



SCOLTalk

The newsletter of the
Southern Conference on Language Teaching

Volume 48

July 2017

Greetings from the SCOLT President

Greetings SCOLT Colleagues,

During the summer, I hope that you are taking time to reflect on the effect your efforts have had upon the lives you have touched this year. Your influence does not stop with them; it ripples on and on. Perhaps an authentic activity or even a kind word from you inspired a student to continue their world language voyage; perhaps that last bulletin board your students created encouraged another to sign up for your class.

The point is that there are many things that ripple through students' lives that inspire them to do more with language and when we grow as professionals, we encounter more and more ways to create those ripples. It is my belief that this professional ripple effect is also the mission of SCOLT.

When the SCOLT board created the 2017 conference theme "Languages: Your Global Fast Pass", we were not only thinking about the great location in Orlando that our friends at FFLA helped to manage; we were not just thinking about the great technology workshops and sessions that our colleagues at SEALLT were going to provide; we were thinking about how the quality sessions of the conference were going to inspire teachers to encourage more students to continue the exciting journey that is world languages and cultures. As contributors to SCOLT's professional ripple effect, I would like to thank the various exhibitors and presenters without whom SCOLT would not be possible. In addition, I would like to thank the SCOLT Board under the leadership of Past President Linda Markley and Executive Director David Jahner for their hard work on creating such a great conference.

I also would like to welcome our two new Board Members Delandris Jones (SC) and Pam Benton (FL) to the Board. They will be filling the shoes of outgoing Board Members Dr. Carol Anne Costabile-Hemings (TX) and Yohanna Jiménez (AL). Thank you all for your past and future contributions to the profession.

Now, as you look to the rest of your summer and next year, SCOLT hopes you will find new and rewarding ways to increase your ripple effect through travel, summer workshops, and perhaps binge even watching that Netflix series in your language. Whatever your preferred method for of summer growth is, I hope that you share your learning with



the SCOLT community by keeping all of us abreast through social media and through presentations at your local conferences or at SCOLT "Proficiency: ATL (All The Levels)" next March 15th-17th.

Enjoy your summer and see you in Atlanta,

Thomas Soth

SCOLT President 2017-2018

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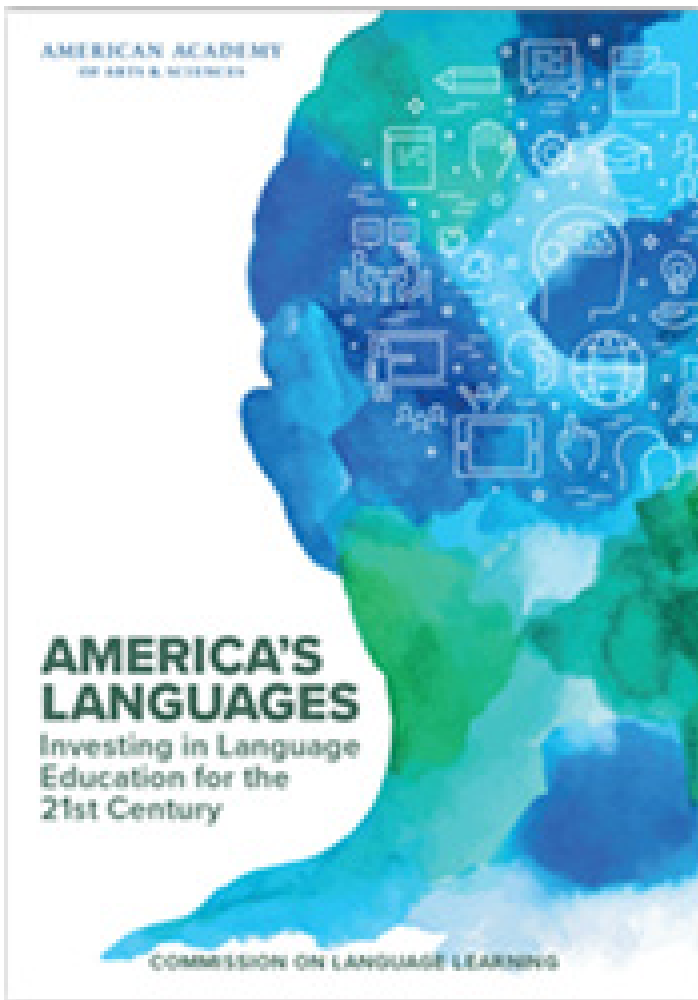
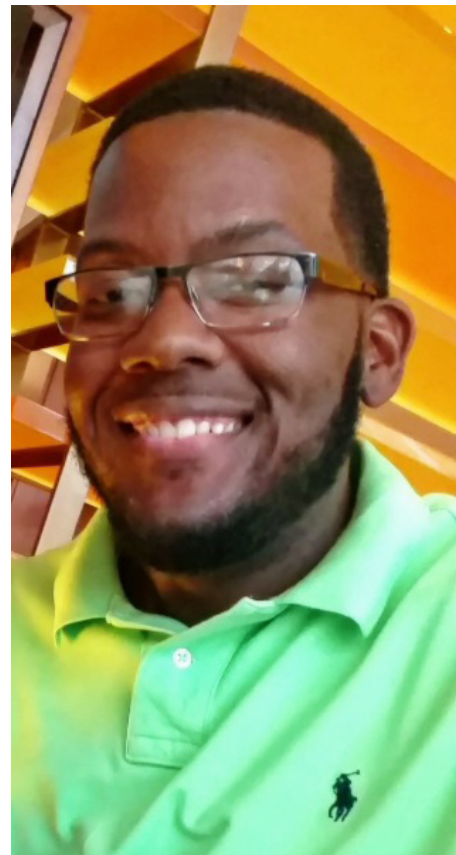
David Jahner
Executive Director

Contact your SCOLT Board of Directors
by clicking on this link:
<http://scolt.org/index.php/about/scolt-executive-board>

SCOLT Welcomes New Board Members

Delandris Jones is the Coordinator of World Languages and Partial Immersion for Rock Hill School District 3. He serves on the Board as Past-President of SCFLTA and is an active member of SCAATF. Jones holds a Bachelor's of Art degree in French from Wofford College and a Master's in Educational Administration from Northcentral University.

Pam Benton is the PreK-12 World Languages Specialist for Pinellas County Schools in Largo, Florida. She is a past president of both the Florida Foreign Language Association and the Florida Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. She holds a BA in Spanish & Education from William Jewell College, as well as an MEd in Curriculum & Instruction: Interdisciplinary Studies and an EdS in Educational Leadership from National-Louis University.



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2017 SCOLT Scholarship Winners



Recipients (L to R): Erin Carlson, Bailey Dumaine, William Morgan, Megan Buck and Natalie Runyon

SCOLT is proud to announce the 2017 scholarship winners. These teachers will spend time this summer in various countries honing their communication skills and experiencing the cultural products, practices and perspectives first hand! They will share lesson plans and supporting videos of these amazing learning experiences on the SCOLT website at www.scolt.org/scholarships. SCOLT would like to deeply thank the donors of the scholarships. These life-changing opportunities would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. It is their commitment to World Languages that allows our teachers to be students again and, in turn, give back to their students in addition to sharing with colleagues for a better world of language experiences all around!

Interested in Traveling Abroad during the Summer of 2018?

Apply for a SCOLT Scholarship Today!

Looking for some new ideas as you prepare for the new school year? Browse the growing library of presentations and lesson plans by former SCOLT scholarship recipients: <http://scolt.org/index.php/scholarships/presentations-resources>

We are grateful to our generous scholarship donors:

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Click on the hyperlinks to apply as well as to learn more about each of our donors. Application deadline is January 15, 2018.



2017 SCOLT Award Winners

2017 SCOLT TOY

During the conference in Orlando, *Dr. Brenna Byrd*, an Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky, was awarded the 2017 SCOLT Teacher of the Year Award. Each state in the thirteen-state SCOLT region may send one state language Teacher of the Year to the regional conference.

Brenna was selected on the basis of her innovation in instruction, her strong contributions to language learning, her letters of recommendation, and an interview. She will now advance to the national competition sponsored by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL). During the ACTFL convention in Nashville this November, she and four other regional teachers will vie for the title of ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year. The teacher selected in November will serve as the national spokesperson for language learning in 2018.

Since 2010, Dr. Byrd has helped to design and oversee the beginning and intermediate German program as an instructor in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literature and Cultures at the University of Kentucky. She has involved her graduate teaching instructors in the conceptualization and redesign of a curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking where students connect with artifacts from the culture. She says, "We engage our students with the why as much as the what." For her outstanding contributions in teaching, both the Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA) and the Kentucky chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) named her Outstanding Teacher in 2016.

In the words of her recommenders, "Dr. Byrd has been instrumental in reenvisioning and redesigning the traditional Beginning German sequence in response to the innovations in the fields of world language instruction, advancements in instructional technology, and changing student expectations in the 21st century."

Another said that she "believes in the power of giving students more choices to fit their own learning styles and personalize their education." SCOLT congratulates Brenna on this award and thanks her for her efforts to advance world language learning.

2017 Educator of Excellence

Dr. Bobby Hobgood, Director of the Language Resource Center at the University of North Carolina Charlotte was awarded the 2017 SCOLT Educator of

Excellence. The Educator of Excellence Award 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.

Hobgood, Director of the Language Resource Center at UNC Charlotte teaches methodology courses for teachers of modern languages as well as teachers of English as a second language. He is an online course designer and instructor of nationally STARTALK-funded online courses for Mandarin, Arabic, and Persian teachers to prepare them to teach in online and hybrid formats using synchronous and asynchronous platforms.

Dr. Hobgood has been active in professional organizations in North Carolina for over 20 years. A member of the Foreign Language Association of North Carolina (FLANC) for the last 23 years, the Association recently awarded him the Honorary Life Member Award. He has also served as a Consultant to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) to provide professional development support for schools and districts around the country.

One of his recommenders said of Hobgood, that he "not only has experience teaching French for years in the public-school system, but he also has training and experience in teaching the teachers... [He] understands the strategic use of technology in language teaching and has been able to motivate and train our faculty to take advantage of a multitude of active learning strategies and participatory methods that allow students to succeed in their foreign language studies whether in face-to-face instruction or online." SCOLT congratulates Bobby on this award and thank him for his commitment to language learning.

2017 Leadership Award

Dr. Mark Linsky, the World Languages Specialist for Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools, was awarded the 2017 SCOLT Leadership Award. The SCOLT Leadership Award is given to a K-12 educator who has 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.

Among his accomplishments at SCCPSS, Linsky has helped to develop and facilitate the creation of digital Student Learning Objectives in seven languages for 33 courses. Linsky organized the district's first unConference. He has coordinated school visits for students from Austria. Dr. Linsky assisted in writing and earning Fulbright travel grants to Ghana for teachers and local professors. He has also coordinated the first SAYA Chinese student exchange visit, added Chinese programs to SCCPSS, and worked along with the SSU Confucius Institute to coordinate a teacher exchange with Savannah and schools in China. As a state-level committee member, Dr. Linsky assisted with the creation and assessment of International Skills diploma seal in the state of Georgia. For elementary, middle, and high school students in the southern area of the state, Dr. Linsky also coordinates the annual Spoken Language Competition.

One of his recommenders stated, "Dr. Linsky's understanding and commitment to both the academic and affective domains ... is clearly evident in his work with students and teachers [as is] his full dedication and enthusiasm into everything that he's involved with." SCOLT congratulates Dr. Linsky on this award and thanks him for that dedication and enthusiasm that he brings to world language learning.



2017 SCOLT Teacher of the Year, Brenna Byrd

2017 Bostick Award

Each year at the conference, SCOLT awards teacher applicants in their first five years of teaching who demonstrate dedication to a long-term teaching commitment but have not yet attended a SCOLT conference. The award is a \$150 honorarium in the name of the SCOLT founder Dr. Herman F. Bostick. This year SCOLT recognized **Hannah Joseph** from Spain Park High School in Hoover, AL. Hannah was both a participant and presenter in Orlando. We congratulate Hannah on her award and look forward to her contributions to the profession.

SCOLT awards are intended to elevate the status and the public profile of the language profession at the state, regional, and national levels by creating opportunities to recognize accomplished members of our profession and also help new teachers gain access to quality professional development opportunities. These awards include the SCOLT Teacher of the Year, the SCOLT Educator of Excellence, the SCOLT Founders Award, the SCOLT Leadership Award, and the Bostick Award for new teachers. If you know of a quality world languages educator that you would like to nominate, please do so at scolt.org. Nominations are due by January 15th, 2018. Teachers interested in the Bostick Award have until March 1st, 2018 to apply.



2017 Educator of Excellence, Bobby Hobgood



2017 Leadership Award, Mark Linsky



2017 Founders Award, Ken Stewart

SCOLT Board Recognizes Ken Stewart

I am extremely honored to receive the 2017 Founder's Award because it comes from my friends, colleagues and SCOLT family. I am humbled to have worked with so many dedicated and talented language professionals; thank you for your support and for sharing your expertise over the years. I am a better teacher because of you. When I reflect on all of my professional experiences in language education, I fondly recall serving on the SCOLT Board of Directors as Awards Chair. Being named SCOLT Teacher of the Year in 2005 and representing you at ACTFL as the National Language Teacher of the Year was, without a doubt, the pinnacle of my career. Again, I owe you thanks and gratitude. My hope for the future of SCOLT and the profession is that all language educators in our region will join our family and benefit from the amazing work that is being done by teachers for teachers. A famous Italian film director and screenwriter said: "A different language is a different vision of life." Thank you, SCOLT, for giving me that vision and thank you for this honor.

- Ken Stewart



2017 Bostick Award, Hannah Rae Joseph



SCOLT 2017 Teachers of the Year (L to R): Betsy Taylor (TN), Christel Callahan (FL), Lori Pierce (MS), Heather Giles (SC), Allison Carniero Da Silva (VA), Laura Buder (AL), Aida Flores-Ortega (GA) and Laura Sexton (NC)



2016 SCOLT Teacher of the Year, Laura Roché Youngworth (KY) and Lucas Gravitt accept award on behalf of Brenna Byrd.

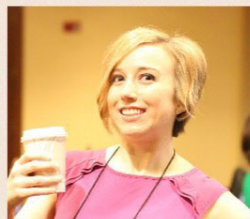
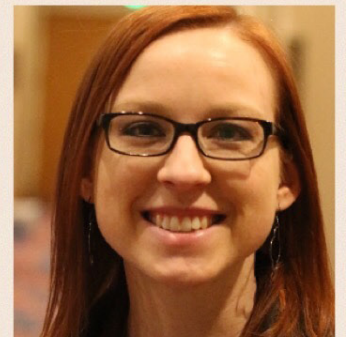


Ken Stewart from Chapel Hill HS in North Carolina accepts the 2017 Founders Award during the Opening General Session.

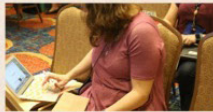
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2017 Conference in Orlando, FL





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Highlights from Saturday SCQLZ

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Silent Auction Success 2017 Funds Available for Your School or District!

Our annual silent auction at the conference netted another \$1500.00 to add to the pot available for sending our wonderful State Teachers of the Year to schools and school districts who may not otherwise have World Language in-service opportunities.

Does your school or district want to apply for a grant? Click here for more information.

And be sure to support out 2018 SCOLT Silent Auction in Atlanta!

Editor's note: The SCOLT Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank Caroline Switzer Kelly, SCOLT's Representative to ACTFL, for her vision and tireless efforts to make the Silent Auction a success. What started out as a small scale event during the 2014 conference in Memphis has turned into an online powerhouse at each year's conference. We hope that districts and schools around the region will take advantage of the opportunity to get the Teachers of the Year in our region out to provide professional development.



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2018

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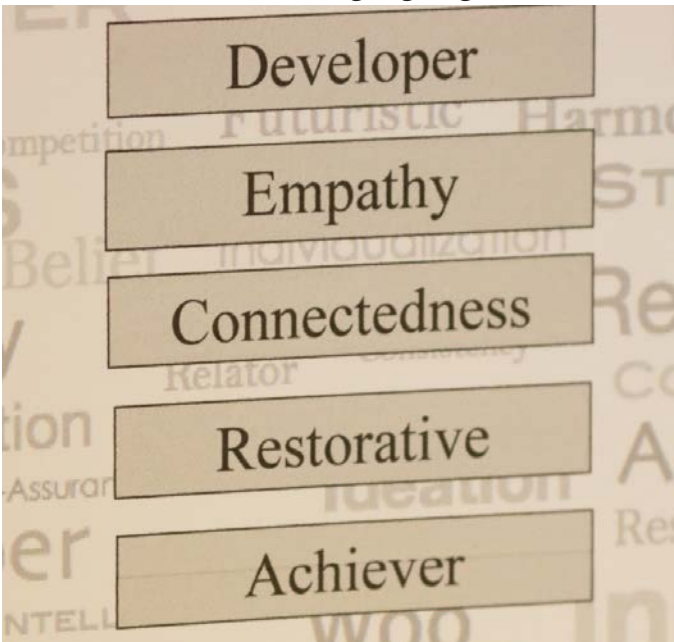
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for more information, visit scolt.org

Around the SCOLT Region

AWLA: Alabama's annual conference will be held on February 2 - 3, 2018 in Mobile. AWLA's new website is www.theawla.org

AFLTA: The Arkansas Foreign Language Teachers Association will hold their annual conference in October this year. For information, please check: <http://www.aflta.org/>

FFLA: The Florida Foreign Language Association will hold its annual conference on October 13-15 at the Hilton St. Petersburg. Please check <https://ffla.wildapricot.org/> for more information.

FLAG: The Foreign Language Association of Georgia will hold its 2018 conference, in conjunction with SCOLT on March 15 - 17. Check out FLAG's website at www.flageorgia.net

KWLA: The Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA) will hold its annual conference September 21 - 23 in Louisville, KY. Lucas Gravitt is the current President of the association. Check <http://kwla.org/> for more information.

LFLTA: The Louisiana Foreign Language Teachers Association's annual conference will be January 12 - 13, 2018 in Shreveport. Please check <http://www.lflta.net/> for more information..

MFLA: The Mississippi Foreign Language Association holds its annual conference in the fall each year. Please check <http://www.msfla.org/> for more information.

FLANC: The Foreign Language Association of North Carolina will have its annual conference on October 20 - 21 in Raleigh/Durham. Please check <http://www.flanc.org/home> for more information.

SCFLTA: The South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers Association will have its annual meeting on February 3, 2018. SCOLT is looking forward to partnering with SCFLTA and FLANC for our 2019 conference!

TFLTA: The Tennessee Foreign Language Teachers Association will hold its annual fall conference in conjunction with ACTFL in Nashville from November 17 - 19, 2017.

TFLA: The Texas Foreign Language Association will hold its annual conference on October 12 - 14 in Arlington.

FLAVA: The Foreign Language Association of Virginia will hold its annual conference October 5 - 7 in Williamsburg. Please check <https://flavaweb.org/> for more information.

WVFLTA: The West Virginia Foreign Language Teachers Association will hold its annual conference in October. Please check <https://wvflta.wordpress.com/> for more information.



SCOLT LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON INVITATION
All state associations are invited to participate in this year's annual *SCOLT Leadership Luncheon* on *Thursday, March 15, 2018 from 12:00 - 4:30 PM*. We look forward to welcoming you and many of your colleagues to Atlanta in 2018. Our 2018 conference preview will be sent out in late September 2017, but mark your calendars now for this single event that brings together language educators in the Southeast!

