

From the Editor's Desk

To our readers:

August 2020

First, we wish to thank all the authors, IUSM faculty and support staff, our financial sponsors, and the students who make Insight possible. When we started this journal as first year medical students, we did not know, nor did we anticipate, the demands of running and publishing an annual journal while studying and working as medical students ourselves. With your support, we were able to:

- Start and manage an online version of our journal;
- Publish annual print versions of this journal with original IUSM student pieces as well as faculty interviews;
- Obtain recurring financial support from the School of Medicine, program subdivisions, as well as from the Clinical and Translational Science Institute;
- And inspire incoming first year medical students to pursue research endeavors while offering words of encouragement as they start medical school.

This journal was intended to reach all those of the IUSM community, to help students develop a better understanding of not only the scientific process and their future career paths, but also of themselves and the society in which we participate in.

That society now is at a critical juncture in history. We have learned of the widespread effects of the COVID pandemic and the impact it has on minority communities. We have learned of the deep roots of individual and systemic racism that still plagues us and our institutions. However, we have also learned of the impact a few dedicated individuals can have on effecting change. We saw this with our school's White Coat for Black Lives event, where numerous students, residents, and faculty staff marched in solidarity for all those who have suffered from racism. We are experiencing this on a national level as well where countless protests are becoming catalysts for long-lasting systemic change.

For this reason, as we step down as Editors-in-Chief and move on to the next chapter of our lives, we have hope that our collective futures will be all the better.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, organized citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

Sincerely,



Honglin Xiao
Editor in chief
Class of 2021



Monica Cheng
Editor in chief
Class of 2021

We extend our deepest gratitude to Anne Nguyen, Dr. Brittney-Shea Herbert, and the Indiana Medical Student Program for Research and Scholarship (IMPRS) for their support and guidance since the founding of this journal.

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