December 2011

Notes from the Editor

Joshua Berkenpas
Western Michigan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview

Recommended Citation
Berkenpas, Joshua (2011) "Notes from the Editor," The Hilltop Review: Vol. 5: Iss. 1, Article 2.
Available at: http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview/vol5/iss1/2
We are pleased to announce that The Hilltop Review is now available on an online journal data-basing system, Scholar Works: http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview. This allows articles in The Hilltop Review to be included in the results of online search systems such as Google. This data-basing system increases the profile of both the author’s research and the online presence of The Hilltop Review. Special thanks are due to Ochas Pupwe of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) and Maria Bundza of Waldo Library for getting this online system up and running. Also in the IT sector, both Ochas Pupwe and Raed Salih deserve credit for streamlining and updating the Hilltop Review’s GSAC website: http://www.wmich.edu/gsac/publications.html.

As always, the efforts of the chairs and directors of the various fields of academic research and science at WMU are indispensable to the completion of the peer-review process. The chair or director of each author’s home department is contacted and asked to suggest one faculty member and one graduate student who might serve as a peer-reviewer. The prompt response and helpful suggestions of the chairs and directors are gratefully acknowledged.

The completed peer-review forms are forwarded to the authors and each author completes a process of revise and re-submit. The authors are to be congratulated on their timely completion of this process and for taking advantage of outstanding feedback and criticism. I couldn’t be more thankful for the hard work of the peer-reviewers and quick turnaround with the papers they agreed to review. The members of the Editorial Board also read and copy-edited one paper each. Their thoughtful commentary undoubtedly has improved the overall quality of this issue of the Hilltop Review.

The support and assistance of GSAC members and the folks at the Graduate College are also gratefully acknowledged. Along with other programs that assist graduate students at WMU, The Hilltop Review is made possible with funds from the Graduate Student Assessment Fee.

Over the semester GSAC went through a rather exciting leadership change. Our former Chair, Joel Ravaleoharimisy, accepted a teaching job at a university here in Michigan and stepped down as Chair. Our former Vice Chair, Latasha Chaffin was elected Chair, and our former Support Specialist, Ochas Pupwe, was elected to the office of Vice Chair. Stepping in to fulfill the role of Support Specialist, Raed Salih, has been a welcome addition to the GSAC leadership team. So much for the changes in leadership at GSAC.

In this issue we have seven articles representing a good range of social and natural science here at WMU. This issue features articles from Political Science, Counseling Psychology, Public Affairs and Administration, History, Engineering, Music, and Sociology. For this issue we have also opened the page limit compared with previous issues. The authors have been able to more fully develop their arguments with the extra space, and the Review has benefited from the change in editorial policy. Our lead article, “A Rose by any other Name: State Criminality and the Limits of Social Learning Theory,” by Elizabeth Bradshaw, was selected by the Editorial Board as best paper for this issue. In addition to the honor of being voted best author
the first prize includes a monetary prize of $500.

The Hilltop Review looks forward to receiving and publishing more papers and artwork by graduate students at WMU. Moving into the future, there will be prizes for best papers and artwork for every issue of the Hilltop Review. We hope this incentive will increase the profile of the Hilltop Review here on campus as well as encourage more graduate students to consider submitting their work for review. There are also cash prizes for second and third place. A digital photograph by Elba Marcell Rivera Rodriguez, titled “Antique Power,” graces the cover of the Hilltop Review and won a $500 prize for best artwork. For the Call for Papers, see the end of this issue or our website: http://www.wmich.edu/gsac/publications.html