

Celebrating Forty Years

This issue of *BYU Studies* is divided into three parts, representing the past, the present, and the future. As we pass an important milestone in the history of *BYU Studies*, we pause to reflect on the dedicated efforts and favorable circumstances that have brought us to this point.

BYU Studies commenced publication forty years ago, in January 1959. Under the leadership of four editors, this quarterly journal has produced a steady stream of solid, significant LDS scholarship. Many of the articles published over the years remain definitive treatments in their field. In part 1, editors Clinton Larson (1959–67), Charles Tate (1967–83), Edward Geary (1983–91), and John Welch (1991–present) look back on their experiences and feelings in guiding and editing this leading LDS journal.

In part 2, current scholarship carries on in fulfilling the mission of *BYU Studies*. Each issue features scholarly articles, personal essays, poetry, newsworthy historical documents, art, book reviews, and other features. Presented in a reader-friendly fashion, the layout of the journal has been redesigned to convey even more readily than before interesting, valuable, and reliable scholarship meaningful to faithful, educated Latter-day Saints all around the world.

Part 3 states the policies and values that will continue to guide *BYU Studies* into the future. Modern readers, authors, and financial supporters deserve to know where *BYU Studies* stands. This publication hopes to adhere always to its code of responsibility, which values equally both truth and goodness, fact and faith, mind and spirit, and competence and trust concerning “things as they are, and as they were, and as they are to come” (D&C 93:24).

We appreciate the numerous authors, reviewers, advisors, editorial assistants, production officers, supporters, subscribers, and readers who make *BYU Studies* possible, and we look forward to a very bright future.

John W. Welch,
Editor in Chief