



Editor's Letter

Charlotte Rheingold*

Welcome to the sixth installment of the Oregon Undergraduate Research Journal! This publication cycle marks a period of significant growth for us as we received a record number of submissions for this issue. We are proud to publish six outstanding articles representing the departments of English, Economics Environmental Studies, Comparative Literature, the Clark Honors College and the Environmental Leadership Program. This comprehensive range demonstrates one of the foundational goals for OUR Journal: to be interdisciplinary. It's important to show not only that we value undergraduate research but that we value all the forms that it takes. This issue showcases exemplary student work that raises awareness of the wealth and breadth of outstanding undergraduate research here at the University of Oregon that may otherwise go unnoticed.

OUR Journal could not have been produced without the help of our wonderful Editorial Board. We already miss our former Chief Editor Zeph Schafer, who graduates this term but is fortunate enough to be spending it abroad studying at Oxford with Clark Honors College. His devotion to OUR Journal for the past three years is greatly appreciated by editors, faculty, and authors alike, and we especially thank Zeph for spearheading the effort to create our new website! We will also miss Laura Krogman who graduates this term with a degree in Environmental Science with minors in Biology and Chemistry. I am sure she will be successful in her pursuit of combatting global climate change and social justice in her future ventures. I would also like to acknowledge the tireless Editorial Board, Mari, Janelle, Sage, and Jessica, for their invaluable efforts.

I would like to personally thank our faculty advisors Dr. Barbara Jenkins and Dr. Kevin Hatfield for their dedication to OUR Journal and for helping me ease gracefully into the role of Chief Editor this term. I am also sincerely grateful for the patient technology assistance provided by John Russell and Cat Bradley of University of Oregon Libraries. It's a pleasure to work with Lisa Freinkel, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, who graciously wrote the editorial for this issue and has many great ideas for the future of OUR Journal. I look forward to working more with all of you on upcoming publications and to seeing OUR Journal continue to grow by leaps and bounds thanks to all of your contributions.

Enjoy!

*Charlotte is a junior in the Clark Honors College majoring in Comparative Literature with minors in French and Economics. This issue marks the end of her second year with OUR Journal and her first as Chief Editor. Besides writing and editing, Charlotte enjoys dancing classical ballet and creative cooking. Please send all correspondence to charlotte.emily09@gmail.com