

From the Editors

With this issue, we are initiating a bold experiment of publishing the Journal on-line. We have taken this step after extensive study and consultation regarding the desirability and feasibility of making this shift. In this connection, we wrote to our current and potential subscribers, contributors, advertisers as well as members of our Editorial Board and many others. We heard from most of them.

Almost all those who responded, favored the switch to on-line publishing. Some expressed rightful concern about the access to the Journal by those not having access to a computer and/or those who face unreliable/costly telephone service. A study of our address lists indicated that this is not likely to be a significant constraint for us. On the other hand, potential benefits in terms of expanding the readership, savings in printing and mailing cost, and economy of time in bringing out each issue could be very significant.

Our experimental phase will last one year. During this year, the Journal will be published on-line only, and it will be available free of charge to all. The latter change is introduced to help those who pay by the minute to access the Internet.

Those who have sent their annual subscription recently should know that we are grateful for their support and that their subscription will be credited toward the year following the experimental year when a system of payment may be introduced to recover the cost of bringing out the Journal.

We will be eager to hear from you your experience and reactions to the on-line Journal.

Best regards,
Editors