

# UC Berkeley

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Undergraduate





## E D I T O R ' S N O T E

Dear Reader,

This issue of the Berkeley Scientific Journal we pay homage to the role of serendipity in science. The scientific method is sometimes seen as a rigid by lay people and we at the BSJ wanted to highlight how this is not the case. Many of the biggest scientific advancements have been spawned by happy accidents—Newton's apple, Fleming's less than hygienic laboratory conditions. However, it is important to remember that these serendipitous events were not truly accidents since, as Pasteur is credited as saying, "in the fields of observation chance favors only the prepared mind." So prepare your mind by reading some of the finest undergraduate research done at Berkeley, as well as articles about such interesting topics as magnetic bacteria, medical mistakes, and the story of how Mauve Cured Syphilis.

Sincerely,

Elaine C. Owen  
Editor-in- chief

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