MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Why is it that we are always amazed at how fast time flies by? Projects and manuscripts that we said would be done by the end of the month, end of the semester, or end of the year often times are still on our TTD list (list of Things To Do) at the end of the month, end of the semester, or end of the year. And we find ourselves often saying “Gee, I thought I would be done with this by now”—and we are generally disappointed that we have not finished the task.

Well, it has been almost a year since I notified the NACIS Board of Directors that I would be ending my term as Editor of Cartographic Perspectives with the Spring 1996 issue. And, as with many things, the time has flown by. But I must admit that I am a bit of disappointed that my job as editor is finally done. Don’t get me wrong, there is a huge part of me that feels a sense of relief (and satisfaction) at completing my four year tenure as editor. But I cannot deny that part of me that looks back on this experience and acknowledges that I will truly miss it.

I have contemplated for some months now on what I would say in this, my final column. Would I make some profound statements...
The last person I wish to give great thanks is Michael Peterson. Michael has been chair of the NACIS Editorial Board (again for as long as I have been editor). The Editorial Board Chair is a thankless job. You do a lot of work but do not receive the recognition that others, like the editor, get. Michael has been a tremendous help in ensuring that the manuscript review process has moved along efficiently and that the Editorial Board functioned as it should.

The last person I wish to give special thanks to is David Tilton. When I first took on the editorship of CP I asked Dave if he was willing to help out as Assistant Editor. He agreed without really knowing what that would entail. I remember our first issue—neither of us new a thing about desktop publishing and it was a miracle that the issue (ironically #13) ever made it to the printer. Over the years we have had our share of trying to figure out how to handle incompatible file formats or deciding what to do when we get a call from the printer saying that the job is on press “but there seems to be a little problem with . . .” Through all of it, Dave has always been of great help and willing to spend what ever time it has taken to get the issue out (and usually out on time!).

In closing, I would like to thank NACIS for the opportunity given to me to be such a part of what goes on in our discipline. I wish my predecessor as much enjoyment as I have had in being able to see the best our discipline has to offer and for the fun I have had as CP Editor. Thanks.

Sona Karentz Andrews
Editor, CP

The cover was produced & designed by Daniel Weber, a graduate student in Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The map is a portion of western Providenciales, North Caicos, and Middle Caicos in the Turks & Caicos. It was digitized using AtlasGIS and then imported into CorelDRAW! where it was resized, rotated, and skewed to its present view. The islands were given a texture fill using Rock-Fractal-Cracked 2C of texture #19702 with a density of one and a light intensity of 40%. The map is oriented with Northeast approximately at the top of the page.