

Letter from Dr. Zink

It truly is an honor to introduce this inaugural issue of *The Measure*. Named by transfer student and history major Will Bailey, *The Measure* pays homage to Sam Houston State University's motto while highlighting the work of our most talented undergraduates. Over the past decade, in higher education, undergraduate research has become increasingly important and sophisticated. As you will see, our undergraduates can—and do—compete with the best of their peers nationally as their acceptance into top graduate programs demonstrates. These essays also are a testament to the teacher-scholar model to which we aspire and to the life-changing role that faculty mentors play in our students' lives.

The Measure is the work of many who deserve credit for their contributions. The College of Humanities and Social Sciences wishes first to thank President Dana G. Hoyt and Provost Richard Eglsaer for their support of this new initiative. We owe special thanks to Associate Dean Carroll Nardone, who shepherded *The Measure* from idea to completion. More than a dozen CHSS faculty contributed in some significant way to this inaugural edition. Their names appear individually. Managing editor Briana Weaver, history graduate student, and assistant editor Kristen Koci, recent sociology graduate, did a phenomenal job in the final editorial stages. We also thank Prof. Cesar Rivera and student Morgan Bennett for their design work.

In closing, as you read *The Measure*, I hope that you are as impressed by and proud of our undergraduates and faculty as I am. The work in this inaugural edition not only illustrates the depth and breadth of the humanities and social sciences, but also points to the promise of the next generation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abbey Zink', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Abbey Zink, PhD
Dean