Dear Readers,

We are delighted to present the second issue of Writing across the University of Alberta (WAUA) journal, which features undergraduate student writing from Writing Studies courses at the University of Alberta.

All works published in the second issue were produced during a lockdown when all classes were taught remotely. Therefore, we decided to title our second issue “Writing across the Pandemic.” Given that this was a time of social isolation, we are amazed and humbled at the quality of work that undergraduate students were able to produce during such difficult times.

We received a great number of submissions for our second issue, and selecting texts was not an easy task. We want to thank all contributors for their fantastic work and for being available for editorial correspondence. We also like to thank our student volunteer, Rigvi Kumar, who served as a student editor, and who helped us with text selection, revision and editing.

The second issue of WAUA features written works by Ruiyi Zhang and Wenzhe Kang, Mengjiao Zhao, Hailey Lunseth, Wei Luo, Jiaxuan Tang, Rigvi Kumar, Ella Byrne, Priya Khatri, Angela To, Carley Roth, and Shanice Banh, and visual representations of writing by Hailiang Hu and Yikun Wei. These contributions explore a diverse range of topics and are presented in a variety of genres.

In this volume, we have also included a cartoon contrasting the typical writing processes of undergraduate students and expert writers. This cartoon was drawn by our former colleague Christina Grant, who is now an instructor at Okanagan College in British Columbia. We have shared this cartoon extensively in our Writing Studies classes and we are happy to have the opportunity to publish this gem in WAUA.
Students whose works are included in the second issue come from various linguistic backgrounds. Therefore, we did our best to keep their authentic voices intact in order to showcase and enjoy the Englishes spoken around the world.

To those whose works were not selected for this issue, we encourage you to continue honing your writing style, and we hope you will consider submitting new pieces to WAUA in the future.

With the publication of our second issue behind us, we are now accepting submissions for our third issue, which we hope to publish in Fall 2022. Students interested in submitting their work will find information on how to do so here: https://writingacrossuofa.ca/index.php/writingacrossuofa/about/submissions.

We are also looking for volunteers to work as peer reviewers, designers, and copy editors. If you are interested, let us know at wauajournal@gmail.com.

Finally, we’d like to thank you, our readers, for choosing to read WAUA. We hope you will enjoy these lively and engaging written and visual compositions as much as we have.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bray, Anna Chilewska, and Rigvi Kumar

Co–editors

December 2021