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From the Editor

Ethan Ross (Editor)
Old Dominion University

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Dear Readers,

This year, the research and creative topics represented in our journal could not be more varied. They include education, pregnancy, air pollution, math imaging, religious poetry, social media, and more. However, all of these works are connected by a unifying quality. Each was pursued to completion through the initiative of students and research mentors facing an unusual crisis.

Although college students throughout the nation are hardly alone in having struggled and triumphed throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, many students faced unique challenges during an already busy period of their lives. When the pandemic struck, some had only days to find new places to live, new employment, and/or new childcare arrangements—all the while maintaining a fulltime student course load. In addition, nearly all the students had to adapt, for a period, to a fully online educational environment and the new set of skills required to succeed within it. As we now stand at what we hope to be the end of this crisis season, it is our hope that this issue of the *OUR Journal* proudly represents our students' and our faculty's resilience and their desire to carry on as scholars. Even in the most trying of times, this work reminds us that higher education and scholarship are perpetual, crucial, and adaptive.

Please enjoy this widely diverse issue for the year 2021.

Ethan Forrest Ross
Editor