

# Editorial

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*By William P. Ancker*

In case you weren't counting, it was six issues ago that the English Teaching Forum got a new look, not only with the title on the cover but also with the articles inside. We added the "Abstracts from Other Journals" section, included more white space in the layout of articles, and adopted a little lizard mascot. The most important format change, however, is that there are no longer two types of articles. In the past, longer articles came first and shorter articles followed in a section called "News and Ideas," which had a different layout. We still begin with the longer articles, which is a convention of publishing, but now we do not differentiate between articles with a separate section for the shorter ones. Obviously, we think the new design is more attractive, and it also indicates better what the Forum really is: a hybrid of magazine and academic journal. Its two objectives did not change with the design change: to help teachers of English increase their professional knowledge and improve their classroom teaching and to provide information and insights into American society and values for English teachers around the world.

It is a pleasure to announce that the Forum is now available, in selected countries, through an additional distributor. The public affairs office of U.S. embassies will continue to provide to schools, universities, ministries of education, and EFL teaching associations the majority of the 65,000 copies of the Forum that we print. The new distributor is Alta Book Center of Burlingame, California. Alta is now selling annual subscriptions to individuals and institutions in selected countries (including the United States). For more information, contact Alta by phone at 650-692-1285, fax at 650-692-4654, or e-mail at [info@altaesl.com](mailto:info@altaesl.com).

Finally, please participate in our survey on page 56. We hope to hear from many readers all over the world about something other than their English classes. So before you go any further into this issue, sit down with a cup of your favorite tea and tell us about it!