



## Acknowledgements

We want first to acknowledge that the University of Calgary and all those who teach, learn, and work within it, including the authors and editors of this journal, occupy Treaty 7 territory. In the spirit of respect, reciprocity, and truth, we honour and acknowledge Moh'kinsstis, and the traditional Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Blackfoot confederacy: Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, as well as the Îyâxe Nakoda and Tsuut'ina nations. We acknowledge that this territory is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3 within the historical Northwest Métis homeland. Finally, we acknowledge all Nations – Indigenous and non – who live, work, and play on this land, and who honour and celebrate this territory. This sacred gathering place provides us with an opportunity to engage in reconciliation, a duty we all have as occupants of this land.

The Motley team is proud to present the second issue of the Motley Undergraduate Journal! This second issue provided more opportunity for the University of Calgary's talented students to showcase their academic work, as well as signifies the Motley's expansion into publishing work from other universities within Canada. The sustained success and quality of this journal is possible thanks to the collective efforts of a number of key people. Dr. Maria Bakardjieva, Professor and Chair of Communication and Media Studies at the University of Calgary, as well as the Editor in Chief of the Motley, continued to provide guidance and incredible support for the journal throughout the production of this second issue. The Department of Communication, Media, and Film at the University of Calgary continued to give the project decisive support.

The entire faculty of the Department of Communication, Media and Film backed the initiative and donated their time, valuable perspectives, and expert feedback on submitted manuscripts. A special 'thank you' to those who nominated and reviewed submissions: Maria Victoria Guglietti, Mark Machacek, Ronald Glasberg, Samantha Thrift, Dr. Brad Clark of Mount Royal University, and graduate students Xenia Reloba de la Cruz, Bray Jamieson, Emilie Charette, Brennan Chaudhry, Amanda Zanco and Claire O'Brien. Dr. Maria Victoria Guglietti

played a central role in providing mentorship to the editorial team and spurring students into action with submission nominations.

Students and faculty, who volunteered their time and acted as reviewers and peer editors, have been integral to the realization of this issue. Our team has grown significantly since the first issue, and the Motley is lucky to have such a dedicated and talented team of undergraduate students to operate it. I want to give special recognition to Junior Managing Editor, Skye Baxter. Her fresh ideas, assistance, and passion were invaluable throughout the production process, and I am beyond ecstatic to see where she leads the Motley this year as she takes over my role as Managing Editor.

A special thanks is also owed to the phenomenal student authors who contributed their work to the journal. This issue's articles continue the tradition of excellence that our initial student authors began. Your ideas and creativity are a testament to the excellence of the teaching and learning that takes place in undergraduate programs at the University of Calgary and beyond, and they will continue to inspire others.

The Motley is freely and publicly accessible thanks to the Public Knowledge Project's, Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform operating out of Simon Fraser University. OJS allows academic journals to freely utilize their publication software and training resources, with a mission of making academic knowledge accessible to all citizens. The entire OJS library team at the University of Calgary offered the journal team invaluable assistance with building the site, resolving bugs, and providing continuous guidance.

The Motley builds upon the example and inspiration gleaned from other student groups and prior student journals. As the first Managing Editor of The Motley and a former Red Deer Polytechnic student, I wish to acknowledge that my love for the publication process was sparked and my skills were first learned through the invaluable instruction I received from two key members of the Editorial Board of Red Deer Polytechnic's Agora Journal, Dr. Jacqueline Cowan and Dr. Heather Marcovitch. I was also fortunate enough to attend and learn from the National

Student Journal Forum (2023), which was an invaluable experience for fine-tuning the journal for this second issue.

Lastly, on behalf of the Motley team, I thank you, the readers of this journal, for giving us your time and attention in a world where everyone and everything are fighting for it. We hope you are inspired, educated, and invigorated by the work you find on these pages, and that you will join us again for the next issue! Although my time as Managing Editor is coming to an end, I will always feel an incredible sense of pride and joy in this journal and the efforts of students and faculty alike to bring this project to fruition. I look forward to witnessing the growth, and continued success of this journal as the Motley moves forward.

- Melissa Morris, Managing Editor