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*MJC*

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Dear Readers,

We are proud to present to you the ninth issue of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research*. The essays in these pages represent the best of undergraduate scholarship from around the country and beyond. It is our hope that they, as Lewis Thomas would say, help you to see from the corner of the eye, to expand your horizon lines.

The articles in this issue—ranging from a philosophical discussion of love to a critique of how women are represented in video games—are as concerned with human experience as they are with contributing to the ongoing critical conversations in their respective fields. This is the ideal for *MJUR*: interdisciplinary papers whose significance extends beyond the page and beyond any particular academic institution. They are, in sum, a testament to what education can be—not a mere preparation for future living but a process of living now, to adapt a phrase from John Dewey.

This year also marks a year of transition for *MJUR*. In order to achieve a more sustainable model for publishing the Journal, we have put even more responsibility in the hands of the student editors, who, with the helpful eyes of our faculty advisory board, oversee almost every aspect of reviewing, editing, and designing *MJUR*. The work that follows speaks volumes to the collaboration of student editors and authors and forecasts a useful pattern or benchmark for future generations of these undergraduate scholars to look to and, we hope, continue to improve.

Now, we leave it to the work contained herein to speak for itself, and we look forward to all the work that lies ahead.

Sincerely,  
Isaac Willis, Coordinating Editor

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***Special Thanks...***

The editorial board of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* extends a special thanks to the faculty and deans of the ACM colleges for encouraging students to submit to this issue of our journal. We would also like to thank President Clarence Wyatt, Dean David Timmerman, the Monmouth College Board of Trustees, and our anonymous reviewers for providing the resources to make this journal possible. Finally, we would like to thank Monmouth College alumna Caitlin Mehta for designing our logo.

The publication of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* is made possible through generous gifts from:

Robert L. Best '62

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and

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Thank you all for your contributions.

## Call For Papers

The editors of the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* invite undergraduate students at any college or university to submit manuscripts from any discipline to be considered for publication in our journal's tenth issue (2019).

Works may be submitted at:

<http://research.monm.edu/mjur/call-for-papers/#submission-form>

### Requirements:

- Abstract of no more than 200 words
- 5–35 pages in length
- 12pt Times New Roman or Calibri font, double spaced
- Name at front of manuscript only—no header
- Sequential page numbers required on all pages
- No track changes (mark-ups)
- Submit as a single Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) file unless the text of your manuscript requires a different format (such as extensive mathematical notation, tables, or figures)
- If your manuscript includes figures or images, include a list of figures and identify the file format (e.g., JPEG, TIFF, PDF) of any graphics and images submitted
- Submissions may be from any discipline as long as they are research based
- May use MLA, APA, or Chicago Style
- Accompanying your submission, you must provide the following information:
  - Name
  - School/Graduating class
  - Major
  - Discipline of paper
  - Citation style used
  - Phone number
  - Email address
  - Mailing address
  - The name and contact information of a sponsoring professor
- Research involving human subjects requires documentation of Institutional Review Board approval or exemption.

## **Deadlines:**

The submission deadline for the 2019 issue is January 15, 2019. Submissions received after this date will be reviewed for publication consideration in the 2020 issue.

## **Submission Policy:**

As a journal dedicated to undergraduate scholarship, the *Midwest Journal of Undergraduate Research* only accepts submissions from current or recent undergraduate students (see below for “authorship exceptions”). For recent graduates, your submission must be received within 8 months of conferral of your first undergraduate degree.

Manuscripts that have been published or have been accepted for publication elsewhere, or are under review with another publication, are not eligible for review or publication.

“Submission guidelines of all academic journals require that authors vouch for the originality of their work and that the manuscript is not currently under review by any other publication. While the lengthy review and publication cycle of an academic journal may be frustrating, offering a manuscript to one journal at a time is compulsory. Authors will also need to guarantee to the editor that the copyright for the material is held by no other entity.”—Henscheid, Jean and Jennifer Keup. *Crafting and Conducting Research on Student Transitions*. Columbia, SC: National Resource Center for The First Year Experience & Students in Transition, 2011. (96).

## **Authorship Exceptions**

We understand that some faculty wish to include themselves as co-author on student projects, especially if the student's independent work was generated from a larger project that originated with the faculty advisor. In disciplines where the practice of including the faculty advisor as co-author is customary, we will accept the faculty recognized as such. The author must provide written permission of acknowledgement from those faculty advisors being recognized as contributors or co-authors in the manuscript.

## **Acknowledgments**

In instances where students wish to acknowledge a faculty advisor, they may do so by prominently recognizing the faculty advisor as a contributor at the bottom of the first page of the manuscript in both the online and hard copy published versions. Here, the faculty advisor's contribution may be specified.

For questions you may contact us at:  
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## *About the Authors ...*

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### ***Megan DeCleene***

*Lawrence University, 2017*

Megan DeCleene graduated summa cum laude from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, where she worked as a research assistant for two consecutive summers. Her first summer was spent investigating masculinity in Spanish films made during the financial crisis with Dr. Rosa Tapia, while her second summer was spent translating Tirso de Molina's *Amazonas en las Indias* with Dr. Madera Allan, which led to the research project published here. Megan is currently a first-year Master's student in Hispanic Linguistics at Indiana University and is a recipient of the Ronald E. McNair Graduate Fellowship. When she is not studying, she enjoys reading, cooking, listening to podcasts, hiking, running, and traveling the world.

### ***Stephen Fishbune***

*Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, 2018*

Stephen Fishbune is a senior at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota with a double major in history and mathematics. During his time at Saint Mary's, Stephen has participated in the Honors Program and volunteered weekly with adults with developmental disabilities. In the summer of 2017, he interned at the History Center of Olmsted County, where he designed an exhibit about America in the 1920s. Stephen would like to thank Dr. Tycho de Boer for his guidance during the development of this senior thesis.

### ***Jinna Kim***

*Grinnell College, 2017*

Jinna Kim is a recent graduate of Grinnell College, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and sociology and a concentration in Latin American studies. Her primary research interests include race and ethnicity, immigration, identity, and membership. In the future, she hopes to gain more experience with a multitude of sociological methods in order to examine questions related to these fields. During her time at Grinnell, Jinna not only cultivated critical thinking skills, but also received mentorship from many faculty members. In particular, she would like to thank Professor Karla Erickson for her continued mentorship and support for her endeavors.

## ***Rashad Rehman***

*Western University, 2019*

Rashad Rehman is in his third year at Western University in London, Ontario, Canada, where he is pursuing an Honors Specialization in philosophy, a Practical Certificate in German, and advanced studies in Italian. Plato and Josef Pieper are his favorite philosophers. Among his publications are “Disintegrating Particles, Non-Local Causation and Category Mistakes: What do Conservation Laws Have to do with Dualism?” in *Conatus Journal of Philosophy*; “A Refutation of Relativizing Simultaneity: Tooley’s Quantum Physical Defense of Absolute Simultaneity” in *Meteorite*; and “On the Boarder of Concrete Experience: Mythic and Literary Experience in C.S. Lewis” in *Sophia*. He has spoken at York University and The University of Toronto and has been invited to speak at Western University and The University of Victoria in March 2018. At Western, Rashad enjoys learning Greek with a close friend, conversing with others over philosophical questions, and being part of the pro-life community. He intends to pursue an M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy after his undergraduate studies.

## ***Janeen Selfridge***

*Duquesne University, 2019*

Janeen Selfridge is a sophomore at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She plans to graduate in December of 2019 and is a double major in psychology and English. After graduation, she intends to enter a psychology graduate program and hopes to some day find a place in the psychology field where she can spend her days working with children. For now, she acts as the Editor-in-Chief of Duquesne’s yearbook, *L’Esprit du Duc*, co-leads the service and advocacy team for a Christian group on campus, and participates in honors societies for both of her majors. In her free time, Janeen enjoys writing both fiction and non-fiction, photography, and reading. Above all else, she holds a curiosity for how people work and the beauty of words.

## ***Elias Shammas***

*Monmouth College, 2017*

Elias Shammas is a Syrian American graduate. He completed his undergraduate studies in December of 2017 at Monmouth College, where he majored in political science and obtained minors in psychology and physics. He will be starting his Ph.D. in political science in August of 2018. His main research interests include political psychology, comparative politics, and culture-gene coevolution.

## ***Sylvie (Huahua) Zhong***

*Carleton College, 2019*

Sylvie (Huahua) Zhong is a junior political science/international relations major and political economy minor at Carleton College in Minnesota. Her primary research interests lie in the linkages between domestic and foreign politics and the socio-political dynamics in East Asia. She is currently working as a remote research assistant for the Institute of International and Strategic Studies of Peking University, China, where she assists in research on current political issues including China's *One Belt One Road Initiative*. Sylvie plans to attend a graduate program after Carleton to continue building her academic expertise. She would like to thank Dr. Greg Marfleet for his guidance on this paper, as well as each of her professors in the political science department for helping her grow as a student.

## *About the Editors ...*

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### ***Madeline Dohleman***

Madeline Dohleman was born in Pontiac, Illinois, in 1996. She is the daughter of Terry and Shannon Dohleman. Madeline is a senior biopsychology and exercise science double major. She participates in Monmouth College women's basketball, track and field, Alpha Xi Delta, and many more academic extracurricular activities. After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school for exercise physiology or neurobiology.

### ***Jamie Donahue***

Jamie Donahue is a junior psychology major with a minor in human services. In addition to her work with *MJUR*, she is a writing tutor for the Monmouth College Writing Center, as well as an anthropology tutor. Jamie is secretary of the Garden Club, is a member of Psi Chi, and is on drumline for marching and concert band, in addition to percussion ensemble. Her interests involve playing video games and watching movies with her friends, and her favorite restaurant is Five Guys. After receiving her bachelor's degree, she plans to attend graduate school to pursue a career in counseling.

### ***Logan Evans***

Logan Evans is a freshman biochemistry major. He has one brother Blake, one dog, and seven cats. After earning his bachelor's degree, he plans on attending medical school. His goal is to be either a neurosurgeon or a trauma surgeon. Logan will be shadowing a surgeon during his upcoming breaks from Monmouth College. Logan loves reading, writing, studying chemistry, and being with his friends. His favorite book is *Ender's Game*, and he will read pretty much anything. He is an active member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, the Association for Student Activity Planning (A.S.A.P.), and the Pre-Health Society. Logan has also worked with Santa's Hospital Helpers, a corporation that raises money to purchase toys for children in the hospital on Christmas, for eleven years. He loves helping people and hopes to one day be able to help people every day of his life.

### ***Daniel Hintzke***

Daniel Hintzke is a Navy veteran and a senior at Monmouth College, where he is double majoring in history and classics. In addition to his job as *MJUR* Operations Editor, he has also worked on campus as its history tutor. Off campus, he volunteers for the local Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, where he works on the honor guard detail, which provides funeral and/or graveside ceremonies for those who have passed. His interests include traveling (20 countries and counting), reading history books, exercising, and unashamedly watching *anime*. In his post-Monmouth life, he plans to sail on to graduate school, where he will continue his love of obscure dead languages, in pursuit of a degree in Medieval Studies.

### ***Amjad Karkout***

Amjad Karkout is a senior majoring in political science and minoring in psychology and media. Amjad works for *MJUR* as a reviewer and design editor. He also works as political science tutor and resident assistant at Monmouth College. After graduating from Monmouth, Amjad plans to pursue a Ph.D. in either political psychology, political economy, or comparative politics. His dream is to draw links among research in the social science fields that will enrich the storage of the collective intellectual efforts of human beings.

### ***Lily Lindner***

Lily Lindner is a sophomore English major from Morton, Illinois. When not attending to *MJUR* duties or studies, Lily is very involved on campus as a varsity women's soccer captain, the academic chair of Pi Beta Phi women's fraternity, the president of Alpha Lambda Delta honor society, a writing tutor, a resident assistant, and an inaugural member of the Stockdale Fellows leadership program. Before leaving Monmouth College, Lily is travelling to study abroad in London and Florence and hopes to create more enduring memories of her undergraduate experience. Until then, Lily will continue to start and end every day with a cup of coffee. Lily would like to thank her fellow editor, Hadley Smithhisler, for her guidance in secretarial duties and for being a consistent source of encouragement and laughter in trying times.

### ***Stephanie Saey***

Stephanie Saey is a senior at Monmouth College double majoring in biochemistry and biopsychology. Along with being an *MJUR* editor, she is involved in cross country and track, is a chemistry tutor, and holds membership positions in various honor societies. Following graduation, Stephanie will be applying to medical school. She has aspirations to become the next Derek Shepherd in female form.

### ***Sophia Slocum***

Sophie Slocum is a senior studying biopsychology for occupational therapy. She adores cats and Dr. Pepper, and she spent an incredible semester abroad in Costa Rica. Other fun facts include that she has a twin brother and that she is a writing tutor and an interfaith leader on her campus.

### ***Hadley Smithhisler***

Hadley Smithhisler is a sophomore history and French double major at Monmouth College. In addition to working as secretary of *MJUR*, Hadley works as a leadership mentor in the Wackerle Career and Leadership Center, tutors in the writing center, plays cello in Monmouth's chamber orchestra, and serves as the president of Rotaract. Hadley is a dog lover, a twin, an avid reader, and a collector of blue lipsticks. After graduation, she intends to earn a law degree and eventually practice international law. Hadley would like to thank Lily Lindner, her fellow secretary, for the prompt minutes and laughter this year.

### ***Nhung Vu***

Nhung Vu is a senior from Hanoi, Vietnam. She is studying communications and public relations and plans to pursue a career in academia. In addition to being an editor for *MJUR*, Nhung is also a writing tutor for the Monmouth College Writing Center and Head Resident of Grier Hall (yay team Grier!). She has an undying love for coffee and early afternoon naps and is often described as sassy. When she grows up, Nhung plans to move to a tropical island by herself, build her own tree house, and make friends with wild animals.



### ***Isaac Willis***

Isaac Willis is a senior at Monmouth College, majoring in English and philosophy. Isaac plans to go on to graduate school to study creative writing so that he can one day teach it at the college level. His own writing focuses on the way we understand ourselves as beings comprised and composed of language in relation to other human and nonhuman bodies.

### ***Haley Willits***

Haley Willits is a senior English major with a theatre minor and is from Gladstone, Illinois. In addition to working as an editor for *MJUR*, she has been a first-year mentor for three years, a member of the Monmouth College Pipe Band, and an inductee of multiple honor societies. She continues her love for writing by working with *The Coil*, Monmouth College's creative magazine. After graduating, she plans to pursue a career in editorial work. She recently studied abroad in Florence and London and is excited to return to both places in the future. Her hobbies mainly consist of drinking coffee and tea while reading with her cats.

### ***Hunter Wollwert***

As an English and Spanish double major, Hunter Wollwert is committed to language and its use in every form she can find. She is a writing tutor on campus and a clarinet section leader in the school's marching band. In her nonexistent free time, she enjoys walking through campus searching for dogs. Still undecided on what her future after graduation will hold, she simply wishes to be happy wherever life takes her.