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Editor's Introduction

Christine Gibbs
Illinois Wesleyan University

Rebecca Tong
Illinois Wesleyan University

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There are varying definitions for *res publica*; the one most commonly ascribed to is “matters of the public.” *De re publica* was written by Cicero around 50 B.C. as a collection of six books discussing matters of concern to the Roman Empire, such as the role of government and citizens, the development of the constitution, education, and the progression of the Roman Empire.

Cicero's compilation of topics, we hope, parallels the collection of works presented here as relevant matters to political science today. What we present here is a select few of the talented works that students of Illinois Wesleyan have to present on topics of political science.

As it is Lincoln's 200th birthday this year, we found it pertinent to utilize Lincoln's legacy in our journal. The first stone of the Lincoln Memorial was laid in 1914 on his birthday. The photo depicts the construction of the monument, including French sculptor Daniel Chester. The authors of these works have constructed their own legacies, enshrined in this journal. Each paper is the result of careful deliberation over each student's subject of interest or inquiry.

This journal is made possible by the dedicated Political Science Faculty, whose knowledge and enthusiasm has rubbed off on us. Special thanks to Adam Clark and Sneh Rajbhandari for their hard work and dedication to making this journal so outstanding.

Sincerely,

Christine Gibbs and Rebecca Tong

Editors