

EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of the Australian Journal of Information Systems (AJIS). Over recent years Information Systems has steadily grown in importance providing the much needed link between technology and the businesses and organisations which employ it. As can be seen from the articles presented in this issue, the area of Information Systems is an extremely diverse one impinging on almost all facets of working and social life.

Throughout the planning and development of this first issue a number of things became clear. The first is that there is a wealth of interest, support and expertise throughout Australia in the many areas collectively known as Information Systems. Not only has this support come from within Australia but, perhaps more importantly, there is a growing respect by the international community towards the research and scholarship that is emanating from Australia.

The second conclusion which became apparent was the need for a forum through which this research and scholarship could be acknowledged and shared. I hope that this journal is recognised by the Australian Information Systems Community as their forum for the dissemination of knowledge. The journal should not simply act as a place for publication of material, though obviously this is important, but should provide the catalyst for the advancement of Information Systems both nationally and internationally.

This first issue contains eight articles. The breadth of topics covered is, to say the least, challenging. It is the mission of this journal to publish quality research and scholarship in all areas of Information Systems and as such I hope that the diversity contained in this first issue will be the hallmark of subsequent issues. For Information Systems to be of importance to the community it cannot simply be the province of a small minority but must reach and support all practising professionals. I believe that the articles in this issue fulfil that aim.

When launching a journal there are many who must be acknowledged. Firstly I would like to thank the editorial board for its dedication to this venture. Without their input this journal would not have been produced. Secondly I must acknowledge the support of the consulting editors who, through their positive replies of acceptance to the position, confirmed that we are on the right track. Thirdly I must thank and congratulate the eight authors in this first issue. Their high quality articles have, I believe, set a precedent for the journal. I must single out for particular thanks Mr Ayman El-Ardenli and Mr John James who have been tireless in their assistance through final production of this first issue.

Finally my thanks goes to the Information Systems Community for your support for this journal.

Rob MacGregor
Editor