

Editorial

With this issue, *SCIAMVS* starts its sixth cycle—and now under new editorial direction. It has fallen to Taro Mimura and myself to endeavor to step into the roles formerly filled by our teachers, Professors Micho Yano and Ken Saito. While it is an honor to be asked to do so, it is with some trepidation that we take up this task, since *SCIAMVS* covers more territory, time and languages than any one person could hope to master. Hence, if the journal is to have any success under our tenure, we must continue to rely on the high quality of our authors' submissions and the high standards of our referees' reports.

In the next couple of years, we will be introducing a number of gradual changes. In 2016, we will roll out a new website, which will include the possibility of adding electronic resources to supplement the published material—such as photographs of sources, data sets used in the preparation of editions, and so on. The back issues of the journal have been digitized and these will shortly be made available through the website for download by subscribers.

The task of refereeing for *SCIAMVS* is particularly arduous, and largely thankless. We believe, however, that the work involved in this process should receive some recognition. As stated in the journal's original governance document, in the interest of scholarly objectivity, the referees are to remain anonymous for ten years following the final decision—and this policy remains. From now on, however, the names of the referees will be published on the *SCIAMVS* website next to the paper that they reviewed, following a ten-year window.

Although in past issues all papers centered around new editions or translations, we are interested in broadening this scope to some extent. While we will continue to focus on studies of source materials, we will no longer insist that articles include new critical texts or translations. For example, we will be interested in publishing studies of source collections, work on diagrams and other visual elements, and analysis of the relationships between our various sources—especially, if this involves new photographs or other data making the sources more widely accessible. The paper by Y. Mitsuma in this issue is representative of this new editorial stance.

Despite its broad temporal and geographic range, *SCIAMVS* is a specialized, indeed boutique, journal. It is still not well known outside of the purview of historians of pre-modern mathematics and does not have a wide circulation. Nevertheless, for those of us who learn from it and contribute to it, the journal performs a vital role

in our scholarly work, not readily filled by other outlets. For these reasons, in the next few years we will put in effort to bring *SCIAMVS* to a broader readership by placing it in more libraries and increasing individual subscriptions. More changes will be announced as we finalize them.

Our primary goal as editors, however, is not to change the journal, but to ensure that it continue in the spirit in which it was founded and functioned for its first fifteen issues—as an outlet for close studies of the sources of pre-modern exact sciences. To this end, we hope to be able publish some 200–300 pages each year. Hence, we ask that, as authors, you continue to send us any editorial work, or source studies, that you have done in the pre-modern mathematical sciences that falls short of producing a monograph. And we ask that, as referees, you continue to devote your time and efforts to reading critically and reporting on the work of your colleagues.

Nathan Sidoli
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