

Introduction from the Office of Societal Impact

The Office of Societal Impact, housed within the Office of Research, Innovation, and Impact, is proud to continue supporting the Arizona Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies (AJIS). Each year, AJIS provides a critical platform for undergraduate researchers to share their work, challenge dominant narratives, and contribute meaningfully to scholarly and societal discourse.

The 2025 issue features powerful contributions that reflect the journal's commitment to amplifying student voices, particularly those exploring the structural inequities and cultural dynamics that shape lived experience. This year's authors examine the far-reaching impacts of abortion legislation, interrogate gender narratives in children's literature, expose the ethical failures of global art markets, highlight healthcare inequities facing Indigenous communities, and assess the neurological and relational consequences of verbal abuse. These articles take a cross-disciplinary approach to timely and pressing issues, demonstrating both academic rigor and a deep sense of social responsibility.

As a land-grant, American Indian and Alaska Native-Serving, and Hispanic Serving Institution, the University of Arizona is uniquely positioned to support research that engages with issues of equity, justice, and access. The work featured in this year's journal reflects those values and contributes to ongoing efforts to cultivate inclusive, research-rich environments across campus.

We are especially proud of this year's editorial team for their dedication, professionalism, and creativity. Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief Ayah Ghannam, the team welcomed new members, refined editorial processes, and ensured the thoughtful curation of this year's publication. Their efforts culminated in another successful year of AJIS and continued momentum for the future of the journal.

We are also excited to celebrate the continued tradition of hosting the AJIS Showcase, where authors have the opportunity to present their work to the broader campus and community. These events provide an invaluable space for public scholarship, dialogue, and recognition of the remarkable research happening at the undergraduate level.

To the authors, thank you for sharing your insight, research, and passion. Your work represents the best of what interdisciplinary scholarship can offer. To the graduating editors and contributors, we extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes in your future endeavors.

Please join us in celebrating the publication of the 2025 edition of the Arizona Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies and in applauding the incredible efforts of this year's editorial team.

Sincerely,



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