

From the Editors

It is with pleasure that we present Volume Three of the ANU Undergraduate Research Journal.

The ANU Undergraduate Research Journal provides an opportunity to showcase the outstanding research of undergraduate students at the ANU. As a distinguished research university, the ANU nurtures the formation of Australia's future scholars.

Form is key to any intellectual creative pursuit. Without giving form to the ideas and knowledge around us, we are doomed to exist in ignorance, misunderstanding the most simple events that life has to offer. This does not mean form should be pursued without consideration. Part of the academic process is to challenge the forms of previous scholars and to ensure they remain robust contours that fit the progression of human knowledge. Within this volume of the Journal, the theme of form emerges in, for example, the shaping of meaningful political relationships, in understanding human evolution and in new methods of chemical synthesis.

The success of the Journal would not be possible without the contribution of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Young, the Dean of Students, Professor Penny Oakes, and Dr Dierdre Pearce, Project Coordinator, Dean of Students Office.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the academics who have graciously given their time to review articles and mentor the student-authors in preparing their manuscripts for publication. Thanks also to Aditya Chopra, Project Assistant, for providing advice and technical support, and to ANU eView for their guidance.

And finally, we would like to thank the student-authors for their hard work and unbounded enthusiasm in bringing their work to the high standard exhibited within these pages. It has been inspiring to see the dedication you have brought to your research and we wish you all the best for your future careers. Congratulations on your publication!

The 2011 editorial team:

Michelle Almirón

Rachael Eddowes

Shaun New