

Join me in congratulating our authors, some of the most talented students that Vanderbilt University has to offer. Since it's inception in 2005, VURJ has showcased some of the most inventive and novel undergraduate research.

This year, we revised our peer review standards, bringing more accountability to our reviewers and giving each reviewer more input in the publication process. Each article was reviewed by a minimum of three peer reviewers, requiring agreement for the article to be considered. We received over 50 submissions for this volume and accepted 18 fantastic articles. We are especially proud of a terrific showing in the Engineering and Natural Sciences, where traditionally submissions have been fewer.

This year, we will be continuing our indexing with EBSCO Publishing, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to excellence in academic publishing. Over the next year, we encourage students to contribute our next volume and to join us as a part of our editorial team.

I wish you the best, and Happy Reading!

Blake Dewey
Editor, 2012-2013