

## Exeunt

An editorial transition began at the end of November 1984 when Don Nielsen started to handle all new papers submitted in the physical sciences while I continued to handle papers submitted previously. The transition was completed in mid-April and I have ended my formal editorial association with this journal.

During my tenure as coeditor I received almost 1200 papers, comments, and replies. It would have been impossible to handle those papers without help from many colleagues. Our Associate Editors performed superbly in coordinating the evaluations of most of the papers. All responsibility, however, for comments and replies, and final decisions on papers, rested with me; any errors of omission or commission were mine.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions of the 30 Associate Editors who have worked with me and collectively given many years of their time to maintain the quality of our journal. Each of these talented individuals taught me much and I cherish the friendships that resulted from or were reaffirmed by our close working relationships. Those who served in the physical sciences include Rafael Bras, Wilf Brutsaert, Keros Cartwright, Sam Colbeck, Dick Cooley, Lynn Gelhar, Vijay Gupta, George Hart, Jim Hornbeck, George Hornberger, Subhash Jain, Ken Kipp, Lenny Konikow, Jurate Landwehr, Chris Milly, Don Nielsen, Gary Parker, Joe Pearson, Ken Potter, Ken Reckhow, John Schaake, Sam Smart, Leslie Smith, Roger Smith, Soroosh Sorooshian, Gary Sposito, Keith Stolzenbach, Eric Wood, Warren Wood, and Bill Yeh; Steve Gorelick and Ed McBean, whose primary affiliation is with the policy sciences, also provided much appreciated help. I remain grateful for their sage advice and help.

Significant time commitments are needed to provide the technical editing for a journal of the scope of *Water Resources Research*. My colleagues in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Washington lightened my normal teaching activities to enable me to devote time to editorial duties. I appreciate the support of all departmental colleagues, of my chairman, Neil Hawkins, and particularly of my immediate colleagues within our Environmental Engineering and Science program.

Greatest visibility is accorded usually by our readers and authors to the person or persons with whom they deal directly. There are others who are involved intimately with the operation of an editorial office. During my tenure as coeditor it was my good fortune to have the privilege of working with three exceptionally talented women who ensured that our office functioned smoothly and saw to the many things needed to maintain an orderly flow in the processing of papers.

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Marie-Louise Dietrichson worked with me until June 1983, Nancy Jackson from July 1983 to August 1984, and Diana Leytham for the last part of my term. Their wise counsel and insights into human behavior and feelings did much to help in my communication with authors, whether it was asking for enhancements to a paper or conveying negative news.

It has been my pleasure to work with coeditors Jerry Cohon and Ron Cummings, both of whom continue to contribute to the strength of our journal. Don Nielsen's competence and good humor facilitated a smooth transition in editorships; I am delighted with the choice made by the editorial search committee. Recent and current hydrology section officers, Jim Wallis, Pete Eagleson, Al Freeze, and Marshall Moss have held the health of *WRR* as a paramount concern; their support, friendship, and guidance has been invaluable.

Most authors who prepare their work for scholarly journals feel that their job is done once the reviewers, Associate Editor, and Editor are satisfied with its technical content. Each journal has its preferred submission format that has been designed to minimize confusion for all parties. Once a paper is sent from an editorial office, much work still needs to be done to it before it appears in final form. An efficient, competent staff at AGU oversees this process. Judy Holoviak (Director) and Diane Bartosh (Deputy Director of Publications) head the staff whose responsibility is the publication of all AGU journals. During the last four years Bhodan Dowhaluk, Sally Cook Anderson, Rick Patrick, and most recently Patricia Lichiello have had direct responsibility for the orderly production of *WRR* among other duties. Expert copy editing is essential to a journal of the first rank. Papers prepared to our requested format are appreciated particularly by our copy editors who ply their skills to produce the final format we admire and enjoy. Ruth Sochard did the lion's share of the work until September 1984. Since then Kim Latterell has had the sole responsibility for our copy editing. Both have worked ably under the leadership of Marian Thor. The cooperation and support we have received from Fred Spilhaus (Executive Director) and all AGU staff members, particularly those listed here, has made for smooth and harmonious working relationships; I thank one and all.

The contributors to *WRR* are exceptionally capable, thoughtful, considerate, and eminently decent. All have worked with us to ensure that each published paper met the spirit of my editorial philosophy and policies which I reported last year [*Water Resour. Res.*, 20(3), 321-322, 1984].

Of the many observations I could make about *WRR* I feel that two are especially appropriate. The first is that during the last year the number of authors making their first submissions to *WRR* has increased noticeably. There may be several reasons for this, but I feel it bodes well for the future. The second observation concerns the quality of review comments provided by most of our reviewers and Associate Editors. In many

instances, papers have been enhanced so much by reviewer suggestions that the reviewers could have been added as authors. My thanks go to all reviewers who have unselfishly given so much of themselves.

It was a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve as coeditor of our journal. While a substantial time commitment

was involved, it has been an invaluable experience of many dimensions. I could not have undertaken this job without the encouragement, support, and love of my wife, Sylvia, who remains my closest companion and best friend. Au revoir.

Stephen J. Burges