

Dean's Message

As Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, I am honoured to be able to introduce this volume of *The Corvette*. The students and production team are to be congratulated on assembling yet another fine collection. The publishing world is littered with stellar launches with no staying power. Like its small warship namesake, *The Corvette*, however, has stamina.

This issue once again shows the diversity of subject material available for historical mining. North American issues such as the role of 'honourable violence' and American identity in the 19th century Wild West, and the technology of rivalry seen in the Cold -War space race between the Americans and the Soviets, are historical strands easily found in today's news. International themes of tensions and resolutions in the Middle East in the 60s and 70s, and the causes and results of Ukrainian emigration to Canada in the early 20th century, are clearly also helpful in interpreting stories on the front pages (home pages?) of today's newspapers. The interaction of legal and political history is also well-represented in the papers on same sex marriage in Canada, and Aboriginal land title in BC.

Time and time again, I hear that what makes for a memorable undergraduate student experience, is the opportunity to make research a part of university classes. Indeed, more learning takes place outside the classroom compared to inside it. What all of these papers show, and what the editors and production team have demonstrated is that undergraduates here

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in Humanities at UVic are not merely *consumers* of knowledge; they are becoming *producers* of knowledge.

Thank you for sharing the fruits of your academic labours with a broad audience. You are fine ambassadors showcasing your knowledge and skill as you ply your historian's craft.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Archibald
Dean of Humanities and Professor of Linguistics