EDITOR’S LETTER

Dear Readers,

As the new editor of the Bulletin, I would like introduce myself, to thank my predecessors, and to ask you for your assistance.

I am a professor of chemistry at Le Moyne College, a fairly small, undergraduate-oriented university in Syracuse, New York. I have been at Le Moyne for 20 years, teaching at every undergraduate level, from energy and environment for non-science majors to physical chemistry for upper-level chemistry majors. My undergraduate education in chemistry was at the University of Scranton, which, like Le Moyne, is part of the Jesuit network of higher education. My doctoral degree is in chemical physics from Harvard University.

I’ve been active with the Division of the History of Chemistry (HIST) since about 1997. I first came into contact with the Bulletin that year when Paul Jones asked me to referee a manuscript. Later that year I made my first presentation at a HIST symposium. Before too long, I was on the other side of the review process, and my first article in the Bulletin appeared in 1999. Since then, I’ve served HIST as Alternate Councilor and Councilor and as Associate Editor of the Bulletin.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with Paul Jones over the last decade or so, first on the HIST Executive Committee, then as associate editor, and most recently in arranging for the editorial transition. Dr. Jones deserves much of the credit for the current issue (and none of the blame!). Most of the content of this issue was received, reviewed, and edited by him, and he has unhesitatingly helped me learn the ropes. I thank him for his stewardship of the Bulletin, and for his warm and gracious dealings with me. I wish him many more years as a reader of the Bulletin (and author and reviewer, I hope), and I will strive to maintain the quality that the journal has enjoyed to this point.

I have also enjoyed working with the Bulletin’s founding editor, William Jensen, on several HIST symposia. I thank him on this occasion for initiating the Bulletin and for his many contributions to it since Number 1 in 1988. Dr. Jensen has contributed articles, columns, and book reviews to the Bulletin under Dr. Jones’s tenure and I hope he will continue far into the future—well beyond his articles in this issue.

Finally, I thank all who have contributed to the Bulletin in the past, and I encourage all readers to participate in its future. Authors, editors, and book reviewers are, of course, the most visible contributors. Referees also have an essential role behind the pages of peer-reviewed journals such as the Bulletin. Subscribers provide the financial support for the journal, whether through membership in HIST or by individual or institutional subscription. And readers, whether subscribers or not, provide the audience without which authors would be merely talking to themselves. I invite all readers to take an active part in the future of the Bulletin. My email-box is open for submissions and for suggestions.

Carmen Giunta