The following is an edited version of an interview which was conducted by John Flowerdew (JF) with Sandra McKay (SM), editor of TESOL Quarterly from 1994–1999. The interview focuses particularly on contributions by non-native-English-speakers (NNSs) to the journal.

The interview was conducted as part of a research project being carried out by John Flowerdew into the writing and publishing processes of NNS Hong Kong academics, especially in the fields of TESOL and applied linguistics.

The interview is being published as it is felt that it might be of interest to readers of AJELT who are themselves interested in publishing internationally and for the general insights that it provides from an experienced editor dealing with contributions from both NSs and NNSs.

JF: What percentage of submissions would you say were from NNSs to your journal?

SM: I would imagine it's like 15 or 20%. It's very, very low.

JF: How about China and Hong Kong?

SM: Yes, out of groups there is a fair amount there. I would say that there would be more from there than places like Thailand and Korea. Hardly any from Africa. The Middle East — a handful over the four years I worked on it.

JF: And those contributions that were NNSs, what sort of acceptance rate do you recall for those?