

Access: Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research
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Editor's Introduction – 10th Volume (2026)

James Hannes, M.A.
University of Washington Tacoma

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Dear *Access** readers,

With great pleasure I introduce the tenth volume of *Access**: *Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research and Scholarship*. This volume showcases nine exemplary articles covering a range of topics. I am sure readers will find them just as engaging as I have during my privilege of working with these authors in refining their work over the past several months. These authors also have the distinction of appearing in the inaugural publication of the journal in its new format and at its new location, hosted through UW Seattle's Open Journal Systems platform.

This volume opens with Kevin Michalson's "Rules of Engagement: How Video Games Justify State Conflict." Through a comparative analysis of contemporary military-themed games, Michalson observes the effects such games can have on players and points to the potential for deeper influence on players' worldviews. Next, L. Haueter similarly considers the nature of international trends with "Counterflow and Cultural Exchange via Global Television: Netflix Japan's Novel Takes on Reality Dating Programs." Haueter investigates what the success of two instances from Japan's programming means for Netflix but also what the influence of Japanese TV culture suggests about worldwide media consumption in the coming decades.

Continuing that emphasis on media, Sofia Scott follows with "Marxist Analysis of *Ready or Not* (2019)," which critically assesses how the contemporary horror genre reflects class and gender tensions in American society. Fourth, Melaina Lenzi addresses technological change in "The Risks and Rewards of Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Nonprofits." This work surveys recent studies on the integration of AI in a range of activities relevant to nonprofit work, concluding with useful recommendations for how nonprofits might best adopt AI for success.

Kelsey Anderberg, in "Not as Alien as You Think: How Media Representation (and Lack Thereof) Affects Asexuals," offers insight into the experiences of asexual individuals and

encourages society at large to begin from a place of openness and understanding rather than harmful assumptions. Arnie Singh continues with “Broken World Thinking in the Digital Era.” Singh explores the nature of tech capitalism as it functions today and warns that the digital system is headed for a sustainability crisis without significant change. Jash Jhaji then considers the lyrics of Kendrick Lamar’s work in “Rap Music, Systemic Racism, and Mental Health Advocacy: A *To Pimp a Butterfly* Analysis,” through which Jhaji explains the value of socially-conscious rap.

Gian Luzon helps round out this year’s volume with “Feasibility of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists as an Adjuvant Treatment for Substance Use Disorder.” In a review of the scholarship, Luzon considers how the lack of current pharmacotherapies for treating the underlying cravings associated with substance use disorder can be offset with treatments using a different class of drug. Finally, Astacia Carter proposes a new legal framework for water rights in “The Right to Exist: Ensuring the Colorado River’s Health and Sustainability from Source to Mouth.” Carter critiques current anthropocentric water-law doctrines, arguing instead for a Rights of Nature approach to ecological sustainability.

I thank these authors for their commitment to the review process over this past summer and encourage them to be proud of their accomplishments. I am grateful as well to the review board for their contributions, without which *Access** would not be possible. As I publish this volume and reflect on this ten-year anniversary of *Access**, I further extend my gratitude to all the previous authors, dedicated reviewers, and supportive faculty, staff, and stakeholders from across the University of Washington Tacoma community who have ensured over the years that the journal could reach this milestone.

Happy Reading!

James Hannes, M.A.

Editor-in-Chief

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