Editorial Notes

In many ways, 1993 was a crisis year for Baptist Campus Ministries. Baptist State Conventions and Associations were reevaluating their roles in Campus Ministry. Studies were conducted and in some instances drastic revamping of Campus Ministry occurred.

At the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, June 11-12, 1993, much discussion about the future of BSU occurred. It seemed appropriate to do an issue of the Journal as a follow-up to that discussion.

Three of the articles in this issue deal directly with the future direction (s) that BSU is taking. The first article was written by Dr. Paul Fidler, Associate Professor in the College of Education, and Director of Student Affairs at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Fidler has spent most of his professional career at USC. He is closely involved with the needs and desires of the college student. He writes of the value of Campus Ministry as he has observed it on his campus.

Dale G. (Geno) Robinson, Director of College and Singles Ministries for the California Southern Baptist Convention, presents the change in student work brought about by Southern Baptists in California. He relates the background for these changes, how he came to grasp with the factors necessitating change, and then suggests a now model for student work in his state.

Rev. Gary Boyd, Pastor of Shavann Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, writes from a personal conviction about the need for full-time BSU work on college campuses. He writes from the perspective of a pastor who has been personally involved in observing what BSU does on a college campus. You will appreciate the personal conviction that Rev. Boyd shares in his article.

Dr. Rick Clock, Baptist Campus Minister at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, presents an article that describes the theological stance of many of the students to whom we minister. As Clock suggests, many (most?) of our students want to be told what to believe and how to act. This seems to be particularly so in the contemporary theological climate. Unfortunately theology (ethics) is not this simple. Just as unfortunate there are many proclaimers who think theology is this simple.

Three writers present book reviews in this issue of the Journal. The writers are Melva Matkin, Principal of the Gregorio Esparza Elementary school in San Antonio, Texas, who also has a keen interest in college students; Sam White, BSU Director at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois; and Charles Scalise, Assistant Professor of Church History, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lousville, Kentucky. We appreciate all these writers who make this issue possible. Any response to these articles may be addressed to the writers personally, or to the Editor.