

## EDITORIAL

The present number of *THE RAFFLES BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGY* is a special valedictory issue for Associate Professor D. H. Murphy. In his 31 years at the Department of Zoology, National University of Singapore, "Paddy" Murphy, as all his colleagues call him, has established a formidable reputation for himself, as a taxonomist, ecologist and "zoologist extraordinaire".

Writing the valedictory note, quite appropriately, is his first higher degree student, Dr. Chan Kai Lock, who after a very successful career in the Vector Control unit of the Ministry of the Environment of Singapore, joined the university in 1980. Many of his colleagues and students from Singapore as well as the United States, Switzerland, Malaysia, Japan and United Kingdom, have submitted technical papers to commemorate his 60th birthday - John and Dan Polhemus, Kohei Sawada, Lanna Cheng, Daniel Burckhardt, Louis Deharveng, Charles Lienhard, Simon Cragg, Sundowo Harminto, Leo Tan, Jon Sigurdsson, Angus Munro, Joseph Koh, Cynthia Lee, Kelvin Lim, Yong Hoi Sen, Yang Chang Man and Elizabeth Mok.

The executive editorial board also welcomes Prof. Dr. Lipke B. Holthuis and Dr. Brian Morton to the editorial board of *the Raffles Bulletin*. Prof. Holthuis is an eminent carcinologist and an acknowledged expert on the history of zoology, nomenclature and language; and has previously helped us on several occasions. He also sits on the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature. Dr. Brian Morton is one of the leading marine biologists of this region and an expert on bivalves and other molluscs. As editor of the journal *Asian Marine Biology* and organiser of many workshops on marine biology, we are glad to be able to have his considerable experience and expertise to call upon when necessary.

It is thus most appropriate that the journal he has almost single-handedly revived (after the abrupt and ignominious ending of the *Bulletin of the National Museum of Singapore* in 1970) bears tribute to the man, who in his 31 years at the university has had such a major influence on so many local biologists. The 21 papers in this volume cover a wide range of topics - from protozoa to fish, and symbolises the diversity of knowledge we have always come to associate with "Paddy" Murphy. All the members of Department of Zoology and editorial board wish him all the best in his future years. From what we know of him, his best is probably still to come.

The present valedictory issue would not have been possible without the very kind assistance and dedication of many people. Our departmental secretary, Mrs. Jessie Mui efficiently undertook the unpleasant task of retyping many of the papers. The editorial board is grateful to Mr. N. Sivasothi who singlehandedly did the typesetting for all the papers in this volume in his usual zealous and meticulous manner. Mrs. Yang Chang Man, Mr. Kelvin Lim and Ms. Diana Chua carefully went through all the proofs to check for errors, a thankless task for which we are most appreciative. Mr. Joseph Koh took the candid photograph for the valedictory article. Last but not least, we are very grateful to the many overseas scientists who responded almost immediately to our sometimes urgent requests for review of manuscripts despite their often busy schedules. A special word of thanks must also go to Ms Cynthia Lee, his trusted research assistant, who discretely helped us consolidate "Paddy" Murphy's curriculum vitae and list of publications.

**Peter K. L. Ng**  
Managing Editor