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Welcome to COMPASS: The Student Anthropology Journal of Alberta

We are thrilled to introduce Volume 3, Issue 1 of COMPASS, the student anthropology journal of Alberta. This represents the first issue of COMPASS in several years. This journal, like many things, was briefly a casualty of the isolation and time distortion brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The complete return to in-person campus life in September 2022 brought on a reinvigorated sense of community and collaboration among our anthropology student body that ultimately led to the revival of our journal. We were overwhelmed with the enthusiasm that authors and editorial staff alike brought to the development of this issue.

COMPASS, and its predecessor Diversipede, were originally founded with a goal of creating a welcoming, low-stakes and inclusive student publishing environment. COMPASS provides students with academic authorship opportunities or the chance to foster their reviewing and editing skills—and for some students, both!

We would like to give many thanks to the people involved with the production of the first issue of our third volume. A large group of graduate students within and beyond the department joined the editorial team as reviewers this year, bringing diverse anthropological knowledge and expertise to the submissions. Our editorial team was joined by two talented copyeditors from the Department of English and Film Studies, Lizette Gerber and Charis St. Pierre, who undertook a heavy workload editing all accepted submissions. We received invaluable support and encouragement from the University of Alberta Library Publishing Department and previous editors of the journal.

The current issue contains fascinating articles spanning a range of anthropological topics from undergraduate and graduate students alike, some of which stem from award-winning research presented at the 29th Annual Richard Frucht Memorial Lecture Series and Student Conference. Editors have categorized articles into thematic sections reflecting the four branches of anthropology: archaeology, cultural, biological and linguistic anthropology.

We look forward to sharing our third volume, and look forward to continuing this process in the future. We hope you will consider COMPASS as a venue for your work, or joining COMPASS’s editorial team.

Sincerely,

Hande Gür and Rachel Simpson
PhD Candidates, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs, and research stations are primarily located on the traditional territory of Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, and Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe nations; lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7, and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.
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