

Letter from the Editors

Undergraduate students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Sam Houston State University will spend hours of their college career diligently researching topics related to their field of study. However, students have not had the opportunity to showcase their hard work to the rest of the world. This is no longer the case. *The Measure* staff is proud to present the inaugural issue of *The Measure: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*. This issue provides an inclusive forum for Bearkats from a diverse array of disciplines to showcase their research, knowledge, and passions at the undergraduate level. The eight pieces chosen for publication in this inaugural issue, arranged in order of authors' last names, include some of the best original student research in their respective fields, though each contributes to the broader knowledge base that comprises the humanities and social sciences. Each article is presented in the general style and formatting of its respective discipline.

This journal could not have been possible without the support of the Departments of Communication Studies, English, History, Political Science, Psychology & Philosophy, Sociology, and World Languages & Cultures. To those who submitted work, thank you for taking the initiative to enhance your educational experience. We congratulate you on your perseverance and commitment. To our published authors, you should take pride in your accomplishments. To the faculty mentors who assisted the students published in this issue, thank you for dedicating your time to helping some of our brightest students achieve their goals. You are a large part of the reason that there is such a strong culture of service and support within the college. To our faculty reviewers, thank you for volunteering your time to provide feedback on the submissions we received. Your commitment to student learning exemplifies the culture of service that we strive for at *The Measure*. To our graphic designers, thank you for sharing your creativity and time with us. The artwork you provided represents the spirit of our college. To our readers, thank you for picking up the journal and allowing us to share a portion of the exemplary work Sam Houston State University Bearkats create.

Finally, we want to give a special thank you to two people who were pivotal in this inaugural issue. To Dr. Carroll Ferguson Nardone,

Executive Editor and Associate Dean of the College of the Humanities and Social Sciences, thank you for selflessly advising and guiding us. You have dedicated an extensive amount of time ensuring that this issue was developed as smoothly as possible and securing its success. To Dr. Abbey Zink, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, thank you for supporting us beyond measure. You were integral in assuring the fruition of this journal and stood by us throughout its development. Without both of you, this journal would not be.

We are excited for the future of *The Measure*. It was created to exhibit new ideas and encourage students to develop questions, pursue answers, and take action in addressing the issues discovered in the process. We hope you enjoy the articles and are inspired to begin the pursuit of asking questions and finding answers for yourself. Thanks again, it has been a joy to participate in the inception of *The Measure*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Briana Weaver".

Briana Weaver
Managing Editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristen Koci".

Kristen Koci
Assistant Editor