

EDITORIAL

This issue of the *OJS* marks the end of the sixth year of stewardship of the editorial reins by the same person. As at least a couple of my colleagues here at BGSU who asked me about it, and I assume many more of you, were able to surmise from the Announcement of the Opening of the Position of *OJS* Editor on the back of the September issue, I plan to relinquish these duties at the end of the calendar year 1995. This decision was not made because the job of editor has become tiresome and burdensome, but rather because it seems best for the *Journal* to have an infusion of new blood and new ideas every once in a while, and seven years with the same primary input is a sufficient length of time. This editorial is offered to make at least a couple of observations on behalf of my time with the *Journal*, and at least one that is more general about the Ohio Academy of Science as a whole.

The last six years with the *Journal* has been a completely enjoyable and rewarding time. I can only encourage any member interested in interacting with Academy members of various descriptions in an effort to help them prepare their research findings for publication to consider becoming editor. The first observation is that it would be impossible to perform such a task without the volunteer time of our manuscript reviewers. These people perform yeoman service in a manner that is unique; they are virtually unsung (except for being part of the annual list of those who have done a review for us); they take their jobs seriously; and they provide expertise which it would be impossible to expect of one, or even a small group of, paid expert(s). To the person who next sits in this chair, you may want to begin to cultivate a crop of reviewers ahead of time. The second observation is that accomplishment of the tasks falling to the editor would be impossible without the service of a talented and selfless assistant editor. While this is a paid position, the two people who filled the position during my tenure worked more than the salary required or compensated. We began with Sue Wenig, who started the transition from a journal completely handled and tracked on paper to one entering the age of personal computers. Ardella Pierce has continued this progression to the point where we (she) actually typesets the page proofs and provides them to the printer on diskette. To candidate editors, identify such an assistant in advance, and recognize

them as an important part of the system. I am pleased with the way the *Journal* has progressed under our guidance. I continue to wish that a broader array of areas of interest for the Ohio Academy of Science Membership were served by the *Journal*, but it is impossible for us to publish papers that we don't receive. I urge ANY member of the Academy with research data on hand to consider its dissemination by way of *The Ohio Journal of Science*. And this brings us to the general consideration of the Academy.

During the past six years considerable change has swept through the Ohio Academy of Science. Added to *The Journal* and the very successful Junior Academy and Annual Meeting have been Councils for a Senior Academy, Industry and Business, Development, and Past-Presidents. This organizational structure has been put in place to increase the breadth of appeal and breadth of service of the Academy, and is ably overseen by the central administration, Lynn Elfner and Dorie Gruber, in Columbus. Additionally, the Annual Meeting has been reorganized from the old academic sections format to one in which research is presented in topical sessions of an interdisciplinary nature. The financial tracking of the Academy has been modernized by Treasurer Michael Herschler from "by guess and the grace of God" to cost accounting of income and expenses for each segment (*OJS*, Senior Academy, Junior Academy, et al.). The bottom line is that each of these activities and efforts is part of the Academy as a whole—without the Ohio Academy of Science there is no *Ohio Journal of Science*. And within that bottom line rests the necessity that the Academy membership be involved in the operation and business of the Academy. If you like the way the Academy is doing business, come and be part of its operation. Perhaps as importantly (if not more importantly), if you are disenchanted by the operation of the Academy, become involved and let your feelings be known, rather than dropping out and becoming disenfranchised. It is our hope, as we enter the final year of our editorship, that a number of enthusiastic individuals with a fondness for the state of science in Ohio will apply for the position of editor. The person chosen for the position will find it a challenge with unique and memorable rewards.

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EDITOR