

## Editorial

In his remarks to the 1977 EUSIDIC meeting in Berlin, Graham Lea offered an (as always) amusing and thoughtful presentation on tribalism in the information world. Graham's tribes had a variety of attributes – peaceful and hostile, bucolic and savage. It is not particularly important which tribes had which attributes (although as I recall, the data base producer tribe, of which I am a member, was said to be especially savage); however, the phenomenon of tribalism is a matter of some concern.

In this issue you will find papers from an ASIDIC meeting which emphasize the divergent points of view which contribute to tribal attitudes. We can sympathize with the organizers' structure for the meeting, which chose to emphasize divergence in order to point up problems: it was the easy way out.

I want to enter a plea for the opposite pattern. Can we not find a format or a form that will emphasize congruence? In this journal, we want to be something much more than an archive. We want to be a part of the process through which solutions can be reached. Analysis without synthesis is fruitless: Where are the thoughtful voices that counsel for approaches to the divergences and for exploiting the benefits of an increasingly powerful technology? ISU will welcome them.

A.W. Elias