Dear reader,

It is my pleasure to introduce the third volume of the Loma Linda University Student Journal. This edition presents the work of numerous researchers across the Loma Linda University campus and highlights some of the diverse research occurring here. I remain inspired by the work being done at our institution, and I hope that you will find your curiosity piqued by the contents herein.

Any scholarly pursuit is a team effort, and I am forever indebted to all those who have helped create this issue. I would especially like to thank Ethan Frank, who performed the lion’s share of the preparations for publishing this issue; Benjamin Damazo, whose vision and guidance brought this whole project to fruition; and Dr. Jared Inman, whose efforts keep the journal going.

We also need the work of the Loma Linda University community to keep the journal active. The LLUSJ continues to solicit works from the Loma Linda University community for submissions of original research, case reports, and other scholarly works, but we are also looking for creative works such as poetry, photography, artistic pieces, or short creative writing compositions.

The journal aims to publicize works that show the fruits of the research labor and creative muses of students across our campus. The nature of learning is the creation of more questions: the joy of investigation lies in the creation of entirely new lines of inquiry. I find inspiration and not despair in the words of early anatomist and physiologist William Harvey:

*All we know is still infinitely less than all that still remains unknown.*

I hope that you find inspiration in this issue.

Cedric Thiel
Editor-in-Chief
Loma Linda University Student Journal
November 2018