

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Discourse is growing. Since our last issue, we have expanded our readership and staff, and strove to include a greater diversity of content while still embracing the basic ideas on which it was founded.

As in the past, *Discourse* today continues to provide reasoned and balanced dialogue on the issues of our time. Its inaugural goal was to establish a higher, more intelligent, platform for ideas, and it remains devoted to that pursuit here. While we have not yet achieved all that we set out for two issues ago, we believe that *Discourse* has contributed to more informed discussion at Tufts and beyond.

The journal's evolving nature reflects a fundamental transition in the world. As we emerge from the financial crisis, we are confronted with more crises but also opportunities. The state of flux has created potential that needs to be grasped and manipulated for greater global progress. This issue of *Discourse* seeks to explore these opportunities and provide options for tomorrow.

Whether analyzing new paradigms or revisiting old ones, these essays, poems, pieces of art and interviews hope to shed light on this potential – some obvious while others more obscure. How we frame these issues, and ask questions, affects our understanding and ultimately what action is taken.

Our issue begins with an interview with Simon Rosenberg that frames our larger theme. Rosenberg acutely reflects on current global developments and the politics of tomorrow, which subsequent pieces bolster with specifics. Mike Niconchuk and Molly Dow explore the role of development aid through the lens of an emerging Iran-Bolivia relationship and the decline of American influence. Ian MacLellan documents the status of Kenya's judicial system a year after the 2008 presidential elections that devastated the nation's rule of law and population.

The next several articles analyze the global financial decline and the road to recovery in the post-crisis period. Our economic roundtable brings together three experts in the

field to discuss the causes and effects of the financial melt down. The experts also offer new models and policy proposals that could prevent future economic crises. The two following pieces exemplify this broad-thinking exchange by exploring problems closer to home. Cody Valdes discusses the homeless problem Vancouver faced as it hosted the 2010 Olympic Games. Valdes urges his hometown to focus on real and long-term solutions to help the inner-city poor and to not fall trap to quick fixes like so many host cities before. Steve Cohen and Jeffrey Zabel discuss the ailing American education system and what the U.S. must accomplish for a higher achieving and more cost-effective method to educate the next generation.

Taylor Bates, David Galluch, and Ryan Yohe continue our post-crisis theme by looking into post-Pinochet Chile and their evolving civil-military relations. These researchers see goals accomplished as well as new opportunities to further maintain the country's stability. Next are Kyle Chayka's observations of Beijing's growing art economy. His article

and photographs raise issues of identity, history, and authenticity of a society finding the balance between East and West. Closing our issue is "Notes on India," a compilation of poems and photographs, captures the emerging tensions as well as the subtle beauty of a dynamic nation.

Finally, this issue would not have been possible without the contributions from and support of Heather Barry and Sherman Teichman at the Institute for Global Leadership, the Tufts Community Union Senate, de.MO and Giorgio Baravalle. We would also like to thank all our contributors – students, faculty, and practitioners. Each voice adds a refreshing and much-needed perspective to the issues presented here.

Enjoy,

Aalok Kanani and Lumay Wang
Editors in Chief