

In the COMMONWEALTH

Donald G. Tannenbaum, Editor

There are a number of important changes under way at COMMONWEALTH. Beginning with the next issue, Volume 7, this journal will have a new Editor. Thomas Baldino, who is a Co-editor for Volume 6, will take over the task of overseeing the entire operation; effective immediately, all new manuscripts should be sent to him. The new mailing address for submissions may be found on the inside back cover of this issue. I will assume the post of Co-editor, along with Martin Collo, who has rejoined us this year as our second Co-editor; he had previously served as Managing Editor for Volume 3.

This issue also contains the first of what we hope will be a regular feature of COMMONWEALTH, a review essay on recent textbooks in a field or subfield of political science. We feel such reviews can be of great value to teachers seeking new course materials, and we welcome proposals for future essays; guidelines for those who wish to propose one may be found on the inside back cover, following the Editor's mailing address.

Now to the substance of this issue. David Schultz is author of our first review essay, which discusses seven current texts in political philosophy. That review follows four articles reporting new research, one each in four of the major subfields of the discipline. In the lead article, Ronald McMullen utilizes a version of coalition theory working through patronage networks to explain political instability in contemporary African politics. Then, Stephen Wirls considers the larger Federalist goal behind the design of a narrow scope for judicial review in the United States Constitution. Next, in the second of the two related articles (the first appeared in Volume 5) Elmer Plischke examines how Congress and the President have continued a nineteenth century pattern of cooperation in foreign relations into the twentieth century, enabling the United States to join over 100 international organizations since 1945. The final article, by Clive Thomas and Ronald Hrebenar, takes our traditional feature on Pennsylvania politics to a larger scope, analyzing the interest group systems of eleven Northeastern states and comparing them to the fifty states as a whole.

I would be amiss if I did not conclude these remarks with an expression of sincere appreciation to all those who have contributed over the

years to the success of this journal. My thanks especially to my co-editors and our several managing editors, to our distinguished Editorial Review Board and our many anonymous reviewers. Finally, my gratitude to the Officers, Executive Council and members of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association, without whom we could never have come this far. As Editor, I have been fortunate indeed to have enjoyed such strong support, and I now look forward, together with the many constituencies who have helped me in the past, to working with Tom Baldino as he assumes the post of Editor.