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Editor's Introduction

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Editor's Introduction

EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

We are proud to present the 25th edition of *Res Publica*, Illinois Wesleyan University's Undergraduate Political Science Journal. Publication of a scholarly journal is intense and time-consuming work, but as we have learned, it is also very rewarding to see it all come together. We are very proud of the high-quality work that was submitted for publication this year, making the selection process difficult in the best way. Together, this collection represents some of the very best political science work being done by students at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Due to the spread of Covid-19 and its disruption of normal life, we've had to make some changes to this year's edition of *Res Publica*. The biggest change is that this year's journal will be circulated electronically. We will still be printing a smaller number of hard copies. If campus reopens in the fall, these copies will be available for pick-up then. Graduated seniors featured in the journal will receive their hard copy by mail.

Much of the work featured in this journal comes from the Fall 2019 semester. While none of the works address the current pandemic, within these pages, key issues in political science are investigated. Our authors address populism, women in politics, slavery, supreme court nominations, and more, presenting excellent scholarship on the politics of the past and of today. The cover of this year's journal is our way of recognizing the strange times we're living in, but more importantly, recognizing humanity's unity during this struggle.

The editors would like to thank all of our authors for their contributions to the 25th edition of *Res Publica*. If it weren't for their high-quality scholarship, this journal wouldn't exist. We also want to thank the political science department and faculty for their guidance and support throughout the semester.

Thank you for reading. We hope you enjoy this year's edition of *Res Publica*!

Megan Baker and Oscar Romero
Editors-in-Chief