-UFL-A

UTAH FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Tom Mathews President WINTER NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2006 Bev Burdett / Shauna Winegar Co-Editors

From our



President

As most of you are I'm sure aware, I was asked by the UFLA Board to take over as president of the association this year when our president-elect, Larry Carrillo, was unable to continue. Although I didn't volunteer for the job, I must admit that I find working with UFLA to be a very rewarding experience.

We had a very successful annual conference in November at Utah Valley State College. Participation was at an all-time high, and comments show that most teachers enjoyed the presentations, speakers and networking with one another. I extend a special thanks to Jeff Stokes, our past president, for his hard work in overseeing the conference and making sure that all of the committees did their part.

SWCOLT

The Southwest Conference on Language Teaching will be in Phoenix, Arizona, this year on April 6 – 8. The theme is "Many Languages, Many Cultures, One Voice." Information about the conference, including registration materials, can be found at www.swcolt.org. The state of Utah usually has a very respectable showing at SWCOLT and we hope that this year will be no different.

(continued next column)

Best of UFLA

We had many very good presentations at our conference last November, but in reviewing the evaluation sheets, one surfaced as "the best." The UFLA board has invited Laurel Shelly to repeat her presentation on "Creating a successful Latin club" at the SWCOLT conference in Phoenix. Shelley's presentation will serve as an example of the great work that we are doing in the state of Utah.

Teacher of the Year

The UFLA Teacher of the Year, awarded at our conference last November, is Charlotte Touati, a French teacher at Orem High. She is also our state's representative to become the SWCOLT Teacher of the Year. We are very proud of Charlotte and believe that she is an excellent candidate. Each state nominates a teacher for the regional SWCOLT Teacher of the Year, and the winner

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(President's message - continued)

will be the SWCOLT nominee to become the national foreign language teacher of the Year at ACTFL this fall. We know that Charlotte will represent our state well and feel that she would be a superb choice for either regional or national teacher of the year. So, good luck Charlotte!

Our November Conference 2006

The board is already planning our next conference. It will be in November and will be at UVSC again, since they did such a fine job for us last time. The theme (tentatively) is "Discovering Languages," piggybacking on the ACTFL designation of the year 2006 as a year to discover languages. We will soon send out a call for presenters and hope you will all plan to attend and participate.



The Southwest Conference on Language Teaching is a regional foreign language teachers' organization that hosts an annual conference in partnership with state foreign language teacher associations. The participating states in SWCOLT are Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah.

The **2007** SWCOLT conference will be held in Las Vegas, and Utah has bid to be the host in **2008**. No word yet on when we might get to go to Hawaii!



SWCOLT/AZLA JOINT CONFERENCE APRIL 6-8 Embassy Suites Phoenix, Arizona

Contact:

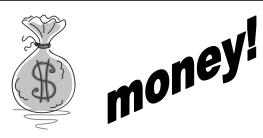
Jody Klopp, Executive Director

713 Rock Hollow Road Edmond, Oklahoma 73034 Phone: 405-330-1318

Fax: 405-340-0923 Email: jklopp@cox.net

www.swcolt.org





Nobody seems to want the money that UFLA is anxious to give away.

No qualified applications were received for the <u>Pat Buckner Collaboration in Teaching Project</u> award, nor the two <u>Teacher Vitality</u> awards. The deadline has been extended to Mar. 15, 2006. For information, please go to: http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/awards.htm

AAT sp, f, g, etc. Information

"AAT" ORGANIZATIONS

These individual language organizations are the ones that represent the interests of teachers in their specific languages and send representatives to the UFLA board. Although not all of the organizations start with the letters "AAT," we use that acronym to refer to all of them. The organizations are staffed by full-time teachers, like you. They organize special conferences, immersion weekends, national exams, and other activities to improve teaching and programs, and to better serve students. Please support your organization, and perhaps even volunteer to serve on its board.

Below is a list of current AAT leaders. You may contact them if you have any questions about membership or activities. (The following page of this newsletter contains more information, so read on.) Please note that there are no official organizations at this moment for Chinese or Russian. If any teachers are interested in forming a state organization and having a representative on the UFLA board for one of these or any other language, please contact Tom Mathews at tmathews@weber.edu.

Charlene Farnworth, FLES Pres. ninngey@msn.com
Françoise Hibbs, AATF Pres. francoise.hibbs@slcc.edu
Frank Schofield, AATSP Pres. fschofield@lhs.logan.k12.ut.us
Erin Staffanson, ASL-Utah Pres. erinst@provo.edu
Shauna Winegar, AATG Pres. shauna.winegar@nebo.edu
Atsuko Neely, IMATJ Pres. akko@cc.usu.edu
Sue Shapiro, UCA Pres. shapiros@hass.usu.edu



AATF (French)

January 21, The Book Club will meet from 11:00am-1:00pm in the Markosian Library at SLCC, Redwood campus. We will discuss « UNE PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE» de Guy de Maupassant. We may also view the film by Jean Renoir.

February 11, Jennifer Brown will lead a sharing session on the theme: Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, the Olympic Games, Bring Lesson plans, ideas, and projects to share.from 11:00am-1:00pm at the Markosian Library, SLCC, Redwood campus.

March 4, (tentative date) Linda Bayes will lead a sharing session on: Teaching several levels at the same time: Classroom management from 11:00am-1:00pm at the Markosian Library, SLCC, Redwood campus.

March 24, 7pm, TB 203, SLCC Redwood Campus The film "LES CHORISTES." Free entrance!

For more information, contact Françoise Hlbbs at francoise.hibbs@slcc.edu

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If you have suggestions for a keynote speaker for next year's conference, or for exhibitors we might invite to the conference, or for any other improvements, please volunteer to help the board. **Contact President Tom Mathews** (tmathews@weber.edu) or any other board member.

AATG (German)

The Utah AATG Chapter will be hosting two workshops before the end of the school year. All Utah German educators are invited to attend and we hope you'll come!

January 21, 2006 - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Using Technology to Enliven Teacher-Comprehensible Input, Maximize Student Output, and Deliver Immediate Feedback by Stephen Van Orden

This presentation will have something for everyone – come see what technology can do for vour classroom!

Place: Timpview High School, Provo, UT Cost: No fee, light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to shauna.winegar@nebo.edu

April 28 – 29, 2006

Spring Immersion Weekend and TPRS Workshop conducted by Rob Williams, AATG Consultant

Mr. Williams' presentation, *More Students* Learning More German with TPRS demonstrates Total Physical Response and Storytelling, a relatively new technique, which is changing foreign language classrooms everywhere and shows how to use TPRS to increase motivation, learning, and retention. Don't miss this! Rob Williams is a fun, dynamic teacher and wellrespected presenter.

Place: BYU Springhaven Facility, Hobble Creek Canyon (east of Springville, UT)

All other information TBA in March but please place this date on your calendar now.

If you are interested in attending, please e-mail shauna.winegar@nebo.edu to make sure your name is on the mailing list for all information regarding this immersion weekend.



AATSP (Spanish & Portuguese)

Dear AATSP Members:

At the start of the new year, many of us commonly set goals regarding our personal and professional development. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you one of the goals we have set as an AATSP board: to promote regional autonomy within the Utah chapter of AATSP.

Utah covers a lot of ground, and we have Spanish and Portuguese teachers throughout the state. Many of us would like to collaborate with other teachers, but are unable to do so due to travel time. As was mentioned in our annual meeting at the 2005 UFLA conference, we would like to organize small, regional groups of Spanish and Portuguese teachers. This would allow all of us to collaborate with other educators in our geographical areas, and receive the benefits of belonging to a professional organization that addresses our specific needs. We on the board feel that this will allow our organization to grow, and will promote the profession of Spanish teaching throughout the state.

If you are interested in participating in this, please contact a member of the AATSP board. You can contact us by going to the Utah chapter AATSP website at:

http://www.lhs.logan.k12.ut.us/~fschofield/AATSP.html.

We all become better individuals and professionals when we collaborate with one another. This is one way we as a board hope to help that happen.

Sincerely, Frank Schofield Utah Chapter AATSP, President fschofield@lhs.logan.k12.ut.us

FAQs

Answers to most conference FAQs can be found in the last two issues of the newsletter – spring 2005 and fall 2005 – at www.weber.edu/ufla. If you have a particular question, feel free to contact Bev Burdett at uflaburdett@comcast.net

AATSP-Related Information

BYU Revamps Spanish Curriculum for Freshmen

In an effort to better meet the needs of incoming students, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at BYU is implementing a new curriculum in its 100- and 200-level Spanish classes.

Beginning in Fall 2006, incoming freshmen with two or more years of secondary school Spanish will enroll in a new course sequence, Spanish 105-106, designed to build upon students' previous language skills. This sequence will be followed by Spanish 205-206, which is intended to prepare prospective Spanish majors and minors to join with returned missionaries in classes at the 300-level.

Students with no previous Spanish study can enroll in Spanish 101-102 on a pass/fail basis only. Students who have had one year of secondary school Spanish should enroll in Spanish 101/102 Accelerated, which is also graded on a pass/fail basis.

We hope that this new curriculum ultimately will help incoming students reach higher levels of achievement in Spanish, while ensuring that true beginners do not have to compete with false beginners in 100-level classes. Furthermore, we hope the policy will promote foreign language study at the high school and junior high levels.

Blair Bateman Asst. Professor, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese Brigham Young University

blair_bateman@byu.edu

National Foreign Language Week: 6-12 March http://www.lacitycollege.edu/academic/honor/amg/nflw.htm Theme: Languages: Bridges to Communication

News from ACTFL

from Cheryl M. Hansen, UFLA's delegate to ACTFL*

(*ACTFL = American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages)

The momentum of 2005: The Year of Languages will continue to build as *Discover Languages*, the next phase of the campaign, unfolds. The *Discover Languages* campaign wishes to identify programs that promote language use in the community. These programs may be school-related or community-based but help to further the agenda of building a multilingual citizenry. Examples of outreach programs:

- Student interpreter program
- Grandparent/grandchild language competitions
- International business mentorship competition
- Implementation of Linguafolio
- Documentaries
- Discover Language "kits" for use at community events
- Others?

Please let me know some of the things you are doing to promote language use in the community. You can send program descriptions, photos of events, etc., and I will send them on to ACTFL. Let's show the rest of the country why Utah is a leader in building a multilingual citizenry! Send info to:

cmhansen@weber.edu

For more information on 2005: *The Year of Languages* and the new campaign, *Discover Languages*, visit <u>www.actfl.org</u>

Where does all the money go?

Each year, UFLA is responsible to have enough money in its account to cover a minimum of that year's expenses, and, preferably, two years' expenses. Those expenses include: AAT workshops, awards, keynote speaker expenses, travel expenses for representatives to SWCOLT and ACTFL, our business license, our organization's ACTFL dues, newsletter costs, and conference costs. If all workshops are held and all awards are given, these expenses add up to over \$15,000 per year. This year we have over 300 members, higher than ever before, but we only charged a total of \$45 for membership and the conference, so we are still below our necessary income for the year. You can help <u>lower</u> future costs by encouraging more of your colleagues to join and participate. *THANKS!*



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For more information go to: http://www.usu.edu/langphil/mslt/ Email: langphil@cc.usu.edu Or write to:

> Graduate Program Director MSLT Department of Languages, Philosophy and Speech Communication Utah State University Logan, Utah 84322-0720 USA

Financial assistance available for highly qualified applicants who can teach Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, or Spanish, as well as English as a second or foreign language.

President Bush Brings Languages Front and Center

The Bush Administration has made a significant commitment to bolstering language education initiatives in the United States. At a State Dept. briefing on January 5, the President announced plans for an initial investment of \$114 million to expand some programs and start some others, all with an eye to strengthening American national security. Part of the plan will involve language learning for children as early as kindergarten, while other parts will expand opportunities for post-secondary study.

Particularly important to administration officials is a concerted effort toward boosting programs in Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Russian and Farsi, since the dynamics of current world politics and economics have highlighted U.S. shortages of people capable of communicating in those languages. In addition, plans include bringing more language professionals into government service and establishing a national corps of language reservists. For a more complete description of the President's speech, go to the ACTFL website. (www.actfl.org)

The briefing was attended by ACTFL Executive Director Bret Lovejoy and Director of Education Marty Abbott. Clearly, this new focus creates substantial opportunity for educators of all languages and at all levels. It is in our best interests to be involved in planning from the earliest stages, so that programs reflect what we know to be the realities of delivering successful language instruction. ACTFL is involved in dialogues with the Departments of State, Defense and Education to plan how the language education community can play an important role in moving these initiatives forward. Check the ACTFL Web site for more information in the coming months.

RE-LICENSURE POINTS: You can receive points for your attendance at any FL conferences: UFLA, SWCOLT, ACTFL, or other regional associations. UFLA provides certificates at the end of its conference. For attendance at other conferences, get approval in advance from your principal and have him/her give you an appropriate certificate immediately upon your return.

2006 Executive Board

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Tom Mathews, SWCOLT Rep.
Beverly Burdett, Newsletter
Co-Editor
Shauna Winegar, Newsletter
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Please send all submissions and comments to:

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Please deliver to: