

Editorial Introduction

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Hello Readers,

We gladly present to you the Fall 2019 Edition of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Journal! This issue exhibits work from seven talented undergraduate authors here at UCCS with topics ranging from economics to David Bowie to literary/film analysis, covering a wide range of multidisciplinary fields. Riveting research and adept analysis abound in this issue and we are extremely pleased to be showcasing the hard work of our fellow undergraduates here at UCCS.

The first paper is “First, Do No Harm: An Analysis of Prescribing Behavior,” kicking off our Fall Issue with a superbly researched article that dives deep into opioid prescription and misuse in the United States. This paper focuses on the question of “Is there a correlation between opioid prescription and opioid mortalities, and if so, what are the implications of this and how can we engender a better system in replacement?”

“Can I Kick It?: A Case Study of Representation in English Classes” explores how universities, with a focus on predominantly white institutions, explore diversity and value representation of various cultures in their English departments and classes. This article takes a data-centric approach, with interviews and surveys conducted to collect data regarding representation of ideas with English higher education. The results of the article could be described as expected yet concerning, and the issues brought up are not simply solved.

“Burdens from Men and the Wisdom of Women: Marriage and Feminism in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*” is a literary analysis piece that follows protagonist Janie Crawford as she navigates the hardships she faces through her various marriages and bears the burdens inflicted on her from her husbands. This paper explores the question if Janie actually finds her own voice throughout the novel or simply flounders from the abuse from her husbands.

“Survival, Struggle, and Statehood: The Fight for Life and Livelihood in the Warsaw Ghetto and Warsaw Ghetto Uprising” is a historic analysis depicting the Warsaw Jew Uprising in 1943 while also elucidating the events leading up to causing the uprising. What makes this paper stand apart from other similarly topiced pieces is that it places special emphasis on the goals of the Jews themselves, namely their yearning for survival and hope for a bright future.

“Vaping: How Bad Is It?” is next up, and as one can likely deduce from the title, this paper examines the benefits and dangers of vaping in a world where young people are turning toward vaping in favor of smoking for the ostensibly reduced health risks for the former. This paper serves to provide the general population with a better understanding of the outcomes of vaping, especially

concerning the recent proliferation of adolescent vaping.

“Gender Portrayal in the Marvel Cinematic Universe” is aptly named, as the comparison of male and female superhero (and other character) roles are examined in detail. Overall, the analysis concludes that the Marvel Cinematic Universe has made strides toward more equal gender representation, but there are many issues still present that can and should be addressed. The essay also looks into general female representation in the superhero genre, with similar and related conclusions.

“Mickey Mouse has Grown Up a Cow: David Bowie and the Society of the Spectacle” argues that the Situationist Theory was taken back and revitalized by David Bowie. It highlights the accomplishments of his life as not just work, but truly a work of refined art.

That wraps up the short previews of each paper in this Fall 2019 Issue! If any of these short blurbs sound remotely interesting, we invite you to check out the abstracts written by the authors themselves and to consider reading the gripping articles that were so superbly researched and crafted. Thank you for reading the Editorial introduction, and enjoy checking out the articles.

Acknowledging the URJ's Reviewers

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

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