

ReNLA *Bulletin*, January 2011

Dear ReNLA Members,

We are writing to wish you a Happy New Year, and to tell you that the latest AILA Research Network on Learner Autonomy *Bulletin* is now available on the ReNLA website:

<http://ailarenla.org/bulletins/renla-bulletin-january-2011/>

In this Bulletin we would like to honour the memory of Sergio Valdivia, an ardent ReNLA supporter, and moderator of AUTO-L discussions, who sadly passed away in September last year. You will find a tribute to Sergio by Jo Mynard in the latest edition of *Learner Autonomy in Language Learning*.

Here are the full contents of the Bulletin:

1. Tribute to Sergio Valdivia
2. Other articles in *Learner Autonomy in Language Learning* (August 2010 and January 2011 editions)
3. Membership Update
4. Upcoming Events
  - a. IATEFL Learner Autonomy SIG: events at the Brighton IATEFL conference, April 2011
  - b. AILA World Congress Beijing, August 2011: ReNLA Symposium and other presentations
  - c. Kanda University of International Studies Japan / IATEFL LA SIG: Advising for Language Learner Autonomy, November 2011.
5. Recent Publications

We look forward to receiving more contributions for *Learner Autonomy in Language Learning* : <http://ailarenla.org/lall> Please browse back issues to see examples of the kinds of report, review and article (short or long) that we would like to publish. There are no set deadlines, and we will upload relevant contributions as and when we receive them.

Also, if you have relevant event announcements or notices of recent publications that you would like us to bring to members' attention, please let us know and we will include them in the next bulletin. Until you hear from us again, we invite you to consider exploring the website from time to time, and leaving comments or questions where appropriate:

<http://ailarenla.org/>

Best wishes

Garold Murray and Richard Smith

(Convenors of the AILA Research Network on Learner Autonomy in Language Learning)

## **Tribute to Sergio Valdivia**

Sergio Valdivia, a long-standing member of the ReNLA, and moderator of AUTO-L discussions with Andy Gao, sadly passed away on 28<sup>th</sup> September last year. Jo Mynard remembers Sergio in the latest issue of *Learner Autonomy in Language Learning*, accessible [here](#).

## **Articles in *LALL* (August 2010 and January 2011 editions)**

An issue of *LALL* appeared in August 2010 but this has not previously been announced to members. In it are an article:

[‘Ethical challenges in internet-based research on language learners’ autonomous learning: personal reflections by Xuesong Gao](#)

and a report on the ReNLA-supported conference held in Turkey in June last year:

[‘Implementing Learner Autonomy in the 21st Century’, Zirve University, Gaziantep, Turkey, 1-3 June 2010 by \(1\) Hidayet Tok and \(2\) Reza Vahdani](#)

We’re also pleased to announce a January 2011 issue, with the following contents:

[A Tribute to Sergio Valdivia Navarro by Jo Mynard](#)

[The Role of the Learning Advisor in Promoting Autonomy by Jo Mynard](#)

[Self-access Learning: Thinking Outside the Box \(Report on the JASAL Forum at the JALT 2010 Conference in Nagoya\) by Caleb Foale](#)

Feel free to use the comment boxes on each page to provide feedback or raise questions for further discussion.

## **Membership Update**

Since the April 2010 Bulletin we have gained 20 new members, from Pakistan, Mexico, Taiwan, Australia, Japan, Thailand, Turkey, Iran, Cyprus, Denmark, Oman and the UK. This takes our total membership to 363.

The ReNLA constitutes a unique network of like-minded individuals with interests in language learner autonomy, self-access language learning, language learning strategies and related areas. We are currently investigating ways of enabling our members to make the most of this networking opportunity. The first stage is to make our membership list more informative – and make one-to-one contacts more possible – by including links to members' websites. If you would like your website to be included on the membership page, then please send the link to Lucy Cooker at [lucycooker@gmail.com](mailto:lucycooker@gmail.com). Some members have requested that our website enables a more interactive means of social networking. We are investigating possibilities and hope to make progress on this during 2011.

Lucy Cooker

## Upcoming Events

### **IATEFL Learner Autonomy SIG: events at the Brighton IATEFL conference, April 2011**

There will be two important Learner Autonomy events at this conference:

First of all, the Learner Autonomy SIG's pre-conference event on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011:

Developing learner autonomy: Success stories, constraints, and the role of practitioner research (with Anne Burns and Dick Allwright as guest speakers). Further details here: <http://brighton2011.wordpress.com/pce/>

The second event is the LA SIG day of presentations on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> April – the second day of the main conference. There will be a varied programme, with a number of presenters well-known for their work in the development of learner autonomy, including Felicity Kjisik, Alex Ding and Barbara Sinclair. The SIG's 'Open Forum' will end the day.

Registration for the PCE and/or the conference is via IATEFL's website: [www.iatefl.org](http://www.iatefl.org)

### **AILA World Congress Beijing, August 2011: ReNLA Symposium and other presentations**

The *AILA Research Network on Learner Autonomy* Symposium will be held at the 16th World Congress of the International Association of Applied Linguistics in Beijing 23rd – 28th August 2011. The theme of the symposium is 'Social Dimensions of Autonomy' The names of the presenters and the titles of their papers, accompanied by full abstracts, can be seen here: <http://ailarenla.org/events/beijing2011>

We would like to provide details of other autonomy-related presentations by members via our next Bulletin. If you are presenting a paper at the AILA Congress, please contact Garold or Richard with the details.

### **Kanda University of International Studies Japan / IATEFL LA SIG: Advising for Language Learner Autonomy, November 2011.**

[Kanda University of International Studies](http://www.kanda-u.ac.jp/) and the IATEFL Learner Autonomy Special Interest Group (LASIG) are delighted to announce that they will be holding a conference in Japan on November 12 2011. This event has also been organized in collaboration with the [Japan Association for Self-access Learning](http://www.jasal.org/) (JASAL), [Kanda Institute of Foreign Languages](http://www.kifl.ac.jp/) (KIFL) and the [JALT Learner Development SIG](http://www.jalt.org/).

Invited speaker: [Dr. Marina Mozzon-McPherson](http://www.marina-mozzon-mcpherson.com/), University of Hull, UK.

Deadline for proposals: June 30 2010

See the website for more details: <http://learnerautonomy.org/advising2011.html>

## Recent Publications

Since the last issue of the Bulletin we have added the following to our list of recent publications. You can access the complete list of publications here:

<http://ailarenla.org/publications/>

Darasawang, P. & Reinders, H. (2010). Encouraging autonomy with an online language support system. *CALL-EJ*, 11:2

Mariani, L. (2010). Communication strategies. Learning and teaching how to manage oral interaction. [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) Online details and downloadable copy:  
[www.learningpaths.org/communication/presentation.htm](http://www.learningpaths.org/communication/presentation.htm)

Reinders, H. (2010). Proofreading and revising your work. An activity for fostering autonomy. *ELTWO Journal*, issue 1.

Sanprasert, N. (2010). The application of a course management system to enhance autonomy in learning English as a foreign language. *System* 38 (1), p. 109-123.

We would like to add your publication to the list. In order to have your latest publications (2009-2011) listed on the site, please send references in APA style, at any time, to Garold ([garold.murray@gmail.com](mailto:garold.murray@gmail.com)).