

FOREWORD

Thomas Schmedding, Jaime Shim

Dear Reader,

Like a great conversation, this year's submissions to the seventh edition of our undergraduate journal, *dialogue*, show purpose and personality. Throughout these submissions, purpose and personality weave their way through diverse history and policy perspectives. Ultimately, the journal's four student papers will contribute to larger discussions in American Politics/Government and East Asian Politics/Government.

The Tower Center Student Forum sponsored and facilitated one of these papers through our policy research committee, and the Tower Scholars program supports three authors. Our Tower Center Student Forum-sponsored paper, for example, discusses how Japan, when faced with security challenges, pragmatically adjusts to guarantee its security. Notably, half of this year's publications focus on East Asia. This reflects the Tower Center's growing emphasis on the region with its Sun & Star Program on Japan and East Asia.

All in all, the quality and reach of the journal has continued to increase; each paper within this edition concerns an area of policy—nationally or internationally—that is a significant part of today's dynamic political discussion. As the Tower Center continues to expand its opportunities and increase the quality of its programs, we are proud that the Tower Center Student Forum is developing at an equal pace. With that, we optimistically look to the future of our undergraduate journal. Please enjoy this edition of *dialogue*.

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