



## Editor's Note

**Sharon Quiroz**

*Illinois Institute of Technology*

With his usual diffidence, when Art Young suggested a special issue of *Language and Learning Across the Disciplines* dealing with Poetry Across the Curriculum, he worried that this venture might not work out. Well, it has worked out splendidly! This will be one of our favorite issues of the journal.

My own experience with poetry across the curriculum is limited to a single engineering course in heat transfer. Alas, we didn't save the poems and that teacher no longer teaches undergraduates. But trust me, their haikus on heat transfer—radiation, specifically—were wonderful! Always doing the math, every engineer in the class wrote exactly three lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables. One student added a fifty-word title, but no one miscounted the number of syllables necessary for a traditional haiku. And if you have doubts about the disciplinary efficacy of the assignment, consider this information: the engineers rejected my own haiku, because, they said, I wrote about convection, not radiation. And a good time was had by all.