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Tamar Stein

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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

It is with great excitement that I present to you the 13th issue of *SPICE: Student Perspectives on Institutions, Choices and Ethics*. As a student journal for the Philosophy, Politics and Economics Program at the University of Pennsylvania, SPICE features articles that reflect one or more of the five thematic concentrations within the major: choice and behavior, ethics and the professions, distributive justice, public policy and governance, and globalization. As in past years, this year's issue celebrates some of the most distinguished undergraduate work produced in the PPE Program.

A hallmark of the PPE Program is its cross-disciplinary, integrative curriculum. PPE students gain the ability to analyze social and philosophical phenomenon through several analytical lenses and acquire the tools to engage in meaningful discourse. In addition to the program's common foundations and core requirements, students develop an individualized thematic concentration to explore a specific area of interest in greater depth. The PPE Program therefore attracts students with a broad and diverse range of interests. This will become evident from the articles featured in the journal, which are written on topics ranging from the ontology of money and bitcoins to the grounds of moral judgment to the nature of Jewish policies under Putin. I am confident that the scholarship in this journal will inspire reflection, spark profound conversations, and even compel some to take action.

This journal would not be possible without the exemplary effort of its contributors, authors and editors. I would like to thank all those who submitted articles for consideration and the writers of the articles published for their high quality, thought-provoking work. The enthusiasm of students like these helps the PPE department flourish. I would like to thank my fellow editors for their hard work and focus in selecting and editing each of the articles published. It has truly been a wonderful experience working with each and every one of them.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I would like to thank Dr. Doug Paletta for his unwavering commitment to SPICE and to the PPE Program. His invaluable guidance and support enables students to navigate the major and to discover their academic passions and interests. We are incredibly grateful for Dr. Paletta's assistance throughout the entire publication process and for his devotion to every facet of the PPE Program.

To the students, parents, faculty, alumni, and friends of the PPE Program at Penn, the Editorial Board and I hope that you enjoy this year's issue. Thank you for taking the time to read our journal.

Sincerely,  
Tamar Stein  
Editor-In-Chief