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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor



Countries and cultures are all around us.

Global awareness is about engaging and promoting a more profound understanding of people and cultures around the world. It is about shedding light on distinctive cultures and customs stemming from unique geography and history experienced by people in different countries and regions. Can we afford not to be aware of the economic, political, cultural, and social diversity of peoples and nations around the world? Any teenager growing up in any corner of the globe today has access to the Internet, television, and mobile phone; the modern marvels of telecommunication and computer technologies—especially since the 1990s—have brought international trade and business, and the network of global supply chains, to the forefront with their rapid growth around the world. At the same time, technology has provided tools for better discovery, learning, and mutual understanding.

The *Journal of Global Awareness* (JGA) provides a forum for scholarship, engagement, and research in a quest to enhance our understanding of the political, economic, social, cultural, demographic, technological, and environmental issues among members of the global community. This vision promotes peace, harmony, and cooperation among the diverse peoples of the planet.

Nobody stated it better than Mark Twain, who said, “Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one’s lifetime.” (Mark Twain, *The Innocents Abroad*)

As a former Fulbright scholar, I had the privilege and honor to have experienced first-hand countries and cultures, including Thailand, Poland, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Hungary, and Romania. Keeping with St. John's University's mission, I feel privileged to quote Senator Fulbright, "The rapprochement of peoples is only possible when differences of culture and outlook are respected and appreciated rather than feared and condemned, when the common bond of human dignity is recognized as the essential bond for a peaceful world." (J. William Fulbright)

We will continue addressing these themes on the pages of JGA, in addition to other contemporary topics such as diversity and inclusion, climate change, sustainability, global cultures, global engagement to modernize the economy, social justice, etc., as we all continue to strive for a better world.

Among poets, Walt Whitman exhibited global awareness when he said:

"All truths in all things,
They neither hasten their own delivery nor resist it,
The insignificant is as big to me as any,
The damp of the night drives deeper into my soul."
(*Leaves of Grass*, Song of Myself, 30)

This is the digital format of JGA, and I am honored to serve as its editor. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Dean Norean Sharpe of the Peter J. Tobin College of Business and the St. John's University Library's Journal Review Committee for their confidence and support.

JGA is a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed scholarly publication promoting research and scholarship worldwide. If anyone would like to participate and author an article on one of the many relevant subject areas, please submit your proposal for consideration. Additionally, please encourage your friends and colleagues to do so as well—scholars and researchers around the world are welcome to join and share their knowledge and expertise. Together, let us take this great journey of discovery, learning, and serving citizens of the world.

For questions and proposal submissions, please write to:

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