

Greeting from the CSCL Tradition

by Gerry Stahl

The research community pursuing Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) grew out of interests in "AI in education" in Europe, "learning sciences" in the USA, and "knowledge building" in Canada in the early 1990s. CSCL is based on the hope that networked computers with intelligent applications can connect students around the world to interact and collaborate on building knowledge together in innovative ways. For CSCL, "interactive" collaboration stresses cooperation among people, aided by networked apps. "Intelligent" support means enriching human knowledge building with agents and computational resources. Too often, social media today have anti-social consequences and artificial intelligence replaces human interaction.

The CSCL community has always wanted to reach out from its core research centers to the rest of the world. Today, that seems especially urgent, because many of the most serious social, technical, and political issues require global solutions: building shared understanding and negotiating international agreements. For this reason, CSCL conferences have been held on different continents over the years, and the *International Journal of CSCL (ijCSCL)* was founded to spread innovations in pedagogy, educational research, technology, and theory around the world.

I co-chaired the 2011 CSCL Conference in Hong Kong and gave presentations on CSCL at South China Normal University in Guangzhou, East China Normal University in Shanghai, and Beijing China Normal University following that conference. I also presented conference talks in Taiwan, Singapore (Stahl, 2005), Hong Kong (Stahl, 2009), Sydney, and Seoul. I have encouraged researchers from under-represented countries to join the Board of *ijCSCL* and to submit articles.

Experience shows that it is difficult for researchers who have not studied at CSCL research centers to publish CSCL research. That is one reason I welcome *JiIL*, with the hope that it will complement *ijCSCL* and provide another venue for researchers in areas related to CSCL to publish in English.

My article in the inaugural issue of *JiIL* (Stahl, 2027) offers some ideas about research in the current global context. It suggests future research efforts that could emulate the Virtual Math Teams project's research into group discourse about scientific conceptions of dependency. I hope this contributes to the start of a fruitful international discourse in *JiIL*.

References

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