

EDITORIAL

In recent years, there has been an enormous growth in the extent and depth of libertarian scholarship, the study of human action which is germane to the concept of individual liberty. In many cases, the libertarian position is distinctly in the minority.

The Journal of Libertarian Studies has been founded not simply to provide an outlet for scholarship and research that may be unpopular in a particular discipline. It is the belief that there is a new and growing interdisciplinary discipline — libertarianism — enriched by contributions in each of the particular and seemingly isolated fields that study human action which provides the motive for this Journal. Philosophy, political science, economics, history, law, sociology, geography, anthropology, education, and biology will be carried in this Journal.

Several annual Libertarian Scholars Conferences have already been held which generated numerous scholarly libertarian papers of high quality. Communication among libertarian scholars between, as well as within, the various relevant disciplines was thereby enriched.

By its existence as a regularly appearing publishing outlet, we hope to stimulate significant expansion in the research and production of scholarly libertarian material. We hope to intensify the development of the emerging discipline of libertarianism. Finally, we expect that the existence of the *Journal* will serve to multiply the number of libertarian scholars and to intensify communication among and cross-fertilization of them. Whether or not the scholar is personally a libertarian will not be a criterion for acceptance of a manuscript; rather, the criterion will be whether an article will advance the discipline of libertarianism, regardless of the personal beliefs of the author.

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Editor