Dear Readers,

After struggling with the technology and other unfortunate circumstances, we have finally managed to publish the 2012 edition of the Journal of the University of Manitoba Anthropology Students’ Association. Due to these technical problems it was decided to combine both the 2012 Journal of UMASA and the proceeding of the MASC Conference 2011 into a one volume. The current volume demonstrates the diversity of student interest and research in Anthropology so we hope that you read, and enjoy it all. We would like to take the opportunity here and thank few people for their hard work and contribution to the Journal because this volume would not have been possible without them.

First of all, we thank all authors for their submissions. We enjoy reading and editing your work and hope this publication encourages students to continue submitting to this Journal. The UMASA Journal offers valuable opportunity for both undergraduate and graduate students to see their hard work published.

Furthermore, we thank ATM Shaifallah Mehedi (Editor) and his team of associate editors and reviewers; S. Amstrong, E. Middleton, S. Birse, K. Basco, A. Klales, H. Gough, J. Gamble and N. Bolton for their hard work and contribution to the Journal of UMASA. Robert Beardsell is also noted and thanked for his time taken to collect papers from the Manitoba Anthropology Student Conference 2011. Without these people this volume would not have been possible.

It is our hope that the Journal of UMASA will continue to grow over the years and become a vital part of our student organization at the University of Manitoba.

Sincerely,

2012 – 2013 UMASA Executive