Preface to *TAD* 39:3

This issue of *Tradition and Discovery* focuses on the relationship between Michael Polanyi and his close friend and intellectual ally, Edward Shils. Richard W. Moodey’s lead essay examines how the idea of tradition develops in the work of both Polanyi and Shils, noting that the importance of tradition ultimately leads both thinkers to abandon the Action Frame of Reference, which Shils and Parsons developed in the early fifties. In the first of three comments on Moodey’s account, Phil Mullins adds historical details about the intimate friendship and cooperation between these two thinkers. Steven Grosby encourages readers to continue reflecting critically on human action in light of the analysis Moodey develops. Stephen Turner supplements Moodey’s discussion by providing additional insights about Shils’ life. Moodey concludes our mini-symposium with a response to commentators. The issue also includes Ed Payne’s review of a book on Polanyi and Christian theology.

In other important business, please note the draft program for the 2013 annual meeting of the Polanyi Society in Baltimore on November 22 and 23. In addition, News and Notes contains information about a conference devoted to the work of William Poteat, which is set to take place at Yale University in June 2014. News and Notes also includes notes of publications that will be of interest.

All new editors leave their marks on journals, so you will see some modest changes in format and placement of materials in this issue. Most noteworthy of these changes is that we now have an editorial board for the journal. Their names, most of whom have appeared in this journal before, are on the inside front cover of this issue. The Board’s role will be to help in the never-ending task of reviewing submissions and proofreading galleys; they will, as well, tell me to take a deep breath every now and then. I am especially happy to have Andrew Grosso come on as Associate Editor and to have Walt Gulick continue as Book Review Editor. I also want to thank Chris Withers, of Mercer University’s Copy Center, who now prints the journal, and Mrs. Nancy Stubbs, the Administrative Assistant for the Roberts Department of Christianity at Mercer, who is now in charge of mailing *TAD*, which is the second journal that goes out from my department.

While this is the first issue of *TAD* to originate from Mercer, I acknowledge the early and continuing work on this issue by Phil Mullins and Walter Gulick. This will be the case for portions of the next two or three issues of *TAD*. If the transition from St. Joseph, MO to Macon, GA is a smooth one, it is mostly due to Phil’s tireless and efficient help.

However, having material in the pipeline for the next couple of issues should not discourage authors. Please consider submitting articles and/or encouraging others to do so. Instructions can be found on the inside front cover.

Paul Lewis