

Editorial Introduction

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Hello Readers,

You are currently viewing the Editorial Introduction of the UCCS *Undergraduate Research Journal's* Summer 2019 Issue! We hope you stick around to read the stimulating research articles showcased from a variety of fields. Speaking of which, now seems an appropriate time to introduce the papers published in this issue.

First up is “The Demiurge of Words,” an article analyzing the spellbinding effects that the power of language imparts upon our minds. This philosophical read encourages us to realize the reality crafted by the words we use while also considering the potential for “magical” transformation steered by our rhetoric.

Next up is “Ecotourism vs. Sustainable Tourism,” an ecopolitical essay explaining the burgeoning of tourism and comparing two sectors (ecotourism and sustainable tourism) of beneficial regulation of worldwide tourism industries. This paper argues that sustainable tourism is the ideal regime to be pursued because it not only protects but actively benefits the location’s culture, nature, and economy.

The last of our trio of articles is “Ideology vs. Reality: Has White Noise Blurred the Lines?” This literary analysis takes a look into Don DeLillo’s novel *White Noise* (published in 1985), arguing that DeLillo’s representation of his characters and their psyches is a critique of 1980s American ideologies regarding the environment and how ultimately our relationships impact our values of the environment.

Each of the three papers published in this issue are intellectually stimulating to read and really prompt the reader to consider tenable arguments while figuring out what he believes himself. It was a joy for us editors to read through the riveting research that is conducted by our fellow students at UCCS! Speaking of the editors, I would like to take a moment to introduce three new editors to the URJ Editorial Board: Joseph, Abby, and Sarah! We four have been working well as a team for the past few months and are happy to bring our respective talents to the table to make UCCS’s *Undergraduate Research Journal* the best that we can. I would also like to thank the wonderful Tabby Farney for her insight and maintenance of our website, the diligent Susan Vandagriff for spearheading reviewer workshops and recruitment, and the considerate Michelle Neely for connecting everyone and helping manage everything. This journal would not be possible without the collaboration of the student editors and UCCS faculty working together! Finally, thanks are in order to Professor Ben Syn’s various ENGL 1410 classes and Dr. Michelle Neely’s english classes for

reviewing essays for us and for all of our other reviewers for providing insightful comments. Thanks! Now, I will turn it over to the new editors to briefly introduce themselves:

Joseph Schwartz, Abby Jadali, Sarah Johnson

The three of us—Joseph Schwartz, Abby Jadali, and Sarah Johnson—have not been working at the URJ for a long time, but the things we have seen have been truly remarkable. Since we have the privilege of being *URJ* editors, we have seen some amazing papers written by UCCS undergraduate students. It is rewarding to be able to take papers that these students worked so hard on and give them a publishing platform. Now, other people can access, appreciate, and use the work that these students spent so long on for their own research. The *URJ* is truly an amazing opportunity for all UCCS undergraduates who want to be published and a great opportunity for all students who want to be reviewers for upcoming issues. We are honored to be working as editors at the *URJ* and cannot wait for what future articles we will receive.

Acknowledging the URJ's Reviewers

The *Undergraduate Research Journal* would like to sincerely thank the following reviewers that helped make this issue possible:

Senior Reviewers

General Reviewers

Professor Ben Syn's Spring ENGL 1410 Sections

Dr. Michelle Neely's ENGL 1410 Class

Interested in helping review for our next issue or have questions about the peer review process?
Contact Susan Vandagriff at svandagr@uccs.edu.