A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The authors of articles in this issue of the Southern Journal of Criminal Justice have reason to be especially proud. They have survived possibly the toughest, most demanding editorial review process of any refereed journal in the Criminal Justice field. In selecting a new board following the Fall issue last year, we asked reviewers to be particularly mindful of "quality" in all aspects when considering articles sent to them for review. They responded admirably. In fact, by the mid-year meeting of SACJE, we found that not one article had been accepted through the review process. Rather than change the process, we called instead for more manuscripts, with the admonition that they would be judged on the same tough-minded basis as the earlier rejected articles. To date, only four articles have survived that process; they are included in this issue.

The editors felt, however, that SACJE members and other subscribers might wish to see some quality writing by Criminal Justice students. The final two articles in this issue are winners of student paper competition at the College of Criminal Justice at the University of South Carolina. One article is by an undergraduate, John Kittredge, and the other by a graduate student, Patricia Watson. We think that you will agree that both articles meet professional quality standards and are evidence that when given instruction and opportunity, Criminal Justice students can produce excellent work. In future editions, we plan to provide space for other student papers.

Thus, we come to the message. Send us your "quality" work--whether it be written by faculty or students. If your work or that of your students is published, you too can feel proud, because if it meets the standards of our board, it must be excellent.

Gene Stephens