

A Message from the Editors

This second issue in some way makes TWU Student Journal more *real* than the first. With the first, students demonstrated their ability to create scholarly works, and to work with reviewers and editors to make them ready for publication. Hopefully those students are set up to now get general responses from this scholarly community and beyond. But our second issue establishes that the journal is not just a one-off.

This issue is the product of more student contributors, increasing numbers of faculty advocates, and continuing administrative support. With Issue 2, we realize our ability, within TWU's *System with a Heart*, to keep going. We do so for what we see as a general good (the promotion of open access scholarship) and for the specific benefits it may bring to our student community; this journal is a living and growing laboratory for 21st Century academic publishing. We take on this yet small-scale effort so that TWU students may learn about open-access publishing, peer-review and publication life-cycles firsthand by doing those things within the bounds of a compassionate community. With confidence built by the process of incorporating the feedback of their peers and mentors, *Pioneers* become ready to submit to bigger journals at other institutions, and so move ahead with greater independence and a pioneering spirit in their own disciplines.

We need you, *student authors*. Without your lively explorations we cannot exist. Help us make it a living, diverse collation of voices! Here is an opportunity to speak out on subjects beyond your academic discipline, and to do so in a supportive environment. Our objective is to enable your voice, which means: we're here to help.

With our still early-days editorial team, the subjects we're comfortable reviewing are limited—we need you, *faculty champions, mentors and reviewers*! We would love to engage with faculty who can help us champion the TWU Student Journal as a supportive first experience in scholarly publication.

This journal has many kith, kin, elders, and allies at TWU. We are thankful to live in an ecosystem with other student publications, and are very thankful for the guidance and wisdom shared by those who have worked on *Ibid*, *Off the Quill*, and *The Lasso*. Speaking of *The Lasso*, we happily welcome Madeline Ray as a new member of the TWUSJ team. Working with us to brainstorm, copyedit, and create layout, Maddie's experience as *Lasso* Editor is invaluable to our collective efforts.

We wish you all a happy and productive 2023.

TWUSJ Editorial Team

School of Library & Information Studies Faculty:

Ahmet (Meti) Tmava, PhD, wrote his dissertation on faculty perceptions of open access repositories. Dr. Tmava designed and is teaching a graduate course on scholarly communication, and serves as a peer reviewer for several academic journals.

Carol L. Perryman, PhD, is a former co-editor for the official journal of the Medical Library Association Research Caucus, *Hypothesis*, and has served as section editor for the open access journal *Evidence-Based Library & Information Practice*. Her research and teaching interests include critical evaluation and research in practice.

TWU Libraries Staff:

Adrian Shapiro, MLS, Manager of Digital Initiatives and Assessment, serves the TWU community with her involvement in the Texas Digital Library and the management of the university's institutional repository, the Repository@TWU.

Elizabeth Headrick, MLS, Digital Strategies and Innovation Specialist and TWU PhD Candidate in Rhetoric, is focused on Open Access and Open Educational Resources.

Kenneth (Woody) Evans, MLIS, is the Research and User Experience Manager at Blagg-Huey Library, as well as a PhD Student in Rhetoric.

Student Editor:

Maddie Ray, Maddie Ray is currently an undergraduate social work student and managing editor for The Lasso. She is passionate about equitable and inclusive university practices. Following graduation, she hopes to earn her MSW to work within the criminal justice system.

*In this issue, our authors present work from various disciplines including
visual arts, chemistry, and nursing.*

Thank you to our wonderful student writers for their contributions!
