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Editorial Commentary

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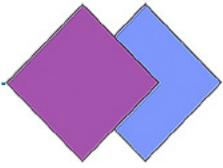
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Editorial Commentary

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Welcome to the first issue of Volume 14 of the *International Journal of Interpreter Education (IJIE)*. It is an honor to be selected as the first deaf main editor of *IJIE*. I really appreciate such an opportunity to contribute to the field of interpreter education in a diverse world and look forward to collaborating with contributors as we advance. As the new editor, I hope to further advance the journal as a continued vehicle for interpreter educators globally related to research and commentary on best practices and new approaches. The ultimate goal of this journal is to collectively develop and gain a deeper understanding of interpreting pedagogy.

I would first like to personally recognize the two previous co-editors—Ineke Crezee and George Major, both from Auckland University of Technology—for the outstanding work they have done for *IJIE* since 2015. Thank you, Ineke and George, for ensuring that the latest research findings related to interpreter education are shared and disseminated worldwide. We appreciate your contributions to the field. Best wishes in your future endeavors!

I have established several goals for this new role. The first is to announce our revised editorial board. I plan to maintain a more active relationship with the board and gather input from these experts by holding meetings with them regularly. My other goal is to make *IJIE* more accessible to deaf communities by adding videos in sign language to the articles published in written English. I am a firm believer in being transparent and sharing research findings with community members. Historically, there has been a wide gap between researchers and practitioners as well as the communities that interpreters ultimately serve. I would like to close that gap. *IJIE*'s new editorial team will discuss the logistics of posting these videos with editorial board members soon. In addition, signed language teaching is also part of interpreter education, and I would like to see more studies in future *IJIE* issues related to best practices in teaching signed languages and cultural competencies. My goal is also to make research more accessible to community members. I would like to see more community-based participatory research, with the need

Kurz and Hunt

to recognize that interpreter educators are working to advance access for individuals from various backgrounds and language pairs.

Recently, the structure of *IJIE* personnel and procedures has undergone some changes based on work started by Sarah Wheeler and continued by Danielle Hunt while serving as the director of research and publications for the Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT). To bring *IJIE* more in line with other academic journals, the CIT board has assembled a new team of *IJIE* personnel in three positions: main editor, managing editor, and editorial assistant. I am pleased to announce that Danielle Hunt from Gallaudet University has accepted the position of managing editor. Yi Hin Chan, a recent Gallaudet University doctoral graduate, has agreed to serve as the editorial assistant. The CIT board also voted to publish the journal online via Clemson University's press. In the past, *IJIE* editors managed all the submissions and reviews through emails. We now have an online publishing portal for all submissions, meaning that the reviewing and publishing process will be more efficient and easily accessible.

In the near future, I encourage you to consider sharing your findings and commentaries with *IJIE*. We welcome your submissions and would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact us at IJIE@cit-asl.org should you have any questions.

I wish you all the best and much success and happiness in 2022!

Danielle I. J. Hunt

Gallaudet University

In the spring of 2020, I took over as the director of research and publications on the CIT board. Sarah Wheeler had been serving in the position and started several initiatives to help shape the position to better serve members of CIT and support the work of *IJIE*. In late 2021, this board position was phased out, and I was voted in as the new managing editor for *IJIE*. Early this year, CIT announced that Kim Kurz would begin serving as the main editor. I am thrilled to be working with her and want to highlight a few changes that have taken place with the journal recently and a few things that I am hoping for *IJIE* in the future.

As the director of research and publications, I oversaw completing the work that Sarah had started by partnering with Clemson University Press to publish and host *IJIE*. One reason that CIT chose Clemson University is because of its approach to publishing, its commitment to supporting research and scholarship, and its interest in furthering open access and video availability as part of scholarly journals. Clemson has worked on adding all previous issues of *IJIE* to the EBSCO databases, meaning that more students, faculty, and researchers will be able to find the journal in their institutional libraries via an increase in discoverability. Future issues will be added as well.

As the CIT board began discussions with Clemson University Press, Ineke Crezee and George Major decided to step down as editors of *IJIE*. I worked closely with both of them to ensure the publication of their last issue, Volume 13, Issue 1, and this issue, Volume 14, Issue 1, while leading the search for a new editorial team. The CIT board used this time of transition to develop a new journal editorial structure, with an open call for editorial staff, including editorial board members, main editor, managing editor, and editorial assistant. We are hopeful that this new structure will result in continued quality and even more support for researchers.

Our partnership with Clemson University Press has resulted in a new approach to submitting and reviewing articles via an online portal called bepress, a Digital Commons cloud-hosted repository. Digital Commons provides several resources to support authors, including on-demand readership metrics and analytics and a workflow that ensures double-blind peer review. I have worked with Clemson to transition all past issues of *IJIE* to this repository, and we are now requiring all future submissions to be processed through this portal.

Digital Commons supports all content types, including data sets and multimedia. The ability to add video content to the journal, as Kim mentions, will be a considerable asset to allowing articles and supplemental content to be presented in signed languages. In my new role as managing editor, I look forward to working with Kim and the *IJIE* editorial board to examine best practices and develop guidelines for these types of submissions in the future.

The CIT board has also recently voted on the makeup of the *IJIE* editorial board. In 2021, I sent emails to all serving members to ask whether they would like to continue on the board. Some agreed, while others preferred to step down. Again, I thank you all for your service to the field in the hopes of improving interpreter education. These former board members include:

- Karen Bontempo, Macquarie University, Australia
- Mira Kim, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Peter Llewellyn Jones, University of Leeds, UK
- Holly Mikkelson, Monterey Institute of International Studies, USA
- Brenda Nicodemus, Gallaudet University, USA
- Cynthia Roat, International Consultant on Language Access in Health Care, USA
- Amy June Rowley, California State University East Bay, USA
- Debra Russell, University of Alberta, Canada
- Julie Simon, The Language Door, USA
- Anna Witter-Merithew, University of Northern Colorado, USA

As the new board begins its term, I hope to actively engage its members in shaping the future directions of *IJIE*. The editorial team will schedule a meeting with the new board soon to get its input. The current board members are:

- María Jesús Blasco Mayor, Universitat Jaume I, Spain
- Ineke Crezee, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
- Robyn Dean, National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology, USA
- Suzanne Ehrlich, University of North Florida, USA
- Daniel Gile, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, France
- Kimberly Hale, Eastern Kentucky University, USA
- Nigel Howard, Independent Researcher, Canada
- Rachel Locker McKee, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- George Major, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
- Esther Monzó Nebot, Universitat Jaume I, Spain
- Riccardo Moratto, Shanghai International Studies University, China
- Jemina Napier, Heriot-Watt University, Scotland
- Anna-Lena Nilsson, The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Norway
- Natasha Parkins-Maliko, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Helen Slatyer, Macquarie University, Australia
- Marty Taylor, Interpreting Consolidated, Canada
- Beppie van den Bogaerde, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Myriam Vermeerbergen, KU Leuven, Campus Antwerpen, Belgium and Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Jihong (Lily) Wang, The University of Queensland, Australia
- Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Winston, Teaching Interpreting Educators & Mentors (TIEM) Center, USA

I hope you enjoy this and future issues of *IJIE* as we continue to advance interpreter education through research and interdisciplinary discussion.