



**Isabel Asensio**  
**UFLA President**

Dear UFLA members,

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! I hope you had a fun-filled and well-rested summer. This year I am ready and committed to continue to lead our community of World Languages educators to a successful and happy school year. First, allow me to introduce you our latest addition to the board, Tim Cannon. Tim is replacing Anne Lair, who served for three years and has now moved on to other projects. Tim teaches Spanish at the University of Utah, and will serve as the U. of U. representative on the board. Welcome, Tim!

Once again, I am happy to briefly share with you some of the professional development and research activities with which members of the UFLA Executive Board were involved over the summer. Blair Bateman, BYU faculty representative, spent most of the summer working on the videos and online practice activities to accompany his recently released textbook *Perspectivas: Português para Falantes de Espanhol*. The videos, which were filmed in the Brazilian community in the Atlanta area, were possible thanks to a federal grant.

Lucía Taylor, Dixie State University faculty representative, conducted a study abroad trip to Oviedo, Spain. Students from DSU participated in an intensive five-week program at the Universidad de Oviedo. Half the group studied Spanish language and culture; and the other half attended a Medical Spanish course. As part of this course, students did community service at a local hospital. In addition, Professor Taylor presented a research article at the Nebrija International Conference on Applied Linguistics in Spanish Teaching in Madrid.

Finally, Ana Raquel Galán, AATSP representative and faculty member in North Davis Preparatory Academy, completed short summer online courses on mindfulness and meditation, and personal wellness. Ana explained that taking a break from language teaching, and focusing on her well-being for a change, was refreshing; Ana is confident that she is better prepared to do her job this school year.

Congratulations on your achievements! And to you, UFLA members, take advantage of your membership and consider applying for funding for professional development activities. Again, UFLA offers Vitality Awards and the Pat Buckner Collaboration Award. Our regional affiliation SWCOLT, South West Conference on Language Teaching, offers several scholarships annually. In addition, you can always contact your language representative on the board and inquire about scholarship opportunities through your AAT.

We want to keep you up-to-date on the latest UFLA happenings. First, UFLA is hosting its first World Languages Fall Workshop, "Strategies to Move up the Proficiency Scale," at Dixie State University. The main purpose of this half-day workshop is to serve the teacher population in Southern Utah, who may not always be able to attend our annual UFLA conference in the spring. Nevertheless, anyone who is a UFLA member is welcomed!

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## UFLA Opposes Academic Pathway to Teaching

The World Languages Fall Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th, with Professor Chantal P. Thompson as the guest lecturer. Professor Thompson is a Teaching Professor of French at BYU and, as an ACTFL Trainer, will be presenting on foreign language instruction, in particular, on raising students' proficiency from Novice to Intermediate, from Intermediate to Advanced, etc. For more information and to register for the workshop, visit <http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/>. Second, as a preview of the upcoming 102nd Annual UFLA Conference, to be held on February 9, 2017, I am thrilled to announce that Dr. Flavia Fleischer will be our keynote speaker. We are including a brief biography here for you to learn more about this exceptional woman. For more information and to register for the conference, visit <http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/>. Proposals for presentations are now being accepted.

Finally, as a reminder, there is still an opening for a representative from the Utah Association of Teachers of Japanese. Please, talk among your colleagues and district coordinators, find a consensus, and propose someone to the Executive Board. The board will make a speedy decision. Also, please, do not hesitate to bring up any concerns or questions you may have about the organization. Thank you! Your feedback is extremely important to us. We have had several inquiries about the possibility of using credit card as an optional method of payment. The convenience of credit cards come with a cost so, we are working hard to find a feasible option with reasonable processing fees and monthly rates.

To sum up, another school year means new opportunities: opportunities to grow as an educator, and to develop deeper relationships with your students and colleagues. I wish you all success and joy this 2016-2017 school year!

Warmly,

Isabel Asensio  
UFLA President

Over the summer, the Utah State Board of Education passed a new rule known as the "Academic Path to Teaching" (APT). The rule allows individuals with no pedagogical training or classroom experience, who hold a bachelor's degree in any subject, to be granted a teaching license provided they can pass a Praxis exam in the subject they want to teach and are mentored for three years by an experienced teacher.

The rule would have gone into effect automatically, but UFLA was one of several organizations that requested a hearing on the rule. UFLA President Isabel Asensio and board members Jeff Packer of UVU and Blair Bateman of BYU attended the hearing. UFLA spoke in opposition to the rule, arguing that (1) research shows that learning outcomes suffer among students taught by individuals with no prior preparation and no classroom experience; (2) the rule does not provide for experienced teachers to be compensated for mentoring APT candidates, in addition to all their regular teaching responsibilities; (3) the rule creates a double standard for teacher licensure, since the state does not allow universities to admit students to teacher education programs without a 3.0 GPA, a passing score on the ACT or SAT, and no grade lower than a "C," but imposes no such requirements on APT candidates; and (4) the rule does not require foreign language teachers to demonstrate oral proficiency in the language they teach.

Although the majority of those who spoke at the overflow hearing were opposed to the APT, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to implement the new rule, which went into effect in August. However, a number of school districts have issued statements explaining that they do not plan to hire candidates who are licensed through the APT.

### UFLA 2017 Call for Proposals

Do you have an idea for a presentation? The call for submissions for our February 9, 2017 conference is now open. To submit your proposal, visit:

<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.**



# Language News

## Utah's Advanced Language Pathway for Post-AP Language Study: The Bridge Program

2016-17 marks the first academic year for the new Bridge Courses for advanced language study in Utah. Funded through the support of Sen. Stephenson and Rep. Hutchings, House Bill 152 provides ongoing funding to develop new, upper division university courses which fill the “gap” between students completing a World Language AP exam and the study of language in college.

The Bridge Program meets the need for a secondary pathway for Dual Language Immersion students, but its impact goes beyond this. By offering rigorous, academic language courses in the high school setting, and opening enrollment to any student who passes the AP Language and Culture exam, this program seeks to promote equity and access to bilingual and bicultural citizenship in Utah. It establishes a clear K-16 pathway and career pathway in two languages.

The first Bridge Course, SPAN 3116- Pop Culture, is being offered through Weber State at Layton and Viewmont High Schools in Davis District, and through the University of Utah at Olympus and Taylorsville High Schools in Granite District. Not only do students analyze the evolving nature of pop culture through topics like Lucha Libre, graffiti and dance—they also receive 1.0 high school credit per course plus 3 upper division university credits. This positions them to graduate from high school just 2-3 courses short of a minor in their language of study.

Unique to the Concurrent Enrollment framework, Bridge Courses count towards a university minor or major in their language of study and students have face-to-face time with a university instructor. Students receive daily support from a high school language teacher as well. The courses focus on improving language proficiency while studying upper division topics in the language, preparing students to exit from high

school with high academic language ability more typical of students completing a language major in college.

More information on the Bridge Program can be found at the University of Utah's Second Language Teaching and Research Center's website, <http://l2trec.utah.edu/>, under the “Bridge Program” tab.

Jill Landes-Lee  
University of Utah Secondary Language Teaching and Research Center

### UFLA Announces 2017 Conference Keynote Speaker: Dr. Flavia Fleischer



Flavia Fleischer is the Deaf Studies Department Chair at California State University, Northridge. Her Ph.D. in Linguistics is from Gallaudet Uni-

versity and her dissertation centered on analysis of American society's constructed image of deaf people. Flavia also holds two MA degrees – one in Interdisciplinary Studies in Deaf Education, Deaf Studies and Linguistics from California State University, Northridge, and one in American Sign Language Linguistics from Gallaudet University. On a personal note, Flavia is married to Will Garrow and they have a 22-year-old daughter, Ryssa, and a 11-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog, Rossi.

We look forward to hearing from her in February!

## UFLA Vitality Awards

Each year, UFLA offers up to three Vitality Awards for the purpose of research, study, workshops, or projects for improving the quality of teaching. Award amounts will typically range from \$500 to \$1000. In order to be eligible, teachers must be current members of UFLA; be contracted to teach in a public or private school, elementary through university level, during the present year; intend to teach this language for the at least three more years; and be willing to report and share their experiences with the UFLA membership.

In the past, successful proposals have received funding for language maintenance programs. Curriculum enhancement or course development, collaborative teaching projects, development of on-line courses and activities, travel to conferences or workshops, travel to collect language resource materials or to do research in teaching methods or language acquisition, expenses to give a presentation or read a paper at a regional or national conference.

UFLA will not fund tuition, travel or costs associated with graduate-level work or study abroad programs offered by Utah institutions.

Please consider applying for a Vitality Award. Often awards go un-granted because no proposals were sent in.

Vitality Award must be postmarked no later than March 31. Announcement of the winners will be made in mid April.

The proposal form can be found at:

<http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/Awards/Form-Vitality.pdf>

Please send proposals and any questions about the process to:

Stephen Van Orden  
stephenv@provo.edu

Timpview High School  
3570 North Timpview Drive  
Provo, Utah 84604

## SWCOLT Summer 2017 Scholarship Opportunities for Teachers!

SWCOLT Scholarships offer professional learning opportunities to study abroad for foreign language educators in the elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels. SWCOLT is aware that the travel involved in the receipt of these scholarships can be very expensive. SWCOLT will award a \$3000.00 travel reimbursement to scholarship winners of summer language study programs. We will also help, upon request, with letters that you could use with state foreign language association, your administrators, PTAs, Booster Clubs, or other organizations that might help you with your travel funds.

### DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION:

**December 15, 2016**

For the Scholarship Application, go to: <http://www.swcolt.org/awards>

### FOR SPANISH TEACHERS:

*The Centro MundoLengua Scholarship* offers a wonderful opportunity for a high school Spanish AP Teacher to participate in Centro MundoLengua's AP Summer Institute for Teachers in Sevilla or Madrid, Spain, June 25, 2017 to July 8, 2017. The scholarship includes tuition, room and board with a Spanish family (an individual room), course materials, completion certificate, cultural activities in Sevilla or Madrid, and a welcome breakfast and farewell dinner. The scholarship does not include airfare, personal spending money or the additional fee necessary to obtain graduate university credits. Last summer, the graduate credit fee was \$325 for three semester credits from The University of California at Riverside. The value of this scholarship is \$2,195. For more information, please visit the Centro MundoLengua website at: [www.centromundolengua.com](http://www.centromundolengua.com)

*The Cemanáhauc Educational Community Scholarship* offers Spanish language classes and intensive study of the arts and history of Mexico in an atmosphere of total immersion in the language and culture in colonial Cuernavaca, México. It is designed for a K-16 Spanish teacher who has had few previous opportunities to travel to Latin America, and who



## American Association of Teachers of French

Mes chers collègues,

Welcome back to school! I hope the dust is now settling and you are all finding a good rhythm in your classrooms. This is always such a fun time of the year, and a great opportunity to implement new practices and fine-tune the old. Hopefully this professional organization can help you with that as well! We have not been very active this past academic year, but we now want to get together more often because we always have such fun and share so many excellent ideas when we meet. Our Fall Activity is scheduled for **Saturday, October 8th at 11:30 a.m. at 5677 W. 10770 N. in Highland, Utah.** We will be sharing lunch and ideas, but the theme is still pending. Look for a post on our group Facebook page "AATF - Utah" to find out more information. If you haven't yet found us on Facebook, please do! You do not need to be a paid member of AATF to be in the group, or to meet with us. All are welcome! AATF does have many member benefits, however, and we encourage everyone to check out the national organization at <http://frenchteachers.org>. We also have a chapter wikispaces at <https://aatfutah.wikispaces.com>.

One neat thing that AATF promotes is National French Week. The 18th Annual National French Week will be from November 4-10, 2016, and we encourage all teachers to participate! For samples of posters, pencils, balloons, brochures that can be ordered from the national office: <http://www.frenchteachers.org/nfw/>. Promote the French language and culture in your school and community! The event is now an integral part of the AATF calendar. Look for more information in your Fall Bulletin from AATF and online.

Another wonderful opportunity offered through AATF is the National French Contest. This is a wonderful tool to measure your students' knowledge against others in the nation. It is available for elementary (FLES) and secondary French students. There were many changes that occurred last year as the National French Contest went electronic for the first time! For 2017, all registration must be done online and all exams will be administered online. Here's the website for information: <http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours/>. If you have any further questions, please contact me at [dtasay@gmail.com](mailto:dtasay@gmail.com). Make sure to send in your renewal notices (they've already been mailed out) by December 1st so you can benefit from member discounted fees when registering and paying for your students. All medals and certificates will now be sent directly to participating teacher, which is also new from years past. If we have a good number of participants from Utah, however, then our chapter will host an activity to honor our award-winning students with extra prizes as well.

If you are interested in serving as an officer or would like to nominate a member as an officer, please contact me at [dtasay@gmail.com](mailto:dtasay@gmail.com) by December 2nd, 2016. Per our annual meeting at UFLA in this February, after our Treasurer Analisa (Annie) Fisher moved out of state this summer, the following people graciously accepted to serve:

Danielle Asay – President  
Brandon Lansing – President-Elect  
Ruth Merrill – Secretary

Please consider serving our AATF Utah Chapter! We would love to have you in the organization, and also at our activity on October 8th! Mark your calendars.  
Amicalement,

Danielle Asay, President, AATF-Utah

### SWCOLT Scholarships (continued)

needs an opportunity to increase his/her oral fluency. The scholarship includes registration and tuition for two-weeks of study anytime in 2017, housing (double occupancy) with all meals, and one all-day field study excursion. The value of this scholarship is \$1083. Transportation expenses including the transfer to Cuernavaca from the airport in Mexico City (about \$30 round trip), the textbook (about \$35), and personal expenses are not included. It is expected that the scholarship recipient share the knowledge they have gained. For additional information visit the website at: [www.cemana-huac.com](http://www.cemana-huac.com)

*The Universidad Internacional-The Center for Linguistic Multicultural Studies Scholarship* offers the opportunity for a two-week intensive language and culture study in Cuernavaca, Mexico anytime in 2017. The scholarship includes registration and two weeks of course work. Transportation and lodging expenses are not included. To find out more about the program, please visit their website at [http://www.spanishschool.uninter.edu.mx/?page\\_id=2061](http://www.spanishschool.uninter.edu.mx/?page_id=2061). A variety of lodging options can be found at: [http://www.spanishschool.uninter.edu.mx/?page\\_id=2181](http://www.spanishschool.uninter.edu.mx/?page_id=2181)

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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.