



## Editor's Corner

During the next few months, long time friends and readers of the **NALLD JOURNAL** will observe noticeable changes. The first and most obvious change is the title of the journal. Though merely an addition, the words **Technology** and **Mediated Instruction** reflect a metamorphosis that has been occurring in the organization over the past several years. The original NALLD membership consisted almost exclusively of foreign language oriented lab directors. Most lab directors were either former language teachers or were performing dual functions as lab directors and language teachers. To this day, many of our members still fit in that mold.

However, the decline of foreign languages had two distinct effects on the profession. The first and obviously deleterious effect was the decline in number of installations with the appellation of Language Laboratory. Simultaneously, a distinct counter trend emerged, namely, other disciplines such as English as a Second Language, math, computer sciences, & natural sciences, became increasingly aware of the advantages of individualized instruction and the utility of a language or learning lab to carry out this sort of instruction. Thus, while one side of the academic house was experiencing a temporary down turn, the other side was enjoying a period of growth. In addition, the drop in foreign language enrollments and the demand for academic accountability, mandated a much wider use of the expensive language lab facilities. Therefore, though the term language lab becomes increasingly rare, the number of language lab type facilities continue to grow at an amazing rate. Now these labs are called Learning Labs or Learning Resource Centers or Media Resource Centers. And since such facilities are often under the direct control of librarians or media directors, the requirement for a foreign language trained director has given way to the need for a media "general practitioner". These changes are reflected in the composition of the membership and the Executive Board. Thus, the thrust and content of the **NALLD JOURNAL** is attempting to reflect these changes.

Several years ago, the former **JOURNAL** Editor, Mr. Charles Richardson of Ohio University, a longtime staunch supporter of the organization, made it clear that the growing demands made upon him as Editor were simply becoming overpovering and requested of the Board that we look around for a replacement. In response to Board requests, several lab directors bravely stepped forward and offered to assume this position. The Board carefully considered several offers in light of the following criteria. The **JOURNAL** should be headquartered at a major university

which was fully aware of the responsibilities of the Editor and willing to provide monetary support of various sorts. Finally, the job should not be a one person operation, rather, include several interested individuals under the overall direction of one editor in chief. This has, in effect, resulted in a multi-disciplinary team, made up of individuals representing several distinct academic fields: foreign language education/linguistics, special education, visual literacy, and educational technology. Obviously, JOURNAL content will reflect the academic interest of the editorial team, but the overall aim will be to remain reader oriented.

In order to accomplish this, increased and active interaction must be established between the JOURNAL and its readers. The JOURNAL must not only keep its readers abreast of the most current and relevant developments in educational media, but it must also be a sounding board for national and international communication.

Dale V. Lally, Editor in Chief  
NALLD Journal

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LANGUAGE LABORATORY DIRECTORS  
NALLD JOURNAL**

Name .....	<b>MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b>	
Title .....	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Member</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Renewal</b>
Institution .....	North America	
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City ..... State ..... Zip.....	Foreign air mail	\$ 15
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