A New Name for a Continuing Publication

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With this issue, the former Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science becomes The Journal of the Iowa Academy of Science, a change which coincides with the 100th annual meeting of the Academy. This concludes a process started in 1971 when the Proceedings became a quarterly periodical which also included papers that had not been presented at the previous annual meeting (see Norton 1988). Some of the goals of that change were to provide a place for the publication of important regional studies, an opportunity for the immediate publication of timely data, and to permit those who report on very recent work at the meetings to have more time to prepare their manuscripts (Meglitsch, 1971). This new publication in practice was a refereed journal rather than a true proceedings as implied by the title. Last year, the ad hoc committee on publications, chaired by Don Norton, made the recommendation for the change in name from Proceedings to Journal that has been approved by the Board of Directors.

While our name and cover are different our mission remains the same. This was summarized well by a former editor, Paul Meglitsch (1971), when the present format was established and applies today as we make this change. He said, "But editorial policies are no more than potentialities. As always in the past, the Proceedings will be what the Academy membership makes of it. It is up to the members to create the journal they want, by the simple expedient of submitting the type of material they believe to be important, needed, and appropriate for its pages."

We hope that we will continue to receive high quality manuscripts covering all of the areas of science represented by the membership of the Academy. Thus the new Journal of the Iowa Academy of Science can continue to grow, in quality and in coverage, as an important means of communication among the scientists of Iowa.

REFERENCES