

## **On the Occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FLEAT I**

Dear Colleagues,

On August 18-21 (It was really longer), 1981, 20 years ago, we were involved with the First International Conference on Foreign Language Education and Technology (FLEAT).

Indeed it is right and just that we recall and honor the occasion and colleagues.

Prof. Takashi Kuroda of the Language Laboratory Association (LLA) of Japan and Prof. Sam Burggraaf, Executive Director of the National Association for Learning Laboratories (NALLD) were the originators of the concept of an international conference. Without them nothing would have taken place. Nothing!

As they set the groundwork and with the encouragement of the President of NALLD, Dale Lally, and many others, the conference and the program developed into what has become the father, as it were, of the succeeding successful FLEAT conferences.

We are grateful to and mindful of our dear deceased colleagues especially the late Prof. Takashi Kuroda, President of LLA of Japan, whose sense of humor and unfailing courtesy was not surpassed and the late and distinguished Professor Sutesaburo Kohmoto, Chairman of the Conference, who humorously suggested we publish our correspondence about the program, details and problems of the conference since it was really one continuous sheet of paper. He assisted NALLD even more by allowing Prof. Yasushi Sato (now his successor as Chair of the Dept. of English at Meiji Gakuin) to be NALLD's guide though a culture not overly familiar to us. Sato even sacrificed his evenings to help us through the social events in spite of the apprehension of some of his colleagues.

That the conference has continued demonstrates that your efforts, foresight, stamina and sacrifices were appreciated.

At some time in the conference it was said (over drinks?), quoting Vergil, "Perhaps at some time in the future it will bring pleasure to remember these pursuits." It has.

To the Westerners: "Ad Multos Annos" 3X

For our dear Japanese colleagues: "Banzai" 3X

Prof. Joseph H. Sheehan (Retired)  
President Ultimus  
NALLD