

From the Editors



The Cutting Edge Editorial Team 2017 – 2018: Prof. John Willinsky, Amanda Han, Jenny Han, Clarissa Gutierrez, Tom Gold, Joceline Yu

After a two-year hiatus, it is with great delight that we present the second issue of *The Cutting Edge*, *Stanford's Undergraduate Journal of Education Research* at Stanford University. As an editorial team, we revived this journal because we recognized the need to highlight undergraduate scholarship in education, a field that is historically undervalued in academia on many campuses. At the beginning of the year, we redefined the guiding principles of the *Cutting Edge*:

Explore undergraduate research in education,
Disseminate diverse opinions,
Gather creative scholarship, and
Encourage intellectual curiosity

In this year's publication, we present a selection that includes one artistic project, three research articles, and two personal essays that truly embody our mission. From critiquing standardized tests within the classroom to

promoting bilingual education at home, from investigating gender stereotypes in children's mystery novels, to examining the experiences of first-generation, low-income university students in Silicon Valley, our authors highlight the multidimensional, ongoing conversations around policy, pedagogy, and neuroscience in education.

We would like to thank our peer reviewers for ensuring that the work published in this issue is both academically rigorous and relevant. In addition, we owe much gratitude to Professor John Willinsky for his support of the journal and his dedication to open academic research in education and other fields.

Peer Reviewers for 2017-2018:

Yanichka Ariunbold
Bárbara Cardona Rosales
Litawn Gan
Jack Golub
Joy Hsu
Luis Ornelas
Wint Thazin
Jacob Wolf

In the spirit of pursuing scholastic innovation, we named our journal the “Cutting Edge” to showcase evolving and increasingly urgent discussions in education. Our name reminds us that there are boundaries that need to be pushed and discoveries that exist beyond what we already know. Looking forward, we strive to increase our presence on campus and the interdisciplinary nature of scholarship in education. We could not be more excited for the upcoming year.

Jenny Han, Amanda Han, Tom Gold, Clarissa Gutierrez, and Joceline Yu

Author Biographies

Kate Ham is a member of the class of 2020, completing a B.A. in Urban Studies. They are a graduate of the freshman arts immersion program ITALIC and on leadership for the undergraduate education pre-professional society SPREES. They are currently a research assistant at the Graduate School of Education with SCOPE investigating assessment for learning. Kate's other interests include education policy, urban planning, and affordable housing.

Joriene Mercado is a senior majoring in Human Biology with honors in Education. His coursework spans from the fields of human biology, education, and ethnic studies to examine how to effectively educate marginalized communities about mental health. In his senior year, he pursued an honors thesis that explored the use of a decolonization framework to educate Filipino-American high school students about mental health. Beyond Stanford, he hopes to become an elementary school teacher and eventually research how humanities curricula influence ethnic identity development as an education professor. In his free time, he loves learning languages. So far, he knows how to speak four and count to 10 in six!

Cindy Nguyen is a member of the Stanford Class of 2019. She is majoring in Bioengineering with a minor in Computer Science while conducting research in endocrinology at the Stanford Medical School. She has worked on a number of educational outreach projects in East Side San Jose through the support of the Stanford Haas Center for Public Service and Google. Her interests include science and educational inequity.

Eliza Pink is a member of Stanford University's class of 2021. Over the past year, she has worked as a research assistant for Carol Dweck and Ellen Markman, as well as for Alia Crum's Mind & Body Lab. Her interests include social psychology and expository writing, and she is keen on exploring how qualitative data can shed light on how humans think, live, and behave.

Lauren Seabrooks is a member of the class of 2019, pursuing a B.A. in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CSRE), a minor in Human Biology, and Honors in Education. Her interests include criminal justice reform, criminal and family law, correctional education, and the ways in

which race affects American government and politics. She currently interns with the Santa Clara County Office of Reentry Services and will serve as an intern at the Justice Policy Center of the Urban Institute in the summer, where she will study the effect of the justice system on fathers, children, and families.

Johnson Song is a member of the class of 2020, completing a BA in Economics and a minor in Creative Writing. He is inspired by user-centered design and human-technology interaction, and enjoys participating in the dialog of technology in society today. His perspective is shaped by the new and challenging environments such as those experienced while studying abroad in Florence. His interests include reading, writing, playing tennis, and traveling.