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Notes from the Editor

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Notes from the Editor

Dear Bronco Graduate Students and readers of *The Hilltop Review*,

I am grateful to have been asked to step into the role of Director and Editor of *The Hilltop Review* for the Spring 2018 issue. I am happy that we were able to produce it. This issue reflects the Graduate Student Association's commitment to supporting graduate students' research. In addition to highlighting excellent research among graduate students at Western Michigan University, this journal is an excellent opportunity for students to work with a peer-reviewed journal, an experience vital to professional research careers. Thanks to all who submitted papers to this journal for the Spring 2018 Issue. We are grateful that you continue to work hard as you develop into better writers and researchers.

Special thanks to the reviewers who worked with us to ensure that we maintain the standards of *The Hilltop Review* in yet another great volume. Thanks to the Editorial Board who made suggestions and provide directions on the future of the journal. Thanks to the incoming Editor Adam Waggoner for his support in reviewing papers and making suggestions to improve this issue. Special thanks to one of our past editors, Zahra Ameli Renani, who made herself available as a resource for this issue. Special thanks to Maria Bundza, Scholar Works Librarian and Associate Professor of University Libraries, for her training to navigate our submission and review portal.

The Hilltop Review continues to make a significant contribution to the research of graduate students both locally and globally. The journal has been led by student researchers who understand the value of interdisciplinary discourse and are actively engaged in the process of research, innovation, and discovery. This volume captures several social issues within our society that are worth highlighting. I hope the readers will find the information valuable to further their own research or use practically in their delivery of services to a diversity of populations.

Congratulations to the winners of the Spring 2018 issue of *The Hilltop Review* Awards: Tristan McBain will receive \$500 in first place for “**Problems Facing the Working Poor: Implications for Counseling**”; Christine E. Strayer will receive \$250 in second place paper for “**Gender Nonconformity: The Social Construction of Gender Transgression**”; Katarina Hasit will receive \$150 in third place paper for “**Medical Tourism and Its Effect on United State Healthcare Industry in a Highly Connected Global Landscape**”; and Stephanie Bobbitt will receive \$250 for the best artwork, entitled “New Growth” and featured on the cover.

The Hilltop Review looks forward to receiving your papers, artwork, and creative writing submissions, as well as applications for reviewing your graduate colleagues work, for the Fall 2018 issue. Once again, thanks to all the individuals who have made this issue possible.

Damon Delano Chambers
Director and Editor, *The Hilltop Review*