

Dear Reader,

After a three-year hiatus, we are pleased to release Issue IV of *Dianoia: The Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Boston College*. The front cover hosts Virgil Solis' *Philosophy Enthroned*, while the back cover features Kandinsky's *Rain Landscape* as well as his *Four Parts*. We thought it fitting to give such a prominent position to Lady Philosophy and to her great servants: Albert the Great, Virgil, Ptolemy, and Plato. Though none of these philosophers are specifically the focus of any of the essays contained herein, each of them has served Philosophy in a distinct and lasting manner. Much like those aforementioned, the philosophers referenced in this collection of essays have made their own unique contribution to the pursuit of wisdom. Similarly, the authors of these essays have inherited this great tradition, adding to it their own perspective and distinct style. The pairing of Solis' woodcutting with Kandinsky's work attempts to illustrate this continuity of Philosophy's reign; the essays touch on a wide range of thinkers — from Thomas Aquinas to Jimi Hendrix — and are indebted to the contributions of the abovementioned philosophical giants. Each serves as a testament to the love of wisdom.

In raising *Dianoia* from its short slumber, the Editorial Board ambitiously decided to expand the scope of the journal beyond the walls of Boston College, soliciting papers from other colleges and universities for the first time in its history. As a result, we received several dozen high quality submissions from elite colleges and universities across the United States and even the United Kingdom. We thank each of these authors for his or her hard work. From this pool, we are pleased to publish seven essays that we believe not only exemplify the pinnacle of undergraduate philosophical research, but also take as their focus topics that would be of interest to a general undergraduate audience. It is our hope that these works will contribute to dialogue in classrooms and on campuses around the world.

We are greatly indebted to those members of the Boston College Philosophy Department and the greater Boston College community who have helped to make the revival of *Dianoia* possible, and we thank you for your continued support.

We hope that you enjoy reading the essays that follow, and, in the hope of creating continued discourse, encourage the submission of essays in response to those here contained for future issues of *Dianoia*.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Lombardo, Editor-in-Chief



Peter G. Klapes, Managing Editor



Jordan A. Pino, Managing Editor