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From a Former Editor and New Editorial Board Member

KATHLEEN BLAKE YANCEY

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During the last ten years, it has been my pleasure and privilege to help found and edit two journals, first *Assessing Writing* and now, *The Journal of Writing Assessment*. The experience has taught me more than I anticipated: as an editor, you develop a view of the field that, I think, is simply impossible otherwise. And of course, in the process of editing, I've had the pleasure of meeting and working with many, many smart—and gracious—colleagues. I am in their debt.

At this point, as some of you know, I have assumed a number of major responsibilities that are exciting and challenging, but also time-consuming. To name but three: (1) within days, I will be the 2004 Chair of the Conference on College Composition and Communication; (2) on January 7, 2004, the Pearce Center, which I direct, is opening a new, one-of-a-kind facility on campus, our Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication, that although built, is still in the process of development, especially in curricular and pedagogical terms; and (3) the Pearce Center is creating a new graduate certificate in writing assessment, which we will begin offering in 2004. Collectively, these responsibilities require a kind of attention that will prevent me from giving to *JWA* the focus it merits.

Happily, as we can see, Brian and Michael have the journal well in hand, and I'll continue my association in a different role, as an Editorial Board member. From that perspective, I'll be reading manuscripts, providing advice when asked, and appreciating the fine work before me—and the dedication that makes this work possible.

Not least, for your support over the last decade, many thanks.