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NOTE

We call your attention to the information concerning the Nepal Studies Association contained in this issue. At a meeting in Seattle the executive committee was restructured as the Council of the Nepal Studies Association and Ter Ellingson of the University of Washington was elected President. A letter from the new president to the membership of NSA appears on page 49. Your attention is also directed to information about panels for upcoming conferences and a call for nominations to the Council of the NSA.

The report and commentary by David Sassoon in this issue poses questions raised by the disastrous fire at Tengboche which occurred only weeks ago. Sassoon does not provide a finished analysis with conclusions, but rather points to many issues raised by this one event: an event which, as the author points out, would have been of strictly local significance had it occurred only thirty years ago. We hope that our readers will consider the questions which this piece raises and respond with additional information, questions, and insights.

We wish to acknowledge the extraordinary generosity of Kanak Mani Dixit, editor and publisher of Himal, who shared with us not only his knowledge, but the photographs of Tengboche in ruins printed in this issue.

The Editors

Cover: Tengboche Rimpoche at Mani Rimdu (Photo: David Sassoon).