

UC Merced

The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced

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Faculty Forward

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Undergraduate

Faculty Forward

I am honored and privileged to write the faculty forward for the Spring 2018 edition of *The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced*. This edition marks the close of the journal's fifth year of the operation. Published once or twice per year, this journal was established and is run by UC Merced undergraduate students. They solicit articles and book reviews, collaborate with authors to refine submissions for publication, and edit individual entries and the journal. The feedback student editors provide to contributors is constructive, supportive, and nurturing, which is often not the case in the publishing world, and results in the production of quality scholarship. Having served on the editorial board of the history journal while an undergraduate at California State University, Fullerton I am intimately familiar with the devotion and commitment that our editorial board provided while publishing *The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced*.

Even as graduate students regularly publish journals as venues for showcasing their scholarship, few undergraduates are ambitious enough to organize and pursue this endeavor. In guiding pieces through the publication process, the journal affords a valuable forum for UCM students to apply the historiographical skills acquired during coursework to share their scholarship with audiences beyond the classroom. Given the strength and determination of UC Merced undergraduate history students, it is perhaps not surprising that they would provide this intellectual space for their fellow students at our young university. None-the-less, they must be commended for dedication that exceeds that of most undergraduates throughout the country.

Verenize Arceo, the Chief Editor of *The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced*, diligently collaborated with the editorial team—Pooja Dimba, Adriano Dore Gomes Da Costa, Luis Gonzalez, Omar Gonzalez, Giovanni Menchaca, Israel Pacheco, and Akhila Yechuri—to produce this issue. Importantly, these students were new to the journal this year as the previous editorial team had graduated last year. These circumstances required the editors to devote considerable time familiarizing themselves with the publishing process, allowing them to produce two excellent journals during the 2017-2018 academic year.

This edition is provocative, well-crafted, and includes one book review and four articles that span a broad range of time and space to reflect the diverse interests of our history students. The articles are: Adriano Dore Gomes Da Costa, "The Bicycle Craze and its Spread to Merced, California," Santana Juache, "Reason and Natural Law: Choosing the Beggar Over the Monster," Cecilia Moreno, "Native American Resilience: The Tachi Yokut Tribe and the Preservation of Tribal History and Tradition," and Alex Wood, "Tibet's Historical Relationship to Foreign Affairs," while Erika Cabrera reviewed Kelly Lytle Hernandez's book, *City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2017). Together these scholars reflect one of the guiding principles of the humanities here at UC Merced: "the world at home and at home in the world."

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