EDITORS’ NOTE

We would like to present the ANU community with the inaugural ANU Undergraduate Research Journal. We were privileged in selecting thirteen outstanding essays from numerous ANU undergraduate essay submissions. All were of an exceptional quality and variety. Future editions of the Journal will certainly not be at a loss for quality material.

We have attempted to create a flow for the reader of this journal. The journal opens and concludes with an analysis of questions about life itself. It consecutively explores divergent academic fields; commencing with essays in physical and natural sciences, moving into social sciences, through humanities and into legal studies. The articles were chosen in a way that highlights their interdisciplinary character. As such they will be of interest to a wide audience, regardless of the reader’s academic background.

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the essays, we chose not to use a uniform referencing system. We found that enforcing a discipline-specific referencing system on all essays took away from the integrity of a student’s article. As such, each article is referenced according to the general norms of the relevant discipline. This enables readers to approach these essays as examples of “best practice” scholarship in their field of study.

Happy perusing,

The Editorial Team:
Maurits Evers
Elizabeth Humphries
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