

UTSA Journal of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Works

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From the Editor

Undergraduate Research rocks at UTSA! The *Journal of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Works* shows how students tackle difficult questions, and develop answers with rigor and clarity. Volume 7 of the *Journal* contains eighteen submissions that use either quantitative or qualitative research method from multiple disciplines, and it reveals the resilience of the students in their pursuit of scholarly excellence even with COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, it contains reviews of two books: Bryan Alexander's *Academia Next: The Future of Higher Education* (2020) and T. Jackie Cuevas', *Post-Borderlandia: Chicana Literature and Gender Variant Critique* (2018). In all, the *Journal* gives students opportunity to create knowledge and extend their academic experiences.

The papers published in this volume have passed through a series of reviews, including double-blind reviews, by experts both at UTSA and other universities in the United States. I commend their reviews, without which the tenor of this volume would still be emerging. I recognize, nonetheless, the authors whose feats are quite scholastic. It is reasonable to highlight the paper by Mina Song, Macy K. Belle, Aaron Mendlovitz, and David Han, that uses "Stochastic-SIR Examination" to offer alternative ways of responding to pandemic and mitigating a widespread. Interdisciplinarity of the paper is not unique in the volume. Other papers address problems at the interface of multiple disciplines. In "On the Postmodern Condition," Sean Carroll straddles complex philosophical arguments to address the shifts in human condition across time.

There is plenty in the volume than my observations reveal. I invite you to come and enjoy a beautiful collection of undergraduate students' research.

I use this opportunity to let students know that the *Journal* is open to publish original work of academic merit, and it works, through the Office of Undergraduate Research at UTSA, to identify relevant avenues to connect students to academic publishing.

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