More than two years have passed since I used this column to let you know how things are going at PEP, although through other means many of you will have learned about the most significant recent happenings. Let me run through them in quick review.

First in importance for the health of the edition was NEH’s decision to award PEP a grant in 1997. It was our first federal grant since 1991, and along with some additional support from IUPUI and private contributors, it enabled us to return to a full production staff—and it is an excellent staff. Volume 2 of the Essential Peirce was published in the spring of ’98 as a PEP publication—its preparation provided the training necessary for the new staff members hired in ’97. Since then we have been making good progress with volumes 6 through 10 of the chronological edition. We will be published this summer and vols. 8, 9, and 10 are on track for completion in one-year intervals after that. W7, which will be devoted to Peirce’s work for the Century Dictionary, will be a special volume to be completed out of sequence at some later time. This production schedule depends on continuing funding at present levels. Our current NEH grant expires at the end of June and we will not know for a few weeks whether we will receive new funding. If we aren’t successful, our production schedule will have to be significantly cut back.

We have a new advisory board. The new board is composed of the following members: John D. Barlow, Professor of English & German and former Dean of the School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI; Lucia Santanella Braga, Professor of Semiotics, Universidade Catolica de Sao Paulo, Brazil; Joseph L. Brent, Professor Emeritus of Intellectual History, University of the District of Columbia; Arthur W. Burks, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, University of Michigan; Vincent Colapietro, Professor of Philosophy, Penn State University; Don L. Cook, Professor Emeritus of English, Indiana University; Joseph Dauben, Professor of History of Science, CUNY; Gérard Deledalle, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy & Semiotics, University of Perpignan, France; Randall Dipert, Professor of Philosophy & English, United States Military Academy, West Point; Umberto Eco, Professor of Semiotics, University of Bologna, Italy; John Gallman, Director, Indiana University Press; Susan Haack, Professor of Philosophy, University of Miami (Florida); Karen Hanson, Professor of Philosophy, Indiana University; Peter Hare, Professor of Philosophy, SUNY at Buffalo; Robert H. Hirst, Director, Mark Twain Project, University of California at Berkeley; Christopher Hockway, Professor of Philosophy, University of Sheffield, England; Paul Nagy, Professor of Philosophy, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis; Klaus Oehler, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, University of Hamburg, Germany; Helmut Pape, Professor of Philosophy, University of Hannover, Germany; Hillary Putnam, Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University; Don D. Roberts, Chair, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, University of Waterloo, Ontario; Richard Robin, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Mount Holyoke College; Sandra Rosenthal, Professor of Philosophy, Loyola University; Israel Scheffler, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy & Education, Harvard University; Thomas A.

Sebeok, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Linguistics & Anthropology, Indiana University; Thomas L. Short, Professor of Philosophy, Titusville, NJ; William A. Stanley, Chief Historian, Retired, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration; Paul Weiss, Sterling Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Yale University. PEP is extremely grateful to the board members who retired in 1998, after years of dedicated service: Professors Jo Ann Boydston, Carolyn Eisele, Charles Hartshorne, Kenneth L. Ketner, and Richard A. Tursman. These individuals helped see the Peirce Project through some difficult times.

In April, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board recommended that PEP establish an official research center to house the edition and to serve as an international center for Peirce scholarship. Such a center is expected to help with fund raising and, also, to continue to make PEP resources available to scholars after the edition is completed. This is in process.

There are some staff changes to report. André De Tienne, whom many of you know, was put on tenure track in March 1997 as an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at IUPUI. He was also promoted to Associate Editor for the critical edition. Last year, Cornelis de Waal joined our editorial staff as a Post-Doctoral Fellow/Visiting Assistant Editor and has an appointment as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Adam Kovach, a Project Research Associate, successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation and is now a Post-Doctoral Research Associate.

At the level of school administration we have a new Dean. Last summer, Herman Saatkamp, Jr., editor of the George Santanyana Edition, became Dean of our School of Liberal Arts. This summer he will move the Santanyana Edition to Indianapolis. The Peirce Project and the Santanyana Project held a joint reception at the World Congress in Boston. A third edition, the Frederick Douglass Papers, also moved to IUPUI’s School of Liberal Arts. Together, these three editions form an unusual concentration, which is likely in the long run to work to the benefit of the Peirce Project. The impact in the short run, however, is uncertain. All three editions are funded by NEH and all three have applications pending.

I wish to extend my deepest appreciation to retired Dean John D. Barlow, who has been a strong advocate for the Peirce Project, and who has agreed to continue his support, even in his retirement, by serving on our advisory board.

Many of you helped us with our $80,000 NEH matching funds challenge. We have raised about $75,000 of the $80,000 we had to match—which leaves only $5,000 to be raised by April. Thank you! See Edward Queen’s accompanying note for how you can help us finish this match. In a forthcoming issue of the Newsletter, Dr. Queen will report on plans to establish an endowment fund to ensure that we can keep a full production staff in place during hard times, and to keep a Peirce Center going after the edition is finished.

Finally, thanks to Richard Miller, our Newsletter editor, for reviving this means of communication.

—Nathan Houser

The Peirce Edition Project Web Site, promised in the last issue of the Peirce Project Newsletter, is now available for public use. Accessible via http://www.iupui.edu/~peirce, the site provides information about PEP publications, projects, research resources and staff. The online visitor can learn details of the current NEH Challenge or read a brief biography of Peirce. There are back issues of the PPNL. Information about each of the published volumes of the Writings, including their introductions and tables of contents, is just a click away. One can learn how the PEP critically edits each volume and what the standards are as set by the Committee on Scholarly Editions. Similar information is provided about both volumes of The Essential Peirce.

In addition to specific materials relating to the Peirce Edition Project, there are specific links to IUPUI, to the IU Press, and to the Arise site, as well as more than three dozen links to Peirce-related, general philosophical and critical edition web sites. Enjoy your virtual visit to the PEP!