

Letter from the Editors

Dear reader,

We are excited to present the sixth issue of the Cornell Undergraduate Research Journal (CURJ). CURJ is Cornell's peer-reviewed bi-annual publication of exemplary research work from undergraduates across many disciplines. We aim to allow all students to showcase their work to their peers and the general public, foster intellectual discussion and collaboration, and provide a wide range of academic perspectives.

We would like to thank our amazing staff for their commitment to the team. This past academic year, our team has been hard at work, building this publication from start to finish, which is no easy feat. Especially with the current political climate surrounding scientific research, CURJ is a stanchion that upholds the importance of disseminating scientific research to the general public. We are committed to highlighting the significant contributions made by the student researchers here at Cornell and ensuring their work reaches a broader audience. We proudly recognize and celebrate the dedication and achievements of our peers.

In addition to giving thanks to our staff members who have been working for months to develop the Spring 2025 issue, we would like to applaud each student who submitted their work for publication in this issue. This journal is only possible due to the diligent work of all the student researchers who have submitted their projects to CURJ — without the contribution of Cornell's undergraduate researchers, this publication would not have been possible. Furthermore, the dedication of the graduate reviewers and faculty advisors who bring the hard work of each Cornell student's unique manuscript to the forefront must be mentioned.

This semester, our issue is displaying the work of undergraduates from NTRES 3152/6152, a 2-week course where undergraduates conduct independent research projects revolving around conservation bioacoustics in Hawai'i. CURJ has always focused on ensuring the Cornell community can learn about research across all subjects, and we believe that the research performed by the students in this course is not only underrepresented in mainstream media but also highlights the importance and diversity of conservation research through various natural ecosystems.

We are delighted to share the sixth issue of the Cornell Undergraduate Research Journal with you and hope you enjoy reading the edition as much as we enjoyed producing it.

Sincerely,



Isaac Chang



Irene Hwang