

FROM THE EDITOR

Marie Sheppard

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I became a lab director rather by happy accident six years ago, and needed to learn to function in this "foreign" culture of *budgets and hardware and courseware and footprints* very quickly. IALL came to the rescue, providing the information and friendships essential to finding my way. That is no less true today than it was then. The *Journal* has remained one of the publications that I read as soon as it comes out of the wrapper, while others languish in my infamous "piling system." As Karen Landahl remarked to me recently about the *Journal*, "There's always good stuff in there." That is my intention: to build upon the long history of excellence carefully nurtured by Read Gilgen, and to keep on consistently bringing you "good stuff." As a lab director, much of my function is to receive information, process it, and repackage it for others. The editorship is an extension of that, with a broader audience. I am genuinely grateful for the confidence of my IALL colleagues in offering me this opportunity.

Karen Landahl joins me as Assistant Editor, and I could not be more pleased. What every editor needs is someone reliable, organized, with impressive proofreading skills (linguists are hard to beat), and a

sense of humor to boot! Karen and I are in turn assisted by Joe Toth and Robin McClanahan. I also welcome Harold Hendricks to the *Journal* Board, who will share Advertising Manager tasks with John Huy until John eases out of the position in June. We are very fortunate that Kelly Nelson will continue as Managing Editor.

The *Journal* benefits from lively member participation and suffers without it. New features are designed to keep you informed and to encourage your participation. You will see five new regular columns in this issue: "Technical Update," "Satellite Footprint," "Courseware Reviews," "Network Update," "Lab Management," and "In Other Journals." "Secondary School Update" will be added in the next issue. All of the columnists invite you to drop them a line with pieces of information, to suggest topics, and to write for the columns. Ideas for feature articles are always needed, as well. What presentations have impressed you at recent conferences? What ideas and projects are brewing in your own lab or classroom? Help us create that flow of "good stuff."

This issue is the result of the collaboration of many individuals. Many thanks to

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the new columnists for their good work, enthusiasm for this new undertaking, and for hitting an unusually tight deadline! Thanks also to Thom Thibeault, Bill Wyman, Chris Jones, Matt Carter, Marni Armstrong, Mike Ledgerwood, Sue K. Otto, Ed Dente, Wendy Rainford, Robin McClanahan, Willard Daetsch, Warren Roby, Jackie Tanner, Rose Chang, and George Mitrevski for their efforts.

See you all at IALL '93 in Kansas!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Sheppard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail.