



The IWLA Bulletin

A Newsletter for the Members of the Iowa World Language Association

Volume XVII No. 2

Winter 2011

From the President: Erik Ladner

Welcome to the Iowa World Language Association Bulletin. If you are a first-time reader of our newsletter, the IWLA is an organization that represents the teachers of world languages in Iowa's elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools. This organization has for nearly 30 years been a voice for the role of world languages and cultures in the curricula of Iowa's schools, serving as a resource for teachers and as an advocate for our discipline on a local and state level. Our role is highlighted annually at our organization's state convention, which was held October 7-8 in the Downtown Marriot Hotel in Des Moines. We are pleased to say that our convention was a great success, thanks in large part to the efforts of the IWLA Executive Board and the many teachers and professors that presented their creative and innovative teaching strategies to the members of our organization through the various workshops and presentations they chose to share with us.

As the new president of the IWLA, I would like to introduce myself a bit. I have been a member of the IWLA (formerly the IFLA) since 1995, with a 5-year hiatus while I was living in Texas while pursuing my doctorate in Spanish Literature. I still remember my first attendance to the then-IFLA convention in 1995 – I was a Master's student at the University of Northern Iowa, attending the conference as one of the many TA's in the Department of Modern Languages. As a brand-new graduate student that had never taught a course in Spanish, the conference was for me a learning experience in that I had the opportunity to see the many unique and exciting activities that experienced teachers came to share with new teachers. Just as important was the fact that in the then-IFLA I came to know so many teachers (many who still attend the conference to this day and I now have the honor of calling colleagues) who have inspired me, and continue to inspire me to this day. In the years since my Master's degree I have taught at a community college in Nebraska, as a TA at the University of Texas at Austin, as a lecturer at Iowa State University, and now as an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Central College. When I had the fortune to return to Iowa seven years ago, I immediately renewed my participation in the IWLA and found that the community I had left behind was still as strong as before, filled with dedicated teachers that still serve as role models for younger teachers beginning their careers.

As an organization the IWLA still works on behalf of teachers of world languages in several different ways. During 2011 the organization, represented through the Executive Committee, has continued our advocacy campaign to argue for a greater role for world languages in Iowa's K-12 curriculum. Last spring several members of the Executive Committee met with Jason Glass, Director of the Iowa Department of Education, to continue to advocate for the reinstating of a world language representative in the DOE. The current financial crisis has made funding this position impossible at this time, though we are hopeful that in the foreseeable future that such a position may be developed and funded. Out of our conversations with Director Glass also came a call for us to articulate the place of world languages in the Iowa Curriculum and means for assessment. These are conversations we are beginning to have as an organization and will continue to have in the months and years to come.

One of the exciting announcements that came from our recent conference has been the development of a new award, the Michael Oates Teacher of Promise (TOP) Award. This award is in memory of Michael Oates, a longtime professor of French at the University of Northern Iowa. I had the honor of being one of Mike's students while I was at UNI, and the fact that an award of this type was named for him could not have been more appropriate, given how much he did during the course of his career to nurture new teachers of world languages. The Michael Oates TOP award is an award designed to support student teachers of promise as they prepare to leave their college programs and begin their careers in teaching world languages. To be eligible, a student must be either in the process of student teaching or have just completed student teaching through a teacher-training program in Iowa. Nominations may be made by either cooperating teachers or by foreign language methods professors. For full details, please visit the IWLA website at www.iwla.net and read the description of the award.

I look forward to working with you as president of the IWLA during the coming year. Given the sense of community that the IWLA has offered me as a world language teacher, it is my hope that I may be a good steward of this organization and do what I can to extend this sense of community to you, my colleagues, into the new year.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR IWLA

Erik Ladner, President

Central College
Pella, Iowa 50219
ladnere@central.edu

Stacy Amling, Treasurer

1125 Hancock Dr.
Boone, IA 50036
Des Moines Area Community
College
slamling@dmacc.edu

Tracy Dinesen, President-Elect

Simpson College
Indianola, Iowa
Tracy.dinesen@simpson.edu

Wade Petersen, Immediate Past-President

Valley Southwoods Freshman High
School
625 S. 35th St.
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265-
2053
wadecp@netins.net

Kim Huegerich, Vice-President

315 Division St.
Jewell, Iowa 50130

515-827-5418 ext 250

kim_huegerich@s-hamilton.k12.ia.us

Julie Wilhelm, Editor, IWLA Bulletin

1185 Quail Avenue
Goodell, IA 50439
641-495-6161
farm5@frontiernet.net
Iowa State University
300 Pearson, Hall
Ames, IA 50010
jwilhelm@iastate.edu

Carrie Mulvihill, Secretary

1323 Victoria Circle
Norwalk, IA 50211
515-981-5474
ejmulvihill@dmacc.edu
Des Moines Area Community College
Urban Campus
1100 7th Street
Des Moines, IA 50314

THANKS FOR YOUR
LEADERSHIP,
OFFICERS OF IWLA!!

Central States Conference.....Online!

Keeka Baedke, Outreach Chair, Central States Conference
on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Are you at the point in the year when IWLA has come and gone and it is a long time until the Central States Conference in the Spring? Are you looking for professional development opportunities that are tailored to you as a world language teacher? If so, check out Conferences My Way at <http://www.conferencesmyway.com>. Their tagline is "Bringing the best of world languages conferences to you -- online!"

From their site you may:

- Attend sessions by viewing video session
- Browse and shop their Exhibitor Hall
- Network and share ideas with educators from across the country

To start enjoying all that the site has to offer, you pay a membership fee of \$64.95 or the Introductory price of \$59.95 until Nov. 30, 2011. This is an individual membership account for a teacher. You will find the 15 video sessions from the 2011 Central States Conference in Indianapolis, including a phenomenal session by Paulino Brener! I have previewed many of the Central States sessions and I found them to be outstanding. According to Patrick T. Raven, the CSCTFL Executive Director, Conferences My Way, has "taken the sessions and translated them from "live" to "video"-- creating a "you are there" feel -- very well."

There are also sessions from NECTFL. You can view any of them. You'll notice each has handouts and more. After viewing all of the video segments, you will take a short test and then get a personalized Certificate of Completion. When you purchase a membership with Conferences My way you have access to the videos 24/7 for 365 days. So you can start with this year's awesome Central States sessions and throughout the year you may "attend" other conferences and other sessions all for one low price.

The Central States Board of Directors thought that this would be a great outreach for the many teachers who are unable to attend the conference in a given year and even to those who attended but who were not able to get to all of the outstanding sessions that were offered. As chair of the outreach committee, I would love to get your feedback on this service if you purchase a membership, as well as your suggestions on what the CSCTFL can do to help you throughout the year. Please contact me at kbaedke@mcshi.com.

IWLA SESSION PROPSALS WANTED

We are now accepting session proposals for the IWLA 2012 Conference online. Go to <http://www.iwla.net/Default.aspx?pageld=797263> for a direct link to the online submission form. The conference theme is Differentiation and Diversity in a World of Languages. The conference will be **October 12 & 13, 2012** at the Downtown Des Moines Marriott. We look forward to receiving your session proposals by **June 20, 2012**.

JWLA FALL CONFERENCE

October 12 & 13, 2012

Downtown

Des Moines Marriott

SUMMER SEMINAR IN SPAIN FOR SPANISH TEACHERS

June 15-29, 2011

Cáceres, Spain

- * Spanish 590 (2 graduate credits) conversation, culture, practical teaching tips
- * Full room & board with a Spanish family
- * Transportation to Cáceres from Madrid
- * Weekend in Madrid (meals, hotel, entrances, guides, transportation)
- * Day-trip to Mérida's beautiful Roman Monuments and classical theater
- * Emergency Medical Insurance

Application deadline: March 15, 2012

For more information contact:

Julie Wilhelm
3102 Pearson Hall,
Iowa State University
(515) 294-8186
jwilhelm@iastate.edu

www.summerseminarinspain.weebly.com

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Foreign Languages & Literatures
<http://www.language.iastate.edu>

**\$500
Discount
to the
first 10
enrolled**

Iowa World Language Association
Conference Wrap Up Meeting
Saturday, October 8, 2011
Des Moines Downtown Marriott/Waterloo Meeting Room

Present: Erik Ladner, Wade Petersen, Tracy Dinesen, Keeka Baedke, Regina Schantz, Julie Wilhelm, Sara Blanco, Karla Jensen, Stacy Ameling, Carrie Morris, Candace Sherwood, Bea Houston, Kim Huegrich

Call to Order – Meeting called to order by President Erik Ladner at 11:42AM.

-Welcome to Kim Huegrich! Thank you for being willing to serve.

-Conference went really well overall. Thanks for all the work to everyone. Added 6 more sessions than last year. We may want to consider getting more rooms. It may not be necessary to get more. For the numbers of attendees, it seems an appropriate number of sessions. Could add poster session, where the cost would be the easels.

Exhibits - Need to double check on 8 foot tables, but some were 6. Work of Our Hands didn't have enough room. Some tables were 10 foot. The size of tables will affect how many are ordered. Recommend don't raise the price for the booths, but don't like them leaving early on Saturday or not staying for Saturday. Pearson Prentice Hall, Interact, and others left in the afternoon on Friday. Would it help having a later exhibit break at noon-ish? We moved it earlier so some would still go. Some vendors bought less space. Plata Fina hasn't come for the last 2 years saying it doesn't work for them. Originally may have had issues because of the shift in weekends.

Originally contacted them in May, e-mail over the summer, some were confirmed just before the conference. Northwestern College may be interested in exhibiting next year.

-Garage sale issue was last minute. The hotel moved her items down from her room, but she should have bought a booth. Years ago, people have sold their materials before, but it was by word of mouth and there was no attempt to advertise. Could add to website/e-mail blast, if people want to sell things, have an exhibitor space. IWLA Garage Sale. Money raised for

scholarships, grants, etc. Emeritus group could do this. They were interested in fundraising for scholarships. Dealing with the leftovers is difficult though. Some may actually want to sell stuff. Need to avoid what happened this year.

-Julie and Regina will not be doing exhibits next year. Have done it for 5 years. Should search for new exhibit chairs. They recommend 2 people. An additional membership person would be helpful. Wade will make sure all the slates are filled. If registration automation is possible, that will make the process a lot easier for Bea, then would just be matching checks. Some schools were interested in paying online. Maybe Paulino could set up the payment option on the website. It could be an issue if Wild Apricot is a Canadian company, transferring of funds internationally and conversion fee could be involved.

-373 registered for the conference total. Tonglu Li and Amy van der Meer were the winners of the free memberships. 358 Fri/Sat, Sat only 14. Vegetarian meals 19. Early registration 136. Regular regis. 92. Onsite 42. Students 56. Retirees 5. 10 that haven't paid. 156 no e-mail addresses. \$75 donated to scholarships. Will need to contact the registration winners if they are not at the final session.

-Announce Best of Iowa. Remind people to drop off their name badges. Ribbons were nice. Nice touches for presenters. The ribbons seemed to be better than the Ask Me and it helped people to find others. The ones at Central States have been shorter, so don't really need the long ones. Could the first names be really big on the name-tags so it's easier to recognize the names.

-Candidates were elected, and will be announced at the final session.

-Ellen Shrager said this is one of the best organized conferences she's been to. She loved the At a Glance. She's been to more than 20 state conference. Sarah Brown Wesseling expressed the same thing. People very pleased with the speakers and their sessions.

-Some extra handouts were on the registration table. Didn't announce it this year. They will be made available online after the conference. Many send them electronically in advance.

-Stacy doesn't have numbers yet, will send out a report when she has them.

-Karla has heard a lot of outrage about Muscatine

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Scholarship Opportunities with Central States

By: Keeka Baedke

Are you a Spanish teachers who would benefit from a summer study-abroad opportunity? I imagine we all do! The following organizations are offering study-abroad scholarships through Central States for the summer of 2012. Please note the deadline is December 15, 2012. If you could forward this information to your state organizations or colleagues, please do it ASAP!

Strangely enough, we often do not get many applicants for these scholarships, and they go unused. Needless to say, we want to see these opportunities go to deserving teachers in our region!

**CSCFTL Scholarship Opportunities
Centro MundoLengua Scholarship for
AP Teachers in Spain
www.centromundolengua.com
June 24 - July 7, 2012**

This scholarship is intended to provide an immersion experience for an AP Spanish teacher in a public or private K-12 Spanish program who has shown professional commitment to, and sustained involvement in, the teaching of the Spanish language and culture. This scholarship includes two weeks of class instruction in Seville, Spain, full room and board with a Spanish family in a private room, class materials, certificate, cultural activities in Seville, and a welcome breakfast and farewell dinner. Note that the recipient of the scholarship is responsible for transportation to the study site and for personal expenses. Graduate credits are extra.

**Centro MundoLengua AP Language or AP Literature Summer Institute
www.centromundolengua.com
June 24 - July 7, 2012**

Centro MundoLengua is also offering a scholarship for the AP Language or for the AP Literature Summer Institute. Centro MundoLengua has provided the only accredited AP Summer Institute for Spanish language and literature teachers in Spain. After completing either of these two programs, the recipient is required to present a session at the

2013 Central States Conference, sharing information and materials obtained from the experience.

Cemanahuac Educational Community in Mexico Scholarship

This scholarship is intended to provide an immersion experience for a teacher in a public or private K-12 Spanish program who has shown professional commitment to, and sustained involvement in, the teaching of Spanish language and culture. The dollar value of this award in 2012 will be \$1083.00, and includes registration, tuition for two weeks, housing (double occupancy) with all meals, and one all-day field study trip. Other expenses, in addition to airfare, that the recipient would have to cover on his/her own would be transfer to Cuernavaca (about \$15 each way), a textbook (\$35) and personal expenses. The recipient can attend any program at the Cemanahuac Educational Community in Mexico anytime during 2012. After completing this experience, the recipient is required to present a session at the 2013 Central States Conference, sharing information and materials obtained from the experience. Preference for this award will be given to non-native speakers of Spanish.

Universidad Internacional: Center for Linguistic & Multicultural Studies

This scholarship is intended to provide an immersion experience for a teacher in a public or private K-12 Spanish program who has shown professional commitment to, and sustained involvement in, the teaching of Spanish language and culture. This scholarship includes the registration fee and two weeks of class instruction (3 hours per day) at the *Universidad Internacional* in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Note that the recipient of the scholarship is responsible for transportation to the study site, lodging and for personal expenses. The recipient can attend any program at the *Universidad Internacional* anytime during 2012. After completing this experience, the recipient is required to present a session at the 2013 Central States Conference, sharing information and materials obtained from the experience.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL CSCTFL SCHOLARSHIPS:

To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. be a practicing teacher with a teaching load of at least 50% in the foreign language department;
2. teach in the Central States Conference region;
3. be willing to present a 60-minute session at the 2013 Central States Conference.

Other selection criteria include:

1. professional commitment and significant involvement in the teaching of a foreign language (conference/workshop participation, curriculum development) listed in a current professional resume or curriculum vitae (Note: participation in the Central States organization and/or attendance at past conferences will be advantageous and should be noted);
2. evidence of how the experience will enhance his/her teaching explained in a written statement of not more than 200 words; and
3. evidence of institutional support in the form of a letter of endorsement from an administrator or department chairperson.

For more information, contact:

Lori Winne, Chair
CSCTFL Awards Committee
lwinne@frontier.com

Applications (curriculum vitae/resume, personal statement (see above), and letter of endorsement must be submitted electronically by December 15, 2011, for consideration.

Language Study Beneficial to Students' Reading Abilities

In a four-year study of the relationship between the length of elementary foreign-language education & English reading achievement, 672 students from a Midwestern elementary school were administered reading tests after they had received two or four years of foreign-language instruction - up to grade six. **The sample represented varying intelligence levels. Results indicated that students of average intelligence profited most from the two extra years of instruction in terms of English reading skills.**

www.actfl.org

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situation. Muscatine is putting Rosetta Stone into the classroom instead of teachers. They're not eliminating all the other languages, are not testing the kids for level. They have replaced levels 1 and 2 and next year will replace level 3. There may be no change until kids go to college and are not able to get their level. The principal or superintendent has said that Jason Glass promotes the use of Rosetta Stone. When Karla gets approval from Lisa to proceed, she will, and will let people know. Ft. Madison schools had something mentioned about Rosetta Stone. Some small schools in northwest Iowa have been contacted about getting Rosetta Stone, giving them lower prices to get them to use it instead of teachers. May not get official support from colleges and universities. There is an instructor, but she only works as a facilitator. Hard to get something enforced when there are no benchmarks.

-Candace volunteered to be Local Chair again and will use the same decorations from this year. Betty Baum-Feree was very helpful to her. Special thanks to her.

-Wade talked to people from other states that liked our conference because there's a feeling that they sense here, something about the luncheon—it seems like we are more of a family. There is some sort of cohesiveness that you don't feel at other conferences. Tracy has only heard positives. Carrie has not heard about parking issues. Contract for next year, they quoted \$13 for parking.

-Need to get the grants taken care of, determine if we will cut ourselves off at paying \$1000 for the grants or fund them fully at a cost of about \$1600.

Adjournment by mutual assent at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Morris

Learn a new language and
get a new soul
~Czech Proverb

“Send Me a Letter”

by Wade Petersen

These three fun activities work well as quick warm-ups or cool-downs based on letters and spelling. They give students an opportunity to work with both spelling and vocabulary.

Alpha & Omega - This is actually a popular Japanese game called “Shiri Tori.” The teacher divides students into small groups which sit in circles on the floor or arranged desks facing each other. Groups of three or four students work best. One student begins by giving any French/Spanish/German word he or she wants to. The next student in line must give another word, using the last letter of the previous word. Continue around the circle until someone makes a mistake.

Add a Letter - This is a fun word game that does not necessarily have to relate to any certain set of vocabulary. The teacher begins by dividing students into pairs or teams of three. Each group should have a piece of paper and something to write with. When the teacher tells the groups to begin, they have five minutes (up to 10 minutes if you want) to build a list of French/Spanish/German vocabulary words, increasing the number of letters in each successive word by one. For example, to begin, each group must think of a one-letter French/Spanish/German word to begin their list. The second vocabulary item in their list should be any word that has two letters. The third item in the list must have three letters, and so on. Words do not have to relate in any way to the previous words in the list.

Students may skip a certain word if they cannot think of one with a certain number of letters, but they will have to come back to it. All words must be valid French/Spanish/German words (plurals are allowed, but no proper nouns).

When time is up, the group with the biggest successive chain of words will win. This means that if a group made it further than any other group up to a word with 10 letters (with words with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 letters before it), they would win. A group cannot break a chain! For example, if a group has a 15-letter French/Spanish/German word, but no 12, 13, or 14 letter word, the highest point would be 11 (the point at which they broke the sequence of

words).

Students could also write their lists on transparencies so they can show and pronounce the words to the class afterward. Teachers could prepare a worksheet with blank spaces for letters (this is easier to fill in and keep track of words).

Where’s the Letter? - The teacher divides the class into small groups of three or four students. Each student should have a pencil and paper (or a white board). The teacher then writes a letter on the board. Each student tries to think of a French/Spanish/German word that contains that letter and then must write that word down (on paper or white board). Students are only given 10 seconds to think of their word (teacher should use a timer). Students score different points based on where the given letter appears in their word. For example, if their word starts with the given letter, the student scores one point; if the given letter is somewhere in the middle of the word, the student scores two points; if the word ends with the given letter, the student scores three points (it helps to put this scoring system on the board). Students keep track of their points and continue to the next round with the teacher giving another letter. Teachers can keep the game this simple or add another layer of challenge. Students could earn multiple points per word depending how many times within the word the letter appears. For example, if a student thinks of a word that begins with and ends with the key letter, the student would then score four points! If the student could think of a word that begins with the letter and has that letter somewhere in the middle, he or she would score three points.

Foreign Language Study and ACT Scores

Olsen, S.A., Brown, L.K. (1992). The relation between high school study of foreign languages and ACT English and mathematics performance. *ADFL Bulletin*, 23(3), from ERIC database.

Analysis of the American College Test (ACT) scores of 17,451 students applying for college admission between 1981 and 1985 found that high school students who studied a foreign language consistently scored higher on ACT English and mathematics components than did students who did not study a foreign language in high school.

Printed Courtesy actfl.org

Iowa World Language Association
Meeting of the Advisory Council and Executive
Board

Thursday, October 6, 2011
Des Moines Downtown Marriott/Cedar Rapids
Meeting Room

-Call to Order – 8:17 PM
-Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting - Erik
Ladner motion to approve, Tracy Dinesen sec-
onded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Waiting on most recent sav-
ings acct statement. \$24,121.89 savings balance.
Checking account \$38,982.85. This includes
\$13,270 from Bea in conference registration.
-Spent about \$1000 for administration of web
page to Wild Apricot.
-Looking at ways to continue to support teachers
and still plan for the future and leaner years.
Paid part of Keeka's registration as a Central
States board member. Willing to look at other
opportunities to invest in projects.
-Biennial report was filed this year, prepared by
Jason Dinesen. Liability insurance policies have
been paid and updated. Ever year liability is
paid, but every 3 years we pay the fraud policy.
Ended the year over \$6200 ahead.
-Proposed budget is included in treasurer's re-
port.
-Need to determine how we want to proceed as
far as the website. We currently have 1000 con-
tacts purchased. Need to decide if we want to
stay with the highest membership. Need to get
word out to people to sign up through a commu-
nications phase. Let people know how many
messages are left on the e-mail blast and that they
won't get the blast anymore if they don't sign up.
Should have a paper reminder and set up a way
for people to register here at the conference with
a computer for next year. Grace would be happy
to man a computer to do this. Will discuss within
the executive board about how to move forward.
-Much credit goes to Stacy for her organization.
Tracy Dinesen motion to approve Stacy's report,
Erik Ladner seconded. Motion carried.

Grants – Grace Valdez
4 grant applications were received. One was for
\$100 for a subscription to a website, funds for

books in Spanish, a couple others with technol-
ogy/cameras. Decided to split up the funds and
distribute the funds fairly. Just need the execu-
tive board to act. \$1600 in grant requests came
in.

-Need to loosen up the reins on funds. We
should be spending our money when we can do
good things with it.

Registration – Bea Houston
318 registered as of Tuesday night. She esti-
mates that we have about 325.

Exhibitors – Julie Wilhelm
-21 exhibitors, down 1 from last year. Contacted
all the exhibitors who did not respond personally.
Some have a rotation basis, every 3rd or 4th year,
so they don't come every year. For some the
schedules just didn't work. Technology related
exhibitor is new. UNI did not come back.

Bulletin – Julie Wilhelm
-Julie had already sent advertising form to adver-
tisers. Information had been sent in June. She
already had checks. Julie put their logos on the
website, but it isn't the same as having a print ad.
Need to look at our pricing so that it is fair.
There should be a counter on the newsletter to
see how many visitors there are. We should
lower or raise the rate accordingly. Exhibitors
already get an ad in the program.
-November 15 is the next deadline. Pictures of
the next award winners, etc. July 1 is the new
Fall Bulletin deadline. Anyone can submit arti-
cles, should include a note on the website.
-No indenting or bullets for submissions, don't
format in any way. 2 spaces between paragraphs.
Attach as a Word document with nothing special.
Pictures are fine. Word attached to e-mail, use
JPG file formats. Identify who people are in pic-
tures. Registration form when it has background
and such is difficult to include.

Local Chair – Candi Sherwood
-New reception for presenters. Hospitality room
for presenters (Waterloo Room) will have a note
for that. Snacks and beverages will be included.
Continental breakfast, beverage service will be
included. Supplies and last minute needs can be
addressed there.

Program Chair – Kerisa Baedke

-At a glance will be located at registration. In the afternoon, Davenport and Dubuque are combined. Ellen Schrager is presenting in ballrooms, so had additional spots opened. There is a lot of variety in the program that there may not be an issue with having rooms that aren't big enough. Saturday, the rooms are not combined. FLES and Chinese teachers will be having meetings on Saturday during the blank spots.

- Great sessions were presented, and many of them are new. There were more sessions proposed than what there were spots. Appreciate teachers who have students present. One student presenter is back again to present. Students set things in early! Student sessions tend to be more language-specific and topic specific. May need to come up with a rubric as to how program is determined.

- Printing was done early and so stuffing was done early. Typically, folders are stuffed at the conference.

- Poster sessions, conversation groups, could be a possibility. Set a time when they need to be in an area to look at posters and ask questions. Takes away fear and pressure of presenting. Need easels available. Some people do 2-3 sessions, have people set a preference.

-There aren't any share sessions, but none were submitted on time. All-Stars idea was new.

-Great job Keeka, the group trusts her to use her best judgment for program decisions.

AATF – Elizabeth Zwanziger Page

-She and Anne Lair are co-presidents. Have new Facebook, need more Likers, go to their page and like them. Jason Noble is working on a website for AATF Iowa based on WI. Want to know about new French teachers in the state and get to know them well. French contest, oral contest at UNI April 28, Tete a Tete at UNI is April 21st. AATF in Chicago this year.

AATG – Susan Sandholm-Peterson

-Spring meeting at Central College. Also have a Facebook page. Urbandale has reinstated the German program they were going to cut. Waukeeseems to be very strong. Have good connections with colleagues at other schools and universities.

AATSP – Maggie Voy

-Has met 3-4 times since IWLA. Planning a retreat perhaps to Chicago. As time goes on, switch to Kansas City, Omaha, Minneapolis. Hook into city cultural fairs, etc. that are going on. Perhaps offer some college credit for those that need recertification. Have a survey out for people to give feedback for dates. Jason Noble is going to do another technology workshop, and perhaps another in the spring. Free to all members, nominal fee for non-members. Café Latinos still going on throughout the state. Looking to start some informal social gatherings, chat sessions just to speak the target language. Mentors program (padrinos/madrinas) hope to get it going more, not just for newer teachers, but for veteran teachers. If responsibilities, texts change, it would be a good idea. Website has connected to all the major universities for the padrinos/madrinos program. Informal gathering, dinner at a Mexican restaurant, speaking the language.

AMICI – John Gruber-Miller

-International conference at U of I at the end of October 27th to 30th. Recreation musical events, movie screenings, public lectures and a conference as part of that event. The power of music in Greek and Roman myth to move man and promotion of classical antiquity from the middle ages all the way through the present. People coming from all over the world. Information can be added to IWLA website as there may be others interested.

ACTFL – Elizabeth Zwanziger Page

-November 18th – 20th. Chen is speaker. 6000 people expect and 600 sessions. Mandarin and Chinese are about 80% of presentations, half of the remainder are Spanish. Late September, Appropriations Committee, zeroes out all of the funding for FLAP grants. No funding for new FLAP programs and may discontinue the current funds.

NNELL – Shannon Shreffler

-Focus on K-8. She has been in touch with Pamela Wesley at U of Iowa to get a list of those who teach FLES in Eastern Iowa. 5-6 Iowa NNELL members. They also have a Facebook page – Iowa NNELL. Please come and Like it. 3:10-

4:00 PM is the NNELL meeting. West Des Moines currently has FLAP grants, may be end of this year. Tammy Dann has the numbers.

Middle School – Susan Sandholm Peterson
-Has tried to gather numbers. She has a Wiki page, and nothing seems to resonate. Susan has stickers. If people teaching at Middle School level, Susan is going to give them a sticker for their nametags so that people can at least know each other.

Central States – Kat Dierking
-Could not attend meeting, but will be presenting tomorrow on Central States.

Private Colleges – Coralie Turner
-Wants to encourage more private college people to come to IWLA. Went to Council on Independent Colleges meeting in the spring. Sign language is the fastest-growing language in the liberal arts area, important especially with parents-to-be. Schools are not only preparing people to attend the public universities. Amazed how many there are in the state, but not represented here. Finding out about it at national conferences—lots of private colleges don't have the money. Grand View needs a full-time person who has a PhD in Spanish who wants to teach. Plenty of Iowa teachers have gone to ACTFL, but don't come to IWLA. May help to encourage people to nominate students for the TOP award. May need to encourage younger students and colleagues to present. Private college representation has gotten better on the board. Great community college representation too.

Public Universities – Terri Gebel
- Has been in contact with dept chairs at ISU and U of I. April 21st is the Tete a Tete at UNI. Dr. Diane Birckbichler from Ohio State will be presenting. Current director of the foreign language center, past president of ACTFL. IWLA is glad to continue promoting event. UNI's department is now combined with TESOL-English and the head of the department is the head of the English department. No more institutes abroad. Only summer courses available.

-Pam Wesley from U of I will be a great outreach per-

Son. Iowa State will have a table, always has been active. Dept. Head, Mark Rectanus, sent a letter that will be given out tomorrow. U of I does not have a table. U of I faculty do not get reimbursed to attend in-state conferences. At U of I, College of Education people are not connected to the Department of Modern Languages. Terri has a huge enrollment of teachers in methods classes. Language numbers are dropping and are now maybe considering connection with education.

-Russell Gammon Director of Division of World Languages and Cultures, wants to know what he can do for outreach to language teachers. Plans to reach out to IwLA however possible. For Iowa, teachers are his number one source. Can earn credits to count toward general education if students have taken 4 years of a foreign language. Guidance counselors don't always get to pass it on. Iowa has very strong program in teaching methodology. If there is anything we would like Terri to talk to him about, she is glad to do so.

Historian-Juan Trujillo

-Planning to retire at the end of this school year. This may be his last year. His daughter is a senior at UNI this year. He will stay until a suitable replacement is found. Presentation is ready for tomorrow during lunch. Music in the background too. Pictures at General session, but especially during awards session would be great. No one know yet who the first person was to do IFLA. Jacques dubois or Lowell Hoeft may have been, or know how it was. Would like to know what year IFLA officially began. Sandy Nyhus or Barb Maitland may know.

Erik Ladner-Awards

-Awarding secondary and postsecondary teachers of the year.

Advocacy– Carla Jensen

-Karla just spoke to Linda Fandel recently. Karla was asking how foreign language was going to be included in reform. Only a small part includes world languages, but don't know yet what it will look like. They are not ready to make a statement at this time. Karla will be in touch with her and will reach out soon again.

-She is working with Marcia Rosenbusch on the FLAP issue and are working with legislators. She will keep us informed on progress. Any individuals need to contact legislators, especially if they haven't contacted them before. Karla following up with Jason Glass. She attended the Education Summit this summer, very general, though the importance of FLs was mentioned, but seemed to focus on math, science and technology. Wade and Jason Noble attended the Boone town hall meeting.

Old Business – Relaunch of IWLA website – lots of hours and help involved. It is an improvement and there are more people who are able to make updates and such. The site looks really good. Board will be talking about untapped features. One of them is with online registration for future conferences. People can use Paypal. Board will decide on how to proceed on this front.

New Business – Michael Oates Teacher of Promise Award – We were missing a gap in our awards in order to recognize younger and student teachers. Supervising teachers and college professors can nominate. Some perks have been tied to this award, want to keep good people out there. Will get cash for school supplies, coming to conference for free the next year. Need to do all we can to keep people in Iowa. Student teachers and first or 2nd year teachers eligible. Wade will send out information to get the word out. We may award up to 3 per year, depending on applications. Maureen or Kathy could maybe come to present the first award. The family was really touched.

Being on the executive board is getting bigger and bigger. Advocacy related topics, new website, we're working really hard. It has become a lot more work than it used to be. We have taken more on our plates as a board. Level of commitment has increased. Presidents of colleges are very concerned about people coming to lead colleges in the future as many students are not wanting to take leadership roles.

Board has been contacted to host Central States. 1983 was the last time we did that. Our organization needs to consider if this is in our future or

not. Des Moines has a lot to offer, but a lot of volunteers, etc. are needed. It was a great year when we hosted last, Nile Vernon was president. They bring in staff. It does support advocacy. At the 1983 conference, Terry Branstad was given a special award for leadership, task force etc.

Reminders

- Advisory Council and Exec Board need to help pick up ballots and lunch tickets. Doors open at 11:45 for lunch if people can help out.
- Post-conference wrap-up – 11:30-12:20.
- December 1st is conference wrap-up goal. Want reports, money, checks, reimbursements all submitted.

Adjournment - Erik Ladner motion to adjourn, Terri Gebel seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Morris



2012 Central States Conference
A joint conference of the Central States Conference on the
Teaching of Foreign Languages
and the Wisconsin Association For
Language Teachers

March 8 – 10, 2012
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI

For more information, contact



Patrick T. Raven
CSCTFL Executive Director
PO Box 251
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0251
Phone: 414-405-4645
Fax: 414-276-4650
E-mail: CSCTFL@aol.com
Web: www.csctfl.org

IWLA Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, October 6, 2011
Des Moines Downtown Marriott/Cedar Rapids
Meeting Room

Call to Order – 10:20PM

Present: Wade Petersen, Sara Blanco, Erik Ladner, Tracy Dinesen, Stacy Amling, Carrie Morris
Review/approval of minutes of last meeting – Karla Jensen was also present at the April 2 meeting. Tracy Dinesen motion to approve, Sara Blanco seconded. Motion carried.

Conference

-Lend Bea a hand if time after the meeting. We will have ribbons and should be available to help whenever and wherever possible. From 7:30 for session 1, should keep eyes and ears open for presenters that need assistance as the program chairs won't be available at that time.

-Opening session, candidates will be called up. Need to add ACTFL Rep for comments - Carly Triplett.

-More copies of the luncheon program for Exec. Board members.

-Circulate and thank exhibitors for coming to the conference. Erik will lead conference wrap-up session on Saturday. Announce Best of Iowa, ask for comments/suggestions. Announce the 2 free registration winners. Wade will make announcements for next year's conference.

-Wade would prefer we get things wrapped up right away after the conference. Let schools know who wins awards, send press releases. Website updates need to be made. Change names on the website. Change in Karla's e-mail, need to get that out to folks.

-Did a follow-up survey last year on SurveyMonkey. Is it worthwhile to survey again? Need to think about it. Would need to open another SurveyMonkey account and pay, etc. Depending on core curriculum discussion, may want to have an additional survey. If we do one survey, may as well do a conference review survey. Erik could call a fall meeting once there is any new information on the political front RE core curriculum. May want to form a special committee, something relatively independent that isn't going to rotate in and out, will be a multi-year task. Should contact those who said they were inter-

ested in serving on a committee, etc. Erik will have a sign-up sheet to gather interest from those who would like to participate. Want to have focused discussion on core curriculum. Erik would like to get answers on certain points.

-Direct presenters to hospitality room. At registration, all presenters have an envelope with a thank you letter for presenting.

Advisory Council – great turnout for the meeting. We need to be sure that everyone is aware of the website and registration.

-Starting to discuss things about funding and such. May need to deal with consistency issues. Need a job description for Central States, ACTFL, etc. Issues of reimbursement should be clear in advance. We should determine what we will fund and what we won't fund. May want to get things in order regarding reimbursement policies.

-Binders need to be passed on. Wade to pass on stationery to Erik.

-Adjournment - Erik Ladner motion to adjourn, Sara Blanco seconds. Meeting adjourned at 10:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Morris

Deadlines:

Spring issue—March 15, 2012

REMINDER:

The IWLA bulletin is no longer published on paper. To read back issues check the IWLA website, iwla.net under back issues.