

EDITOR'S NOTE

It is an extreme privilege to announce the third edition of *The Forum*. When journal co-founders Keith Goodwin and Katrina Chludzinski and faculty advisor Dr. Thomas Trice selected Joycelyn Cheung and I to assume leadership of this exceptional journal in May 2010, we felt honored. Knowing that Keith and Katrina left us tremendous shoes to fill, Joycelyn and I wasted no time in preparing for our roles as executive editors. The publication of this exceptional edition is evidence of the determination, perseverance, and innovation exercised over the past year.

We are committed to the vision that *The Forum* provides an outlet for historically-relevant student work without regard to an author's major, level of study, or institutional affiliation. In an attempt to broaden our readership, we solicited submissions from both undergraduate and graduate students attending a number of well-respected universities. While most of this year's contributors are fellow Cal Poly students, it is with great pleasure to publish a very sophisticated paper from a UC Berkeley alumnus.

Last year, *The Forum* was awarded first prize in the "electronic journal" category and third prize in the "print" category in the 2010 Gerald D. Nash Journal Award Contest. In this edition of *The Forum*, however, a few key changes will be noticed. First, to recognize our excellent editorial board, we have included a new section, entitled "About the Editors." Here, readers can learn more about the hard-working individuals whom made this edition possible. Second, in an attempt to make the journal more personable, we have decided to include photos of the journal staff and all contributing authors next to their respective "About . . ." sections. Lastly, we have included both a historiographical essay and a multi-work book review. We believe that these additions will only strengthen *The Forum*, and propel it along the upward trajectory established by its founders.

As Joycelyn is graduating this June and I am entering another Cal Poly graduate program next fall, it is with great sadness that we leave this project behind. We know, however, that we will bequeath this project to assiduous scholars, capable of continuing *The Forum's* success realized thus far. For we are confident that as we stood on the shoulders of those whom came before us, our successors will endeavor to do the same.

Justin McCollum
Graduate Division Executive Editor