

## Réamhrá/Introduction

*Teanga 23* again breaks ground with a new development in making research in applied linguistics available to its readers. Though IRAAL-sponsored conferences have historically provided the basis for the papers which appear in *Teanga*, *Teanga 21* showed the benefits that come from publishing a special issue devoted to an Irish conference not sponsored by IRAAL but of clear interest to anyone working in applied linguistics. In *Teanga 22*, we saw the benefits of a new editorial policy which more generally opened publication to manuscripts submitted to the editor for editorial review, independent of any prior connection to IRAAL. In *Teanga 23*, we present another special issue, this time devoted to previously-unpublished work arising from postgraduate study on the teaching and learning of German.

Postgraduate students are often put in a trying position. A great deal of work, which in applied linguistics often includes the co-operation of many teachers and language learners, goes into the development and presentation of a Masters-level or doctoral thesis, but the aftermath of this process often feels anticlimactic. Few such works are ever published as they stand, and the opportunities to publish selected material in the form of journal articles can be limited. Yet the insights coming from such studies can be considerable, and form a valuable addition to knowledge in the field. Arnd Witte, the guest editor for *Teanga 23*, explains more about the background to this issue in his guest introduction, but as the general editor of *Teanga*, I am pleased to present this range of material from dissertations in applied linguistics. I am sure that anyone working in language education, whether with German or any other language, will find much of value in this issue.

Because of the irregular rate of publication for *Teanga* in recent years, it may be helpful here to summarize the schedule of production which has operated. Librarians, bibliographers, and others should find this information useful. In referring to volumes of *Teanga*, the practice has been to give each volume a separate number, corresponding to a particular year or years, indicated in parentheses. The actual year in which the issue has appeared follows this information in square brackets. It is hoped, of course, that within the next year or two, *Teanga* will once again return to annual production.

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Production information for *Teanga*, volumes 19-23

*Teanga* 19 (2000)

*Teanga* 20 (2001-02) [2004]

*Teanga* 21 (2002) [2004]

*Teanga* 22 (2003-04) [2007]

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Jeffrey L. Kallen

*An tEagarthóir*/The Editor — *Teanga*

Centre for Language and Communication Studies  
Trinity College Dublin  
Dublin 2, Ireland  
jkallen@tcd.ie