From the Editors

This issue of *RFL* has six regular articles featuring both quantitative and qualitative studies from Japan, South Lebanon, China, Thailand, and New Zealand. In the first, Natsuki Aka examines the effects of a year-long extensive reading program on the development of language knowledge and reading abilities with learners of English in Japan. Findings reveal that the scores of the middle and lower proficiency groups increased significantly. In the second article, Gazi Ghaith and Hind El-Sanyoura tested the mediating role of metacognitive strategies with L2 readers and found that problem-solving strategies positively associated with literacy and high-order reading comprehension. In the next article, Huan Liu, Cindy Brantmeier and Michael Strube examine the multidimensionality of the reading-writing relationship in EFL test preparation in China. Findings indicate that reading comprehension was a significant predictor of descriptive writing performance, regardless of level of instruction. Next, John Macalister and Stuart Webb attend to the challenge of managing the transition from the reading of top-level graded readers to authentic texts. The authors report that the use of L1 children's literature is a possibility for the EFL classroom because of the high coverage of word families. In the fifth article, Savika Varaporn and Pragasit Sitthitikul report positive effects of the use of multimodal tasks in critical reading test scores, and more specifically, the researchers find that multimodal tasks enhance intrinsic motivation and learning autonomy. In the last article, Zhiying Zhang and Stuart Webb provide evidence that bilingual books may be a useful tool for vocabulary learning, with gains in vocabulary greater through reading bilingual texts and glossed texts than for reading the English-only text.

There are two book reviews in this volume. Andrew John Wilkins reviews *Website Xreading*. Next, Ceyhun Yükselir reviews *Teacher Development in Technology-Enhanced Language Teaching* by Jeong-Bae Son.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the National Foreign Language Resource Center The University of Hawaiʻi College of Languages, Linguistics and Literature, and the University of Hawaiʻi Department of Second Language Studies for their invaluable support. Their continued funding allows us to offer *RFL* without charge. We make our semi-annual request that those readers of *RFL* who have not yet subscribed to become subscribers at no cost. Subscribers have the option of being notified through e-mail as soon as each new issue is released. We keep all subscriber information confidential. We ask you to subscribe because it will assist us in continuing to obtain institutional support for the journal, keeping it free of charge. So, please take a few moments to fill out the brief subscription form for *Reading in a Foreign Language*.

RFL, like all scholarly journals, depends on the support of individuals with expertise in various areas of second and foreign language reading. The critical and insightful observations and suggestions of the external reviewers allow the journal to maintain the high quality of the articles. The number of manuscripts that we receive for consideration steadily increases

each year. As a result, we need more and more external reviewers. If any readers of *RFL* would like to be external reviewers, please contact us with the areas of second and foreign language reading in which you have particular expertise.

We would like to have your feedback on the articles; please feel free to contact us with your reactions, comments, and suggestions.

We would like to express our thanks to the external reviewers who have provided insightful comments on manuscripts. These scholars make invaluable contributions to *RFL*. The following external reviewers took time to do critical evaluations through mid-March 2019:
Neil Anderson, Aimee Callender, Xuesong (Andy) Gao, Lin Guo, Ran Hu, Daniel Jackson, Xiangying Jiang, Janina Kahn-Horwitz, Kris Kyle, Batia Laufer, Marijana Macis, Diane Malcolm, Hiram Maxim, Scott Miles, Ryan Miller, Kate Paesani, Daniel Stewart, Alan Taylor, Sylvia Yea-Ru Tsai, Dolly Young, and Cui Zhang.

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