

Letter from the Editors

I am honored and delighted to be returning as a managing editor for the eighth volume of *The Measure*. Each volume has showcased incredible research done by the students in Sam Houston's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and this year's volume is no different. What is even more exciting is that the editorial team has gained a new member, Meghan. It has been wonderful to show her the ropes of how a journal comes to be, from evaluating submissions to the publishing stage, so she will be confident in taking over as managing editor for the ninth volume. This experience has been a fun overlap of carrying over themes from the previous year and exhibiting new ideas, a topic that applies to both the editorial process and the works within this volume. As the latest addition to the editorial staff of *The Measure*, I'll let Meghan give her perspective. Take it away, Meghan!

Thank you, Christina! I'd also like to thank you for all the guidance in putting together this volume of *The Measure*. Reading all the submissions we received this year has been a great experience. Every article in this volume is unique, and students have shared fascinating insights into their topics. I've enjoyed reading all the submissions and watching them transform through the publication process. Working on this volume of *The Measure* has been an honor and I am excited to be able to work on upcoming volumes.

A theme that has continued from the previous volume is the research of student mental health and well-being. Jamie Hartley examines what values and goals are most prevalent in college students, finding those that are most common among college students. Samantha Enriquez, more specifically, studies the relation between college students' spirituality and their sense of personal growth.

Elevating minority experiences and stories remains a prevalent topic as well. Heather Sellers discusses the Indigenous Caddo people and their relationship with Spanish settlers, elaborating on the difference between their cultures. Joanna Garcia highlights the political relationship between the civil rights movement and the Cold War and Space Race, showing how, during one of the most unifying moments in US history, there

was still a great divide. Also discussing moments during the civil rights movement, Heidi Parra focuses on the McGhee family and the impact of their role during the movement.

Then there are two articles within the journal that play on the idea of human perception, a topic that diverges from previous themes. Nick Pietramale's piece explores how different situations affect interpretations of humor in the workplace, while also exploring how people gauge humor appropriateness. Turning to literature, Alivia Ragsdale analyzes Virginia Woolf's novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, particularly through the way Woolf uses linearity and chronological time to explore how characters' memories of the past shape their present identities.

The following articles, arranged alphabetically by students' last names, offer worthwhile contributions to their respective fields of study. Each article, too, is presented in the general style and format of its discipline.

We hope you enjoy this eighth volume of *The Measure*, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts on the ideas presented within these pages.

Sincerely,



Christina Ellison
Senior Managing Editor



Meghan Makthepharack
Managing Editor