SUNDIAL

IMMUNS 2022



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Letter from the Editors

LETTER FROM... THE EDITORS

This edition of the SUNDIAL marks a decade of publishing a magazine intended to showcase various topics to all the delegates attending IMMUNS. It is safe to say that, in the ten years since the first edition of the SUNDIAL, the world has experienced its fair share of unanticipated events—a global pandemic, civil rights movements, and tense presidential elections—many of which you might encounter within your committees.

Whether we like it or not, the world is not the same as it was a year, month, or even a day ago— such is the result of having over 7 billion individual agents of change. To expect that the world will stay the same is an ignorant belief built on a reluctance to accept change. All that is left is to decide whether we will help guide this change for the better, or watch as the world crumbles around us.

In fact, it might even be easier to do so. It seems like the world is going to end one way or another; so, why even bother? The answer to this question is different for everyone; and, the search for this answer is just as distinct. Knowledge and progress are forces that build upon the achievements of the past; making the present the accumulation of all the discoveries and inventions of our ancestors. But, the future is what we choose to do with what we have been given. At first, it might seem difficult to fully take in the countless advancements in medicine, technology, and society, but by putting in some effort to learn about some of the amazing things going on in the real world, positive change becomes that much closer to a reality.

Finally, we would like to take the time to thank all of our fellow MUN11 members for their hard work when producing this magazine and making this edition of the SUNDIAL



possible. We would also like to thank our awesome adviser, Mr. Burns, for guiding us through this process and providing invaluable advice and support.

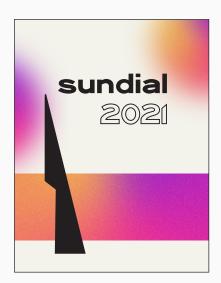
And to all the delegates participating in IMMUNS, within this magazine you will be exposed to a variety of topics ranging from milk alternatives all the way to the future of prosthetics, alongside featured articles from guest speakers with unique perspectives of the world. We hope that you enjoy this magazine as much as we enjoyed making it and hopefully find something within it that is of interest to you.

Eugenio Garza Paola Medina

ALTERNATE COVER PAGE



Camila Elizondo



Caty Arnaud



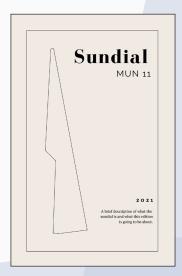
Caty Arnaud



Isabela Zazueta



Isabela Zazueta



Lorena Ortiz

LETTER FROM... MR. STEWART

Dear iMUNN-ers,

I was asked to write about futurism and social change. Certainly to prepare students to live successfully in a VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex, ambiguous) world, we should focus on developing the core skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. A skill that's not discussed as frequently is how to build trust. The root of any successful negotiation, and a central to navigating the future and moments of great social change is learning how to earn the trust of the audience you wish to serve.

I can remember dropping my son, Nicholas off at a Model United Nations conference many years ago at a local school near our home in Boston. He was very nervous about having to get up in front of a crowd and argue in favor of supporting his country's causes. At the time I'm pretty sure I said something like "just make sure you know what you're talking about." In 20/20 hindsight, I would have liked to have done a little better with my advice...

In times of uncertainty and really anytime, our success as leaders and as regular humans depends upon our ability to build our trustworthiness with the audience we hope to serve. When I was casting about deliberating on what I might write for the Sundial, it dawned on me that no matter the level of content control we might have over a series of topics, it can never make up for a lack of trust the audience might have in us. Build trust first, then argue your case.

The origin of trustworthiness is demonstrating a high level of Credibility (C), Reliability (R) and Intimacy (I) with our audience. The more we can demonstrate our evidence based worthiness in these areas the more our community will trust us. All of this breaks down when our own orientation becomes too Self-Oriented (S). The psychology is simple, right? If we're less self-oriented we can attend to the needs of our audience better because we're not thinking about ourselves. In psychology journal I saw this equation:

$$TQ = \frac{C + R + I}{S}$$

Of course as the value of "S" in denominator increases we see Credibility, Reliability and Intimacy go down. The more self-oriented we are, the more we risk losing our credibility, reliability and intimacy with our audience.

If you don't believe me, try this exercise the next time you have to give a speech in front of a large audience. It is normal to feel nervous in front of a large audience—your heart quickens, the palms of your hands sweat, and suddenly your mind goes blank. Making things worse, the audience senses your nervousness and they too become anxious, making your state worse. What can you do? When this happens, get out your head and stop thinking about yourself—stop being self-oriented. Think about what you can do to help your audience. As soon as you start to address their needs, you will immediately begin feeling less nervous and your Trustworthy Quotient (TQ) will rise quickly—your speech and negotiations will be successful! In a world where "truth" is increasingly hard to agree upon, honing one's skills on the art of building trust is critical to navigating and leading in times of social change.

Have a great conference and remember to focus on the needs of the audience you wish to serve.

All the best, George (ASFM Superintendent)

LETTER FROM... MR. GUENTHER

Our world has become increasingly polarized, and we can become easily confused by the often contradictory information that seems to bombard us. In this heightened state of uncertainty, many people cling to feelings rather than fact, emotions rather than logic. Social media, while allowing us the platform to speak, does not necessarily cultivate a culture of listening. Rather than allowing us to gather multiple perspectives, we are often pushed, through consumer-driven algorithms, towards information with which we already tend to agree. It can trap us, and escape is often difficult.

That is why an experience such as IMMUNS is so valuable. MUN teaches students to think critically and impartially, and to research and argue sides one might not normally take in order to gain enlightened perspectives that can lead toward creative solutions to world problems. MUN is about thinking logically and making sensible proposals. It is about working collaboratively to find solutions that work for all. And while it is about convincing others through speech, it is also about listening. If you improve in one skill through this conference, may it be the skill of listening carefully and critically to others.

I am always impressed by the seriousness of these conferences, and by the way all participants really get into their roles. But I also want to impress upon each and every one of you that you can and should go beyond role-playing. Take the skills you are learning here and apply them to the real situations you face in your communities, country, and world. You are not too young to make a difference. Thanks to conferences such as this one, you most certainly are more prepared than many to lead in making this world a slightly better place.

I wish you the best in these days, as you learn, collaborate, and listen. Enjoy the conference!



Sheldon Guenther

High School Principal, ASFM Monterrey

WORK = SCHOOL?

FERNANDA CANTU



Parents normally only stop and look at two things when it comes to their children's school work: how their kids are doing (grades, attendance etc) and how much their kids were doing (how much time it took to do their homework). However, have they ever stopped and wondered how exactly this prepares them for life. School teachers and staff are usually the ones that push their students to always strive for more. Still, despite having a traditional form of education for centuries, do educators not see that there is an urgent need to not only change the way we perceive education but also the education system itself?

Academic stress has been linked to worse well-being and an increased risk of anxiety or depression. Furthermore, students under academic stress perform poorly in school, instead of getting better grades. One may think that schools teaching us chemistry, calculus, how to write well written essays, as well as being on task and handing things in on time, means that they are doing everything in their ability to prepare students for the future. What this does not take into account is that schools should place a greater emphasis on life skills training, rather than general education classes. Students should master skills that will help them in the future. They should learn lessons that will help them be more successful in the real world and will stick with them for the rest of their life.

Although high school students have

access to a wide range of exciting classes on a variety of topics, they may not be gaining the most important life skills for adulthood. This is, in part, because the mandatory general education classes explore topics in such depth that they are only relevant to those considering that specific field as a career. To address the issue of kids being underprepared for life beyond high school, schools should explore mandating students to take more life skills programs and less general education courses.

Those who argue that school is not the place to teach wisdom to children, but rather to prepare them for the workplace, might be subject to a logical fallacy. Why is it that, if school is supposed to prepare us for a profession, it does such a poor job of it? In 2011, 1.5 million, or 53.6% of college grads under age 25 were out of work or underemployed. And for those that do have jobs? 48% of employed U.S. college grads are in jobs that require less than a four-year degree.

With this in mind, it is time for schools to look to the future instead of the past in order to help students adapt to the pace of which the world is changing. Students are in need of a new education system, where life skills are of the utmost importance in their teaching. To increase their knowledge of the outside world is greatly beneficial to their development. Gone with the old, in with the new, change is greatly needed in this ever evolving world.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

MITSY CHANEL-BLOT (BLUE IVY)



"What do you want to be when you grow up?" It is a question you may have often heard when you were younger. But as you start your journey towards college it is likely to shift to the possibly more stressful question, "What are you going tomajor in?" Well, what if you still don't know?

Before you start to panic, take a step back and get some perspective. What the question is really asking is: what are you interested in? Well first of all, you may not know what you want to study, but there's a higher chance that you know what you don't want to study. Hate complex math? Dread writing papers? It doesn't matter if the school has 60+ majors to choose from if half of them involve a lot of calculation or long-form writing. Cross them out!

Once you've narrowed down the list of potential majors, look at some of the courses available in the different departments. Are there any course titles that interest you? What is it about the class that seems interesting? The first two years of college should be about inquiry, curiosity, and discovery.

You should definitely consider taking courses in a few different departments. It may be a little twisted, but you won't know what you want to study unless you learn more about it. Through the process of elimination (or deep exploration), you can get a better sense of your interests.

Lastly, remember that your college major doesn't determine your future career. It is quite common forpeople to have majored in a field that isn't directly connected to their current job. Whether you pick the perfect major or not, you will end up learning some critical skills such as project management, critical questioning and analysis, expressing yourself verbally and in writing.

So the next time someone asks you, "what are you going to study?" just let them know that college is a journey, not a destination. Enjoy the process!



A PENNY FOR YOUR QUARANTHOUGHTS

ANJALI NIRMALAN (HS ENGLISH AND AP LANG TEACHER)

There is a tunnel underneath the rock of la puebla fantasma.

Abandoning our bored mares to the winter sun, we creep down into the dark fingers scrabbling on red-brown pebbles until we stand in a vast underground space of absolutely nothing.

The guía tells me that this is it: this is where the Spanish had us mine the silver. I stare at the pockmarked walls: where was it? The ceiling, the floor? He looks confused, gestures at the cavernous maw: It was this All this.

It was gleaming plata from wall to wall, end to end Unimaginable riches of the earth, a millennia of elemental largesse: ripped out to adorn the pale neck of a queen across the ocean leaving behind only fallen soil, crumbling carts, rusted iron and tapping hooves on grass-split cobblestone.

Centuries of empire flash by in a halting breath
And yet pandemic years are an endless era to themselves:
a slow drip, congealing
on the sink where you mindlessly wash your hands again and again.
Ennui sets in amidst four shrinking walls
of masked isolation, quarantine of the mind
bleached bones & bitten nails skittering over the knob to a locked door.

The lone window frames craggy mountain faces: Huasteca peaks that pierce the steel sky like claws of a fallen beast flailing, refusing to die, mocking in its claim: I will be here long after you're gone.

What is legacy? a cave only notable for what is no longer there a throne glazed with gilt torn from another land's womb a guía who won't forget or the years of youth lost behind a screen

And yet, and yet the silver is still in us.

When your ancestors are both the conquerors and the survivors rare metals run in your veins, laced with memory: the stuff of crosses and mirrors, lamps and amulets, daggers and coins.

The alchemy of guilt and resentment boils down to a new alloy with qualities of danger, of truth, of the aching potential to rewrite One that can blow the hinges off the isolation chamber so we may finally crawl out of the tunnel blinking slowly in the light.



GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

ESPERANZA GARCIA-CIRILO



The British Monarchy, one of the oldest royal institutions in the world, is arguably one of the

most emblematic of its kind. However, the mere existence of the British crown in the 21st century can be attributed not to the Royal Household but to it's head. The current sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II, has been the longest reigning monarch in the history of Britain with a 70 year long rule. More than holding symbolic power, Elizabeth Regina "acts as a focus for national identity, unity and pride; [giving] a sense of stability and continuity" to the United Kingdom.

Nonetheless, the sovereign's old age brings increasing attention to the approaching end of the modern Elizabethan era and the commencement of the successor's rule. The successor in question would be the queen's eldest son and longest serving heir apparent: Charles, Prince of Wales. Despite being his mother's son, in comparison to the queen's 72% approval rate from the British public, the prince falls significantly behind with a staggering 45% in popularity with his wife, Camila Duchess of Cornwall, not falling far behind with a 33% rating.

For decades now, Queen Elizabeth II has gained the respect and most importantly trust of her people and unfortunately Prince Charles does not have the same impact as his mother. As seen in an article published by The New Yorker, journalist Zoë Hellers recollected the many names given to the crown's successor like: "prat","twit","idiot", including titles "resentful", and "naive" among others. Whether it's his poor relationship with the media, his publicized unpleasant behaviour, or the countless consequences of his tragic relationship with the late Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales, Prince Charles is associated with volatility and petulance; evidently characteristics unfit for a

future sovereign.

The death of the queen and the beginning of Charles' rule do not paint a promising future of the Royal Household. Not only is the heir widely unpopular due to his marriage and separation from Princess Diana as aforementioned,



but his wife is too. Paradoxically, both his separation and eventual remarriage are highly discouraged by the Church of England, the very thing the crown is founded upon; consequently, this creates uncertainty and doubts in the Royal's values. When talking about uncertainty it is also important to mention the prince's age. Charles is 73, as an older king, the Prince of Wales would have an unquestionably short reign, bringing attention to consistency and reassurance or the lack thereof.

With this in mind, it is fair to question the future of the House of Windsor. In a world filled with innovation and change it might be time to get rid of the arguably antiquated British Monarchy. In comparison to his mother, Charles seems to be a weak successor among his ancient lineage. This weakness might be just enough to dismantle a century's old institution solely because it is outdated. The world is no longer a place for lavish queens and luxurious kings; when Prince Charles inevitably fails to fill the shoes of Queen Elizabeth II -as a consequence of his own faults and other uncontrollable external factorsit will seal the crown's coffin, with King Charles III as the last Windsor sovereign. So for his sake and the survival of the house of Windsor, I offer a hearty and vivacious God save the Queen!



THE BIONIC BEING

CORDELIA DE LA FUENTE

For the past 10-15 years, the term prosthetics has often been associated with the application of technological limbs, and using them to improve the quality of life of people all around the world. In the past 5 years, startups such as LogicMonitor, and Riskified have started to look into the possibility of developing prosthetics for alternate purposes. Today, scientists and doctors are working to amplify the prosthetic market in order to target and solve other epidemics facing our species. As a result, the innovative approach of combining technology and the human body has become a promising possibility that could change the future of humanity.

Neuralink - Brain Function: Paraplegics

In 2016, Elon Musk launched Neuralink, a medical apparatus that could potentially change the course of paralysis, a genetic disorder. The neuralink is a microchip produced by nanotechnology that is designed to to be surgically planted into a patient's motor cortex. Musk's goal is to wirelessly connect the brain to the digital world, and by doing so, it would be an aid to movement and communication. The device is powered by over 2,000 electrodes, all working from electrical signals in the brain in order to read and write neural activity. When asked in interviews about the function on his project, Musk has gone ahead to compare Neuralink's function to that of a monitor in your skull. Microchip implants on the brains of future generations are not only a matter of technology, but one of ethics

as well– this subject sparked controversy between scientists and doctors around the world. However, whether or not humankind is ready for such a breakthrough is still a subject in question.

Bivacor - Heart Failure: Bionic Heart

Heart failure is one of the most common causes of death around the world, affecting over 6.2 million people in the United States alone. However, in 2008 the Australian-American company BIVACOR launched, marking the start of a promising future to the eradication of heart failure. BIVACOR is a company whose purpose is the production of prosthetics, including bionic hearts. The Bivacor Heart, is powered by a spinning motor, unlike the human anatomical heart which beats in order to function. The device is meant to be implanted through a surgical procedure and made up of an internal and external component. The internal mechanism is the heart piece that will rotate and pass the necessary oxygen over to the lungs and back to the body as fuel: while the external regulates the apparatus and monitors the levels of cardiac movements

The development of prosthetic devices will mark an important milestone in the world of science. It is important to consider the responsibility of such a powerful field and the repercussions it will have on humankind. If implemented correctly, this cross of medicine and technology will open paths for job opportunities, fields of research and, most importantly, bettering the lives of patients.





BIONIC EYES

MARIJOSE ALANIS

Countless people bear the loss of their eyesight from degenerative eye diseases; nearly 40 million people suffer from blindness worldwide, and another 124 million are affected by low vision. Thus, it is no surprise that researchers are enthusiastic about designing

innovative ways to restore sight, such as the development of bionic eye implants.

A bionic eye works by arousing visual stimuli in people who have lost their sight - it gives a similar experience to vision by generating flashes of light called phosphenes that help them detect

edges, shapes, and movement.

Today, there is technology available to restore partial eyesight to people that suffer from degenerative eye diseases. In 2020, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the Argus II Retinal Prosthesis System - the only commercially available bionic eye system in the United States. The device reproduces parts of the eye that are essential to vision, allowing the user to see outlines of objects and movement. The Photoreceptors cells stop functioning in degenerative eye diseases; however, Argus II delivers signals directly to the Retinal ganglion cells, which typically remain functional longer.

The eye implant uses special glasses that have a camera on them. Such glasses allow the patient to receive an array of electrodes - which





transfer ionic current energy into electrical current in the body - that sends a signal to the brain - creating the perception of a black-and-white image.

Even though the Argus II Retinal Prosthesis System provides a wide range of

benefits, it is just the start of what the device is capable of achieving. With a determined objective in mind, researchers are exploring future improvements upon eye technology with the overall goal of developing systems that have the capability of imitate the intricacy of the retina according to Gianluca

Lazzi, a Provost Professor of Ophthalmology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

The researchers have also recently identified ways to conceivably increase clarity, conferring color vision to future retinal prosthetic devices. Their current model focuses on examples of nerve cells that carry visual information from the eye to the brain, hoping that this will result in a color image.

With talk about the future, the developers are interested in adding artificial intelligence (AI) to the Argus II - hoping to better the device as technology advances. The Argus II's successor will interface directly with the user's brain. The same team recently developed the Orion Visual Cortical Prosthesis System, which uses electrodes to convert video into stimulation parameters to reconstruct the camera's input. The team is also looking into depth perception, face and object recognition features, and integrating a thermal camera. However, more clinical trials are needed to test the future advancements, and the road to FDA approval is a long one; however, Lazzi is optimistic, saying that the team is on the right path. This new technology has the power to bring light into the darkness.

40 SEGUNDOS

CONCIENTIZACIÓN SOBRE LA PREVENCIÓN DEL SUICIDIO

Lic. Lupita González Elizondo Directora Ejecutiva de Educando en Red

"Transforma tus heridas, en sabiduría" - Oprah Winfrey

El suicidio continúa presentándose, como una de las principales causas de muerte entre adolescentes y adultos jóvenes. A pesar, de que las tasas de muerte varían sustancialmente entre clases sociales, religión, situación económica, género y país; el porcentaje de intentos de suicidio, sigue siendo alarmante y va en aumento.

El suicidio es definido por la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS), como el acto deliberado de quitarse la vida. El concepto, que no era socialmente aceptado, rodeado de estigmas, secretos y tabúes, en los últimos 10 años, se ha convertido en uno de los temas más relevantes entre los adolescentes alrededor del mundo. Hoy en día se platica, se comparte y se concientiza la labor de prevención y contención.

En los 40 segundos que aproximadamente te tomó leer el párrafo anterior, una persona se suicidó en el mundo (OMS).

El suicidio es considerado la 4ta causa mundial de muerte entre los jóvenes de 15 a 29 años (OMS). La sensibilización, concientización y prevención del suicidio son conceptos que han ganado popularidad, de igual manera, se está trabajando ardua, firme y seriamente en la búsqueda de herramientas e intervervenciones preventivas y positivas de gestión emocional, para evitar que se tome esta salida.

En el presente y hacia el futuro inmediato, las principales herramientas con las que contamos son la comunicación, observación y escucha activa que conecta a los adultos con los adolescentes interesados en esta problemática, lo que abre la

oportunidad a recuperar el sentido de vida y las ganas para luchar, recordemos: que cuando hay un ¿para qué?, soportamos casi cualquier ¿cómo?. Sentirnos acompañados, escuchados y atendidos, nos hace sentir menos solos para luchar contra este dolor.

A pesar de que las tasas de suicidio disminuyen lentamente en el mundo, no sucede lo mismo en América, es nuestra obligación, establecer estrategias de prevención y protección sobre todo ahora que, con la pandemia, los problemas emocionales: ansiedad, estrés, depresión, soledad, desesperanza, exigencias sociales, aislamiento, rechazo, culpa, crisis económica, duelo, etc... aumentaron, incrementando el riesgo y la posibilidad de pensar, en este tipo de salidas al dolor del alma.



¿ QUÉ PODEMOS HACER?

Capacitarnos, leer y aprender para desarrollar nuestras propias competencias emocionales para la vida, ya que abre la puerta a entender y ser entendido y acompañado, construyendo una red de apoyo de contención. Además, podemos acercarnos a instituciones y organizaciones que apoyen la capacitación para intervenir efectivamente y de manera inmediata, con personas con comportamientos y/o crisis suicidas. Estas son algunas de las estrategias que alienta y persigue la OMS, para ayudarnos a vencer esta tendencia desesperanzadora de las personas que sufren tanto, que no ven otra salida.

¿ CON QUÉ CONTAMOS ?

Compromiso, sensibilidad, comprensión e interés por otro ser humano, recordando frecuentemente, que la vida tiene sentido siempre, a pesar de las dificultades.

Educando en Red es una organización mexicana de la sociedad civil, no gubernamental, que tiene como misión, mejorar las capacidades formativas de los adultos, para generar entornos favorables,





para un sano crecimiento y desarrollo de la niñez y juventud en México.

Trabajamos en Red con más de 70 Instituciones Educativas y Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil, para detectar, prevenir y actuar de manera positiva y articulada; concientizando y sensibilizando en temas de: Bienestar y Salud Mental, Desarrollo Socioemocional, Ciudadanía Digital, Cuidado de la integridad de la niñez y juventud e Impacto y Responsabilidad Social. Impactando a la sociedad de nuestro país, con programas de prevención para el suicidio. Los programas son ofrecidos a docentes, psicólogos, coordinadores, coaches, padres de familia ya que existe evidencia que cuando hablamos de nuestras emociones, se libera la tensión y nos ayuda a ser más empáticos.



Recuerda que siempre existen factores para la vida: familia, amigos, mascotas, deportes, conexión con la naturaleza, autocuidado, espiritualidad, etc. que te ayudan a mantener tu sentido de esperanza....... ¡Todos somos valiosos, apreciados e importantes!

WALKING DOWN A VIRTUAL WONDERLAND

PAOLA MEDINA

We often wonder what our future looks like, from NFT's to Virtual Reality to the metaverse, the undefined concept of what the world would look like in the future seems closer than we ever imagined. What started as visual ideas in famous movies and tv series we once dreamt of, are now reachable possibilities within the fast-evolving 7.7 billion inhabitants of the globe we are currently living in.

Augmented reality (AR) is what holds our future in its hands; the enhanced version of the real physical world that is achieved through the use of digital visual elements, sound, and other sensory stimuli delivered via technology. It is what will transform our way of playing, working, and perceiving natural aspects of life.

AR works by creating an illusion based upon our reality through the use of computer vision, simultaneous localization, mapping, and depth tracking. By collecting sensory data the programing behind AR can digitize content related to its physical aspect -what truly you are seeing-, and implement it into virtual reality to facilitate and simplify everyday tasks. To truly understand its conception and its perception of functionality, users need to understand the difference between Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR). In contrast to AR, Virtual Reality allows its users to immerse themselves into a virtually created environment rather than adopting a real-world environment with virtual information.

By complexifying the visual and technological aspects of virtual reality, AR can

impact industries all around the world, by granting oppor-tunities for development and growth in areas we never imagined to change. From new medical treatment to better customer service experience, augmented reality can transport the current human



being into a future of aspiration and desire. Its current standings in usage around multiple industries design an environment of change and evolution. From the US Military implementing Tactical Augmented Reality (TAR) for improved situation awareness to Disney 3D coloring books children can use through their tablets and mobile phones. Augment Reality has been able to target audiences of all ages and genders around the world, by giving them the ability to experience current life but with a twist.

Our world is evolving, and so is technology. The technological advancements made in the last decade alone have revolutionized our perception of the future and the true reality we will inhibit one day. What is to come is unknown, despite that we still get a glimpse of what the future holds through intelligence and outstanding individuals that create hope and opportunity for all to experience.





THE INTRICACY OF THE COLLEGE

ADMISSION SYSTEM

BABY ALONSO

There can be no doubt that getting into a good college is one of the biggest worries of a highschool student; nonetheless, the process of doing so is not very straightforward. The college admissions system differs greatly from school to school and country to country; however, for the most part, they share similar requirements and strive for the same goal. Recent events, such as the hit of the pandemic, and the college admission scandal, evoked chaos within the system which resulted in alterations to the process. Nobody can really say for sure how the admissions and enrollment sector will develop in the future; nevertheless, by investigating current data and latest news, we can envision what measures should be taken to prepare applicants for upcoming and current changes.



In forthcoming years, SAT and ACT testing will be eliminated from entrance criteria at an increasing number of universities. Many institutions established a test-optional approach at the outset of COVID-19. Presumably, ACT and SAT scores will no longer be used in admissions

and financial aid determinations at numerous universities, including that of the University of California system. The College Board has stated that making the SAT and ACT optional would provide greater flexibility and choice, but that using SAT scores allows students to stand out and can enhance diversification at colleges. That said, it is hard to tell if this criteria will be removed entirely in the near future and even more doubtful is the choice a student makes on whether to take the test or not.

On another note, the college admission scandal has circled well over the world since more than 30 parents were accused of enabling

fraud and reimbursing a cumulative \$25 million in bribes to get their children into elite schools. The scandal is a stark warning of parental involvement taken to an illegal extent and a reminder of just how fallible



the U.S. application process is. Due to these successions, standardized testing, legacy applicants, athlete stardom, financial aid from test scores, and early decision applications have been challenged. The previous aspects within the college admissions system favored privileged applicants whose higher income granted an unfair advantage. This essentially proves how money is a factor that contributes to the manipulation of the system and transparency is something to strive for moving forward.

The system certainly works as a tricky mechanism and is yet to be fully understood. Factors such as the admission officer's mood, the applicant's wealth, and other viable candidates' competition, simply end up determining your application's luck. As particular injustices continue to be uncovered, the college admission system progresses to modify and improve their methodology. The application system is constantly working on becoming more impartial; however, there is no definite answer as to what leads to an acceptance or rejection, the navigation of an applicant will result in an ambiguous fortuity that leaves more questions than answers.



POLITICS ON(THE)LINE

TANIA VAN DER LINDEN

Since the elections for the US political parties during 2020, Bernie Sanders, a democratic nominee at the time, had a massive amount of online support. People all over twitter backed his policies including medicare for all and open borders. However, Bernie Sanders massively underperformed during the democratic primary despite his online support. In truth, Sander's policies were not that popular amongst voters with an average of around 48% approval. But how did this happen? How could it be that someone so popular online had no support in real world politics? Where does this disconnect come from?

The internet has recently taken a liking to leftwing politics, especially in platforms such as Twitter, Twitch and Youtube. The rise of breadtube, a sub brand of leftist youtubers that mostly advocate for socialism, communism, and other far-left stances started to become increasingly popular during 2016. The content started to gain traction within online platforms and as the communities began to grow, their audiences started dominating the digital world. Slowly, right wingers were pushed out of their spaces; and, since companies began banning hate speech and dangerous misinformation, which is mostly spread by the right, there was no real opposition to the rise of the left. Unfortunately, many of the people that became popular did not have a following in reality. Most of the people that advocate for far-left ideas of gubernamental policies, have no idea how to defend their positions when it comes to economics or infrastructure which is why many of their ideas fall flat when defended by their followers who just regurgitate what they hear.

The online left is dominated by personalities that stick to dramatized versions of what happens. Online personalities such as HasabAbi, Vaush, Philosophy Tube, and Contrapoints engage in this type discourse and refuse to do anything for their actual parties. They don't mobilize their audiences or even try to move people on the political spectrum. Instead, they grift and feed their audiences what they want to hear while dominating the online politisphere. It is safe to say that most people that use online platforms are radicalized; but, because not everyone engages within these communities, they don't hold the same far left beliefs. The people that use these forms of communication don't make up the majority of people in the United States which is why they are not representative of the voter block that many politicians tend to appease and why Bernie's campaign for borderline socialism fell on its face.

The people in online communities gather because they share the same ideals and can feed into a loop of constant approval with no opposition. The radicalization of individuals online, for both left and right wing ideologies, is dangerous and promotes many ideas that would have ultimately failed in the real world.





DEATH OF THE AUTHOR

EUGENIO GARZA

The term, "Death of the Author" was first coined by French literary theorist Ronald Barthes in 1977 and refers to media losing its original meaning through the interpretation of the consumer. In other words, once a certain piece is observed and consumed by someone the intentions of the author no longer exist, or matter, as said "reader" is now looking at the same piece through their own eyes— removing the importance of the author altogether.

This concept, although not well known, has been a driving force in what the internet deemes "Fandom Culture", or fandomscommunities built around mutual enjoyment of pop culture including books, TV series, movies, bands, and other relevant pieces of media. For people not really involved in said communities this concept might seem quite foregin; however, fandoms are usually just a collective identity people with shared interests use in order to interact with each other in mostly online spaces like tumblr, reddit and discord. Through these interactions members of particular fandoms then engage in what both sociologists and communists call participatory culture: creative works made with the intent to be shared for little to no reward.

The most notable pieces of participatory culture would be fanart and fanfiction; which take the previously mentioned concept of death of the author and then apply it to the general fandom. Fanfics mostly take what is considered to be the original source material, the piece of pop culture which the fandom is centered around, and change it to their liking. While





death of the author originally referred to the audience itself and their interpretations, fanfics are works where these interpretations, such as ships, actually come to life in media that can be enjoyed by other like minded fans. Nowadays a ship refers to a desired romantic relationship between characters who have otherwise not expressed interest in one another but have been interpreted by fans to actually have said feelings.

Normally this wouldn't be much of an issue, given that these pieces of media often just involve fictional characters in fictional universes; nonetheless, fandom culture has recently been bleeding out to real world people. One such case would be that of Minecraft streamers, Dream and GeorgeNotFound, and the way their fans have started to ship them together, naming the perceived couple DreamNotFound. Now, both streamers have said on numerous occasions that they do not see each other in that regard and are only close friends. Even so, several members of their fandom have persisted in shipping this pair.

Now, it must be said that both of these popular streamers have mentioned that this shipping does not bother them in any way; but this only begs the question: when is ignoring the author, or in this case real people involved, infringing on the comfort and safety of other people?

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Welcome to the MUN classroom! But wait, something looks... different. Between the two photos, can you identify all 11 differences? Good Luck!







Answers: 1/th magazine, ceiling light, coffee cup, Mr. Burn's mask, book, placard, yellow bin, laptop brand. table detail, extra student, computer charger.

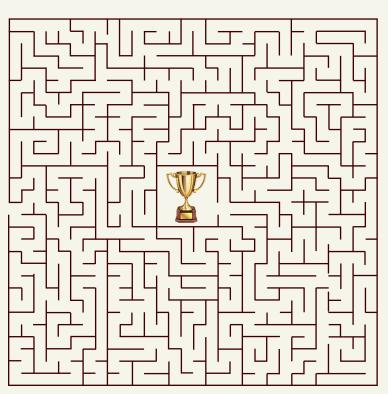


Travel through the maze to get to the trophy! Avoid dead ends! Good luck!





:newer:



SLACKTIVISM: THE ACTUAL PANDEMIC

CATY ARNAUD

During the COVID-19 lockdown starting at the beginning of 2020, the use of the phrase "performative activism" has sky-rocketed; either from Tik Tok, Twitter, or other social media platforms. This term has become widely popular to describe so-called activists who concern themselves with social issues to increase one's social capital instead of actual interest in the movement they are advocating for. What many people do not know is that performative activism has existed for ages - the only difference is that before, it was named "slacktivism". Though variations of this phrase have been used for years, there has been a recent rise in performative activism with the popularization of social media and how individuals want to emulate goodness within this digital community. In fact,



according to Google Trends, this phrase reached its peak in May 2020, showing its new relevance to our society.

After the tragic death of George Floyd was broadcasted online for millions to watch, in which a white police officer stepped on his neck and stayed there until he was

unconscious, thousands of people uploaded a single black square in solidarity of Black people and their struggles with systematic racism as well as the families of those personally affected by police brutality - christening the digital initiative "Blackout Tuesday". However, instead of using the assigned hashtag #BlackoutTuesday to share their allyship, individuals shared these squares in the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter, information, blocking any useful protocols for those attending protests, or names of even more victims of police brutality from being looked at upon searching the hashtag.



This is one of many examples of how performative activism has been poisoning and diminishing activists' voices, others including how individuals engaging in slacktivism claim to care about a problem for a week just to move on to another the next - even without proper closure. Just like the case of Gabby Petito, a former Instagram influencer who went missing after a road trip with her boyfriend. Tik Tok users spread her story like wildfire, but after a couple of days, there were no more updates, no more viral videos, and no word about the story of this missing individual - making it irrelevant. Even when her body was found, her boyfriend still refused to talk, and other updates of her case came to light, there was still no interest in the case with "activists" already gushing over another cause - showing how these internet users do not care about these issues, they only want to be involved in the "hot new gossip".

So before you post that hashtag with a soulless phrase like "I stand with you!" or "¡Que estrés con este problema!", ask yourself: are you willing to make a change? Is your post contributing to something? Will it inform others about these issues? Any change in this world needs communication, contribution, and dedication - so perhaps it is better to post nothing at all if the only reason that post is going up is for social credit.



SOLO DALO EN ADOPCIÓN

CAMILA ELIZONDO

Es muy fácil decir las palabras "solo dalo en adopción" al hablar de la juventud en México, pero fallamos en considerar las implicaciones de esta frase. El futuro de un niño depende principalmente de la atmósfera en la que crece; al igual que las plantas en la naturaleza, factores externos pueden promover o interrumpir su desarrollo y calidad de vida. Desafortunadamente, muchos niños Mexicanos nacieron en un país lleno de peligro y terminan de una forma u otra en orfanatos. Sin embargo, muchas de estas instituciones hacen todo menos cuidar a los niños que albergan, lo cual es su responsabilidad.



Varios orfanatos no toman en cuenta los mejores intereses de los niños y hasta tienen registros de violaciones de derechos humanos. Un niño no debe venir al mundo a menos que tenga la certeza de que su vida estará llena de amor. Los niños son el futuro, sin embargo, si sufren desde la infancia, ¿qué se puede esperar de su futuro?

Hay más de 700 orfanatos en México, ya sean públicos o privados. Frente a los numerosos establecimientos se encuentra el Sistema Nacional de Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (DIF), quien se encarga de asuntos relacionados con el bienestar de las familias mexicanas. Se piensa que de estas 700 instituciones se cuidan aproximadamente a 30,000 niños. Sin embargo, gracias a la falta de regulación gubernamental adecuada, el DIF no tiene un censo preciso de los niños que están bajo su supuesto cuidado. Esta incertidumbre genera serias preocupaciones sobre cuán despreocupadamente monitoreadas están estas instituciones. Además, aunque la cifra sea correcta, UNICEF México afirma que hay alrededor de 500,000 huérfanos en México,

100,000 de los cuales viven en la calle.

En julio de 2014, un escándalo conmocionó al mundo, revelando exactamente cómo se dirigen muchos de estos establecimientos. El caso involucró a 458 niños que fueron rescatados de un centro llamado "La Gran Familia" en Zamora, Michoacán. Reportes demostraron las condiciones miserables en las cuales los niños vivían, incluyendo habitaciones infestadas de ratas, cucarachas y otras alimañas. Los residentes del refugio revelaron instancias donde fueron violados, golpeados y obligados a ir a pedir limosna, provocando la clausura inmediata del refugio.

Este es solo uno de los múltiples casos de niños que tienen que ser rescatados de las mismas instituciones que se supone que los cuidan. El comportamiento de un individuo depende mucho de sus experiencias al crecer. Si estos niños no conocieron nada más que



abuso y negligencia a lo largo de su infancia, ¿quién puede decir que esto no generará problemas graves relacionados con su bienestar en el futuro? Debemos reflexionar sobre la forma en la cual vemos los orfanatos y el sistema de adopción en México; porque, ¿cómo podemos esforzarnos por mejorar el futuro de nuestro país sin preocuparnos por la base misma de ese futuro? Cuando decimos la frase "solo dalo en adopción", ¿realmente estamos considerando el futuro de los niños de nuestro país?



JUICIOS DIGITALES, EL RETO DE UNA TRANCISCIÓN <u>en méxico.</u>

FRANCSICO GARCÍA-CIRILO

Nuestra Constitución establece que toda persona tiene derecho a que se le administre justicia por tribunales que estarán expeditos para impartirla en los plazos y términos que fijen las leyes, emitiendo sus resoluciones de manera pronta, completa e imparcial. En resumen, tenemos derecho a gozar en nuestro país de JUSTICIA PRONTA Y EXPEDITA.

Que quiere decir esto y que reelevancia tiene para nosotros? Quiere decir que los juicios y procesos judiciales deben ser realizados en un corto plazo (PRONTO) y de forma transparente y sin dificultades (EXPEDITO). Lo que garantizará que estemos en un Estado de Derecho real, en el que confiemos tanto en las resoluciones como en las personas que las dictan, jueces y tribunales.

En México se han hecho algunos esfuerzos por conseguirlo, sin embargo, desafortunadamente no hemos tenido los resultados que esperamos, teniendo gran tardanza en la obtención de las resoluciones y duda de su validez jurídica, agravada actalmente por el litado tiempo que han estado disponibles los juzgados y tribunales por la pandamiemia de COVID-19.

Por ello es importante utilizar la tecnología con la que hoy contamos para generar una justicia mas clara y eficiente. El objetivo de implementar los Juicios digitales, tiene como premisa el uso de las herramientas tecnológicas en los procesos judiciales con el fin de transladar los expedientes fisicos a expedientes digitales.

Las nuevas tecnologías de la información TIC, ofrecen áreas de oportunidad y es necesario reconocer el alcance que pueden llegar a tener los documentos electrónicos, pero implementarlo no será sencisllo, pues al mismo tiempo, este proceso desatará problemas en interpretación, definición de sus alcances y forma de implementación, particularmente en el caso del sistema judicial en México, pues durante años nuestra legislación usos y costumbres han sustentado que los procesos judiciales sean realizados a través de documentos

impresos en papel, generando un gran volúmen de expedientes, archivos y bodegas que resguardan información que ahora gracias a la tecnología puede conservarse, mediante procesos de digitalización, en archivos electrónicos y así evitar el uso innesesario de espacios fisicos y almacenar la información de forma mas segura y ágil para su consulta.

El INTERNET cambió nuestra forma de actuar y comunicarnos, por ello es preciso adaptar, nuestras leyes vigentes y la forma de aplicarlas, a una forma apegada a la actual de comunicación, de transaccionar y envío de información.

Uno de los grandes retos es establecer reglas y herramientas que permitan a los ciudadanos sentirse seguros en esta nueva etapa de impartir justicia y para ello un elemento fundamental será preparar autoridades judiciales para que tengan los conocimientos suficientes al imaprtir Justicia, en esta ambiente virtual, para que se haga de forma segura y transparente, lo que abonará mucho a soluciones uno de los grandes problemas que aqueja a nuestro pais, LA CORRUPCIÓN.

En algunos paises de Europa y Estados Unidos, en la actualidad el Sistema de Justicia Digital es muy desarrollado lo que permite que muchos controversias judiciales sean resueltas a través de medios digitales. Mientras que en algunos estados de nuestro país ya se cuenta con algunos avances para implemantar la Justicia digital, sin embargo aún falta un largo camino por recorrer, es necesrio continuar hacia el objetivo de convertir nuestros procesos judiciales en digitales en la medida de lo posible, pues podremos contar con mayor eficiencia para consutlar los expedientes judiciales y adjutar información, tener mayor credibilidad en su integración y cuidado de los documentos que los conforman, eficientando el uso de los recursos necesarios para implementarlos y conservarlos. Es mas que oportuno, necesrio, el considerar cuanto papel y espacios fisicos nos podremos ahorrar al contar con una justicia digital eficiente en México.

MOO(U)RNING MILK

PAULINA TURNER

Veganism has been on the rise over the last decade for multiple health and environmental reasons. The animal aliment industries' degradation impact on the environment, is one of the largest. It requires large quantities of land that need to be deforested, plus the animals themselves emit methane which is a greenhouse gas. Almond milk, unfortunately, requires the most milk from these options using around 62 liters of water to produce a single glass of almond milk. When considering the environmental effect of the most popular milk alternatives, one should also consider the natural resources and the environment.

The Silk Almond + Coconut blend is exceptional in all different ways. First off taste: a mix between almond and coconut that is subtle



but bold at the same time. It pairs perfectly with granola, a warm cookie and is good enough to drink a full cup on its own on the daily. Its texture is on-point as well as smooth and rich. All

coconut based milk I have tried acquire a sour taste and even clumpy texture only a few days after opening, something that will never happen with the Silk Almond+Coconut. Anyone who can relate can include in the coconut taste -complemented with almond. If there is one milk to try, this should be it!

Chobani Oat Zero Sugar Vanilla is the newest addition to my favorites list. Originally, the taste of oat milk was discouraging for me. And while many say that tasting the oatmilk "raw" influenced my negative opinion, at the end of the day, tasting milk shouldn't be done when considering how well it pairs with a latte. Plain ol' oat milk wasn't it, but oat milk redeemed itself with this lovely flavor which isn't too sweet while still pulling off the vanilla which is regularly artificial-tasting with other brands.

It is Califia Farm's turn. Out of all their flavors, unsweetened almond is the one I've

consumed the most. Although the name can be deceiving, this alternative milk still executes a sweet taste. But honestly, the best thing about this drink is its appealing packaging. Yes I admit,



it has a lovely thin yet flavorful feel to it, but its price tag isn't worth it. Plus, the bottle is plastic when milk is known for being sold in cartons and not to mention the years of degradation for each Califia purchase. All in all, this milk is great, but there will always be cheaper, tastier options.

Hemp milk many times is the most rejected out of all the common plant-based dairy milk alternatives. This milk is light, with a slightly sweet flavor that will never overpower any other food or beverage that is paired with it. What is forgotten is its advantage in nutrient content among the others, so if you are looking for the most nutrient-packed, dairy milk alternative, this is the one to test.



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FAST. FASHION. FUTURE.

ISABELA ZAZUETA

With new ways of shopping and advances in technology, fast fashion has become more accessible for its consumers than ever. The main objective of this type of fashion is to bring new trends and designs to shoppers quickly at affordable prices. Brands like Zara, H&M, and Forever 21 release thousands of new styles weekly. All of these clothing items contribute to a huge amount of waste since the pieces of clothing are not of good quality and last for short periods of time, creating a vicious cycle of buying more. Furthermore, in order to produce these clothes, a vast amount of forced labor is needed, in which they work the 7 days of the week for around 15 hours a day in harsh conditions where there is limited air circulation, and they receive minimum wages.

Due to the materials the pieces are made of, the fashion industry is responsible for a vast amount of the damage done to the environment. For instance, 100,000 sea animals are killed due to plastic waste and microfibers from clothing yearly. Likewise, in order to produce millions of pieces, an immense amount of water is needed. In fact, the industry is responsible for 20% of the wasted water. Solutions regarding the recycling of clothes in order to make more have been implemented. For example, H&M that has





recently launched their "Conscious Line" which guarantees that 50% of the materials used in the piece are recyclable. However, by no means has the problem been solved since a recent study done by the Ellen McArthur Foundation proves that every second, a full garbage truck of clothing is thrown out.

Apart from the immeasurable amounts of waste fast fashion produces, these brands also have huge factories which don't respect the worker's rights, for instance, employees usually work with no ventilation, breathing in toxic substances, inhaling fiber dust or blasted sand in unsafe buildings. It is expected that if countries improve their working conditions, factories would be transferred to other countries, in order to find a cheaper alternative. This all contributes to the fact that a change from the consumers and producers is needed.

In the present day, the fast fashion industry contributes to huge amounts of waste, uses immense amounts of water, and has horrible conditions for its workers. In order to transform the way clothing is made, a change from the consumers is needed. A good alternative is slow fashion which is an approach to producing clothing which takes into consideration all aspects of the supply chain and in doing so, aims to respect people and the environment. By consuming slow fashion and basics which last a lifetime, buyers can help revert the damages. Although slow fashion items are more expensive, in the long run, they are an investment that can last a lifetime and extend the lifetime of the planet.



THE FUTURE OF THE RUNWAY

MARIA TURNER

As of 2021, the fashion industry is worth \$758 billion US dollars, reaching its peak for the first time in history, and it is expected to grow over time. The main reason for this is linked to the advancements in technology that have also been developed these past years. With more access to technology, the fashion industry has reached a greater audience, opening up a larger platform for brands to promote their products, set trends, contribute their services, and find new ways to grow as a brand. Additionally, there have been new movements in the fashion industry due to technological advancements, such as virtual reality fashion shows and other advancements in outreach.

Online Shopping:

With people stuck at home due to the pandemic, companies began to look for alternative solutions to their lack of attendance in stores and decided to turn their focus to online shopping. E-commerce has always been a large part of the fashion industry but has become exponentially more significant since the pandemic. Consequently, clothing brands have evolved in order to be more accessible to consumers, which has increased their profits. One of the qualities that makes online shopping



a more attractive alternative for many consumers is the vast amount of options available online, as well as other benefits such as product reviews, personalized recommendations, filtered searches, among many others.

Virtual Fashion Shows:

Virtual fashion shows seem to be the future of runways. Following the global lockdown, this year's Fashion Weeks (London, New York, Paris, and Milan) have included new methods of presentation contrary to the conventional runways. For example, in the Balmain Paris Spring Summer 21 show, TV screens were lined up in the first rows of the audience. Celebrities who were not able to attend in person, such as Kris Jenner and Anna Wintour discovered the brands' new clothing pieces from the comfort of their homes while also being able to see the show and still be present in the audience. Incorporating technology into fashion shows has given designers more freedom to innovate and push boundaries with both fashion and presentation.



Advertisements & Social Media

Social media platforms, such Instagram, have immense influence over the fashion industry. These platforms have led consumers to adopt and move away from fashion trends quicker than before, and to appeal to their customers, brands must keep up with tendencies. Trend forecasting using social media analysis allows fashion brands to unlock their potential for commercial and creative success. Furthermore, social media influences around three quarters of online purchases, seeing as brands use these platforms to promote their products, they now have more methods to endorse their goods.

Moving forward, engineers and fashion designers will continue to work together to create a new era of fashion which, according to CB insights, will be worth \$3 trillion dollars by the end of the decade.

HOME HOSPITAL

GILBERTO GARZA

In modern day, hospitals have always encountered issues with their patient capacity. Regardless of their size, patient wards always run the risk of filling up; in a worldwide pandemic where many people may risk the possibility of losing their life without proper care. The current pandemic has revealed this flaw within hospitals, which has resulted in rationing health care such as "actions like adding beds, including in nontraditional areas of care in a hospital-like a cafeteria or parking lot". These non-traditional methods of hospitalization have affected the efficiency at which patients are provided with any sort of proper medical care, jeopardizing the lives of many.

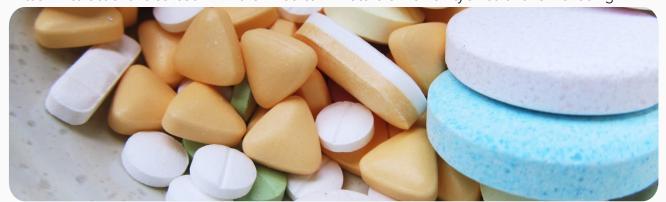
Not only is the limited capacity within these facilities a major issue, but the maintenance buildings leave a huge impact on funds— affecting patients themselves. The US spends an estimated \$3.6 trillion on healthcare annually, with over \$1 trillion covering hospital care. Running a hospital is not a cheap task: massive amounts of electricity have to be used on equipment that is running around the clock for patients; additionally, large hospitals have to be kept in pristine conditions to leave patients without risk.

Although the pandemic has shown the dire state many hospitals are in, it has also shown some impressive technological advancements within the field of medical assistance. The restrictions in movement and social interaction due to the pandemic have allowed the rise of virtual interactions also seen in the medical

industry. Although an in-person check-in with a doctor is far better than one done virtually, superficial consultations in-person are unnecessary.

The improvement in technology and medical devices such as the previously mentioned smart pacemakers/defibrillators, can provide patients greater insight into their life-saving devices and transmit data to the provider. Therefore, the necessity of going to hospitals for a normal check-in of symptoms becomes avoidable and the use of smart devices can provide a better insight into said symptoms to doctors than the patient may ever provide.

technological and industry has drastically improved and changed throughout the years; as a direct consequence, the tremendous growth and benefits it has provided have also changed the common use of hospital buildings. These facilities, though as useful as they are in cases of emergency, require a substantial amount of maintenance and are restricted in their size thus limiting the aid they may be able to provide. If a hospital ever becomes full, what will happen to the people waiting for urgent care? What will become of them and their families without aid? The rise of medical technology has given both individuals and the medical industry opportunities to become more efficient and helpful in providing better and faster services than ever before. This creativity and innovation in the medical field is the future of hospitals and consequently, the future of humanity's health and wellbeing.





SHOULD I BECOME A DOCTOR?

DR. EDUARDO A. GUZMAN



Medicine is the science and practice of caring for a patient, diagnosing and treating illness and promoting the health and well-being of the community. There has always been a need for smart and caring professionals to use their knowledge in order to help other people in need. At the beginning, Doctors were few and their skills available only to a small group of people with the means to pay for their services such as kings or nobles. Increased knowledge of the human body and its diseases allowed for effective treatments to be developed, and with those came the need for more and better trained individuals to practice medicine. Also, greater wealth and social reform has established "access to medicine" as a basic right for every human being. In modern society, doctors perform the important function of maintaining the health and well-being of its members, especially when one of them becomes acutely ill. Physicians are important figures for everybody, but especially for older individuals who are more likely to get sick and require constant monitoring of their diseases. I can only envision that in the future, there will be a need for more intelligent and capable physicians to care for our communities' important individuals. As such, we are calling for those young people who aspire to live a life of service to explore the possibility of a career in medicine.

Given that medicine has been around for centuries, it is quite likely that the future will continue to require well-trained physicians to care for an older and sicker population. New discoveries and technological advances will probably allow human beings to live longer and with a better quality of life than ever before. To make this dream a reality, an army of caring and energetic young people is required. If you choose to become a doctor, we promise that you will have an exciting and rewarding career. The doctors of our generation will do everything in our power to teach you the knowledge and skills necessary to be able to help a fellow human being in need. We promise to provide you with clinical opportunities that will place you in a position where you can use your brain to come up with better solutions to your patients' problems. We will protect your career so that you can practice medicine without limitations and that you receive adequate compensation for your work.

Even though I do not know how medicine will be like in the future, I can certainly predict that in many ways it will be different than what it is now. Just in the last decade we have witnessed tremendous advances in almost all areas of medicine. Today we have more efficacious ways to treat chronic illnesses such as diabetes with long-acting insulin, and heart diseases with oral anticoagulants. Increased knowledge of genetics has allowed for the discovery of enzymes that alter genes and cure hereditary diseases and helped develop faster and more accurate tests to diagnose viral infections such as COVID. The surgical field has changed significantly as well, becoming much safer and less invasive than ever before. In the future we are likely to see exciting new discoveries that will improve the way we diagnose and treat many illnesses from the flu to advanced cancers. The future will continue to highlight the importance of our lifestyle in the development of disease, and doctors will focus on improving our lifestyle to allow us to live better for longer. I can also predict that medicine will continue to improve not by the efforts of a few bright individuals, but by the collective contributions of many devoted professionals committed to the health and well-being of their patients.

I can clearly foresee how the lives of those young people that decide to passionately pursue a career in medicine will be forever changed for the good. Caring for other people will make them find meaning in life and they will go to bed happy knowing that they have spent their day doing something worthwhile. Future doctors will grow old and content knowing that they have spent their lives working to make theirs a better society to live and thrive in. Hopefully, they will one day feel the urge to teach younger individuals and reward them with the highest responsibility of maintaining the health and well-being of the community they belong to.

Eduardo A. Guzman MD Surgical Oncology Professor of Surgery Tecnológico de Monterrey

THE FALL OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES

GABRIEL BORTONI

technological New breakthroughs in society have continuously triggered the downfall of the preceding technological device. In today's world, the highly contaminant and inefficient internal combustion engine (ICE) has become an old toy no one wants to play with. Conversely, electric motors, which are the key towards minimizing the effects of climate change on a global scale, have become highly sought-after in the automotive industry. Such a drastic shift in the transportation industry has presented monumental engineering challenges for transportation giants around the world, seeking to stay afloat and avoid their downfall.

General Motors

General Motors (GM), which has historically relied on ICE to develop their vehicles, has publicly promised that it will produce and sell 30 new electric car models by 2025, displaying



their ambitious plan to become an automotive company that sells only electric vehicles (EV). Although levels of encouragement have been on the rise with their EV development, the car company has encountered numerous obstacles. For example, 13 Chevrolet Bolts, their best selling EV,

caught fire due to defects in its battery system, resulting in a two month pause of all Chevrolet Bolt manufacturing. Nonetheless, GM's effort to create a greener world has been clearly exhibited when it gave out 40,000 free electric vehicle charging outlets to its dealerships and can be publicly accessed by the U.S. population. To put things into perspective, before these outlets were available to the public, the United States only had 120,000 outlets for EVs, resulting in a dramatic increase in outlets.



BP

BP, a British oil and gas company, has made some big changes to its future outlook. After being pushed against the wall by ongoing climate change efforts that aim to have net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 and heavy investments by many automotive companies to become allelectric, oil companies like BP have begun to consider a future where internal combustion engines cease to exist and gasoline becomes unnecessary. BP projected it will decrease their greenhouse gas-emitting practices by 40% and produce 20 times more electricity than what they currently do. Transitioning to cleaner energy required the company to make large investments, leading to great financial costs for the British company- seeing as their progress has been slow and very demanding. In fact, BP predicts that it will start to profit off of their investments in renewable energy companies and EV-producing companies until 2025. Becoming a greener company has become a highly difficult task for BP, but it is worth noting that many companies will suffer from these similar circumstances.

Companies that were in the habit of dominating their competition have been forced to rebuild their entire business model, relying on substantial investments and enduring a colossal hit on their profitability. As of now, corporations like GM and BP are trying to remain on their feet while standing on thin ice, with high uncertainty on whether there is light at the end of the tunnel?



ILLUMÍNATE, MÉXICO

CAROLINA QUIÑONEZ

La tecnología del mundo progresa rápidamente; lo cual es bueno, ya que el cambio climático también lo hace. En las ciudades grandes de México, la hermosa vista es nublada por la contaminación ambiental y, globalmente, el clima está fuera de control. Sin embargo, gracias a avances tecnológicos en paneles solares podemos aprovechar los 5.5 kilovatios por hora por metro cuadrado (5.5 kWh/m2) de radiación solar que, en promedio, recibe el país otorgando condiciones óptimas de radiación solar en el 85% del territorio mexicano.

Es necesario para el avance de México que el país adopte, en gran parte, la energía solar, ya que esto beneficiará a México desde una perspectiva ambiental y económica.

México ha dependido en energía de combustibles fósiles desde que fueron descubiertos hace más de un siglo. Esta industria de enegía produce altas cantidades de dióxido de carbono, lo cual es natural al ser



exhalado por seres humanos, pero al grandes introducir cantidades de él, se empiezan a generar problemas severos. Estos gases son atrapados dentro de la atmósfera por la capa de ozono, lo que causa que le sea difícil a la radiación

que entra a la tierra volver a salir, este mecanismo genera el calentamiento global.

La energía solar es que no genera dióxido de carbono o algún otro gas que podría ser dañino. Además, no es necesario explotar, extraer o transportar la energía solar como lo es el petróleo, ya que es infinita y gratuita. Cuantos más hogares y empresas Mexicanas remplazen su fuente de energía a la fotovoltaica solar la cantidad de Co2 disminuye y beneficia al medio ambiente.



La economía de México no es muy estable; pero al invertir en energías solares esta mejoraría drásticamente. A pesar de que la inversión inicial sea grande, a largo plazo, la energía solar es gratuita entonces el gasto de energía sería cero y la inversión se recupera. Igualmente, la inversión puede contribuir miles de millones de dólares al Producto Interno de México, elevando la economía del país y podría atraer grandes inversiones de aún más dinero en la siguiente década. Estas inversiones hacia el país ayudarían a seguir innovando y otorgar una mejor calidad de vida a los mexicanos.

La industria de paneles solares seguirá innovando. Es parte de la nueva revolución de tecnología y cada día hay más evidencia de que es necesario tomar acción ante el cambio climático.

En México la industria seguirá creciendo y va a generar muchos empleos. Se estima que en 2030, podrían considerar la creación de más de 200 mil trabajos. Los países principales en la comunidad global ya están muy avanzados en las instalaciones de energías renovables, algunos incluso planeando ciudades 100% libres de combustibles fósiles. Ahora, le toca a México hacer una diferencia en el país— mejorando los estándares de vida a todos los mexicanos.



THE ROBO-LUTION

ANDRÉS BUSTINDUI



There can be no doubt that technology plays a huge role in our lives; we use computers, phones, cars and many more items in our daily routines. However, some skeptics are concerned about how high tech can affect our future, seeing that new devices that are being developed are set to take over tasks traditionally done by humans. One trending example is self driving cars, which would be much more efficient and safe when compared to manual driving. Although these technologies may be exciting, we should consider the benefits and disadvantages they bring to our world.

As new technology is created, it brings a lot of benefits to humanity. Robots can do the dangerous jobs that humans generally avoid, for example carrying heavy material and placing it into specific places. Additionally, technologist and business consultant Jessica Barden claims that "the first and the foremost advantage of having robots in workplaces is their cost. Robots are much cheaper than humans and their cost is now decreasing". Not only that, but robots don't have any human complications or features like emotions, meaning that they will never miss work days since they can't create excuses other than the need of maintenance. Another advantage we can see with robots is that they don't get tired, they will do everything all day unlike humans, who need breaks to regain energy. Lastly, another benefit of robots in the workplace is reliability. It is always possible to calculate and know an exact number of products said machines will produce, since a robot will make the product at the same speed and for the time you need it for. For all of these reasons and more, the increasing use of high technology is promising for many workplaces.

On the other hand, Barden describes the biggest problem to be, "Where robots are increasing the efficiency in many businesses, they are also increasing the unemployment rate. Because of robots, human labour is no longer required in many factories and manufacturing plants". We can see that unemployment is the biggest disadvantage that robots create; however, this is not the only problem, robots might also be inefficient and lack the so-called "human factor". Robots typically perform the same task all day and cannot react to certain situations/problems that they might encounter while manufacturing. To add on Robots operate on the basis of information fed to them through a chip. If one thing goes wrong the entire company bears the loss.



Although there are a lot of benefits, there are also some disadvantages that we should consider in regards to this technology. After all, we can see that robot technology can't be seen as only a good thing, it might be creating a bigger problem than solving one, everyone has certain opinions on the topic and all opinions are valid. Humans always need to be ready for change and when change happens learn how to adapt to those situations.



VAR: THE GAME'S NEW STAR

PAULINA ARCE

Minutes before the end of the CONCACAF Champions League Final between local teams Rayados and America, spectators rose from their seats awaiting the referee's final decision. During the 90+9th minute, a controversial play in Rayados' penalty area forced the referee to consult the Video Assistant Referee, where he spent four minutes revising a possible handball. However, he dismissed the claims and whistled the end of the match. resulting in a bittersweet ending. The VAR's constant interruption of the game disrupts football matches. While the implementation of said technology in the sport avoids referees committing mistakes to provide a fairer game, the VAR's involvement in football has diminished the game's emotional nature.

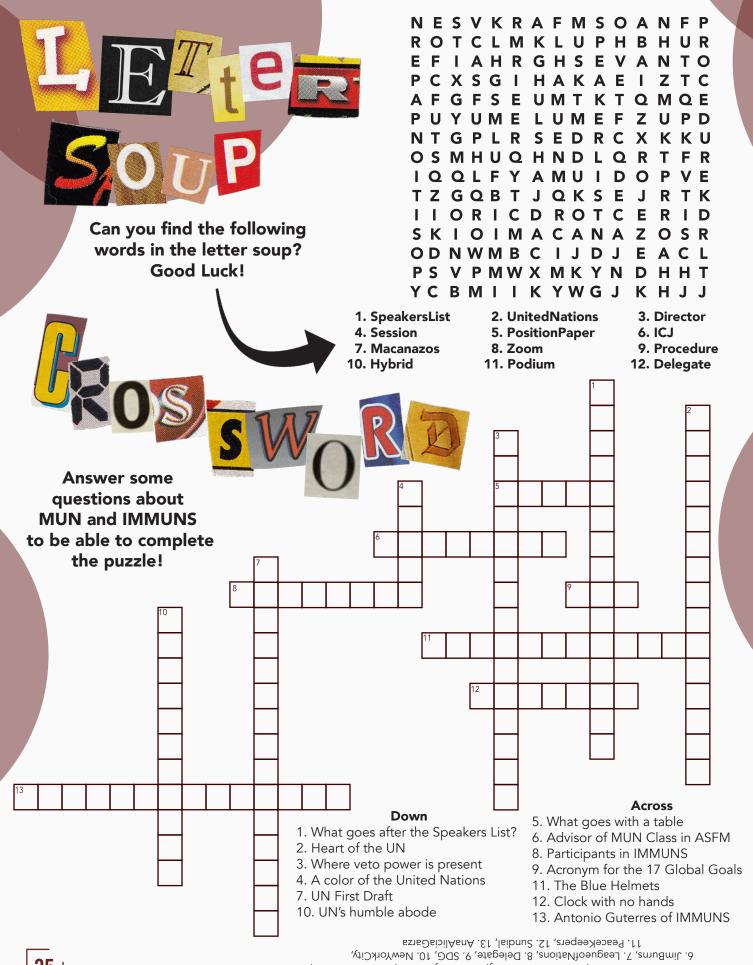


The system made its debut in the Eredivisie Netherlands' football league, in the 2012-2013 season, the Video Assistant Referee provided referees with access to 33 cameras across a stadium, a two-way headset between the VAR booth and the on-field referee and a team consisting of one lead video official and three assistants. On an international level, the matches between Italy vs. Spain and Italy vs. Germany were the first to involve this technology. As a result, during the 2017-18 season, popular European leagues, including the German Bundesliga, the Italian Serie A, and the Portuguese Primeira Liga, utilized the technology during their matches. In Spain, La Liga recorded in 2019 that the technology corrected 6.23% of goals out of 481 goals recorded.

Despite the VAR's great success, its characteristic system is not fit to accommodate the sport's fast pace. On January 20, 2019, during a Liga MX game of Chivas vs. Toluca, Toluca's goalscorer, recorded a goal in the 74th minute. Even so, following the goal, the referee stood at the center of the field discussing the controversial goal with the VAR's referee, who believed the ball did not completely cross the goal line. After halting the match for eight minutes, the VAR did not award the goal to the visiting team, leaving the score 1-0. Furiously, Toluca's players argued that the ball did cross the line, leading to tension in the field. Ultimately, the time it took for the VAR to deliberate the play led to the match losing eight minutes. By misusing key playing time, the VAR disrupted the flow of the game.

The VAR removes the adrenaline and enjoyment of football, as Lazio Head Coach, Simone Inzaghi, complained: "it takes the excitement out of football; players don't hug each other after scoring a goal anymore, instead they look straight towards the referee". Its initial development demonstrates the effectiveness of implementing technology to prevent human errors However, as time progresses the football community must introduce adjustments as spectators wonder: how can the technology be adjusted to preserve the essence of a passionate game?







BRUGGE

Paninis & Crepes



INFLUENCING THE MARKET

LORENA ORTIZ

Since the 2000s social media has changed the way people communicate, socialize and view the world. In 2004 MySpace, a social media platform popularized in the early 21st century, reached a million monthly users, a huge milestone marking the beginning of a new era. Currently, there are larger and more advanced social networking sites, in which billions of people interact daily- Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Tiktok to name a few. As seen in newer platforms, Social media is rapidly growing in users. Tiktok, for instance, was launched in 2016 and giand around 20 million users monthly through 2018- adding up to half a billion users in two years, and reaching over a billion users in 2021. The immense amount of people who use social media daily allow it to be the perfect place to promote, advertise, and sell products, services and ideas.

Social media marketing is a way of using platforms to connect with your audience and for businesses to reach customers. Through social media, companies are able to engage with customers and reach new audiences. Several social networks give demographic, geographical and personal information which help marketers create their advertisements based on what will appeal and resonate with users. To do this, companies determine goals and choose the content they will share, they then plan and post on social media. After that they analyze the engagement to be able to reach as many people with their advertising as possible.

Influencer marketing is like the classic

celebrity endorsement, except in a more modern and content-driven marketing format. Influencers are people who have a platform, meaning that they have a large amount of followers, and are trusted and respected by their audiences. Influencers are able to promote products and ideas to their viewers, which makes it important for them to show credibility. People tend to follow influencers since they feel more confident about a purchase after a recommendation, and since influencers give them that trust and credibility, they are more likely to buy their products.

Since social media has become a huge factor in our everyday lives, the opinions and ideas of influencers have a massive impact on their audience. The effect social media has had on marketing is clear, 40% of users have bought a product after seeing it on twitter, YouTube or Instagram- and this is only expected to continue growing, encouraging companies to encourage this behavior. For example, Tiktok created a \$1 billion creator fund, which pays creators that have large audiences, this is done with the goal of having influencers that can make a living through sponsorships, representation deals and brand partnerships. In 2016, the influencer industry was worth %1.7 billion, but with its rapid growth by 2022 the influencer marketing industry is expected to reach \$13.8 billion with no signs of stopping anytime soon. With this in mind, it is important for users to be aware of this industry, and carefully analyze the content they are consuming- at least for their wallet's sake.





BUILD-A-BABY

GABRIEL SALINAS GARZA T.

Have you ever wondered how birth will be in the future? Will one be able to choose its children's gender, birth date, or even its genetics? Most women describe giving birth with four words: pain, blood, trauma, and at the same time, amazing. Moreover, birthing a child is essential to the survival of the human race. Which only begs the question: what will the future look like? Will artificial wombs be able to replace natural birth in the future? Is genetic engineering the future of our planet? Could we customize the baby's gender, eye color, and lower the risk of various illnesses which could all lead to a better world? But should we go this route?

Artificial wombs rather than natural birth could be the future, it would take out the



trauma and suffering for both mother and child. With artificial wombs, the experience of leaving the warm, safe womb of our mother after nine months would not happen- the baby would never feel scared or unprotected. When someone is born, the birth itself is the

first trauma; the first shock that causes future problems like anxieties and illnesses.

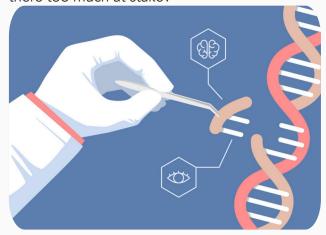
Artificial wombs could potentially re-lieve these "anxieties" like problems with the umbilical cord, abnormal heart rate of the baby, and excessive bleeding. Every day, around 800 women die from complications related to childbirth, while 9 percent of new mothers experience PTSD due to the lack of safety and poor health care. Artificial wombs could also mean an end to surrogate mothers and a beginning of a new economic industry. Surrogacy was estimated to provide the economy with 6 billion dollars annually; however, artificial wombs are a cheaper and less risky alternative that has the potential to make the industry even

bigger, putting an end to low-income women risking their lives to undergo the long, life-altering process of pregnancy. Moreover, the artificial process could monitor fetus deveopmet— ensuring better health for the



baby and the successful completion of the pregnancy. With a constant flow of data, doctors would know everything about the unborn child: from genetic background to health risks before it is even born.

modification and Genetic related technologies are both exciting and terrifying. One could be able to change their baby's appearance and lower health risks before it is born. With this, society could overcome diseases and avoid health problems. However, it can also be a new start for "superhumans" who are genetically optimised for characteristics like intelligence and looks-worsening inequalities in society. Changing the nature of what it means to be human has huge consequences like new allergens in the food supply, antibiotic resistance, production of new toxins, alongside other consequences yet to be found. With this in mind, we can only ask ourselves: are artificial wombs and genetic engineering worth it? Or is there too much at stake?



MUCHA SUERTE, MÉXICO

ISABELA ELIZONDO



De los 55 millones de votantes en las elecciones del 2018, 53.19% votaron por Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO). Evidentemente, más de la mitad del país pensaba que López Obrador sería la persona ideal para manejar uno de los países con más patrimonio cultural en el mundo. Muchos lo percibían como un salvador y como alguien que estaba transformando el gobierno, la economía, y sociedad, como nunca antes. Sin embargo, lentamente, empezó a perder este apoyo.

López Obrador es un hombre de palabra, no de acción. Él prometió un México mejor cuando ganó la presidencia pero claramente su idea de "mejor" es muy diferente a la nuestra. AMLO prometió que iba a mejorar el estado de salud del país; lo cual es irónico, ya que hizo lo contrario. Desde antes de la pandemia, el gobierno cambió drásticamente la organización de los hospitales públicos del país. Además, reemplazó el Seguro Popular, una política pública donde brindaban protección financiera a la gente que no tenía seguridad social, por el Instituto de Salud para el Bienestar (INSABI). A pesar de ser parecidas, López Obrador creó el INSABI para que él mismo lo pudiera controlar, creando un desabasto de medicamentos y una falta de atención médica. Aun así, al llegar la pandemia, todo empeoró aún más.

A través de sus acciones, AMLO creó una gran desconfianza entre los empresarios mexicanos, lo cual causó un freno en las inversiones nacionales. Debido a eso, durante el 2019 la economía pasó por un decrecimiento muy fuerte. Desde antes de la pandemia, en

cuanto a aspectos económicos y médicos, México estaba vulnerable, pero al llegar el dominio del COVID-19, el país colapsó. México es considerado como uno de los países que peor manejó la pandemia, ya que el número de muertos e infectados es más alto que el de la mayoría del mundo; sin mencionar la desgracia que ha sido el manejo de las vacunas. De la misma manera, el Banco de México pronosticó que en el 2020, la economía mexicana caería el triple que las economías emergentes. La excusa que AMLO usó fue que "íbamos muy bien" pero la pandemia arruinó todo. La triste realidad es que la caída de México empezó desde que nuestro presidente tomó su puesto.

Lopéz Obrador no se preocupa por su gente y ni siquiera los trata de ayudar, en cambio, dice que todas las desgracias que suceden en México se deben a los presidentes y gobiernos corruptos. Han pasado tres años desde que ganó y sigue haciendo campaña en lugar de gobernar. Nuestro presidente muestra poco interés en aprender de sus errores y su enfoque es la consolidación del poder y poca ambición por aprovechar el poder que ya tiene. Con solo saber que nuestro presidente no apoya las críticas de feministas, activistas de derechos humanos y ambientalistas, los mexicanos pueden descifrar que los siguientes tres años con López Obrador no serán fáciles. Con un presidente tan arrogante es muy difícil salir adelante, ya que la economía y salud del país se seguirán yendo a la ruina.







BUILDING BRIDGES OR BUILDING WALLS?

SANTIAGO CHAVEZ

Every day, hundreds of people migrate to the United States in feeble attempts to cross the river and illegally enter the country. Due to natural disasters, poverty or cruelty, thousands of people leave their countries in search for a better life and healthier future. Is it fair for migrants to "steal" jobs from residents of the country these people arrive in? Is it moral to illegally enter a country? And most importantly, Is it ethical to not give an opportunity to foreigners simply because of the fact they weren't born in a privileged country? With these questions come different answers and perspectives which in



turn cause a division between the country, causing fights and protests which defend both sides of the controversy. Some people furiously reject foreigners while others welcome them with open arms which raises the question: taking into consideration the pros and the cons, is the impact of immigration positive or negative?

Even though many disagree positive consequences in this situation, some of the benefits of immigration to the US are actually advantageous to the exponential growth of the country as a whole, including: filled vacancies in unpopular and unwanted jobs which Americans don't want to take, economic growth, potential entrepreneurs and healthcare workers, experienced farmers, teachers and laboral workers and provide a greater cultural diversity to the country. In general, there are a plethora of reasons where immigration sounds like a positive addition to the country; however, with these benefits, there are also consequences.

On the other hand, there are also downsides for the citizens and residents of the country. Amongst these are: a potential rise in housing and rentals with the overpopulation caused by immigration, disruption in social harmony due to the increased and rapid growth in the population, increased and heavier pressure placed on healthcare workers and medical care due to the sudden rise of people in the country (example: covid vaccinations could've taken even longer if migration was legal and easy), and a potential decrease in hourly wage for the laboral workers seeing as the immigrants would overrule the laboral community and might create a job shortage.

Taking into consideration both sides of the argument, people are entitled to create their own opinions about what they think is best for their country. Of course, these opinions are influenced by an individual's personal beliefs, culture, background and more; however, expressing your ideas peacefully and in a respectful manner is the way this should be done and having a civilized conversation is the best way to talk about controversial topics like so. It is important to enter these debates with an open mind and most importantly a caring heart to understand where these migrants are coming frm and the fact that they are only looking for a better life.



LETTERS FROM... SECRETARY GENERAL AND ADVISOR

Delegates,

Six years ago during my first simulation, I would have never guessed that this was what my last IMMUNS was going to look like. I would not even believe that it could be possible to participate in such an event—let alone lead it. But now, as I am writing this, I wouldn't want it any other way.

Hosting a hybrid simulation allows us to get the best of both worlds. Through the grand power of the internet, we can expand our reach to students all over the world who would've found it difficult to participate otherwise whilst still having delegates safely walking through the halls of our great campus. By virtue of our circumstances this year, online committees are most certainly going to be something we hope to keep in our succeeding simulations. The changes these past few years have inflicted on us are the reason why we are able to provide even more quality, rigor, and excellence than we have in past years.

If nothing else, organizing IMMUNS this school year has been a great testament to our diligence and flexibility with its rapid changes and unexpected turns. As Secretary General, it has served as a reminder of the remarkable people that make IMMUNS a reality by proving to surpass and make the most of everything the pandemic has thrown our way.

Ana Alicia Garza, Secretary General

Delegates,

The energy and focus each and everyone of you have demonstrated to keep the values and mission of Model United Nations as strong as ever is a testament to your strength, resiliency and the importance of the MUN program. Your dedication to the beliefs, principles and practices of the United Nations gives

me hope and inspiration for the future: the future of the Sundial, the future of IMMUNS, the future of MUN, and the future of our world. I know that is a grand statement but I believe in great possibilities for our future. Your future is my future and I feel secure knowing you, you the MUN students of 2022 will one day be the leaders of our world community, guiding us to reach for greater achievements.

Offering a hybrid IMMUNS is the creation of successful collaboration on many levels from multiple groups. I want to thank the ASFM staff, teachers and administration for their unparalleled support for a hybrid IMMUNS. Most importantly I would like to thank all the MUN students who have helped organize our varied activities throughout the year to help make IMMUNS a reality. Make It Happen!

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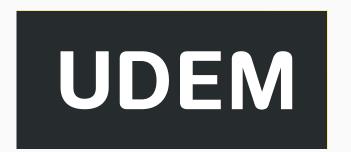












Make it Happen

