



SCOLTalk

The newsletter of the
Southern Conference on Language Teaching

Volume 47 *Special 2016 Conference Preview* Fall 2015

Greetings from the SCOLT President



As I write this letter, I find it hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It has been a whirlwind fall term, not just for me, but also for the many world language teachers I come in contact with every day. Despite the frenetic pace, I hope each of you has had a chance to pursue some professional development, either at your state association meetings or at the upcoming ACTFL conference.

Speaking of professional development, the SCOLT Board is gearing up for our upcoming SCOLT conference—our 51st! We are partnering with FLANC and SCFLT, as well as our longtime partner SEALLT to provide you with the best in professional development. We have a terrific line up of workshops, a full slate of exhibitors, and a broad palette of quality sessions. Turn to page 6 for a comprehensive listing of sessions by strand—we hope this will help you plan out a rewarding conference visit, as you find ways to climb to NEW LEVELS. We promise there will be NO LIMITS to what you can achieve. This year's conference also will introduce some new and exciting trends. We have redesigned our awards and recognition ceremony and expanded time available for networking. Our keynote speaker will be the newly named ACTFL teacher of the year. And, we are going to put some of our best presenters in the HOT SEAT! Our Sponsor and Patron business meeting and reception will take place at the UNC-Charlotte City Center campus. So please plan to join us in Charlotte, North Carolina, February 18-20, as we start down the path to the next half century of excellence! And remember, to save time on Friday morning, anyone who has pre-registered can pick up their registration materials on Thursday evening from 6-8 pm.

Now that I've got you thinking about professional development, I would like to encourage you to apply for one of our SCOLT scholarships—deadline is December 15. Do you have a colleague who is top notch? If so, then consider

nominating them for one of our SCOLT awards! You can find all the information you need about scholarships and awards on scolt.org.

Watch your e-mail for information on nominating members to the SCOLT Board and please participate in the upcoming election. For the first time, Sponsors and Patrons will elect the SCOLT President-Elect directly, so we are counting on you to identify members who have what it takes to keep SCOLT on the cutting edge. If you are interested in getting more involved with SCOLT, we are always looking for members to assist with committees and to serve on the board. Please consider making a commitment to our organization by becoming a sponsor or patron!

I wish everyone a quick end to the fall term and a stress free holiday season! I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in Charlotte in a few months!

Carol Anne

Carol Anne Costabile-Heming
SCOLT President, 2015-2016

Don't delay - register today!
SCOLT 2016 - February 18 - 20
Sheraton Charlotte
Co-sponsors: FLANC, SCFLTA and SEALLT

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SCOLT Shepherds ACTFL Award Winners

SCOLT is pleased to announce that the organization sponsored the nominations of two ACTFL Awards this year:

Carmen Scoggins is the 2015 recipient of the ACTFL Award for Excellence in Foreign Language Instruction Using Technology with IALLT (K-12)

Alisha Dawn Samples and her teachers at Lexington School District One in South Carolina are the recipients of the 2015 ACTFL Melba D. Woodruff Award for Exemplary Elementary Foreign Language Program.

Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

2015 - 2016 SCOLT Board of Directors

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Apply for SCOLT Scholarships

Do you want to rejuvenate yourself? Do you want to get away from it all for a while? Do you want to become a student again? Then why not apply for one of SCOLT's incredible scholarship opportunities?!?!

Go to our scholarships page for more information about summer study experiences in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, South America, or México. Also make sure you check out the videos and lesson plans from the 2015 SCOLT scholarship recipients!

We ask that the scholarship recipients become a SCOLT Sponsor and create a video and lesson plan to post on the SCOLT website highlighting their summer travel experience. Teachers must submit an online application, a curriculum vitae, one letter of recommendation, a one page statement in English detailing benefits of the award to the applicant and a one page statement in French, Spanish, or German detailing the applicant's teaching philosophy. A committee of SCOLT board members and SCOLT Sponsors and Patrons reviews the applications and uses a rubric to determine each recipient. The application deadline is December 15, 2015.

For more information, please contact Linda Markley, SCOLT Scholarship Director.

Deadlines - Mark Your Calendars

Conference Registration:

Early Registration Deadline: January 8, 2016
Late Registration Period: January 9 - 22, 2016
After January 22, On-Site Registration Only

Hotel Reservations:

Hotel Reservations Deadline: January 18, 2015

Awards and Scholarships Deadlines:

Educator of Excellence: December 1, 2015
SCOLT Leadership Award: December 1, 2015
SCOLT Scholarship Applications: December 15, 2015
Teacher of the Year Portfolios Due: January 2, 2016
Bostick Award: February 1, 2016

The Educator of Excellence Award is for post-secondary world language professionals, while the Bostick Award is for teachers with five or fewer years of teaching experience. Check awards information on page 15 for more information from Tom Soth, SCOLT Awards Director.

2016 SCOLT/FLANC/SCFLTA/SEALLT Conference Schedule

Thursday, February 18

- 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM Registration [onsite AND preregistration]
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM Exhibits set up
- 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM ACTFL Full Day Workshop
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Pre-conference morning workshops: [4 - SCOLT, FLANC, SCFLTA, SEALLT]
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch
12:00 PM – 4:30 PM Leadership luncheon and Workshop
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Pre-conference afternoon workshops: [4 - SCOLT, FLANC, SCFLTA, SEALLT]
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM SCOLT Teacher of the Year Interviews
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Time available for FLANC/SCFLTA/SEALLT Boards to meet
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Co-host boards' social hour [SCOLT, SEALLT, FLANC, SCFLTA, ACTFL]
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Registration Open – Pre-Registered Only

Friday, February 19

- 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration Open
7:30 AM – 5:00 PM Exhibits Open
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast in Exhibitor Areas
8:00 AM – 8:20 AM SCOLT First Timers Session
8:30 AM – 9:20 AM Sessions #1
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM Opening General Session and Awards
10:50 AM – 11:15 AM Exhibits Break
11:15 AM – 12:05 PM Sessions #2
12:10 PM – 12:50 PM Lunch A / Hot Seat sessions
1:00 PM – 1:40 PM Lunch B / Hot Seat sessions
1:50 PM – 2:40 PM Sessions #3
2:40 PM – 3:10 PM Exhibits Break
3:10 PM – 4:00 PM Sessions #4
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM Sessions #5
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM S&P Reception and Business Meeting [UNCC Center City]

Saturday, February 20

- 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM Registration Open
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast in Foyer
7:30 AM – 12:00 PM Exhibits Open
- 8:00 AM – 8:50 AM Sessions #6
9:00 AM – 9:50 AM Sessions #7
9:50 AM – 10:30 AM Exhibits Break
10:30 AM – 11:20 AM Sessions #8
11:20 AM – 12:00 PM Affiliate Meetings / Exhibits Break
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch Break
1:00 PM – 1:50 PM Sessions #9
2:00 PM – 2:50 PM Sessions #10
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Post-conference afternoon workshops [2 - SCOLT, SEALLT]
3:00 PM – 3:50 PM Sessions #11

NOTE: Schedule tentative and subject to last minute changes

2016 SCOLT/FLANC/SCFLTA/SEALLT Conference Workshops

Enhance your conference experience by participating in this year's pre- and post- conference workshops, presented by leaders in the profession. Workshop attendees must register for the conference.

Full Day ACTFL Sponsored Workshop

Thursday, February 18, 2016

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Cost: \$60

W-1: *Guiding Learners' Performance to New Levels* (ACTFL) - Paul Sandrock

What really counts to move from Novice to Intermediate and from Intermediate to Advanced level of performance? The workshop outlines the key communication strategies that educators need to develop, practice, and assess with their language learners.

Thursday morning, February 18, 2016

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cost: \$30

W-2: *Integrated Performance Assessments: What, How and Why* (SCOLT) - Levi Altstaedter and Ann Borisoff

This workshop examines the use of Integrated Performance Assessments to measure language proficiency and cultural knowledge development at the K-16 level. The workshop includes a discussion of the elements of an IPA, how to create an IPA, and the benefits and limitations of implementing IPAs in the foreign language classroom to measure student performance. Participants will receive a sample IPA and a blank template that will allow them to complete a preliminary design for their own IPA.

W-3: *Connect with Digital Natives: Strategies for P-16 Learning* (SEALLT) - Kelly Davidson Devall

Research has shown that technology use in education is very different from that in personal life for the group of students termed "digital natives." This workshop will focus on how technology in a variety of forms can be used in the P-16 foreign language classroom to effectively engage students in communicative, relevant language learning. Attendees will be actively engaged in developing frameworks for implementation and use of technological resources to identify how CALL/TELL can enhance their specific program.

W-4: *Culture: The Final Frontier* (FLANC) - Mara Cobe

Often when we talk about culture, we tend to discuss food, art, literature, music, and other easily identifiable items. Learning about culture means building an understanding of the practices, perspectives and products of a society. Intercultural competence is the demonstration of interaction between the use of language skills and cultural knowledge. Participants will gain a better understanding of culture and explore resources to measure intercultural competency.

W-5: *Blended Learning in the Content-Based Language Classroom* (SCFLTA) - Elizabeth Lawrence-Baez

In this workshop, we will explore the basic tenets of blended learning models. Participants will then learn how to incorporate a blended learning model independent of a specific platform within their world language classroom (may want to say immersion or content-based language classroom). The participants will have the opportunity to experience a blended learning session first hand and plan for their own facilitation of a blended learning lesson.

Thursday afternoon, February 18, 2016

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Cost: \$30

W-6: *Planning Instruction with the Learner in Mind* (SCOLT) - Peggy Boyles and Greta Lundgaard

In this interactive workshop, presenters will model strategies for effective methods of facilitating a learner-centered classroom in which students practice newly acquired vocabulary and structural patterns in cognitively engaging, task-based work leading to meaningful communication. Attention will be given to both teacher and learner behaviors associated with implementing instruction with the learner in mind. After an overview of the key principles of learner-centered instruction, participants will actively take part in model activities and assessment tasks that promote those principles.

W-7: *Portable, Personal, Engaging: Apps for Multimedia Production* (SEALLT) - Sharon Scinicariello and Stacey Powell

Mobile devices and lightweight laptops make it possible to create multimedia anytime and anywhere, engaging learners in personalized, creative language use.

2016 SCOLT/FLANC/SCFLTA/SEALLT Conference Workshops

Participants in this 'hands-on' workshop will explore the use of applications for multimedia production (mostly iOS, some Android and Chromebook) ranging from interactive whiteboards to audio and video editing. Ways of incorporating various types of learner-created multimedia in the curriculum will be emphasized. Participants are encouraged to bring their own devices; the presenters will also have some to lend.

W-8: *Designing a Path for Student Success* (FLANC) - Carmen Scoggins

Participants will learn how to find authentic listening & reading sources on the web and then create specific tasks appropriate to every level they teach so that their students may practice Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing using authentic resources every day and at every level. This workshop will assist with Vertical Teaming and articulation between levels. AP Themes will be emphasized.

W-9: *Building Bridges Between Content and Language* (SCFLTA) - Elizabeth Lawrence-Baez

The task of the dual language immersion teacher reaches beyond teaching content in a second language. DLI teachers must attend to language and literacy development as well as ensure students reach content (math and science) benchmarks. Many teachers struggle with how to bridge content and language in an efficient manner. This workshop will explore how to build bridges between content and language through purposeful literacy instruction.

Post-Conference Workshops

Saturday afternoon, February 20, 2016

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Cost: \$30

W-10: *Mobile Apps for Classroom Management* (SEALLT) - Kristy Britt

Mobile apps can be an effective tool for classroom management. In this workshop attendees will gain hands-on experience with several free/inexpensive tools including automatic grading of quizzes, information gathering, attendance recording, classroom messaging. For a hands-on experience, participants should bring their own mobile devices, but this is not a requirement. Participants are encouraged to bring digital copies of the following: a class roster, an objective quiz of no more than 30 points, and a syllabus or other informational course document.

W-11: *Get Off the Island: Make and Take* (SCOLT) -

Katherine Rozei, Jill Snelgrove and Barbara Bell
Get off your island, come join our PLC for a day of make and take learning. See how multiple teaching perspectives enhance your practice. This workshop features the experiences of three French teachers who have worked collaboratively despite never teaching at the same school. Come to a hands-on workshop and learn how an informal PLC can expand your tool box. Walk away with practical, ready-to-use materials that you develop by pooling resources and creative energies with other teachers.

2016 Silent Auction Seeks to Build on Success of 2015 Event

Donations needed for the fund-raising auction! What can you donate?

2016 will be SCOLT's first year to offer grants to our member states so that they can send their state Teacher of the Year out to provide Professional Development to schools and school districts. Full details and an application form will be announced on the SCOLT website early in 2016.

Can you or your organization make a donation to the auction? It may be teachers in your own state who benefit from having your Teacher of the Year bring Professional Development to your district!

Please contact the Outreach Fund Committee to offer an item for the auction. Memberships, gift certificates, hotel or vacation house stays, event tickets, conference registrations, books, and gifts of all kinds have all sold well in past auctions. Email one of us today to tell us what you will donate. Then look for it to be listed on our auction site which will go live in January! Scan the QR code to see what's already there!

Terri Hammatt: terri.hammatt@la.gov;
Caroline Kelly: SCOLT.ckelly@gmail.com;
Thomas Soth: scoltawards@gmail.com



SCOLT 2015 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BY STRANDS

Here is a preview of the session offerings and presenters at this year's conference

NOTE: Sessions have not been scheduled as of printing, but this list will give you an idea of the quality of sessions and presenters you'll find at this year's conference. SCOLT once again received a record-breaking number of session proposals this year. Main presenters are listed.

ACTIVITIES AND STRATEGIES

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: Really! (*Best of MFLA*) – Edgar Serrano
Actividades para sumergir a los estudiantes en el idioma (*Best of FFLA*) – Grisell Santiago, et al.
Active Learning in the WL Classroom: Strategic & Enriching – Araceli Hernández-Laroche, PhD, et al.
Activities that really work, engaging students to the max! - Claudia Vestal, et al.
A la recherche du vent - wind as topic in French classes – Cornelia Okraski
Applying the ACTFL Guidelines everyday in the classroom – Claudia Moran, et al.
Astérix in the Classroom – Katie Angus
Building Your Core: Effective Language Learning Practices (*ACTFL*) – Paul Sandrock, et al.
BYOD Live! Tech Tools for Teachers – Karen Tharrington
Chat Me UP! Get students talking in the target language – Heather Tedder
Communicative Strategies for the AP Classroom – Burkhard Henke
Create Authentic Experiences for Target Language Application (*Exhibitor*) – Wendy Amato
Developing Critical Thinking: Using Authentic Materials – Meng Yeh
Developing Proficiency through Audio and Video – Bobby Hobgood
Don't just TELL me, show me! Strategies for Real Classrooms – Thomas Sauer, et al.
Engaging and Motivating All Learners (*Exhibitor*) – Norah Jones
Failing students? Best Practices for 100% pass rate. - Susan Wehling
Flop-Proof Flipping! The Fundamentals of Flipped Learning – Patti Marinelli, et al.
Fluency through Comprehensible Input Based Methods – Michel Baker
Game On!--Gamification for motivation & communication – Heather Giles
I Can Read Latin – and Speak It and Write It! – Tracy Seiler
Know When to Fold 'Em: Foldables for Eliciting Communication – Robbie Richwine
Learn with the National Language Teacher of the Year (*ACTFL*) – Paul Sandrock, et al.
Bridging the Gap: The L2 classroom and the “Real World” – Angela Jakeway
Living the Language at Home and Abroad (*Exhibitor*) – Helene Vincent, et al.
Location, Location, Location! Context is everything! – Caroline Kelly
Making Assessments Meaningful, Memorable, Fun, and Valid - William Davis
Man In The Mirror: Self-directed learning through reflection – Stephanie Walters, et al.
Motivating learners: Authentic content for real world usage – Rosalie Cheatham
MovieTalk (*Best of KWLA*) – Donna Tatum-Johns, et al.
Novices can L2 Too! Authentic, Comprehensible, and 90% TL – Laura Sexton, et al.
Presentations with Rubrics...Ready to Go! (*Best of FLAG*) – Michelle Peace
Project-based learning for the novice mid-high middle-school – Leni Bronstein
Ready. Set. Action! Multimedia Project (*SEALLT*) – Kristy Britt, et al.
Second Language Acquisition & Dyslexia (*Best of AWLA*) – Andy Milstead
Service-learning: Overcoming fear, connecting with Hispanics – Laura Guglani
Smarboard Activities & Games to “Smarten” Your Class (*Best of FLAVA*) – Wendy Stuck
Struwelpeter revisited - Horst Kurz
Talking about Talking: Keeping Students Engaged and Speaking – Jillian Lykens, et al.
The Creative Classroom - A World of Ideas – Elizabeth Carter, et al.
They're #1: Learner Centered Practices that Really Work! – Devon Hanahan
Transform Students' Presentations into Interactive Seminars – Sophie Adamson

Transformational Teaching: One Baby Step at a Time – Deanne King
Tweets and Texts in the French classroom – Lara Lomicka, et al.
Using Art to Discuss Literature: L2 Pre-Speaking Activities – Darci Gardner, et al.
Using Technology to Improve Oral Skills in the FL Class – Erika Stevens
Using the Yabla online video immersion system to enhance listening (*Exhibitor*) – Brad Fetterer, et al.
Where Sitting is the Exception: Reaching New Levels – Darcy Rogers
Words with Friends: Vocabulary Acquisition for Proficiency – Greta Lundgaard

COLLABORATION

Fortify with Feedback - Bethanie Drew
Spice it Up! The Key Ingredients to the Interpersonal Mode - Ken Stewart, et al.
Support for New Teachers—Support for One Another - Mary Pendergraft

CULTURE

Best Practices in Developing Globally Competent Students – Joe Terantino
C is for Culture – Mara Cobe
Culture + Pinterest = Learner interest – Claire Mitchell
Demystifying the Cuban Experience – Ken Stewart, et al.
Engaging with Culture Anytime, Anywhere (*SEALLT*) – Sharon Scinicariello, et al.
Igniting learner imagination with cultural characters – Sara Finney
Interculturality: Use Culture & Story to Build Proficiency – Linda Egnatz
Investigating Language and Culture: From Data to Instruction – Sue Barry, et al.
Las Tradiciones: Culture from daily lesson to thematic unit – Lourdes Rodríguez-Von Vogt, et al.
Teaching José Martí's Versos Sencillos – Anne Fountain
The world in your classroom. Your classroom in the world. – Lisa Hendrickson, et al.
What does it mean to be Hispanic? – Laurel Abreu
What is Interculturality and How do I facilitate it? Ruta Couet, et al.
World Language Night – Ana Micheli, et al.

FEEDBACK / ASSESSMENT

Easy Ways to Differentiate Assessments! - Tavane Moore
Demystifying AP World Languages and Cultures - Marcia Arndt
Analysis of Student Work: Strategies for Showing Growth - Janis Antonek
Playing the Rub(r)iks Cube: Effective Feedback for Learners - Thomas Sauer

LEADERSHIP / ADVOCACY

Building a World Language Empire - Laura Roché Yungworth, et al.
Careers in Foreign Language Teaching - Carol Wilkerson, et al.
Early Language Learning Network - Nadine Jacobsen-McLean
Honey Badger Don't Care: How to become an NBCT - Stephanie Schenck, et al.
iINSPIRE, iDISCOVER, iEXPLORE, iMATTER. I TEACH GERMAN. - Keith Cothrun, et al.
Need to Publish? Meet the Editors – Paula Garrett-Rucks, et al.
New Strategies for Promoting the Study of French (*Exhibitor*) – Jayne Abrate, et al.
Leadership Development and the Spanish Literature Course - Sheri Spaine Long, et al.
Leading-Edge Language Instruction through a Global Lens - Helga Fasciano
Making the Case for Proficiency-Based K-12 Programs - Ann Marie Gunter, et al.
Supporting Effectiveness for Language Learning - Ann Marie Gunter, et al.

PROGRAM MODELS

Dual Language Immersion: Is it for you? - Ann Borisoff

English-Spanish Translation Studies at UNC Charlotte - Michael Doyle, et al.

Enhancing the internship experience in FL Teacher Education - Laura Levi Altstaedter

FLES Instruction: What are the Curricular Implications (*Exhibitor*) – Marcia Spielberger

Making the most of short-term study abroad - Catherine Fountain, et al.

Maximizing Language Learning Online - Teryn Odom, et al.

Modular Learning: ACTFL IPAs & the 21st-Century Classroom (*Exhibitor*) – Jennifer Slobodian, et al.

Take your students to the next level with AP Spanish Lit and Culture - Cameron Stephen

The Switch: Shifting from a Grammar-Based to a CI Curriculum - Albert Fernández

LEARNING RESOURCES / TOOLS

AATSP Programs, Resources, and Opportunities (*Exhibitor*) – Emily Spinelli

Authenticity: Importance and role in the language classroom - Ana Capanegra

Culture=Identity: New Levels for Student Creativity - Jill Hnat, et al.

Designing a L2 Reading Lab at the Intermediate Level - Concepcion Godev

Exit Tickets & Bell Ringers--Quick Checks for Understanding - Regina Schantz

Get Them Talking and Assess their Progress (*Exhibitor*) – Gwen Richards

It All Starts with Proficiency-Connect Assessment & Learning (*ACTFL*) – Paul Sandrock, et al.

Language Learning and Learning Disabilities - Sandra Watts, et al.

How the Latin Reading Approach Works in the Digital World (*Exhibitor*) – Martha Altieri

More Digital Media with Early Language Learners (*Best of SCFLTA*) – Jennifer Godwin

New Approaches to the AP: Science and Technology as Advocacy - Deb Reisinger

Reaching “Communities” Standards through Emerging Technology - Begoña Caballero García, et al.

Technology Tools to Support Self-Regulated Learning - Amanda Romjue

Tweet to New Levels (*SEALLT*) – Raegan Lemmond

The How and Why of Producing a Film in the Target Language (*Best of LFLTA*) – Juan Alvarez

UnaNota: Digital Students Notebooks – M. Janet Robles, et al.

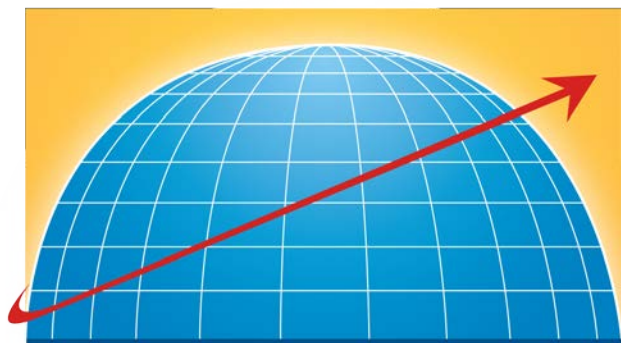
Using PBL and IPAs to Work Smarter, Not Harder - María D L Villadóniga, et al.

What's trending? Speak the “language” of your students - Carmen Scoggins

World Language Teachers: The World IS Indeed Our Oyster - Leslie Bradshaw

Writing with Technology: Online Translators vs Dictionaries - Errol O'Neill

SCOLT 2016



NEW LEVELS, NO LIMITS.

FEB 18-20 CHARLOTTE, NC

2016 SCOLT Sponsors and Patrons Reception and Business Meeting

Come and join us for a special Friday evening Sponsor and Patrons Reception and business meeting. You will have the opportunity to come to the UNC-Charlotte City Center Campus and enjoy spectacular views of the Charlotte skyline. If you have not already renewed your membership now is the time to do so to receive your very own ticket to the reception. Become a Sponsor and Patron when you register for the conference and enjoy a great opportunity to network! SCOLT thanks our 2016 Reception and Business Meeting sponsor, EF.



Educational Tours

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: TAKING YOUR STUDENTS ABROAD

For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Together with educators worldwide, we provide 21st century learning experiences that promote critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration and global competence. Teaching these skills is essential—teaching them in Madrid, Paris or Beijing is transformative.

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BEGIN BUILDING AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

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To learn a new language, it helps to fall in love with where it's from. Our Language Immersion Tours combine authentic cultural experiences with lessons taught at EF International Language Schools or out on the road. Each day's theme connects the day's lessons to hands-on activities and conversations with locals.



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These extraordinary events combine educational tours and a two-day leadership conference, tackling significant global issues in places where they come to life. Students learn from experts such as Al Gore and Jane Goodall, and work together to design and present solutions.



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Take students out of their comfort zones and into an experience that makes them more open-minded and confident. Your Tour Director will be with you every step of the way and expert local guides will explain the significance of the world's most amazing locations.

One life at a time... Lessons from LILL

by Pamela Reynolds

NOTE: Pamela Reynolds, 2014 SCOLT Teacher of the Year and Spanish teacher at Siloam Springs HS, Arkansas, attended the first Leadership in Language Learning Institute held this past July at The Ohio State University. She was SCOLT's representative to the Emerging Leader portion of the program. The following report reflects her experience at the event.

Palms clammy. Sweat racing down my spine. Mouth dry. I slowly ascended the steps to the podium, took a deep breath, looked down at the paper that outlined my task, and haltingly found my voice.

Such was the beginning of leadership for me. I was a first-year teacher asked to take on a "little, do-nothing role" to help out a colleague. Some teacher organization. I was elected to vice president. She didn't tell me what I had to do, nor that I would automatically step to president in two years' time.

That was ten years ago. However, the most important piece to note is that of the paper that outlined my task. My colleague who roped me into the position also helped me prepare. She was a mentor who taught me what I needed when I was ready...and sometimes when it was needed, ready or not. Her mentorship made my success possible, and her pushing made me become more than I imagined myself to be.

In July, I was privileged to attend the inaugural Leadership Institute for Language Learning (LILL). This brought together leaders from SIXTEEN different language learning organizations plus educators from around the country. What happened there is thankfully very different from my initial leadership training, but one thing remains: mentorship. I was astounded at the wisdom and assistance offered from educators around the country. We studied the six core practices of world language teaching, and in five days built a fountain of resources beyond any of our imaginations. Human resources, with pools of knowledge both wide and deep, crossing all languages and teaching levels. It was not that any of us had all the answers. But we each had expertise to offer and questions to ask. Central to the Institute were two questions: "What is leadership in world languages?" and, "How do we make our programs better?"

But so what? How does that affect the thousands of teachers who did not get to attend? How can this juggernaut of an Institute help or change one single thing about one's teaching assignment or professional life? Does it, indeed, change even mine?

My answer depends on me. I learned that leadership depends on two interwoven strands: building relationships and choosing to continue to learn. I learned that leadership does not have to be large; it can be as simple as telling a parent why studying your language is valuable. It is the encouragement we offer our students on a daily basis. It is the persuading of students to take our courses, which are still electives in many states. Why exactly would a teenager choose my language class over film class? My ability to articulate that "why" is vital, and is leadership at its finest. My circle of influence may seem small, but its repercussions can be vast.

It is also vital to know others who do what you do--teach languages. Others help you with problems and awaken dreams. Simply put, in order to continue to be effective long-term, one simply must find mentors in the profession--whether it be in a summer institute, conference during the year, or having coffee & sharing practices with a colleague from the next county once a semester. The relationship gives you someone to call when you confront a crisis, get disheartened, or are joyous with a new success!

As for continuing to learn, the book we read beforehand (titled *Great Leaders Grow*) provided a simple framework which emphasized that leaders must continue to grow. Our skills are never static--they either grow or shrink. We get to choose which one. Choosing not to work toward learning new techniques, theories, or methods is choosing to shrink. One has to write a plan and put it into action. We practice backward design in our class units all the time, but I had not considered it in terms of our entire program or my personal growth. What are my goals? Where do I want my department to be in three years? Five? At what level do my students perform when they leave me? How can I improve that? With what core practice do I struggle? What resources exist to help me improve?

I suppose that the Leadership Institute for Language Learning could just be another conference, but I hope that its repercussions are felt throughout the profession. If every teacher had an action plan for leadership and a personal learning goal related to core practices, WOW, what could happen????

Please, take 5 minutes and jot down a plan. What do you want to see in your department in five years? What might you do to begin that goal? Six core practices: there is a public service announcement about them on youtube: search LILL2015 The Keys to Language Acquisition. It is short but a good beginning for further research. After watching, what will you learn about first? Which is most difficult for you?

What I make of the LILL experience is up to me. I choose to grow. I made an action plan and have begun working it. I selected a core practice and am learning more about it. I push my students to do this process all the time--set a goal and chase it, step by step. It means more to them if they see

me do it too. I hope that each of you choose to grow as well. I leave you with the central message that I give my students: Together, we can change the world, one life at a time. This time, that life might just be mine.

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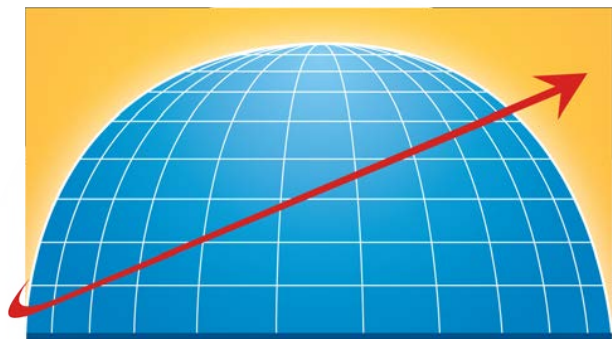
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CLICK HERE to register today for SCOLT/FLANC/SCFLTA/SEALLT 2016! And while you're at it, make sure to book your room at the Sheraton Charlotte and stay close to all the action!

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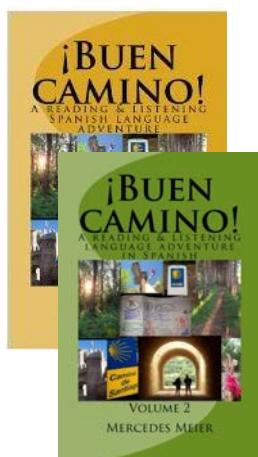
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SCOLT AWARDS UPDATE

Thomas Soth, SCOLT Board Director for Awards
scoltawards@gmail.com

World language educators dedicate their lives to building competent global communicators and SCOLT advocates to ensure that their efforts are recognized. Each year at our annual conference, we select the World Language Teacher of the Year from our region, a higher education educator of excellence, a leader among K-12 teachers, distinguished new teachers, and we recognize a person who embodies the ideals of SCOLT.

State organizations submit a Teacher of the Year candidate to SCOLT. SCOLT waves the registration fee for the state nominee participating in the selection process at the 2016 conference and pays \$100 toward transportation/accommodation costs. State nominees must submit a portfolio to be received no later than January 2, 2016 and all of the guidelines can be found on our website.

The Bostick Award supports teachers in their first to fifth year of teaching dedicated to a long-term teaching commitment who have not yet attended a SCOLT conference,

and who demonstrate a commitment to future conference participation as part of their professional development. Two teachers will be awarded a \$150 honorarium during the annual SCOLT conference. The Deadline for 2016 is Monday, February 1, 2016. Recipients will be announced at the opening general session on Friday, February 19, 2016 during the conference.

The Educator of Excellence Award for Post-Secondary Educators recognizes educators at the community college, college, and university level who have demonstrated excellence in language teaching, active participation in SCOLT, and leadership and advocacy at the local, state, and/or regional or national level. The SCOLT Leadership Award is given for K-12 educators who have demonstrated excellence in language teaching through service to the school, community, active participation in SCOLT, and leadership and advocacy at the local, state, and/or regional or national level. The application deadline for these awards is December 1, 2015.

Nominations come from our state affiliates and from individuals so if you know of an outstanding educator please check out the awards and nomination procedures at scolt.org.



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The Alabama World Languages Association: Enriching World Language Learning for Future generations

With the advent of ACTFL's State Advocacy Goals, the Executive Board of The Alabama Association of Foreign Language Teachers (AAFLT) began a process of self-examination to determine how best to advocate for foreign language learning in our state. Very early on in the process, a new mission statement was adopted to focus all the organization's energy "To advocate for world languages at all levels." As the process advanced, every action was examined using the new mission statement as a filter, and a strategic plan was developed with the following specific goals:

To advocate for a world language requirement
To educate administrators on the specialized needs of world language teachers in the classroom
To motivate teachers to improve their language skills
To encourage teachers to use the latest language learning methodologies and technologies in the classroom

It also became apparent that to accomplish this mission, the entire Alabama community would have to be engaged, and the Board determined that the current name limited the ability to do so. In January of 2015, the Executive board of AAFLT voted unanimously to change the organization's name to "The Alabama World Languages Association" (AWLA). Through this name change the entire organization has been reenergized. We chose a new logo through a student logo design contest, and developed a new website (www.theawla.org), Facebook page and Twitter account. All of these changes were announced at the 2015 State Conference to a resoundingly positive reception. Several new positions were added to the Executive Staff and new State officers were selected.

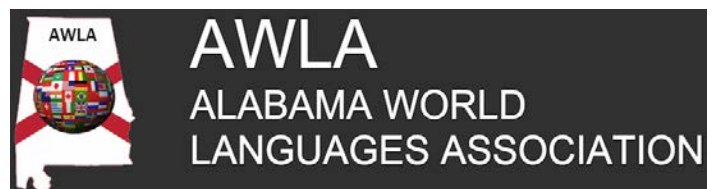
Immediately following the 2015 Conference, the NEWLY formed AWLA Executive Board began work to implement the strategic plan. AWLA has partnered with ACTFL to expand membership and participation in the organization's mission. AWLA has been working with Howie Berman, ACTFL Director of Membership and Administration, on the new membership drive, and a joint mailing to all foreign language teachers working in Alabama took place in October 2015. In addition, the Board and Executive Staff are working to expand member benefits. A new "members only"

section is being added to the AWLA website that will house professional development webinars, lesson plans and a members discussion board. And, for the first time, plans are being made to offer regional workshops for members in the Summer of 2016.

The AWLA Board has formed a "Strategic Advocacy Team". Using ACTFL's State Advocacy Goals as a guide, the team has begun work on a "Seal of Biliteracy" using a "grass roots" approach. Board President, Krista Chambless, has teamed up with the Alabama Foreign Language Teacher of the Year, Lisa Garrison,, and the Vestavia Hills school system to implement the Seal of Biliteracy into its program beginning in the Fall of 2016. It is hoped that this school system will serve as a model for other school systems in the state.

Finally, in an effort to better engage the business community of the State, under the leadership of Board President, Krista Chambless and past Executive Director of AAFLT, Linda Paragone, several members gathered and formed a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt education foundation known as the Alabama World Language Education Foundation (AWLEF). This organization can accept tax deductible donations from individuals and business entities to further efforts in the state of Alabama to provide programs and opportunities to promote language learning by K-12 and college students, as well as, to support foreign language professionals to maintain and further their language skills. AWLEF has taken on ownership and management of the WILD Program (Weekend Immersed in Language Development), a program for high school students that is now in its 11th year. WILD was recently awarded a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, and will present its 11th Annual Program in November.

With these changes, the foundation has been laid for the expansion of world language learning in Alabama. While much work is left to be done, AWLA is hopeful for the future and committed to its mission of advocating for all languages at all levels.



Around the SCOLT Region

AWLA: See story regarding the Alabama World Languages Association on page 15

AFLTA: The Arkansas Foreign Language Teachers Association held their annual conference on October 1- 2, 2015 in Hot Springs. Lisa Lilley, former ACTFL Teacher of the Year was the Keynote Speaker.

FFLA: The Florida Foreign Language Association held its annual conference on October 15 - 17 in St. Augustine. Gudrun Martyny, longtime FFLA Executive Director, retired from the position at the end of the conference. Audrey Irias is the organization's new Executive Director.

FLAG: The Foreign Language Association of Georgia is planning for its 2016 conference, which will be held March 4 - 5 at the Augusta Marriott. FLAG also has a new website at www.flageorgia.net

KWLA: The Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA) held its annual conference September 24 - 26 in Louisville, KY. One of the highlights of the conference this year was our Keynote Speaker, ACTFL's Teacher of the Year, Nicole Naditz. We hope to see SCOLT members at our conference next September!

LFLLTA: The Louisiana Foreign Language Teachers Association's 50th annual conference will be January 15 - 16 in Baton Rouge. Toni Theisen will be this year's Keynote Speaker.

MFLA: The Mississippi Foreign Language Association held its 2015 conference on November 6 - 7. Marty Abbott served as Keynote Speaker.

FLANC: The Foreign Language Association of North Carolina held its 49th Fall Conference on October 23-24 in Durham, NC with Yo Azama, 2012 ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year, as the keynote speaker. FLANC is also very excited to partner with SCOLT for the 2016 SCOLT Conference in Charlotte, NC! The best sessions from FLANC's fall conference will be included at SCOLT.

SCFLTA: The South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers Association is looking forward to partnering with SCOLT, FLANC and SEALLT for the 2016 joint conference in Charlotte.

TFLTA: The Tennessee Foreign Language Teachers Association held its annual conference on November 6 - 7, and Juan Carlos Morales, former SCOLT Teacher of the Year, served as Keynote Speaker.

TFLA: The Texas Foreign Language Association held its annual conference on October 15 - 17 in Houston. Amy Mayer served as Keynote Speaker.

FLAVA: The Foreign Language Association of Virginia held its annual conference September 24 - 26 in Williamsburg. The conference featured 180 sessions and 1000 attendees.

WVFLTA: The West Virginia Foreign Language Teachers Association held its annual conference on October 16 - 17. Malyka Knapp-Smith was in charge of organizing this year's event.

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