

It is my pleasure to introduce the *Loma Linda University Student Journal*. The intent of this journal is not to revolutionize science but to teach students the art of publication and provide a platform where they can be involved in every aspect of the process. Original discoveries in both the sciences and the humanities, authored by Loma Linda University students, are eligible for submission. Scientific research, personal anecdotes, poster boards, original artworks, and photography can all be used to illustrate the unique talents found within the University. I want to extend a personal invitation to all Loma Linda University students to submit their works for publication in the journal.

The *Loma Linda University Student Journal* is committed to publishing high-quality, original student research. All material posted in the journal is rigorously reviewed by both student and faculty editors. Working together, authors and reviewers will gain a detailed understanding of the entire publication process. Through teamwork, the journal will continue to grow and develop, with each issue representing the finest qualities found in each discipline.

Although the primary focus of the LLUSJ is on publication, other notable sections create a unique experience for everyone who visits the journal's website. For example, visitors can hone their radiological skills by participating in a "case of the month" quiz. Each quiz features a radiological image followed by questions regarding the interpretation of the patient case. On the classifieds page, students can discover new research projects and get in touch with faculty members. This powerful tool gives students continuous access to exciting opportunities for research and mentorship.

The cover art for the first issue was created by Joseph Mossberger while he was a medical student at Loma Linda University during the mid-1930s. Working under Dr. Shryock, Mossberger created many stunning illustrations depicting human development. Portraying four developmental anomalies, this artwork was selected because it represents the rich diversity in embryological development and reminds us to cherish each opportunity to improve a life. This beautiful drawing, discovered in a dusty corner of the university archives, captures the essence of what the journal is attempting to accomplish, which is to give student works the opportunity to shine.

This journal is the culmination of hundreds of hours of hard work. From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of the entire staff of the *Loma Linda University Student Journal*, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who helped "The Journal" become a reality. The selected quote below from author and physician Atul Gawande represents the beating heart of what we are attempting to accomplish. As students, we strive to improve patient care by taking a leap of faith so that we can enhance our ability to treat patients. Join us in creating a journal that represents the excellence found at Loma Linda University.

Better is possible. It does not take genius. It takes diligence. It takes moral clarity. It takes ingenuity. And above all, it takes a willingness to try.

-Atul Gawande

Benjamin J. Damazo

Founder and Editor-in-Chief

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