

Dear Reader,

When we began this journal last spring we had the needs of one group in mind:

Undergraduates. We felt that there was a large gap in scientific literature which failed to meet the needs of an undergraduate student. College students usually have taken several introductory courses within their major and thus might find articles in popular scientific journals such as *Scientific American* a bit too basic. However, as students only beginning to learn the vocabulary and details of a field, articles in professional journals might be, at least at first, a bit intimidating and difficult to understand.

In an attempt to fill this gap between popular and professional science literature, we decided to launch Reviews in Undergraduate Research (RUR), a journal which would solely publish review articles, written by undergraduates for undergraduates. Inside, you will find five articles ranging from molecular biology to space physics written by students across the United States. Also included is a special faculty review written by professors as an introduction for college students.

In opening this inaugural issue of RUR we would like to thank our generous sponsor Rice University and all of the people who helped contribute to this project.

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Editor-in-Chief, RUR  
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