

Notes from the New Editor

SOME MONTHS AGO Dan Eisenberg, my predecessor, approached me about replacing him as the Editor of this *Bulletin*. I was a bit taken aback since I never had imagined myself in this capacity. I told him that when I was elected Pope—this was half-serious and half in jest—, I would send one of my cardinals to discuss the matter with him, and left it at that. I later got an e-mail from Fred de Armas, the President of the Society, with the same proposition. Fred and I met for brunch in Chicago late last January—Connie and I were visiting our daughter's family there—and we talked about it. I could see that there was considerable importance getting those two truant years in print swiftly. I told Fred that I could produce those numbers beautifully, and in record time, and was appointed on the spot. There is no such thing as a free brunch. But making nice-looking scholarly books in a hurry is what I do, and before the end of March, the numbers for 2006 and 2007 were in the mail.

It is true that I was our first Editor, Jay Allen's assistant from 1980-1987, but that job was purely mechanical. I did the original design for the cover and for the articles, and I then produced all the pages for the first eight years. Those were the days when everything was done by hand—one block of type for the text, another for the footnotes, others for the headers, and a little baby one for the line above the notes. I had plenty of confidence that I could MAKE the *Bulletin* once again, but what made me nervous was that I was pretty sure that I lacked the critical acumen to guarantee the high-quality scholarship that our *Bulletin* is

known for. Fortunately, scholarly decisions are in the hands of our fine Editorial Board. The Board evaluates, then accepts or rejects articles. All I needed to do was to take the Board's advice. I did institute a preliminary level to the editorial process by asking Vince Martin, my colleague at the University of Delaware, to be the Assistant to the Editor, and to give a preliminary read of the articles. So far, so good, and my continued thanks to the Board, to Vince, and to Frede Jehle who works behind the scenes to put everything on the itnernet.

THE NEW TECHNOLOGY

When I did the original work on the *Bulletin* in 1980, I was using pretty much state of the art equipment with my snazzy new photocompositor. The typography, for those days, looked good. Times have changed and typographical technology has gotten incredibly better. The use of full color for the cover, and even for the pages themselves (look inside this number, for example), has allowed me bring out a product that is infinitely more attractive than my original one.

FOR THE RECORD

In the first number that I produced in the Lathrop era—the 2006 double issue on translation—you will have seen not only an article by me, but also my review article, and a shorter review. I know this looks suspicious—Lathrop takes over the production of the *Bulletin*, and immediately he publishes his first article EVER in the *Bulletin*, and has a couple of reviews. Well, the article had been accepted before anyone had the outlandish notion that I'd be Editor, the review article was almost three years old, and the other one had been in the *Bulletin's* files for a year or so. So my being Editor has had no bearing on the publication of those items—it all would have been there no matter who had taken over.
HONEST!

FINALLY, the cover art is one of the two-page spreads from the bi-lingual *Children's Don Quixote* that Jack Davis and I have prepared. I hope to use more in coming issues.