

Letter from Dr. Zink

It is my extreme pleasure to introduce this third edition of *The Measure*, which continues to highlight the work of our most talented undergraduates in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) at Sam Houston State University (SHSU). Since its inaugural edition in 2017, *The Measure* continues to evolve to reflect the diversity of our disciplines. For the first time, for example, *The Measure* includes an essay in both English and Spanish. As in previous editions, however, explorations of identity and of the influence of historical legacy tie together these submissions.

Over the past decade, in higher education, undergraduate research has become increasingly important and sophisticated. As you will see, our undergraduates can—and do—compete with the best of their peers nationally as their acceptance into top graduate programs demonstrates. These submissions also are a testament to the teacher-scholar model to which we aspire and to the life-changing role that faculty mentors play in our students' lives.

The Measure is the work of many who deserve credit for their contributions. The College of Humanities and Social Sciences wishes first to thank President Dana G. Hoyt and Provost Richard Eglsaer for their continued support. We owe special thanks to Associate Dean Carroll Nardone, who continues to serve as Executive Editor. Her deep commitment to undergraduate research is evident on every page and in every edition of *The Measure*. More than a dozen CHSS faculty contributed in some significant way to this edition. Their names appear individually as Editorial Board members and as faculty mentors. Managing editor Margaret “Marnie” Hageman, English graduate student, did an outstanding job throughout the editorial process from seeking submissions to proofing final pages. We also thank Liberal Studies major Camille Nguyen for designing the cover.

In closing, as you read *The Measure*, I hope that you are as impressed by and proud of our undergraduates and faculty as I am. As in previous editions, these essays not only illustrate the depth and breadth of the humanities and social sciences, but also point to the promise of the next generation.

Sincerely,



Abbey Zink, Ph.D.
Dean