

PREFACE

It is my pleasure to present Volume 13 of the Annual Bulletin of ICU's Research Center for Japanese Language Education (RCJLE). This volume contains one research papers dealing with the evaluation of Japanese language teaching, and two reports on projects and programs undertaken by the Center or the ICU Japanese Language Programs (JLP). It also contains special section commemorating the 50th anniversary of Japanese Language Education at ICU.

As indicated by the volume number of this Bulletin, this is the thirteenth year of RCJLE. As in the past, it continues to administer ICU's annual Summer Courses in Japanese (SCJ). SCJ runs for six weeks in July and August, with a staff of about 20 instructors and 120-150 students representing more than 20 countries of North America, Europe and Asia. The staff includes both ICU part-time teachers as well as instructors from other schools in Japan and abroad. For further detail on the operation of SCJ during 2003, please consult this year's Bulletin of the ICU Summer Courses in Japanese (vol. 20). The research activities of the RCJLE, in addition to the individual research of its staff members, include lectures sponsored jointly with JLP, joint development of teaching materials, and research on language teaching methodology. Details of this year's staff publications and lectures will be found at the end of this volume.

As of April 1, 2004, Professor Machiko Netsu will assume the directorship of RCJLE.

March 31, 2004
George Bedell, Director