

Volume 4: A Publishing Year of Firsts

With the publication of Volume 4, *Proceedings of Manitoba's Undergraduate Science and Engineering Research* (PMUSER) marks a number of firsts. With an expanded editorial board encompassing the breadth of the scope of PMUSER, we're delighted to share with you the largest volume in our seven-year history.

This volume includes two issues, not only the regularly published issue 1 of student research and review papers but also an Agriculture Special Issue devoted to highlighting student successes and research accomplishments in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. In future publishing years, we hope to have a special issue for each of the faculties and areas of study that PMUSER's scope encompasses.

The year 2018 also sees the inaugural cover-art contest. The winning image, *Anabasis* by Evan Tremblay, is featured on the cover of this issue (Volume 4, Issue 1), and the runner-up, submitted by Chloé Warret Rodrigues, is featured on the Table of Contents of this issue. We also proudly announce that Michelle Wuzinski is the winner of the Volume 4 Best Paper Award!

With the publication of Volume 4, PMUSER has embraced the "Manitoba" in our name. For the first time we have received and are publishing submissions from outside the University of Manitoba. Two articles have come from Brandon University and an invited submission from students in the Interlake School Division. We look forward to continuing these relationships and to building awareness of the opportunities that PMUSER offers students through all of Manitoba's degree-granting institutions.

Also this year, PMUSER:

- is publishing poster abstracts and titles in Issue 1,
- is publishing online-only supplementary information for an article, and
- developed a University of Manitoba Co-Curricular Record (CCR) approved peer-review workshop.

The workshop provides students with, very often, a first exposure to peer-review, what is expected of the reviewers in the publishing process, and is a fantastic opportunity for all students to gain insight into scientific publishing that they may not otherwise have.

Workshop participants were enthusiastic about the workshop and material presented. Their feedback will surely make it even more valuable in 2019!

Inside this issue, the research published covers many facets of science and engineering. Research that I am particularly excited to publish in this issue includes the effect of repeat space-exposure on tomato seeds, perceptions of underrepresentation of women in STEM fields, revised submissions from class review papers of "The Chordates" class in the Department of Biological Sciences, and the entirety of undergraduate summer and honours research contained in this large volume.

After reading the issue, I urge you to attempt the puzzle included on the final page. Following a traditional logic grid puzzle style, it is entirely informed by the particular articles published in PMUSER's Volume 4 Issue 1. It is sure to be no small feat of mental maneuverings; we look forward to congratulating successful solvers!

Good luck!

Thanks for reading,



Matthew J. D. Doering
PMUSER Editor-in-Chief

