Welcome to the first semi-annual issue of the Micronesian Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences. We look forward to corresponding with you, our viewers. We invite letters regarding our articles and book reviews, and with your permission we will publish a sample of letters in this and later issues.

The Micronesian Journal is very much a group endeavor, and our gratitude goes out to our superb Advisory Board, listed above. It is appropriate, however, that we express particular thanks to Jim Ellis, who has spent the last fifteen months working to make this review a reality. He struggled to find the money to lay the groundwork, form an Advisory Board, and hunt for contributors. He had the support of former Northern Marianas College President Joaquin Sablan and Interim President Barbara Moir, whose background is in anthropology. But he was the one who put it all together, and for that reason we dedicate this first issue to Jim Ellis.

We are pleased and proud that our contributors have sent articles from all over the world, from Norway and France, Spain, the United States, and the Pacific area. While our focus is on Micronesia, we want the perspectives to be as varied and cosmopolitan as possible.

The views of the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the board. We invite rebuttal articles or letters on any article in this or later issues.