

L U C E R N A

HONORS UNDERGRADUATE JOURNAL
The University of Missouri-Kansas City

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A N O T E f r o m t h e E D I T O R

To twist a common idiom, “good luck comes in threes ” and indeed, this third edition of *Lucerna*, the undergraduate honors academic journal for the University of Missouri – Kansas City, has thoroughly fit the bill. This year, as with most progressive years of a work, the process was streamlined, the editors wizened and willing, and the sheer fun of the challenge increased ten fold. For this, some much-needed thanks are due: first to the UMKC College of Arts & Sciences Student Council, and the A&S Dean Karen Vorst who have repeatedly shown conviction and understanding of the importance of an enriched undergraduate education. Next, thanks are obliged to the UMKC Student Government Association for their aid in funding *Lucerna*. Thanks must also go to the staff advisors in the UMKC Honors Program, who form the backbone and moral support for the journal. But mostly, the greatest thanks go to all the students who have submitted their works, and all those who honor them by reading these words now.

Like the previous installments of *Lucerna*, this edition has strived to print only the best of serious undergraduate academic works, ranging from all departments and backgrounds. Through a rigorous, peer-driven selection process, the papers inside express originality, solid argumentation and creativity. Further, what makes *Lucerna* have that flash of life is the sheer variety of works that adorn its pages. Biology, Chemistry, English, Fine Art, History, Philosophy, Political Science all can be found within this modest paperback you now hold. Each paper sparked from minds determined to learn more about the world, each striving to question, seek and kindle the embers of curiosity. There is something inside for everyone, and each paper can ignite new thoughts and ideas in anybody.

Enjoy!

Jacob Westen,
2008 *Lucerna* Editor-In-Chief

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