Dear readers,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Vocabulary Learning and Instruction*. *VLI* is an open-access international journal that provides a peer-reviewed forum for original research related to vocabulary acquisition, instruction and assessment. This journal will be published online in the growing tradition of open-access peer-reviewed research.

In the pages to follow you will find articles and commentaries written by ten participants (two discussants and eight presenters) from another inaugural event, the 2012 JALT Vocabulary SIG Symposium, held March 3 of this year in Fukuoka, Japan. This volume features commentaries by the two discussants: the renowned lexical researchers Dr. Shigenori Tanaka and Dr. Masamichi Mochizuki. The remaining eight articles cover a wide scope of second language vocabulary research interests ranging from word frequency levels through learner autonomy in lexical development, to classroom teaching techniques.

We welcome contributions for future issues of *VLI*. Submissions are encouraged from researchers and practitioners in both first language as well as foreign and second language contexts on any topics related to vocabulary acquisition, instruction and/or assessment. Readers who deem that any of the articles warrant an academic response are encouraged to submit *commentaries* for publication in an upcoming issue. Submissions as well as all comments, queries and/or concerns regarding *VLI*, including this launch, are welcome at editor@vli-journal.org.

Sincerely,

Raymond Stubbe,
Editor *VLI*

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*VLI Editorial Team*

Editor: Raymond Stubbe

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