

*From the Board Chair--continued*

of being our Executive Director on September 1, 1999. ASIANetwork is distinctly fortunate to have someone with his organizational skill and attention to detail take up this crucial job.

#### **INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

ASIANetwork invites faculty colleagues and friends of the organization to make tax-deductible contributions to the organization. Your contribution will help ensure that our educational mission will continue and provides concrete evidence of the breadth of appeal our organization has. You may either send a contribution to the Executive Director or enclose a contribution when you register for the annual conference.

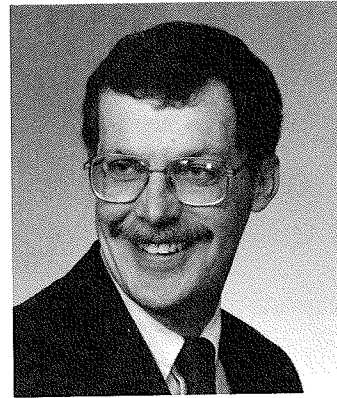
#### **PARTICIPATE IN GUIDING ASIANetwork**

We have a unique organization, one that offers many different kinds of opportunities to learn and share. We look forward to seeing you at our annual conference and as you take part in the various programs it offers. ASIANetwork has accomplished much, but there is much more to be done. We look forward to your advice and suggestions about how to best do this.

*Stan Mickel*

**Do you have an opinion on something you read in this issue? Do you wonder what others think about a certain topic of discussion? Write a letter to the editor and start a dialogue. Send your thoughts to *ASIANetwork Exchange* at [ANExchange@augustana.edu](mailto:ANExchange@augustana.edu) or Anne Prescott, *ASIANetwork Exchange*, Augustana College, 639 38th St., Rock Island, Illinois 61201. Don't wait for someone else to do it--write your letter now!**

## *From the Executive Director*



This past August has been incredibly busy as I have, on the one hand, worked with Marianna McJimsey to prepare ASIANetwork for its move from Colorado College to its new headquarters at Augustana College, and on the other hand, worked with the current Board, and especially Stan Mickel our current Board Chair, to prepare separate mailings to ASIANetwork members to solicit annual dues payments and to 750 college presidents to inform them about ASIANetwork and the wonderful array of programs and opportunities we present them. Stan and the Board are also deeply involved in preparing for the annual fall Board meeting, to be held October 1-3, and for the April 28-30, 2000 annual conference to be held at Hickory Ridge Conference Center near Chicago. Members of the Board are also engaged in grant writing, working with our friends at St. Olaf College on managing the website ([www.ASIANetwork.org](http://www.ASIANetwork.org)), and providing oversight for the wonderful array of foundation-funded programs available to faculty and students at ASIANetwork affiliated institutions. I have also had the opportunity to work with the new co-editors of the *ASIANetwork Exchange* to produce this issue of the newsletter.

What I have learned this past month has not surprised me. Marianna and her capable secretary, Sandy Papuga, devoted their entire summer to preparing materials for the transfer of the headquarters. I doubt there has ever been a change of leadership in an academic consortium so ably prepared for by an outgoing executive director. Membership records are updated and ready to use, financial accounts are in order, documents of importance related to the history of the organization and those essential to running the organization are properly filed and ready for use. The trans-

fer of materials was just that. During the first week of September, I drove 950 miles to Colorado Springs to work with Marianna on the move, and we literally transferred the offices from Colorado College to the back of my mini-van for me to carry back to Rock Island, Illinois and the new consortium headquarters at Augustana College.

I am also grateful to administrators and faculty at Augustana for help in preparing for this move. The Dean and President of the College are providing me release time to enable me to serve ASIANetwork better. Office space suitable for the housing of the consortium and the production of the newsletter is also being provided. We joked some at last spring's annual conference that it would take at least four individuals to do the work of one Marianna. Because the consortium has grown in numbers and in complexity, this will, in fact, be the case. Nonetheless, because of the graciousness of Augustana, the costs to ASIANetwork will not increase. Besides freeing time for me to work on ASIANetwork matters, Augustana has also committed an individual from the comptroller's office, Stephanie Cramer, to provide able assistance to me to manage ASIANetwork financial resources, to prepare annual tax statements and so forth. This was previously done by Marianna with the able help of Steve Meyers, a Colorado Springs CPA. In addition, the work that Marianna did on the newsletter will now be done by two Augustana colleagues, both with editing and publishing experience: Anne Prescott of the music department and Ben Nefzger of the sociology department. I am also blessed with a half dozen other faculty at the college who are deeply committed to this enterprise.

As a person who has served as an active and then ex officio Board member for the past four years, I have a good understanding of the immense amount of work undertaken by Marianna to lead this organization. I wish to express my gratitude to Colorado College for providing a campus headquarters for ASIANetwork and especially to Marianna for her service to our consortium. As noted by Suzanne Barnett in the Citation given Marianna at last April's conference, Marianna has been "just right" as the Executive Director of ASIANetwork these past six years. I hope the same can be said for me at the end of my tenure as Executive Director.

*Van Symons*

**Has your institution paid its yearly membership dues? Check now so that you don't lose your membership benefits!**

## *From the Editors*

This is the first issue of the *ASIANetwork Exchange* to be produced by its new editors and Augustana College. It is also a special one. At this transition point in ASIANetwork we thought it would be helpful for everyone involved to look back at where we came from and how we have progressed. Thus this issue of the *ASIANetwork Exchange* chronicles the history of ASIANetwork from a passionate dream to an expanding reality. The past Board Chairs and Executive Director were asked to write about the changes, innovations, and achievements which occurred during their tenures. These pieces reflect the unique personalities of each author, and give us a sense of the growing pains and achievements of the first years of ASIANetwork.

In keeping with the expansion of the organization, we have identified several areas of the *ASIANetwork Exchange* which we would like to develop further. As you will see in this issue, we have added photos so that you can see the people and events which shape our organization. Future issues will also include photos, and we welcome your submissions. We have regularized the contents so that you will become familiar with the different sections and the kinds of information they contain. If your primary interest is ASIANetwork Initiatives (grant announcements and other ASIANetwork-sponsored opportunities), the latest news from the Executive Director, or the keynote address from the last ASIANetwork conference, the table of contents on the front cover will tell you where to find the information you need quickly and easily.

We will produce three issues a year: Fall, Winter and Spring. In order to do this, we ask for your support. If you have consented to provide us with material, whether it be an article, grant information, photos or programming at your institution, we ask that you submit that material in a timely manner. All submissions are welcome; appropriate unsolicited material will be used as space is available.

As we embark on this experience of editing the *ASIANetwork Exchange*, we can only wonder at the special powers Marianna McJimsey must possess to have been able to produce a newsletter in addition to her duties as the Executive Director of ASIANetwork. From learning new software to finding our way through the maze of postal regulations and printing details, it has already been an interesting learning experience.

The newsletter is your publication, so don't hesitate to let us know what you think about it, including what you would like to see added, dropped or changed. We can be reached through e-mail at [ANExchange@augustana.edu](mailto:ANExchange@augustana.edu), by mail at ASIANetwork, Augustana College, 639 38th St., Rock Island, IL 61201, or by telephone at (319) 794-7656 (Anne Prescott) or (319) 794-7269 (Ben Nefzger).

*Anne Prescott and Ben Nefzger*