Introductory Note on this Special Issue in Computer-Assisted Language Learning at the Applied English Center

In this special issue of *ILI*, we spotlight CALL at the AEC. We do this because the AEC is particularly strong in computer-assisted language learning (CALL). Faculty members at the AEC present on CALL issues at regional (e.g., MidTESOL) and international conferences (e.g., TESOL International Association). We have faculty who are adding to their formal education through advanced graduate programs focusing on technology and language pedagogy. We also have faculty members who consistently make heavy use of computer technology in their instruction and share their insights with other AEC faculty. Some of our strength in CALL can also be attributed to our computer lab (Learning English Online-LEO), which has 21 machines and is available to AEC classes and individual students from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Helping LEO remain valuable and user-friendly are the dedicated faculty and student staff that work there.

We are particularly happy to publish this issue of *ILI* because we are breaking new ground by having our first invited guest editor, Summer Peixoto, who is also a contributor. Summer offers a unique perspective on CALL at the AEC because of her long-time interest in technology, recent completion of the TESOL Principles and Practices of Online Teaching program and her work as the LEO coordinator for nearly two years. She brings leadership, expertise, and enthusiasm to this special issue.

Contributors to this special issue offer opinions, evaluate software, and suggest practical, computer-based language learning activities. For more information, readers can address questions to contributors of this special issue, LEO faculty, and/or Summer Peixoto. As always, readers are invited to send commentary, concerns, omissions, and new ideas to me at mberardo@ku.edu.

Thank you,
Marcellino