

LILT Newsletter

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www.liltfl.org

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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf President Ron Taub and the Executive Board, I would like to wish all of you and your families a new year filled with happiness, joy and good health. As you progress through the second half of the school year, we wish you and your students continued success as you prepare for the state and school final exams. I know that you, along with the entire Executive Board, would like to extend to our President, Ron Taub, our sincerest wishes for a better and healthier 2004.

Please visit our website, www.liltfl.org, where you can find information about membership, in-service winter workshops, the revised student competition and other events and meetings. All forms and information for LILT competitions and events will be posted there and you can print them out as needed. For those of you without Internet access, please ask a colleague if he/she would be so kind as to print out whatever forms and/or information you may need.

As you already may know, our LILT-NYSAFLT Regional Conference was held on Saturday, November 8, 2003, at the Smithtown Freshman Center, Smithtown, and was entitled: *Teaching Outside the Box: Something for Everyone*. Its enormous success was directly due to the two co-chairs: Isabel Cosentino, NYSAFLT LI Regional Co-Director and Diana Riccoboni-Sommo, Smithtown High School teacher. I, serving only as an advisor, was witness to the sincere desire on their part to do the best job possible in organizing this colossal event. The words "thank you," no matter what language one chooses to use, cannot express the heartfelt thanks that I personally want to extend to these two wonderful foreign language educators. They were tireless in their efforts to make this conference the best ever for the foreign language community of Long Island. Grazie, Isabel and Diana for your patience, dedication and your painstaking attention to detail that made this one of the most well attended conferences ever. Nearly 325 people attended the conference with 18 exhibitors. Participants attended workshops such as: Speaking & Writing: Practical

Applications; Spanish Students Are From Mars; Inspiration, Are You Challenging All Eight Intelligences?; American Sign Language; Simplify Your Life: Computerize Your Grade Book; Sesame Street In The Classroom; Put Power in Your Presentations; Using Theatrical Techniques to Develop Communicative Competency; FLES: How To Work Smarter Not Harder; FLES Without Stress: Developing A FLES Curriculum; Multimedia Projects; Tips And Strategies For Your Language Class; Successful Strategies For The Student Teacher; and Techniques For The Methods Student. Clearly, there WAS *something for everyone* at this conference. The varied assortment of ideas was made possible by talented presenters, who without their expertise this conference would not have been possible. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the following presenters who gave of their time and shared their knowledge with the foreign language community: Lee Anselmo, Clara Antunes, Carmen Campos, Lillian Carey, Robin Fisher, James Governali, Adrienne Greenbaum, Richard Hance, Alesia Holewinski, Sandra Krolik, Herbert and Julie Laisney, Lee Lawler, Carol Longo, Eglal Nasser, Josephi Turis, Jr., and Carol Zwiulich.

This year's program of fourteen Winter Workshops include some returning by popular demand and some new topics and presenters never seen before. I strongly urge you to attend as many workshops as possible, especially in light of the new in-service requirement for teachers. The descriptions and registration information for these workshops have already been mailed to you at the beginning of the month. A list of titles appears later in this article and on the LILT website (www.liltfl.org). Remember to get your students involved in the annual poster contest and "revised" student foreign language competition.

In addition, there are opportunities for LILT awards and grants. Please be advised that the United States Post Office postmark date for submission is April 15, 2004. They are:

- Kathleen Ann Lyons Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Friend of Foreign Language Award
- Lucille DiPietro Lambert Student Award for Excellence in Second Language Studies
- Teacher Incentive Grants
- LILT Stipend Award to Attend The NYSAFLT Annual Meeting

The New Year is also a good time to check on your membership, which runs for the calendar year. On the back page of every LILT Newsletter you will find a membership application form. Kindly remember your membership has to have been paid by December 31, 2003, in order for you and your students to participate in the student foreign language competition.

Our membership has grown to over 433 members! Thank you for your support! I urge any member, who may have hesitated in the past, to decide to take that first step in becoming an active member to attend at least one event this year. Let us use our members to strengthen the study of foreign language throughout Long Island. Let us join together in our mission of teaching our students the enjoyment and sense of accomplishment that learning another language brings. It is this sharing of goals and camaraderie that gives us all the impetus to give our best each day in the classroom. Together we can make a difference in the lives we touch.

Sincerely,

Nancy Russo-Rumore

IN-SERVICE WINTER WORKSHOPS

LILT will be sponsoring a series of two-hour workshops from February 26th through April 22nd, 2004. This year workshops will include: Stations Lessons; "Fiesta-Fiesta"; Practical Powerpoint for Practically Everybody; Culture... the Big "C" and Little "c"; TPR Storytelling... Encore and More!; Connecting Language and Culture Through Pop Music in the LOTE Classroom; Motivational Techniques That Boost Student Participation; Life Before and After the Proficiency Exam: A "Swap Shop" for Teachers of Italian; Classroom Management, Discipline and Building Parental Support; The New Regents: Turnkey Writing and Speaking; Tricks of The Trade for Foreign Language Teachers; LOTE Learners: Multiple Ages, Sizes and Intelligences; Video Conferencing: A Virtual Field Trip.

The LILT In-Service Winter Workshop mailing should have already arrived at your home and can also be found at: www.liltfl.org. At only \$15 per workshop, this is a bargain for teacher ideas that work! Chair: First Vice

President Nancy Russo-Rumore,
nrussorumore@liltfl.org.

LILT AWARDS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS – APPLY NOW

Now's the time to think of those exciting projects you'd like to try, or colleagues and foreign language graduating seniors you'd like to honor at the end of this school year. Take advantage of LILT's awards, grants and scholarships. All the necessary information and forms are available on our website, www.liltfl.org. You can print what you need and complete the forms at your leisure. Completed applications must bear a United States Post Office postmark of no later than April 15th. Please send your entries only by first class mail. Chair: Annette Gentile; agentile@liltfl.org

LILT PLAQUES FOR EXCELLENCE

LILT will once again offer student plaques for excellence in foreign language achievement to middle school, junior high school and high school graduating students.

Details can be found on the lilt website, www.liltfl.org. Information will also be mailed to all department chairpersons in the beginning of January 2003. Please be aware of this mailing and ask your supervisor for assistance. Payment by check for your plaques must accompany your order and bear a United States Post Office postmark of no later than March 31, 2004. We regret LILT cannot accept purchase orders. Chair: Joan Militscher; jmilitscher@liltfl.org

CONGRATULATIONS

To Dr. Joseph A. Tursi, Professor Emeritus, Stony Brook University, for being honored by NYSAFLT for his many years of service to the organization and to foreign language study and education. NYSAFLT keynote speakers will now receive the *Joseph A. Tursi, Sr. Distinguished Speaker Award*. Dr. John Webb was the first recipient of this award at this year's NYSAFLT Annual Meeting in October.

To Josephine Maietta, Italian teacher, Robbins Lane Elementary School, Syosset Public Schools, for receiving the first National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) Teacher of the Year Award in Washington, D.C. in September. Josephine was given the award for her dedication to the teaching of Italian and her ability to inspire a love of learning Italian and Italian culture in students of any background.

Part of Josephine's award is a continuing education stipend for study in Italy in a specialized course designed for teachers of Italian during the summer of 2004.

On October 30, 2003, Josephine's Robbins Lane elementary students were asked by Governor Pataki's office to perform during *Italian Heritage and Culture Month*. They sang several of Enrico Caruso's signature songs as well as *O Sole Mio* in Neapolitan at Fiorello H. La Guardia High School of Music, Art and the Performing Arts. Students received a standing ovation and were featured on Channel 2 news. *Bravissimi* to Josephine and her students.

To Dr. Elaine Margarita, Curriculum Associate for World Languages K-12, Jericho Public Schools, for the publication of her text, *Implementing Successful FLES Programs*, Margarita Publications. If you would like further information you can peruse Elaine's website, www.successfulfles.com, or e-mail her directly, etmrpb@yahoo.com.

LILT is proud to have such distinguished colleagues in our midst, and we are very grateful for all they give and do for our profession.

TEACHERS HELPING TEACHERS VIDEO CONFERENCING

The following article was written by Sheila Vaswani, Global History Teacher at Babylon High School, who was awarded LILT's Friend of Foreign Language Award last May.

Video conferencing is the new technological "must have" of the millennium. If you have no time, no great technological expertise, no money, no chaperones, no transportation and your district discourages trips to New York City and environs, then video conferencing is for you.

During a video conference, you can tour one of the great museums of the world and you can do it in any language, and at any time of the day that is convenient for both you and your students. Art, customs, national dress, cultural artifacts - all of these and more are available for your inspection.

The cost is minimal, one hundred dollars for forty through sixty minutes and in many cases, the conference can be funded by BOCES.

Imagine the excitement of seeing a seminal piece by El Greco, Botticelli, Monet, Klee or Kano Naizen with a docent at your side to answer every student's question. The students love seeing themselves on television but even more, they love exploring the artistic treasures reflective of their respective discipline and interacting with a docent without having to leave their building.

In order to video conference you need a dedicated unit, a TV and a camera - BOCES gave many away in the recent past to school districts without charge. Many districts also have them; you just need to find out where they are located. To conduct a video conference, you need an ISDN number, and then you dial up the museum and commence the video conference. You speak directly with the docent who is in a studio in the museum and shows you artifacts, paintings, decorative arts, etc., or video clips.

The students talk back and forth with the docent and she in turn with them. You can watch a frog being dissected, chat with another local class who has a unit, visit a

museum, the possibilities are endless... other languages, countries, ad infinitum.

The war correspondents in Iraq sent their reports via video conferencing. Anyone who saw on site reporting actually saw a video conference.

Many businesses use video conferencing to save travel expenses while still maintaining face-to-face contact and interchanges.

Sheila Vaswani will give a Winter Workshop on video conferencing on April 22, 2004, at Babylon High School. She will video conference with the Philadelphia Museum of Art and interact with a docent who will conduct a newly created lesson on Latin American Art and another on Impressionism. See page 2 of this edition for information on LILT's In-Service Winter Workshops.

NEW AP EXAMS

As stated in our previous LILT Newsletter, the Italian AP Exam is now a reality and will be given for the first time during the 2005-2006 school year. Long Island has many foreign language teachers who were instrumental in making this project a reality. LILT and the foreign language profession are grateful for all of their hard work, and we are proud to have such committed professionals in our midst.

A *NY Times* article on the college placement program in early December 2003 had further information that may be of interest to all foreign language teachers. The Italian AP Program cost \$1,000,000 to develop. The College Board contributed \$500,000, the Italian Government \$300,000 and various Italian-American groups, including The National Italian American Foundation and The Order Sons of Italy in America, contributed \$200,000.

The development of the Mandarin Chinese AP Program, whose exam will be given for the first time in 2006-2007, is expected to cost \$1.4 million dollars to develop. The Chinese Government is contributing \$685,000, half of the cost. Interestingly, most Chinese

students study English, but fewer than 50,000 American students study Chinese. There are 1.5 billion speakers of Chinese worldwide.

The College Board also expects to develop two other languages in its Advanced Placement Program in the near future, Japanese and Russian. This is the first time in the almost 50 years since the College Board's founding that it has added new languages to its repertoire. The 6 most commonly taught languages in the United States, in order of student enrollment, are: Spanish, French, German, Italian, Russian and Japanese (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages).

TEACHING POSITIONS

Editor's Note: Beginning with this issue, January 2004, the LILT Newsletter will inaugurate the posting of teaching positions as information becomes available. We hope to fill a void for chairpersons who wish to announce their openings and for teachers who are looking for employment. Only chairpersons who will be hiring may post new positions. To create viable ads, chairperson's information must include: name of your district, language(s) needed, school (preschool, elementary, middle school, high school or college), level (grade 4; level I, II, III, etc), if the position is full- or part-time, dates of prospective employment, your name, your title and your contact telephone number(s). Your school e-mail address may be included, if you wish and if there is room. Teachers, please use contacts below; please do not e-mail the editor since he has no more information than what is posted below.

Connetquot School District: Two full-time Spanish tenure track positions anticipated for 2004-05. Spanish certification required. *Contact:* Marie Brett, Chairperson, LOTE and ESL, (631) 244 2286, mbrett@connetquot.k12.ny.us

Huntington Public Schools: Two full-time tenure track high school Spanish teachers are needed, one immediately and the other in September 2004. *Contact:* Carmen Kasper, Director, Foreign Language, ESL and Dual Language Programs, (631) 673-2104, ckasper@hufsd.edu

Island Trees: Full-time leave replacement (January-April 2004) in Spanish, high school grades 9-11. Résumés may also be sent to Island Trees High School, 59 Straight Lane, Levittown, NY 11756. *Contact:* Cindy Eisenberg, Foreign Language Chairperson, (516) 520-2136, ceisenberg@islandtrees.org

Lindenhurst Public Schools: Maternity leave position (approximately March 1-April 1, 2004) for a Senior High School Spanish/French teacher. Position: 2 – Spanish III (taking the Regents this June), 2 - Spanish II, 1 - French II. Any applicant will be strongly considered for a full time position in September (there are two full-time positions open). *Contact:* Denis Leahy, Coordinator of

Foreign languages and ESL, (631) 226-6463/6466, DLeahyLindy@aol.com

Molloy College: Italian instructors are needed for four courses (beginning and intermediate level) for the coming spring semester. Molloy adjunct faculty can only teach two 3-credit courses per semester, thus we are searching for two instructors rather than just one. The requirements for the positions are experience in teaching Italian and an MA Degree. *Contact:* Dr. Susana Rubio, Chair, Department of Modern Languages, (516) 678-5000 Ext.6891

AATG NEWS

AATG Long Island Chapter sponsored an Immersion Workshop on the Art of Storytelling on October 15th at Stony Brook University featuring Katharina Ritter. In her German language workshop, Ms. Ritter linked storytelling with myths and their meanings or explanations as explored by the American Joseph Campbell. According to his philosophy of myths, they are created when heroes and heroines encounter tragedy or search for an impossible goal and as a result discover new wisdom.

NYS AFLT NEWS

NYS AFLT Journal editor, Dorothy Rissel, would like articles on the following themes for the upcoming issues: teacher preparation (January 15) and teaching culture (May 15). She can be reached at: nysafltbuletin@nysaflt.org.

Proficiency and Regents Exam results should be sent to the Regents and legislators to demonstrate that foreign language teachers are successfully preparing their students.

The deadline for the James E. Allen Award is May 1, 2004.

COMPETITION JUDGES NEEDED

Please contact Isabel Cosentino if you'd like to be a judge for the LILT Foreign Language Student Competition. Judging will be Saturday, April 17th, an all off-site event. Danish, bagels, tea and coffee will be served upon arrival and a full hot lunch will be served around noon. Isabel can be reached at icosentino@wiltfl.org. Please join your colleagues for an enjoyable and pleasant experience. All are welcome – student teachers... new teachers... experienced teachers... retired teachers.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

About a year ago The State University of New York at Stony Brook officially changed its name and is now known as Stony Brook University. The change was made to reflect its university status.

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

2004

Jan. 28 AATG, meeting with Dr. Sabine Dinsel, Goethe Institut-Inter Naciones, NY, *TEXTE IM UNTERRICHT, die neueste Didaktik und Methodik*, Stony Brook University at 4 PM. Call Louise Terry at (631) 472-0108 to register.

February LLT Winter Workshops begin

Feb. 6 AATSP Essay Contest entries due

Feb. 16 AATF National, Deadline for AATF Summer Scholarship Applications

Mar. 1 LILT Student Language Competition postmark date

Mar. 2 AATF Suffolk, *Grand Concours*, Commack, HS

Mar. 3 AATSP National Exam

Mar. 9 AATF Suffolk, *Grand Concours* snow date

Mar. 10 AATSP National Exam snow date

Mar. 13 AATG Sprachfest, Stony Brook

Mar. 2nd wk AATF Nassau, *Le Grand Concours*

Mar. 17 AATG National German Examination Oral Testing, 3:30 PM, Garden City

Mar. 19 AATI Poetry Competition, Stony Brook University

April LILT Winter Workshops end

Apr. 15 LILT Awards, Grants & Scholarships postmark date

Apr. 15-18 NE Conference, New York City

Apr. 21 AATF Nassau, Poetry Contest

Apr. 22 AATSP *Sabelotodo* and *Sepalotodo* Competitions

Apr. 23 AATI Professional Meeting, Hauppauge High School, 7 PM

May AATF Nassau, *La Distribution des Prix*

May 15 AATI Annual Luncheon with Dante Award and Scholarship presentations, Ristorante Pompei, West Hempstead, NY

Jul. 28-Aug AATSP Annual Meeting, Acapulco, Mexico

Jul. 19-23 AATF Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia

Aug. 3-6 NYSAFLT Skidmore Institute, Saratoga Springs, NY

Nov. 5-11 AATF National, *La Semaine du Français*

Nov. 18-21 American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois

LILT STIPEND AWARD TO ATTEND THE NYSAFLT ANNUAL MEETING 2004

Name: (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms., Dr.) _____

Home Address: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Home Phone: () _____ School Phone: () _____

Home E-Mail Address: _____ School E-Mail Address: _____

Professional Affiliations: _____

Please attach your response to the following question: "How will I benefit from attending the NYSAFLT Annual Meeting?"

Submit your application, postmarked no later than **April 15, 2004**.

- You must be a current member of LILT to apply.
- The winner of this stipend will be reimbursed \$200.00 after providing original receipts and submitting an evaluation of the conference OR a summary of workshops attended. (You may be quoted in a LILT and/or NYSAFLT newsletter.)
- The winner must attend a minimum of 4 workshops.