PERCEPTIONS

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WITHOUT BOUNDS



Temple Undergraduate History and Social Sciences Association

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Cover photo: "Away from the Sunset" by Boris Afremov

Letter from the Editor

Dear Reader:

In this, our newest issue of *Perceptions*, we are honored to share some of the best undergraduate work being done at Temple University. *Perceptions* is proud to continue serving as Temple's first student-run undergraduate research journal--as a platform for exhibiting the finest undergraduate research in history and the social sciences.

The selected works that we have assembled in this issue coincides with the concept of knowledge and progress being unrestricted by any type of boundary, physical or imagined. Our title for this issue, "Without Bounds," demonstrates that principle. Despite numerous accounts of adversity and strife, human progress is motivated by the hope of improvement and creating a fair and just society for everyone. From the small local problems to those affecting communities around the world, it is incredible to see what humankind is capable of accomplishing. As civil rights activist César Chávez said: "We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community. Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own." The opportunities for achievement are essentially limitless and will continue to persist into the future and beyond.

Looking back, this is the fourth issue of *Perceptions* that I have contributed to, and I cannot help but be proud of the incredible journey this journal had went through. From being the brainchild of an ambitious undergraduate student in 2009, it blossomed into TUHSSA's greatest ever achievement yet. I am grateful for the work that my predecessors and previous TUHSSA members accomplished in making this possible. This semester we received a new record number of submissions and we hope to continue to receive more in coming semesters. Once again, we would like to thank Annie Johnson for setting up *Perceptions* on Open Journal Systems (OJS) and the Temple University Libraries for hosting this journal. Without them, *Perceptions* would not be the way it is now.

Sincerely,

Christopher Chau Editor-in-Chief, *Perceptions* President of TUHSSA, Spring 2018

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