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## Letter from the Editor

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## Letter from the Editor

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Welcome to the eleventh issue of the American Public University System (APUS)'s *Saber and Scroll Journal*, which begins the fourth year of journal production. While it was intended that this issue focus on two key themes, "Winter: The harshest season of the year and its effects on societies, empires, and armies" together with "Religion: Arguably the most powerful influence in history," not every article in the issue aligns to the themes. The section devoted to "Winter" kicks off with a fine article from Edward Hagerty, PhD, "The Night the Angels Sang: Christmas 1914 at Home and on the Front," while "Religion" launches with "Tribal Capabilities and Warfare: The Case of Ancient Israel," contributed by Martin Catino, PhD.

Once again, the journal team is especially grateful for the participation of many APUS faculty members who have shared their outstanding work with us. This issue also features contributions by Nick Ceh, PhD and Robert Smith, PhD. Dr. Smith, affectionately known as "Smitty," also serves as one of the faculty advisors to the journal team. We are pleased that the APUS historical community continues to respond so enthusiastically to the journal and are proud to bring to you one of our finest issues, featuring articles by APUS students and alumni, in addition to the instructors noted above.

As *Saber and Scroll Journal* readers are aware, most of the editors are either APUS graduate students or alumni who have finished their MAs with APUS. We would also like to welcome our newest team member, Jack Morato, who recently published a feature article with the journal.

While thanks are due to all our authors and to each member of our journal team, I would especially like to thank our copy editor, DeAnna Stevens, who not only formats our journal, but who also designs the beautiful artwork that graces its cover.

We continue to seek additional volunteers to help create a superb history journal; if interested, please contact any member of the current journal team.

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