EDITOR'S COMMENTS

It is a great pleasure for me to see this special issue published. I think it represents an important, but under-researched, topic. In today's dynamic world where flexibility is king, standards serve as the essential key to interoperability and play an important role in the evolution of information and communication technologies. I hope the fine articles in this special issue will encourage the publication of more research in the area of standard making. I appreciate the efforts of the coeditors, Kalle Lyytinen and John King, in making this special issue a reality.

I am also very pleased because this special issue is being printed in addition to the four regular issues that the *MIS Quarterly* prints annually. That is, this is the first year that *MIS Quarterly* will print a fifth issue. In my first editorial, "Looking for Diamond Cutters" in March 2005 (http://www.misq.org/archivist/vol/no29/Issue1/EdCommentsV29I1.pdf), I recognized that the developmental reviewing that I was encouraging should result in more accepted papers. I promised in that editorial to search for ways to accommodate the increased number of papers. In my editorial of December 2005 ("Between a Rock and a Hard Spot" at http://www.misq.org/archivist/vol/no29/Issue4/EdComments.pdf), I outlined some of the challenges in accommodating the increased number of papers.

One way of accommodating the increased number of papers is to change the journal size to 8 ½" x 11" and to change the font. These two changes, which were initiated with the March 2006 issue, allow us to print eight to ten articles per issue compared to five to seven articles per issue with the previous format.

Alan Dennis conceived and executed a plan for a second way to accommodate the increase. Alan and I found university sponsors who were willing to help underwrite the journal, which allowed us to publish a fifth issue. In particular, Alan, with the assistance of Anne Massey, Head of the Information Systems Department at Indiana University, gained a commitment of sponsorship from Dean Dan Smith of the Kelley School of Business. Alan also worked with Joe Valacich, Mark Fuller, and Dean Eric Spangenberg at the College of Business at Washington State University. Tom Keon, Dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of Central Florida, was also willing to provide financial support for an additional issue. The Information Systems community owes a sincere "thank you" to these three institutions for their support and to the individuals who made the sponsorship of a fifth issue of *MIS Quarterly* a reality. Thanks are also due to Jennifer Syverson and Jan DeGross in the MISQ office for effectively handling the increased workload, and to Alok Gupta, MISQ publisher, for sound fiscal management.

And while I am recognizing individuals for their significant efforts to further *MIS Quarterly's* goals, I would like to thank Veda Storey and Rajiv Sabherwal. Veda and Rajiv are ending their terms as senior editors. Rajiv has conscientiously served on almost 100 manuscripts in his 3-year tenure as a senior editor. Although stepping down from the board, Veda will continue to serve as senior editor on manuscripts: She is a coeditor with Sal March on the Special Issue on Design Science Research (for information on this special issue, see http://www.misq.org/DesignScience.pdf).

Carol Saunders
Editor-in-Chief
misq@bus.ucf.edu