

Editor's Introduction

This is my fourth and final year as part of the *URJ*, as I am graduating this semester with a BI in Game Design and Development. I know I said it in my previous introduction, but I am still surprised I became the editor for a research journal. It was my pleasure to contribute to the academia of UCCS and I would like to thank not only every student who submitted an article, but all of the dedicated reviewers who made my job as editor significantly easier. Georgette Ibanez, a sophomore double majoring in Electrical Engineering and Biochemistry, has been chosen to take my place as editor. The *URJ* is still in its early years, and I believe I am leaving it in the hands of a student who will help the journal to grow and prosper with undergraduate knowledge.

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Welcome to the sixth volume of the *Undergraduate Research Journal*! This issue's focus is myths and addresses violence in foreign countries, the food industry pertaining to fish farming, and the media's influence on creating legends. Our initial piece, "The Psychology of Diversity Across Nations," tells of the misconceptions and stigmas surrounding Rwanda and Haiti made by the people of first-world nations. These lead to miscommunications and hinder the effectiveness of external aid nations send in the form of doctors and volunteers.

The second paper, "Confronting Myths: How Violence in Ciudad Juarez Affects El Paso, Texas," studies the effects of illegal drugs, immigration, and national security on El Paso with its neighboring Mexican city Ciudad Juárez. Writer Rob Prose goes into detail on the economic and academic consequences for El Paso. The next paper, "The Apparent Myth of Morality and the Reality of Genocide," is on national moral imperatives to prohibit and end genocide, and how important they really are. The author explains the problem of morality itself as not being a motivating factor, and that self-interest is held in higher regard.

"The Fish Farming Evolution" is another warning and criticism against the food industry, though it focuses on the often overlooked topic of fish farms. Light is shed upon the conditions of fish farms, and the known and unknown dangers of chemicals and genetic modifications for these fish is brought to attention. The final paper, "Making Myths: Billy the Kid, George Armstrong Custer, Buffalo Bill, and the Media," is a senior history thesis that discusses the influence of media on history, and the problems created as a result. When the men are made myth, their exploits are blown out of proportion and history has a hard time separating truth from fiction. The thesis focuses on classic, old Western legends Billy the Kid, George Armstrong Custer, and Buffalo Bill.

If you have any interest in being part of the *URJ*, let us know. We are always looking for more submissions and reviewers.

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