

# Access\*: Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research and Scholarship

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## Editor's Introduction

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Fall 2017

WELCOME!

You are standing at the threshold of *ACCESS\**: *Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research and Scholarship*. Birthed in the UW Tacoma Writing Center from a desire to create a space where student writing could be celebrated, *ACCESS\** recognizes that good writing is more than just a strong voice or grammatical skillset. As our cover photo reveals, we believe writing also represents a way “in” to academia—a doorway, if you will—for UW Tacoma students, many of whom are nontraditional or the first in their families to attend college. We envisioned *ACCESS\** as a mentorship of sorts, introducing students to the rigors and requirements of the academic publication process, while at the same time giving them a chance to sharpen their critical thinking and writing with the guidance of *ACCESS\** editors and their own campus writing center.

We believe we have done just that. And through a platform like Digital Commons, these student writers have gained the opportunity to not only make their research/scholarship accessible to future graduate school committees and employers, but also to scholars around the globe. Digital Commons will even track the reach of their work.

And with a potential audience as wide as the internet, that reach can be far, indeed.

Although this project began—for me—nearly a year ago, I did not do the work alone. Without the help and support of *many* people, this first issue of *ACCESS\** would not be...well, accessible!

So, I'd like to offer my deepest gratitude to:

- The *ACCESS\** editorial/review board—faculty, writing center and library staff, and peer tutors—Emma Allen, M.A.; Donald Chinn, Ph.D., Rebecca Disrud, Ph.D., Jeff Fitzgerald, M.A., Jamal Gabobe, Ph.D., Sarah Hampson, Ph.D., James Hannes, B.A., James Liner, Ph.D., Jacob Martens, M.F.A., Andrea Modarres, Ph.D., Ellen Moore, Ph.D., Tori Olive, M.A., Sushil Oswal, Ph.D., Anaid Yerena, Ph.D. These dedicated individuals volunteered their time over the summer to take part in a two-phase, double-blind review process, offering timely, detailed, and thoughtful feedback to our student authors
- Emma Allen, who acted as Assistant Editor from the project's earliest beginnings—until her recent departure for the cooler climes of an Irish Ph.D. program

- Tori Olive, who stepped in at the last minute to help with proofreading and final edits
- Justin Wadland, UW Tacoma’s digital collections librarian—the heart, soul, and *brains* behind the UW Tacoma Digital Commons. His expert guidance truly made **ACCESS\*** possible.

I’d especially like to offer my gratitude to Editor-in-chief, Dr. Asao Inoue, for his encouragement, enthusiasm, and support all through the process.

Finally, I’d like to thank the authors whose papers fill this issue: seven thoughtful human beings who have met their deadlines, revised as bidden, and diligently answered my emails asking for just a *bit* more information, just *one last tweak*—even while some were traveling on the other side of the world. I hope you’ve all learned as much about the publication process as I have!

The **ACCESS\*** inaugural issue is comprised of seven articles, covering a wide variety of topics, including: a case study considering the racial and socioeconomic inequities of historic preservation law; contemporary Federal Indian Policy as seen through Louise Erdrich's *The Round House*; a critique of Ursula Le Guin’s representation of homosexuality in the literary utopianism of *The Dispossessed*; an examination of Lao Tzu’s Taoist’ metaphysics in the *Tao te Ching*; an examination of Stalin’s actions in the Ukrainian genocide of the *The Holodomor*; the struggle between state sovereignty and individual rights in the Cosmopolitan search for perpetual peace; and the impact of terrorism designation and material support laws as seen through the lens of Critical Race Theory. I believe all our authors have something valuable to offer.

So please, swing wide the doors and join us inside! The authors of **ACCESS\*** are waiting.

Margaret Lundberg, M.A.

Editor, **ACCESS\***: *Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research and Scholarship*