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It has been said that change indicates the presence of life. A lack of change, a state of stasis, reflects death. Only that which is lifeless stands still.

If this notion is even partially true, then it is clear that the Palestine Exploration Fund is full of life, for change is occurring in nearly every area of the Fund. It is impossible to miss, to begin, that I write to you as the new Chair of the Board of Trustees. The untimely death of Philip Davies in May required the election of a new Chair at our 2018 AGM in June. While I am pleased to be able to serve the Fund in this capacity and look forward to the opportunities the role of Chair presents, it continues to be a bittersweet experience to recognise that I am in this position only because we have lost a great Chair and a good friend. Philip's memory will live on in so many ways through the PEF, chiefly in the physical reminder that our new premises will be.

Our move into the new building at 5-6 Dreadnought Walk in Greenwich is perhaps the biggest of all the changes currently happening to the PEF. Over 100 years of work in Marylebone needs evaluation, packing, moving, unpacking, and depositing in its new home. Our move has not been without issue—no project of this size ever is—but due to the diligent work of many people it has gone as smoothly as one could ever hope. The Fund is particularly indebted to John MacDermot, our Honorary Secretary, and Felicity Cobbing, our Chief Executive and Curator, who have spearheaded the project. Not long after you read this, we will start welcoming members and guests to our new home. We look forward to those opportunities with great excitement.

In the midst of all this change, one of my priorities as Chair is to ensure that the Fund does not lose sight of those core activities that have always made a contribution to its foundational aim. Our mission remains to increase knowledge and understanding of the archaeology, history, and culture of the Levant among both scholars and the wider public. That focus will never change. We continue, therefore, to offer our lectures at the British Museum, to fund research on our collection and archives and, where possible, in the field. We continue to work with our partners around the world to put on exhibitions of important material culture.

The abiding point of continuity in all our work is this journal, the Palestine Exploration Quarterly. Since its first iteration in 1869, the Quarterly has been an essential element of the core activities of the PEF. It still serves the academic community well, and it will remain a high priority of the Fund that it continues to do so. The work of our present editor Linda Hulin has us very well positioned for that task. Indeed, this issue's XX articles on a wide range of topics show the vibrancy of the Quarterly.

I believe that the health of the Quarterly is reflective of the health of the whole Fund. We are in a time of great change, with the accompanying stresses of it. Growth is never a painless process. When bones grow and muscles lengthen the body is sore, and then it must learn to move again in its new shape. Once that process is complete, however, its capacity is increased, its strength is enhanced, and its possibilities are widened. The Palestine Exploration Fund is changing, for sure. In 2019 the organisation will have a brand new skeleton in a manner of speaking. That change will not happen without some pain. And

yet, I believe that we can all look forward to the ways in which this change will foster growth and increase our capacity to achieve our aims.

C. A. Strine