

PREFACE

I wonder if I shall fall right *through* the earth! How funny it'll seem to come out among the people that walk with their heads downwards! The antipathies, I think — ...but I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, you know.

Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*.

Although some of the information presented at the sixteenth annual meeting of the Literary Onomastics Conference on June 6–7, 1988, in Rochester, New York, was enough to make one's head spin, no one present showed any antipathy to the analysis of names from both geographical and literary antipodes. From the United States to India, and from Hollywood to Shakespeare, with visits to Argentina, France, and elsewhere, the papers that were presented ranged widely over the intriguing, kaleidoscopic uses of names in literature and life. We are also pleased to be able to include an essay on Chinese naming that was presented by a visiting scholar, not at the Conference but at Scholars Day at SUNY College at Brockport.

Once again, we wish to extend thanks to those who provide such great assistance with the Conference and journal: the Conference speakers and guests; the academic leaders of the State University of New York College at Brockport, especially Robert Marcus, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Robert J. Gemmett, Dean of Letters and Sciences; Frederick M. Burelbach, Chairperson, Department of English; Victor Rojas, Chairperson, Department of Foreign Languages; and the staffs of the College Print Shop and General Support Services, especially Patricia Sauro, Linda Krieger, and Richard Black.

The Editors