

## Editors' Note

This has been a year of change and positive developments on many fronts; we were able to continue founding editor's Christina William's vision in establishing the journal. This year, *Constellations* has become ever more a beacon illuminating student work. Winter semester 2011 featured *Constellations* First Annual Conference themed on the idea of "Constellations and Beyond: Taking History Out of the Classroom." The audience was treated to eight student authors who presented their work. We had quite a large turn out for the first of this type of event. All members engaged well with the student authors, displaying a genuine interest in what student research has to offer. This year has also featured increased opportunities for students to get involved in the organization. *Constellations* created new positions of Communications Assistant to plan the conference, as well as introducing a decentralization of executive powers. Classics and History, although concerned with the matters of the past, are vastly different disciplines dealing with their own specialized concerns and challenges. As such, *Constellations* wishes to give each discipline its proper amount of autonomy and so has created an equal position for a head Classics editor and assistant. It is my hope that Classics students will be better represented in the year to come and will enjoy increased involvement.

A wide range of topics this year colors the pages of *Constellations* this issue. We have seen considerable increase in gender history and other submissions dealing with highly controversial subjects. Confronting issues of social importance is an exciting branch of history for the journal to explore. This makes the journal more meaningful as authors challenge readers to think carefully over such social issues as Orientalism, homosexuality, and racism, among others. Other topics include print culture, American history, and African history. Classics topics this year focus on Roman imagery of war, presenting an interesting analysis of many famous instances of Roman material culture.

As *Constellations'* second year ends and my time as editor closes, I look forward to witnessing the continued growth of the journal as it moves onto its third year, carried by individuals who move history beyond the classroom. Editing *Constellations* has been an adventure for me over the past year. I have greatly enjoyed working with the team of editors, authors, reviewers and volunteer. It is my hope that readers will enjoy the diversity of topics as much as I have. Rarely does one get such a quality overview of history significant to students. This issue of *Constellations* represents many types of history; the articles published are windows into the many detailed and convoluted faces of history.

In the wise words of an author dear to my heart, "the more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go" (Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read with My Eyes Shut*). I invite you to join the *Constellations* team and travel the many paths of history and classics.

Emily Larocque  
*Chief Editor of History*  
 Noor Iqbal  
*Co-Editor of History*

When *Constellations* was founded last school year, the idea was to give students a look at just what was involved in the writing and research side of academia, and was intended to be an outlet for any student interested in the study of the past regardless of their discipline. Sadly, in the first few editions of the journal it seemed as though the Classical Studies side of our department was underrepresented, with most of the authors and reviewers coming from the (comparably) more recent side of history. It is in this context that I am so thrilled to see a greater presence of Classics students in the running of the journal this edition, in submissions as well as volunteers, reviewers, etc. *Constellations* is not, and will not be, a journal confined to one strictly delineated area of study, and in light of this greater engagement we are planning on overhauling the editorial structure to make sure that those students in Classics won't feel as though their voices aren't being heard. I can't wait to see the wonderful articles in editions to come, as given the quality of the submissions we saw this year I am sure that the best is still to come.

Paul Gifford  
*Editor of Classics*