The ANU Undergraduate Research Journal is a high quality student publication that demonstrates the breadth and depth of undergraduate research training at Australia’s national university.

I am particularly pleased that the second edition of the journal focuses on the multidisciplinary engagement of undergraduate students in ANU research. I firmly believe that the traditional disciplinary strengths of a university community must be complemented by interdisciplinary approaches that bring knowledge from a wide range of academic specialisations together into common frameworks that can respond to the many new challenges we face in society.

And undergraduate students in the research-intensive environment for study offered by ANU have much to gain from this perspective. At ANU we actively promote interdisciplinary approaches to research and education – we believe this approach encourages students to think in new and more innovative ways.

As I prepare to step down from the role of Vice-Chancellor at ANU next year, I hope that the publication of the ANU Undergraduate Research Journal will continue to be an important annual milestone for the ANU community well into the future, bringing to the attention of the wider community some of the best research talent being nurtured at ANU across such a diverse range of fields.

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