Editors' Note

The Sovereign is a student-edited journal designed to showcase excellence in political science writing and to cultivate an interest in student scholarship. The journal employs a blind review process wherein the authors of the articles are not made known to the reviewing editors. The course level of each manuscript is indicated, however, so that the editors may consider excellent writing across the curriculum.

This volume features papers from multiple course levels and from four political science sub-fields. Within the realm of political theory, authors Parcell and Merrow emphasize the centrality of ideas within political discourse, demonstrating how actors' beliefs and values ultimately predicate and negate political action. Soullier and Killion focus on political institutions, examining the framework wherein issues are deliberated and decided. Illustrations of public policy construction are offered by Sullivan, Hall, and Devon, et al; these authors showcase the various forces that help shape our laws. Finally, Ward reminds us that politics is hardly confined to the domestic sphere, as nations interact with each other in an equally dynamic process. Collectively, these works highlight the diverse sub-fields that together constitute the Saginaw Valley State University political science program.

~The Editors

The Sovereign

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