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Faculty Advisor's Note

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I am very proud to present to you Volume V of *The Undergraduate Review*. Each year, the journal continues to grow in size and scope since the first volume in 2004. This year, with an increasing focus on excellence and the rise in number of submissions, we began the first phase of a revised review process that we hope to expand next year. This year, after initial review by the editors, mentors of the all the accepted submissions were asked to review the papers and offer specific editorial guidance to the students, from substantial revision to copy editing. Then, students were mentored through the process of revising a paper for publication that meets the standards for both content and style consistent with their disciplines. Only papers that met the approval of the mentors, experts in their fields, are included here. Thus, the work you will find in this volume is of the highest quality, truly a review of excellence of some the best mentored research and creative work produced by Bridgewater State College undergraduate students.

The twenty-nine papers are grouped in chapters. The Adrian Tinsley Program Grants section contains the results of the work of students who worked under the guidance of a faculty mentor during the ATP Summer Grant program. The opportunity for this ten-week research experience is open to all undergraduates, including both students with outstanding academic histories and students who show great promise. Grants were approved based on the quality of student proposals, and you will see the results of the extraordinary efforts these students produced. The section of National Conference of Undergraduate Research includes work produced under an ATP Summer Grant, but then presented at this prestigious annual conference. Student submissions for this conference face rigorous competition from applications from across the nation. The sections on Coursework include submissions that were originally produced as work for a course, but mentored under the revised review process. The Shea Scholar paper is the work of the student who was awarded this prestigious BSC grant. Thus, the journal is a review representing a cross-section of student work from across the College.

Production of *The Undergraduate Review* is made possible by the financial support of the Bridgewater Foundation. Invaluable leadership and support of our mission is provided by BSC President Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Howard London and Acting Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Anna Bradfield. Thanks go to Kathy Frederick in the OUR, who keeps us all on track and with an ever present smile. I am proud to work with Stacy Nistendirk, managing editor, who deserves particular credit for her professionalism, dedication, and commitment to producing the journal.

Finally, thanks must go to the students who desired to share their work with the larger campus community. You should be proud, not only to be included in the journal, but also to present your work as inspiration for students who follow your example. To each of the mentors who worked with students, whether as course instructor or as long-term mentor, your dedication to the profession is highly commended. Our students could not succeed without your help and support.

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