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ISPI Melbourne Chapter

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT
Thanking AJET’s sponsors

The following announcement, or a variation on it, may have dropped into your electronic in tray during late August to early September, from James Morrison [1]:

… I am pleased to announce that The Technology Source Archives are now available at www.technologysource.org. As you may know, this journal, focusing on using information technology tools to enhance education, was published from 1997 through 2003 first by Microsoft (1997-1998), then by UNC-Chapel Hill (1998-2001), and finally by the Michigan Virtual University (2001-2003). It was taken offline by the Michigan Virtual University in April, 2005. We are most grateful to the Health Policy and Administration Executive Masters Programs in UNC’s School of Public Health for providing the funding for this resurrection and to UNC’s ibiblio library and digital archive for hosting the archives. We also appreciate MVU’s cooperation in this move and to their providing a pointer to the current archives in the event a person uses the old http://ts.mivu.org address to access an article. Hopefully, we will have all articles published in the Technology Source integrated into Innovate’s “read related” and “search” functions within the next several months. [personal email 4 Sep 2005] [2]

As well as being pleased that the great work done by James Morrison and The Technology Source is being preserved and continued, we sympathise with Jim and his colleagues over the problem of website sponsorship.
Having to move on to a fourth sponsor in only about eight years, including a gap period with nothing online, that’s really doing it the hard way! [3]

By contrast, our readers will be aware of how well AJET is being supported by its sponsoring Societies, especially ASCILITE as the principal supporter, and by its website sponsor, NetSpot[4], under the leadership of Allan Christie. This long term, stable sponsorship is absolutely vital for AJET’s continuing growth towards an influential, respected and admired role as a specialist scholarly publisher, international but with an Australasian flavour.

This reiteration of our great appreciation of our sponsors’ role is timely for another reason, in addition to the news of the difficulties that have been faced by The Technology Source. This reason is the opportunity that has arisen for AJET to publish a special fourth issue this year. Recovering from a backlog in the AJET review process that developed as a result of rapid growth in the number of submissions during 2003-04, we have at present a very healthy number of high quality submissions under review and in revision cycles.

Under current circumstances, expenditure on printing and postal charges is contained more effectively by increasing the frequency of AJET issues, compared with increasing the number of pages per issue or the page size. This arises because posting of three issues each exceeding 250 g per issue is more expensive than posting four issues each not exceeding 250 g per issue [5]; the difference exceeds the difference between printing three issues per year and four issues per year. Readers may note that once again we have a large issue (pp. iv+146) that is hard up against the limit of about 150 pages total that just squeezes into the ‘under 250 g’ class for postal delivery [5]. Whilst at this stage, we won’t try to predict the possibility of a permanent increase to four issues per year, we note that our ‘kindred’ journals, HERD [6] and DE [7] recently increased their frequencies.

Roger Atkinson and Catherine McLoughlin
AJET Production Editor and AJET Editor

Endnotes
6. HERD. http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/07294360.asp
7. DE. http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/01587919.asp