

Acknowledgments

Our sincere thanks to Dr. James D. Evans, President of Lindenwood University, who will retire this year. His support of faculty scholarship, his firm belief in academic integrity and excellence, and his pride in our university have all served to inspire us and to help create a community of lifelong learners. We thank Dr. Evans and wish him much happiness in his retirement years.

Many thanks also to Dr. Gina Ganahl, who has taken over the role of Dean of the School of Accelerated Degree Programs this year, which includes our MFA in Writing program. Dr. Ganahl has been a constant source of encouragement and positive growth, and we are very lucky to have her.

This year we welcome aboard Kelli Allen as our Poetry Editor, and her editor notes follow. Kelli's talent as a poet, her brilliance as an instructor, and her tireless enthusiasm in all she does are tremendous assets to our program and to our journal. We are truly grateful to have Kelli at Lindenwood University.

Issue 5 would not have been possible without the hard work and skills of our editorial staff. Thank you to Sam J. Imperiale, Jacqueline McGarry, and all of the editorial assistants who discussed and voted on submissions for publication. This journal is a reflection of our MFA students' varied perspectives and wonderful talents, and we hope that you enjoy reading the essays, poems, and stories that moved us as readers and inspired us to keep writing and writing and writing.

—Beth Mead
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