

From the Editors

Our first year as editors of the *ASIANetwork Exchange* has been a great learning experience. We got our office up and running, have learned to use publication software, have the system down to a more-or-less precise process, and are able to turn out the *ASIANetwork Exchange* with fewer and fewer technical glitches each time.

We appreciate your cooperation in submitting articles by the deadlines for each issue: **August 1** for the Fall issue, **November 1** for the Winter issue, and **February 1** for the Spring issue. These deadlines may seem early, but the process of turning your words into a newsletter is lengthy. After we receive submissions they have to be converted to our software (sometimes a tricky proposition of matching stray footnotes with their corresponding text), edited, and strategically placed on the page. Then all those "little" things, such as titles, justification, page numbers, table of contents, and a hundred other details have to be examined. And just when we think we have everything right, the computer printer runs out of ink, a title which was underlined mysteriously becomes italicized instead . . . the list goes on and on. The Japanese good-luck charm taped to the computer doesn't seem to cover all of the possible pitfalls, but at least we haven't lost any text . . . yet! Strict observance of the deadlines means that we will successfully meet the above challenges, and then get the *ASIANetwork Exchange* to our printer and the post office in a timely manner.

How do we decide what to print when? We plan six to nine months in advance, and every month or so we have a meeting to talk about what has been submitted for upcoming issues. One of our greatest sources of material is ASIANetwork Conference. When the program for the ASIANetwork Conference is announced, we talk about which of the presentations are likely to be of interest to the greatest number of members. Then at the conference, we attempt to solicit submissions from those people. Occasionally we discover that a presentation would not work in a newsletter format (e.g., a panel which is mostly discussion or relies heavily on visuals), and sometimes we are not able to attend every panel. We always welcome suggestions from attendees as to panels which they found to be interesting and which they would like to see in the *ASIANetwork Exchange*.

This year we asked presenters to submit their papers to us by August 1, and then we planned to divide them among the three issues of Vol. VIII. (Many thanks to those who submitted their papers by the deadline!) We prefer to publish all of the articles from a single panel as a set, but as luck would have it, we only received one complete set of articles

this summer. We are offering an amnesty program to those who have not yet submitted their articles!

Although we do not normally publish unsolicited submissions, we are always open to suggestions of topics which members feel should be covered in the *ASIANetwork Exchange*. Last year we had a number of good suggestions which in turn became valuable contributions to the *ASIANetwork Exchange*.

Last year we used photos to enhance the *ASIANetwork Exchange*. If you have any photos from an ASIANetwork-related event, or photos of Asian events from your school which you think would add to this publication, please submit them to us. We can't guarantee that they will be published, but we will use those which fit our purposes, and promise to return all photos. Make sure that photos are labeled (clearly and legibly) and include your return address.

Finally, we are still waiting for our first letter to the editor. Have you read something in the *ASIANetwork Exchange* (or elsewhere) that you agree or disagree with strongly? Was there a panel at the ASIANetwork Conference that you feel moved to comment on? Do you want to be the instigator of a controversy? Put your pen to paper (or your fingers to the keyboard) and express yourself! Don't make us write letters to ourselves.

We hope that you enjoy reading the *ASIANetwork Exchange* as much as we enjoy creating it for you.

Anne Prescott, Editor
Ben Nefzger and Marsha Smith, Assistant Editors