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About the Cover

This year we are honoured to present as cover art, a piece called “Together in Co-operation” by artist David Kanatawakhon. David has kindly allowed us to reproduce his piece, a mural which is displayed in the Department of Anthropology in the Social Sciences Centre at the University of Western Ontario. David is a linguist, artist, and Mohawk Language instructor at Western. David would like to acknowledge Steve Marley as his assistant in the installation of this piece. He has written the following by way of introduction of his piece.

This mural, using Iroquoian design and motif, describes an environment of Native / Non-Native co-operation regarding cultural and social academic pursuits. Typical of Iroquoian border designs, both the earth world and sky world are represented. The wavy line at the base is the water under the earth and the cross-hatched pattern is the earth that rests on the water. On the earth is a series of domes representative of various cultures, traditions, or particular world views. The upright stems with scrolls can represent the four winds, the four directions, or the elm tree as a protector symbol. The two figures within a greater dome structure represent a particular world view in which two figures, one Native and one Non-Native (the hat wearing one), equally support a particular cultural presentation and understanding. All of the figures running across the mural are joined together hand to hand, symbolic of the co-operation that must exist between cultures in any academic study.
From the Editor

We are very proud to present Volume 12 of Totem: The U.W.O. Journal of Anthropology. Producing this volume has been an extraordinary team effort. Earlier this year the UWOAS made the decision to change the structure of Totem’s editing team. Instead of a Managing Editor with a team of Assistant Editors, the UWOAS selected an Editor-in-Chief, and appointed two graduate students as editors of Sociocultural/Linguistic Anthropology and Biological Anthropology/Archaeology. These positions were filled by Ted Baker and Jessica Metcalfe respectively and I have been most grateful for their expertise, experience, insight and patience. This team of three works to make the final decisions about the journal with the aid of the comments on the submitted papers provided by Assistant Editors at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. In total, fourteen people worked to select and edit the papers chosen for publication in this volume.

Besides showcasing the finest student work at Western this year, one of the goals of Totem, as an entirely student run and student-content journal, is to involve as many people and as many perspectives in the production process as possible. It is my belief that our collective experience and expertise has made this one of the most academically dynamic volumes to date. Our goal is also to expand our readership and circle of submitters. As in years past, we sent the call for papers to other universities in Canada. This year we have included a submission from a student at York University.

I was ecstatic at the sheer number of papers submitted for consideration to this volume. We have selected eleven excellent and diverse undergraduate and graduate level papers reflecting three subfields of the discipline and the great variation within sub-fields.

I would like to thank David Kanatawakhon for his advice on the production process and his assistance in transferring his beautiful image into a format we could reproduce for our cover. I would also like to thank Othan Alexandrakis, Managing Editor of Volume 11 for his insight and advice. Thanks are due also to Dr. Andrew Nelson, for his support and assistance, and to Lindsay Foreman, who assisted with the trickiest parts of the formatting of this volume. Tim Bisha and Megan Gardiner were also very helpful in helping with the technical parts of working with the cover art. Thank you all.

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