Message from the president-elect [1990, Vol. 13, no. 2]

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As incoming President of the Academy for 1991, I felt it appropriate to communicate with all members concerning my aspirations for the Academy and its activities during 1991. I must say that I am deeply honoured to have been asked by my colleagues to take on this important role for the Academy, and I am looking forward to our programs and activities in 1991 with considerable enthusiasm. At the Presidential level, we have been moving increasingly in the direction of coordinating the efforts and programs of current and incoming Presidents, and to that end, President Merino and I have been in constant communication during this year. I would like to express the appreciation of all members of the Academy to President Merino and her committees and task forces for their prodigious and productive efforts throughout this year. 1990 has been a year of great progress in many of the areas of activity undertaken by the Academy. It will certainly be a great challenge to sustain the momentum that has been achieved this year and to carry it forward into 1991.

It seemed to me to be appropriate at this time to telegraph some of the major themes and directions that I shall be attempting to sponsor in the life of the Academy next year. My major theme could best be summarised as “Expanding and Intensifying Historical Research.” I am keen to encourage the further upgrading of research skills amongst our accounting history community, to support new directions in historical research (such as critical, contextual and oral histories), to attract new researchers into our fold, and to press home to the general accounting research community the contemporary relevance of much historical accounting research.

In addition, I am concerned to further strengthen the continuity and coherence that can be achieved from Presidency to Presidency. It is my belief that given our current structure of Vice-Presidents, President-Elect, and President, that it should be possible for incoming, present, and immediately past Presidents to share and discuss their visions for the Academy and to provide a degree of continuity and support for initiatives that need to be sponsored across more than one year. Therefore in 1991, in addition to the fine work already undertaken by Dick Vangermeersch and colleagues on a strategic plan for the Academy, I shall be paying further attention to Presidential discussions of their own strategic directions.

I would like to call your attention to a number of important events that will occur in 1991. I commend to your support, the Southwest Region Doctoral Consortium that has been sponsored by President Merino for March 1991. This represents an
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