

## **Editorial**

The publication of Volume 29 marks the end of 2019, and a change to the JML editorial team. Zuraidah Mohd Don has stepped down from her role as Editor-in-Chief after many years of dedicated service, and we welcome a largely new board of editorial members, who are from Brunei, China, the UK as well as Malaysia.

JML has grown from strength to strength over the past few years, and we expect to build on the achievements made in years to come. Many articles from this volume, for example, show how researchers in the field of language studies have placed an increasing emphasis on the analysis and investigation of spoken language. Some of these articles consider researching spoken language and interaction from a language learning and teaching perspective, while others focus on specific sound productions and variations in the rhythmic output of speakers in their community. A wide range of data are considered, from the use of corpora to the exploration of classroom discourse. Such issues as age and multilingualism are also explored in these studies. This collection of articles will surely appeal to both practitioners and researchers in the areas of language teaching, applied linguistics and sociolinguistics. In addition, this volume features a study that looks at the vocabulary size of students and their learning strategies, and closes with an article that reminds all of us labelled as ‘intellectuals’ (= “people who are associated with academic institutions, such as universities and research centres”, Jacobs, this volume) to be of service to society. We hope Volume 29 will inspire some readers to conduct their own investigations and/or to consider becoming engaged intellectuals.

Thank you to our authors, our reviewers, our editorial and advisory board members, and our readers, for their constant dialogue, collaboration, encouragement and effort in the sharing of good ideas and practices, and also for having the courage to question, challenge and push forward our field. Happy 2020 to you all.

**Chau Meng Huat**

Editor-in-Chief

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