

The Editors Note from the Editors

Note from the Editorial Board

As we enter the third year of the pandemic, it seems that it may finally be coming to a close. The world in this sense is looking to take its first breath of fresh air since 2019. However, the struggle for human rights has never been more urgent. Through regime change in Afghanistan that has greatly curtailed the rights of all who live there, through an insurrection at the US capital that brings into question the strength of its government, and through the war in Ukraine that Russia continues to wage without provocation nor any sign of restraint. As international pressures mount and governments across the globe struggle to adapt, we as the Editorial Board of Dignity continue to gather our undergraduate scholarship to highlight the fight for human rights in all its forms.

Undergraduate research is an important way through which people can find their voice and build themselves as engaged global citizens. The scholarship we highlight in Dignity is valuable research and one of many avenues through which human rights continues to be explored and discussed. We continue to showcase a diverse collection of Human Rights scholarship across the UNC system, from multiple disciplines and a variety of perspectives. These contributions to the discourse surrounding human rights we hope will move the conversation forward and generate new interest in the field.

Dignity continues to root itself in what it means to establish human rights. The legal, economic, political and social recognition of the fundamental and equal Dignity of all persons shapes the very basis of human rights scholarship. This range of ideas is explored in this, our second issue of Dignity, by examining the rights of all people to have a Dignified work environment regardless of gender, class or creed, the ability for citizens to retain their Dignity even through the trials and tribulations of war, the rights of every society to retain their culture in a Dignified manner regardless of government interaction, and the responsibility of each government to allow their citizens to live a Dignified life free from discrimination. We hope that by continuing to explore and expand the scope of human rights discourse, we can not only encourage the consideration of human rights in all disciplines, but acknowledge the work that takes place every day to attain these rights for all people.

As you read Dignity, we hope to inspire you to incorporate these values into your everyday life and continue to envision a better and more just future amidst these periods of unrest and uncertainty. We hope that we can reach more students and faculty across the UNC system and expand the pool of human rights scholarship available for consumption. We thank the first Editorial Board for establishing Dignity and extending this great opportunity to our new members, as well as our Faculty Advisory Board who have generously given us their guidance and knowledge across multiple institutions. We would also like to thank

our Chief Advisor Dr. Linda Cornett for continuing to help us achieve our vision and Dr. Peter Haschke for guiding us through the typesetting process, as well as everyone who has led workshops to share their valuable knowledge with us. Perhaps most of all we would like to thank the undergraduate students who have entered their scholarship for publication, for truly without them there would be no journal to publish. And thank you for continuing to engage with us in the discussion of human rights and the push to extend them to all.

Sincerely,

The Editorial Board, '21-'22