

From the Programs Director

Chris Higgins
University of Maryland

[Editor's Note: This issue's column is shared by past Programs Director Dick Kuettner and Chris Higgins, IALL Programs Director.]

Dick Kuettner

What can I say? The last five plus years have been rewarding to me both professionally and personally. As IALL has grown, so have I.

IALL has come to be a trademark in the profession, and the profession using technology seems to be boundless—especially since we all know that technology is here to stay in whatever forms it takes in the decades to come. Societies are no longer independent of themselves and appear to rely solely on others and others' creations. If we in the field of technology, or more specifically, if we as technologists, remain ahead of the game and use our creative energies, there will always be a place for us. But the moment we lay down our guard and give little relevancy to promoting technology and language, we will cease to exist. Others will assume while we self-consume.

What can I say? How about, "IALL, keep a sharp eye, a keen ear, and a clear mind. 'En garde!' And Chris, go get 'em."

Chris Higgins

Hello! This is my first missive as Programs Director for IALL. I am very honored to have been elected to this position and I appreciate the words (in all forms) of support and encouragement I have received since taking on this job. Through the years, Dick Kuettner has worked diligently to build strong ties between IALL and a number of professional organizations with interests in language education and/or educational technology. He has done a fantastic job of promoting IALL in the field. He has left very big shoes to fill. As I begin my term

as Programs Director for IALL, my goals to build on the strong foundation which Dick during his time as Programs Director.

As we begin a new year (calendar, academic, Chinese...) in a flurry of activity, it is time to gear up for another season of conferences, workshops and other professional opportunities. Our affiliate organizations have provided us with the opportunity to sponsor sessions and booths at their conferences as well as participate in their delegate assemblies. It is with the hard work of our affiliate representatives that IALL is able to maintain such a strong presence in these organizations. Below is a list of our affiliate organizations, IALL's representatives to those organizations and their conference dates for 1998:

AECT	Ursula Williams	2/18-22(St. Louis)
TESOL	Greg Younger	3/17-21 (Seattle)
NEC	Dick Kuettner	4/16-19(New York)
CALICO	Samantha Earp	7/6-8 (San Diego)
ACTFL	Claire Bartlett & Lauren Rosen	11/20-22 (Chicago)
LLA	LeeAnn Stone	

The Affiliate Representatives do a lot of work preparing for the conferences as well as coordinating the IALL sessions, and IALL interest meeting and booth (if we have one). They rely on other IALL members to assist by offering IALL-sponsored sessions, attending the interest meeting and staffing the IALL booth. If you want to become more involved with IALL and any of these organizations and are willing to help with any of the IALL activities, contact the Affiliate Representative. Contact information is available on the IALL Web site—<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/IALL/People.html>

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In the past year, IALL has also begun a number of other projects with other organizations to provide professional development opportunities for language educators. Working with ACTFL, IALL has a team working on two workshops to be offered through ACTFL's Professional Development Program. The first of these workshops premiered at FLEAT III. For more information contact ACTFL at (914) 963-8830.

Another team from IALL is working with Houghton-Mifflin to design a two-day workshop on technology in language teaching as part of that publisher's Faculty Development Programs. The first of these was scheduled for February 19-20 in Plano, Texas.