

Faculty Forward

I am once again honored to write the faculty forward for the Spring 2019 edition of *The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced*. This edition marks the close of the *Journal's* sixth year of the operation. Published once or twice per year, the *Journal* was established and is run by UC Merced undergraduate students. They solicit articles and book reviews, worked with authors to refine submissions for publication, and edit individual articles and the journal. Editors provide contributing authors with constructive feedback, providing a nurturing experience that fosters 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 time and consideration that our editorial board provides while publishing *The Undergraduate Historical Journal*.

Even as graduate students regularly publish journals as venues for showcasing their scholarship, few undergraduates are ambitious enough to organize and pursue such an ambitious 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 UCM 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.

Omar Gonzalez, the Chief Editor of *The Undergraduate Historical Journal at UC Merced*, diligently collaborated with the editorial team, comprised of Brandon Sor, Giovanni Menchaca, Sarah Shank, Sarah Lee, Summer Escobar, Pooja Dimba, and Adrian Enwright. The production of this intellectually rich and thought-provoking edition of the *Journal* was especially onerous for the editorial team as it contains nine entries, which is roughly three times greater than the usual number of articles in a single edition. The Spring 2019 edition of the *Journal* includes the following articles: Sarah Lee, "They Called it a Boom: Nation Building in Coronado, California in 1888;" Giovanni Menchaca, "Manipulations and Transformations: Orange County's Evolution Through Water Practices;" Meghan Topoloski, "Reflections of the Public: Gender and Attitude Differences toward Infanticide and Murder;" Ariana Soto-Zuniga, "Using Non-Western Culture, Humanism, and Comparison to Explore the Possible Patron of the *Adoration of the Magi*;" Anna Durbin, "Cycles of Profit and Progress: An Examination of the Central Valley Project with Emphasis on the Delta-Mendota Canal;" T.R. Salsman, "Khānbaliq, The City of Assimilation Hard and Soft Space in the Yüan Cooptation of China;" Omar Gonzalez, "Madera's Menacing Prisons and The Preciados;" Summer Escobar, "Sexual Violence and Power: An Examination of the Relationship Between Sexual Violence, Race, Class, and Gender During Slavery;" Sarah Shank; "Lazy, Violent, and Inhumane: A Look into Some of the Ways in Which Slavery Influenced White Southerners." The editors and contributing authors should be recognized for articulating 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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