

Letter from the Editors

There are few today who would doubt the importance of research. The process of academic inquiry and the contributions of thousands of people have supplied us with tools for managing disease, building cities, and preserving the past. We have come to a stronger understanding of the particles that make up our universe, the power of art, the power of language, the intersectional nature of social inequality, and the dangers of unsustainable resource consumption. Research has played no small role in altering the parameters of human experience over the past century, and our understanding of how that experience can be reconciled with the greater motions of the world.

Until the last twenty years, it was relatively unusual for students to engage in real-life research at the undergraduate level. But few experiences can prepare students so thoroughly for the challenges of both collaborative problem-solving and independent project development, and with increasing momentum, research activities are becoming a more common entry in the curriculum vitae of many graduate school-hopefuls and others interested in developing their career prospects.

Despite the fact that research is becoming a part of the general undergraduate experience, there are limited avenues through which undergraduate students can share their work. With the Canadian Journal of Undergraduate Research (CJUR), we are hoping to create a platform for the global undergraduate community to communicate its research with a public audience. CJUR will also provide an arena in which a diverse chorus of perspectives will weigh in on the complex, multidisciplinary problems that define the next frontier in human understanding and praxis.

What follows here is a call-to-arms: CJUR is an initiative run by undergraduates and for undergraduates, and we believe that everyone has something to add to the discussion. Whether you have completed your own research project or want to share updates from a particular field of study that interests you, we urge you to submit your primary research articles, reviews, commentaries, or perspective pieces. Be a part of the conversation! We look forward to seeing your name in print.

Sincerely,

Sophia Ly, Kevin Ng, and Cody Lo
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