

UFLA

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President's Message



Isabel Asensio
UFLA President

Dear UFLA members,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you had a good summer. For us educators, summer is the time to rest, relax, and recharge. Summer means spending quality time with the family, traveling to visit other relatives, catching up in house projects, going on the long-awaited vacation, etc. But summer can also mean something else. School years involve intensive work: lesson planning, grading, meetings, committee responsibilities...Work that often times does not allow us to take part of learning opportunities that will help us develop as professionals. This brings me to the importance of summer. For many school teachers, district

supervisors, and university professors, summer is the time of year to grow professionally and even personally. It is the time to attend conferences, training sessions, and webinars; and to engage in workshops and other learning opportunities. For some specialized fields, such as education, professional development is actually critical. Professional development activities provide us with the skills and knowledge to refine the job we do in the classroom during the school year. For a teacher, there is always more to learn and new skills to attain. Professional development may be used to help teachers stay on top of current methodologies, best practices, and technology. It may also be used to further build up leadership skills. Often times, career development opportunities involve collaborative work which, needless to say, strengthens one's network. A solid network will serve you well for years to come and is an invaluable tool in one's toolbox.

I am proud to say that the members of the UFLA Executive Board understand the value of lifelong learning and growing as an

UFLA 2016 **Call for Proposals**

We are looking forward to our next conference on February 18, 2016. This year, we will be holding our conference at UVU in Orem.

Do you have an idea for a presentation? The call for submissions is now open and you can submit your idea or get more information on presenting at our UFLA website.

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

We know you have great ideas and we would love to have you submit a proposal to present!!! Don't delay. Proposals need to be submitted by November 15, 2015.

educator, and they do take advantage of summer time to participate in professional development events. Susan Davis, past representative for AATF and faculty member in Ogden High School, and Chantal Esquivias, UFLA President-Elect and faculty member in North Davis Preparatory Academy, are two examples of educators who have the desire for career development and are willing to undergo the necessary training to achieve this goal. In August, Chantal participated in AUDII, a week-long DLI training sponsored by the Utah State Office of Education. Chantal described this training as “very intense, but instructive.” Susan participated in a week-long International Baccalaureate summer training in St. Pete’s Beach, Florida, where she learned how to better incorporate authentic resources and how to better adjudicate student work. Susan also attended the AATF conference in Saguenay, near Quebec City, Canada. In her own words, Susan “made so many connections with AMAZING teachers from Chicago to Arizona.” According to Susan, “[i]t was inspirational to learn more about how to run family/community events; how to better use social media, such as Google forms, Answer Pad, Padlet and Movenote; and how to run a state-wide French convention or an immersion weekend.” In addition, Susan participated in a week-long French class offered by the University of Utah, sponsored by the State Office of Education. Besides being a participant and attendee at events, Susan taught a 3-day immersion summer camp to her IB high school students.

I would also like to share with you that I was fortunate to attend the “Training the Trainers of Interpreting Studies,” an intensive week-long summer course offered

by the London Metropolitan University, in London, England. This course focused on the current pedagogic methodologies in the field of interpreting studies. I spent a week interacting with other educators and professional interpreters while discussing and sharing teaching experiences, developing teaching materials, and receiving guidance for lesson planning, class interaction, assessment and feedback.

Now, I am aware that professional development generally comes with a cost, which may be a deterrent factor for many. However, you should always talk to your principal and district supervisor, since there may be funds in the school or district available for this purpose. Actually, did you know that UFLA also has a variety of scholarships available to its members? Take advantage of your membership perks such as the following funding opportunities: the Vitality Awards, the Pat Buckner Collaboration Award, the Joan D. Patterson Study Abroad Proficiency Grants, and the ACTFL/SWCOLT Attendance Grants. For instance, Susan Davis’s attendance to the AATF conference in Canada was half funded by one of the UFLA Vitality grants. Susan states that she “could not have attended if it had not been for this generous scholarship.” For more information, visit the UFLA website at any time.

Before I finish this message, I would like to commend you for your UFLA membership. Membership to professional organizations should actually be the first step to your professional and career development plan. With this said, I strongly encourage you not only to attend but also to seriously consider submitting an abstract proposal to present at our annual UFLA conference coming up in February 18, 2016. As a sneak peek, I will tell you that Claire Kramsch, Professor of German and Foreign Language Acquisition at the University of California-Berkeley, will be the keynote speaker.

To sum up, always keep in mind that, in our field, professional and career development is about improving and moving forward, about becoming a better educator, regardless whether you are a new teacher or a veteran teacher. Have a great 2015-2016 school year!

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Utah Foreign Language Association.

Dr. Claire J. Kramsch to Keynote UFLA 2016



Claire Kramsch is Professor Emeritus of German and Education at UC Berkeley, where her area of research focuses on second language acquisition with an emphasis on social, cultural and stylistic approaches to lan-

guage study. After studying at the École Normale and completing the Agrégation in Germanic Studies at the Sorbonne, Professor Kramsch immigrated to the United States where she taught at MIT and Cornell before moving to Berkeley in 1990.

Until 2006, she was the founding Director of the Berkeley Language Center, a research and development unit for foreign language teachers. Her numerous publications include articles that have appeared in *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, *The Modern Language Journal*, *Die Unterrichtspraxis*, *The Canadian Modern Language Review*, *Profession*, *The ADFL Bulletin*, *PMLA*, *The Journal of Sociolinguistics*, and *Language Culture and Curriculum*. Additionally, her 1994 book, *Context and Culture in Language Teaching* (1993), won the MLA's Kenneth Miltenberger Prize for Outstanding Research Publication in the Field of Foreign Language

es and Literatures. The book is a pioneering attempt to conceptualize the teaching of foreign languages as the crossing of cultural boundaries.

Additionally, some of her major awards include the 1988 ACTFL Nelson Brooks Award for the teaching of culture; 1994 MLA Kenneth Miltenberger Prize for Outstanding Research in the study of foreign languages and literatures; 1998 Goethe Medal; MLA Distinguished Service Award 2000; UC Berkeley Distinguished Teaching Award 2000; and she holds honorary doctorates from the Middlebury School of Languages (1998) and St. Michael's College (2001).

Her writings deal with various aspects of the acquisition of language in discourse, language and culture, pragmatics, aesthetics, and hermeneutic approaches to language learning.

Written by Kacy M. Peckenpaugh, PhD
Photo courtesy UC Berkeley

UFLA Poster Contest

The 2016 UFLA Poster Contest Theme is "Explore a Language, Discover a World." Deadline for submissions is December 1st, 2015. Only digital submissions will be accepted. Please, go to <http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/> for guidelines, prize information and submission form. A submission form has also been included in this newsletter.

UFLA Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee of UFLA consisted of Anne Lair (University of Utah), Arron Wheeler (Roy Jr. High School), Shereen Salah (BYU) and Marisa Bellini (American Fork High School) met with Senator Howard Stephenson at the Capitol Building on September 10th. They are affiliated with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and ACTFL has set some goals for language instruction and they were able to discuss with Senator Stephenson on how to achieve these goals in the near future and how to promote the languages offered in our schools in Utah better. The Committee was very excited for this great opportunity.

Language News



American Association of Teachers of German

Welcome back to the new school year! This year has gotten off to an exciting start for German in Utah. On the morning of Saturday September 12, 37 teachers, faculty and student instructors met at Timpview High School in Provo for a Proficiency Workshop in which we discussed proficiency and its role in our classes followed by time to collaborate on developing new materials and activities. Thanks go to Stephen van Orden for putting on such a beneficial and productive workshop for us all! We are indeed pleased to announce that by popular demand, we'll be reconvening the morning of Saturday October 24 for a Share and Tell in which we will share the materials and activities we started at the workshop with explanations of how and when to use them. Stay tuned for the specific location, and come join us even if you weren't able to meet with us last week.

This fall, our Deutscher Tag has as its theme STEM/MINT. Held in various locations around the state, this activity will allow students the chance to use their German while learning about interesting and fun science topics including making lip balm from bees wax, wind turbines and even a Sinnespfad. If you haven't yet RSVPed for your school or simply have questions, please contact Shauna Winegar: shauna.winegar@ccsdut.org.

Various schools around the state are participating in Oktoberfest Activities. Please let us know about your activities so we can advertise them, and even send us pictures and a write up so we can share that with others, including at the national AATG organisation.

The dates are set for this year's Christkindlmarkt at This Is The Place Heritage Park (2601 East Sunnyside Ave) in Salt Lake City. The organisers are still looking for performers, including choirs to participate. Education Outreach is also available to help teachers share German culture with their classrooms. If you have questions or would like to participate, please email: christkindlmarktsc@gmail.com.

Might we also encourage you to invite your students to participate in the National German Exam. This exam provides students with a chance to showcase their German skills while potentially opening the door for a trip to Germany. Registration opens on October 1, 2015 for German 2-4 with exams administered between December 1, 2015 and February 1, 2016. The exam for German 1 students will be later in the spring.

Before closing, I would also invite you to join us at ACTFL in San Diego this November. If you are able to join us, please let us know so we can connect at the conference. If you haven't attended in the past and can't make it this year, please be aware that AATG offers K-12 teachers stipends to offset costs of their first ACTFL conference. Consider joining us in the future.

Can't make it to ACTFL this year, make sure to plan to join us at the UFLA conference in the winter. Developed some new materials? Had some cool experiences? Propose a session and come share with us.

We are excited about the new year ahead and hope you will share with us what you are doing in your classrooms across the state. Let us know how we can help you strengthen your programs.

We wish you all the best and look forward to serving you in the year ahead,

Laura Catharine Smith
President, Utah Chapter of the AATG



2016 Poster Contest

Explore a Language, Discover a World

STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

1. **DOWNLOAD THIS WORD DOCUMENT. TYPE student information directly on the form.** Save completed form as a Word document using the following formula for the file name: School_Lastname_Grade. **HANDWRITTEN ENTRIES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**
2. **Email** signed entry forms **together** with the digital poster (.jpg or .pdf image) to UFLAPoster@gmail.com (**TYPED signatures suffice for email**).
3. **Posters may only be submitted by a teacher who is a UFLA member; posters may not be submitted by students themselves or by their parents.**
4. **Deadline for poster submissions: December 1, 2015.**
5. **See Poster Contest Guidelines for more information** (<http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/>)

Name of Student/s		Grade	
Name of School School MAILING Address			
Sponsoring Teacher (First/Last name)			
Sponsoring Teacher's Email			
UFLA Member? (The teacher needs to be a UFLA member in order to participate)			

RELEASE: *We understand that the poster entry becomes the sole property of UFLA and may be duplicated and/or displayed at UFLA venues.*

Student Signature		Date	
Parent Signature		Date	

Add an additional page if necessary (for instance, in the case of a group project).



The Omega Alpha Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi
in partnership with
the WSU Department of Foreign Languages
proudly presents the

2nd ANNUAL SPANISH SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

at Weber State University
Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Free to participate and open to children grades 4-8.
Lunch will be provided to the spellers and one escort.
Participation ribbons for all spellers; medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

For registration and more information contact Isabel Asensio.
Phone: 801-626-6777; Email: isabelasensio@weber.edu

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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.

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.