EDITORIAL

In the 1979 Fall issue of Library Trends (p. 147), Thomas Shaughnessy wrote, "the trends toward increased accountability and productivity require that library operations and procedures be analyzed, and that staff be deployed and utilized to its full potential." Shaughnessy's argument was well put; his conclusion that administrators must evaluate their library's performance and must honestly deal with the failures as well as the successes in services so that alternatives can be designed is still pertinent. With the recent change of Presidential administrators, and the consequent reevaluation of the amount of federal and state funding to be awarded to various public institutions, librarians are being forced to closely monitor the current trends in service and in staff effectiveness.

The concept of planning through community analysis and studies of current library policies is not new in Indiana. Within the past few years many programs have been developed within our own library community.

The Publications Board chose to devote the 1981 Summer issue of INDIANA LIBRARIES to "The Planning Process and Community Analysis" so that some of the theory and the programs initiated within Indiana could be given a forum. The articles contained in this journal represent Indiana's most recent developments in formalizing plans for support of effective programs and in creating vehicles for change within library services.

Martha J. McDonald aptly discusses the possibilities of community analysis when it is based upon the evolutionary development of population flow and the interrelationship between the area's overall makeup and the library's setting. She suggests that library administrators need to become involved in more sophisticated community analysis, and supports her argument with actual Indiana statistics.

Dr. Choong H. Kim discusses the Indiana Community Analysis Project which he is directing, and demonstrates what goals and objectives can be met within the local program. His paper is lucid and helpful to those who have not yet worked with community analysis techniques.

The final article deals with completed Indiana studies which concentrated upon analysis, proposals for change, or building a data base for further studies. In "Library Self-Studies: The Indiana Experience" authors offer hindsight evaluations of the analysis process in which they participated. This should help others better understand the strengths and weaknesses found in self-study programs.

Margaret Monroe states in that same issue of Library Trends (131-132), "it is essential to review standard forms of service delivery for their adaptability to specific needs, and to review methods of administration for their tolerance of variation and their sustained sensitivity to the need for adaptation." This issue of INDIANA LIBRARIES demonstrates that Indiana librarians are already involved in community analysis and welcome positive change.