From the Editors:

The research papers featured in this year’s journal span a wide range of peoples, nations, years, and topics. At first glance, these documents appear to have little in common. How does the eighth century Arab invasion of Spain relate to Churchill? Although no blatant similarity between the two exists, a discerning reader can find connections. In each of these research papers, one finds diversity at the center of the events and analysis: diversity of thought, of ethnicity, of perspective, and of time.

Although diversity appears as a common thread, the affects of diversity vary drastically. In some instances, diversity of perspective led to growth, as in the case of Rhazes, featured in the paper “Rhazes: A Pioneer in Clinical Observation”, or to positive reform, as in the case of William Wilberforce. In other instances, diversity of opinion created conflict, as in “A Convoluted Affair: Great Britain and Schleswig-Holstein, 1848-1864” and in “Unequal and Unethical: The Campaign Against Woman’s Suffrage in 19th Century Great Britain.” Diversity of beliefs also led to bloodshed, as shown by the several papers from the 20th century that explore the conflicts tied to the World Wars. Positive actions that stand out as different appear in “Historic Preservation’s Gift: Waite Phillips and the Philbrook Museum of Art.” Finally, diversity can even be found in the judgment of history on individuals- the diversity of opinion regarding Richard the III led to the perspective presented in “Machiavellian Monster or Misunderstood Monarch?: Richard III and the Battle for the English Throne.”

This year we have taken strides to incorporate unique components into the journal. Pictures for almost every essay, two freshmen Honors papers, and three Oklahoma Regional Conference winning papers from outside our own university have all been included to increase the diversity and quality of our Journal. We hope that you enjoy the multiplicity of eras, topics, and arguments presented within this journal. As the editors, we would like to thank Dr. Maple for his advice and guidance, Oklahoma Christian University and Phi Alpha Theta alumni Rachel Giles for her aid in getting the journal printed, Ben Peterson, Former Tau Sigma Chapter President for his advice in formatting and editing the document, and all of our contributors for both their contributions and their work in revisions. This journal would not have come together without all of these individuals.

Brandon McWaters and Lynneth Miller
Co-Editors