

## FROM THE EDITOR

With this first issue of Volume 31, *RADIOCARBON* begins a new era. Minze Stuiver, the editor for the past 12 years, has turned in his editor's cap. The journal under Minze's guidance was not just a repository for radiocarbon dates, but became a major source for information on new developments in a field responding to revolutionary technological advances. Most recently, *RADIOCARBON* has published definitive calibration schemes, invaluable to most users of  $^{14}\text{C}$  data. In short, Minze's will be a hard act to follow. Nevertheless, follow it I shall, and I look toward the new horizons with energy and enthusiasm.

Several changes have been made, and more are to come. First, *RADIOCARBON* has a new home. The editorial and publishing offices are now located in the Department of Geosciences of the University of Arizona, following its transfer from the office of the *American Journal of Science*, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Yale University. *RADIOCARBON* has a University-appointed governing board representing Geosciences, Anthropology, and Tree-Ring Research at the University of Arizona and elsewhere in the United States. The editorial board, overseen by myself as Editor and Renee Kra as Managing Editor, has even broader cross-disciplinary and areal representation. Second, this journal has begun phasing-in the latest technology in desktop publishing. The reader may not notice the difference, but authors will benefit from more efficient article submission, faster publication and reduced page charges. Third, this journal will respond to the changing manner of accessing  $^{14}\text{C}$  data by co-evolving with the digital data bases containing  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates and site information. As centralized digital data bases take over an increasing share of the responsibility of providing this service to the scientific community, *RADIOCARBON* will decrease its commitment to publication of date lists. It will, therefore, be able to broaden its focus and correspondingly solicit more research articles pertaining to  $^{14}\text{C}$ -related research and technique development. Articles oriented toward chronometric studies in general, of the types presented at the  $^{14}\text{C}$  conferences, and interpretative studies involving radiocarbon data will also be welcome. Book reviews, discussions, advertising exchanges, conference listings and other added features will extend the journal's scope and diversification.

*RADIOCARBON* will maintain its dedication to researchers who require a source of  $^{14}\text{C}$  data. Cooperation between this journal and the International Radiocarbon Data Base (IRDB) will involve publication of descriptions of available data sets included in the IRDB, and publication of research papers that have made essential use of the data base. The end result for the consumer of  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates will be greatly enhanced access to a global network of data sources.

I welcome all formal (letters for publication in this journal) and informal correspondence. Please address comments and suggestions to me at the editorial offices in Tucson, or by BITNET.

Austin Long