

SALVE ET VALE

Approximately three years and exactly six issues ago, the current editors pledged a continuing development of the NACADA Journal, which was moving from active, uncertain infancy to a more confident, searching adolescence — just like the organization itself. Since then, NACADA has seen a 47 percent expansion of its membership roster, possibly reflecting the burgeoning significance of advising within academe. Parallel to this growth, the Journal has experienced a 100 percent increase in manuscripts submitted, both in research-based articles and in the experience-based essay category, and from an optimistic perspective the quality of these written works has, for the most part, matched the quantity. Obviously the relationship between NACADA and its professional periodical is one of mutual benefit. A larger membership equals greater circulation for the Journal, and perhaps the Journal in turn has played some role in attracting new members and in offering greater visibility for advising in higher education. Regardless of the exact affinity, the Journal seems to have kept pace with the maturation of the organization and the profession, because of the substantive encouragement rendered by the NACADA membership and leadership.

The 1980s presented a healthy challenge to NACADA and advising; good people involved in both stepped forward to give generously of their efforts and creativity. These dedicated professionals have enabled NACADA and advising to stand confidently facing the 1990s, with its challenges ongoing, new, and as yet unnamed. With good reason, all who have seen advising through the past decade can, at the very least privately, congratulate themselves for a job well done in a cause most worthwhile. Publicly, the editors of the *Journal* pay them tribute, and without reservation express deep gratitude to NACADA, its leadership and membership, for support rendered to this publication.

If advising wants to be woven into the fabric of higher education, it must act dynamically, in concert with the larger academic community. In other words, it must move on, not only to confront the 1990s, but also to set the stage for advising and its inextricable role in the advancement of higher education in the 21st century. NACADA has met with good fortune in being able to choose a new staff of editors from among a solid pool of candidates who offer energy, enthusiasm, and fresh ideas for moving forward. Besides these attributes, they will bring strong academic and publishing credentials when they begin their responsibilities with Volume 10, Number 1.

As readers of this publication, as members of NACADA, as advising professionals, you are urged to cooperate with your new editors as we approach the forthcoming decade. Face the "White Bull that is a blank sheet of paper" and use the medium that has been created for your professional productivity. You can do this with the confidence that the NACADA *Journal* editors will continue the tradition of assisting you with this difficult but necessary activity.