

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

I am very proud to serve as the President of the Chinese Language Teachers Association this year. I will try to follow in the footsteps of our outgoing President, Jerry Packard, in positioning CLTA to best meet the needs of the expanding ranks of Chinese language teachers in the United States and abroad. In this task I am joined by a very able Board of Directors and highly committed officers of the Association. I look forward to working with Yea-fen Chen, our new Executive Director, and thank our outgoing Executive Director, Cyndy Ning, for nine years of dedicated service to the Association.

One of the most exciting developments in our field is the emergence of regional Chinese language teachers' associations throughout the United States. I look forward to continuing to work with the Regional Committee co-chair, Board Member Cathy Wei, and regional CLTA representatives, to develop a framework of affiliation between the regional and national organizations that supports the growth of regional organizations and increases our collective strength. We welcome the participation of all regional CLTA organizations in this process.

The CLTA Annual Meeting is an exciting opportunity to meet with colleagues from all over the country and the world to learn about developments in the field. I look forward to working with this year's Program Chair, Chuanren Ke, and Conference Chair, Janet Xing, to plan an exciting meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. The Call for Papers is open, and I encourage you to submit a proposal and to plan to join us in November.

In closing, CLTA is striving to meet your needs as a Chinese language teacher. We hope you find that the reviews and articles in our *Journal* and the field updates in our *Newsletter* help to keep you well-informed. We are working to increase our service to the field through teacher training and regional conference support, and I look forward to progress in these areas over the coming year. Please contact me if you have suggestions that you think will strengthen the organization. My email address is cross@holycross.edu.

Claudia Ross

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dear CLTA Members,

I am very proud to have served as CLTA President during such an exciting time in the life of our Association. Our goals for the past year were to establish closer ties with the regional CLTAs, increase the number of member financial awards, ensure that our 2009 annual conference would run smoothly, and set up closer working relations with our sister organization — the Chinese Language Association of Secondary-elementary Schools (CLASS).

Thanks to the combined efforts of the members of our Association, I feel we performed well in achieving our goals. We succeeded in formulating a set of principles relating the national and regional CLTA organizations, thanks to the efforts of Claudia Ross, Cathy Wei and Adam Ross. New, continuing and increased award support was gained thanks to the benevolence of Cheng & Tsui, China Sprout and other generous funding sources. The marvelous suc-