

**Coordinator** Dear Colleagues,

*Frank Berberich*

This is my first report to you as our **JALTCALL SIG** Coordinator for 2009. The items this time are the **JALT** Executive Board Meeting, (**EBM**), our upcoming **JALTCALL** 2009 Conference and a call for volunteers, and a coming Officer post vacancy.

The **EBM** met in February and, over the two days of the meeting, covered a great deal of business quite efficiently. There were several items of particular interest to **JALTCALL** that your officers are now discussing. Chief among these are how to use the rather large accumulation of funds in our budget. Some possibilities are donations to **JALT**, increased publications, support to deserving researchers, and so forth. Any suggestions are welcome; please email me.

As you know, **JALTCALL** 2009, to be held in Shizuoka June 5-7, is our biggest event of the year, and one of the biggest in **JALT** as well. The conference site is at Toyo Gakuen University in central Tokyo. We have had nearly 140 submissions from people representing 14 countries, so again, the conference is most certainly an international one.

Under Paul Lewis's able guidance, the Conference Committee is bringing together all the numerous bits and pieces that help to make the conference a success. As always, though, there aren't enough people for all the work. So, a plea: Please volunteer to help with **JALTCALL** 2009! We particularly need a technical support person to assist with setting up computer-based presentations, a handbook editor, and registration helpers. To volunteer, please email Paul Lewis at [pndl@gol.com](mailto:pndl@gol.com).

To the last item, you may know that our Telecommunications Officer, Wizard Paul Daniels, who has built **JALTCALL** Web communications into the powerhouse we now use, would like to give someone else the opportunity to continue his fine work. If you are interested in Website and mailing list management, please email him at [sig-communications@jaltdcall.org](mailto:sig-communications@jaltdcall.org).

Thank you for your support of **JALTCALL**, and... see you at **JALTCALL** 2009!

**Treasurer**

*Kevin Ryan*

After receiving the financial documentation in November from previous Treasurer Ali Campbell in pristine condition, I have had only a few bank transactions, with income from last summer's conference rounding out our balance at approximately 3.3 million yen. We are now heading into the Audit Season with very little to worry about, as my experience as Audit Chair and former **JALT** Treasurer should make for a smooth audit.

I'm looking forward to streamlining and simplifying our reporting process this new fiscal year. I will collect Officer Expense Claims (**OEC**)

only 4 times; on June 25, September 25, December 25 and March 25. The Annual **JALTCALL** conference should bolster our financial situation. We have a wonderful problem of trying to decide what to do with our large balance, and am sure the Officers will make a decision that will benefit **CALL** users, members of the **JALTCALL SIG**, researchers, **JALT**, and Japan in general.

Fellow **CALL**ers,

Welcome to 2009! Your **SIG** Officers are busy planning this year's **JALTCALL** 2009 Conference "Expanding learner potential – it's your **CALL!**" which will be held at Toyo Gakuen University's Hongo Campus on June 5-7, in Tokyo. We look forward to seeing you there!

As always, we hope to get more members involved in helping with the volunteer work that makes the **CALL SIG** the big, successful organization that it has become. Persons who are interested in serving as a **CALL SIG** officer should simply contact our Coordinator, Frank Berberich <sig-coordinator@jaltcall.org> Also, you are always welcome to attend the **CALL SIG** annual officer's meeting at the **JALT** National Conference, which will be held at the Granship Plaza in Shizuoka.

The **JALTCALL** Journal is now in its fifth year of publication, making it a solid member of a rare few academic journals internationally. Congratulations to the publications team! Also, there is a buzz on the **SIG** officer's list about the future publication of last year's Conference Proceedings in various formats. So, please keep posted and hopefully you will see a copy at this year's Conference – or even online.

Best wishes,

At the time of writing this report, we are all busy with the planning of the 2009 **JALT CALL** conference. I have emailed all associate members and many **CALL**-related organizations to invite them to have a display table at the upcoming conference and am receiving replies on a daily basis from interested parties. This year's conference is going to be very well attended by **JALT** associate members and I look forward to browsing their displays or attending their presentations about the latest **CALL** materials available for teachers to help advance their students' English. I would like to thank the associate members for their continued support of the conference (without this support, the conference would not be possible!) And finally, I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2009 **JALT CALL** conference (June 5th-7th) at Toyo Gakuen University, Hongo campus, Tokyo.

Publicity

*David Ockert*

AM Liaison

*Andy Boon*

**Publications Chair***Paul Lewis*

I'm delighted to announce that Michael Thomas has (at time of writing) just finished editing the proceedings from last year's highly successful **JALT CALL** Conference, held at **NUCB** in Nagoya. By the time you read this, our new **DTP** person, the very talented Paul Mason, should have finished the book design and layout, and it should be available very soon if it's not already in your hands. For the first time in some years, we are printing up some hard copies of this book; especially in Japan, non-virtual copy retains an intrinsic value over electronic publishing, at least for the time-being, and as another officer pointed out, can be read in the bath! For the sake of disseminating information more widely, we plan to put up an online version next year. Full details of how to obtain your copy of the book will be sent out shortly. My thanks to Michael for guiding the project through to completion.

I'm also very happy that the **CALL SIG** journal which you are currently reading has been gaining an increased status and respectability worldwide, under the constant and professional editorship of Glenn Stockwell. The aforementioned Paul Mason is also bringing innovations and improvements to the layout, and the **SIG** can take great pride in this achievement. We have come a long way from a photocopied newsletter to a refereed journal of international repute.

As always, I close with a call for you, the reader, to become involved. We welcome authors, proofers, and editors, as well as anyone who has an idea for a book. Get in touch if you'd like to know more.

Regards all,

**Telecommunications***Paul Daniels*

Dear **JALTCALL SIG** Members,

While not much has changed with the appearance of our [jaltcall.org](http://jaltcall.org) website, several improvements have been made on the backend. After moving our site around to different web hosting companies over the years, we are now settled on a server located in Japan. When accessing the site from within the country, you should notice a faster response time from the server and pages should load quickly. Another recent backend change was a shift of all of our email communication to Google Apps. This free service allows us to utilize Google's servers for communication while still retaining our [jaltcall.org](http://jaltcall.org) domain name. This move will also take a load off of our web server and ease administrative tasks. Lastly, we are looking for someone who is interested in taking over the telecommunications position for **JALTCALL**. I have been taking care of the **SIG** website for nearly 12 years and hope to pass this position on to a new officer in 2010. Those interested can email the **SIG** at [sig-communications@jaltcall.org](mailto:sig-communications@jaltcall.org).