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Editor's Preface

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Editor's Preface

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Welcome to the premier issue of the St. John Fisher College Undergraduate Review, a journal of original, undergraduate student research. The Undergraduate Review presents the work of five students:

- 1) **Kerrie Conwell** writes about the discovery of telomeres, DNA segments that aid cell growth, the implications of which have scientists in many fields intrigued;
- 2) **Michelle Kindler** describes the Afro-Caribbean religion, Santeria, and concludes with a plea for tolerance among those of us unfamiliar with its rituals and practices;
- 3) I explore the nature of the Northern Irish conflict and how it has shaped and influenced one of Ireland's greatest living playwrights — Brian Friel;
- 4) **Kerry Kutzuba** examines the writings of Anne Rice, particularly her Vampire Chronicles, and illustrates how the author reveals herself and her life through these works;
- 5) Finally, **Jeanne Moose** writes about the Brontes — Charlotte, Emily and Branwell — about the sources of their inspiration and of their untimely deaths.

The Undergraduate Review began as an independent study project I undertook as a participant in the college's Honors Program. Had I any idea how arduous the task of soliciting and editing submissions, determining the design of the finished product, and finally, producing and distributing the journal would be, you may well not have had this fine collection of student research to read and enjoy. Notwithstanding the difficulty I (and the others who assisted me with this project) had seeing the journal through to its fruition, I am happy with the outcome and confident that it reflects the quality of work being undertaken by students at St. John Fisher College. I believe you will find the material contained herein both stimulating and informative.

The St. John Fisher College Undergraduate Review would not have been possible without the help of several special people whom I wish to acknowledge: Dr. H. Wendell Howard, director of the Honors Program and faculty advisor for this project, in whose mind the journal was conceived, William Soleim, Associate Dean of Scholarship and Instruction, who assisted in the production of the journal and, like myself, must surely have thought this project would never be completed, and two of my classmates, Georgina Clancy and Associate Editor Kerrie Conwell, both of whom were instrumental in generating interest in the journal among Fisher's student community and in soliciting submissions for publication. My thanks to each of them.

Timothy Hayes