



Isabel Asensio
UFLA President

Dear UFLA family,

I hope the spring semester is being a productive and rewarding one. UFLA had a great start of a new calendar year 2016: elections for two executive board officers were held and the Annual UFLA Conference took place on February 18. I want to congratulate and welcome back Mike Wood and Jeff Packer. Mike Wood teaches at Timberline Middle School and has been our incumbent Secretary and Newsletter Editor for quite some time now. Jeff Packer, President-Elect, is an Associate Professor of German at Utah Valley University and has recently been involved with UFLA as the UVU representative. I would also like to welcome Stephen Van Orden, Danielle Asay, and Jill Landes-Lee to the Executive Board. Stephen Van Orden, who teaches at Timpview High School, is a Past President and now joins us again as our AATG representative. Danielle Asay is a graduate student in French Studies at BYU and joins us as our AATF representative. Jill Landes-Lee is the Coordinator for Secondary Dual Language Immersion programs of L2TReC, at the University of Utah, and serves as the state Director for Secondary Dual Language Immersion curriculum, assessment,

and professional development for the Utah State Office of Education. She joins us as our SWCOLT Delegate.

The Annual UFLA Conference was once again a success. We had the largest number of sessions ever (more than 50) on a wide variety of topics, from Proficiency to Language Teaching Methods to Assessment and Curriculum. It was also very well attended with more than 455 pre-registered teachers and administrators representing the Utah State Office of Education, and 141 Utah elementary, junior high, and high schools, and higher education institutions. During the luncheon, the UFLA Board had the pleasure of honoring various educators and friends of the profession for their dedication, passion for teaching, and support to World Languages in the state of Utah. Our winning 2016 Teachers of the Year were Rachel McKeen, at the Elementary level, and Dr. Nieves Pérez-Knapp, at the higher education level. These women are exemplary role models of World Language education and the National Standards for Foreign Language learning. Dr. Cheryl Hansen and Sen. Howard Stephenson received the Lifetime Achievement and Friend of the Profession Awards respectively. These awards reflect the outstanding work not only teachers, but other professionals as well, do to advance second language learning in Utah.

The next highlight of the semester was the Annual Southwest Conference on Language Teaching, celebrated on March 3-5 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Utah had a strong presence with 13 sessions presented by teachers and administrators from several Utah school districts, higher education institutions, and the Utah State Office of Education. A few sessions were actually led by members of the UFLA Executive Board, including Tom Mathews, Jill Landes-Lee, and myself. In addition, Rachel McKeen represented us well as the Utah candidate for the SWCOLT Teacher of the Year Award.

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President's Message (continued from page 1)

If you have never presented at these conferences, I encourage you to submit an abstract next year. These are great opportunities for networking, professional development, and CV-building at the state and regional level. I guarantee you that it will be worth your time.

Let me conclude with this note: all regular members of UFLA are eligible for any office. Besides the officers, who are nominated and elected via elections held annually, the Executive Board is also formed by other members who are typically the president or leader of any language-specific teachers' organization in Utah, and a representative from each higher education institution in the state that has a program for teacher education in foreign languages. Then, if YOU would like to see something changed or improved in UFLA, please, don't hold back, get actively involved! The first step is always your language-specific organization. Let's turn from spectators into participants! There is currently an opening for a representative from the Utah Association of Teachers of Japanese.

As the spring semester comes to an end, good luck giving your students a grand finale to another great year of World Language learning.

Warmly,

Isabel Asensio
UFLA President

2017 BYU Institute for Spanish Teachers

Do you want to take a selfie on the most photographed street in Spain, get 9 graduate credits in one summer and prepare your lessons while looking over the Mediterranean?

Then, attend the Summer Institute for Spanish Teachers in the summer of 2017.

You have a whole year to prepare!
It will change the way you teach (for the better)

For more information visit
<http://spanport.byu.edu/spanish/institute/>

ACTFL OPI Training Workshop in Provo

ACTFL will present two OPI workshops in Provo in June. If you have ever wanted to get certified to become an OPI tester, now is your chance. Details on the two different workshops are below. Visit <http://www.actfl.org> to register or for more information.

OPI ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP (4 DAYS)

The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Assessment Workshop is a four-day professional development workshop designed to introduce language educators to the Oral Proficiency Interview, the ACTFL rating scale, and the techniques for conducting and rating oral proficiency interviews. In daily plenary presentations, participants address general concepts and strategies for oral proficiency testing. This information is then reinforced and practiced in language-specific break-out sessions by observing model interviews, participating in hands-on rating activities, and conducting and rating live practice interviews. These practice interviews and ratings are discussed and critiqued in the language-specific groups. Following the workshop, eligible participants may pursue Limited or Full OPI Tester Certification (must have Superior level proficiency to apply).

MOPI ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP (2 DAYS)

The Modified OPI Workshop is an intensive two or three-day introduction to the techniques of administering and rating the Oral Proficiency Interview at the Novice and Intermediate levels. The rating scale and techniques for eliciting a ratable sample are highlighted in daily plenary sessions and then reinforced in language-specific break-out sessions. Participants have the opportunity to observe live demonstration interviews conducted by their trainer. Under the trainer's supervision, they then conduct their own practice interviews with volunteer candidates. Following the workshop, eligible participants may pursue Limited OPI Tester Certification (must have Advanced Mid level proficiency to apply).



Save the Date
Taught by Dr. Anne Lair & Dr. Jeanine Alesch

July, 26-29

— French Teacher Workshop —

Engaging classrooms:
Literature, films, culture and
project-based learning

For more information please email
L2TReC@utah.edu

L2TReC | COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES

Language News

Flagship and Project Go Workshop

The University of Utah's Second Language Teaching and Research Center (L2TReC), with funding from The Language Flagship, is hosting a 5-day workshop specifically designed to meet the needs of faculty teaching in Flagship and Project Go programs. The workshop will take place from July 26-30. It has two main objectives:

- to familiarize teachers with instruction targeting the Advanced level in the three modes of communication
- to guide instructors through the design and implementation of Integrated Performance Assessments (IPA) at the Advanced level.

Participants will design advanced-level assessment tools that integrate the three modes of communication and will demonstrate the application of an end-of-unit performance assessment.

Travel, housing and meal expenses will be covered for participants associated with a Flagship or Project GO institution.

The workshop will be lead by: Jennifer Bown (Brigham Young University); Cynthia Ning (University of Hawaii at Manoa); Johanna Watzinger-Tharp (University of Utah); Sonia Shiri (University of Arizona) and Fernando Rubio (University of Utah).

Utahtlán at Dixie State University

For the second year, DSU opens its doors to students of Spanish.

On April 15th, 2016, Dixie State University and its Spanish program hosted the 2nd language fair in Southern Utah under the name of Utahtlán. The event, under the direction of Dr. Luis Arévalo, hosted 186 students from Snow Canyon Middle School, Dixie Middle School, Lava Ridge Middle School, Water Canyon High School, Pine View Middle School and Pine View High School. 56 students from Dixie State University volunteered at Utahtlán, helping with the organization and judgment of the different competitions middle and high schoolers entered (poetry recitation, skits, sing a song, show and tell, and impromptu conversation).

"Utahtlán is the simulation of a Spanish-speaking country and a fun communicative experience for students! Utahtlán is designed as a full-immersion activity for all language levels. After going through customs, students enter into a space in which they can visit a clothing store, photo studio, pharmacy, restaurants,

take dance lessons, etc., all in Spanish. Visitors are required to show a passport to participate in these activities. For each activity completed, students earn a stamp in their passport. After completing all activities, students proceed to show their passport to customs officials to obtain a personalized certificate of participation. Teachers and accompanying parents or chaperons do not need a passport; instead Utahtlán authorities will extend to them a pase diplomático."

During the closing ceremony when the awards for each competition were given, the Humanities Department Chair, Mr. Addison Everett, who is retiring on July 1st after 35 years of service at DSU, received a plaque recognizing his key role in the Spanish program.

Next year, DSU is likely expanding its language fair from exclusively Spanish to incorporate Mandarin, since Washington County also has several DLI programs in Chinese. For more information on next year's language fair at DSU, contact Dr. Arévalo at arevalo@dixie.edu.

BYU German Language Fair a Success!

On April 14th the annual German Fair was held at BYU. 655 students from 27 schools came to BYU campus to compete for awards, practice speaking German in Kleindeutschland, sample German pretzels and chocolate, and participate in events and activities.

New events this year were visual art and baking. Judges were impressed with students' baking skills and pleased to try authentic German baked goods, such as Pflaumenkuchen, Apfelkuchen, Schaumtorte, Nussecken, and Käsekuchen. One judge commented that the Nussecken taste just like something he buys in German at a bakery!

Other events included: poetry recitation, scenes from plays, culture bowl, soccer, vocal music, choir, video, interview, and conversation. Students visited several booths in Kleindeutschland, where they were required

to speak only German. If anyone was caught speaking English, he or she was thrown in jail and was asked to sing some songs in German to be released.

Some schools provided activities for students. One sold authentic Berliner, one hosted games, and one even taught students how to measure a Hogwarts robe and wand in German!

Honored guests included Dean of the College of Humanities Professor Scott Miller, European Studies Librarian Richard Hacken, Sister Harriet Uchtdorf, and Antje Uchtdorf Evans.

Prizes were awarded to the top three students in each category. We're already looking forward to the German Fair in 2017! Please email Teresa Bell (tbell@byu.edu) with any questions.



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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.