



From the Immediate Past-President of Georgia TESOL

By Francisco J. (Harvey) Oaxaca

Oaxaca@fultonschools.org

IS THIS THE END?

The Winter Season. The End of the Year. The End of the Semester.

These concepts and phrases indicate a time of stopping and of transition. Winter is a time when nature goes into hibernation in anticipation of new growth and development of the spring. As we near the end of every calendar year, many people take time to stop and reflect on all their New Year's resolutions both realized and broken. At the end of any school semester, students and teachers alike complete their final moments or assessments and look forward to the changing of classes, topics, or units in the new semester. However, winter is not the end of the seasons and the end of one year or semester actually indicates the beginning of another.

Interestingly enough, professional research can be very similar. The writers of the articles in our journal have spent much time researching, planning, implementing, and compiling their work. Many have spent months writing what you will read finding just the perfect way to express themselves and their ideology and how it supports or counters other leading research in our field. Once they submit their work, in essence, it is the end; the completion of a time in their educational career. However, their work in the pages that follow should not be seen as a stop or end, but rather the beginning of your new understanding and growth and development. This journal provides an opportunity for transition of information from writers to practitioners. The completion of one article leads the way to application of new understanding for each of us as language educators.

So, no, this is not the end. Rather, let this journal and its content be for you a new beginning of understanding and application of current practices that may transform our teaching and understanding of language development for years to come.