Editorial

Meserve, Lee A.
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The publication of this issue marks the beginning of the second year that the editorial office of The Journal has been located at BGSU. Now that our feet are wet and we have a little better feel of what we are doing and what needs to be done, it seemed appropriate to compose this progress report for our readership. Let us at the outset say that the past year has been a challenging but enjoyable one, and that we continue to take pleasure from the day-to-day operation of the editorial office.

A number of cosmetic modifications of The Journal have been made over the past year and continue with the present issue. For example, the contents page has been reformatted into a more attractive layout. The editorial policy statement and authors’ instructions have been typeset in two-column format to be consistent with the rest of The Journal. Additionally, beginning with this issue, the Materials and Methods section of each paper will be run in the same typeface as the rest of the paper. In the process of redoing the typesetting, both the editorial policy statement and related matter and the authors’ instructions have been rewritten in an effort to increase clarity and precision of expression. We would appreciate any feedback you care to provide regarding these changes.

We have also altered some of the support personnel of The Journal during the past year. It was deemed appropriate to broaden the representation of the various sections of The Ohio Academy of Science on the editorial board of The Journal. Thus, members of the Geology (Ann Harris), Engineering (Tom Hartley), Information and Library Sciences (Chris Miko), Science Education (Marian Moeckel), Geography (Tom Schmidlin), and Math and Computer Science (Hilda Standley) sections were contacted, and agreed to serve The Journal in this role. This broadening of the editorial board was meant to reaffirm the Journal policy of consideration of any and all submitted manuscripts which may be of interest to members of The Ohio Academy of Science. We frequently hear the comment (usually second-hand) “It’s a waste of time for me to submit my paper to The Ohio Journal of Science; they don’t publish papers concerning [fill in any area].” If the filled in area is related to one of the sections of The Academy, the statement is simply incorrect; the primary reason areas are underrepresented in The Journal is that manuscripts in those areas are not sent to us. Thus, we urge you to consider the OJS as the means of publishing your research data if it falls within the guidelines of The Journal and if it is likely to be of interest to OAS members.

An important newcomer to the OJS team, with regard to improvement in smoothness of organizational operation and the reduction of phone and postal expenses, is UniGraphics, who will be doing our typesetting beginning with this issue. UniGraphics is located on the BGSU campus, and this “just next door” arrangement is sure to improve our technical operation.

In closing, the editor would like to thank all those individuals, including anonymous reviewers, who have made this first year with The Journal an enjoyable one. Special thanks go to: Reg Noble, Chair of Biological Sciences, for providing us with a niche; Clyde Willis, Dean of Health and Human Services, for helping to supply the niche; Bob Romans, Associate Editor, for helping me answer the really tough questions; Lynn Elfner, Executive Officer of OAS, for backing me up without knocking me down; and especially Sue Wenig, Assistant Editor, for making it all come together smoothly every three months and for keeping me organized in between. In the immortal words of Bartles and James, “Thank you for your support!”

Lee A. Meserve
Editor