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Editor's Page

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Editor's Page

This *Basic Communication Course Annual* marks the end of a journey for me. I have been editor for all five annuals to date. As I prepare to turn over the editor position to Craig Newburger, I marvel with the feelings I am having. These feelings are similar to the ones I felt as my oldest son moved away from home. There is a sense of loss but a tremendous sense of pride. I have nursed the *Annual* since birth and it is now ready to leave my guidance. As with my son, the *Annual* has caused me frustrations but also immense satisfaction, joy and sorrow, delight and sadness, but mainly a great deal of happy memories. I am proud to have served the discipline as editor for these past five years. It has brought me tremendous satisfaction to witness this new-born "baby" accepted by my colleagues and the discipline. I am now ready to turn over the *Annual* to the care of others. Since the ideas was discussed with Norm Watson almost 8 years ago, the *Annual* and I have grown together. Every time I sit down to work on the *Annual*, I recall the discussions we had as Norm and I attempted to put our idea into print. The idea of an "annual" was conceived out of a sense of frustration that there was no consistent publication outlet for research in or on the basic course and no resource materials available for people interested and working in the basic course. It is to Norm's memory that I have dedicated and donated my time and energies to putting together the *Annual* every year.

There are too many people to thank as I end my tenure as editor to list them all here. There are five special people who I want to thank personally — the members of my family. It is

difficult to find words appropriate to express my gratitude and love. First, to my best friend, my wife Laura, without whose love and support I could not carry on. Second, to my four children — Paul, Christy, Bill, and Jenny — thank you for understanding the amount of time I spent every year working on the *Annual*. As with any project with publication deadlines, there were many times when I had to work on manuscripts, read and assimilate reviewers' comments and publication recommendations, correspond with authors, talk with the publisher, and such, that I could not spend with you. All I can say is I love you all very much and appreciate your support and understanding.

The manuscript reviewers made the task of working on this edition of the *Annual* a lot of fun. Even though I knew this was the last time I was doing this, I received tremendous satisfaction in the professional and timely efforts of all the reviewers. Each reviewer took time from their busy schedules to look at a number of manuscripts under some strict time constraints. With only a few exceptions, the reviews were well done and returned to me in a timely manner. They provided excellent guidance to the authors as they revised manuscripts for publication. The group of authors this year was also a joy to work with. Final drafts of manuscripts were well prepared and each author responded to reviewer comments thoughtfully and carefully.

I want to thank my chair, Fred Owens, because without departmental financial support for mailings and duplicating, I could not have completed any of the *Annuals*. In addition, he was always available when I needed a review on short notice. Over the years, other colleagues at Youngstown State have been involved in reviewing manuscripts for the *Annual*.

As I end my years working on the *Annual*, I would be negligent in not thanking all the people at American Press responsible for producing the final product. In addition, it is important to note that we have reached an agreement with the Speech Communication Association, to advertise the *An-*

nual with their publications material. This will provide increased awareness of this important basic course publication.

Finally, since I feel similar feelings as I end work on the *Annual* to those I felt when my son left home, I want to point out that my son is now a father — making me a grandfather. Who knows what the future will bring in terms of my involvement in the workings of the basic course. I might just become involved with a new generation of basic course people and activities. Thank you all for affording me these opportunities for 5 years to have so much fun. So long for now!

Larry Hugenberg
Poland, Ohio
September, 1993