

Letter from Dean Chien-pin Li

I am happy to write this letter introducing this eighth edition of *The Measure*. The College of Humanities and Social Sciences began this journal in 2017 in order to allow a broader audience the opportunity to experience some of the great work our students produce in their courses. We are pleased that we have been able to publish a volume each year since then, sharing our talented students with the larger community.

Student research will always be a mainstay of the disciplines in our college and these seven articles represent a tiny share of what our students produce. Faculty across the college work with students in classes to nurture and help them master content. Some of that work impresses faculty who then encourage students to expand their class assignment for submission to this journal. Students whose work is chosen to appear in this volume demonstrate a dedication and commitment to intellectual growth, reflecting an academic excellence that goes above and beyond. The essays in this volume show that our undergraduate scholars have immense talents and potential, the few representing the many.

Technological advancements and the acceleration of generative artificial intelligence has presented a larger mission for faculty and students—to keep the passion to uncover the truth, the courage to challenge assumptions, and the desire to innovate in order to continue building new knowledge. We are grateful for the encouragement and guidance of the faculty mentors, who exemplify SHSU’s wonderful culture of promoting student success.

Thank you also to our remarkable Faculty Review Board, whose help and support for the student editors cannot be understated. May this collection of essays continue to encourage and inspire.

Sincerely,



Chien-pin Li, PhD
Dean