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Editor's Message, Summer 1979

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POD QUARTERLY

The Journal of the
Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education

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EDITORIAL

Editor's Message

Starting a new journal requires making many decisions, some of which can be carefully considered while others are rather reflex reactions. At the time of this second issue, the ongoing work of establishing the organizational, operational, policy, and financial foundation necessary for a high quality, stable journal is well underway. The responses of readers to each issue are an important part of this process. Please keep them coming!

The editor/editorial board structure is working well. There are two conditions that must be satisfied if the revolving editorship, so appropriate for an organization such as POD, is going to work. The first condition is ably satisfied by Kimberly Press: a production firm that provides the comprehensive, expert services needed by editors who, for the most part, will be at some distance from the site of production and distribution. Secondly, editors are typically going to be busy folk who take on the responsibility on top of very full schedules. A division of labor must be established to ensure that neither the editor nor any other member of the editorial board is buried. The experience should be satisfying and pleasurable—as it is for this editor—so that there will always be an enthusiastic editor/editorial board.

Steps in that direction have already been taken. From the start, Glenn Nyre has assumed responsibility for the regular evaluation feature, and refereeing has been farmed out by the editor to other

members of the editorial board and POD. Starting with the third issue, Mary Lynn Crow will be responsible for Book Reviews, Glenn Erickson for Calendar, and Bert Biles for advertisements. This Fall at the annual conference we will discuss the possibility of expanding the size of the editorial board both to deal better with workload and to ensure diversity of viewpoint.

One of the strengths of POD is that its members come from many disciplines. However, different disciplines vary in their refereeing procedures and criteria for feature articles so there has been some confusion about those matters. The Editorial Board and the Core Committee met during the AAHE meeting in Washington in April. It was decided that refereeing would henceforth be "double blind", that is, the author(s) would not know the identities of the referees nor the referees the identities of the author(s). Lance Buhl has written an initial draft of a detailed editorial policy on feature articles. That will be worked over by the Editorial Board. We intend to have it ready for publication in the next issue. There have been several suggestions about policies on style. Hopefully, that will also be dealt with in the Fall issue.

We continue to need articles and contributions to the various departments.

Many of you have taken time to write us complimentary notes about the first issue. Diane and I appreciate them very much, but we are also mindful that the success of that issue was made possible by the fine cooperation of the Editorial Board and the contributors. We give our thanks to them.

D.L.O.