

## From the Editor

This is the second issue of *Chrestomathy*, the College of Charleston's journal for undergraduate research in the humanities and social sciences. As we did last year, the editorial board solicited nominations for the best paper written in each discipline during the 2002-2003 academic year; these papers were guaranteed publication. Departments and interdisciplinary programs were also invited to submit additional papers for consideration by the editor.

I am pleased to say that interest in the journal was stronger this year than last. Last year, we received eleven departmental and seven additional submissions; of those additional seven papers, three were selected for publication. This year, we received twelve departmental and eleven additional nominations; of those additional eleven papers, six were selected for publication. My hope is that we will receive even more nominations next year. Though I by no means enjoy rejecting papers, my hope is that more and more students will want to see their work published in the journal, and will seek to raise the level of their writing accordingly. A more competitive selection process is the sign of greater academic aspiration, and encouraging that aspiration is what the journal is all about.

Once again I am indebted to a good many people for their efforts in support of the journal this year. I thank Sam Hines, the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, for his initial vision and continuing support of the project; Marilyn Tharp, for her administrative support; Jerry Chamness and the Citadel print shop staff, for their services; the editorial board members for individual disciplines, for volunteering to select and in many cases helping to edit the papers; and finally to the authors, for their continuing efforts, long after school was out, to improve their already fine work. I hope this issue honors their work appropriately.

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