

Letter from Interim Dean Glenn Sanford

It is a privilege to introduce the fourth issue of *The Measure*. I am thankful to Sam Houston State University's administration for its continued efforts of the editorial staff and the Faculty Review Board. Since its launch, *The Measure* has consistently showcased the talent and hard work of our students. That the essays in the current volume engage attitudes toward immigration, criminal justice reform, the fight for educational equity, the use of propaganda, and the exercise of government power, is a reflection of the power of our classrooms to open our history, our society, and our institutions to investigation by a new generation of scholars.

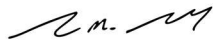
I invite readers to review the biographies that accompany each of the student essays and reflect on the moments (and people) that have inspired you to look closer, dig deeper, or strive farther. In this vein, I offer my thanks to each of the faculty members who inspired their students through research and pedagogy. Beyond inspiration, these faculty mentors guided each student's research project providing encouragement, feedback, and professional development. For our students, these publications are a tangible product of a much broader developmental process that includes professionalization, improved credentials for graduate school and employment, and the intangible gains associated with hard work that lead to success. The fusion of institutional mission and support, faculty dedication and mentoring, and student perseverance and talent resulted in the scholarship presented here.

On a final note, I want to convey how proud I am of all of the students at Sam Houston State University, particularly those in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, who I have had the pleasure of working with on a daily basis. In their excitement, their dreams, and their growth, I see our future. Thinking about our authors, who completed their coursework and prepared these essays for publication while dealing with a pandemic, an economic crisis, social unrest, and myriad personal challenges, gives me not just hope, but confidence that we are preparing a generation of leaders, thinkers, and achievers. Their example inspires me to head into an unprecedented new semester buoyed by the knowledge

that no matter what challenges we face, we are privileged to face them in a collegial environment among people who are transforming their lives and ours for the better.

I hope that all of our readers are as impressed as I am by the quality of our students' research and the support of everyone who contributed to another successful issue of *The Measure*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn M. Sanford".

Glenn M. Sanford, J.D., Ph.D
Interim Dean