

VURJ

VANDERBILT
UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH JOURNAL

APPLICATION FOR SENIOR EDITORIAL POSITIONS
DURING ACADEMIC YEAR 2005-2006

Approved by Faculty Members of the Advisory Board

Michael Kreyling, *College of Arts & Science*

Gerald Stubbs, *College of Arts & Science*

Cynthia Cyrus, *Blair School of Music*

Stan Link, *Blair School of Music*

Kane Jennings, *School of Engineering*

Beverly Moran, *School of Law*

Roger Chalkley, *School of Medicine*

Welcome from the Editor of the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal

Dear Applicants:

It is my distinguished pleasure to announce the beginning of the second publication year for the *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal*. With the new academic year comes a unique opportunity for you to consider participation in the senior leadership positions on the Editorial Review Board.

At present, we have selected a diverse collection of approximately 50 students from across the undergraduate, professional, and graduate schools with scholarly interests ranging from the biological functions of the human brain to the cultural dynamics of Southeast Asia. Many of our reviewers have extensive research experience, while others come from a host of publication backgrounds. We believe our senior editorial leaders have a very important role in shaping an outstanding journal for international dissemination to the world's top universities and scholarly audiences.

Please consider applying for one of the Associate Editor positions if you share our dedication to the academic research process at the center of University life. You are welcome to contact me with any detailed questions about the selections process in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Warren Langevin

Founding Editor, 2004-05

Editor, 2005-06

Overview of the Editorial Structure

A central feature of the *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal* is that undergraduate students are integral to its successful development, implementation, and operation. While the *Journal* will draw on faculty expertise in policy direction and systems technology, the Editorial Review Board is primarily composed of students from all four colleges. Prior to submitting articles for review, it will be students who translate their academic interests into publishable articles with the guidance of peers who serve as Editors of *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal*. Accordingly, the Advisory Board has approved a unique editorial structure to lead the publication over the course of an academic school year:

Editor

The Editor will coordinate the efforts of the Associate Editors and maintain general control over the final publication. In addition, the individual selected for this position will direct the Research Notes section with interested faculty-student research teams. The Editor will be selected annually by the Advisory Board through a competitive application process open to any Vanderbilt undergraduate. The application process will be conducted during the month of April, with all candidates being notified of the final decision on April 30. The most important factors in the selection process are service contributions on the Editorial Review Board and research experience. Other important factors include general academic credentials, the level of experience with digital publication interfaces and any leadership experience with academic or professional journal publications.

Please note that there will not be an application process for Editor in the next academic year due to a unanimous decision at the first meeting of the Advisory Board, who appointed one of the founding members of the new publication, Warren Langevin, as Editor for a three-year term.

Associate Editors

The *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal* is the joint publication title of two sections, Humanities & Social Sciences and Engineering & Natural Sciences. Both divisions will be led by an Associate Editor, who coordinates the efforts of the section review board and maintains general control over the section review process. The Associate Editors will be selected annually by the Editor and confirmed by the Advisory Board through a competitive application process open to any Vanderbilt undergraduate. Previous experience on the Editorial Review Board is an important factor in the selection process. With the confirmation of the Advisory Board, the successful candidate will assume the editorship of one of the *Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Journal's* two sections.

**APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR
DURING ACADEMIC YEAR 2005-2006**

Name: _____ **Mail:** _____
Phone: _____ **Email:** _____
School: _____ **Year:** _____

Name of Faculty Member for Personal Reference _____

Please answer the following three questions in a one-page, typed response to be attached with your final print application. Additionally, it is strongly recommended that you attach a current resume to your application. You should mail the entire application package to the Editor (Station B 3679) by no later than November 4 for best consideration in the selections process.

1. Why do you want to serve as an Associate Editor on the Editorial Review Board?
2. Which of your personal characteristics and academic talents do you believe are most important for the Associate Editor position? And, how do you think most prospective contributors and peer reviewers will respond to your key leadership role in the *Journal*?
3. What is the most interesting proposal you have in mind for recruiting prospective authors to the academic publication process during our second publication year?

Thank you for considering the Associate Editor position for the next academic year, and we look forward to contacting you with the final decision of the Advisory Board.