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Reply-To: FICINO Discussion - Renaissance and Reformation Studies
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Subject: FICINO at five, and some changes

FICINO is five years old today, and last night the symposium enrolled its six-hundreth member. We began at a time when academic newsgroups and bulletin boards were a novelty to many of us, and for a while there were only fifty or a hundred who exchanged messages. Six hundred is a much bigger community, but not too big, we think, for a relatively specialized list like FICINO. Bill Bowen and I, as co-editors, have been very proud of the evolution of the group who regularly use FICINO to exchange information and queries, have extended conversations, and post useful news and notes. But the time has come for some changes.

First, those of you reading your mail this autumn morning will notice that the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies has opened a World-Wide Web site with what we hope will be a very promising future. The site can be visited at:

<http://citd.scar.utoronto.ca/renaissance/renaissance.html>

(Whew! I hope I got that right -- here's to shorter addresses!)

Second, the time has come for me to retire as co-editor of FICINO, and pass on to other, very pressing work. From now on, Bill Bowen will be editing FICINO, as well as handling our WWW page. The growth of FICINO would not have been possible without his collaboration, both at the technical level and in the sage advice he has given as we grappled with the shared problems of learning to run a list. I want to record here my profound thanks for his amiable and supportive collaboration over the past three and a half years. FICINO's future is in good hands!

Of course I'm not leaving the symposium; far from it! But now I'll feel free to chime in or not as the spirit moves me. All good wishes to all my old and new friends on FICINO -- and the very best to Bill as a new phase in the history of the symposium begins!

cheers, Germaine

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