

CAL-laborate ***International***

October 2008

Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of *CAL-laborate International*.

It might be described as a re-launch of the journal *CAL-laborate*. The champagne bottle was first broken across *CAL-laborate's* bows in October 1997. She gracefully glided down the slipway into the calm waters of science education publishing. She has plied her trade faithfully for the past ten years. One hundred and ten articles have been sourced from Australia, the UK, the USA, Sweden, Finland and China. The journal has always had an international character, now made explicit in the new name.

The good ship *CAL-laborate* has been a vehicle for some to show their wares, for others to benefit from them. Now, after a short stint in dry dock, to scrape off the very few barnacles and to have a new lick of paint, she is primed to set sail again.

With the re-launch, *CAL-laborate International* becomes a refereed journal. This development reflects changes in the tertiary sector over the last decade. It is no longer sufficient to have quality: it is incumbent to demonstrate that quality, and that through appropriate processes. By rigorously refereeing the articles in *CAL-laborate International* we ensure that they meet an accepted quality standard.

One may ask, should *CAL-laborate International* set sail? Is she seaworthy? Does her class of vessel have a place in the shipping lanes today? Are they not already overcrowded? Would it be better to sell her to a consortium to run as a floating hotel, or scuttle her to serve as a diving wreck?

CAL-laborate International has some very special distinguishing features. First, *CAL-laborate International* is concerned exclusively with tertiary education - not with secondary, not with primary. Second, *CAL-laborate International* is concerned with science in its broadest sense, not with a particular discipline. Third, *CAL-laborate International* is concerned with experiential science, not lectures as such or book learning, with learning science through fitting technology, particularly in the laboratory, or the field. These characteristics make *CAL-laborate International*, and give her a special place in the crowded seas of academic journals.

We pay tribute to the former crew - in particular Ian Johnson and Mary Peat - the ongoing crew - Kaye Placing - and the new crew - Alex Hugman - on this occasion.

So, three cheers for *CAL-laborate International*, and for all who sail in her.
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!

Roger Lewis
Editor-in-Chief

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