity and Christian theology, the history of philosophy since the Enlightenment, and hermeneutical issues involved in the interpretation of ancient texts. He and his wife Fernanda reside in Salt Lake City, Utah, where they teach Portuguese and Spanish to elementary school students.

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Knox College, 2017

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About the Editors...

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Cole is a Communication Studies major and Business Administration minor from Geneva, Illinois. In addition to working with *MJUR*, Cole participates in Monmouth Speech & Forensics, his fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon, and various campus singing groups. His passions include sad indie music, slam poetry, Chipotle, and internet videos of polar bear cubs. Post-graduation, Cole plans to finish constructing the rocket in his backyard that will transport him to Japan, where he will begin teaching English.

Kelci Foss

Kelci Foss is a junior Biopsychology major with a minor in Global Public Health. She is a member of the Monmouth College Cross Country and Track team, a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma as Vice President of Organization, works as an editor of the *MJUR* and as a Scots Ambassador. She has a love for running, enjoys watching Netflix and exploring the world. Kelci hopes to pursue a career in the field of neuropsychology following graduation.

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Daniel Hintzke is a Navy veteran and a junior at Monmouth College. He is a double major in History and Classics. His intentions post-Monmouth are to make it into graduate school for Medieval Studies. He also works on campus as the history tutor. Off campus, he volunteers at the local Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, where he works on the honor guard detail, which provides funeral and/or graveside ceremonies.

Sarah Lang

Sarah is a senior Biochemistry major from Peoria, Illinois. In addition to her job as Publications Editor for *MJUR*, she has worked as a teacher's assistant, a supplemental instructor for the biology general education class, and as a research mentor for Monmouth College's 3-week summer research program for incoming freshmen. She is also a member of the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society and of Alpha Xi Delta Women's Fraternity. Her hobbies outside of studying include hiking, swimming, and befriending dogs. After graduation, she will be attending graduate school to earn her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).

Abrafi Osei-Kofi

Abrafi Osei-Kofi is a graduating senior with a triple major in Political Science, French, and International Studies. She is currently taking part in the Washington Semester Program at American University with a concentration in the Justice and Law program. Her future ambition is to go to law school and eventually practice law (criminal or immigration law). She is interested in becoming a public defender and eventually going back home (Ghana) to practice and help fix a broken justice system. She can speak four languages and is hoping to expand. She also loves to read and write. Back at Monmouth, she was the Head Resident of McMichael Hall, a writing center tutor, a French tutor, an academic coach, and a copy editor for *MJUR*.

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Diana Rubi is a junior Political Science, International Studies, and Spanish triple major. She is the Vice President of Programs for Alpha Xi Delta, the ASMC clerk, an editor for *MJUR*, and an intern for the LUX Leadership Center. She plans on getting a joint J.D./LL.M degree for international law.

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Stephanie Saey is a junior at Monmouth College, double majoring in Biochemistry and Biopsychology. Her college career thus far has included conducting psychology-related research, serving as a campus tour guide, working as a chemistry tutor, and participating in Biochemistry research. Stephanie is an avid runner and is very thankful for coffee and ice cream. After college, Stephanie aspires to go to medical school to become a psychiatrist.

Sophia Slocum

Sophia is studying biopsychology for occupational therapy because of a passion for helping people with disabilities and their families. She loves being engaged at Monmouth; she is a part of the speech team (Monmouth Forensics), a Writing Tutor, an intern to the Chaplain's office, Presbyterian Scholar, editor for *MJUR*, and an involved member of the interfaith group Better Together. Her interests include meeting new people, traveling (currently abroad in Costa Rica), hiking and exercise, cooking, and dancing!

Hadley Smithhisler

Hadley Smithhisler is a freshman history major from Zionsville, Indiana. In addition to being a part of *MJUR*, she is the secretary of Rotaract, a cellist in the Monmouth College chamber orchestra, and a member of Monmouth's new Stockdale Fellows Leadership Program. After graduation, she intends to enter law school with the hopes of becoming a lawyer dealing with intellectual property or international law.

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Riley is a senior Biopsychology major and Chemistry minor from Galesburg, Illinois. In addition to his studies and *MJUR*, Riley is a member of the Fighting Scots golf team, Psi Chi, and Pre-Health Society, and serves as vice president of Tri-Beta. His research interests include synaptic plasticity, biomimicry, health psychology, and neurodegenerative disorders. In his free time, Riley enjoys playing guitar, exercising, writing, and watching nature documentaries. After graduation, Riley plans to pursue a career in medicine.

Issac Willis

As a student of philosophy and literature, Isaac is committed to the idea that writing is an essential activity. His research interests include animal ethics and the way narratives and mythopoeia inform the ways we interact with marginalized bodies, people groups, and environmental zones. After Monmouth, Isaac hopes to teach future generations about imagination and ideas.

Rachel Witzig

A senior English major at Monmouth College, Rachel is positively passionate about creative writing and classic literature. Though dead, Gerard Manley Hopkins is her poetic love, followed closely by Lucille Clifton. Rachel works with *MJUR*, tutors students, and aides at a home for individuals with special needs. She is also a student leader of Ignite, one of Monmouth College's Christian organizations. Her other interests include travel, British television, and the French and Italian languages. After college, Rachel hopes to become a missionary through teaching English in another country or assisting in Bible translation.

Haley Willits

Haley Willits is a junior English major at Monmouth College. Along with *MJUR*, Haley is involved with theatre, various honor societies, and the Monmouth College Pipe Band. After graduating, Haley plans to pursue a career in publishing and later becoming a professor for undergraduate English study.