MESSAGE FROM THE GUEST EDITOR

Over the next year Cartographic Perspectives (CP) will have a series of guest editors. We plan on having a permanent editor by the beginning of 1998, but in the interim we are fortunate to have several NACIS members assuming the responsibilities of publishing CP. Future guest editors will include Michael Peterson and Gregory Chu, while James Carter and Ute Dymon will guest edit a special issue focusing on Map Use. Jim Anderson has graciously accepted the Assistant Editor's job and will be responsible for all production facets of CP. Melissa Lamont (Penn State) has assumed the job of gathering and assimilating all the material that is posted on the map library bulletin board.

Mark your calendars for our next annual meeting, NACIS XVII in Lexington, Kentucky, from October 1-4. We should have a great meeting, just like we did in San Antonio. Over one hundred participants enjoyed the hospitality of one of the more charming and scenic Texas cities last Octo-
six years to keeping our finances solvent as Treasurer. Both served NACIS with a high level of excellence and were commended for their work by the NACIS Board at the San Antonio meeting.

As a member of NACIS you probably noticed that your dues for 1997 have gone up. At the Annual Business Luncheon in San Antonio NACIS members passed a resolution to increase dues for all regular members, students, and institutions. The main reason dues were increased is to pay for the cost of Cartographic Perspectives. Both paper and printing costs in 1996 rose to the point that the old $28 membership fee wasn’t even covering the cost of CP. The general consensus of the members in attendance in San Antonio was that $42 was still a bargain for membership in a professional organization with a professional journal. It should be many years before another dues increase is needed.

Potentially, one way to prevent another dues increase for quite awhile is to increase NACIS membership. If you are a professor, sign up some students. If you are an entrepreneur, librarian, lab technician, or government employee, talk to your colleagues who are not members - and sign them up! Membership forms can be found in the back of CP, or just give Chris Baruth (1-800-558-8993) a call and he’ll send you some forms.

Finally, it is a curious phenomenon that article submission to cartographic journals is down and yet more research and experimentation with maps is occurring than at any other time in written history. Consider, for example, the advent of Digital Video Disc (DVD). It has a storage space of 8.7 gigabytes and will allow one to create a true multimedia presentation with high definition sound and full-motion video. There are seemingly infinite possibilities of high resolution dynamic map displays that one could produce using DVD. The research potential in cartography using this device is staggering. Yet, will we adequately document our cartographic discoveries?

Cartographic Perspectives is the ideal forum for publishing innovative research. Even though we do not have a permanent editor this year, we still have a very accomplished and capable Editorial Board. Submission can easily be made to the Interim Editor or Mike Peterson during this coming year. (geolib@cwis.unomaha.edu)

Keith Rice
Past President and Guest Editor, CP