LETTER FROM THE DEAN OF THE WESTERN BUSINESS SCHOOL THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

With this issue the Western Business School assumes the responsibility for publishing the *Journal of International Business Studies*. We are honored to have been entrusted with this responsibility for the most highly regarded journal in the international field. We also are very proud to be the first business school outside the United States to be the editorial home of *JIBS*.

David Ricks and his team at The University of South Carolina have provided a solid base on which to continue building the reach, reputation, and impact of *JIBS*; and also have established a widely recognized standard of excellence, which we intend to continue.

We are assuming editorial responsibility at a time of unprecedented change in business, much of it driven by the globalization of the world's economies. Political, economic, social, and technological changes are forcing almost all businesses to pay more attention to international markets and competition. This is requiring business leaders worldwide to grapple with new issues and challenges. It is our hope that *JIBS* will play a major role not only in continuing to publish leading research, but also in stimulating research that provides these leaders with the insights to manage their businesses more effectively in this changing environment.

The mission of the Western Business School is to develop knowledgeable managers who are effective decision-makers and are prepared to be leaders in today's global business environment. We see the publication of *JIBS* as being highly consistent with this mission. We are committed to devoting the energy and resources necessary to ensure the continued success and growth of the *Journal*, and to building even further its reputation among academics and thoughtful practitioners worldwide. We are looking forward to working closely with the Executive and the members of the Academy of International Business to realize these objectives.

Adrian Ryans