

President's Message

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Welcome to the first issue of *Explorations in Teaching and Learning*, formerly *Connexions*. As you browse through this issue you will notice other changes as well. Your Board of Directors has made a conscious effort to be responsive to the suggestions of you, our members, regarding how we can bring our already outstanding organization to the next level.

First notice the Call for Proposals for our 2003 Annual Conference. Initially note that the name of our organization is in the process of being changed to "International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning" to more accurately reflect the learner-centered orientation of our members. Next notice the presence of keynote speaker Neil Davidson who will make a featured presentation and receive a special award honoring his explorations and contributions to the cooperative learning movement. Note the thematic cooperative learning strand consistent with our honoree. Next especially notice that the call invites poster sessions as well as traditional presentations as we consciously reach out to involve graduate students and other "newbies" into our organization. Let's make "each one, bring one" our motto as we reach out to others on our campus thereby expanding the base of our organization. And note that we encourage all submissions to be via e-mail attachment as we attempt to simplify the submission process for our members.

Next notice our invitation to our members to nominate members for the designation "Distinguished Fellow", the highest honor ISETL can bestow upon its individual members. We have attempted to codify the nomination criteria and open up the nomination process to all of our members. Please accept our invitation to nominate member(s) whom you feel meet the criteria.

Also notice the presence of a new award, the "Distinguished Fellows Presentation Award", as we consciously attempt to encourage high quality presentations and encourage new members to join us.

I invite each and every one of you to e-mail me with further suggestions as to how we may improve ISETL. We already have a great organization, and I assure you that your Board of Directors will continue to be responsive to the individuals who comprise our organization.

Finally, on behalf of all of our members, please accept our invitation to both submit a proposal and join us this coming October in beautiful Fort Collins as we continue to learn from each other and grow as teachers and learners.

