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Concluding Notes

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Concluding Notes

David Beard, Professor of Rhetoric, University of Minnesota Duluth

Peer review is significant in the lives of academics and significantly complicated in the emotionally charged field of medical humanities. Every essay in this journal has been peer reviewed, but that process has been rich and complex.

For essays drafted by researchers and scholars within higher education, the selected reviewers have been professional academics, typically within the same or a cognate discipline, in a blind review process that is typical of academic journals.

For shorter essays by non-academic authors -- pieces like the ones by human services professionals, we secured reviews by readers in similar professions. (As academics, we understood that expertise we do not have, as editors, was essential to read these contributions critically.)

The only exceptions to this process was the collaboratively assembled but individually written essay addressing the work by an entire department. Because of the complexity of that essay, it received only editorial review. Additionally, pieces from the University of Minnesota Duluth's Stories of Wisdom project are raw text from the archive, not subjected to peer review.

We are grateful for the array of voices in this issue and for the opportunity to share them in *Survive and Thrive*.