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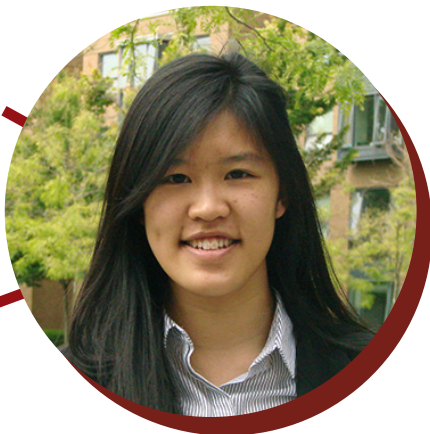




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# Letter from the editors

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Supporting undergraduate research not only enriches the educational experience of students but also benefits faculty, universities, and our society as a whole. By investing in undergraduates, we can help students develop vital critical thinking skills and an intellectual curiosity that will support them in the endeavours they pursue after their degree. At CJUR, we aim to support these students by providing them with opportunities to share their work and to develop their communication skills.

Since our inaugural issue in April 2016, we have received immense positive feedback from numerous stakeholders in the academic community confirming the need for our initiative. We received a 125% increase in submissions relative to last year's edition and we hope to continue this growth moving forward. We have moved our submission process to the Open Journal System software by the Public Knowledge Project, enabling a robust editorial workflow that emulates professional peer reviewed journals. Faculty members from universities across Canada have taken notice of our platform and now actively encourage their students to submit. This issue contains submissions from the University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, University of New Brunswick, University of Waterloo, University of Ottawa, and Simon Fraser University. We hope that through continued hard work, CJUR will continue to grow over the coming issues and years.

In this issue, we discuss a diverse range of salient issues facing our world today, from the impact of refugees on Europe's open border agreements to the development of algorithms that identify loudness in audio signals. It is encouraging to see the impact that undergraduate students are having in these areas and I hope you will join us in celebrating their work.

Sincerely,

Editorial Team at the Canadian Journal of Undergraduate Research