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Editorial Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of the Undergraduate Research Journal! I took over as editor this summer and am proud to be leading the journal. We regrettably lost many members of our editorial board over the last two semesters and are struggling to find reviewers as well. This edition of the URJ has only two papers, but we hope to return to a longer publication in the next edition.

The first paper begins with a look at ethos, and how an author's ethos is affected by their use of rhetoric. Micah Radakovich analyzes the ethos of two authors, Ta-Nehsi Coates and Roxanne Gay, using the definitions of ethos as set by Erving Goffman, Nedra Reynolds, and Aristotle. Her article, "Ta-Nehsi Coates and Roxanne Gay: Ethos or Alienation", looks at the wording chosen by each of the two authors and how it affects their credibility with their intended audience.

Our second paper, "Thomas Jefferson: The Fight Against Slavery", takes a closer look at Thomas Jefferson's views on slavery. Hannah Pirzadeh first explains the slave-dependent culture of the period before expanding on Jefferson's views on slavery and race. She finds, through examining many letters and papers written by Jefferson, that he found slavery abhorrent and stood against it.

The Undergraduate Research Journal would like to thank all our hard-working reviewers. Professor Syn's Spring 2017 ENGL 1410 class did an excellent job reviewing multiple papers, as did the Undergraduate Research Academy members this summer. In particular, we would like to thank Professor Jimenez's Fall 2017 Senior History Thesis class. They reviewed 132 pages of writing in two weeks! Thank you as well to Magdalena Kossek, who jumped in as a last-minute reviewer late this semester. We encourage anyone interested in reviewing papers to contact the journal. Additionally, we are still looking for students interested in joining our editorial staff.

We had an exciting meeting with the Faculty Advisory Board this semester, where we discussed some changes to the types of material the journal may seek to publish. Readers may see some changes in future semesters as we discuss what submissions the URJ will accept.

Thank you for reading this edition of the Undergraduate Research Journal. Please contact us with any questions at editor.urjuccs@gmail.com. As always, we encourage all undergraduate students to submit their writing online at <http://ojs.uccs.edu/index.php/urj>.