

President's Message

By Bruce Saulnier

On behalf of all of the members of ISETA, welcome to the first issue of *Connexions* for the 2001-2002 academic year. This is the first issue of our publication under the guidance of our new editor, Susan Henry of Clayton College and State University. I'm sure that you will find it highly informative.

And what a time for firsts! Never before in the history of our nation have our very shores been subject to attack. Our lives, and those of our students, have been substantively transformed, never again to be totally free from fear. Our students' innocence has been lost, and the comfortable rhythm of our semester has changed.

Our roles in the lives of our students have also changed since that fateful day. But what a teachable moment! Some in our profession make the case that we are professionally obligated to bring the reality of those events into our classrooms. Others claim that our students learn not by what we say but by what we do, and that as fellow travelers we are obligated to both provide emotional support to our students and model appropriate behavioral responses to the tragic events as they unfold.

As for me, I long ago stopped pretending that I have the answers to such difficult questions. I look to the contents of this special issue to help me find my way. I will read and hopefully remain teachable. I invite you to do the same: to read, savor, reflect, and learn.