



*cartographic perspectives*

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*Letter from the Editor*

Dear NACIS Member:

This issue, CP46 marks the 9<sup>th</sup> issue under my guidance as editor. It is also the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final issue for 2003. And, it is the punctuation mark defining my first three-year term as editor of CP. I have been invited by the NACIS Board to serve at least one more year as editor of CP, a task that I am delighted to continue, especially considering that all three issues for 2004 are planned and are at various stages of production. CP is back on publication schedule, a fact that should continue into the near future.

There are a number of changes that have taken place over the past three years that have helped *Cartographic Perspectives* arrive at this desired destination. First is the awesome support of a strong and capable editorial board. Manuscripts are now being reviewed within 4 weeks of their receipt.

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**NACIS WEB SITE**  
[www.nacis.org](http://www.nacis.org)

Reviews are rigorous, with plenty of insightful commentary. Article submissions have increased—there were 20 submissions this past year! With increased article submissions, *CP* is able to be more selective as to the papers that grace its pages. For this, I thank my editorial board.

I also thank my fellow editors Ren Vasiliev, Charlie Frye, Jeremy Crampton, Mathew McGranaghan and Melissa Lamont. Their timely contributions have helped *CP* to prosper. The critical cog in this publication process, though, is Jim Anderson (and Lou Cross). Jim has weathered my constant emails, my continual requests for progress reports, my predilection to deviate from “how we typically do things”, and my drive to get *CP* on publication schedule. Thank you Jim!

This issue also marks the end of several appointments on the editorial board, as well as the tenure of three section editors. Leaving the editorial board are Gary Allen, Aileen Buckley and Matthew McGranaghan who served one three-

year term, Carolyn Weiss and Jeremy Crampton who served two three-year terms, and Mike Peterson who not only served the past three years on the board, but also was the past editor of *CP*. Matthew McGranaghan is also leaving his post as Opinion Column Editor, as is Jeremy Crampton who served as Online Mapping Editor for two terms. And finally, Melissa Lamont is leaving her post as Map Library Bulletin Board Editor for which she served for two terms. I thank each of you for your unique contributions to *CP*.

In addition to these accomplishments, *CP* obtained an official copyright with the Library of Congress beginning with the 2002 volumes of *CP*. In 2003 the beautiful “carto” artwork of Matt Knutzen from the New York Public Library began to grace the cover of our journal...a change that very much sets our journal apart from all others. During the past year, *CP* also entered into a relationship with a printing company that enables us to publish in color in every issue of *Cartographic*

*Perspectives* and remain under budget.

A change that is on the horizon for *CP* concerns indexing. *Cartographic Perspectives* is currently indexed in *Current Geographical Publications* of the AGS in Milwaukee, and in *GEOREF*, which is maintained by the American Geological Institute. Indexing, of course, provides greater exposure of published work. The editors of *CP* are looking into having *CP* indexed by *GEOBASE* at Elsevier, which would be the most effective indexing database for *CP*.

All of these changes increase the profile of *Cartographic Perspectives*, helping to build a more prestigious journal that has a broad and diverse readership. I look forward to another year as editor of *CP*, and as always, welcome comments and suggestions about your journal.

Warmest Regards,

Scott Freunds Schuh, Editor