

UFLA

CELEBRATING
100
YEARS

Volume 100, Issue 2
May, 2015

100 Years of Languages in Utah, and counting!



Isabel Asensio
UFLA President

Happy spring, UFLA members and fellow language teachers! The year 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of UFLA. On February 19, during the annual UFLA conference, we celebrated 100 years of dedication to the improvement and expansion of the teaching and learning of languages other than English at all levels of instruction in the state of Utah. It has been 100 years of arduous work that have led to the well-established, professional organization that UFLA is today. And it could have not been possible without the selfless service to UFLA that many people have done along these years.

One of these people is **Dr. Cheryl Hansen**, who I would like to recognize here for her dedication to UFLA and the French teaching profession overall. Dr. Cheryl Hansen joined the UFLA Executive Board in 1989 and is currently the historian. Cheryl has been involved with UFLA for over 25 years, during which

time she has served on the board in a variety of capacities: WSU representative, president and past president, and ACTLF delegate. She has also chaired several Executive Board committees including the awards committee, the Teacher of the Year committee, and the conference program committee among others.

Cheryl has been witness to fundamental changes in the organization throughout the years. It started as an organization dedicated to K-12 foreign language teachers, and it was originally known as the “Modern Language Section of the U.E.A.” (Utah Education Association). It wasn’t until 1962 that a new constitution was adopted and the name of “Utah Foreign Language Association” was officially and formally adopted. In an interview with Cheryl, she stated that, with time and as the landscape of the teaching languages profession changed, the organization’s mission statement was modified “to reflect better what we do: teaching for proficiency, and communicative language instruction.” Another much needed change had to do with the structure of the organization. Cheryl affirms that “we are now more organized as a group, [with] a larger membership; and the board has also expanded. We now have all languages represented.” As far as representation on the Executive Board goes, university representatives became official members some 25 years ago. According to UFLA policies, each college or university in the state that has a program for teacher education in foreign languages may have a representative on the board. In fact, Cheryl joined UFLA as one of the first university representatives.

The annual conference underwent critical adjustments as well. Hearing about how the annual conference has changed for better throughout the years was one of my favorite parts of my conversation with Dr. Hansen. For years, the board and other members met in the teacher's lounge at West High School, in Salt Lake City, and, as a group, they would discuss teaching strategies and best practices. Attendance at these meetings used to be 25 to 50 individuals. Sometimes they met in conjunction with U.E.A., which had its annual meeting every October in Salt Lake City. With time, these informal meetings would become the "big, nicer professional conference that it is today," Cheryl states. The first conference as we know it was held at Weber State University in 1997, and attendance has increased from as little as 25 to more than 425 people, each year reaching a higher record. On February 19, 2015 more than 35 sessions on a variety of topics ranging from language acquisition and assessment to cultural competency and technology in the classroom were offered. Talk about growth!

A very interesting part of my conversation with Dr. Hansen was her talking about UFLA and ACTFL. UFLA is a registered organizational member of ACTFL, which is the national umbrella organization for all regional and state foreign language organizations. ACTFL became really strong in the landscape of the language teaching profession in the 1980s when they created the Proficiency Guidelines and the National Standards. A few years later, thanks to the work of Cheryl and other

UFLA board members such as Gregg Roberts (who is the World Language & Dual Language Immersion Specialist for the Utah State Office of Education), and using the ACTFL Standards as the main guidelines, new proficiency-based core standards were written and implemented into world language teaching in the state's K-12 schools. They held a workshop to which representatives from each school district were invited in order to receive training, thus facilitating consistency across the state. These world languages K-12 core standards have been used since then, undergoing several revisions for improvement during the last years.

Dr. Cheryl Hansen has definitely played an essential, leading role in the growth and advancement of today's UFLA, as well as the world languages teaching profession in the state of Utah. I am proud to begin my tenure as president at this point in the history of UFLA, when the Association is well established; it has a steady membership, and a supportive board. All in all, I want to thank each and every one of you for your support of UFLA and World Languages Education in the state of Utah. Whether you do it through your UFLA membership, your service on the UFLA Executive Board, your teaching, or scholarship, THANK YOU. UFLA and the state of Utah would not be the same without you. Let's make another 100 years count!

Isabel Asensio
UFLA President 2015

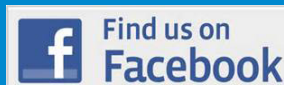
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Set the Date:

Our next UFLA conference will be

February 18, 2016
at Utah Valley University



Utah Foreign Language Association.

Language Organizations



¡Estamos en la recta final!

The school year is coming to an end. After so much work, experiences and learning, both, students and teachers are getting ready for the summer break. Before that, we should look back and be proud of the work we have been carrying out to encourage the teaching and learning of Spanish and Portuguese.

Let me introduce the new board members, after having been elected at the UFLA conference this last February.

New officers 2015

President: Ana Raquel Galán
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larbeloa@northdavisprep.org

NSE coordinator: Carlos Galvez
carlosgalvez@skggscatholiccenter.org

We are open to any suggestions that any AATSP member may have. We just had a meeting last April 24th. The meeting goal was to share the resources and ideas of teachers that have been working in the dual immersion program at North Davis Preparatory Academy for the last three years. They are part of the exchange program sponsored by the Spanish Ministry of Education. This is the end of a cycle for them and they were willing to share their resources and ideas with all of us. The workshop was called “La Inmersión Dual en un centro ISA. Puesta en común de ideas, resultados y recursos. Las claves del éxito.” by Ángel Moraga y Noemí Martínez, first and second grade teacher, respectively. They shared their procedures to implement “Calle de la Lectura” in their clases. They pointed out the need to make use of visual resources, body language and performance to make first and second

grade students understand the readings in such a way that the new vocabulary words are part of their personal bagage. They also highlighted the importance of creating some routines, both school routines and behavioral routines. It is a fact that when they assimilate classroom routines, their learning is quicker and more effective and can be enjoyed in a long-term period.



From left to right: president Ana Raquel Galán, Communications Coordinator: Laura Arbeloa, and speakers Ángel Moraga and Noemí Martínez

Finally, I also want to encourage you to join the AATSP Utah Facebook site, where you can get to know about the new information and upcoming events. It is a good meeting place for teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in Utah.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/465995050122569/>

We are hoping that these meetings will bring all the Utah Spanish and Portuguese educators together, and will be a place to share information, resources and ideas.

¡hasta pronto!

AATSP Utah Chapter
Ana Raquel Galán



American Association of Teachers of German

Sehr viel los in Utah!

It's been a busy winter with lots going on!

BYU German Fair:

Kudos to everyone who attended this year's BYU German Fair and to Teresa Bell and her team for organising it! This is a great treat every year to get to see just how accomplished your students are across the state. We had great musical performances, interviews, skits, and so much more. The Uchtdorfs also gave us a neat intro to Weihnachtsmärkte (if you can plan to bring students to one this fall, please do share that cultural experience with them!) And thanks for all your excellent work with your students. It's amazing how so many of these students can carry on a 10 minute conversation with ease talking about even technical issues. You are doing great things with your students! Thanks for bringing them and sharing that with us! It's also a great chance to talk to students about life after Deutsch 4 when they head on to university. If we can help them learn about opportunities to continue with German as they transition to college, please let us know!

GLAC:

We are grateful for all those of you who came and supported GLAC May 8-9. It was encouraging to see some great collaborations take seed, including examining how our students are doing reading using eye-tracking technology (they can see where our students are looking at a text on the screen down to the letter!); We also had positive discussion about providing peer feedback for our teaching to gain ideas for our own classrooms while helping give our colleagues' suggestions to help them. And we were enlightened by posters from some of our AATG members. It was a good chance to show our guests from out of state and even country what great things are happening here in Utah!

We were especially fortunate to hear from our own *Johanna Watzinger-Tharp* who gave a thought-provoking plenary talk on using and addressing language variation

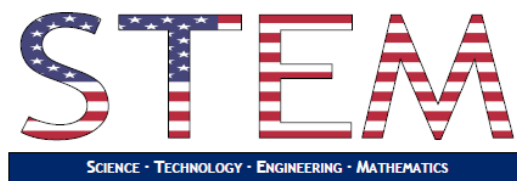
in our classrooms. Colleagues told me that they spent their lunch discussing the issues she raised. In short if you missed her fabulous address, it's important for us to acknowledge language variation in our classrooms, and to do so in a positive way rather than dismissing variation as substandard to Hochdeutsch.

Literacy Initiative:

We have already heard from some of you about joining a team for the ACTFL literacy initiative. We encourage you to speak with colleagues to help build teams locally with colleagues either in the same languages (across different schools or levels) or similar levels (across different languages or schools). This is a great opportunity to take stock of what you are doing in your programs to promote the broader view of literacy. If you are still needing to find teams after speaking to your colleagues, please let me know and we can get everyone interested connected into teams. To sign up your teams, please visit www.actfl.org/languages-literacy.

Deutscher Tag:

You should all soon receive the Save-the-Date flyer for this year's Deutscher Tag! As you should have guessed from the thumbnail here, we're focussing on STEM. It's going to be great not just for our students, but as a means of helping promote German in our communities, reminding our neighbors of German's continued relevance globally and locally. Please set Thursday November 5, 2015 aside in your calendars to come and join us!



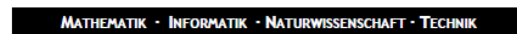
Save the Date

Thursday, November 5, 2015
at WSU, U of U, and UVU

Utah Deutscher Tag

for Secondary and Post-Secondary
Educators and Students

Save the Date



Language News

2015 BYU Summer Workshop for Teachers of Spanish

Designed for Spanish teachers in K-12 schools who want to focus on the teaching Spanish from a proficiency perspective and learn more on how to apply current trends in language teaching to their classes.

June 24 – 25, 2015
BYU Campus in Provo

- Tuition, lunches and materials will be provided at no cost to participants.
- USOE credit upon successful completion of course

For registration and info, please check our website

<http://spanport.byu.edu/spanish/workshop/>

If you have questions, please contact:

Dr. Nieves Pérez Knapp

Tel. (801) 422-3196

Email: knapp@byu.edu



American Association of
Teachers of French



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AATF - Utah

FREE Online Vocabulary Learning Tool

A cool new and FREE online tool for learning vocabulary is being developed at UT-Austin by Hans Boas and his team: <http://coerll.utexas.edu/frames/>. This tool helps introduce students to vocabulary grouped not only around themes, but also in terms of the various meanings and uses of a word, the grammar associated with a word, e.g., eat can either be used without an object or with a direct object. It provides example sentences for each word, grammar notes, sentence templates, and alternate forms so that students get the right word for their purpose. They currently have a prototype working for German that we would encourage you to check out. But don't just check it out!

We encourage you to not only give it a try, but to also consider collaborating. **Hans Boas** and his team are needing help in 1 of 2 ways: 1) they are inviting help not only to add to the German, but they are also looking for people willing to help with other languages such as French and Spanish; 2) they are also looking for teachers willing to help test out how helpful this is (a critical step in helping secure funding that would move the project ahead more quickly to make it more useful for us all!).

If you are interested in helping, please contact **Laura Catharine Smith** ASAP. (laurasmith@byu.edu) Hans is willing to come out this fall to do a training session for all interested. If we have enough interest, we may be able to arrange licensure credits for participation on this project. It's also a potential way to help students learn about vocabulary learning if you want to bring this into your German 3 or 4 classrooms as a group project in terms of both building and using in your classrooms!

Hoping some of you can join the team!

Congratulations to Utah Language Programs!

American Fork High School does well in Utah Japan Bowl

The Utah Association of Teachers of Japanese hosted the Utah Japan Bowl at BYU yearly in March, and American Fork High School was awarded nine trophies out of the 12 this year. Those students who participated in the Utah Japan Bowl have been studying not only about the language, but also current events, geography, pop culture, politics and history. The top two groups (six students) from the Utah Japan Bowl were awarded a trip to Washington, D.C. so that they could compete in the National Japan Bowl during Spring Break. 23 schools from all over the nation participated, and American Fork High School was the first school to represent Utah. Most of the schools were feeder schools to Japanese Immersion Programs, and their students have been learning Japanese since elementary school. On the other hand, American Fork High students have been taking Japanese since their sophomore year and they did incredibly well in the National Bowl with a result of 4th in the Nation. Congratulations to **Thomas O'Reilly**, **Ashley Hull**, **Tristin Turner**, **Sami Arrington**, **Megan Durrant** and **Chanel Short** for representing Utah so well in Washington, D.C.!

This article originally appeared in:
Alpine School District News, April 2015
Submitted by Becky Cox

North Davis Preparatory Academy Awarded First Place Colegio del Año by the Embassy of Spain

North Davis Preparatory Academy has been awarded 1st place in the 2014 Colegio del Año Award. The competition is organized by the Education Office of the Embassy of Spain in the United States and is sponsored by the Santander Shareholders in the United States of America in collaboration with the Cervantes Institute, Santillana Group and Anaya Group. The award is given to U.S. schools that show excellence in Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) methodology using Spanish and English.

NDPA is the first school in the State of Utah to win this award. North Davis Preparatory Academy was selected for first place from 5 finalists in the category. A total of 6 other schools placed for 2014: four elementary, two middle schools and one high school.

The Education Office of the Embassy of Spain has invited NDPA to the award ceremony of the Colegio del Año, which will take place in Washington, D.C., at the Embassy of Spain on May 21st, at 10:00 a.m., and will be hosted by the Spanish Ambassador, **Mr. Ramón Gil-Casares Satrustegui**. Representing NDPA will be **Ryan Robinson**, Assistant Principal; **Kim Lovell**, mentor and **Chantal Esquivias**, Spanish teacher.

First Annual Spanish Spelling Bee Held at Weber State

The first annual Spanish spelling bee took place at Weber State on April 14th at Weber State University. 26 students from nine Utah schools participated in the event sponsored by Weber State University and organized by Isabel Asensio.

Raúl Martínez, a fifth grader from Dixie Sun Elementary beat out **Alan Márquez** from North Davis Preparatory Academy and **Daniel Sierra** from Dual Immersion Academy for first place. Weber State members of Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish National Honor Society helped put on the event.

For pictures and more information, see: <http://www.standard.net/Education/2015/04/15/spanish-spelling-bee.html> and <http://www.wsusignpost.com/2015/04/14/weber-state-witnesses-the-first-spanish-spelling-bee-in-utah/>



UFLA Congratulates UFLA Vitality and Pat Buckner Award Winners

UFLA would like to announce this year's recipients for the Utah Foreign Language Association Teacher Vitality Awards and Pat Buckner Collaboration Awards:

UFLA Teacher Vitality Awards

Suzie Davis teaches French 1, 2, 3, and IB French at Ogden High School. She is also a Concurrent Enrollment teacher for Weber State University. Suzie is currently the chapter president for the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), and she will use her award to attend the annual AATF Convention in Québec, Canada in July.

Abigail Bacon teaches 3rd, 4th and 5th grade Spanish at Rowland Hall in Salt Lake City. She is travelling to Spain this summer where she will continue collaboration with another teacher who teaches at the Colegio Público las Verdadas outside of Madrid. Her goal is to develop curriculum, design real-work tasks, create interactive activities for her students with the students in Spain, and gather authentic resources.

Ryan Rocque teaches French at Lakeridge Junior High in Orem. He was recently elected as the Southwest Region Representative for the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). As a member of the executive board, he will attend the annual convention in Saguenay, Quebec this summer and will use the award to help cover some of the expenses. AATF is a partner with ACTFL and has a strong

reputation of increasing awareness of French, connecting teachers to resources and language opportunities around the world, and advocating for French teachers. Ryan, a former chapter president for AATF, looks forward to expanding his work with schools and French teachers in the Southwest Region for AATF.

UFLA Pat Buckner Award

Frederick J. Poole is a graduate student and teaches Chinese at Utah State University, and Wenrui (Rocky) Chen teaches 6th Grade Chinese Dual Language Immersion at Indian Hills Middle School in Sandy, Utah. They have designed an adaptive board game in which six players simultaneously engage in an adventure that requires collaboration in the target language, simple math calculations, and Chinese character recognition to complete tasks. They believe that the board games have great potential for motivating students to learn and develop math concepts in the early grades, and may also improve learners' oral and literacy skills as a majority of the tasks require collaboration in the target language. With the funding, they will build their prototype and then test and research it during the 2015 fall semester. Depending on the results, they would ultimately like to expand the use of these games to other languages and other grade levels.

Congratulations are in order for all of these outstanding teachers!



ACTFL Literacy Initiative: A New Theme for your Collaborative Teams

Many of you are already working in collaborative groups in your schools and districts. ACTFL's Literacy Initiative can guide some of the work you are doing in the groups you are already involved with, whether with fellow language teachers or in the other subject areas you teach! Check it out! Not already in a collaborative team? Maybe this is the theme to help start one!

As we all know, foreign language teaching has been undergoing tremendous changes in the past years. Not only have we seen a shift towards proficiency-based teaching, but we are now also tasked with helping prepare our students to become global citizens. These two forces are complementary. The 21st Century Skills provide us with guidance as to how to use language to build skills for not only their futures, but also for their proficiency.

In our increasingly connected and technified world, the definition of "literacy" is likewise being redefined. Students must learn to not only read to understand and write to be understood, but they need to be literate in terms of Information, Media and Technology: (adapted from [the 21st Century Skills Map from ACTFL](#) Check out the Map to get ideas for activities at different proficiency levels for each of the skills!):

Information Literacy: "Students as informed global citizens access, manage, and effectively use culturally authentic sources in ethical and legal ways" (p. 12).

Media Literacy: "Students as active global citizens evaluate authentic sources to understand how media reflect and influence language culture" (p. 13).

Technology Literacy: "Students as productive global citizens use appropriate technologies when interpreting messages, interacting with others, and producing written, oral and visual messages" (p. 14). -

Legal and Ethical Obligations towards Information in a Global Society: for each type of literacy, it is also important for students to learn how to behave in an ethical manner with regards to the information, data and technology they use.

For the next year, ACTFL has invited language educators across the K-16 spectrum to collaborate in teams of 5-10 educators to assess how we are doing personally and in our scope of influence in terms of integrating 21st Century Literacy into our classrooms. More importantly, we will be able to share ideas and information with each other to help us in our own teaching. Participants will have access to resources to help in lesson and unit planning, webinars, and local support. They will also have a chance to share the results of their collaborations with others across the country.

Working collaboratively makes us better and frees up resources, including especially time, so we can improve professionally without reinventing the wheel. Working together is working better!

We encourage you to talk to your colleagues in your schools, districts, collaborative teams, and even at your local universities to build teams. It's K-16, so everyone is welcome!

If you want more information, you can download informational handouts at: <http://aatg-utah.weebly.com/literacy-initiative.html>

You can also register a team at:
www.actfl.org/languages-literacy

If you want to participate, but can't find team members, contact **Laura Catharine Smith** (laurasmith@byu.edu)

We hope you will participate. As I've been trying to implement this broader definition of literacy into my classes, I've been able to do so by simply modifying some pre-existing assignments with little work, and my own students are much more satisfied with the assignments feeling like they are getting more benefit from them in terms of cultural knowledge, critical thinking and language development. It really works!

Laura Smith
President - AATG Utah
BYU

SUMMER LANGUAGE TEACHER WORKSHOPS

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

JULY 27 – 30, 2015

9:00 AM TO 3:30 PM

LNCO BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH CAMPUS

French & Francophone Studies in Cultural Context

Faculty: Dr. Anne Lair and Dr. Jeanine Alesch

In this workshop, two expert professors in French Studies will help teachers gain confidence and knowledge about important aspects of French and Francophone culture, literature, and written and oral expression. Through presentations and discussions of an appealing and thought-provoking selection of French and Francophone materials, participants will improve their ability to interpret a variety of cultural, and historical texts, and learn how these materials and resources will be of use in their classrooms.

SUGAR, SOCCER AND SMOKES: RE-THINKING CARIBBEAN, LATIN AMERICAN AND SPANISH IDENTITIES THROUGH CULTURAL PRODUCTION

Faculty: Dr. Gema Guevara and Dr. Gary Atwood

The goal of this workshop is to study the cultural significance of food, dance and material culture in Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain beyond the idea of the exotic. Professor Guevara will explore how sugar and tobacco transformed not only the labor force in the Caribbean, but the culinary tastes of Europe. Professor Atwood will explore tactical deployments of bullfighting, soccer, flamenco and zarzuela that seek to create symbols of a unified, purportedly "coherent" Spanish identity and to attract tourism. We will review poetry, material culture, short films, photography, short story and essay.

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://UMARKET.UTAH.EDU/UM2/L2TREC/](https://umarket.utah.edu/um2/l2trec/)

**\$30 NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE PLUS
ADDITIONAL \$50 FEE FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO RECEIVE 2 UNIVERSITY CREDITS**

CONTACT CATHERINE SCOTT AT C.SCOTT@UTAH.EDU WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

THESE ARE LANGUAGE IMMERSION WORKSHOPS TAUGHT IN THE TARGET LANGUAGE.

THE UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THESE WORKSHOPS.

UFLA

UTAH FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

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Advertising Information

The UFLA Newsletter is published three times each year in September, January and May. All issues are distributed via e-mail to UFLA members as well as posted on the UFLA website.

Advertising rates are available at: <http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/News/AdvertisingRates.html>

Contact Mike Wood at mwood@alpinedistrict.org with any questions or to place an ad.

UFLA Mission

The UFLA exists to stimulate the interest of all people everywhere in the learning and preserving of skills in foreign languages, and all languages other than English and to foster discussion and interchange of ideas relative to the duties, responsibilities, and problems of teachers and students engaged in the study of foreign languages in order to aid and promote the advancement and mutual understanding of teachers and students.