Dear Reader,

On behalf of the editorial board, the University Library, and the supportive academic communities of several undergraduate institutions, we would like to thank you for reading our very first edition of Lady Justice Journal (LJJ). LJJ was founded in 2023 by a handful of undergraduate students with a passion for political science and a desire for a space to celebrate student research. Through the help from the University of Illinois's Political Science Department, Prof. Merinda Kaye Hensley, and the support of students both submitting their research and encouraging others to do so, we have compiled papers from eleven incredible undergraduate authors from three different universities.

You will find that this first edition spans a myriad of topics related to political behavior, religion, immigration, feminist theory, economics, constitutional review, and more. Through quantitative, quantitative, and literary analyses, these authors have taken the time and care to speak meticulously and passionately about issues at the forefront of their political thought.

When conducting editorial review, we were genuinely excited by the evident love and care that these submissions conveyed. We wanted to create a journal for this very love and care to shine through, and we hope you enjoy reading the findings and thoughts of our authors in this edition. Thank you for celebrating this inaugural journey with us!

Sincerely,

Vindhya Kalipi, Editor-in-Chief LJJ Editorial Board