APACALL NEWSLETTER

APACALL

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ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTER-ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There are things that are moving quickly. The call for papers for the APACALL Book Project has been closed and all abstracts submitted are currently being reviewed. The preparation for the First International Conference on Pedagogies and Learning is also well on the way. Through the conference, language educators are encouraged to take the opportunity to gain a working knowledge of current and emerging pedagogies, present their research, discover new strategies and developments, obtain new knowledge and meanings by joining with expertise at the national and international level, attend and take home new meanings for the new millennium. Registration and other information can be found at the conference Web site:
[http://www.usq.edu.au/faculty/educate/research/pedagogies2003/].

On the other hand, there are things that are not moving (e.g., publication of the APACALL Journal, coordination of the SIGs, etc.). The Executive Committee will discuss and make some decisions on the matters soon. Other members are also welcome to make comments or suggestions, of course.

We now have a new mailing system for the APACALL E-list:
[http://mailman.usq.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/apacall/]. All members are invited to check the change. Given that the E-list provides a direct communication channel for our members and important news and announcements are made and distributed through the E-list, you are strongly encouraged to join the mailing list if you are not currently subscribing to it.

I am pleased to note that we have active representatives throughout the world across numerous countries. Let us continue to let our colleagues and students know that our membership is free and new members are always welcome.

I hope that all our members are having a peaceful and successful year.

Jeong-Bae Son
President

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS (March – June 2003)

► **Publications**

□ Kenji Kitao
Using On-Line Summaries with Books from Extensive Reading Courses. *Doshisha Studies in Language and Culture, 5*(4), 595-610.

□ Jeong-Bae Son
A hypertext approach to foreign language reading: Student attitudes and perceptions. *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics, Series S No. 17: Asian Languages and Computers*, 91-110.

□ Siew Ming Thang
Investigating Malaysian distance learners' conceptions of their learning styles in learning English. *GEMA, 3*(1).
http://www.fpbahasa.ukm.my/journal/20030304.htm

► **Conference Presentations**

○ Jong-Im Han
The effective use of synchronous and asynchronous CMC tools for developing Korean EFL learners' communicative competence. Keynote speech at the 2003 KAMALL Spring Conference, Seoul, Korea.

○ Kenji Kitao
Online projects. TESOL 2003, Baltimore, USA.

○ Kenji Kitao
Web projects for students. TESOL 2003, Baltimore, USA.

○ Jeong-Bae Son
Training language teachers in computer-mediated communication environments. Keynote address at the 14th Conference of the English Linguistic Science Association of Korea, Seoul, Korea.

○ Vance Stevens
The virtual learning resource center reaches out. The Military Language Institute's 3rd Annual Teacher to Teacher Conference, Abu Dhabi, UAE.
http://www.mli.ac.ae/vlrc/t2t2003.htm

► **Grants and Awards**

Δ None

► **Appointments and movements**

◊ None

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- **Online Learner Training Programs**

A project team from the School of Language Studies and Linguistics, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia are currently undertaking a research project to develop online learner training programs that can be used in the teaching and learning of English language and literature for first year undergraduates. The aim of the project is to empower learners to come to terms with their strengths and weaknesses in order to learn efficiently in ways, which are compatible with their personalities, identities and socio-cultural contexts. It is also to promote greater autonomy among these students. The project involves carrying out a questionnaire survey to identify Malaysian learners' characteristics and designing on-line learner training components to supplement the present face-to-face classroom teaching. The fund for this project is provided by the National Council for Scientific Research and Development in Malaysia. The project team would like to invite APACALL members embarking on similar projects to contact them to share knowledge and exchange information. Those interested can e-mail Siew Ming Thang (thang@pkrisc.cc.ukm.my).

- **Anti-SARS Networking Project**

A project from Youth Knowledge Network, Taiwan. [http://ajet.ykn.org.tw]. It is not only a language learning program, but a trans-disciplinary project. CALL plays an important part of the project, not just with respect to research side but with its very application to K-12 teaching. Youth Knowledge Network is currently coordinating different forces in ICT, cultural and arts, medical (including psychiatrical analysis) of the POST-SARS phenomena. The second stage of the project is focused on how to teach students to express themselves in describing SARS situation. It will also be developed online as a networking youth leader training program that can be used as a model of content-based English language. The aim of the project in linguistic aspect is to empower

teachers to conduct their courses on-line through stream technology, going with video conferencing tools and adopting the speech content discourse as the main source of action research. The project team would like to invite APACALL members who have the same interest to contact them to share knowledge and exchange information. Please e-mail Sylvia Li (jinglu@mail.ykn.org.tw).

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

♦ 2003 PKETA Fall International Conference, September 20, Busan, Korea.
http://www.pketa.org/english/index2.html

♦ The First International Conference on Pedagogies and Learning, October 1-4, Toowoomba, Australia. http://www.usq.edu.au/faculty/educate/research/pedagogies2003/

♦ 2003 KAMALL Fall Conference, October 11, Seoul, Korea.
http://www.kamall.or.kr/k2003fall/2003_fall_e.html

♦ ISEL 2003, October 20-21, Malaysia.
http://www.ums.edu.my/elearning/isel2003/

♦ The 12th International Symposium and Book Fair on English Teaching, November 7-9, Taipei, Taiwan. http://www.eta.org.tw/

♦ Asia TEFL International Conference, November 7-9, Busan, Korea.
http://www.asiatefl.org/conference/conference_1.html

♦ ALAK 2003, December 6, Seoul, Korea.
http://www.alak.or.kr/3_conference/program.asp

♦ Solls INTEC 03, December 16-18, Malaysia.
http://www.fssk.ukm.my/solls/

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S NOTES

This newsletter is meant to be a reminder of the human networking in APACALL. It is owed to our President Jeong-Bae Son, Vance Stevens, Siew Ming Thang, and Saadiyah Darus this time. I am deeply confident that the information about CALL persists and this newsletter is a generator of actions for our research group. I'd like to show my appreciation particularly to J-B and Vance.

Sylvia Li

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Members are encouraged to join the APACALL E-list. Please refer to the 'About APACALL' page of the APACALL Web site.

- Members are invited to send APACALL Webmaster < webmaster@apacall.org > their names and personal homepage addresses to be listed on the 'Members' page of the APACALL Web site.

- Your contributions to this Newsletter are always welcome. Please send your news items to webmaster@apacall.org.