

From the President

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It is my pleasure to introduce through this column three people who have recently assumed the awesome responsibility of carrying out what is probably IALL's most important function—that of making available to our members and to others in the profession information that will enable us to perform our jobs in the most knowledgeable and efficient manner possible. In a field increasingly characterized by a constant stream of technological innovations and pedagogical shifts, as ours certainly is, it is essential that we keep abreast of a wide range of developments in order to be prepared to provide the profession with guidance in the most appropriate applications of the technology available to us.

Traditionally, our Association's primary means of sharing news, ideas, and research findings has been through our scholarly publication, the *IALL Journal of Language Learning Technologies*. We are extremely fortunate to have acquired the services of Pete Smith, Director of the Language Acquisition Center at the University of Texas at Arlington, as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal*. Pete's training in foreign language education, his technological savvy, his proven capabilities as a researcher, educator, writer and administrator, and his experience as Managing Editor of the *Journal* for the past two years give him a unique balance of editorial talents that bode well for the continued high quality of this publication. With his service to IALL as a reviewer for the *Journal*, as Exhibits Coordinator for our 1995 Conference at Notre Dame, and as current President of the South-Central Regional Affiliate, he is exceptionally well-prepared to guide the *Journal* to even higher levels of professional value and academic prestige. Pete will be sharing his ideas for the future of the *Journal* through his "From the Editor" column from time to time, and I am sure we will be seeing the effects of his editorial initiatives in coming issues.

The development of our newest channel of communication, the IALL Home Page now available on the World Wide Web (<http://eleazar.dartmouth.edu/IALL>) has now been placed in the capable hands of its newly-appointed Editors, Bruno Browning and Lauren Rosen, both of the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Their ability to collaborate in the construction and maintenance of an exciting Web presence for the organization is evident in the pages they have created at Wisconsin (<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/lss/lsspage.html>), in which they display a combination of creative talent, pedagogical expertise and technical skills which, taken together, are bound to make the IALL Home Page a "site to behold." Based on a preliminary design elaborated over the past year by our WWW Committee, which will continue to serve as Editorial Board for the Web pages, the main page will have links to such areas as Current News, IALL People, Publications, Regional Groups, National and International Affiliates, Membership Information, and the IALL Software Database, as well as to a variety of other academic and commercial sites. The Pages will thus provide members with immediate access to up-to-the-minute reports about IALL activities and, literally, to a world of information relevant to foreign language education and technology

I am truly delighted to welcome Pete, Lauren and Bruno to their new positions, and look forward to working with them as they shape their respective publications. IALL is fortunate to have such talented and enthusiastic people among its membership, and appreciates their willingness to share their time and expertise with our members. Their ultimate success, of course, depends on the contributions that others make to the Journal and to the Home Page. I am sure the Editors would welcome your comments and suggestions.

Best wishes to all of you! ■