

Editorial

We are pleased to be able to adhere to our previously announced schedule by publishing *Kierkegaardiana* 18 a year after issue 17. That this has been possible is due in part to the recent growth of interest in Kierkegaard, which is reflected both in scholarly works and in works of general interest. The bibliography included in this issue testifies to this development and documents the most important new work in the field.

An explanation of the growing interest in Kierkegaard in recent years is to be sought in various quarters, including a renewed popular interest in philosophical questions and the concomitant engagement with the „single“ human individual and his or her existential problems in the wake of the disintegration of communism. Kierkegaard research has become increasingly broad and varied in its approach to Kierkegaardian texts, both with respect to content and to methodology. Interest in Kierkegaard is no longer restricted to a narrow community of specialists whose work is devoted exclusively to Kierkegaard. There are now quite a number of independent and critical dialogues with Kierkegaard, a healthy and productive development. There is no longer a „right“ way of reading Kierkegaard or one privileged avenue of access to the proper understanding of his texts, and even Kierkegaard's own attempt at self-interpretation, *The Point of View for my Work as an Author* has been subjected to critical examination. The old rivalry between theological and philosophical (and psychological) readings of Kierkegaard has had to make room for various aesthetic approaches, so that nowadays neither theological nor any other readings of Kierkegaard can lay claim to a monopoly of access to the „real“ Kierkegaard.

We trust that this issue of *Kierkegaardiana* reflects the breadth and variety of approaches to Kierkegaard's texts, both as regards method and as regards content. It contains philosophical, ethical, and literary-aesthetic studies as well as a study dealing with the historical influence of Kierkegaard's writings, a bibliography, and a large book-review section, which we have sought to make as comprehensive and up-to-date as possible. With respect to this latter – and, of course, also with respect to the bibliography section – we are eager and thankful to receive supplement-

tal information (and corrections) concerning publications about Søren Kierkegaard.

As usual, this issue of *Kierkegaardiana* is published jointly by the Danish Søren Kierkegaard Society and the Department of Søren Kierkegaard Research at the University of Copenhagen. Despite the fact that Bruce Kirmmse's current stay at the the Department of Kierkegaard Research is over at the end of August 1995, we anticipate that he will continue to be affiliated both with the Department and with the editorial board of *Kierkegaardiana*. When Arne Grøn accepted a position as research lecturer at the Kierkegaard Center at the beginning of 1995, Eberhard Harbsmeier assumed the directorship of the Department of Kierkegaard Research, while the Kierkegaard Society – whose meetings have been very well attended and which has experienced significant growth in membership in recent years – continues under the direction of Joakim Garff.

The Kierkegaard Center, the Department of Kierkegaard Research, and the Søren Kierkegaard Society are jointly planning „Kierkegaard Days in Copenhagen,“ to be held in May 1996. We hope that this conference will reflect the breadth, depth, and variety of the renewed interest in Kierkegaard.