

crossings.

an undergraduate arts journal

Volume One

Parul Singh Kanwar

Occasionally, we like to try something new. This first issue of *Crossings: an OASIS Undergraduate Journal* is one such thing. With a year of many trials and tribulations, the Organization of Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS) embarked on undergraduate scholarly publication that encompassed the entire Faculty of Arts. Our first issue features provocative and insightful research by remarkable students working diligently in multiple fields within the Faculty. We enjoyed editing and compiling this issue and we hope that you enjoy this inspiring representation of undergraduate scholarship.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to all of the editorial staff for their dedication, passion, and hard work with this journal, as well as their continuous efforts to forge a strong foundation for this journal. As the journal found its bearings, our staff navigated various roles and responsibilities to ensure academic integrity and inspiring scholarship through a dedicated peer-review process. I am grateful for the many hours they have contributed to discussions over Zoom sessions this past year.

Additionally, I want to extend an immense amount of gratitude to all of the guidance and support that Sarah Severson, from the Library Publishing and Digital Production Services, and Christine Brown, our Faculty Advisor, shared with our team, including navigating system-related issues, training our new volunteers, and providing invaluable insight to the decision-making process throughout my term.

I am grateful to all my OASIS co-executives for their enthusiasm and support in taking on a new project. Especially Marissa and Chris, who have sacrificed

many long hours going over logistics, design, and providing immense emotional support from the first day I embarked on this project.

Lastly, I also want to extend a special thanks to my Editorial Board members, Kael, Chloe, Hailey, and Nandini, for being extraordinarily critical in building this journal. Without your help in decision-making, facilitating the peer-review process, supervision and guidance for the editors, this journal would not have come to be.

Our Editorial Team depends on our authors to determine the actual content and quality of the Journal. Their enthusiasm to participate in the scholarly process was inspiring. I am confident that under the leadership of Kael Kropp, *Crossings* will continue to be an emblem of the Faculty of Arts' productivity and scholarly impact. I invite both established and budding undergraduate authors to continue submitting their work to the journal. I hope that you enjoy this publication as much as we enjoyed creating it.



Kael Kropp



The most rewarding parts of our lives are often the product of overcoming obstacles and navigating new waters. That being the case, Crossings' inaugural publication might be one of our most rewarding moments yet...

I was delighted to be invited to the Editorial Board by Parul in December, 2020. I did not know then what exciting and novel obstacles laid ahead. Already deep within my term as a Senior Section Editor for the Political Science Undergraduate Review, juggling my roles with both journals proved to be immensely thrilling. None of that would be possible without the support from many key people: Nancy Skorobohach, Maddie Dempsey, Chloe Dizon, Hailey Lothamer, Nandini Chandra, and (of course) Parul. Many thanks are also in order for our fabulous team of reviewers and copyeditors. To Ana, Angela, Ansh, Chynna, Gavriel, Hailey, Hannah, Hiba, Karen, Luke, and Madeleine: thank you for making this journal a reality. Without you all, there would be no Crossings.

All of our authors deserve a standing ovation. You endured countless rounds of review and copyediting, all in an effort to contribute to those scholarly discussions for which you are passionate. It is also important to recognize the ongoing support from our instructors, librarians, administrators, and support staff in the Faculty of Arts.

Looking towards the future: I am thrilled to be heading Crossings' second volume, with the help of an incredible team. We will be adding a third section to our second volume; so, our three sections will comprise Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. This is in effort to include submissions from as many students in the Faculty of Arts as possible. All knowledge is important, valued, and worthy—we will work to build Crossings around that notion. Moreover, we are excited to incorporate visual media in our publication. It is important to understand that not all work produced in our Faculty is text-based. I wholeheartedly invite all Arts students to submit their work in the fall. Until then: happy writing, designing, and editing!

Crossings: An OASIS Undergraduate Academic Journal | Volume 1

2020 – 2021

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