



## FROM THE PRESIDENT LeeAnn Stone University of California, Irvine

### Read...Thank You

You may have noted that a new name has replaced Read Gilgen's as editor of the *Journal*. In the past, this editorial transition brought significant changes to this publication, including changes in size, style, and even title. With this transition, however, you will find none of this; the look and feel of the *Journal* will retain much of Read's imprint.

This is a tribute to Read's leadership as editor over the last three years. One of his goals, when he accepted the post, was to establish a *Journal* that truly reflected the needs and interests of the IALL membership. The smooth transition to a new editor, and the retention of the look and feel of the *Journal* established under Read's editorship, attest to the fact that he well met this goal.

On behalf of the IALL Board and membership, I want to thank Read for his significant contribution to IALL as the *Journal* editor. Hopefully his leadership will not be absent—with his time freed up a bit, the IALL Board looks forward to "roping him into" other projects that require his leadership skills.

### Marie...Welcome

Our new editor, Marie Sheppard, is Director of ALTEC (the Anderson Language Technology Center) at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Marie has been actively involved with IALL for a number of years, and is one of those individuals on whom the Board calls whenever there is a critical task to complete or role to fill. We know she will tackle any assignment she accepts with enthusiasm, thoroughness and creativity.

Marie's recent IALL involvements include coordinating the program for Technology Day at IALL '91, and serving on the program planning committees for FLEAT II and IALL '93. She is also active with other professional organizations and activities on and off her campus.

Given all these activities, the IALL Board was extremely pleased when Marie confirmed that she would be willing to serve as editor. All of us who have worked with her in the past look forward to working with her in this capacity. Welcome Marie!

## From the President

### IALL '93

The theme of IALL '93, "Defining the Role of the Language Laboratory," could not have come at a more appropriate time for the field. Many of us are in the process of defining or re-defining our own roles or the roles of our units within our institutions. This is evidenced by the variety of discussions crossing the Language Learning and Technology International (LLTI) Listserv on the subject (relating to job descriptions, appropriate compensation, etc.), as well as by the topics of regional meetings and IALL Board discussions.

Individually, many of us face the task of defining our roles within our institutions for a variety of purposes:

- to define our jobs and the role of the unit in the midst of constant and rapid changes in technology;
  - for ourselves
  - for our administration and/or supervisors
  - for users
  - for other media managers on our own campuses.
- to define our roles within the new fiscal environments we presently face: restructuring; "downsizing;" servicing disciplines outside of foreign languages;

IALL '93 has been structured to give us the opportunity to address these and other issues that we face as lab directors. I encourage you not only to attend IALL '93, but to get actively involved in the process now as we define the conference itself.

One way to do this is by contributing to the development of a comprehensive lab director's job description that Jackie Tanner is working on (see the *Lab Management* column, page 39 of this issue). It will serve as the basis for one of the IALL '93 discussions. I encourage you to review this document and provide Jackie with some feedback on it. As you review it, consider questions such as: What is it that you do that may be missing?; how would you prioritize these functions?; and how would you allocate percentages of time to each of these functions?

No matter how you decide to involve yourself with IALL '93, the conference's emphasis on discussion, interaction, and hands-on experience will ensure that all attendees are "contributors." I hope you all look forward to the opportunities provided by IALL '93 as much as I do.

