



A Season of Change

By Anita McAnear

Fall in the northwestern United States means a change in seasons. Like the seasons, *L&L* also has some changes. One cycle in educational technology involves something new becoming infused in our everyday lives. Such is the case with the Internet. When Judi Harris started the Mining the Internet column in September 1992, K–12 teachers and students were just starting to have access to the Internet. In September 1995, Glen Bull, Gina Bull, and a number of Glen's students and fellow faculty members at the University of Virginia joined Judi as co-authors of the column. Now almost all schools and classrooms are connected to the Internet, and many students and teachers have access in their homes. In addition, the Internet/Web is an integral part of almost every *L&L* article. The work of these talented educators—from their pioneering work with Logo to mining the richness of the Internet to their present efforts for ubiquitous access for all students—has been to put powerful tools and resources along with appropriate pedagogy into

the hands of teachers and students.

They have helped shape the educational technology field and best practices for using technology to improve teaching and learning.

Now for the changes. Because most *L&L* articles now include mention of the use of online tools and resources, there will be no Mining the Internet column, but we still plan on hearing from Judi as an *L&L* article author. Glen sees the metaphor for his work evolving to that of a well-connected educator able to take advantages of a number of technologies (including those available online) for the benefit of his or her students. This issue, we welcome his new column, called The Connected Classroom (p. 28). And most important, we thank all of the Mining the Internet authors for their important contributions to our field.

Another pioneer known for reminding us to always listen to and involve students in the implementation of technology in education is Dennis Harper. I have known Dennis to be a passionate advocate for students since I first met him in 1983. His most recent efforts began with

a technology innovation challenge grant in 1996 to give students technology and pedagogical skills so that they could help their teachers begin to integrate technology into the curriculum. Generation WHY (the original name) is an incredibly successful model for teacher staff development. Dennis began the Student Voices column in September 2000. Since then, we have heard from a number of students about how they have helped with technology implementation in their schools. To continue his work with students as the challenge grant came to an end, Dennis has launched a new company called Generation YES. We hope to continue to infuse student voices into ISTE, NECC, and the pages of *L&L*. We thank Dennis for his pioneering work and wish him continued success with his company.

Finally, to emphasize the importance of staff development in the implementation of technology into the curriculum for improved student learning, we now have a special section for models and practical ideas for staff development with technology (p. 40). Enjoy this time of changing seasons—and columns—for *L&L*.

Anita