

**Cheryl Hansen**  
President

**WINTER NEWSLETTER**  
2009

**Mike Wood**  
Newsletter Editor

## President's Message



**Cheryl Hansen**  
**UFLA President**

French Professor  
Weber State University

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! Looking at budget cuts in the state, especially for education, could make me be very pessimistic about what 2009 might bring in the way of foreign language education, but I am optimistic that things will turn around.

We are fortunate to be living at this time in the United States. When I was a young woman, it never occurred to me that we could have a woman president or a black president. I always hoped that racial and gender barriers would fall during my lifetime, and they finally have with the election of Barack Obama as President and his appointment of Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State. "The times, they are a changing." And, we are fortunate to have a forward-thinking governor who knows the importance of language education in Utah and who supports it.

During my tenure as a board member of UFLA, I have seen many changes in foreign language education, most for the good. I guess that is why I am so optimistic about our future. Now, I have a trivia question to introduce the main topic of my message today, which is why we as language educators

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**It's never too early to mark your calendar for UFLA 2009! We will meet at Weber State again on November 5, 2009.**

**See p. 5 for information on SWCOLT in April**





# Utah World Language Month

Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. declared November 2008 as Utah World Language Month. The announcement was made at the UFLA annual conference held at Weber State University in November 2008, and the official signing of the declaration ceremony was held in the Governor's office on December 3.

The governor has a strong interest in world language instruction in Utah and has supported several new programs for Chinese, Arabic, Navajo, and Foreign language immersion programs. In 2009, there will be 40 dual immersion and immersion programs in Utah schools K-12.

Governor Huntsman also sponsored two Language Summits in 2008. The September summit opened and facilitated "an important dialogue by key players from the state and nation about language culture initiatives to prepare Utah's rising generation for the global economy of the twenty-first century." Leaders from business, government, and education met "to begin a movement toward globalization of Utah's most important assets: its language-rich workforce."



The Governor and leaders in education held a second language summit in December to discuss a plan for promotion and improvements in foreign language K-16 instruction. The governor's top 3 priorities are (1) teacher pay, (2) guidance counselors, and (3) curriculum for the twenty-first century. Attendees discussed future initiatives for the implementation of state standards for language teaching, standardized requirements, and curriculum for language instruction. Another language summit will be held in May 2009.





Jon Meade Huntsman, Jr.

Governor

## Declaration

Whereas, foreign language teachers use their education, language skills, and cultural experience to promote foreign language learning and appreciation in Utah;

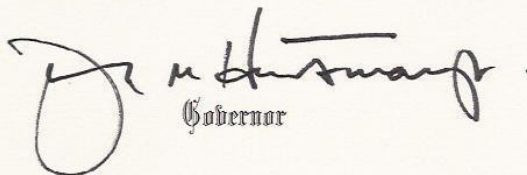
Whereas, foreign language teachers promote language proficiency in speaking, writing, reading, and listening by engaging their students in interrelated activities and assessment;

Whereas, foreign language teachers and students of second and foreign languages strive to promote the advancement and mutual understanding of languages, cultures, and literatures within our community and beyond; and,

Whereas, learning a second or foreign language enhances our students' abilities to appreciate new and foreign cultures and arms them with skills to make lasting contributions to the global landscape;

Now, Therefore, I, Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., Governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare November 2008 as

World Languages Month

  
Governor

# President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

should be active in UFLA, SWCOLT and ACTFL. Here is the question: How long has the Utah Foreign Language Association existed? (1) 30+ years (2) 40+ years (3) 80+ years (4) 90+ years The answer is below so do not read ahead until you try to answer it.

If you chose numbers two or four, you are correct. I will explain why. I came into guardianship of the official minutes of the Utah Council of Foreign Language Teachers (now known as the Utah Foreign Language Association) about a year ago. I hadn't taken the time to look at them until this past month, and discovered a wealth of information. Over the next year, I plan to share some of my findings in our newsletter. It is interesting to note that their discussions about language education then were very similar to ours today. In this message, I will site a few things taken from the minutes dated Dec. 21, 1915.

The officers for 1915

President: James L. Barker, Weber State Academy (now Weber State University where I am a professor)

Secretary: M. Louise Benz, Salt Lake City

Vice President: Walter A. Kerr, University of Utah

The Modern Language Association of the U.E.A., in convention assembled, met Dec. 21 at the Lafayette School. The following program was rendered:

1. "The necessity of an Appreciation of Phonetics in the Teaching of Modern Foreign Languages," James L. Barker, Weber State Academy
2. "Suggestions as to Standardization of Courses in Modern Languages," B.H. Jacobsen, L.D.S.U.
3. "The Direct Method of Modern Language Instruction," Miss Caroline Paine, Head of the Department of German in the S.L.C. schools

In a subsequent meeting at East High School, the program included:

1. "The Use of Realism in Foreign Language Teaching," Frank Arnold, U.A.C.
2. "How to Increase the Vocabulary," B. F. Cummings, Jr., L.D.S.U.
3. "Measuring Results of Our Language Teaching," H. A. Dixon, Ogden

Reading through the rest of the 1915 minutes, it became apparent to me that we are still discussing the same subjects, but with "new" terminology. Measuring results is the same as assessing results, increasing vocabulary is increasing proficiency and standardization of courses is what we hope to accomplish with the new Utah World Language Standards. Most teacher preparation programs require a phonetics course so we still have an "appreciation" of phonetics in the teaching of language.

On September 27, 1962 at Webster School, the new constitution of the Utah Council of Foreign Language Teachers was discussed, including the new name Utah Foreign Language Association, and it was moved and seconded that the constitution be accepted.

I was just starting my senior year in high school in 1962 and was enrolled in French and Latin classes. At the time, I knew nothing about UFLA, but I am forever grateful for the 90 plus years of service given to our organization by foreign language educators and supervisors in Utah. I am in my twentieth year as a board member of UFLA and have enjoyed my association with fellow members. So, numbers 2 and 4 are correct because we have had a state organization for more than ninety years and have been known as the Utah Foreign Language Association for 46 years. I encourage all of you to become involved in our state, regional and national organizations. The rewards are amazing!

# UFLA Teacher of the Year 2008

David Nielsen is the UFLA Teacher of the Year 2008. He will represent UFLA at the SWCOLT Teacher of the Year competition in April.

David started his teaching career in 1983 at Eisenhower Junior High and has been at Canyon View Junior High in Alpine School District since 1991. He currently teaches French and is the world language specialist for Alpine School District, which involves working with principals and teachers in coordination of world language programs, facilitating professional development workshops, and coordinating new teacher orientation. His role is to be viewed as an “expert” and a “resource” to world language teachers in his district.



David is a member of UFLA, SWCOLT, NSDL and ACTFL. His awards include Teacher of the Year, Canyon View Junior High and Alpine District in 2008, “Best of Utah” at the 2006 conference, and he received the Alpine Foundation Award for Quality Education in 2005.

One of David’s peers in a nomination letter wrote: “A good educator cares about the profession of teaching. He understands the benefits that professional organizations provide for teachers and he understands that good teachers learn from other good teachers. David Nielsen is an incredible example of a good educator and a distinguished professional.”

Congratulations, David, and good luck at SWCOLT!

—Cheryl M. Hansen



This is a good time to be a language teacher. Gradually, foreign language education is becoming more readily recognized as an important part of the academic curriculum. On November 4, voters in Oregon wisely rejected a proposal to limit foreign language education to only two years in high school. "English Only" laws and proposals are much less common now than they were a decade ago. Americans seem to be more willing to embrace linguistic and cultural diversity. At our

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## E-mail Spam Filters

Some school districts have spam filters which prevent me from sending you UFLA updates, registration confirmation, and other important news items. Please make sure that you have added my (Mike's) e-mail address to your list of acceptable e-mails.

mwood@alpine.k12.ut.us



# Language Specific Organizations

## AATF

Felicitations to Dave Nielsen who won Utah Foreign Language Teacher of the Year! We all love his workshops on music and his website on story-telling. If you use his activities, you'll notice that Dave is a true professional, using best practices.

Hearty congratulations to Charlotte VanWagenen, winner of the Best Presentation at UFLA! She energized her audience with fun, positive lessons. There are many requests for dance steps and music to teach her Canadian dance.

Both Charlotte and Dave will represent Utah at SWCOLT in Oklahoma!

AATF Utah tries to meet monthly. We enjoy conversation, movies, music, books, culture and cuisine. At our next meeting, we will see a French cooking demonstration and share Best Practice lessons about French and francophone holidays. In February, we are planning a retreat in the mountains to immerse ourselves in French for the day.

There is a new website for our chapter of the AATF. <http://aatfutah.wikispaces.com> Our state French language advocacy brochure can be downloaded and printed from here. You can also share teaching ideas with other teachers. Also, a new state French teachers' Listserv is now available. If everyone signs up, you will only have to know one e-mail address and you can e-mail all subscribers at once. This is a very valuable networking tool if more people will subscribe. It is open to all French teachers. Join us now at:

<https://lists.uen.org/mailman/listinfo/frenchteachers>

Registration for the National French Contest or Le Grand Concours 2009 is now taking place and orders must be received by February 2. An advanced student could win a trip to France or books for your school library. Details and order forms are available on our website:

<http://aatfutah.wikispaces.com/grandconcours>

Linda Bayes (linda.bayes@comcast.net)

## AATSP

¡Hola! My name is Lara Slade and I am excited to be the new president of AATSP. Our officers this year are: Frank Schofield, past president; Becca Proper, vice president; Keith Vaught, secretary (Thank you for doing this another year!); Abby Bacon, treasurer; and Garry Griffenhagen, National Spanish Exam (NSE) coordinator. To introduce myself, I grew up in southern California and came to Utah to go to BYU (Go Cougars!). I've taught Spanish at Riverview Junior High in Murray District for eighteen years. I started learning Spanish in 8th grade and never stopped. I am married and have four children.

We have some ideas of what we want AATSP to do this year. We are working to get an e-mail list of all teachers who teach Spanish and Portuguese in the state. We would like to set up a website with information for Spanish and Portuguese teachers K-college and are looking for someone to host it for us, and possibly a blog for professional interaction and sharing lesson plans.

We do know there is an opportunity to go to Guatemala this summer (July 13-25) with the University of Utah Summer Institute for Spanish Teachers in Antigua. (See Information on p. 8) If you have any suggestions or ideas of what you'd like to see AATSP do for you, please let me or one of the other officers know.

¡Chao!  
Lara

lslade@murrayschools.org  
(801) 264-7446, ext. 5527



The FLES group is currently under construction. We would like to gather all elementary teachers of foreign languages and build a group that will support elementary teaching of foreign language and professional development. Plans are under way to make a website for exchanging ideas, lessons, and group activities. The state is also planning an immersion conference for the end of July. If you would like to be involved in any way please email RaeAnn Shelley (rs Shelley@dsdmail.net.)

### SWCOLT - (continued from page 5)

SWCOLT Annual Meeting in Norman, Oklahoma, we hope to cultivate that openness and find ways to make our abilities as teachers grow and to increase language proficiency in our students.

I am pleased to see that our meeting planned for this April is shaping up to be exciting and educational. We have scheduled a full slate of workshops and breakout sessions that will be of interest to a diverse group of language teachers. We received numerous proposals focusing on nine different languages as well as over fifty other proposals for sessions and workshops on topics of general interest to language teachers.

Registration information can be found at <http://www.swcolt.org/>

Tom Matthews  
SWCOLT Representative



President	Jo Carmiol (Alta High) (jocarmiol@hotmail.com)
President Elect	Jeff Packer (UVU)
Secretary	Heather Christopher (Bingham High)
Treasurer	Shauna Winegar (Mountain Crest High)
Testing Chair	Johanna Watzinger-Tharp (U of U)
Webmaster	Jake Sigafus (Orem Jr. High)

AATG continues to sponsor wonderful teacher workshops. Here are some recent immersion weekend workshop titles.

Fall 2006	Neben mir ist noch Platz
Spring 2007	Movies, Music and More
Fall 2007	GDR Culture...50 years of Trabi!
Spring 2008	REALIA: What to do with all that STUFF
Fall 2008	Digitale Medien im DaF-Unterricht

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming 2009 workshops

Summer 2009	Switzerland (see details on p. 9)
Fall 2009	Now accepting theme suggestions

If you are not an AATG member and you would like to receive updates regarding AATG sponsored workshops, please email Jo Carmiol.

AATG is actively looking for FOUR German theme based presentations for the annual UFLA Conference in November. If you would like to present, please contact Jo Carmiol.



Hello ASL teachers! Hope you had a wonderful holiday. We enjoyed seeing so many of you come to the UFLA conference in November.

There is one upcoming event for you to be aware of!

ASL competition for high school students will be held Saturday, March 14th at Salem Hills High School. For more details, visit [www.aslcomputah.com](http://www.aslcomputah.com)

# Professional Development

Are you interested in a  
**GRADUATE STUDENT AND TEACHER PROGRAM IN GUATEMALA**

JULY 13 - 25, 2009? Get professional development while you immerse yourself in Spanish, one-on-one classes in language and conversation and a graduate seminar on "teaching culture". The trip price includes room, board, excursions and daily activities around the Antigua area, class materials and graduate tuition.

## **Curriculum**

The core of the curriculum will be a seminar on "Integrating Authentic Materials into the Foreign Language Classroom" led by Dr. Dulfano in which students will share and discuss pedagogical issues and ideas for the instruction of culture. Participants will also attend a refresher class on advanced grammar and conversation each day.

## **Credit**

Students will earn four graduate semester credit hours from the University of Utah in Spanish 6900 Exploring and Teaching Culture: Teaching Strategies for Integrating Authentic Materials into the Foreign Language Curriculum. Spanish teachers in Utah schools may apply these credits for lane change requirements.

## **Housing**

Students will be housed with Guatemalan families (one student per family) in the surrounding area of Antigua. The host families will provide a private room, breakfast, dinner, and laundry service.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Graduate Student or Teacher. Minimum age of 18.

**Application Deadline:** February 20, 2009. Late applications will be accepted with an additional nonrefundable \$50 fee for 30 days after the initial deadline, or until program is full.

**Does Not Include:** Airfare, airport tax, passport, personal expenses, local transportation and independent travel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION,

<http://www.sa.utah.edu/inter/sap/summer/guatemala.htm#program>

## **BYU French Institute**

BYU is offering a great opportunity this summer to high-school, middle-school and junior-high-school French Teachers. Thanks to a generous grant, French teachers can earn up to 9 graduate credit hours by participating in the French Teachers Institute – Summer 2009. The institute will take place during BYU's summer term and includes three weeks of classes on the BYU campus followed by three weeks in France. There will be courses on Advanced Oral and Written Communication, Proficiency Oriented Classrooms, and Documenting Contemporary French Culture. The program will begin June 21 and end in France on August 5. The grant makes the cost of the Institute, which is held every third summer, surprisingly reasonable. If you would like more information, contact Robert Erickson at:

**BYU's Center for  
Language Study**

801-422-5193

[robert\\_erickson@byu.edu](mailto:robert_erickson@byu.edu)



## **The National Middle East Language Resource Center (NMELRC)**

NMELRC, the only center in the country funded by the U.S. Department of Education that works exclusively to promote the study of Middle Eastern languages (particularly Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, and Turkish), is housed at Brigham Young University's Kennedy Center. Among its many projects, the Center is working to assist more Americans to reach advanced levels of proficiency in these languages by: offering reliable and affordable assessment tools, working with study abroad programs to increase quality, and developing opportunities for high school students to learn Arabic.

1. Encouraging an Early Start – NMELRC has partnered with the Utah State Office of Education to support ten schools offering Arabic to middle and high school students. In addition, BYU has hosted several scholarship-supported StarTalk Arabic camps during the summers and Christmas breaks. Graduates of these camps continue their study through our award-winning online course, Arabic Without Walls. During summer 2008 one of these students studied in Cairo, another in Jordan, and another in Jerusalem, all funded by the State Department.

2. Proficiency Tests – NMELRC is developing online reading and listening comprehension proficiency tests in Arabic, Hebrew, Persian and Turkish. ACTFL participated in reviewing the Intermediate and Advanced-level reading and listening comprehension items and is preparing to take on administering the NMELRC tests to students in 2009.

3. Increasing Access to Quality Intensive and Study Abroad Programs– NMELRC partnered with language programs in Egypt, Jordan, Turkey and Israel to begin the process of establishing standards for study abroad programs providing immersion experiences for American students studying in the Middle East.

For more information on establishing an Arabic or other program in Utah please call  
801-422-7192 or email [nmelrc@byu.edu](mailto:nmelrc@byu.edu).

**\*\*\*\*ACHTUNG\*\*\*\***

## **Exploring German Literature and Culture: Switzerland July 27-31, 2009**

This is a language immersion program and all discussions and readings are in German. The topic of this workshop is "Switzerland" and participants will learn about Swiss history and contemporary Swiss life, politics, and culture. Particular attention will be paid to current "hot button issues" such as migration and the European Union. The course will point teachers to Swiss literature, music, web resources, and films that can be integrated into high school German courses. Participant teams will develop syllabi units and materials to be shared. Materials provided by the Consulate General of Switzerland. Instructors are Swiss nationals and professors at the University of Utah.

Instructors: Dr. Karin Baumgartner (University of Utah), Dr. Maya Gerig (University of Utah)

\$25 non-refundable registration fee

3 graduate credit hours offered for only \$40

Seating is limited

Teachers will receive all books and materials, university parking passes and lunch for the week at no cost.

Official registration begins in March 2009. Contact the Center at 581-7989 for more information. Contact Dr. Baumgartner for specific information about the topic.

([Karin.baumgartner@utah.edu](mailto:Karin.baumgartner@utah.edu); 585-3001).

BYU will once again be hosting a week-long summer workshop for Spanish teachers. The workshop will be conducted entirely in Spanish. More information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

# *What is Language Immersion Education in Utah Elementary Schools?*

How many of us can answer this question with certainty? Because of the misuse of the term “immersion in elementary schools,” the Utah State Office of Education offers the following clarification and definitions provided by CARLA (Center for Advance Research on Language Acquisition) to clearly identify the two types of language immersion programs in Utah schools.

## **Key Terms and Acronyms:**

1. **Majority language** is the language spoken by the majority of people in a given regional or national context, for example, English in the U.S., Spanish in Spain, French in France, etc.
2. **Minority language** is a language other than the one spoken by the majority of people in a given regional or national context, for example, Spanish in the U.S., Basque in Spain, English in Japan, etc.
3. **L1** = Student’s first language/language spoken in the home
4. **L2** = Student’s second language
5. **L3** = Student’s additional language

## **Core Characteristics of Immersion Education**

- Additive bilingualism with sustained and enriched instruction through the minority language and the majority language promoted
- Subject area instruction through the minority language occurs for **at least 50%** of the school day during the elementary years
- Teachers are fully proficient in the language(s) they use for instruction
- Support for the majority language is strong and present in the community at large
- Clear and sustained separation of languages during instructional time

## **What is the difference between Foreign Language Immersion and Dual Language Immersion programs in Utah schools?**

In addition to the core and variable characteristics cited above, the following two main program types are currently found in Utah schools:

1. **Foreign Language Immersion** (one-way)
  - Foreign language immersion programs are sometimes referred to as partial (at least 50% instruction in the L2) versus total immersion (100% instruction in the L2, or somewhere between
  - Student population consists of English language speakers with limited to no proficiency in the immersion language (e.g. Spanish, French, Chinese, etc.)
  - Teachers are required to have a world language endorsement in the L2 of instruction

## 2. Dual Language Immersion (two-way)

- Dual language immersion programs are sometimes called two-way immersion (TWI), bilingual immersion, dual language immersion, two-way bilingual, Spanish immersion, French immersion, Chinese immersion, etc., or developmental bilingual education (DBE)
- Student population consists of majority language speakers and minority language speakers with dominance in their first language and home language support for the language (e.g., Spanish dominant students whose parents use primarily Spanish in the home and English dominant students from English-speaking homes)
- A 1:1 ratio is ideally maintained for these two language groups, but **a minimum of one-third of each language group (i.e., a 2:1 ration) is required**
- An academically challenging learning environment is provided to bring children from two different language groups together to learn from and with each other in an integrated setting
- Instruction through the minority language is viewed as an enrichment experience for all, not as a remedial or compensatory education for the language minority students in the program
- The languages of instruction will involve both the majority and a minority language in a **50:50 ratio**, and the minority language may be a more commonly taught language (e.g., Spanish-English), a less commonly taught language (e.g., Vietnamese-English), or an indigenous language (e.g., Navajo-English)
- Teachers are required to have a bilingual endorsement in the L2 instruction

(Information for article is adapted from the Utah State Office of Education and CARLA definitions for Foreign Language and Dual Language Immersion programs)

—Cheryl Hansen



# UFLA Awards and Grants

## **PAT BUCKNER COLLABORATION IN TEACHING AWARD**

Congratulations to the Alpine School District for receiving the Pat Buckner Collaboration in Teaching Award for 2008!

Alpine School District has plans underway for holding a language fair this April at Utah Valley University for 1000 students. Due to ongoing scheduling conflicts, Alpine teachers and students have been unable to attend the BYU Language fair for several years now and this grant will help them with startup costs on what will be an ongoing annual event!

## **UFLA TEACHER VITALITY AWARD**

Jo Carmiol has been awarded the Teacher Vitality award this year to help defray the costs of attending ACTFL 2009 and the AATG meetings held at the same time and place.

Jo wants to network with other German teachers and other AATG chapters to bring some good ideas and practices to share with the Utah Chapter of the AATG over which she currently serves as President.

Congratulations Jo!



# UFLA Executive Board

## Elected Board Members:

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Shauna Winegar, Past-President  
Jake Sigafus, Recording Sec.

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Linda Bayes, AATF President  
Lara Slade, AATSP President  
Jo Carmiol, AATG President  
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Baldomero Lago, UVU Rep.  
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Also, please share this information with all foreign language teachers at this school.

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