

Editors' Statement

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Web Design, Layout, and Copy Editor

Crystal M. Collett

This inaugural issue of *Future TENSE*, a GSTR 410 undergraduate peer-reviewed research eJournal, marks an important moment in developing the identity of research projects created by students across disciplines through the GSTR 410 senior seminar. Scott Steele and I have worked hard over the past year along with several other faculty members, including Marty Kazura, Steve Gowler, and Billy Wooten, to draw together excellent work from across the campus, and to bridge sections of GSTR 410 across semesters and year. Our many thanks goes out to each of these individuals for their generous time and feedback. Our mission as the project co-directors is to gather undergraduate GSTR 410 research in order to foster cross-disciplinary engagement with texts, images, and events, and consequently, to develop a sustained and intellectually challenging conversation at the undergraduate level about the meaning, value, and function of our culture in all of its manifestations.

We begin our issue having benefited from the work of Crystal Collett, an excellent undergraduate here at Berea College without whose enthusiasm and responsibility this site would never have materialized. Crystal – your work is superlative, and you have our admiration and appreciation. The process of generating and assembling our documents and protocols has involved excellent collaborations. If you would like to join Crystal, or have a strong undergraduate student who is seeking publishing experience along with the intellectual challenge of shaping a research journal, please let us know!

This issue features five well-researched contributions from across three semesters, but it took the work of over ten faculty members, six faculty reviewers, and one student editor to bring this issue together. We have produced in this issue a wide and representative range of what we understand as “research,” meaning original intellectual work focused on primary and secondary texts, social texts and contexts, and cultural knowledge. We are delighted to publish video and visual work here that features images as the basis for communication and inquiry, and we look forward to contributions that further push the electronic format we are embracing in the direction of innovation, including audio-enabled slide shows (with SoundSlides or other montage software), video, photographic commentary, and of course, primary research in archives or other media.

Our next issue, due to be released in January 2012, will include several new developments. We will be partnering with the recently developed student research showcase, and we aim to publish video archives from those presentations and posters. Further, we are developing a research editor's position for the purpose of assembling links and documents related to current events and topics in GSTR 410 courses. Let us know if you would like to contribute to our growing project by taking part in one of these new areas, or perhaps, by bringing your own insight and passion to us in another form of collaboration that we may not have considered yet.

Our Advisory Committee, Berea College, and tireless undergraduate contributors all deserve my deep thanks for taking my flickering idea and providing the support as well as hard work and good thinking that it took to shape my concept into a really fascinating site and content. Many thanks to all.

Our Spring submission deadline, May 5, 2011, is approaching quickly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our editors with any questions or suggestions for our future editions. We look forward to hearing from you!

With All Our Best,

Jason E. Cohen and Scott Steele
Faculty Directors of *Future TENSE*
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