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This issue of JESP, the nineteenth, marks ten years of publication of the Journal. I would imagine that the founding editors who first set out on the venture in 1995 would have been astonished that JESP has reached that milestone. We look back on it with pride. Readers would have been astonished that the first issues of JESP were typeset in a study in Malcolm Cook's house in Canberra. The first issues were fairly basic in appearance though the content even then was provocative. It was only when Southern Cross University (SCU), which supported the Journal from the very outset, decided to pump more resources into the venture that JESP assumed a more professional and polished format. Publishing and printing a journal is an expensive business and SCU is one of the few universities to do so. We have to thank Dennis O'Brien who was then Head of the School of Business at SCU for having the vision to do this. After only two or three years of operation JESP assumed DEST ranking as a refereed journal. It also appears on the American Economic Association’s list of economic journals. Jeremy Buultjens who came on the editorial staff after SCU took over the management, printing and publication has been an active editor. He is actively assisted by Dennis Howard.

Some will be mystified about what happened to vol. 2, no. 2? Was it a phantom issue? Actually it was an innocent mistake in the numbering sequence now locked into posterity.

The quality of the nineteenth issues has been variable, some issues outstanding, others less so. Among the annals of JESP are some of Australia's most eminent economists and public policy specialists; names like Geoff Harcourt, John Nevile, Fred Argy, Frank Stilwell, John Quiggin, Ted Wheelwright, Evan Jones, Stephen Bell, Clive Hamilton, John Burgess and the late Russell Mathews. The research contained in its pages was at times prosaic, at other times path-finding.

In its first five years of existence JESP adopted almost a strikingly heterodox air in discussing economics and public policy related issues. Sadly a shortage of heterodox material more than a switch in editorial policy was responsible for that. This is not so in recent years as it assumed a more conventional bearing. The fact is that JESP like most, but not all journals on Australian public policy, welcomes scholarly contributions without ensuring that they deferred to a certain editorial line. Long may it live.