Welcome to Science Editor’s 5th year of publication. As readers may recall, Science Editor succeeded the newsletter CBE Views in January 2000, when the Council of Biology Editors became the Council of Science Editors. The first 4 years of publication have been exciting and rewarding, and we look forward to our 5th year.

In the current issue, we commemorate another anniversary: the 25th anniversary of the publication of the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals”. A Special Article starting on page 17 traces the development of this influential document from its origins in the frustrations of a manuscript typist to the posting online of the current version. Our thanks to the authors of this article, Council Past Presidents Edward J Huth and Kathleen Case, who were long active in developing and disseminating the Uniform Requirements.

The group of medical journal editors who developed the original Uniform Requirements met in Vancouver, British Columbia, and so has become known as the Vancouver group. And with CSE holding its annual meeting in Vancouver this year, the city is likely to be mentioned often in these pages. We have summarized Vancouver attractions in our November-December 2003 issue—now available on the CSE Web site (www.councilscienceeditors.org), which contains links to further information about the city.

Science Editor plans to provide extensive coverage of the annual meeting, to be held 14-18 May 2004. Our current issue describes the CSE short courses that will precede the meeting, and the next issue will present highlights of plans for the meeting itself. (For further updates, please watch the CSE Web site.) As usual, after the meeting we will publish reports on the individual sessions and other coverage of the event.

For readers of Science Editor, what else is in store for 2004? Items now planned or in production include feature articles on topics ranging from the copyeditorial to the promotional to the technologic, pieces presenting international perspectives, the proceedings of the CSE retreat “The Journal’s Role in Scientific Misconduct”, and reports on conferences of other organizations in science communication. As usual, we look forward to publishing book reviews, columns, other department pieces, and Council news. We also look forward to the continued contributions of Science Editor interns, including Texas A&M University graduate student Joshua Harris, who joins us as the spring semester begins.

As always, our success will depend largely on contributions from CSE members and other readers. Do you have an idea for an article? Better yet, would you be willing to write the article, or have you an author to suggest? Or, for example, have you seen images that might work well on our cover? Please let me know. I can be reached by e-mail at the address below and by telephone at (979) 845-6887.

We at Science Editor look forward to our 5th year of publication. With your help, we can finish this half-decade in style. Meanwhile, onward to Vancouver!

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