LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We exist in a moment of unprecedented connection to our fellow human, and the effects are both awesome and disturbing. Near infinite growth in global interaction and communication means that our relatively small journal can reach thousands, that humanitarian efforts can reach millions, and that the well-intentioned may connect to spread positivity around the globe. However, exposure to new ideas and new ways of life simultaneously incites conflict in those unprepared for potentially paradigm-altering consequences. Racism, economic hardship, and systematic violence are just a few localized results of this increasingly globalized world.

Nevertheless, we must not turn away from new ideas simply because they are not readily compatible with the status quo. Our communities, countries, and world will continue to evolve, whether we wish for that evolution or not. The only responsible recourse, therefore, is to rigorously explore, develop, and interrogate those ideas so that we may shape the world as we wish to see it. In 1825, Dartmouth College alumnus Daniel Webster foretold, “It is a wonderful fellowship of individual intelligences which will make up the minds and opinions of the age.” What follows is such a fellowship, comprised of undergraduate students from across the country and distilled into eight articles which we hope may help make the minds of the age.

I would like to acknowledge the entire DUJPEW staff for their efforts over the past two years. This journal would not exist without these close friends and collaborators: Mason, for your steadfast leadership and guidance; Emma, for your unyielding and indispensable support; and Sahil, for your willingness and ability to fill any role asked of you. This issue in particular would not exist without our new staff, who will hopefully look to the past two editions for inspiration and guidance in the many yet-to-come.

Likewise, I must thank the network of mentors, professors, and readers who continue to place their faith in our relatively new enterprise, engaging and connecting us to new scholarship across the globe. But most of all, I would like to thank the eight extraordinary authors who provided the critical pieces necessary for the present edition. This journal is a platform for your work, and I will be forever grateful for your willingness to engage with the world and expand the limits of human knowledge.

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