

UFLA UTAH FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Karl Powell President	SPRING NEWSLETTER 2007	Bev Burdett Newsletter Editor
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President's Message



Karl Powell
UFLA President

Spanish Teacher
Rocky Mountain Jr. High

Hello, Everyone! Great things are happening for World Language teachers in Utah. I recently attended the SWCOLT meeting in Las Vegas. Dave Nielsen (presenter – Best of UFLA) and Amy Kutsulis (UFLA Teacher of the Year) represented Utah very well. Dr. Tony Spanos from Weber State University received the Excellence in Teaching - Post Secondary Award. Bev Burdett, Shauna Winegar, Tom Mathews, Cheryl Hansen, and others did an outstanding job of pitching the 2008 SWCOLT meeting to be held in Salt Lake City. We were quite literally the “life of the party” at the business meeting.

We are excited to host next year’s SWCOLT convention. It will be Feb. 28, 29, and March 1. This is a great opportunity to network with teachers from other states. Watch for details to follow.

Utah is making strides toward greater support of teaching languages. The State Board of Education has approved funding to pay for the registrations of 150 Utah public school teachers (K-12) to attend SWCOLT next year. Utah’s universities may soon be requiring two years of high school foreign language for college admission. Business

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

\$\$\$\$ for Teachers – It could be yours!	3
Arabic Camp for Students	7
Awards for Teachers	5
Chinese Camp for Students	7
Chinese EdNet	6
Chinese Workshops for Teachers	7
Heritage Learner Workshops	2
<i>LCT Workshops</i>	6
SWCOLT 2008 Reminders	7
UFLA Fall Meeting Info	6



NEWS!

**UFLA WILL BE MEETING
IN OCTOBER.
SEE PAGE 6 OF THIS ISSUE
FOR DETAILS!**

and government entities are beginning to recognize the importance of foreign languages in our future. Several workshops are being offered in the next few months to help teachers make even greater strides in the teaching of world languages,

Again, let me say that I appreciate this opportunity to serve. I thank the board members for their excellent work, and salute all of you for the great job you are doing in teaching foreign languages.

Teaching Heritage Learners

What is a Heritage Learner?

A heritage learner is a student who has some background in a language other than English, often because it is spoken in his/her home, but has little formal training in the grammar and complexities of the language. Often, counselors place these students in the Level 2 or Level 3 sections of the native language, thinking the student will have a successful experience, but the counselor doesn't realize what really happens in those Level 2 and Level 3 classes which are designed for English speakers. As a result, the Heritage Learner is either bored with the oral proficiency practice in the class or is behind on the basic grammar instruction. In each case, the heritage learner often becomes a distraction for both the teacher and the other students.

What can we do to help Heritage Learners?

Many of our in-state colleges and universities have been offering special workshops to help teachers meet the needs of heritage learners.

The next workshop will be a collaboration between BYU and USU and will be offered July 9-14 at BYU. **TUITION IS FREE FOR THIS WORKSHOP.**

However, if you want the 3 college credits you will need to pay a \$50 recording fee to have them recorded on your transcript.

But \$50 for 3 college credits is a pretty good deal!

Please note that the workshop will be taught **IN SPANISH**.

SUMMER WORKSHOP FOR SPANISH TEACHERS 2007

Sponsored by the USOE, the David O. McKay School of Education at BYU, and CITES.

This workshop is designed for Spanish teachers in K-12 schools. The first four days of the workshop will focus on the teaching of grammar from a communicative perspective; the latter part of the workshop will address the teaching of Heritage Learners of Spanish in the U.S., and specifically the use of portfolios to teach writing to Heritage Learners.

When: July 9 – 14, 2007

Where: BYU Campus Spanish Resource Center
(164 University Parkway Center)

Taught by: Dr. María Spicer-Escalante (USU)
Dr. Nieves Knapp (BYU)

Cost: Tuition, lunches and materials will be provided at no cost.
\$50 *recording fee* for the 3-credits BYU course

Limited enrollment - Taught in Spanish

For registration and information, please contact:

Dr. Nieves Pérez Knapp
Department of Span. and Port.
Brigham Young University
3171 JFSB
Provo, UT 84602
Tel. (801) 422-3196
Email: Nieves_Knapp@byu.edu

\$\$ Money for Teachers \$\$

Both UFLA and SWCOLT offer scholarships and grants to teachers each year for foreign travel and study. Each year,

thousands of dollars go unclaimed

because teachers do not apply for these monies.

Let's really put Utah on the foreign language map this year by claiming ALL of the scholarships for our own!

SWCOLT

SWCOLT works in conjunction with six different organizations to offer scholarships to language programs in Spain, France, Germany, and three locations in Mexico. The scholarships from the sponsoring organizations cover all or part of expenses such as tuition, room, board, and local travel. They do not cover transportation to the country of study, but SWCOLT supplements the scholarships with a **\$200 travel grant** for each recipient. **If you combine these awards with a UFLA award, all of your expenses may be covered!** (See the next column for details.)

For more information about the SWCOLT scholarships, please go to www.swcolt.org, click on "Awards and Scholarships," and then click on "Scholarship Info."

UFLA

UFLA offers grants of **\$500 - \$1000** for the purpose of research, study, workshops or projects for improving the quality of teaching. Foreign study qualifies under this definition. UFLA offers three of these awards (Teacher Vitality Awards) each year.

For more information about the UFLA awards, please go to www.weber.edu/ufla, click on "Awards and Grants," then click on "Teacher Vitality Award Proposal Form."

UFLA also offers up to \$500 annually to a group of two or more language teachers who collaborate. Information regarding this award can also be found at www.weber.edu/ufla by clicking on "Awards and Grants" and then on "Pat Buckner Collaboration in Teaching Project."

DEADLINES for these awards vary from November 1st to January 15th.
APPLY NOW BEFORE YOU FORGET!!!

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AWARDS FOR TEACHERS



Both UFLA and SWCOLT offer awards to teachers each year for excellence in teaching. Each year,

several awards go unclaimed

because teachers do not nominate their colleagues for these awards..

Let's really put Utah on the foreign language map this year by claiming **ALL of the awards for our own!**

SWCOLT

SWCOLT offers three "Excellence in Teaching Awards" to recognize outstanding teachers of Languages Other Than English. One individual may be recognized at the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels. (This year, Tony Spanos of WSU received the post-secondary award! Yea, Tony!)

SWCOLT also offers the "Friend of the Profession Award" to an individual or organization not directly involved in the teaching of second languages that has made a significant contribution to the profession. This may include a principal who has worked to promote languages in his/her school.

"Honorary Lifetime SWCOLT Memberships" are also awarded to members who have made significant contributions to SWCOLT and to the language teaching profession.

For information on these awards please go to www.swcolt.org and click on "Awards and Scholarships," then on "Awards Information."

UFLA

The UFLA Teacher of the Year is named each year at our annual meeting. UFLA nominates each Teacher of the Year to compete for the regional SWCOLT Teacher of the Year. The SWCOLT recipient then goes on to compete for the ACTFL National Teacher of the Year.

UFLA pays the costs associated with travel and attendance at the SWCOLT annual meeting.

Information about and the nomination form for the UFLA Teacher of the Year may be found at www.weber.edu/ufla by clicking on "Awards and Grants" and then clicking on "Teacher of the Year Nomination Form."

The deadline for nominations for the UFLA Teacher of the Year is October 1st.

NOTE: Although the information on the websites for SWCOLT and UFLA may not have been updated and the deadlines may still have 2006 dates, please just think of them as 2007 and use the forms.

USOE

Our USOE Foreign Language Specialist, Gregg Roberts, has been working with the state office and the legislature to promote foreign language study in Utah. His office will fund 7 workshops this summer and will pay for up to 150 teachers to attend SWCOLT in February. The state is also working to re-vamp concurrent enrollment, promote performance testing, and provide a means of certifying "UFLA Master Teachers." There is also a possibility that within a couple of years all Utah colleges and universities may add a two-year foreign language entrance requirement. Many thanks to Gregg for his work and support!

Enhanced EdNet for Mandarin Chinese in Utah High Schools – Fall 2007

The Utah State Department of Education announced plans in March 2007 to introduce beginning Mandarin Chinese language courses in select Utah high schools through an Enhanced EdNet language curriculum program. The courses will be offered beginning Fall 2007 and applications to participate have been distributed to high schools by the Utah State Foreign Language Specialist, Dr. Gregg Roberts, with a deadline of May 15, 2007.

Funding for these programs was appropriated in the most recent legislative session in February 2007, and all participating high schools will qualify for funds to implement these courses. The proposed state plan is to increase the number of participating high schools each year to offer learning opportunities for all Utah state high school students interested in learning Mandarin Chinese.

The BYU Chinese Flagship Program, in coordination with the University of Utah, is helping the Utah State Department of Education to implement this innovative program. The Enhanced EdNet curriculum combines distance learning with in-class instruction. On alternating days a master teacher broadcasts through the Utah Education Network to teach and interact with students in their classrooms. On the intervening days, a classroom instructor works with the students to implement the language lessons they learn using classroom activities. Anyone interested in receiving training for classroom instruction should participate in the BYU summer STARTALK language teaching course to be held July 9th through August 3rd.

For more information about the Enhanced EdNet or STARTALK programs (see page 7), please contact the BYU Chinese Flagship Program at 801-422-9189 or chinese_flagship@byu.edu.

Less-Commonly-Taught Languages

If you teach Japanese, Russian, Hebrew, Arabic, Chinese, or another LCTL, you may want to contact Karin Larson at the University of Minnesota for information about their summer institutes. The deadline is past for the 2007 workshops, but you may want to start planning for next year.

Karin E. Larson, Coordinator
The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA)
University of Minnesota, 619 Heller Hall
271 19th Ave So., Minneapolis, MN 55455

CARLA Phone: (612) 626-8600
Direct Phone: (612) 624-6022
FAX: (612) 624-7514
E-mail: larso205@umn.edu
Web: <http://www.carla.umn.edu>

UFLA – FALL 2007

UFLA will be holding a HALF-DAY business meeting in the fall in conjunction with meetings for each of the language-specific organizations – the AATs.

This meeting will most-likely be held on Saturday, October 20th, but please be flexible and watch for changes.

Registration will be free, and participants will receive a complimentary continental breakfast and complimentary luncheon.

Please watch for details in the fall issue of the UFLA newsletter.

Arabic & Mandarin News

SUMMER CAMP FOR STUDENTS

ARABIC AND MANDARIN

BYU has been selected to receive STARTALK funding (part of Pres. Bush's push for increasing foreign language expertise). For the first time ever BYU will offer summer Arabic and Chinese language camps for high school students.

The Chinese high school language camp will take place from July 16 to August 8, 2007 and students will receive high school credit equivalent to one to two years of high school foreign language credit based on an assessment test taken at the end of the program.

The Arabic camp will be July 23 to August 17 and students will receive BYU credit for Arabic 101.

Students will live in the BYU Foreign Language Student Residence and daily experience various aspects of Arab or Chinese culture in an appropriate blend of English and Arabic or Chinese through films, games, cultural activities, cooking lessons, visits to mosques and restaurants.

This experience of acquiring facility in using Arabic or Chinese to successfully accomplish real world tasks is designed to whet students' appetites for additional study, leading to advanced levels of proficiency. We anticipate authorization to initiate the application process by May 25, 2007.

For **SWCOLT 2008** you may want to help with Registration, Hospitality, Publicity, Graphics (Signage), Tours/Activities, Decorations, Entertainment, or Transportation for VIP Guests. Contact Shauna Winegar at shaunawinegar@comcast.net

SUMMER WORKSHOP FOR MANDARIN TEACHERS

Through STARTALK, the BYU Chinese Flagship Program will be conducting a Mandarin Chinese language teaching course this summer for anyone interested in:

- High school level Chinese curriculum
- University level Chinese curriculum
- Enhanced EdNet high school level Chinese curriculum to be introduced this year in selected Utah high schools
- Chinese Flagship specialized curriculum

This course will be taught in a special four week Summer Term session from July 9th through August 3rd, 2007. Participants will be enrolled in Chinese 377, *Chinese Language Teaching Procedures*, and will receive three hours of BYU credit upon completion. The course is currently scheduled to be held every Tuesday/Thursday from 12:00PM to 3:00PM. There are a limited number of scholarships available to cover the cost of tuition.

For more information about this opportunity, please contact the BYU Chinese Flagship Program at 801-422-9189 or chinese_flagship@byu.edu.

Remember that SWCOLT 2008 will be held in Salt Lake City. Please plan to volunteer to serve on a committee to help make the conference a success. More information will be available in the fall issue of the UFLA newsletter.



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<http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla>

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comments to:

UFLA Newsletter
Bev Burdett
544 West 1085 North
Orem, UT 84057

e-mail: uflaburdett@comcast.net

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