To Our Readers

The endeavor to give undergraduate students at the University of Memphis a space where they could publish their research has been our primary mission since 2014 when we completed the inaugural issue of *Quaesitum* (kwáh-see-tum). Since that initial volume, we have received truly outstanding submissions from disciplines all over campus – including Counseling and Educational Psychology, Physics, Biology, History, Anthropology, Archeology, and English. The diverse representation of disciplines from Social & Behavioral Sciences to STEM fields to Humanities to Professional fields has allowed us to create a publication that highlights the very best of the University of Memphis.

As with any scholarly publication, there are many people who contribute at all levels, and we are grateful for their hard work in bringing Volume 3 to fruition. First, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to the Director of the Helen Hardin Honors Program, Dr. Melinda Jones and the Technical Editor, Mr. Scott Dutt. Their contributions and hard work have been, and will continue to be, vital to this publication's success.

The three of us would also like to express our appreciation to the Provost, Dr. Karen Weddle-West, for the continuing administrative support that makes *Quaesitum* possible.

In striving to maintain the academic rigor that allows us to highlight the best work of our undergraduates, we have relied on a team of faculty reviewers and consultants that include: Dr. Cheryl Bowers, Dr. Ronald Fuentes, Ms. Stephanie Haddad, Dr. Mark A. Kaplowitz, Mr. Steven A. Knowlton, Ms. Amanda Lee Savage, Dr. Deranda Lester, Dr. Meghan McDevitt-Murphy, Dr. Andrew Mickelson, Dr. Ryan Parish,

Ms. Rhonda Powers, Dr. Lyndsay Saunders, and Dr. Carmen Weaver. We would like to offer our sincerest thanks for their willingness to give their time and talents to this enterprise.

Mr. Gary Golightly also continues to create cover designs that capture the energy and innovation that we strive for, and the Assistant Vice President for Technology Transfer, Dr. Kevin Boggs, has once again provided his support by graciously funding prizes for the best papers.

The faculty sponsors who have encouraged their students to submit their work are also a critical part of this process. Without their guidance, the authors represented here would not have begun the projects that are included in this volume, and the quality of the submissions we have received is a clear reflection of the time and effort that faculty mentors invest in their students.

Finally, we would like to express our appreciation to the students themselves. Writing and researching arises from passion in asking questions and seeking answers (thus the journal's name, *Quaesitum*, which is from the Latin 'to seek/to ask'). That passion for exploration and discovery, however, creates an investment that also brings a risk in submitting your work for critical review. The students whose work appears in this volume overcame that risk in order to allow their work to become part of the scholarly conversation that is the foundation of the academy. For that we offer our congratulations and thanks.

Dr. Sage Lambert Graham
Editor-in-Chief