

Letter from Dr. Zink

It is my extreme pleasure to introduce this second edition of *The Measure*, which continues to highlight the work of our most talented undergraduates in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. In just a year, *The Measure* has grown from eight to 11 essays that range from the global to the local, from linguistics to visual rhetoric, and from theory to application. Questions of identity and of what makes us who we are tie these essays together.

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 continued support. We owe special thanks to Associate Dean Carroll Nardone, who continues to serve as Executive Editor. Her deep commitment to undergraduate research is evident on every page. Nearly 20 CHSS faculty contributed in some significant way to this edition. Their names appear individually as Editorial Board members and as faculty mentors. Managing Editor John Quezada, history graduate student, did an outstanding job throughout the editorial process from seeking submissions to proofing final pages.

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. As in the inaugural edition, these essays not only illustrate 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, Ph.D.
Dean