

# Endings, Beginnings, and Continuations

*From the Editor*

As this August issue of *CHRAQ* is being delivered, we here at the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration are experiencing a time of exciting change. Some of our readers may be marking the end of a busy summer tourism season, while those of us at Cornell (as at schools everywhere) are gearing up for a new academic year. Students are arriving, classes are beginning, new faculty members are just starting their jobs, and there is an aura of freshness, excitement, and energy at the school.

We at *Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration Quarterly* are saying "goodbye" and "thank you" to one colleague, and "welcome aboard" to another. I take this opportunity to thank Professor Cathy Enz, who is stepping down as the executive director of the school's Center for Hospitality Research (CHR), and to welcome Professor Gary Thompson, who has now assumed that post.

I was editor of *Cornell Quarterly* for the final year of Cathy's three-year tenure as executive director of CHR (under which auspices this journal is published). Her responsibilities with CHR were many and varied, and she devoted much energy to helping make *Cornell Quarterly* more rigorous and relevant. Cathy was responsible for returning the journal's editorial decision-making to a faculty member, as was the case when *Cornell Quarterly* started operations over 40 years ago. She devoted countless hours and seemingly endless energy to help acquire the necessary resources for the journal and improve its quality and marketing. At the same time, she was completely respectful of the editorial process, and allowed the academic editor (first Professor Michael Lynn and then me) complete control in article acceptance. As an untenured faculty member, I truly appreciated her efforts for the journal simultaneous to her protection and respect for the decisions I made (for her papers and all others submitted by individuals, whether they were from Cornell faculty members or not). In short, I feel that Cathy did much to help improve *Cornell Quarterly*, and her efforts are appreciated.

Now, I am looking forward to working with Professor Gary Thompson, the new executive director of CHR, as *Cornell Quarterly* continues to move forward. As noted in this issue's publisher's message, Gary brings to CHR a different background and style than did Cathy, but I expect that he, too, will excel in this role. Already he has made clear to me that he will support and protect my decisions as editor, and again I appreciate this willingness to grant authority along with responsibility. I also expect we will see some exciting changes that will influence *Cornell Quar-*

*terly*, which I will describe in future issues of *CHRAQ*.

The beginning of the new school year also inspires my hopes for greater ties between *Cornell Quarterly* and the hotel school's students. Only recently did I receive the first article submitted during my tenure by a Cornell undergraduate hotel student. I am hoping that this paper signifies the beginning of a trend, as many hotel-school students are involved in important research. Undergraduate, graduate, and faculty research is featured at the annual student-run Hotel Ezra Cornell; more students are participating in rigorous independent studies; and many students are working directly with hospitality companies and producing quality research projects. Not only do the results of these projects show the increasing sophistication of the student body, but they also are producing work that can be valuable for practice.

I am hopeful that students will see *Cornell Quarterly* as a resource of increasing value. One of my goals this year is for *Cornell Quarterly* to continue to expand its reach, in part by attracting the attention of the future hospitality leaders currently in the ranks of undergraduate and graduate programs, not just here at Cornell but at the many other quality education programs around the world.

With the beginning of this new school year, I also feel compelled to reflect on the past year. I am pleased to say that I have signed on to continue as editor for another three years. This issue is my first after completing one full year as editor. I learned a lot last year, especially about the process of managing submissions and reviews; providing feedback for authors and reviewers; and being on "the other side of the desk" when it comes to the editing, reviewing, and publishing process. I also learned an extraordinary amount about hospitality, mostly in areas beyond what I consider my primary field of expertise (human resources). Indeed, I learned something from nearly all of the 200-plus *Cornell Quarterly* submissions that I read. I also enjoyed getting to know many members of my editorial board much better, and have e-mailed and phoned many prospective authors who have gone over with me their ideas for potential articles.

This is an exciting time here at Cornell. Like all beginnings, there is the prospect for stimulating change. I am hopeful that during this school year, *Cornell Quarterly* will experience interesting changes and continue to expand its relevance and value to our readership.—M.C.S.



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