Welcome from the SURG Editor

Welcome to the sixth issue of the University of Guelph's undergraduate research journal, SURG. Excitement surrounding SURG is growing with an increase in both submissions and articles published. At the same time, SURG continues its tradition of presenting high quality research from all across campus. All seven colleges are represented in this issue, including our first two articles from the College of Management and Economics.

This enthusiasm for undergraduate research reflects Guelph students' exceptional calibre. We present back-to-back articles on Botswana – one on colonialist theatre education in this nation, and the other on its plant resource complexities. The international theme continues with an article on how mothers' education affects nutrition in Nicaragua's children. Another article examines how cooking skills influence convenience food purchase and consumption. And, during the global financial crises, readers will find out how some equity offerings serve as stock market performance indicators. Our students' excellence is further revealed with reports on cellulose nanocrystals, plant anatomy, barnacles and West Nile Virus, among others.

Before diving in, we'd like to take a moment to thank all participants – student researchers, faculty supervisors, reviewers, journal advisors and readers. We look forward to continuing to provide a venue for exceptional undergraduate work from across campus.

Sincerely,

Robert Fieldhouse
Editor-in-Chief