Literary and Linguistic Computing: Editor's Report

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Personnel Changes

This year, we say goodbye to Stuart Lee as Assistant Editor, and to Fiona Tweedie as Book Reviews Editor, and I should like the Committee to join me in thanking them both very much for the hard work they have put in. I will be filling the editorial role without an assistant for the next year at least, and will review this at the end of 2001. In place of Fiona, we have asked Edward Vanhoutte of the Centre for Textual Criticism and Document Studies in Antwerp, Belgium, and Simon Horobin of the Department of English Language at Glasgow University to share the post. I am hoping that with two book reviews editors we can increase the number and scope of books reviewed: there is an increasing amount of material published that is of interest to our readership, and it would be good to bring it to their attention. I have had a meeting with Edward and Simon, and I am sure that they will work very well together on this. I have also asked them to take over the reviewing of electronic resources, and I should welcome views from the committee on how extensive this should be. Do we review only published resources, or should we include some of the major resources produced as part of academic projects? My preference would be for the latter, but we must be careful because of the potential extent of this. We also plan to extend the number and scope of book reviewers, and perhaps to develop a master database of reviewers and referees for journal articles—who are often the same individuals.

There are some financial implications of having two reviews editors: we had said that we would offer the same subsidy as the Officers' for the annual conference: £350 each. I would also like to suggest that they both receive free membership. I would also like to propose some token of acknowledgement to Fiona Tweedie for her work over the last five or six years, given that she was never given the conference subsidy. I leave it to the Committee to decide if this is appropriate, and also what form this might take.

Submissions

The Journal has received more and varied submissions of a high quality that ever before in my term as editor. In volume 15 we have two special issues: on Editing for the New Century and on Corpus Building for Minority and Lesser Studied Languages. The two general issues had a good deal of variety. 16.1 is the special issues from the conference which is excellent, and is already at the Press. Given the amount of material I also have available, we should get most issues out on time in 2001.

Editorial Board/Regional Editors

I have discussed at previous meetings the idea of setting up a system of regional editors who would take an active role in promoting the journal in their geographic areas, and have spoken to some people about their undertaking this. It seems to me

that we should think carefully about formal associations of people to the Journal, apart from the edtorial team. Currently, we have Susan Hockey, Antonio Zampolli, and Tom Corns as the Editorial Board, and Hans Walter Gabler as Assistant Editor for Germany. Should we be thinking of augmenting the Editorial Board with these regional representatives, should they be assitant editors for the regions (I think that editor is something of a problematic term, or should they be regional editors? People who have been suggested so far for some kind of regional role are:

Hans Walter Gabler (to stay in this role)
Marie Madeleine Martinet and Liliane Gallet-Blanchard (France)
Edward Vanhoutte (Benelux)
Lazslo Hunyadi (Central and Eastern Europe)
Espen Ore and Lisa Lena Opas- H_nninen (Nordic Countries)
Andrew Armour (Japan)
Wayne McKenna (Australia)

Could the Committee discuss how we should deal with this, and who else we might want to have on an editorial board? It would be good to have a spread of subjects and regions, and also to have people who would take an active role. I append some suggestions for what the role might entail.

Other Matters

I have not heard any more from OUP on the possibility of creating a PDF archive—I will chase this. We lost our senior editor at OUP—Philip Joseph—to Blackwells, and OUP have only just got his replacement in post. The relationship with OUP is satisfactory, and I will be meeting the new editor, Clare Morton, soon. Perhaps it would be a good idea for the Chair and Treasurer also to meet her.

Espen Ore and I have been in discussion about an experiment with on-line articles, and Espen is putting together an issue on editing for sometime in 2002, which might be a good opportunity for this experiment. I have had other queries about on-line articles, which I am pursuing. If anyone has any suggestions on this, I should be very pleased to hear them.

Appendix: Guidelines for Regional/Assistant Editors

Regional/Assistant Editors for *Literary and Linguistic Computing* would be expected
to commit themselves to the following:

- actively promote the circulation of *Literary and Linguistic Computing* (*LLC*) in
  the geographical region they have been asked to cover by referring readers to its
  contents, circulating flyers at appropriate meetings, etc;

- actively seek and encourage contributions for the Journal throughout their area,
  (and indeed offer contributions themselves);

- actively seek and encourage guest editors for special issues (we usually publish
  two a year);

- participate on the LITLIN-LIST by posting news related to humanities computing
  from their geographical area;

- alert the Editor to developments in humanities computing in their regions;

- keep the Editor informed about conferences, workshops, and other activities in
  their regions.