



# Insights: The Newsletter of the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship

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## Weights and Measures Paper Ready

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## NEW FACES AT F.A.R.M.S.

In a non-profit research organization, people make the difference, and F.A.R.M.S. has some tremendous new people to introduce:

**John Tanner** of the BYU English Department received his Ph.D. from Berkeley. He has been a great help editing and abstracting papers. He is interested in research on stylistic aspects of the Book of Mormon texts.

**Bob Millett** of the BYU Religion faculty is the coordinator for a project that will identify books and articles by Biblical scholars which will be helpful in analyzing Book of Mormon texts.

**Michelle Steed** assisted the Foundation as a summer intern from the BYU Communications Department. She issued press releases, worked with our regional delegates and put together some exciting informational displays.

**Don Paver** is currently working as a communications intern. He is designing a more professional layout for the newsletter that will incorporate our new graphic image.

One of our most enthusiastic volunteers is **Ed Snow**. A 23 year old married student majoring in English and minoring in German, Ed is from Knoxville, TN and served an L.D.S. mission in Switzerland. He shares some of his feelings about the Foundation:

*"I'm interested in scriptural research and in promoting scholarship in Mormon Scriptures. As a student of literature, I have ideas for research that I may be able to contribute to F.A.R.M.S. I also enjoy volunteer work — someone has to do it. I hope that people from different disciplines will contribute time, research and money (!) to F.A.R.M.S. so that we will be able to understand our Scriptures in a more complete way. I think God expects us to try to understand everything we can about the Scriptures."*

## MEET OUR DIRECTOR OF PROMOTION

Thursday, September 8, 1983 was a red letter day for the Foundation. That was the day **Susan Roylance** came on board. Things may never be the same again. Mrs. Roylance became acquainted with the Foundation three years ago following a fateful meeting with Kirk Magleby in Guatemala.

*"I was deeply impressed with Kirk's enthusiasm towards this project, and am grateful to now have the time to be of some help to forward the worthy goals of F.A.R.M.S."*

Mrs. Roylance brings to F.A.R.M.S. a wealth of experience in public relations, direct mail and organizational fundraising. Having helped found three other organizations, she has gained valuable insights into effective methods of organizational promotion. Her husband, Robert C. Roylance, is in charge of crop production for all LDS Welfare farms. They are the parents of seven children and have been foster parents for four Indian children.

Susan is in charge of public relations, promotion, and fund raising for the Foundation. You will see F.A.R.M.S. reach more people and do more good around the world as a result of her professional and enthusiastic efforts.

## EXHIBITS AND OPEN HOUSE

During August, the Foundation again sponsored informational exhibits at the CES Symposium and Education Week on BYU campus. We appreciate Reed Hyde, Shannon Magleby, Garth Norman, Stephen Ricks, Larry Smith and Janet Twig who donated many hours of their time staffing the displays. Over 250 people added their names to the newsletter mailing list as a result of the exhibits.

We also hosted an open house for Church educators and their partners one evening during the CES Symposium. Nearly 100 people visited with Foundation staff members and pre-viewed the newly-released slide show *Lands of the Book of Mormon*.

## ADVISORY BOARD EXPANDED

The July 1982 Newsletter announced the creation of an Advisory Board to help F.A.R.M.S. achieve its ambitious goal of publishing a comprehensive Book of Mormon Encyclopedia. Three devoted individuals have recently added their services to that board. **Paul R. Cheesman** will be the Advisory Coordinator. **Truman G. Madsen** will be responsible for External Relations, and **Noel B. Reynolds** will serve as Academic Relations advisor.

The enclosed letter from Hugh Nibley shows the names of the entire board as they now appear on our letterhead.

## PRESS RELEASES SPREAD THE WORD

In an effort to make interesting scriptural research available to a larger audience, the Foundation has issued press releases to LDS periodicals. Jeanette Smith, Michele Steed, John Tanner and Jack Welch prepared short abstracts of several papers that were sent to 25 newspapers in August.

The encouraging response has convinced us that this is an effective way to disseminate news about scholarly research. Look for F.A.R.M.S. materials to appear in your regional LDS newspaper during the coming months.

## REGIONAL DELEGATES RESPOND

Over 100 people throughout the world have agreed to serve as regional delegates for the Foundation.

Last summer, under the direction of Michelle Steed, these volunteers helped update, verify and correct the more than 6500 names and addresses of the F.A.R.M.S. newsletter mailing list. This major effort will help us reach you better.

**Please help us keep our list current by notifying us of any change in your name or address.**

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES PAPER READY

We have experienced some delay in getting the Preliminary Report entitled "Weights and Measures in the Time of Mosiah II" completed. Recent publications on ancient Near Eastern measurement systems sent our staff back to do further research to be sure the paper was up to date and comprehensive. The paper is now available. Participants who had previously ordered it will be receiving their copy in the mail soon.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

9/30/83

Foundation For Ancient Research and Mormon Studies  
Incorporated 1979, Federal Tax ID #95-3442860  
Newsletter Circulation - 6,500  
Frequency - Quarterly  
Distribution - 50 states, 24 foreign countries  
Reprints and Preliminary Reports - Titles Available . . . . . 211  
- Distributed to date . . . . . 10,200  
Media Productions - Titles Available . . . . . 1  
- Distributed to date . . . . . 47  
Volunteer Hours Contributed to date . . . . . 12,000  
Financial Contributors to date . . . . . 62  
Paid Staff - one Clerk/Bookkeeper (part-time)  
- one Director of Promotion (full-time)

