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NU INTRODUCES FIRST ONLINE ACADEMIC JOURNAL

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By Abigail Lawrence

Photo credit Zach Meyers



Northwest University's first academic journal is being published this upcoming December. The publication, entitled the *Harvest Journal*, will be the product of the Professional Editing class taught by Dr. Clint Bryan.

The journal will consist of essays submitted by Northwest University students from a variety of majors. The papers will reflect the quality work produced by the university's scholars.

"Many of these papers reflect weeks of work, intense research, effort, drafts, and it would be really excellent to give them a life beyond the classroom," said Bryan.

The journal will also serve as testing ground for the students of Bryan's professional editing class. The goal is for them to learn how work with authors through the editing process.

Bryan's students divided the received submissions for the editing process. After the papers pass through the students' hands, they will go back to the author for approval. Finally, the papers will be reviewed by faculty. Bryan takes the role of editor-in-chief.

"Basically I'm the sounding board and the faculty connection, the representative," Bryan said.

Bryan heads up the class' editorial team which consists of three students, Kristin Arciaga-Hernandez as editor, Madison Miller as managing editor, and Derek Slyter as the editing assistant.

The submissions have ranged from many different colleges in the university, according to Slyter.

"I believe we have received one submission more on the scientific aspect. A decent amount in theology. A few creative pieces— more memoirs in that sense. We've received a few exegetical papers... and then some political papers that discuss contemporary issues," Slyter said.

Several chapters or portions of dissertations were received from graduate students as well. While the number of submissions were smaller than would have been ideal for the journal there will still be a variety of subjects.

One of the goals for the journal is to have papers that incorporate a faith aspect in some way.

Bryan said, "We want a really sophisticated, developed sense of these are the kinds of papers turned in for Northwest classes because students have properly integrated their faith into their writing."

The inspiration for the journal came from Bryan's time as a graduate student at Middle Tennessee State University, where he was the editor for a similar project. One key difference is that the *Harvest Journal* will not be printed. The class does not have the budget for

editor for a similar project. One key difference is that the *Harvest* journal will not be printed. The class does not have the budget for that, so the journal will be published on a website that, according to Bryan, will “have the look and feel of a journal.” Readers will be able to access it through that website.

Bryan’s hope for the journal is that “it will become... [a] showcase of outstanding student essays for undergraduate and graduate students at Northwest University.”

Bryan’s goal is that the journal will become “a bona fide publication in the sense that every year we’ll be putting together something like this.”

Though it has had a small start with the struggle to find submissions, it looks like it is a good possibility that Northwest University will have an annual academic journal.