

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS...

We are delighted to have completed our second issue of the journal. We've made several changes along the way in our efforts to grow and improve. In our first year, we laid a foundation for the goals we set for ourselves. This year, we've built upon that foundation and made it better. With our first issue, we saw what was possible and made it into a reality. With this issue, we can see even further and we've used what we've learned to move us forward. With each goal we've set and achieved this year, we've also asked, "What else can we do?" How can we continue to improve? As this issue becomes part of our collective "history," we now ask, "What can't we do?"

We have made great strides this year to grow as an organization, but our efforts would have been in vain if not for the unwavering support of our faculty advisor, Professor Samantha Herrick. Professor Herrick has continually provided us with guidance, while always stressing our autonomy. We are grateful to her for her commitment and all she does for us. We are also fortunate to have the constant and enthusiastic encouragement of the chair of our department, Professor Norman Kutcher, who has never set limits on our ambitions. We are blessed with a faculty that has always offered support and encouragement for our endeavors, and we thank them all. We would like to thank the administrative staff of the History department, Patti Blincoe, Patti Bohrer, and Fran Bockus, who have always cheerfully assisted us. We also thank the College of Arts and Sciences for their continued financial support, which has allowed us to grow and expand.

In this issue, we have tried to broaden our community by including information about our new faculty, research within the department, and connections to some of our past students. The papers which have been selected for this issue cover a wide range of topics and have been chosen not only for their scholarship, but also for their uniqueness and creativity. The papers are the work of undergraduates, but are not limited to graduating seniors and, therefore, have been written for a variety of projects and assignments. It is our hope that our readers will appreciate the efforts of our contributors, as well as see their potential. To our undergraduates, we hope this journal will encourage them to strive to excel and see their own potential. To our departing seniors, we wish them well in their future endeavors and hope they will stay in touch.

### The Editorial Staff...

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