

Letter from the Editor

Dear MUJSP Readers,

Welcome to this year's issue of the McMaster Undergraduate Journal of Social Psychology! In our third year of publication, the journal continues to be a space to reflect on and share the outstanding achievements of students in their final year of the Honours Social Psychology Program. This year, we have four capstone research projects that met the standard of excellence for this journal. Within this issue, you will discover a diverse range of topics including mental health literacy, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on individual identity, social media activism, and the relationship between housing and social integration.

I am very thrilled to be sharing this issue with you as the new Editor-in-Chief for the MUJSP, after having the pleasure of being an Assistant Editor for the journal last year. Being part of this team has been a rewarding experience and this journal has played an important role in defining my undergraduate career and my interest in the research world. I hope that the journal continues to motivate other students to cultivate and share their own accomplishments.

The MUJSP has also welcomed a new addition this year – the publication of abstracts that were presented this year at the Inaugural Social Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference that took place in January 2022. The conference was an opportunity for students in the Honours Social Psychology Program to share their own work, while also developing their communication and research skills in an inclusive environment. I was fortunate to be one of the conference organizers and was able to observe first-hand the importance of a space for students to share their interests and commitment to research with others. As part of their participation in the conference, presenters submitted their abstracts for publication in this year's issue of the MUJSP. We invite you to read these abstracts and explore truly engaging and insightful research.

The publication of these important research endeavours would not be possible without our wonderful editorial team. First and foremost, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Namya Tandon, our MUJSP Founder and outgoing Editor-in-Chief. Namya has created an opportunity for students to share their hard work with others and feel part of a wider community, an opportunity that not all students have access to. Namya, on behalf of our editorial team, thank you for your thoughtfulness and determination - you are an inspiration to all of us. We hope we can continue to uphold your vision for the journal.

Appreciation must also be conveyed to our co-assistant editors, Angelo Marmolejo and Linette Sapper, our layout editor, Christina Doan, and our graphic designer, Sarah McBride for their continued diligence and dedication to the MUJSP. I would also like to convey a special thank you to Claudia Meneguzzi, one of the conference organizers, who assisted with the organization and collection of abstracts and consent forms for the publication of the abstracts. Lastly, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to our faculty advisor of the MUJSP, Dr. Sarah Clancy, who has supported the team every step of the

way. We are very grateful for her guidance, encouragement, and kindness, without which this issue of the journal would not have been possible.

We hope you enjoy the thought-provoking and exciting research prepared by our students. We appreciate your time and continued support. Happy reading!

Sincerely,
Raisa Jadavji
Editor-in-Chief