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Conspectus Borealis Volume 4 Issue 1

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Dear Readers,

The editorial board of *Conspectus Borealis* is delighted to bring you the fourth issue of our annual undergraduate research journal. Our unique editorial board is made up of hard-working Honors Program members whose dedication can be seen in this year's issue. Along with the efforts of our editors, the undergraduate students of Northern Michigan University's hard work is also represented in the journal.

Our issue this year displays an array of marvelous works. Scientific research is well represented with three pieces in this year's edition. Maggie Bohm's, *Autoimmune disorders and Hypersensitivities in the Developed World: The hygiene hypothesis and helminth therapies* encourages deeper understanding of the modern-day complications of allergies and discusses their development. Brittney Moore's piece, *Immunohistochemical Analysis of Basigin and Axl Expression in Gliomas*, delves into the research of Glioblastoma tumors, a type of brain cancer with limited available treatments. Lastly, Breanna Demaline's *Fear in the veterinary clinic: History and Development of the Fear FreeSM Initiative*, offers an in-depth analysis of fear, anxiety, and stress in veterinary clinics.

In addition to these scientific works, this issue features creative pieces from the humanities. Eric Pitz's essay, *In Another Person's Skin: Adaptations of To Kill a Mockingbird and the Characterization of Scout Finch*. This essay claims that Harper Lee's portrayal of the character Scout Finch showcases her deeper understanding of the world around her. Marin Hoffman's *Savagery in Père Goriot* describes the personalities of various occupants of a boarding house. Our final piece is Kristin Schock's, *Entropy*, a deep and thoughtful poem that encourages individual exploration.

The editorial board and I would like to thank you in advance for reading our issue this year. It highlights the variety of research undergraduates at Northern Michigan University conduct across campus. We hope you enjoy the issue as much as we have enjoyed putting it together for you.

Sincerely,

Jackie Menzel-Cranney
Editor-In-Chief