

Dennis Doyle
President

WINTER NEWSLETTER
January / February 2003

Bev Burdett / Shauna Winega
Editors



President's Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I was thinking to myself the other day how lucky we are to be Foreign Language teachers. Where else can you sing, dance, eat quiche, and watch French videos as part of the curriculum? There should be no other place in the school where a student can learn more, have more fun or be made to feel more welcome. But how can we make it better?

Here are a few suggestions:

First, make your room a special place. Decorate it with enough posters, maps, flags and culturally-related items that the students feel they are entering a new world. Make it user-friendly. Set the atmosphere with relaxing music. When possible, greet each student as he or she enters to set the tone. A Buenos Días, Guten Tag, or Bonjour will remind them where they are.

Second, teach them to speak! That's what the vast majority of students are there for. And you are the expert! Just remember, there are two times when students are not acquiring the language: (1) when English is being spoken, and (2) when the TL [target language] input is incomprehensible. As I was subbing at Eastmont Middle School this past month, I saw a great poster that said, "If you're not modeling what you are teaching, you are teaching something else." How true! If we are not speaking our target language 95% of the time in class, we're not doing what we were hired for! The first rule of any FL class should be "No English!" There are a few exceptions, of course, but keep English to a

minimum, especially for the students. But merely speaking in the TL doesn't help if the kids don't understand what we are saying. I was in a class last month where the teacher spoke Spanish the entire period, but didn't teach the kids a thing because no one understood what he was saying. And because they weren't understanding, many tuned out and became behavior problems. We need to speak at a level that they can understand and not have to continually guess. Our input needs to be comprehensible. Is it hard? Yes, at first, but the results will make it worthwhile.

Third, teach to mastery. Don't just "cover" the material. Give unannounced tests on material that is both useful and important. Research shows that studying for tests (especially grammar tests) doesn't produce long-term acquisition. (Give your first term final to your kids tomorrow and see what they have retained thus far). And, if the material isn't important, why do we want them to know it? Teach narrow and deep, not wide and shallow. It's better to remember a few things forever than forget a hundred things that you tried to cover so you could finish the book.

A new year is upon us. We need to take a slogan from the Army and *be the best that we can be*. Let us all make a resolution to renew our efforts to improve our teaching skills through workshops, reading, and fraternization with our fellow teachers. Join UFLA! Take advantage of the state, national, and our own UFLA grants that are available to study and travel. And if you ever need any help, please feel free to call me. I'd be glad to come observe and/or give tips or suggestions.

As we become more successful in our teaching, we will be happier, our students will be happier, and our programs will grow.

Have a great year in 2003!

Dennis Doyle
UFLA President

Workshop Opportunities

Dear Friends,

The **Embassy of Spain Education Office** offers, as every year, partial scholarships for Spanish teachers, professors and language administrators to attend a summer course at a University in Spain. The courses are varied, from Spanish Language and Culture to Children's Literature or Methodology and run for three weeks in the month of July. They are specifically designed for American teachers. The courses include room and board and cultural visits in the evenings and on weekends. There are also courses for educators with little or no knowledge of Spanish.

The credits obtained can be exchanged for American university credits by paying a fee to the chosen American University.

For more information, please go to:

www.sgci.mec.es/usa/becas

or contact Maribel Luengo at: Maribel_luengo@byu.edu

The **deadline to apply is February 28th**, so you'd better hurry!

Besides the Embassy scholarship, USOE also offers partial grants for teachers training abroad that can be added to pay for the flight, tuition, etc. These are matching grants, for \$500 and up to \$1000; that is, they can make up only 50% of the total cost of the training. The match can come from the teacher's pocket, the school, the district or from scholarships from the host agency or university, in this case the Embassy of Spain. The web page to find information about these grants is: <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/for.lang/default.htm> You have to click on teacher opportunities, choose either \$500 or \$1000 grant and just follow the instructions.

Maribel Luengo
Spanish Resource Center
Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain
Brigham Young University
164 University Parkway Center
Provo, UT 84602
Tel. 801 378 8107
Fax. 801 378 1138
<http://spanport.byu.edu/src/index.html>
www.sgci.mec.es/usa

Die Ilse ist weg -- nach Timpanogos

German Teachers Immersion Weekend

at the Timp Lodge (BYU) by Sundance Resort

March 7-8, 2003

Friday 4:00 p.m. to

Saturday 3:00 p.m.

Special Guest Consultant:

Anne Green,
Carnegie Mellon University

Workshop on Jugendliteratur

Registration includes workshop, three meals, dorm bed, entertainment, German immersion, shuttle if needed, scenery, mountain air

Pre-registration (non-refundable):

AATG Members: \$10

Others: \$20 (includes \$10 toward membership)

DEADLINE OF MARCH 1, 2003

On-site registration: \$20

Send check made out to Utah Chapter AATG to:
Randall Lund

Germanic and Slavic Languages, BYU
Provo, UT 84602

Further Information: Randall Lund at
randall_lund@byu.edu

or 801-422-4961

2003 BYU SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR FRENCH TEACHERS--*IN FRANCE*



We will take you where you need to be

In light of the new requirements levied by recent Federal Legislation ("No Child Left Behind"), the BYU Department of French and Italian will offer a Summer Institute for French teachers during the Summer Term of 2003. The institute will be geared at helping French teachers in the public schools learn the latest technology and techniques available for teaching French; gather materials in France and produce culturally-authentic lesson plans; improve their mastery of the French language; and earn credit applicable towards "major" status, master's credit, recertification, salary increases, etc.

✂✂ **16 June 2003- 1 August 2003**

✂✂ **Personal instruction and interaction with BYU French Department faculty**

✂✂ **Introduction to the latest technology, methods, and materials for French language teaching**

✂✂ **Hands-on production of culturally-authentic lesson plans incorporating video and other multimedia technology for use in the classroom, including a DVD of lesson plans created at the institute**

✂✂ **Opportunity to visit France and be immersed in French language and culture**

✂✂ **Cultural programs and social activities including French films, guest lectures, games, meals, etc.**

✂✂ **Courses (6-11 credit hours from the following courses)**

Core: **French 495/690 R Teaching Methodology and Technology (3 credit hours)**

French 495/690 R Advanced French Language Proficiency (3)

Electives: **French 454 R Studies in Author (3)**

French 411 R Oral Proficiency in French (2)

✂✂ **Staff: Michael D. Bush, Assoc. Prof. Of French and Instructional Psychology and Technology (others as required)**

✂✂ **Tuition: \$965 for LDS, \$1,447 for non LDS (Approximate)**

Some money for tuition scholarships is available

Travel and living in France: To be determined according to travel and living costs.

Financial Aid is available to offset a major portion of these costs, see website for details.

Visit our website at <http://summerinstitute.byu.edu> or email us at summerinstitute@byu.edu for an application form.

?? **It is a bold mouse that makes her nest in the cat's ear.**

-- Danish Proverb

?? **Where the river is deepest it makes least noise.**

-- Italian Proverb

?? **A habit that has started at three will continue till eighty.**

-- Korean Proverb

?? **Seven days is the length of a guest's life.**

-- Burmese Proverb

Proverbs
from
around
the world

Source: [online]<http://quotations.about.com/library/weekly/aa020328a.htm?terms=french+proverbs>. 1/29/2003

Are You Underqualified?

Joan Patterson

Utah State Office of Education

The No Child Left Behind legislation signed into law on January 8, 2002, includes a definition of "highly qualified" teachers. That definition requires a new teacher to hold a major in every subject assigned. Current teachers may meet one of two criteria:

1. Hold a major in each subject taught or
2. Meet the state equivalency for a major in each subject taught.

The Utah world language supervisors have collaborated to formulate a proposed state equivalency to a foreign language major. The Utah Foreign Language Association will be involved in establishing a rubric for an optional classroom observation component. The proposed formula is listed below:

Required fields: 1-3

1. Oral Interview score

Intermediate-high: no points
 Advanced-low: 15 points
 Advanced-mid: 30 points
 Advanced-high: 45 points
 Superior: 60 points

2. Upper Division

grammar/composition

course(s) or by examination:
PRAXIS or CLIPS

More than one course may be submitted:

grades: A = 4 points

B+ = 3.7 points

B = 3 points

B- = 2.7 points

no credit for other grades

* 300-400 level courses: number of semester hours X grade = total points

* 500-600 level: number of semester hours X grade X 2 = total points

* Courses taken within the last 5 years may add 1 point per course for "recency"

3. Civilization course(s) (conducted in the

target language) Or by

examination: PRAXIS

* More than one course may be submitted:

* 300-400 level: number of semester hours X grade = total points

* 500-600 level: number of semester hours X grade X 2 = total points

* Courses taken within the last 5 years may add 1 point per course for "recency".

Optional fields: 4-7

4. Years of service:

* Percentage of assignment X years of

service = total points

* (See CACTUS for the percentage of

assignment for each year of
experience)

5. Professional development activity
during last 5 years:

- * Organization membership = 1
point per year for each
organization
- * Conference attendance = 1 point
per foreign language
conference
- * Generic foreign language training
(in English, district, state, school...) 1
point per event
- * Language specific
training/networking (in target
language) 2 points per event
- * Travel/tourism in target language
country: 1 point per trip; maximum
of 5 point -

continued page 5 -

Are You Underqualified? - continued

* Residence / study in target language country: 1 point per week, maximum of 10 points.

6. Classroom observation

* A rubric will be developed by the Utah Foreign Language Association.

Classroom observation rubric shall permit a teacher to verify that his/her classroom performance is as effective as that of a teacher with a major in the language taught.

7. Other upper division courses conducted in the target language:

More than one course may be submitted:

* 300-400 level: number of semester hours X grade = points

* 500-600 level: number of semester hours X grade X 2 = points

* Courses taken within the last five years may add 1 point per course for "recency".

* The total points will be compared to the total points for university majors, excluding the oral interview points.

For example, a BYU major must complete ten 3-semester hours of upper division credit:

* 30 hours of A grade work
(30 X 4 = 120 points)

* 30 hours of B grade work
(30 X 3 = 90 points)

* The cut score of total points is proposed at 100.

If you have comments on this proposal, please contact one of the following world language supervisors:

* Alpine District
Charlotte Touati
touac754@alpine.k12.ut.us
801-227-8765

* Davis District
Anabel Pinero
apinero@dsdmail.net
801-444-5166

* Granite District
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* Jordan District
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801-567-8378

* Murray District
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* Park City District
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* Provo District
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Dennis Doyle
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801-476-7800

*For those teachers in other districts,
e-mail your comments to Joan
Patterson jpatters@usoe.k12.ut.us

Rosetta Stone Advertisement

Please go to:
<http://weber.edu/ufla/News/NewsW03.pdf>

2003 UFLA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Joan Patterson • SWCOLT Representative
S. Winegar/B. Burdett • Newsletter Eds.

**A Peak Ahead
A Peek at the Past
Celebrate SWCOLT's 20th
Anniversary
at the SWCOLT / CCFLT
Joint Conference**

**March 13 — 15, 2003
Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast
Denver, Colorado**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 22, 2003

Register online at: www.learnalanguage.org/swcolt

or

Send payment and registration to: Audrey Cornia



**PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE**

This newsletter is available on-line at:

<http://weber.edu/ufla>

Please send any comments, suggestions or submissions to:

Shauna Winegar or Bev Burdett

UFLA Newsletter Editors

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Springville, UT 84663

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DELIVER THIS NEWSLETTER TO:

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the recipient's address.

