

EDITORIAL

This issue begins the fourth year of publication of *The OJS* with the present staff of Editor and Associate Editor, and the two Assistant Editors that we have employed during this time. The editorial function is one that we continue to enjoy, and one that fills time not otherwise occupied, in a meaningful fashion. During the tenure of the present editorial staff, we have attempted to make *The Journal* a publication containing worthwhile information for a broad representation of the membership of The Ohio Academy of Science. To that end we have appointed Editorial Board Members from areas of The Academy underserved by *The Journal*, have solicited book reviews of interest to those members, and during the past year have requested centennial up-dates from all Academy sections including under-represented ones. Despite these efforts at maintaining a broad base of interest, we realize that many of the scientific articles published in *The Journal* fall into the general areas of ecology and geology, and we continue to receive indirect feedback that, "*The Ohio Journal of Science* never publishes anything in my area of interest and, therefore, is of no benefit to me." Such feedback is frustrating to the Editorial staff and to the Editorial Board, because in most cases, we maintain that we cannot publish what we do not receive (this holds true for the recently re-established Newsletter, as well as for *The Journal* itself). Nonetheless, our desire to be worthwhile reading for the *entire* academy membership is unflagging, and to this end we will establish a new feature with the March 1993 issue called **Critical Perspectives in Pure and Applied Natural, Physical, and Social Sciences**.

Since this title is a mouthful (or in this setting, a lineful), it will be fondly referred to as **Critical Perspectives**. This feature is largely the brainchild of Tod Stuessy, who first described it at a recent OAS Executive Committee meeting, and who should be commended for continued efforts on behalf of *The Journal*. The general idea of this feature section is that an internationally recognized authority (or several of these authorities, if possible) will be nominated by the section membership as a person who could provide an interesting essay to be published in *The Journal*. The Editor and the President of OAS will then contact nominated individuals and invite them to submit a **Critical Perspective** in their areas of expertise. Each issue of *The Journal* will then begin with one of these submissions and, potentially, collections of **Critical Perspectives** will be published as bound separates. You will note back toward the beginning of this editorial that March 1993 is given as the initial issue for this feature. The long lead time is intentional, and will allow discussion of possible nominees at each of the section meetings at the Annual Meeting of OAS in Akron in May. In the mean time, be thinking of a person in your area whose expertise you would like to tap, and from whom you would like us to solicit a **Critical Perspective**. Any suggestions for this feature can be sent to the editorial office at the address on the masthead. We are excited about this idea, and anticipate that it will help *The Journal* grow in usefulness to its constituency.

Lee A. Meserve
Editor