

From the President

The FLEAT conference at Brigham Young University in August successfully gathered 350 participants from many regions of the world. Harold Hendricks and the BYU team were excellent hosts and made the conference an outstanding experience for all of us. The campus facilities were state of the art and a good model of technology for our field. Many members of LET, our affiliate organization in Japan, came to Provo and contributed significantly to the quality and diversity of presentations. We enjoyed meeting them, learning about their area of expertise, and discussing our mutual research projects. We now look forward to our next IALLT conference in the summer of 2007 at Tufts University with Ed Dente as our host.

This year, there are several changes in the board. Peter Liddell ended his two year term as president and we want to thank him for his excellent leadership. David Pankratz ended his two year term as past president and his input throughout our monthly board meetings was invaluable. In fact, David ended his successful 6-year term with IALLT, and deserves our gratitude for his many years of service. We also want to welcome Barbara Sawhill, our new President-elect, and our three returning board members: Judi Franz, Ute Lahaie and Ron Balko. Congratulations!

We started this new year with some challenges, particularly that of the hurricanes which had a tragic impact on the Gulf coast of the United States. Several members of our organization no longer have access to their university or have lost their jobs. Following suggestions from our membership, the board has decided to organize a Relief Fund for affected IALLT members. If you are interested in contributing, please check our IALLT website for donation procedures. If you are a member of that region in need of financial assistance, please contact us. We extend to you our sincere wishes of recovery and hope that we can provide some relief during this difficult time.

As previously announced, IALLT launched its own Wiki which you can find on our main webpage. This is an easy way to share your expertise with all our members. Please do not be shy about contributing. We need your knowledge and expertise in order to better handle our jobs every day.

Participating in the IALLT Wiki is one way to contribute to IALLT, but we also need your articles for our journal. Thanks to the very able leadership of Andrew Ross and the editorial board, IALLT has numerous excellent articles in this edition of the journal. Please help us in keeping our journal interesting and submit your articles.

This column would be incomplete without mentioning the impact

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that some of the latest development in technology will have on us this coming year. Whether it is iTunes, iPods, or WebCT's new purchase of Blackboard, we have to ride the wave and arrive at the forefront of ongoing technology changes.

Learn more about new development of technology and their impact in our field in this excellent new edition of our journal.