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Letter from the Editor

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the latest issue of the *Graduate Historical Journal at UCLA*. This year we have slightly redirected the *Journal* and sought to provide answers to long-held queries, share experiences, and at the same time, continue our tradition of excellent original research by young scholars. The segments within explore advice from mentors and peers on a variety of topics, such as the job search, archival research, and, even, how to pack when going abroad! Read on for hilarious and oftentimes touching stories from students, lecturers, and professors.

This volume begins with an interview with UCLA's own Teofilo Ruiz, conducted by PhD candidate Nicole Gilhuis. His advice is very reflective of the man and worth a read for those well-versed in Teo's philosophies or those farther afield. The article following after is actually a combination of pieces, entitled "Voices from the Field." This compilation is advice from many contributors, all hoping to improve the archival experience of others through their own trials. Dr. Ghislaine Lydon and Dr. Karen Wilson provide knowledge gained over many years in archives, while recent PhD Janira Teague and PhD students Myles Chykerda, Iris Clever, MaryAnn Kontonicolos, Preston McBride, Toulouse Roy, and Deborah Sneed, share an assortment of stories from their first archive and archaeology trips.

The final section of this volume is dedicated to the original research of our scholars. While keeping in the archival theme of this volume, these two articles show the ways in which archival research can shape an argument, but also how research can shape a human being. During his dissertation, Jean-Paul deGuzman found lasting significance in the ideas and relationships he cultivated, expressed in his short piece "Finding Buddha in the *Barrio*: Reflections on the Unanticipated Consequences of Archival Research." Scottie Buehler's article, "Birthing Cases: Narrative and Medical Knowledge in François Mauriceau's *Observations* (1694)," follows a more traditional research framework, but speaks to the ways in which knowledge is passed from generation to generation. Based on archival work in the UCLA Louise Darling Biomedical Library, this article

highlights the production of knowledge and how history becomes narrative, moving through the world with a life of its own.

To end the introduction to the *Journal's* 27th volume, we would like to thank those who aided in publication and without whom we could not continue—UCLA History Department, the Department Chair, Stephen Aron, our Graduate Advisors, Hadley Porter and Kamarin Takahara, the History Graduate Students Association, the Graduate Student Association Director of Publications, Stacey Meeker, and the numerous graduate students who volunteer their time to our Journal.

Anna Accettola
Editor-in-Chief