

# Canadian Undergraduate Journal of Cognitive Science

The Canadian Undergraduate Journal of Cognitive Science is an electronic journal published by the Cognitive Science Student Association at Simon Fraser University. Our aim is to provide a forum for students to share work amongst peers and gain valuable experience in the process of getting an academic paper published. As a publication, CUJCS will provide a unique reference for students, showcasing research by other undergraduate students, improving the contact and exchange of ideas between Canadian students and cognitive scientists alike, and illustrating the interdisciplinary work that is the hallmark of cognitive science everywhere.

Although preference will be given to Canadian students, contributions from students elsewhere are strongly encouraged.

## Copyright Information

In keeping with the editorial policy of another cognitive science journal, "Connexions", we are of the opinion that papers submitted to our journal will usually be samples of work-in-progress. As such, acceptance in CUJCS should not impede publication of a later version in traditional journals.

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*Undergraduate students interested in contributing a paper to CUJCS should contact the Editors at [cogsci-journal@sfu.ca](mailto:cogsci-journal@sfu.ca) for up-to-date submission details.*

*The Editors also appreciate any offers by graduate students or faculty in cogsci-related disciplines for refereeing.*

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## INTRODUCTION

It is with great pleasure (and relief) that we introduce the Canadian Undergraduate Journal of Cognitive Science (CUJCS). The purpose of the journal is to provide a forum for students to share work amongst peers and gain valuable experience in the process of getting an academic paper published. As a publication, CUJCS will provide a unique reference for students, showcasing research by other undergraduate students, improving the contact and exchange of ideas between Canadian students and cognitive scientists alike, and illustrating the interdisciplinary work that is the hallmark of cognitive science everywhere.

We would like to thank everyone who submitted essays and helped make this inaugural year of CUJCS a success. In selecting papers for publication, we looked for work that exemplified the characteristics of a good undergraduate paper, such as clarity of presentation and coherent argument. In addition, we looked for work that crossed traditional academic boundaries in interesting ways. The four papers published here more than meet these criteria.

As this effort was a first for most of us involved, the conception, gestation and delivery of this issue was not without its challenges. Although we are pleased with our final product, we are conscious that there is room for improvement in future editions of this journal. First, since this is supposed to be a national journal, every effort will be made to accommodate French submissions in future issues. We would like the journal to be more representative of the diverse cognitive science programs across Canada.

In addition, we hope to make the journal a truly Canadian effort, not only in its content but also in its production. To this end, we hope to expand our editorial process to include individuals and student organizations from other universities to take better advantage of the different perspectives, expertise and resources available. By way of this last point, if you are interested in reading for next year's journal, please contact us by email. Please also visit the CUJCS website regularly for updates on deadlines and submission guidelines for future issues.

We would like to thank those people without whom this effort would not have been possible. We appreciate the assistance of faculty and students at other universities who disseminated our Call for Papers and encouraged submissions within their respective departments; Dr. Nancy Hedberg and Dr. Rodger Blackman, our faculty advisors, for supporting this project from the beginning and providing wise words of advice; Andrew Brook; our fellow members of the Simon Fraser University Cognitive Science Student Association, for all their support; the organizing committee at Carleton University of PHICS 2001 (a graduate student conference in Philosophy and Cognitive Science) for the evening recreation time wherein this journal was first conceived.

A unique and considerable debt of thanks is owed to Sam Scott, who was not only an exemplary Referee Coordinator but also an indispensable source of guidance through the technical aspects of founding a journal.

Finally, we welcome all feedback, comments and suggestions that will help us improve this journal. We hope you find CUJCS a thought provoking and informative read and we look forward to promoting the diversity in Canadian undergraduate cognitive science for years to come in the Journal's pages.

Chris Mathieson  
Kimberly Voll  
Jeremy Holman.