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Editorial

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Editorial

Gulf Research Reports was founded in 1961 by Dr. Gordon Gunter to fill an existing need of a new outlet for scientific information on the Gulf of Mexico and adjacent waters. But assuming the new chore as editor and developing the journal exacted the penalty of time from other scholarly endeavors, thus he brushed them aside to be dealt with another day. It is not without some degree of trepidation that I accept the editorial torch from Dr. Gunter. The compensating consolation is his willingness to continue to sacrifice some of his time as consulting editor, for which I am most grateful.

Dr. Gunter has received world-wide recognition for his numerous contributions to marine science, scientific writing and editing. His new freedom from various deadlines, after so many faithful years, will finally allow him time to address matters that were shelved for so long.

Changes in the economy have brought changes in the format of the *Reports*. The page size has been enlarged to accommodate more typescript per page, but more especially to provide for clearer and more easily read tabular and graphic material. But even so, it became necessary to impose a nominal page charge to help defray the cost of publication. Information for contributors has been prepared and published in this volume for the guidance of investigators desiring to publish their work in the *Reports*. To ensure high quality and relevance, the editorial policy is to publish only those manuscripts reviewed and found acceptable by at least two referees.

The *Reports* is now circulated to 675 subscribers throughout the nation and seventy-two foreign countries. Further steps will be taken with the objective of substantially increasing the service and circulation of the *Reports* to the scientific community.

HAROLD D. HOWSE