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Selected papers from EUROCALL 2000

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This volume brings together a selection of articles presented at the EUROCALL 2000 Conference which took place in Dundee from 31 August 2000 for three days. What distinguished the millennium conference from all previous successful gatherings was that it was the venue for the first ever showing of 'An Illustrated History of Computer Assisted Language Learning', a Year 2000 initiative which had been supported not just by EUROCALL but also by CALICO and the rest of the world CALL community which was represented on the large panel of experts responsible for vetting my efforts as editor. The live exhibitions held in Tucson, Arizona in late May and in Dundee in late August are duplicated in Web format at http://www.history-of-call.org/ a site which we hope to expand and update.

The main conference was preceded by a well-attended first two days of pre-conference events including the InSTIL Symposium, dealing with the Integration of Speech Technology in Language Learning. Other pre-conference workshops included the first event by the new Language Processing SIG and the Web-Enhanced Language Learning (WELL) group. To celebrate the Year 2000, the EUROCALL association had decided to make a special effort. Thus, the week of CALL events on Scottish soil brought together an unprecedented collection of internationally renowned keynote speakers, a fitting tribute to the new millennium dimension. Only one keynote contribution is included in this volume, that of Carol Chapelle, but the other distinguished speakers were, in order of appearance: Dominic Massaro, Stephen Heppell (previously a keynote speaker at EUROCALL 93), Ronald Cole, Wendy McKay and the visionary engineer and best-selling author, Raymond Kurzweil. The diverse nationalities present at the Conference continued the trend observed in Besançon at EUROCALL 99. Close to 30 different nations were represented, and indeed the conference is attracting an increasing number of scholars from North America and Australasia.

The contents page of the volume shows the same diversity, although the conference main themes of 'Intelligence and Feedback' figure highly in the selected articles. Carol Chapelle, author of the aptly named article 'CALL in the year 2000, still in search of research paradigms' (1997), concluded the conference with a rigorous examination of the criteria by which we might judge research and practice in the field; her article, which adheres to the conference theme of innovation, starts this volume, and a contribution on the crucial role of Human Computer Interaction (HCI) follows. Network aspects of

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CALL delivery, a major part of the conference theme too, are presented, followed by examples of the use of the WWW, constructivist approaches and experiential learning. Another article covers the growing area of pronunciation teaching. The key theme of feedback is then examined by two contributions before we move on to issues of language processing so crucial to quality feedback mechanisms. Finally, the last article presents the CALL contribution in the lexicon and dictionaries.

The formal and informal feedback received from the conference participants praised the high quality of contributions as well as their originality. EUROCALL 2000 included 77 selected papers and Show and Tell sessions, from which a further rigorous selection of fourteen articles was made for this volume. In the event, due to print limitations, four of these have had to be deferred and will appear in *ReCALL* 13(2). The conference demonstrated what has been obvious to many of us for a number of years, namely the general improvement in the quality of contributions in the field as we now embark on the new century and millennium. We hope you enjoy this first issue of *ReCALL* in the year 2001.

Reference

Chapelle, C. (1997) CALL in the year 2000, still in search of research paradigms. *Language Learning and Technology,* 1(1), 19–43

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