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Letter from the Stimulus Team

The Stimulus Team

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LETTER FROM THE STIMULUS TEAM



Photo above taken by Eman Khan at the first Annual *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal* Celebration Event in the sixth floor of the UTA Library.

Welcome to the fourth edition of *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal*!

The fourth collection features prose, visual arts, and media from students, faculty, staff, alumni, affiliates, and members of the surrounding community. *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal* is a student-led journal that is organized by the Mavericks for Medical Humanities organization and supported by the UTA's Department of Physiology and UTA's College of Liberal Arts.

Medical humanities is at the focal point of the medical sciences and artistic expression, exemplifying the humanistic nature of clinical practice. Through medical humanities, many different avenues are explored which include but are not limited to: ethical, historical, literary, philosophical and religious perspectives. In the present day, the humanistic side of medicine that the discipline underscores is crucial as it connects the mind, body, spirit and soul that can be overlooked in clinical practice. For these reasons, each person involved in the creation of this journal from the authors, editors, and designers are deeply connected to the mission and essence of medical humanities.

As a team, we take pride in amplifying the experiences and voices of each person who entrusted us with their stories, artistic creations, and personal perspectives. As such, our journal is a culmination of a vast array of diverse pieces, all of which relate to medical humanities in more ways than one. We are extremely proud of all of the hard work that has gone into creating each piece and their inclusion in *Stimulus* is a testament to our ever-expanding mission to give each person an opportunity to express themselves. We have enjoyed learning from our fellow UTA community and growing in our knowledge of the medical humanities through their submissions.

We would like to thank the UTA faculty and staff who have helped and given support to the establishment of *Stimulus*: to Digital Publishing Librarians Dr. Leah Marie McCurdy, Vanessa Garrett, and Hang Pham-Vu, and copy editor Janet Long for their efforts in helping to put the journal together; Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Dr. Elizabeth Newman for her advocacy of this journal and medical humanities at UTA, Dr. Eli Shupe for her support and teachings on the medical humanities, Dr. Kenneth Williford Chair of the Philosophy and Humanities Department; UTA Alumna, Caroline Nguyen for creating the *Stimulus* logo; as well as the club leadership for collaborating with us and spreading the word about our journal. We would also like to thank Karysa Nelson and Thao Thu Nguyen, the founders of the journal, for trusting us with your vision and goal for the journal. Finally, a very special thanks to Dr. Steven Gellman for continuing to contribute to the journal and guide us on how to honor *Stimulus* and the UTA community in this year's volume.

All in all, we are thrilled to showcase the creativity and talents of the many individuals who have contributed to the fourth edition of *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal*. We hope that you enjoy reading this journal as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you!

