In my last Director’s Report I made the happy announcement that we had received a grant from NEH for 1997–99 and were waiting to hear if we would be awarded a new grant for 1999–2001. Fortunately, we were. In fact, we are now halfway through the new grant and have already submitted another proposal to NEH for a 2001–03 grant. We’re concerned about this new application because of the move afoot at NEH to abandon the scholarly editions altogether (see this issue’s front-page story), but we remain hopeful.

The Peirce Edition Project had another good year in 2000. I noted in my previous column that Cornelis de Waal had joined PEP as a Visiting Assistant Editor. He has now been made a permanent member of our editing staff—and of course he continues his association with IUPUI’s philosophy department. Volume 6 was published in early spring and reached sales of more than 600 copies by August. Work on volume 8 is going well, and we expect to finish it this year; it will be an exciting volume with some interesting writings appearing in print for the first time. And some of the important previously published writings—e.g., the 1891–93 Monist series—will be based on the recently discovered original printer’s copy. We are also making progress on volumes 9 and 10 (see de Waal’s piece on W10 on pp. 4–5).

In hopes of finding a way to move ahead more quickly within the confines of our present funding situation, we are exploring the possibility of working with teams of scholars in Hannover, Germany, and in Montreal to set up satellite operations devoted to special volumes of the critical edition. The group in Germany, led by Helmut Pape, has already developed a detailed plan and is presently seeking separate funding. Pape is hoping to establish a center for the study of pragmatism that would have a larger purpose than simply working on the edition. The Montreal group, led by François Latraverse, is not quite as advanced in its planning but is equally serious in purpose. I hope to have more to report on this in the next issue of the newsletter.

We may suffer some delays this summer because of renovations to the air circulation system in Cavanaugh Hall, where PEP is located. We will have to work in temporary quarters—perhaps for as long as four months—but with careful advance planning we hope to avoid serious setbacks. Scholars hoping to undertake research at PEP this summer should make arrangements well in advance.

Many readers will be glad to know that Indiana University Press has reached an agreement with the InteLex Corporation to produce an electronic edition of the critical edition. The initial CD-ROM will include the first six volumes and will be periodically updated after that. Some details remain to be worked out, but the first CD likely will be available later this year. In March the Peirce Project received the library and papers of Carolyn Eisele (see article on p. 2), a significant addition to our resources. The expenses related to this acquisition were covered by the Max H. Fisch Library Fund, and we are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to that fund.

On the funding front, we were fortunate that so many of you provided support for our NEH matching funds challenges. We managed, to the surprise of many, to raise $80,000 to fully meet the first NEH match for 1997–99, and we have pledges that fully cover the $45,000 match for 1999–2001 (which must be completed by July). We are indeed thankful for your help. We are now facing the realization that to insure the completion of the critical edition, and also to insure that the many important resources we have managed to bring together in Indianapolis continue to serve the scholarly community after the edition’s completion, it is necessary to establish a Peirce Endowment. A steering committee is being formed to guide this effort, with much help from the School of Liberal Arts Development Office, and before long you can expect to hear more about this. Some of you have already been contacted. Please be thinking about how you could help—perhaps with a bequest or the transfer of an annuity. Truth crushed to earth may inevitably rise again, but only, I am learning, when advocates and friends of “that truth” come forward with funds to support it. This is the world we live in.

Many thanks to John Gallman for his unwavering support of the critical edition and for his years of service to PEP as a member of the Board of Advisors. John retired last year from the directorship of Indiana University Press. Thanks also to Tara Morrall for stepping up to edit this newsletter.

Help Support the Edition
Write checks to:
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Director’s Report

Volume 6 Erratum
Selection 37 in W6: 354–56, titled [Reasoning], ends with three ellipsis points within italic brackets because the editors were unable to find the sheet(s) that continued its last leaf. We have recently identified that continuation, whose brevity made it hardly noticeable among the many fragments. It is found in R 579: 12, and consists of the following five words: “so, it is bad reasoning.” Readers of W6 are invited to enter this correction in their copy on p. 356, and to correct the corresponding entry in the Chronological Catalog in W6: 527 (c. 1889.1), whose first part needs to read: “Holograph, 8 sheets, Houghton, Peirce Papers, R 830: 2, R 278: 240, 243, 269, 268, 267, 266 (= R 1573: 250), R 579: 12; . . .”

From the Editor
I am pleased to present you with another issue of the Peirce Project Newsletter. As a graduate intern at the Project, one of my responsibilities is editing the newsletter.

It has been a while since the last one appeared because our attention must be focused, as always, on the work of producing the Writings volumes. However, we consider it important that you receive news and information about the ongoing work of the Project and topics related to Peirce. Therefore, we hope to again publish two issues a year. If you have comments on this issue or suggestions for future issues, contact Nathan Houser (nhouser@iupui.edu) or Tara Morrall (tmorrall@iupui.edu) here at the Project. — T. Morrall