

Editor's Introduction and Acknowledgments

Welcome to the twelfth edition of The Forum.

I am often asked by my friends who are in other majors how history students fall into Cal Poly's "Learn by Doing" philosophy. There is a notion that because we are not building our own rockets or coding websites, we do not follow the motto. This publication demonstrates otherwise.

From the introductory History 100 on, history students dive into physical and digital archives, read scholarly article after scholarly article, newspaper from 1907 after newspaper from 1907, all to write their own original histories. This field is certainly as hands on as any engineering class. Someday I hope to receive compensation from the department for the chronic joint pain caused by all the writing my peers and I had to endure.

The Forum is proud to put history students' hard work on display every year. This year, we had many strong submissions, making it difficult to decide which to publish. Thank you so much to everyone who submitted. I am also incredibly grateful for my amazing staff who edited these papers on their own time and put up with all my random group texts. Thank you especially to Kelly Barr, former Executive Editor, for his invaluable advice. I would have failed either this or school without their help. I would also like to express my gratitude to Carolyn Jean Eaton, Sherrie Miller, Denna Marie Zamarron, and Dr. Lewis Call for all their indispensable work in the front office that made this publication a reality.