

## Editors Welcome

James Marshall, Patrick Newell, Paul Beare  
*California State University, Fresno*

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Educational Renaissance*! This first issue includes articles and essays that portray the important history of the Renaissance group as well as present research and perspective on how educational professionals are being prepared in our colleges and universities.

The history of the Renaissance Group appears in the article by Executive Director, Michael Giovannetti, who gives an overview of the formation of the Renaissance Group. Roger Pankratz's article chronicles successes in the development of the Renaissance Group, its educational partnerships, and the effect that has had on education in the United States.

Following these articles are a series of brief essays that present perspectives on the importance of collaboration from a university president, a school district superintendent, and the president of the Renaissance Group. The essay by John Welty provides the perspective of how an engaged University affects the community in its geographical region. Rich Smith's essay discusses the expectation of collaboration, how it works in the world of transportation, and how that expectation should become part of the world of education. John Counts' essay provides a perspective on how the Renaissance Group serves and furthers teacher preparation as a way of addressing America's educational challenges. The final article from this issue, by Nancy Bacharach and Teresa Heck, provides an overview of an exciting innovation in fieldwork from the perspective of teachers in the classroom.

In future issues, we will be expanding the number of articles that involve primary inquiry and include research on teacher preparation, professional development, classroom dynamics, and partnerships across universities and school districts.

In addition to the authors, we would like to thank all of the reviewers who participated in making this issue a success and whose dedication helped launch *Educational Renaissance*. We appreciate all of the work these reviewers do, and we encourage others to share their expertise as a reviewer for this journal by registering at <http://educationalrenaissance.org>.