

From the Editor-in-Chief

Andrew Ross
Brown University



Events such as the upcoming FLEAT 5 remind us that IALLT is truly an international organization, with an influence that extends from Asia to Europe. Our colleagues in other countries rely on the information that flows from the LLTI listserv, and from IALLT's publications, including monographs, the Language Center Design Kit, the Management Manual and the Journal. They in turn contribute extensively to scholarly communication in the field, and to the professional literature (not always the same thing). We at the Journal are grateful for their generosity of spirit and intellect.

In this issue, we welcome feature contributions by three authors from opposite sides of the globe: David Barr from the University of Ulster at Coleraine offers a thoughtful continuation of his work on student and faculty attitudes toward technology in the context of language learning. His comparative analysis of Ulster, Cambridge and Toronto sheds light on not only what technologies are in use at these institutions, but how faculty and students use them and view their importance for language instruction. Shiao-Chuan Kung and Ting-Wen Liang of the Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages in Taiwan provide a look at a course management system they specifically designed for EFL composition courses, a most useful development for language programs worldwide, not just in East Asia.

Closer to home, Karl Fisher of the University of the South contributes a useful review of Sanako's (formerly Tandberg) Elice hardware language-lab system. We welcome a new columnist, Michael Shaughnessy of Washington & Jefferson College, who will tackle the daunting task of discussing authentic materials – his first column does a fine job of pointing out database-driven archival resources for authentic images and texts on the Web, and highlighting some issues of use for language instruction. Judy Shoaf offers a very thoughtful look at employing release forms for our local

language talent in her second column for the Journal; an important concern that is too often taken for granted by both subject and content creator alike.

As always, I encourage the members of IALLT to consider contributing to the life of the profession by publishing in the Journal. There is always room between the covers of the Journal for a variety of voices and issues; nowhere is this more true than in this volume of the Journal, which epitomizes the breadth of the profession not only geographically, but also in terms of the interests we legitimately hold as language technologists. ♦