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A Letter From the Editor

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A Letter From the Editor

Dear readers,

In this age of globalization and technology, the world is closer than ever. Yet often we struggle to understand the people around us, especially when their cultures and beliefs are different from our own. Lack of understanding leads to fractures in our global community caused by marginalization, polarization, and conflict. Taking time to understand the differences in our world will help us to be more aware of our own logical fallacies, inherent privileges, and personal responsibilities to make this world a better place.

In this edition of *Sigma*, you will find research intended to increase awareness of historical, modern, and psychological factors that may limit our perception of the world. These articles include an analysis of the history between China and the Soviet Union, the rise of political groups such as the German Green Party, vigilantism in Guatemala, changes in Asian-American voter turnout, gender's relationship with surveillance technology acceptance, and the role that authority figures can play in shaping how individuals view the world, in addition to other topics.

As students, we have a unique and important role to play in influencing the political discourse of our time. Through our research and writing, we hope you will gain a deeper understanding of this world and feel inspired to engage in meaningful dialogue and action.

This journal is the result of dedicated time and energy from many organizations in the BYU campus community, principally the Political Science Department and the Kennedy Center for International Studies. Special thanks to the rest of the editing staff, Amelia Watterson and Elle Diether, our copy and content editing team, the advising professors, and our faculty advisor, Scott Cooper. We especially thank the authors for sharing their work and passion with us.

I am proud to present the 2022–23 edition of *Sigma*.

Marissa Gerber Pinnock
Editor-in-Chief, *Sigma*