Dear readers,

At this time I would like to address CUE readers who have been members since 2013 and before, because they have waited a long time to see this final issue in the volume 7 series. I know some of them have written in to express their impatience and displeasure with the extreme tardiness of getting this journal into their hands, and that includes in particular the authors. As I have written in the previous late issues, I apologize for all the problems and stress that this may have caused. It’s here now, and I hope all readers can enjoy its contents.

The issue begins with a Feature Article by Janice Nakamura on “Workplace English Language Needs of Japanese Business Undergraduates”. This piece was of particular interest to me because it involves research similar to some of my own, but moreover it should be something that nearly every EFL teacher in Japan should take to heart because of its focus. That is, for students who attend college and enter the workplace, how will they need English?

Roehl Sybing has contributed an article “Learner Preferences for Fluency in Inner Circle English Varieties” for the Opinion and Perspective section. He brings to our attention the role of English as an International Language as well as various aspects of learner perceptions regarding English as used by native and non-native speakers.

In our technology-related section @CUE, Eric Gondree writes about an all-too familiar tool that most people are accustomed to using in this day and age: the computer keyboard. He demonstrates and reminds us of problems that our students face with something that we take for granted, despite their having grown up in the computer age.

We proudly welcome conference reviews from two CUE award winners, and we hope that others take advantage of this financial opportunity if they lack sufficient funding. The reviews cover a large and small event, which should provide an interesting contrast to readers. Greg Rouault gives us his views on
the larger CamTESOL conference in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, while Ryan Smithers describes a smaller but quite unique Kusatsu Summer Seminar held at Gunma University.

Our final paper for this issue comes from Peter Edwards, who reviews a book that was compiled and edited by three CUE members. Peter examines Language Learning Motivation in Japan with its 17 chapters that (if memory serves) originally stemmed from a motivation conference sponsored by CUE in July 2011. Give it a read under his watchful eye if for no other reason than the topic of the book is growing in popularity.

Finally, I would like to draw the attention of readers to the inside back cover where you will see that we have two new book review editors. Ellen Head, who edited Edwards’ review in this issue, has stepped down, and her shoes have been replaced by Melodie Cook and Eri Fukuda. Although both of them will deal with editing of book reviews in English, we also hope that Japanese readers will take advantage of our having a native Japanese speaker at the helm there and consider offering reviews in their native language.

Enough of the preliminaries. On to the reading! Enjoy and thank you all for your continued support.

Glen Hill

OnCUE Journal Editor & CUE Publications Chair