



Letter from the Editor

Allison M. Zhou, Biology*

Dear readers,

Research ebbs and flows. Something that has always fascinated me about the research process is that it almost never has a clear ending. There will always be more to study, investigate, and analyze. I believe that this endlessness is what makes research such a noble pursuit. A researcher must not only have an intellectual thirst for new discoveries and advancements, but also must possess a strong predisposition for embracing challenges and long-term analytical thinking.

This is our 12th issue of OURJ and while I have served on the editorial board for seven terms now, the submissions we receive never cease to amaze me. This issue, which presents papers exploring prostate cancer treatment options, snow leopard conservation, and the different features of gossip, is a wonderful reminder of the brilliant research university we are a part of and the great breadth and diversity of research work that undergraduates are involved in on this campus.

As diverse as the submissions we receive and publish, our current editorial board consists of individuals with equally diverse academic backgrounds and interests. Last spring we bid farewell to our graduating senior editors Jocelyn Taylor, Ainsley Taylor, and Sandra Dorning. We wish them the very best in all of their post-graduation pursuits. This past fall and winter we added several new editors to the board. My editorial board worked tirelessly to edit and publish this issue. Our path to publication was neither short nor easy. I extend a sincere thank you to all of my editors for their hard work and dedication, to Barb Jenkins of UO libraries for her support and guidance as our faculty advisor, and to the authors who contributed to this issue with their excellent research work. Finally, thank you readers for your continued support and interest in undergraduate research.

Without further ado, please enjoy the 12th issue of OURJ.

*Allison is a senior in the Clark Honors College planning to graduate with a degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry this spring. She has been on the OURJ editorial board since winter 2016, and has served as Editor-in-Chief since June 2017. She is currently writing her honors thesis on infant attention to novel object distributions. Please direct correspondence regarding this issue of OURJ to ourj@uoregon.edu. ii