Valedictory Editorial

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When Walter Kaufmann-Bühler had the foresight to agree, in October, 1984, to our proposal to edit a new journal to be known as Discrete & Computational Geometry, people working in the two fields had, by and large, not yet discovered one another. We spent the rest of that year, and a good part of the following, putting together an editorial board for DCG, selecting topics to be covered by the journal, and lining up the first few issues. The first issue of the journal appeared in January, 1986, and was succeeded by three more later that year. At the same time we organized the first of what was to become a decennial series of conferences on discrete and computational geometry, to which researchers from “both sides of the aisle” were invited, and asked to make their presentations mutually comprehensible. This proved to be the start of a number of collaborations. Over the years it has continued to be our aim, and the aim of the journal, to foster this sort of collaboration between mathematicians and computer scientists. We think it is fair to say that we have succeeded in what we set out to do twenty-five years ago.

Sadly, Walter died prematurely in 1986; but Springer continued to give its full support to the journal in the years that followed. DCG has grown from its original size of 400 pages a year to its current size of eight issues in two volumes annually, and at the same time the number of researchers around the world whose websites now proclaim their chief interest as “discrete and computational geometry” has grown to impressive size. We began publishing occasional special issues on various topics whose guest editors were chosen from the community. Soon the tradition of publishing an

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annual special issue devoted to the best papers in the yearly ACM Symposium on Computational Geometry (with the SoCG Program Chair as guest editor) took hold as a regular feature.

In 2004, both because the volume of work had grown too large for the two of us and because we had begun looking ahead to our eventual retirement, we asked János Pach to join us as a Co-Editor-in-Chief, and we were gratified that he did so the following year.

We now feel it is time for the two of us to step back and allow the journal to be directed by younger hands. While we will continue receiving and managing papers during 2011, participating in major editorial decisions, and helping out with the transition under the honorary title of Founding Editors, Herbert Edelsbrunner and Günter M. Ziegler will join János as Co-Editors-in-Chief of DCG. Those two names need no introduction to anyone in the field: Herbert and Günter are in the midst of distinguished careers and are respected leaders in the community. We are certain that, together with János, they will maintain the high caliber of the journal and at the same time bring innovations that will enhance its reputation in the coming years.

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