

EDITORIAL

Nicholas Constantine Metropolis died on October 17, 1999 in Los Alamos, New Mexico. He had been in failing health for the past several years, despite which he continued to come to the Laboratory until recently. Nick had a long and distinguished career in physics and computing. The *Journal of Computational Physics* community knows him best for the Metropolis algorithm, a.k.a. the Monte Carlo method. However, he once was better known for the MANIAC computer, which was state-of-the-art in 1952 and lies firmly in the main sequence for the evolution of large-scale computing. The Metropolis Award, which is generously supported by Academic Press and awarded by the Division of Computational Physics for outstanding thesis research work in computational physics, is intended to remind scientists at the beginning of their careers that scientific computing is still in its infancy, and that one person can make enormous contributions, as Nick did.

Nick was a member of the original Editorial Board for the *Journal* in 1965. From those early days, there has been a long and distinguished list of generous editors who have given their time and effort anonymously, and often without thanks, to the *Journal* and their peers. I am grateful to Mitchell Luskin, School of Mathematics, University of Minnesota, for his advice and help over the past three years. I am also grateful to Michael Shelley, Courant Institute, New York University, for allowing me to persuade him to join the Editorial Board. The breadth of Mike's interests defies easy characterization, but he likes to do very hard problems, often involving fluid flows.

Jerry Brackbill
Editor