

LETTER *from the* EDITOR

When I was in only my second year of philosophical study, Stance was beginning its eighth year of publication. That year, I was asked to join the staff. I was told the journal took in submissions by some of the best undergraduates from around the world, and these were then reviewed, edited, and chosen by fellow undergraduates with a passion for philosophy. Because this whole “philosophy” thing was new to me, I was certain I would have little to contribute.

Fast forward to my fourth year of philosophical study, and second as the Editor-in-Chief of Stance. Only now do I realize how lucky I was as a member of the journal. Early in the experience, I found I had an opportunity that many other undergraduates did not. With so few outlets for undergraduate philosophy research out there, I had a responsibility to give the journal all I could. I began to feel a part of a larger community, one where young, open-minded adults across the world looked for any and all places they could share their hard work. Still to my amazement, I was one of the people chosen as curator. Undergraduates have important things to say, too. At times when I would advertise the journal and how we operated, I would be met with hints of condescension. Stance is not a novelty. Stance is not something else, something less, solely because it

has “undergraduate” in the description. Certainly, we may have not have logged as many hours as these professionals, but should we not be heard? Should we not be read? Should we not be able to share our well-thought opinions?

That, to me, is the purpose of this journal. This is an outlet for undergraduates to share the results of their hard work in their chosen field. Our global reach is constantly spreading. In the past ten years, we have worked with philosophers from Bangladesh, Japan, Poland, Argentina, Australia, Cameroon, and many more. Certainly an impressive feat for what started as a small group from Indiana. Perhaps the greatest part of the journal is that it is a consistent source of contribution and innovation. Despite losing and gaining different members, the staff always picks up where the last left off. The same can be said about the authors and reviewers. There will always be a surplus of undergraduates waiting to show their skill, and Stance will always try to find the best.

The authors, reviewers, editors, and production staff have all put great work and long hours into this journal.

We hope you enjoy.

Cameron McNeely
Editor-in-Chief