

# FOREWORD

*Tyler Anderson and Melanie Rosin*

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The 2012-2013 academic year marks the publication of our third volume of *dialogue*. As such, we are beginning to gather momentum. The number of submissions to this volume is higher than in past years, and the quality of submissions mirrors this trend as well. In light of this, our publication committee decided to take a new approach with respect to the papers that we accept. While we published about eight articles in each of our former two volumes, we have decided to raise the bar even higher, accepting only five submitted articles. Ultimately this decision has served to raise the quality of *dialogue* while showcasing some of the best undergraduate works in political science that Southern Methodist University has to offer.

This third volume of *dialogue* explores a variety of interesting and key topics today, from China in the international realm to issues of human rights in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We are so thankful for the hard work and dedication of our contributors, and the unwavering support of both SMU and the Tower Center in this undergraduate journal and our other various works. We are very optimistic about the future of *dialogue*. SMU has provided its students with astounding opportunities in the past, and her future is all the brighter.

We hope that you enjoy this edition of *dialogue*.

Tyler Anderson  
Executive Director—Tower Center Student Forum

Melanie Rosin  
Editor-in-Chief—Tower Center Student Forum