

A Note From the Editor . . .

As Craig Weidemann mentions in his opening note, this marks the fourth issue of the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement* devoted to articles and presentations from the annual Outreach Scholarship conferences. This tradition began in October 2001 at the first Outreach Scholarship Conference, “Learning, Discovery, and Engagement,” held at Penn State and sponsored by Penn State, Ohio State, and the University of Wisconsin-Extension. The second annual conference, “Catalyst for Change,” was held at Ohio State in October 2002. The third, “Excellence through Engagement,” was held at the University of Wisconsin-Extension in October 2003. The fourth, “Impact through Engagement,” the source of this issue, was once again held at Penn State in October 2004. We are pleased to report that the University of Georgia has now become a senior partner in this initiative and will be hosting the fifth annual Outreach Scholarship Conference, “Transformation through Engagement,” in October 2005 on its home campus in Athens, Georgia.

Part of the tradition for these issues has involved the use of guest editors and guest editorial boards, and credit should be shared immediately with those who have been the true “worker bees” on these issues. Dr. Jeri L. Childers, then interim director of the Outreach Office of Program Development at Penn State, was our first guest editor, and she assembled a review committee to decide which articles submitted for publication should be accepted. This pattern continued at the Ohio State conference, where Dr. Karen S. Bruns, then the leader of OSU CARES and Outreach/Engagement with Extension and University Outreach, served as guest editor for that issue. Dr. Greg Wise, then secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff, did the honors for the issue emanating from the conference held at the University of Wisconsin-Extension. This brings us to the current issue, and I owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Ted Alter, professor of agricultural, environmental, and regional economics, for serving as the guest editor for this issue. Let me hasten to add that the article in this issue written by Dr. Alter and Dr. Nancy Ellen Kiernan was not reviewed by the Penn State committee, but rather by the general editorial board at large.

As editor of the Journal, I am pleased that we have been able to play an important contributing role in these conferences by allowing the good work accomplished there to be extended to a broader audience.

Questions and comments are always welcome.

Sincerely,

Melvin B. Hill, Jr.
Editor