

From the President of IALLT



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Welcome to our first issue of the IALLT Journal for 2014. In it you will find two research reports: one that very interestingly argues that the original role of technology as a means for improving Japanese word accentuation through drill-and-practice is still very effective, and another that looks at Facebook as an example of current technology used for live communication, tailored for language learning. In addition, you will find a review of an emerging technology that echoes the past: tools for making streaming video interactive—just like those old laserdisc days. These articles underscore for me that although methodologies and technologies change, the underlying needs that technology tries to satisfy stay pretty much the same. Thanks to Kayo Yoshida, Atsushi Fukada, Shenggao Wang, and Deoksoon Kim for their research, and thank you, Jörg Waltje, for keeping us up to date on new technologies.

Another fine column by our U. S. copyright specialist, Judy Shoaf, discusses what to do about those orphaned works in our collections and brought to us by

faculty for duplication or digitization. As you read her column you will see that the problem is larger than you may have thought.

Finally, I want to highlight the work that Felix Kronenberg has done in summarizing the findings of the latest IALLT survey. It has been some time since we have done a survey, and we are all interested to see what changes and trends are taking place in language centers generally. Felix has done a wonderful job of sifting through the survey responses and providing us with a snapshot summary of the state of the learning center.

Many thanks to our Editor, Dan Soneson, for his diligent and extra-mile work to bring us these interesting articles.

In other IALLT news, we anticipate a productive Summer Leadership Meeting this August in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where Thom Hammond and his Harvard team will showcase their preparations for the FLEAT VI conference in 2015. The opportunity to join with our colleagues from the Language Education and Technology Association of Japan comes only once a decade, and we are pleased that Professors Sei Sumi and Toshiyo Nabei of the LET board will be joining us to make preparations for our joint IALLT/LET conference, the sixth in the Foreign Language Education And Technology series.

We congratulate our regional groups for their successful and interesting conferences held around the country, and hope that you are participating at your local level, where so much good networking and sharing of information takes place. We also appreciate the excellent presentations IALLT members made at the CALICO conference, just held at Ohio University. Since our IALLT conference is only held every other year, the CALICO with IALLT collaborations on the even years has been very successful.

Most importantly, thanks to you, our members. We appreciate your membership, your interesting work, your knowledge and dedication as well as your service. If you are reading this and are not yet a member of IALLT, I encourage you to join with us. We welcome your contributions to our everchanging and exciting field.

Enjoy the Journal.

Harold H. Hendricks President