Don Kraft Named Editor Emeritus of JASIST

At the meeting of the Editorial Board of the Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST), incoming editor Blaise Cronin announced that Donald Kraft has been named editor emeritus of the Journal. Kraft retires as editor-in-chief after 24 years of service on January 1, 2009. Cronin was named as his replacement in June.

Kraft’s numerous accolades from both ASIS&T and the information profession include the 2007 ASIS&T Award of Merit, recognizing his contributions to JASIST, among other achievements. In the words of the citation:

That JASIST continues to reign as a top-ranked journal in quantitative and qualitative assessments is a tribute to Dr. Kraft’s leadership. He has steered the Journal into electronic publication and more than doubled the number of issues and quadrupled the number of pages published each year. Dr. Kraft’s editorship has been characterized by expanded international reach and receptivity to new approaches and areas of research.

Throughout his editorship, Dr. Kraft has had the vision to recognize these trends and encourage a very wide range of authors from many fields to publish in the Journal. He has thus promoted the formation, clarification and extension of the field of information science as we move through times of rapid and profound social and technological transformation. As a consequence of his leadership and considerable people skills, the Journal has grown substantially under his direction, bringing a wider understanding of the field to the discipline of information science.

On accepting the editorship, Cronin also paid tribute to Kraft’s tenure:

JASIST is the preeminent journal of its kind in the world, and the enduring record of our field’s intellectual focus and evolution. Under Don Kraft’s editorship JASIST has flourished, growing in terms of size, number of annual issues and breadth of subject coverage. The institutional, geographic and disciplinary affiliations of contributing authors are more varied than ever, reflecting the internationalizing of interest in information science and also the perceived attractiveness of JASIST as a publication outlet of first, not last, resort. In short, the maturation of our field, both scholastically and professionally, is mirrored in the pages of the journal.