

From the Editor

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Pete Smith'.

"FLEAT III will be, to my mind, national and international 'connectivity' at its finest!"

After two numbers of the *IALL Journal* this past year with more somber and memorial tones, the issue you hold in your hands is, in contrast, a celebration. As we gather this August at the University of Victoria for FLEAT III/IALL '97, we will celebrate the richness and strength that is IALL, renew connections with friends and colleagues within our national organization, as well as savor the cultural diversity and breadth of expertise brought to the gathering by our Japanese counterparts from the Language Laboratory Association of Japan. FLEAT III will be, to my mind, national and international "connectivity" at its finest!

I must admit that I learned a great deal during the preparation of this special *Journal* issue. As active as I thought I was in language media circles, I must concede (somewhat ashamedly) that I had heard little more than passing mention of the LLA until last year. Even in a profession noted for its international nature and stressing connectivity between nations and peoples, I was almost completely *disconnected*—blissfully unaware not only of our Japanese "sister" organization, but also of the rich tradition of FLEAT I and FLEAT II. In the special FLEAT III section which follows, I hope you will learn, as did I, about the remarkable ties that have formed between IALL, LLA, and their members.

In addition to our special FLEAT section this issue also contains Lynne Crandall's "Copyright and the Learning Center," reprinted from IALL's new *Management Manual*. Lynne's explanation of copyright and intellectual property is, quite simply put, the best and most understandable examination of these difficult issues that I have ever read! I hope, too, that seeing her module will lead you to consider purchasing the *Manual*, if you have not done so already!

In this issue, too, we provide commentary and analysis from our regular *Journal* authors and columnists. With this printing, we welcome Peter Yang (Case Western University) as our columnist writing "Courseware Reviews." His first

review for the *Journal* tells of a Web-based curriculum for German study. In addition to reports on several other national and international meetings, David Pankratz summarizes LLTI discussions for us, Chris Higgins leads us into the world of non-Roman fonts, and Bill Wyman takes a fascinating look at network connectivity and its future. From LLA and FLEAT to LLTI and Internet 2, this issue certainly celebrates connectivity in all of its forms!

With this issue, we welcome back Robin McClanahan (University of Colorado) to our *Journal* team. Robin's skills in layout and page design once again grace our publication, and we are thankful for her return! I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Peter Liddell and Mary Sanseverino (University of Victoria), for all of their efforts in assembling the FLEAT-related materials in this number. And I would like to join Peter and Mary in welcoming you to FLEAT III and this special issue of the *IALL Journal*! ■