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From the Editor

Scott Kominers
Harvard University '09
Cambridge, MA 02138
kominers@fas.harvard.edu

“Man knows how many seeds are in an apple, but only heaven knows how many apples are in a seed.”

When we launched *The Harvard College Mathematics Review* (HCMR), we had no idea how many apples would be in the seed.

The response to our first issue has been tremendous. We have received response letters and e-mails from students and faculty at schools spanning not only the United States but the world. Some articles in The HCMR have already been cited professionally; others have been translated into multiple languages.

This summer, at the Mathematical Association of America's *MathFest 2007*, I witnessed first-hand my peers' excitement at viewing the first issue. At *MathFest*, I met math professors who had already shared the first issue's articles with their students—and met students who had already read that first issue and asked their professors to suggest follow-up reading.

Indeed, mathematics is lucky. Young mathematicians are learning and working all over the world—and experienced mathematicians are working hard to teach the new generation.

Just over half of the student articles and problems in this issue came from outside Harvard's walls. Furthermore, the contributors are strikingly diverse: Two of our student authors attend Harvey Mudd College; another is a high school student. Some student problem proposers come from institutions as near to Harvard as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and others come from as far away as Romania and Germany. This issue's faculty feature was contributed by Professor Emeritus Elemér E. Rosinger of the University of Pretoria, South Africa, who brought the above aphorism to my attention.

All of these authors have helped us grow a mathematical tree which bears fruit across the world. We are grateful to all of them for their participation and contribution.

As always, we appreciate your commentary and feedback. Please direct your comments and questions to hcmr@hcs.harvard.edu or to me personally at kominers@fas.harvard.edu. We also invite you to submit to future issues. We publish articles, short notes, and problems in any field of pure or applied mathematics at the undergraduate level. Submission guidelines and instructions can be found on the inside front cover.

We especially appreciate the helpful commentary and assistance of our faculty sponsors and advisers, **Professor Benedict H. Gross '71**, **Professor Peter Kronheimer**, **Dr. Alon Amit**, and **Professor Matthew Steven Carlos**. We also owe special thanks to **Professor Clifford H. Taubes** for his continued support and encouragement. We are also grateful to **Dean Paul J. McLoughlin II** and **Mr. David R. Friedrich** for their administrative and organizational assistance. Finally, we could never have produced this issue without the continued, generous support of **The Harvard Mathematics Department**.

It is the honor and joy of everyone at The HCMR to continue to plant seeds. We hope that you enjoy our second issue, **QED**.

Scott Kominers '09
Editor-In-Chief, The HCMR