

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**LeeAnn Stone**

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By all accounts, the recent FLEAT II conference, held jointly by IALL and the Language Laboratory Association of Japan, was a great success. Non-Japanese IALL attendance more than doubled our expectations; the quality of our presentations and vitality of our membership motivated a number of Japanese, international and even American attendees to sign up as first-time IALL members; and most importantly, it resulted in a truly international exchange which stimulated discussion, debate and new perspectives.

The opening symposium on translation, interpretation and linguistic imperialism was particularly thought-provoking. The session was held in Japanese with simultaneous interpretation provided for English speakers. This was the first experience with simultaneous interpretation for many of the native English-speaking attendees, and it prompted continued discussion throughout the conference.

One topic of discussion revolved around the realization that if IALL is to be considered a truly international organization, we need to reconsider our heretofore de facto "English only" policy in our conference planning. The IALL Executive Board will be discussing this issue further over the next several months and will open the discussion to the membership through the regional groups and the Journal.

The Board will also discuss plans for holding a FLEAT III conference in the U.S. in conjunction with IALL '97. Whether FLEAT III is held in the U.S. or Japan, both the LLA and IALL planning committees felt that the joint conference is a significantly worthwhile project to consider on a regular 4-5 year cycle. In the meantime, we have IALL '93 to look forward to, and hope that our Japanese and other international colleagues will join us in Kansas.



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