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Chair of Editorial Board

Editorial

This, our third issue, is truly international with contributors from India, Ireland, three from America (Princeton, California and Fordham University in New York), two from Brazil, one from Melbourne and one from our own UQ. Articles range from Jean Paul Sartre, Wittgenstein and Jacques Lacan to Freud, Medieval literature, modern bio ethics and North American shamanism. We also publish our first book review.

Crossroads continues to maintain its standing on the Google website, currently sitting at 15th from 6.8 million entries on the worldwide site and number 7 from 222,000 on the Australian version of the site. This brings to 6 the number of different ways that *Crossroads* articles can be accessed, including the link from the School website.

Our techno guru, Sheldon Peters, continues to provide us with graphs detailing numbers of people who access the site and their country of origin. This makes for interesting reading, as the website is being accessed by such countries as Netherlands, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Georgia, Sweden, Ireland, India, Singapore and Malaysia, and as we would expect, the UK, Canada, USA, New Zealand, and Australia.

The number of visitors has not dropped below 130 in any one month and has reached as high as 795, averaging out at 240 per month. I do believe these figures tell a tale of success.

The decision has been made to run the Annual *Crossroads* Short Essay Competition, which will be open to all University of Queensland students with a sound background in any of our four disciplines. Unfortunately this competition will not be open to non-UQ

students. The UQ Bookshop will be contributing book vouchers as prizes for the first three essays in each of two categories – undergraduate essays and postgraduate essays. The first five in both categories will be published in a special edition of *Crossroads*, and thus preserved for all time. All the rules and regulations can be found on the website for those interested in entering the competition. Although, entry is restricted we hope that other institutions will be inspired to run their own competitions – it is surprising what you can achieve and how helpful people can be.

So you can see that we have not been resting on our laurels. We have been exploring all avenues to increase the standing and reputation of what began as a much smaller in house opportunity to publish. We are now establishing a truly international reputation.

Again we have had to say farewell to board members who have moved on and welcomed new ones. This ‘new blood’ ensures that *Crossroads* can look forward to an on-going future.

I’d like to thank all the members of the board – Hakan Sandgren our deputy, Helen Farley, Matthew Martinez, Sheldon Peters, Matthew Lamb, and Nicki Morecroft for their sterling efforts. And of course our thanks to all the others who have helped in some way.