

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

The Latin phrase *res publica* means “public matter” or “public thing,” and from it was derived the word *republic*. Therefore the pieces published in this, the twelfth edition of RES PUBLICA, are a compilation of matters of public interest. The six articles presented in this work comprise some of the best research done in political science at Illinois Wesleyan University. These compositions span a wide variety of topics including the political economy, gender politics, and ethno-political relations.

With this volume we continue the tradition of publishing original student papers for the benefit of the entire campus community. Our authors have spent a great deal of time and effort preparing these essays both for class and for this publication. The editorial staff would like to thank everyone for his or her contribution to this work – without the intellectual curiosity of Illinois Wesleyan’s students this work would not have been possible.

We also owe many thanks to the IWU Political Science faculty, for without their knowledge and encouragement many of these works could not have been created. Our assistant editors have been invaluable to us as well; thanks to Hayley Jones, Kristi Katz, and Chelsea Schafer for all of your hard work. And, of course, special thanks to Professors Renner and Shaw, who assisted as Faculty Advisors, and to Student Senate for their financial support. Without these generous individuals and organizations, this publication would not be possible.

Elizabeth A. Dennis & Brett A. Strand
Editors-in-Chief