



GSR Journal

Georgetown Scientific Research Journal

Letter From the Editors

At its core, scientific research is a process of asking difficult questions, testing assumptions, and refining our understanding of complex phenomena. Undergraduate scholarship embodies this pursuit, reflecting the curiosity of student researchers who engage these questions through critical analysis. The *Georgetown Scientific Research Journal* provides a forum for researchers to share their scholarly findings and contribute meaningfully to academic discourse, while situating their findings within a broader context. In publishing the Spring 2026 issue, we are proud to feature work that revisits longstanding questions in the biological and social sciences and explores newer, emerging areas of scientific inquiry.

The six manuscripts featured in this issue span a diverse range of disciplines and methodologies. Three articles focus on the brain: two examine therapeutic interventions to improve neurological function following injury and disease, while a third considers ethical implications associated with brain organoids. Two manuscripts center public and global health, with one addressing maternal health disparities locally in the DMV and another that analyzes seasonal nutrition patterns in Tanzania. A sixth article extends this issue's scope beyond human populations, focusing on seasonal variation in rock hyrax behavior and energy budget. Although these studies differ in subject matter and scale, they collectively demonstrate the value of approaching scientific questions from multiple perspectives and across disciplinary boundaries.

Questions of health, behavior, and survival are shaped by biological, environmental, social, and ethical factors that rarely operate in isolation, demanding these multidisciplinary approaches. The breadth of topics represented in this issue reflects the diversity of interests among undergraduate researchers and their willingness to engage thoughtfully and creatively. We congratulate the authors on their intellectual rigor and contributions to these ongoing conversations, and we hope readers find in these pages both valuable insight and inspiration for future research.

Neha Gunda
Editor-in-Chief

Zaynab Rashid
Editor-in-Chief

Zahra Izzi
Executive Editor

Shirley Zhang
Executive Editor