Editors’ Note

“Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge: it is those who know little, and not those who know much, who so positively assert that this or that problem will never be solved by science.”

—Charles Darwin

We live in a great age of scientific exploration. Although historically when naturalists and scientists wrote about their discoveries, these discoveries often focused on dramatic new findings, striking breakthroughs like gravity, natural selection, and extinction, today’s discoveries are no less revolutionary. While young scientists today may believe that all the great discoveries have been made—that there are no new islands to investigate, no new elements to identify—the number of mysteries that remain in science are beyond quantification. At Harvard alone there are hundreds of different laboratories each with their own unique research question. It is within these laboratories that every scientist whether an undergraduate student or principal investigator is on his or her individual quest. The inspiration for this issue of the Harvard Science Review is to highlight some of the many missing pieces in science, from the neurobiological underpinnings of complex behavior to the observation of novel subatomic articles like the Higgs Boson.

The plethora of elusive quandaries that remain makes now a more exciting time than ever to embark on scientific adventures. The importance of science-writing in this age could not be more critical to bridge the gap between the worlds inside and outside of the laboratory. There is extraordinary research transpiring in laboratories all around the world and within science journalism lies in the potential to share this emerging knowledge beyond the scientific community. The breakthroughs of the day in fields like stem cell research and renewable energy technology will have a tremendous impact on the lives of everyone on this planet and we hope this issue will provide a taste of some of the tantalizing puzzles challenging the greatest minds of the 21st century.

Thank you for reading the Harvard Science Review, and enjoy!

Susan De Wolf and Amrita Goyal
Editors in Chief