

From the Editor

Volume 8 of *The UTSA Journal of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Works* is another testament of academic rigor and scholarship among undergraduate students at the University of Texas at San Antonio. In this volume, we have trailblazing studies from several colleges in the university. “Detecting Ventilator Associated Pneumonia Through On-board Endotracheal Tube Diagnostics” from students in the departments of Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering reveals the problem-solving skills of students and their encounter with technology. Another aspect of the study that highlights its elegance is its focus on solving real human problem, preserving and creating quality life. Alondra Gonzalez in

Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching similarly engages problem-solving research in “Uncommon or Underdiagnosed? The Effectiveness of the Current Diagnostic Criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder in Women” and illuminates the impact of gender on the diagnosis of autism. Richard Cavazos in “Words as Weapons” reminds us of the power of language both in creating and destroying reality and simultaneously invites us to engage rhetorical analysis as a means of deciphering when language is loaded with destructive intentions. Volume 8 is filled with studies that are quite representative of the rigor of undergraduate research at the University of Texas at San Antonio; it is an invitation to come and see what the Road Runners are made of.

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