

An editor years ago wrote a column entitled "Something About Us." Some readers considered it a waste of valuable editorial space; surely, there were larger, more important issues than blowing one's own horn. Other readers found the column valuable because it gave them a "sense" of the real, flesh-and-blood people behind the by-lines; after all, journals do not write themselves.

Following suit, we who are involved in publishing this journal—for this issue only—will tell you "something about us," not because we want to blow our own horn, but because we have changed the title and format of a familiar journal—an old friend to some. You, the readers, deserve an explanation.

In future issues, "Something About Us" will tell something about others who wish to share helpful, even financially rewarding, information with our readers. But, just this once, we welcome you to THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES (J.E.T.T.) published by the International Association For Learning Laboratories (IALL) and specifically devoted to publicizing the educational techniques and technologies (practices and products) used by teachers, media specialists, learning resources personnel, and technologists in their efforts to improve foreign, second, and native language teaching and learning throughout the world.

Our aim is to provide information about the effective integration of print and electronic media into language learning pedagogy so that you, as teachers, learning laboratory directors, administrators, learning resources specialists, media center personnel, and traditional and non-traditional educators will have the "facts" needed to make sound decisions and appropriate choices when it comes to practices and products that can benefit language teaching and learning.

The goal of providing information has not

changed since the first issue of the NALLD Journal over twenty years ago; what has changed is the range and scope of the information we will provide in J.E.T.T. and the readers whom we serve.

This broadening information spectrum and intended audience reflect not only the diversification of today's IALL membership, but more directly, it reflects today's telecommunicative world.

Consider the words of Sue K. Otto, IALL president-elect (see interview this issue): "Because of advances in telecommunications, the term 'global' village aptly describes today's world. As international distance gaps have been closed by telecommunications, learning other languages has become essential for success in economic, scientific, and political endeavors. Our very survival as a planet may well depend on our abilities to communicate effectively with each other. It is worthwhile to note, however, that international media figure in both the problem and the solution: because of them, we are compelled to learn other languages; and because they exist, we have the best tools possible for effectively teaching languages."

The "best tools possible for effectively teaching languages" have increased in kind and in number since the 1960's when The NALLD Journal beamed its information primarily in the direction of language laboratory directors.

In the world of the 1980's and beyond, the traditional, single-medium, single-tool (audio) language laboratory is transforming into a learning environment at many institutions in which the existing and emerging information technologies—audio, video, and computer—are all being integrated into language pedagogy.

At J.E.T.T. we have undergone a similar transformation; we hope to keep our readers on the forefront of the broadening information

spectrum and provide them with practical, user-friendly, and effective tools (practices and products) for helping teachers teach and students learn languages.

When we looked over the last twenty years of The NALLD Journal, some questions emerged. Among these questions was the name; many people, when asked, could not figure out what the letters NALLD represented; some who knew that the letters stood for the National Association of Language Laboratory Directors could not clearly discern content or philosophy of the publication. As one teacher lamented, "I use media and the language laboratory in my foreign language classes, but I'm not a lab director, so I thought the publication had nothing to offer me."

Because educational professionals at many levels of education are becoming involved with practices and products for today's language learning, we decided that the publication—to remain viable—needed to include not only language laboratory directors but everyone involved in effectively integrating technology into the teaching and learning of foreign, second, and native languages.

The Journal of Educational Techniques and Technologies, specializing in practices and products for today's language learning, evolved out of those concerns and sentiments. More than anything, J.E.T.T. reflects IALL's renewed commitment to disseminating information about effective practices and products worldwide for today's language learning—language learning in the telecommunicative world of the 1980's and beyond.

J.E.T.T. intends to support that commitment by considering for publication the following: brief reports, comments/replies, case histories, monographs, theoretical articles, discussions of quantitative methods, issues and answers, point-of-view, tools of the trade, features, and letters to the editor; we welcome these from IALL members and non-members. (See *Writer's Market Manuscript Submission Guidelines* in each issue).

In order to serve its individual readers,

J.E.T.T. invites for review the following: books, audio programs, films, software, hardware, audio-visual aids, video, and related materials that have application in the area of practices and products for today's language learning. (See *Writer's Market: Submission Guidelines* for Review Items in each issue).

A refereed journal, J.E.T.T. manuscript readers and product reviewers are experts in their field and are located throughout the world; anyone interested in serving the journal in this capacity, should contact the editorial offices of J.E.T.T.

J.E.T.T. cordially invites the makers of products and technologies that could improve language learning to advertise such items in the journal. Distributors, vendors, and individuals may take advantage of the following types of advertisements: black and white, color, classified-display, classified-reading. Rates are available upon request.

To serve its IALL members and readers, J.E.T.T. offers Free Position Wanted/Available advertising space. This service is available to IALL members on a first-come, first-served basis, and to non-members on a space available basis (see *Classified Section* of each issue).

As you pick up J.E.T.T. for the first time, the table of contents on the cover "tells the story" of how we plan to keep you abreast of what's happening in the world of today's practices and products in language learning. We will try to present in each issue a diversified "mix" of topics.

Regular and Occasional features in each issue include the following:

1) THE J.E.T.T. TRIBUTE which recognizes men and women in the profession who have made outstanding contributions to the integration of technology and language learning. Our premiere tribute is to the late Jeanne Varney Pleasants: Professor of French at Columbia, phonetician, and pioneer in audiolingual techniques in the teaching and learning of languages.

We invite nominations from our readers of worthy individuals to whom J.E.T.T. can pay tribute.

2) THE J.E.T.T. INTERVIEW will bring you conversations with contemporary practitioners and theoreticians in the field. Our first conversation is with Dr. Sue K. Otto, president-elect of IALL.

3) THE J.E.T.T. WRITER'S MARKET will give both authors and product vendors guidelines for J.E.T.T. submissions.

4) THE J.E.T.T. FEATURE is an in-depth look at "what's out there" in terms of practices and products for today's language learning. Volume 20 features state-of-the-art technology in today's language learning laboratory systems. Future volumes will feature foreign language authoring systems, outstanding language learning laboratory centers from around the world, popular language teaching methodologies, etc.

5) THE JETTSPOTLIGHT will highlight book reviews, software and hardware reviews, film and audio programs reviews, video and audio-visual materials reviews.

6) THE J.E.T.T. CLASSIFIED will feature job openings, free position wanted/available announcements, and classified display and reading announcements in the area of materials for second, foreign, and native language learning.

7) EDITOR'S FOCUS we will continue our "Something About Us" series, giving organizations and individuals an opportunity to announce projects, programs, grants, etc. that may be of interest or financially rewarding to our readers.

8) THE J.E.T.T. ASK THE TECHNICIAN series invites readers to submit their technical questions to the J.E.T.T. technicians who will provide "non-technical" sounding answers that lay people can understand.

9) THE J.E.T.T. READERS' FEEDBACK section welcomes letters to the editor on subjects of concern to our readers.

10) THE UPCOMING EVENTS section, besides announcing major upcoming events of interest to our readers, will initiate a WINNERS' CIRCLE series in which we will spotlight outstanding projects and programs that have proven successful in language learning. We invite our readers to share with us information about such "winners."

In order to serve our readers, at THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES, we welcome your manuscripts, items for review, suggestions for feature articles, nominations for the J.E.T.T. Tribute and Interview sections, winning programs and projects for the Winners' Circle, and letters to the editor, both from those who read the journal regularly and those who look at it occasionally.

Do us a favor? Tell us what you like about J.E.T.T., what you don't like, or would like to see more of, less of, or not at all? Even though you have heard it said by others, at THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES—specializing in practices and products for today's language learning—when readers speak, we listen; we know that without readers, no journal can exist.

Suzanne E. Lindenau
Editor-in-Chief

The Editor of J.E.T.T. welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Letters for publication should be sent to Letters to the Editor, J.E.T.T., 304C Moore College Building, Language Laboratories, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602. All letters become the property of J.E.T.T. and are subject to editing.

“ . . . Best wishes to you as editor. The new journal format sounds like a much-needed improvement. . . . ”

Sister Philip Mary Reilly
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“ . . . Best regards in all your endeavors, especially those involving applications of technology to the teaching and learning of languages. . . . ”

Frank Otto, Phd
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“I recently wrote an advanced reader in con-

temporary French business affairs for students of arts, business and engineering . . . I will see to it that The Journal of Educational Techniques and Technologies—specializing in practices and products for today's language learning—receives a copy for review. . . . ”

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“ . . . with best wishes for the success of the new J.E.T.T. . . . ”

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“ . . . I am delighted to learn that you and J.E.T.T. will be publishing feature articles of state-of-the-art learning laboratories . . . ”

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