

UFLA UTAH FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Dennis Doyle
President

FALL NEWSLETTER
September 2003

Bev Burdett / Shauna Winega
Editors



President's Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

A new school year is upon us in full swing. I hope that each of you had the opportunity to enrich your talents during the summer through workshops, trips, personal study, or just relaxing at home, gaining strength for the upcoming onslaught of eager students. I had a wonderful experience in July at the Armand Hammer World College of North America, where I was involved with 15 other French teachers learning about the International Baccalaureate Program. For four days we were in meetings, learning about what was going to be expected of us as IB teachers. But the best part for me personally was being able to speak French constantly with learned and native French teachers from all parts of the US and the world. It was better than a trip to France because I was inundated with high level words, phrases, and idiomatic expressions in our spirited discussions. It was a treat for me because I don't often have that opportunity much here in Utah. So, I just sat back and soaked in all I could. I thought to myself, wouldn't it be great if we could find a way to immerse ourselves in our various languages several times during the year? Perhaps our various district FL coordinators could organize some language immersion days for teachers where they could get together to gab, discuss their programs, and improve their speaking and listening skills.

Well, it's not exactly the same thing, but we do have a great UFLA conference coming up on

Wednesday, November 5, at Weber State University. Please mark it down on your calendar and put in for a professional day of leave so you can join with us to get new ideas and recharge your batteries. Our theme this year is "But Can They Whistle? True Assessment in the Classroom." We'll be talking about assessing

our students. The title refers to an old story about

a man that brags to a group of men that he is teaching his dogs to whistle. One of the men asks

for a demonstration of this most amazing feat. However the man replies, "I didn't say that they COULD whistle, I only said that I'm teaching them to." For many, that echoes our attempts at teaching foreign languages. We teach them about

the language, but we never expect that they will really be able to speak it. The president of Drake University recently proposed eliminating the school's

FL departments because they were so ineffective. He said, "You will notice that only about 4% of the students who enter our FL classes stick with us for 4 or 5 years, which is what the textbook-driven courses require in order to produce students who can speak with relative ease." Sad, isn't it?

We don't want that to happen at our level. We need to raise our expectations for our students. We know we can push them to new heights by teaching them the language through comprehensible input. Put your textbooks aside and talk to them in simple language. Immerse your kids in simple, basic language that they can comprehend, manipulate, and actually use. As they acquire the language they will feel confident and successful and will want to continue on in your program. And then, have them read, read, read. Give them short, graded readers/novels that they can read without dictionaries. Give them time in class occasionally to sample



magazines, newspapers, and children's fairy tales. Reading is where they will pick up most of their vocabulary and the grammar they need to understand the language.

Above all, we want our kids to succeed. And when they succeed, they'll come back to our classes because they want to, not because they have to.

Try it, you'll like it!

Have a great year and I hope to see you all in
November!

--Dennis

AATF ACTIVITIES FOR 2003 - 2004

Salut tout le monde.

The Utah chapter of the AATF (American Association for Teachers of French) has planned several activities for the year. Everyone is welcome, members or not; French teachers or not...but of course we'd love to have you join the AATF. All language teachers and their partners, friends, parole officers, etc. are invited.

If you don't receive an e-mail from me about a week before each activity, it's because I don't have your e-mail address or I don't know who you are. Send me an e-mail and I'll send you all the details. Contacting me will also give me an idea of how many are coming.

le 6 septembre 11:30 à 13:30 à Liberty Park : boules de pétanque et pic nic:

le 17 octobre, 18:00 à Waterford School
D-day Normandy - 60 years (présenté par Kent Hercules et Art Burnah)

le 14 novembre, 18:00 à Westminster
College: teacher ideas for speaking activities.

le 23 janvier, 18:00 à Westminster
College: teacher ideas for culture and history

le 27 février, à Westminster College:
teacher ideas for listening activities + crêpes

le 19 mars à 18:00 à Westminster
College: cinéma littéraire, L'AVARE avec Louis de Funes (sans sous-titres) et de la bouffe!

A bientôt de vous voir tous.
Amitiés,

Contact Art Burnah at:
artburn@mstar2.net

AATG NEWS

1. **KLD in SLC.** Workshop by our own Corinna Cavanaugh, national consultant for the Kinder Lernen Deutsch project of AATG. **Saturday, September 20 from 9 am to 3 pm at West High School.** Corinna will introduce AATG's new approach to lesson planning and model its results with a live demonstration class of junior high learners, followed by discussion and hands-on application. The workshop will close with an organizing meeting for building support for German and other languages in Utah. Walk to Siegfried's for lunch (not included in registration fee). There are also door prizes direct from Deutschland! A bargain at \$10 for AATG members and \$15 for others. **Send check to Randall Lund, Germanic and Slavic Languages, 4088 JKHB, Brigham Young University, Provo UT 84602.**

2. The Utah chapter is now building a web page at **aatgutah.byu.edu** - check it out!

3. The BYU summer institute for teachers is offering a seminar in Vienna in summer 2004. Grants are available for all participants. The 2-3 week seminar will focus on hands-on discovery of the language and culture of Vienna, collection of digital media, and the creation of a coordinated Vienna unit. Plan now by applying for any state or district funding you can find. Contact Randall Lund at **randall_lund@byu.edu** for more information.

Join your AAT organizations!
These organizations offer hundreds of resources and many opportunities to associate with colleagues in language-immersion activities. See the back page for a list of AAT presidents and contact information.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES GRANT - CHECK THIS OUT!

The Latin American Studies program at the University of Utah is excited to announce that it is applying for a grant to support an intensive four-week cultural study abroad opportunity for K-12 educators. Ken Jameson, Ph.D. professor of economics and co-director of the Latin American Studies Program (ULAS) will spearhead this Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad grant. The purpose of the proposed project is to ultimately enhance the dissemination of Latin American studies curriculum at the K-12 level in Utah and improve the Spanish speaking capabilities of the educators involved in the project.

In June 2004, Ken is planning on leading a combined group of U of U faculty and K-12 educators to Ecuador to study economics, the environment, indigenous peoples, and migration. Ecuador is unique in offering a complete case study on these four issues which are central to the study of contemporary Latin America. Upon completion of the educational trip, those involved in the project will not only have a better understanding of Latin American culture and the Spanish language, but they will also have forged relationships with the other group members and a communication link between the K-12 schools and the U of U will ensue. It is anticipated that the combination of these factors will enhance the dissemination of Latin American studies curriculum throughout the K-12 public school system.

The **deadline for the grant application is October 13, 2003** and the award notification date is set for early March 2004. If the grant is funded, we will be seeking applications from twelve K-12 educators with college level Spanish to participate in the program. Most expenses will be paid for with funds obtained from the grant. This is an excellent opportunity to improve Spanish speaking abilities and study Latin American culture with one of the U of U's highly qualified Latin Americanists.

For more information, please contact Ken Jameson, Economics (jameson@mill.econ.utah.edu) or Kelly Bryner, International Studies Board (bryner-k@ugs.utah.edu).

Chile Tres !

Languages, Literacy, Leadership



**SWCOLT/NMOLE
Joint Conference**

March 25-27, 2004
Hyatt Regency Downtown
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Contact:
Audrey Cournia, Exec. Dir.
1348 Coachman Dr.
Sparks, NV 89434
www.learnalanguage.org/swcolt
ph: (775) 358-6943
fax: (775) 358-1605
CourniaAudrey@cs.com

Southwest Conference on Language Teaching Scholarships Summer 2004

Are you interested in increasing your language and cultural skills while studying in a beautiful country? **The Southwest Conference on Language Teaching** is offering scholarships to foreign language teachers in Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Texas. A total of six scholarships will be awarded by the French Embassy, the Spanish Embassy, The Goethe Institut, Interamerican University Studies Institute in Querétaro, México, and Centro-Bilingüe in Cuernavaca, México. Complete the application on the next page and mail to **Rosanna Pérez, 9407 Rue de Bois, San Antonio, TX, 78254** or e-mail her at RosannaPerez@nisd.net.

Deadline to submit an application is **December 1, 2003**. Deadline to submit applications for the Goethe Institute is **November 1, 2003**.

The Spanish Embassy Scholarship consists of a five week study program at a university in Spain listed on the Embassy's brochure. Tuition and home stay expenses are covered by the Scholarship; recipient pays the cost of transportation.

The French Embassy Scholarship is designed for elementary, secondary, and post secondary teachers of French and allows the recipient to attend a three week seminar in France. It includes the cost of lodging, meals and tuition; recipient pays the cost of transportation.

The Goethe Institut Scholarship offers a variety of coursework that last from two to eight weeks. The scholarship includes tuition, lodging, and some meals. Transportation expenses are not included.

The Interamerican University Studies Institute Scholarship offers lodging, meals, and a week of foreign language instruction and activities in Querétaro, México plus \$200.00 travel allowance upon arrival. New foreign language teachers with one to five years of experience are eligible to apply. Transportation expenses are not included.

The Centro Bilingüe Scholarship offers two scholarships to study in Cuernavaca, México. The scholarships include registration and course work. Transportation expenses are not included.

Since the scholarships do not provide transportation cost, SWCOLT provides travel scholarships of up to \$200.00 per scholarship winner. Scholarship recipient will be reimbursed upon return with proof of airline ticket stub.

NOTE: The scholarship may be changed by the institution that awards it. Applicants will be notified of any changes.

**SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION - Summer 2004**

This scholarship is available to foreign language teachers in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah.

CHECK SCHOLARSHIP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING (For Spanish, number in order of preference):

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Embassy | <input type="checkbox"/> Centro-Bilingüe (Cuernavaca, México) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goethe Institute (Nov. 1 deadline) | <input type="checkbox"/> Interamerican University Studies Institute (Querétaro, México) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Embassy | |

CANDIDATE INFORMATION:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name _____ | Home Address: _____ |
| Position _____ | City, State, Zip _____ |
| Institution _____ | Work phone (_____) _____ |
| Address _____ | Home phone (_____) _____ |
| City, State, Zip _____ | Home e-mail _____ |
| Work e-mail _____ | |

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Are you a SWCOLT advisory council member? _____ (Must be a member to qualify)
2. How many years have you taught French, German or Spanish? _____
3. What is your fluency in the language?
☐ Superior ☐ Advanced ☐ Intermediate ☐ Novice
4. How many times and for how long have you traveled or lived in countries where this language is spoken?

5. Do you intend to teach this language for at least 3 more years? _____
6. If selected as a scholarship winner, which of the following would you prefer to do as a follow-up?
☐ a. Present a session or workshop at next year's SWCOLT conference.
☐ b. Report back to the membership in a newsletter article about this experience.

More on Back

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Please submit a letter of recommendation with this application from a supervisor, administrator, or department chair plus one from a current or former student.

ESSAY: Attach a 200-word essay written in the target language of the scholarship for which you are applying indicating why you are applying for this scholarship. Indicate your contributions to the foreign language profession (presentations, membership in organizations, school involvement, club sponsorship). Describe contributions at the district, regional, or state level regarding curriculum development, committee work, and other initiatives. List staff development that you have attended to improve foreign language instruction. Address the benefits of this scholarship for you and your students if you were to be selected.

DEADLINE: Application, letters of recommendation, and essay must be received no later than **December 1, 2003**. Mail originals and 3 copies to **Rosanna Pérez, 9407 Rue de Bois, San Antonio, TX 78254**.

You will receive a letter or e-mail advising you that your application has been received. If you DO NOT receive a confirmation letter within two weeks, please contact Rosanna at the above address or e-mail her at RosannaPerez@nisd.net

NOTE: Most of the scholarships are for summer study. If you submit an application, please give careful consideration that you must attend if you are selected. Failure to do so may jeopardize scholarships for future SWCOLT members.

Here's What's Been Happening!

Centennial Middle School's 2003 Foreign Language Week Celebration

Since it opened in 1996, Centennial Middle School in Provo, Utah, has hosted an annual school-wide Foreign Language Week Celebration sponsored by our Foreign Language Department. Mr. Dan Palmer and Mr. Kim Bailey are our Spanish teachers, Mrs. Wynette Greer is our German teacher, and Melinda Johnston and Kathy Schlendorf are our French teachers. This celebration includes activities that are focused on the students studying any of the three foreign languages offered at our school.

Everyday from Monday through Friday, one of the foreign language teachers announces the foreign "word of the day." Secretly, students and teachers have been given movie coupons to hand out to the first student who says that word to them on the day it is announced. The entire school is going around saying "Guten Tag" or "Buenos D as" or whatever the word is for that day. In addition, each language teacher has a treasure hunt with clues in each language. Each day a new clue is posted for the Spanish, German, and French students. The students use the posted clues to find the treasure on Friday. The first student to find the treasure wins a prize.

This year's foreign language week culminated with an evening of displays, food, and performances by the language students themselves. The entire student body was invited to attend, along with students' family members and other friends. The event was held on March 8, 2002 (for the sixth time since 1996!). Parents and friends flooded into our cafetorium which had been magically transformed into Germany, France, Spain, and Mexico. Huge walls were covered with giant displays and student-made posters, flags, and class work of various kinds. The posters reflected learning units and vocabulary the students had studied. The displays reflected the culture and diversity of the countries studied.

Each Foreign Language group offered native foods from the country for parents and students to taste. Because of the UFLA Teacher Vitality Award, most of the cost of the food was absorbed, and only a small price was asked of the patrons for each item. One hundred mini eclairs were gone within minutes. Nachos, Root beer, gummi candies, and other delights were among the foods chosen for tasting.

The students also performed for their families and fellow students. Each language group sang up to three songs. Students then performed The Three Little Pigs children's story divided up into the three languages. Each teacher invited his and her students to help translate the simple lines of the pigs, the vendors, and the wolf into two French scenes, one Spanish scene, and one German scene. The students quickly changed costumes behind the curtains as the scenes melded from language to language. The props were homemade cloth houses with real curtains and other decorations. The students wore pink cloaks which were dubbed "piggy ponchos" and the wolf wore a full-length fake fur. These props and costumes were also funded by the UFLA Teacher Vitality Award.

The entire event lasted only an hour. Students showed their parents the displays and posters they created as they nibbled on the foods for sale. The performance began exactly halfway through the evening, and the event ended with the breaking of a pi ata by the younger siblings of our students. The evening was a delightful, well-attended event and we are grateful for the assistance of the UFLA Award which helped to make it even better.

We want more articles like this! Let us know about the fun and exciting things you are doing in your foreign language programs!

But Can They Whistle?

True Assessment in the Classroom.

Utah Foreign Language Association Conference
Wednesday, November 5, 2003
Weber State University



BUT CAN THEY WHISTLE?

Due to an error in the Spring newsletter, we have extended the deadline for proposals for sessions at the upcoming UFLA conference to September 30. The theme this year is "But Can They Whistle? True Assessment In The Classroom." We invite all who have had success with their teaching activities and their testing instruments to present a session at the conference and share their ideas with others. (See session proposal form on the next page.)

And don't forget that attendance at the conference provides re-certification points, as well as information regarding the latest foreign language policies. Plan now to attend on Wednesday, November 5th, at Weber State. We suggest that you make arrangements with your administrators NOW to get first dibs on professional leave, and to request funding from your district curriculum specialists for your conference costs.

If you know of a foreign language teacher in your building or your district who did not receive this newsletter, please copy it for them. Also, please let us know of their name and address. Thank you.

Bev Burdett (uflaburdett@comcast.net),

Shauna Winegar (shauna.winegar@nebo.edu).

PROPOSAL FORM FOR THE 2003 UFLA CONFERENCE

THEME: "But Can They Whistle? True Assessment in the Classroom"

Wednesday, November 5, 2003 – Weber State University

Submission deadline: Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Name: _____
Home address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Daytime phone: _____
Evening phone: _____
e-mail: _____
Institution: _____

Send proposals to:
James Schindler
ATT: Wanda Gocha
Utah State Office of Education
250 East 500 South
P.O. Box 144200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200

Will you have co-presenters?

If so, please list:

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Please indicate the most appropriate target audience(s) for your presentation:

___ Elementary ___ Middle/Jr. High ___ High School
___ College/Univ ___ Admin/Supv ___ All

Please specify in which language(s) the session will be presented:

___ ASL ___ Chinese ___ French
___ German ___ Italian ___ Japanese
___ Russian ___ Spanish ___ Other _____

Please specify the language(s) to which this session is most applicable:

___ ASL ___ Chinese ___ French
___ German ___ Italian ___ Japanese
___ Russian ___ Spanish ___ Other _____
___ Applicable to all

While the conference is emphasizing the topic of assessment, suitable presentations in other categories may be submitted for approval. Please indicate the most applicable category for your presentation.

___ Assessment ___ Culture ___ Curriculum
___ Learner Variables ___ Literature ___ Materials
___ Methods/Techniques ___ Policy/Issues ___ Prof. Development
___ Research ___ Technology

Please describe specifically in the space on the back of this form: (1) the content of the presentation, (2) the method of presentation, and (3) benefits to participants. Please type in English.

Is Your Job in Danger?

Are you properly accredited to keep your teaching job? Do you understand Senate Bill 154 which was signed into law last March? Do you know how it will affect you? Are you teaching in your minor? Will you be able to keep teaching in your minor after 2005? Do you understand the State Office of Education's new "Performance Plus" plan? Do you know how the courses you teach fit into the state's new graduation requirement plans?

If you have any concerns, doubts, or issues about any of the above questions, you need to do two things:

1. Join the Utah Foreign Language Association.
2. Attend the UFLA conference in November.

Based on the federal government's "No Child Left Behind" act, state policies are changing right and left. As a profession, we need to stay on top of these changes and insure that foreign language education not only remains, but expands, in our public schools. The best way to do this is by working together in our professional organizations.

We can no longer afford to close ourselves up in our classrooms and ignore the political climate around us. If we do, we may no longer have classrooms. No matter the quality of our teaching, our enthusiasm for our languages, or the success of our students, our programs may be diminished or deleted if we do not actively work to insure their survival.

The UFLA is working hard to stay abreast of all the changes around us, and to begin lobbying

efforts where needed to maintain the quality programs we have in this state. **It is continuing to provide members with awards and grants to help them improve their skills and enhance their teaching.*** Most importantly, it is providing workshops and lectures at the November conference to inform YOU, the membership, about what you can do to help yourself and the profession in general.

Become involved in your profession. Send in your membership and registration form today!

*Information and applications will be available at the UFLA conference

No Piñatas, Please

Are you tired of the same old tacos, quiche, and sausages? Are you interested in introducing your students to some culture with a capital "C"? Then check out "Opera-tunities" and "Orchestra-tunities" at <http://www.usoeducation.org/>

The Utah Opera and the Utah Symphony provide opportunities for public school students to attend their performances on the night of the final dress rehearsal, for only a nominal fee. They will also arrange for a docent to come to your classroom before the performance to introduce your students to what they will be seeing and hearing.

This year, the Opera is performing "Faust" in French; "Hansel und Gretel" in German; "Girl of the Golden West" in Italian; and "Julius Caesar" in Italian. Each performance is enhanced with supertitles in English. The Symphony is performing works by Stravinsky, Mahler, Strauss, Poulenc, Mozart, Barber, Brahms, and Schubert. Check out the website.

Ask Not . . .

At the UFLA conference in November, elections will be held for two important positions on the UFLA board: President-Elect and Secretary. These positions are open to any member of UFLA.

The President-elect position is a three year commitment, but don't let that scare you away, even if you have never been active in UFLA before. The first year, the Pres.-Elect is in training, attending all board meetings and learning the ropes. S/he is also in charge of making sure the Governor signs a Foreign Language Week Proclamation, the first full week in March. The second year, the Pres.-Elect becomes President, and the third year, s/he serves as Past-President.

The Secretary is responsible for keeping the records of the board meetings and other events. This position can also be jumped into without any previous experience on the board. Both the Secretary and the President-Elect are full voting members of the Executive Board, and both are supported by the Board, composed of representatives from each of the major teacher-prep universities in the state, each state AAT organization, an Executive Secretary/Treasurer, the newsletter editors, and other members as necessary. The board meets once a month, over the EdNet system, so extensive travel is not necessary. For more information about these positions, check out the UFLA by-laws at: <http://old.weber.edu/ufla/LAWS.HTM>

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please let a current board member know so that your name can be placed in nomination on the ballot at the November meeting. If you are wondering if you should serve or not, please ponder this thought (with apologies to President Kennedy):

"Ask not what UFLA can do for you, ask what you can do for UFLA".



**2003 - 2004 MEMBERSHIP and
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

Mail this completed form to:
Cheryl Ann Hansen
Department of Foreign Languages
Weber State University
1403 University Circle
Ogden, UT 84408-1403

Name: _____

e-mail address: _____

School: _____

School Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Languages taught:

___ French ___ Latin
___ German Other _____
___ Spanish
___ Japanese
___ ASL
___ Russian

**Please check the appropriate box and include a check made payable to:
Utah Foreign Language Association**

- ☐ **\$25.00 (Must be POSTMARKED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2003)**
Annual UFLA Membership AND early-bird registration (LUNCH INCLUDED)
Please check your lunch entrée preference:
_____ Chicken Roulade (stuffed with ham and spinach)
_____ Traditional Primavera (vegetarian)

- ☐ **\$30.00 (Postmarked AFTER September 30 and BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 2003)**
Annual UFLA membership, conference registration, NO LUNCH

- ☐ **\$12.00 Lunch cost for late registrants**
Please check your lunch entrée preference:
_____ Chicken Roulade (stuffed with ham and spinach)
_____ Traditional Primavera (vegetarian)

- ☐ **\$15.00 Annual Membership Only**

*NOTE: On-site conference registration will be \$30.00. Lunch will not be available.

++++
If you do not have a Baccalaureate Major or a Master's Degree in the language you are teaching, an Oral Assessment will be available to you at the conference to help you reach "highly qualified" status. This service is free of charge (subsidized by the USOE), but you need to pre-register. Please check the appropriate language box below if you wish to be assessed. Unfortunately, only three languages are available under the subsidized program.

☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish