

## Editor's Note

This is my first issue as Publications Editor for the National Association for Ethnic Studies (NAES). I consider it quite an honor to have been nominated to be the new incoming editor. I would like to thank the outgoing editor, Gretchen M. Bataille, for all of her support and guidance during this transition period. NAES Publications have profited greatly by her commitment and dedication to ensuring that our journal remain an active outlet in publishing important research being produced by scholars in the field of ethnic studies. With the able assistance of Catherine Udall Turley, our managing editor, I am confident that NAES can continue to serve as an effective vehicle for featuring some of the up-to-date research in our discipline. Ethnic studies publications have had to struggle, sometimes continuously, for their survival. There continue to be positive signs about publications in the field. The new journal of the National Council for Black Studies, *The Afrocentric Scholar*, recently began publication. Unfortunately, there are some not-so-positive occurrences, like the demise of the *Journal of Ethnic Studies* after nineteen years of publication. Many individuals had their careers positively impacted by having their research published in this journal when they were yet budding scholars. We cannot afford to have our new publication accomplishments overshadow or obfuscate our knowledge of simultaneous publishing setbacks.

It is a time when colleges and universities are attempting to establish a strong commitment to 'internationalizing' the curriculum. This is understandable, given all the events taking place in Europe, South Africa, and other foreign countries. However, we must remind our institutions of higher education that this process must not come at the expense of U.S. race and ethnicity studies. There is still a great deal to do in order to "nationalize" our curriculum offerings on most campuses across the country. We need to focus our attention on the experiences of African Americans, Chicanos/Latinos, Native Americans, and Asian Americans, and make their experiences an integral part of the U.S. ethnic/racial tradition. There is also an urgent need to compare and contrast the international and national group experiences. Our 1994 NAES National Conference, to be held March 17-20, 1994 in Kansas City, Missouri, has "Ethnicity: Global Perspectives" as its theme in order to help people understand how the differences and also the similarities of oppression impact ethnic groups, no matter where they live.

Finally, this special issue of *Exploration in Ethnic Studies* focuses on the topic of "Ethnicity and Public Policy." I am pleased that Maulana Karenga, special issue editor, has compiled an excellent set of articles that illuminate the importance of public policy and how public policy can affect the situation for ethnic/racial groups in the United States.

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