From the Editor

Pete Smith
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I think I would surprise no one if I started off by saying that this is the hardest issue of the IALL Journal that I have ever worked on. The difficulty was not in problems with layout or authors who missed deadlines. Quite the contrary: I was simply overwhelmed by the outpouring of materials—written and otherwise—for this issue. And rightly so. For this work that you hold in your hands is our first attempt, as an IALL family, to say good-bye to a dear friend.

The news of Bob Henderson's death reached me late on a Friday, and I spent much of that weekend in contact with Nina Garrett and other members of IALL. It is hard to describe the collective shock we all felt (and still feel) at the tragic loss of this most kind and gentle of human beings. There was a clear sense among all with whom I spoke on that weekend that the Journal would open its pages this time to our thoughts about Bob.

It is my biggest fear with this issue that mere words will not do justice, that writing does not allow us to sum up the life of a man who had enriched the lives of so many of us in so many ways. Yet after reading the "In Memoriam" section which follows, I think we have made a worthy start. There we have collected reminiscences of Bob, in both word and picture.

With this issue we also move forward, taking on such topics as networked multimedia, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and many others. Ours is a field which changes on practically a daily basis, and as a Journal Board, we hope with this issue to combine the stillness and pause that are appropriate at a time of loss with the hustle and drive that are the world of educational media.
The third in a series of jointly sponsored conferences and the first to be held in North America. Sponsors: LLA, Language Laboratory Association of Japan and IALL, the International Association for Learning Laboratories.

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"To realize Victoria you must take all that the eye admires in Bournemouth, Torquay, the Isle of Wight, the Happy Valley at Hong Kong, the Doon, Sorrento and Camp’s Bay – add reminiscences of the Thousand Islands and arrange the whole around the Bay of Naples with some Himalayas for background."

—Rudyard Kipling

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