

Editor's Note



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Scientific inquiry is the unrelenting rhythm that drives human progress, and the greatest method that humankind has derived to understand the complex, surrounding world. It seems that every year, media outlets proclaim that society sits on the “cusp” of a technological revolution, ready to cascade. One thing that is all but certain about scientific progress is its steady, almost rhythmic, nature, flowing to the pulse of discovery. With each step forward, each landmark publication, we refine our current understanding of the universe, unveiling new questions just as quickly as we discover answers in our pursuit of the unknown.

At the Berkeley Scientific Journal (BSJ), it is our duty as science journalists to help translate these complex discoveries into accessible knowledge which bridges the gap between researchers and the public community. In this latest issue, our writers hope to capture the essence of scientific inquiry while illustrating the intense curiosity which courses through the scientific community to push our society forward. Whether it be looking to the past to learn about the origins of sleep (Features Writer Logan Roscoe), examining the present as we discuss healthcare accessibility and the health impacts of crowd control weapons (Interview with Professor Rohini Haar), or exploring the future and wondering how we can demystify gravity (Interview with Professor Holger Müller), we invite our readers to reflect on their role in navigating the interwoven nature of science and society at large. As part of BSJ's mission to inspire the next generation of scientists through accessible science communication, we have also taken steps beyond our publication and are excited to announce our new high school science journalism program—an initiative dedicated to fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and youth interest in STEM in the Berkeley community and beyond. Through this outreach project, we aim to empower young scientists with the tools to pursue a career in STEM and do our part in ensuring the pulse of science education continues to resonate across future generations.

With our latest issue, we hope to record our current beat in time—a snippet of our present understanding of the human condition. It is our desire that our telling of science's current story can inspire readers today and allow readers in the future to look back with fondness, both for the knowledge we have uncovered about our world and for the promise of novel discoveries waiting to be made.

For Fall 2024, we proudly present the latest edition of the Berkeley Scientific Journal: Pulse.

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