

FOREWORD

Thank you for taking the time to review our journal, *CI Currents*. This undergraduate research journal has been a passion project of ours, and we are honored to have released this inaugural edition. Each of the works contained within the issue is a time capsule for us here at *CI Currents*, for the talented authors who submitted them and for anyone who wants to take a deeper look into some of the outstanding research coming out of CSU Channel Islands.

We believe that an undergraduate research journal is important because it provides students with a real sense of audience and a tangible platform where they can share their undergraduate research so it can be accessed and acknowledged by a larger student body. It is our hope that publishing in *CI Currents* has been a valuable experience for our student authors, and that the contents of their projects can meet the curiosity and high expectations of our readers. We anticipate that CSUCI will see potential in the importance of undergraduate research journals such as *CI Currents* so that these public platforms can continue to empower students throughout their academic journey.

Through becoming peer editors for *CI Currents Undergraduate Research Journal*, we have gained a myriad of different skill sets that have prepared us for future leadership roles. These skills include the ability to explore editorial work, help other students improve their written research, and gain confidence to design the layout of our journal. The ability to communicate with different faculty members on workflow and deadlines has deeply personalized our academic experiences at CSUCI.

—**Marshall Mee and Mabel Pyle**
Undergraduate Peer Editors 2024-2025
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