Editor’s Introduction

Volume 10, 2010

Juniata Voices has an interrupted history. It began in 1992 and then, due to technical challenges, took a hiatus until 2001 when Jack Barlow, with support from Provost James J. Lakso, restarted the journal. This volume, our tenth, brings the tally of pieces published to over 100. This is our largest volume to date and is as representative of the liberal arts as any of our past editions. Looking at the accumulated poetry and articles in the past nine volumes and considering the reach Voices now enjoys on the web and through inclusion in major databases, we can say it has been a worthwhile effort.

An important result of moving Juniata Voices to the web has been the ability to make it visually richer, and this volume is the best example yet of that potential. Laura Pass Barry’s article draws upon prints from Colonial Williamsburg to demonstrate how we can learn about the material culture of the past through this visual source. Bob Wagoner offers us a concise entry into his experience as an art collector, illustrated by treasures from his collection. In her stimulating article on murals in Northern Ireland since the peace accords, Allison Fletcher analyzes specific murals she photographed on a research trip.

Years ago during a pick-up basketball game in Atlanta, a young, liberally educated salesman suggested to me that it would be a great and inspiring thing to capture the otherwise ephemeral speeches at commencement exercises each year. While this journal brings to print pieces that would certainly have seen broader exposure, it also captures a number of annual speeches which would otherwise be lost to those who were not in attendance. That amateur basketball player surely would be inspired by Juniata Voices. James Tuten provided incoming freshmen with an intellectual rallying cry at Opening Convocation. Several speakers, including President Tom Kepple, reflected on the re-opening of Founders Hall at its re-dedication ceremony. Perhaps proving the value of a second chance to learn from a speech, James Roney offers an intellectually challenging yet profoundly sensitive talk on the choices between “Honor, Mercy or Justice.” Finally, alumna Harriet Michel encouraged her audience at Commencement to never lose focus on the prize of which she and others civil rights participants dreamed.

We sustain our tradition of publishing poetry here courtesy of Gabe Welsch. His first poem about the “Oldest Rollercoaster” will resonate with Central Pennsylvanians, most of whom know that ride well. In his second poem he hilariously captures the style of famed poet Albert Goldfarb. An important extension of Juniata Voices’ interest in poetry is our first extended piece of poetry criticism, which
focuses on Polish poet Jan Kochanowski. James Roney examines Kochanowski’s *Laments* in terms of its form and ideas.

The penny may be seem the most banal item in the American economy, but Ryan Mathur makes it an object of great interest as he shows how the copper in a penny can be traced back to the mine of origin. More than that, though, he explains how he uses isotope geochemistry to find copper and gold in deposits around the world. The scholarship of teaching and learning is enjoying great energy at Juniata, as seen in Jay Hosler’s study on the effectiveness of employing comic books for education. Hosler, a biologist and successful comic book author, shows that comics’ visual medium is powerful for teaching science concepts.

The concerns of politics and history are always well represented in *Juniata Voices*. The Lincoln Society of Virginia’s founder, Phillip Stone, investigates Lincoln’s historical place as a peacemaker. Czech political scientist Zdeněk Janík considers the evolution toward democracy in his native land over the past two decades and assesses how far civil society needs to travel. Chuck Kauffman, a long-time global justice advocate, offers a hard-hitting critique of United States governmental and non-governmental efforts at shaping elections in Latin America. The federal courts have had much to say about the application of immigration law as Anna O. Law, author of *The Immigration Battle in American Courts*, demonstrates.

Two articles in this volume use the experiences of the authors themselves as examples. Edmund Andrews of the *New York Times* untangles the mortgage debacle that fed the housing bubble while explaining his own irrational exuberance in the mortgage and real estate markets. Similarly, alumnus and financial executive Todd Kulp uses his experiences at Enron and several other institutions to warn future business executives to maintain their ethical guard.

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In addition to the Editorial Board of *Juniata Voices* for volume ten, I would like to thank a number of persons who contributed to the creation of this volume. Annette Querry, Earl Rogers, and Amy Hunt did the vital work of transcribing talks. Judy Maloney, John Mumford, Joanne Krugh and Jim Lakso all supported *Juniata Voices* in a variety of ways. Finally, David Hutto and Larry Mutti have concluded their terms of service to *Juniata Voices* and are leaving the Editorial Board. The Board greatly appreciates their work.

James Tuten
Editor-in-Chief

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Editorial Board for Volume 10

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