



New CASLT President! Nouveau président de l'ACPLS !

We are pleased to announce that John Erskine, French and Languages Consultant for the Winnipeg School Division and former CASLT Vice-President (2005-2007), was appointed as the new CASLT President at our association's Annual General Meeting on November 29, 2007.

En tant que président de l'ACPLS, la vision de M. Erskine est de former plus de Canadiens et Canadiennes ayant la capacité de parler diverses langues avec aisance : « La réalisation de ce rêve dépend de deux groupes de personnes : les apprenants eux-mêmes, et chaque personne qui soutient, permet, favorise et célèbre leur apprentissage, incluant les professeurs, les chercheurs, les administrateurs, les décideurs politiques, les bailleurs de fonds, les créateurs de ressources et les partenaires de l'ACPLS », a-t-il déclaré.

Under Mr. Erskine's leadership, CASLT will focus on considering linguistic duality within a context of diversity, and on the promotion of plurilingualism as an added value to Canada. Already, CASLT has taken the lead in developing a cohesive network among teachers of international languages in all provinces and territories. Plans to coordinate a national conference of international languages in the spring of 2009 are also underway.

Look for John's message to CASLT members on page 2!

*New
CASLT President
John Erskine
with Past President
Miles Turnbull*



CASLT Works with Partners to Advance Second-Language Education

CASLT formalized some new exciting partnerships at the AGM. Our current partners include many national and provincial/territorial organizations, departments of education, language associations, and university based research centres. Our affiliations, with those having complementary goals, further advance second-language education in Canada, provide networking opportunities, and improve communications. We are excited to announce three new partnerships:

Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, University of Ottawa (OLBI) www.olbi.uottawa.ca

OLBI officially opened in July 2007 to pursue the key role of strengthening, developing, and expanding training and research in language teaching and acquisition and language planning, and to share this body of knowledge with the entire university community, throughout Canada and abroad. On page 4, you will find more information on a first partnership project between CASLT and OLBI.

Association canadienne de linguistique appliquée (ACLA) www.aclacaal.org

L'Association canadienne de linguistique appliquée est une société savante bilingue qui compte environ 200 membres au Canada et à l'étranger. L'Association a pour but principal de promouvoir la recherche et l'enseignement dans tous les domaines de la linguistique appliquée. L'Association a également pour objectifs la tenue du congrès annuel de l'ACLA et la publication de la *Revue canadienne de linguistique appliquée*. Vous trouverez tous les détails au sujet de la conférence annuelle de l'ACLA à la page 3.

Encounters with Canada

www.encounters-rencontres.ca

Encounters with Canada is a one-week program of Canadian studies held at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa. From mid September to early December, and from late January to early May, more than 138 high school students per week, aged 14-17, come from across the country to the Nation's Capital for a once in a lifetime opportunity. You can find more information on Encounters with Canada on page 9.

*Past President Miles Turnbull with outgoing volunteers
from the CASLT Board and National Council: Rhéal Allain,
Diane Tijman, Gladys Jean and Lyne Montsion*



By John Erskine

What a joy and a responsibility it is to be an educator - especially a language educator! And what a special privilege it is to be part of the very vibrant and dedicated group of professionals that is the CASLT! As I begin my term as President of the Board of Directors, I look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with our members, National Council, Board, and partners to support language teachers and language learning in Canada. Over the past two decades, the CASLT has played a significant role in my growth as an educator: involvement with conferences, resource development, Web site, and especially connections and the exchange of ideas. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to support CASLT in this new role. I am also indebted to the past and present Board of Directors, our Executive Director, Nicole Thibault, and our Past President, Miles Turnbull. Their passion, humour, energy and devotion are inspirational, and they have done so much to support a smooth succession.

I would like to share two major reasons for my involvement with the CASLT, reasons I believe to be shared by most educators and language learners. The first is my conviction that the quality of life for Canadians and indeed all world citizens is enriched immeasurably by our ability to communicate with people who speak a variety of languages and who come from many different cultures. The second is

the opportunity to be a part of a network of committed and knowledgeable professionals and friends. For me, this is what CASLT is all about: working together to support language learning and all of its benefits.

Donc, je vous encourage non seulement de vous tenir au courant de tous les projets de l'ACPLS en lisant le bulletin *Réflexions*, en explorant notre site Web et en participant aux événements (p. ex. les CCV) disponibles à travers le pays, mais d'y participer activement. Je vous invite aussi à partager vos succès, vos idées, vos besoins et vos espoirs avec vos représentants provinciaux, avec le personnel du bureau ou avec moi.

On behalf of the new Board of Directors and National Council, I would like to extend a special warm welcome to all of our members and especially to our new members! You have become part of a rapidly growing network of over 4,000 educators, who are passionate about the teaching of more than 15 languages including English and French. I encourage you to introduce yourselves to your National Council representatives and to make the most of the CASLT network. I am hoping to meet many of you and look forward to exchanging greetings in a variety of languages with your help! And with your help we will continue to face the challenges of promoting language learning, and supporting language programs and language educators in the many varied contexts across the country.

Editor's Corner

Coin de l'éditrice



By Carolyn King

CASLT is once again delighted to provide its members with an excellent and informative edition of *Réflexions*.

Members will be very interested to read the message from our new President, John Erskine, who has great and varied experience and involvement in second language learning in Canada. Extending our partnerships is exciting for our work. The new Web site is introduced: this article will encourage all to check the new aspects and "new look" for themselves.

The AGM 2007, highlighted in this issue, saw three Board members and one member of the National Council depart: Gladys Jean (NC Representative for Quebec), and Board members Rhéal Allain (ON), Diane Tijman (BC) and Lyne Montsion (NB). On behalf of our Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their longtime work, dedication to second language learning, and the high level of expertise they provided to CASLT during their years as members of the Board of Directors and National Council. We know they will continue their interest and connection with us.

Opinions expressed by authors are their own and not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of CASLT.
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Use of the masculine in this publication is generic and applies to both men and women.
 Dans cette publication, la forme non marquée (c'est-à-dire le masculin singulier) quand elle est employée pour désigner des personnes, renvoie aussi bien à des femmes qu'à des hommes.