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Letter from the Editor

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From the Editor

Dear readers,

The William & Mary Educational Review was originally born out of a desire to represent the research and participation of the School of Education community, from undergraduates at the beginning of their careers, to graduate students seeking an advanced degree. In its second year, we looked beyond our own walls, to include the entire William and Mary community in the advancement of education and counseling exploration. Now in our third year, we continue to expand outward and include other colleges and universities, both local and international. We continue our look to the future. We are no longer simply thinking and planning one year at a time. Instead, we are considering where we want to be in 10, 20, or even 50 years. In our expansion, we consider our partnership with other schools and institutions. We strive to continue our celebration and facilitation of a multitude of perspectives, experiences, and conversations.

Our growth is due to the willingness of our Executive Board and Editorial Board—consisting solely of student volunteers—who are passionate and enthusiastic about our mission as an independent, open-access journal. This issue, as well as the ones that came before and the ones that will come after, serves as a record of the commitment of our stakeholders to address the needs of our students and communities. The creation of this journal is a performative act that comes together through the values and goals of collaboration. I mean to also implicate you, dear reader, in this performative act, in the hopes that you will accept our invitation to join our growing network and share your enthusiasm and inspiration.

The following articles and manuscripts highlight issues of international concern in education and counseling. The authors consider diversity both at home and abroad as well as how differences in our students and our clients push us to be better practitioners. An important way that we, as practitioners, value others is to allow them to speak for themselves and showcase the power of their differences. I believe the following pieces will allow many voices to shine through and take part in our conversation.

As you read, I charge you to think differently. How will you take part in the conversation? How will you approach your role as educator or counselor or researcher differently? My hope is for you to take away ideas and inspiration from this reading experience, consider how you serve others, consider how others’ differences can be powerful, and start a dialogue that continues to help our network grow.

Sincerely,

Julie K. Marsh
Editor-in-Chief