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Front Matter

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THE AUGSBURG HONORS REVIEW

Volume II

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INTRODUCTION

The Augsburg Honors Review is a newcomer to the small number of undergraduate academic journals in the United States. We are among an even smaller number that solicit peer feedback and verify our articles' citations. This is a substantial task considering the diversity of our submissions. We strive to bring a high standard of rigor and professionalism to undergraduate research, and we've made remarkable progress in the mere three years since our experiment began.

Our staff consists entirely of undergraduate students of Augsburg's Honors Program. Each of them has boldly added this project to a full load of coursework. I had the privilege of serving as Managing Editor under Brian Krohn before succeeding him as Editor-in-Chief last year. Brain has gone on to achieve national fame with his biofuel research, and I can only expect more headlines as this year's senior editors move on to careers in English, Religion, Psychology, Law, History, Philosophy, and Politics.

Despite our gifted team of students, we could not have printed this issue without guidance from the college's faculty and staff. We particularly wish to acknowledge Dr. Colin Irvine, our faculty advisor, and Dr. Robert Groven, Director of the Augsburg Honors Program. With their vision, the AHR is reaching beyond the publication process to become a comprehensive venue for conducting original research. We are also indebted to the professors across the state who contributed their time and expertise by serving as our referees.

Every year, even every semester, our older students graduate as younger students join. The AHR must constantly evolve to reflect its changing makeup. Considering this year's progress, I can't wait to see what new directions next year's team will choose.

Shawn M. Boonstra Editor-in-Chief

DEDICATION

This edition of the Augsburg Honors Review is dedicated to the memory of Katie Wiltgen.

When our experience becomes more absurd than delightful, is there much Christian faith can offer? At times such as these, words don't seem up to the task. So we gather together, with more questions than answers, seeking healing from the only One who can begin to heal such hurts. As the chapel at Augsburg concluded, with many people weeping and many others straining to hold back their tears, I thought of Susan Howatch's wise words characterizing the end of another Christian funeral, "Nothing was ever wasted because always, when the work was finally completed, every particle of the created process, seen or unseen, kept or discarded, broken or mended, everything was justified, glorified and redeemed." God's speed, Katie Wiltgen.

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