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Letter from the Editor

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## Letter from the Editor

Welcome to a new volume of the *Graduate Historical Journal at UCLA*. This year we are continuing our tradition of historical inquiry across the ages. We are also highlighting new techniques which are broadening the scope and style of research in the discipline. In the 29th Volume, we are proud to present articles on politics, literary interpretation, and archaeology, alongside reviews of Digital Humanities projects. These reviews are intended to highlight the ever growing presence of digital research and new methods by which we can open academic inquiry to the larger world.

As always, the work included in this Journal draws on rigorous research, primary source materials, and new interpretations of events and material culture. The first article, “For a More Perfect Communist Revolution”: The Rise of the SKWP and the Twilight of “Unitary Socialism” by Kyu-hyun Jo, is a review of the Korean conflict and the personalities which battled over socio-political ideologies and political power. The second article, titled “Narrativizing the Self: Niccolò Machiavelli’s use of Cesare Borgia in *The Prince*” by Alex Mizumoto-Gitter, demonstrates how the literary prowess of Machiavelli repurposed the real historical events of Cesare Borgia’s life for his own purposes. And the final article, “Christians and Pagans in Roman Nea Paphos: Contextualizing the ‘House of Aion’ Mosaic” by John Ladouceur, takes us even farther into the past—looking at the remaining material culture from late antiquity and arguing for an artistic resistance to the growth of Christianity in Roman times.

The last section of this volume contains reviews of digital humanities projects. These reviews were completed by graduate students and the projects come from across North America—accessible to all through the internet and digitizing many archival pieces for the first time. From the danger and discrimination faced by African Americans in the early 20th century to the hidden lives of Los Angeles locals, these projects capture the many-faceted experience of human life. And now, that history becomes more than words on a page or archives locked away from the public eye. This spotlight intends to show the way that technology is generating knowledge and access to it, but it also shows how the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences are changing as well.

As always, the Journal would not be possible without the support and participation of a number of people. And so, we would like to thank the UCLA History Department, the Department Chair, Carla Pestana, our Graduate Advisors, Kamarin Takahara and Hayley Safonov, the History Graduate Students Association, the Graduate Student Association Director of Publications, David Pederson, and the numerous graduate students who volunteer their time to our Journal.

**Anna Accettola**  
Editor-in-Chief