

## From the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The publication of this issue comes after one of the most tragic and devastating natural disasters in Japan or the world for that matter. The JALT CUE SIG sends out our sympathies and sorrows to all those who have suffered in northern Japan and elsewhere throughout the country, especially to any JALT members who have lost family, friends and colleagues in this disaster. From my desk, in Gifu, Japan, I am in awe at the spirit in which everyone living in Japan has pulled together to aid, support, and assist the people affected by the earthquake and following tsunami. After living in Japan for nearly 21 years, I have been a witness to numerous tragedies here and have always been amazed at the manner in which the people of this country have been able to rebuild and move forward. Although we are in trying times at the moment, I feel that Japan, the country and the people, will overcome the present formidable odds and make this wonderful country an even better one.

The Features section has three articles opening with a contribution to our understanding of learner autonomy from **Matt Apple**. In this quantitative study, the author uses the TOEIC as a measurement to reveal the potential EFL learner autonomy has on English language learning. In our second paper, **Christine Winskowski** and **Susan Duggan**, continue, in Part 2 (see *OnCUE Journal, 4(1)*, for Part 1), their investigation of the validity of results from a conventional student ratings instrument related to course evaluation forms. In our third study, we return to the very practical issue of teaching methods. **Ryan Richardson** outlines the differences of student and teacher expectations for the classroom.

For some time now, there have been few contributions to the Cyberpipeline section, but this issue is fortunate to welcome an article by **Daniel Beck** and **Mary Hillis** discussing the effectiveness that social

networking tools have on encouraging participants of a group to get more involved through the development of personal learning networks.

Our Conference Reviews section is back again with **Terry Fellner** looking back on one of the main conferences in Japan: JALT 2011 International Conference, which was held in Aichi Prefecture.

Last, we have three book reviews in this issue of *OnCUE Journal*. In the first, **Steven Urick** reports on a book which examines implicit and explicit knowledge in second language learning. In the second, **Kayo Ozawa** gives us a glimpse at I.S.P. Nation's thoughts on teaching vocabulary. Finally, we have an interesting book review considering the use of authentic literature in an ESL/EFL context by **Heather Doiron**.

### *Errata*

In *OnCUE Journal*, 4(1), the article "Language teachers dealing with student mental health issues: Starting the discussion," by Thomas Amundrud, should have appeared in the Opinion & Perspective section and not the Professional Development section. My apologies to both Mr. Amundrud and the section editor Keith Ford for this error.