

## From the Associate Editor

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It only seems such a short while ago that I came to the United States for an exchange visit, and that I had to start writing my papers on one of these little funny-looking Macintosh boxes. When I discovered that these machines can also be used to (veerrry sloooowly) surf the web and to develop interactive programs for language learning I was hooked. Toto, I was not in Germany anymore... It was Marie Sheppard who gave me my first job as a Language Liaison for the Anderson Language and Technology Center at CU Boulder, and Brian Lewis who recruited me for some LIBRA authoring when he procured a grant and started paying me for what I loved to do anyway: tinker with computers. I owe both of them big thanks for setting me on a new career path, and I wish they were still around to read these lines. There are other people who helped along the way: Patty Schindler, Ashley Godeaux, Kuan-Yi Rose Chang, Nelson de Jesus and the Ohio5 gang, the people at the CET in Middlebury, to name just a few. They all influenced me one way or another and spurred me on.

My Ph.D. is actually in Comparative Literature from the University of Colorado for a dissertation entitled "Vampires, Genre, and the Compulsion to Repeat". In this study, I explore manifestations of the vampire myth in fiction, in film, and in historical accounts of supposedly real vampires. Though vampires always make for an interesting conversation topic, my career took quite a different turn. Or maybe it did not. Sometimes I do get the feeling that computers start to suck the lifeblood out of you. On my strangely meandering path I have now arrived at Ohio University where I am an Assistant Professor in Modern Languages and the Director of the Language Resource Center, one of these hybrid positions that are half academic and half technical, and –on a good day- combine the best of both worlds.

I am very honored that Andrew Ross and David Pankratz encouraged me to come on board as an Associate Editor for the IALLT Journal, and I look forward to reading and editing some of the great articles people in our profession produce. I have made it my personal goal

to promote the Journal at every opportunity and to make sure that people continue to see it as a premier outlet for their writings on language and technology issues. Keep these articles coming, I will do my best to make sure that they will find an audience. ♦