Letter from the Editor

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Dear Reader,

I am delighted to welcome you to the seventh volume of Pursuit: The Journal of Undergraduate Research.

Seven years ago, in sensing a need for a forum through which the quantity and quality of undergraduate research taking place at the University of Tennessee could be shared and celebrated, a team of impassioned students spearheaded the creation of Pursuit. The journal has since expanded to highlight not only the impactful research taking place on UT’s campus, but across the world—evolving to promote the widest possible readership, dissemination, and scholarly inspiration across the disciplines.

This year, we received a record number of submissions, with truly exceptional manuscripts hailing from not only across the United States, but also Canada, Estonia, Germany, Georgia, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. Before you are the very best articles we received, as selected by an ambitious team of Review Board members and developed by our devoted and visionary team of Editors. You will notice that color—often a crucial tool in conveying information—is also now a prominent part of Pursuit. I extend my gratitude to all authors, reviewers, and design editors, and particularly our advisors, Dr. Marisa Moazen and Dr. Claudia Rawn, for making this possible with their unwavering dedication to Pursuit’s mission.

As a journal run completely by students and for students, Pursuit offers undergraduates a wide range of formative opportunities, whether it be in learning to think critically about their respective disciplines, developing the art of effective written communication, or engaging in the critical peer-review process of academic publishing. We sincerely hope that readers will benefit just as much in getting a taste of the fascinating and important research conducted by none other than “just” undergraduates who sought new opportunities to explore.

It goes without saying that being published and recognized as an undergraduate researcher is an extraordinary accomplishment and a testament to outstanding initiative, endurance, and hard work. I commend our 23 authors for this achievement and kindly invite you to join me in celebrating their pioneering endeavors in the pursuit of knowledge.

Sincerely,

Sahba Seddighi
Editor-in-Chief
We would like to make a correction to the content of *Pursuit*: Volume 6, Issue I. The article “A New H4/5 Ordinary Chondrite Breccia from North West Saudi Arabia, Al Jawf 001” was written jointly by Logan Combs and Elizabeth A. Gass. We apologize for the deletion of Ms. Gass’ name and have made appropriate amendments to our online version of this article.