

# Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal

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## Letter from the Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Humanities

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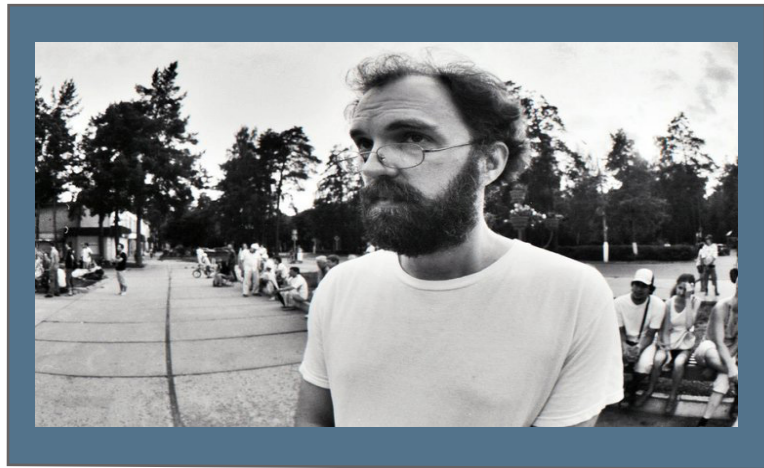
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# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND HUMANITIES

It gives me great pleasure to recommend to you the fourth issue of *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal*. *Stimulus* has exceeded expectations on every front. It has created and sustained enthusiasm among UTA's Medical Humanities students and among faculty as well, something truly rare. Moreover, the journal proves that there was a distinct need for a vehicle



through which students and others might express the full range of their human experience. What better vehicle than a wide-ranging journal devoted to the Medical Humanities? Sickness, ageing, and mortality, which are Medicine's main reasons for being, are universal and some of the hardest realities we must face. We can lose sight of them in the pursuit of scientific knowledge (as necessary as that is) or in the pursuit of medicine-as-business (which is not necessary at all but rather a dubious political and social decision). We can thank the Medical Humanities for putting the humanity back in to medicine and for reminding us that everyone's soul is in need of the therapy (or consolation) that only artistic creation and philosophical reflection can provide. *Stimulus* offers us just this in large doses. May this issue go some way towards healing your soul, giving you hope, and keeping you human. We need as much such medicine as we can get these days.

**Dr. Kenneth Williford**  
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