

Editorial Preview

This is my final issue as the Senior Editor of the *MIS Quarterly*. Professor William King of the University of Pittsburg is taking over with the first issue of Volume 7. I want to wish Bill the best as he takes over the leadership of this journal. He certainly begins his work associated with an outstanding editorial staff.

I have taken the liberty of writing a short piece in this, my final issue, to look back to the initiation of this journal and to express a few of my thoughts regarding the journal. For those readers who take time to read these thoughts, I beg your tolerance for the writing style, but after six hard years one has to let off steam somehow.

In this issue, we have two articles in the Application section. The first is by Maryam Alavi of the University of Houston. It deals with the perception of senior executives concerning decision support systems. The second article in this section also comes from Texas authors, Raymond McLeod from Texas A&M and Donald Bender of Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company in San Antonio. It deals with a topic facing many organizations today, the integration of data and word processing.

The first article in the Theory and Research section is by our incoming Senior Editor, Bill King, of the University of Pittsburg. We have operated in the past with the policy that the Senior Editor should not publish in the journal. Since I still serve as Senior Editor we have not violated our policy. It is important for potential authors to see Professor King's work so they can get some flavor for his interests. We trust that this article dealing with the design of information systems will provide appropriate prospective for this audience as well as being of interest to others. The second article is a behaviorally based one by Kate Kaiser of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Robert Bostrom of Indiana University. It describes an action research project involving the implementation of information systems.

Also in this issue are two special pieces. One, by Blake Ives of Dartmouth College and Scott Hamilton of COMSERV Corporation, is a citation analysis of the MIS literature. The second one is a follow-up by E. W. Martin of Indiana University on the research he has been doing on the Critical Success Factors of Chief MIS/DP Executives. His work was published in our June issue and this brief update reports on additional findings.

Gary W. Dickson
Senior Editor