

*From the  
Editor's Desk*

**AVE ATQUE VALE !**

I am stepping down as Executive Editor of *Metropolitan Universities* after this issue. I do so with decidedly mixed feelings.

On the one hand, I experience a certain sense of relief. The issue marks the completion of my seventh year as Executive Editor, and also the seventh year of the journal's publication. Seven years is a considerable time. The number has biblical overtones that pertain as well to my own age, having reached the proverbial three score years and ten. Add to that some medical problems, and it becomes clear that the time has come "to pass the torch."

Yet I have received enormous pleasure and intellectual stimulation from carrying that torch, and I will miss it a great deal. I have benefited from the help of many individuals. The quarterly publication of the journal has been made possible by the effort of the successive Senior and Managing Editors and Publishers—Chuck Hathaway, Mary Ellen Mayzee, Carol Siyahi, John Brain, and now Marilyn Mattsson, of their assistants, and of the Book Review and Book Notes Editors —Roger Soder, Susan Thomas, and Trevor Colbourn. I received useful advice from members of the Editorial Advisory Board, and strong support from the Executive Committee of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, sponsors of the journal. But the greatest contribution, of course, came from our many outstanding authors, and from the excellent and dedicated guest editors who have done so much to ease my task. Thanks largely to them, the journal has established a good reputation and has helped to promulgate and refine the concept of the universities after which it is named. That measure of success has smoothed the inevitable rough moments of being its Executive Editor, and has greatly enhanced the fun and satisfaction of the preponderant good times. It will be difficult to let go.

Fortunately my leaving is made much easier by the knowledge that Bar-

bara Holland is taking over as Executive Editor of *Metropolitan Universities* starting with the next issue. I am delighted that Barbara has agreed to take on that exciting, gratifying, but also demanding job, for she is eminently qualified to do so. She brings a rich and varied background. Her personal research interests are in higher education, and she has been responsible for the Research Competition started by the Coalition last year and substantially expanded this year. She has also been deeply immersed in the exciting developments that have taken place in recent years at Portland State University. She worked closely with President Judith Ramaley and Provost Michael Reardon as they made community outreach a central element of Portland State's mission and turned that institution into a model metropolitan university. I have collaborated with Barbara in a variety of ways for several years, and have great admiration for her experience, her skills, her intelligence, and, above all, her sensitive understanding of the principal issues facing higher education and especially metropolitan universities at this time.

And so, Hail and Farewell!

Hail to Barbara. May she and the journal thrive as she identifies themes and guest editors, and clicks her cursor on scissor and paste icons in the continuing challenge to fill the journal with interesting, timely, useful, and well written material.

And on my part, farewell—albeit a qualified one. I remain very much interested in the journal and deeply committed to the purposes of the Coalition, and am ready to continue to serve both as long as I can be useful. It will be wonderful to be able to do so with fewer responsibilities and even less accountability! Be prepared for periodic polemics from my word processor on the various hobbyhorses I have been riding, all of them related to the mission of metropolitan universities. They are hobbyhorses that, in recent years, have assumed more and more reality. When Paige Mulhollan and his colleagues at Wright State University first proclaimed the metropolitan university as the model for the university of the future, their vision was viewed by many as a fantasy. It is still far from being realized, but has moved from the chimeric to the distinctly reachable. The central idea of an engaged and responsive institution, sensitive to the needs of a highly varied group of stu-

dents, committed to preparing them to be effective practitioners as well as involved citizens, and dedicated as much to the application of knowledge in its external environment as to its creation in laboratory or study—that idea has become almost a rhetorical commonplace and is turning into reality in a growing number of the member institutions of the Coalition. Even the elite research and “flagship” universities are jumping on that band wagon! Imitation being the sincerest form of flattery, we can welcome their conversion. When interactive outreach to the community becomes a major theme at meetings of the leading higher education associations, metropolitan universities need only the courage of their convictions to continue as lead institutions in bringing about the changes that must take place throughout traditional higher education if it is to remain relevant and viable.

Safely ensconced on the sidelines, I will be free to cheer the leaders and chasten the laggards, to pontificate on what ought to happen, and to give unsolicited advice on how to accomplish it. So watch for occasional “Reflections from a Rocking Chair.”

I am pleased that my term of office ends with an issue devoted to Faculty Roles and Rewards. It is a theme crucial to realizing the mission of metropolitan universities, and it is also one that has been central to my own work in recent years. I am most grateful to the guest editors, Robert Caret and Joan McMahan, for the outstanding job they have done.

#### **Publisher's Note**

This issue contains the Journal's first cumulative index, covering all articles published in Volumes 1 through 7. Not incidentally, the index also traces the seven-year leadership and guidance of its charter Executive Editor, Ernest A. Lynton. As many know—and all can guess—both the Journal's existence and its success are in large measure due to Ernest's scholarly thinking, editorial skills, hard work, diplomacy, and wonderfully good humor. The appearance of the index in this issue, the last under his direct stewardship, is intended not only as a record of the Journal, but also as a tribute to Ernest Lynton and his work.

# Call for Contributions

*Metropolitan Universities* continues to welcome the submission of unsolicited manuscripts on topics pertinent to our eponymous institutions. We seek contributions that analyze and discuss pertinent policy issues, innovative programs or projects, new organizational and procedural approaches, pedagogic developments, and other matters of importance to the mission of metropolitan universities.

Articles of approximately 3,500 words should be intellectually rigorous but need not be cast in the traditional scholarly format nor based on original research. They should be *useful* to their audience, providing better understanding as well as guidance for action. Descriptions of interesting innovations should point out the implications for other institutions and the pitfalls to be avoided. Discussions of broad issues should cite examples and suggest specific steps to be taken. We also welcome manuscripts that, in a reasoned and rigorous fashion, are *provocative*, challenging readers to re-examine traditional definitions, concepts, policies, and procedures.

We would also welcome letters to the editor, as well as opinion pieces for our forum pages. Individuals interested in contributing an article pertaining to the thematic portion of a forthcoming issue, or writing on any of the many other possible subjects, are encouraged to send a brief outline to either the appropriate guest editor (addresses available from the executive editor) or to the executive editor. Letters and opinion pieces should be sent directly to the latter:

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