

Editors' Note

We look forward with some trepidation to the task of editing *Hume Studies* after the superb job that has been done by its founding editor, John Davis. The task will no doubt be taxing though in the end enjoyable—at least John so assures us—but it also carries with it the regret that John has retired. We would like to begin, then, by thanking John for the hard work and excellent performance that he has given us, and Hume scholarship, over the years.

We are happy to report, however, that all ties have not been severed: John has agreed to stay on as Book Review Editor. In this position, he replaces Roland Hall, who indicated a while back that he felt it was time he gave up the job. He, too, deserves our thanks.

It was John's policy as editor to try to strike a balance between papers that are primarily historical and those that are primarily analytical. Given the variety of interests in the work of Hume, this was no doubt a wise policy, and more so in the light of the fact that the gap between analytical interests and historical interests is probably not as great in the case of Hume as it is in the case of certain other major historical figures. It is our intention, therefore, to try to strike the same sort of balance.

We would encourage, for that reason, those with any interests in Hume to submit papers to *Hume Studies*.

We would also like to encourage research in all areas of Hume's work. Metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of mind, ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of religion are obvious, but there are aspects of Hume's work that less often make their appearance in the journals. Among these, perhaps most notably, are Hume's work in economics and his work in history. We would like to encourage authors to submit essays in these areas as well.

It is our hope that over the years we will be able to have a number of special issues devoted to particular topics that seem to us deserving of special treatment. Though we hope *Hume Studies* will continue to provide a forum for both established and less established scholars, we would hope that such special numbers could play a role in encouraging younger writers to contribute to Hume studies.

Hume Studies has had for the last few years a cordial and good working relationship with the Hume Society. We will be working to maintain and improve this relationship.

Our major regret upon assuming editorial responsibilities is that the increasing gap between costs and income has forced us to raise our subscription rates. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada has recently cancelled its subvention, as it has done

for a number of other scholarly journals in Canada. The Faculty of Arts of the University of Western Ontario continues to provide a welcome subsidy, but given the constraints under which it is working, this cannot be increased. These exigencies leave us with little recourse save that of increasing subscriptions. We do this reluctantly, but we can see no other way. We hope the subscribers will continue to look upon *Hume Studies* as a bargain.

Robert Muehlmann

Fred Wilson