EDITORS' NOTE

John Adams once declared to a friend and fellow politico that "a pen is…an excellent instrument to fix a man's attention and to inflame his ambition." While humanity has advanced from the use of the pen to that of lap-tops and personal tablets, the skill of writing remains essential in politics and political science. Adams was certainly correct in his assertion that writing, above all else, allows individuals to focus and and develop their thinking. Likewise, there is something about the art of writing that allows students of politics, in particular, to become intimate with their thoughts and evaluate their understanding of the world. For these reasons, academics have long valued writing.

To promote this aforesaid precept, *The Sovereign*, a student-edited journal, was 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. Collectively, the articles herein highlight the diversity of excellent student writing within the Saginaw Valley State University political science program.

~The Editors

THE SOVEREIGN

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