

## Letter from the Editors

*Intersect*, Vol 13, Jan 6 (2020)

Dear Reader,

We are excited to present Volume 13, Number 1 of *Intersect*, the first issue of the 2019–2020 academic year. This issue covers a wide spectrum of topics in the field of Science, Technology, and Society, including artificial intelligence, patent law, medical devices, and science. It includes three research articles and one book review. Our first article discusses and measures the social favorability of cocaine among college students using an online survey. Another explores the emerging world of artificial intelligence personal assistants, and the accompanying risks and benefits. The third article examines the impacts that United States patent law has on the distribution of medical devices in other countries, by specifically comparing and contrasting the laws surrounding HIV/AIDS treatments and diagnostic tools in the United States and South Africa. Lastly, a review of the book *Second Lives, Second Chances: A Surgeon's Stories of Transformation* highlights the incredible life led by Dr. Laub, renowned reconstructive plastic surgeon. We would like to extend our congratulations to the authors on their innovative and well-researched projects, as well as their willingness to challenge norms and tackle difficult questions; we greatly enjoyed reading their research and collaborating with them.

*Intersect* is the product of many people's diligent work and creative thinking. A million thanks to Professor John Willinsky, our journal's advisor and the Director of Stanford's Science, Technology, and Society department, for lending his thoughtful insight and guidance, and for continually supporting our team, even while off campus. Thank you also to our peer reviewers for upholding *Intersect's* academic rigor. Finally, we recognize all members of our editorial team. Their commitment, organization, critical thinking, and passion for *Intersect's* material make our journal great. They have worked hard with us as we endeavored to publish our first issue, taking over the tradition of *Intersect*. Please enjoy Volume 13, Number 1 of *Intersect*.

*Editors Fall 2019-2020:*

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Warm regards,

*Lindsay Chong and Amanda Koong*

Editors-in-Chief

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Society*

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