

Editorial Preface

Welcome to the fourth volume of *Football Studies*. We are pleased with the growth of the journal and the Football Studies Group in its formative years, and for all of those who have supported this initiative, we extend our thanks. We have an exciting group of articles for the two issues in 2001. The next issue is a special issue on women and football for which there has been a tremendous response. It will be guest co-edited by editorial board members Malcolm MacLean and Gerd van der Lippe. We hope that this will spark a greater interest in this important topic and that there will ongoing submissions of research on women and football. In this issue we have a broad range of articles themed around relations in the football industry. Michael Lomax, a new member of the editorial board, discusses labour relations in American football in the important but oft neglected period between 1945 and the amalgamation of the NFL and AFL in 1966. Sam Wubberling examines labour relations at the semi-professional level in Australian football in Melbourne while James Skinner and Alan Edwards examine changes in organisational culture in an Australian football franchise in Australia, drawing upon the work of Michel Foucault. John Hughson, in the second article of this issue, analyses the central issue of ethnicity in Australian soccer and how the media has contributed to the ethincisation of soccer as Other within Australian society. All of these papers point to the need to continue to explore and apply theory to the organisational and administrative aspects of football and we hope will generate a greater profile of work in this area in *Football Studies*.

John Nauright
Editor