

The IWLA Bulletin

A Newsletter for the Members of the Iowa World Language Association

Volume XV No. 1

Fall 2008

From the President.....

Dawn Frye

As my year as president comes to an end, I must say that it has been my honor to serve this organization. This past year has been a great learning experience for me. I have appreciated the high level of professionalism and commitment from so many of you. In April, we held our annual Spring Advisory Council and Executive Board meeting. Like many Iowa school districts, the IWLA faces challenges as well. I felt so honored and blessed to be a part of this intelligent, wise and dedicated group of people who are committed to the success and growth of our organization. It was a very positive and constructive meeting and I left feeling refreshed and renewed and ready to face the challenges ahead.

2008 has been an historic year, to say the least. We've seen gas prices reach an all time high, grocery prices have increased dramatically and we have witnessed incredible acts of Mother Nature. These have brought many challenges to many people. Looking back to January, as we ushered in the New Year, who could have predicted what Mother Nature would bring our way? We were dealt a very strange winter (which resulted in TEN snow days for my district), spring flash flooding, destructive storms and tornados and historic flooding. By mid June, 83 of Iowa's 99 counties had been declared disaster areas. The recovery has started but progress is slow. No doubt as we head back to school this fall, regardless of whether you are in a rural district, a metro area or at a community college or university, many challenges await.

Luckily, the fall conference is only a few months away and what better place to come together for support, collegiality and professional development than the IWLA conference. Mary West and the many volunteers, who serve on the conference committees, have been hard at work fine-tuning details to once again, offer a spectacular conference, In the Shadow of the Capital at Embassy Suites on the River in beautiful downtown Des Moines on October 3rd & 4th.

Good luck as your new semester gets underway and I look forward to seeing you at the IWLA conference.

Elections at Fall IWLA Conference

Each fall elections for various positions are held at the fall conference of IWLA. Why not consider putting your name on the ballot for one of the openings listed below? It is a great way to become involved and make a difference in your profession. Contact Dawn Frye if you are interested in adding your name to the ballot. See page four to read about candidates for:

Vice-President

Treasurer

Central States Representative

Parlamentarian

Editor's note:

Proposed changes to the by-laws are listed on page 21. Any omitted sections or articles indicate that no changes were suggested for that portion.

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR IWLA

Dawn Frye, President

1708 4th Ave. NW
Waverly, IA 50677
319-352-9060
wvan8v@aol.com

Lora Appenzeller Miller, Treasurer

510 E. 3rd Ave.
Indianola, Iowa 50125
John2Lora@aol.com
Waukee High School
555 SE Univ. Ave
Waukee, IA 50263
515-987-5163 ext. 2361
FAX: 515-987-2784
lappenzellermiller@waukee.k12.ia.us

Patricia Calkins, President-Elect

Dept of World Language and Culture Studies
Simpson College
701 North C Street
Indianola, IA 50125
515-961-1645
Patricia.calkins@simpson.edu
Home: 410 West Salem Ave.
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Mary West, Immediate Past-President

1024 Blackwood Circle
Ames, IA 50010
515-290-8975
jmwest@mchsi.com
DMACC
Ankeny, Iowa
mhwest@dmacc.edu

Sara Blanco, Vice-President

Price Lab School, UNI
sara.blanco@uni.edu
319-273-3002
www.pls.uni.edu/blanco

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
515-981-6474
cjmulvihill@dmacc.edu

**THANKS FOR YOUR
LEADERSHIP,
OFFICERS OF IWLA!!**

IWLA Fall Conference

Keynote Speaker

Ali Moeller



The Power of Student Involvement in the Learning Process

Ali Moeller is the Edith S. Greer Distinguished Professor of Foreign Language Education in the College of Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she works in the areas of teacher training and foreign language education. Dr. Moeller has held leadership positions in professional foreign language organizations such as Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (Board of Directors, Editor of CSC Report, Program co-chair), AATG (President, Executive Council, Director of GOLDEN), and the AP College Board (World Languages Best Practices Commission). She is a frequent presenter of workshops and sessions at state and national conferences and her research has been published in numerous professional journals (e.g. *Modern Language Journal*, *Unterrichtspraxis*, *Foreign Language Annals*, *CALICO*). Ali is particularly active in expanding professional development opportunities for K-16 language educators. As Director of the German On Line Distance Education Network (GOLDEN) project, co-director of N.E.H. institutes (1986, 1989, 1992), director of summer immersion programs (Teacher Quality Grants 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008), and curriculum director and instructor of numerous professional development summer institutes nationally and internationally. Her research focuses on assessment of student learning, student motivation and teacher quality. At present she is conducting a longitudinal study to determine what students know and are able to do after one through five years of study in the language classroom. She has been the recipient of the ACTFL Florence Steiner Award for Outstanding Leadership in Foreign Language Education, the ACTFL Anthony Papalia Award for Excellence in Teacher Education, the AATG German Educator of the Year Award, AATG/Goethe Institut Certificate of Merit, Nebraska International Language Association Leadership Award as well as numerous teaching awards at UNL (College Award for Distinguished Teaching, Academy of Distinguished Teachers, Swanson Award for Teaching Excellence). She has taught in the College of Arts and Sciences, spent 11 years teaching German in Omaha Public Schools and has been in her present position in teacher education for the last 18 years.

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CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT



Wade Petersen has taught French and English for 21 years in Iowa. He began teaching in Albia, served at Hampton-Dumont for fifteen years and is competing his third year in West Des Moines.

Wade earned a B.A. in French and English from Northwestern College in Orange City. He studied as an undergraduate at the Alliance Française in Paris. He earned a Master's degree in Effective Teaching, Learning, and Leadership from Drake University.

As a member of IWLA from the beginning of his career, he has presented numerous sessions at our IWLA conference. Wade has also served as membership chair. In 2004, he was recognized by the IWLA as Educator of the Year. He has presented workshops in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Michigan and Nebraska. He has also been keynote speaker at state conferences. He has served as president of the AATF. He has published over 30 products with Teacher's Discovery to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom.

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER



Stacy Amling is a candidate for Treasurer. She is currently serving as IWLA's membership co-chairperson. She joined the organization last fall after joining Des Moines Area Community College's Spanish department as a full-time instructor. Although she is a relative newcomer to IWLA, she is excited to get involved and help

out. Stacy completed her undergraduate studies at UNI in TESOL/Spanish Education and subsequently graduated from Michigan State University with Master's degrees in Applied Spanish Linguistics and TESOL. Before working at DMAACC, she taught ESL for four years at an elementary school in Des Moines. She is active as Phi Theta Kappa co-advisor for her campus's chapter and also works with several volunteer organizations in the Des Moines area. Her academic interests include: sociolinguistics, Latin American politics, and incorporating technology into the language-learning classroom.



Erik Ladner's involvement with IWLA began in 1995 while he was a Masters student at the University of Northern Iowa and he has presented at the conference as well.

He later went on to pursue his Ph.D. in Hispanic Literature from the University of Texas at Austin. After a five year absence, he returned to Iowa in 2004 as a Lecturer of Spanish at Iowa State University, where he taught until 2007.

Currently Dr. Ladner is an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Central College in Pella, specializing in Spanish Peninsular Literature. Among his current activities, he is in the process of obtaining OPI certification and writing a textbook for third-year college Spanish.

CANDIDATE FOR CENTRAL STATES REPRESENTATIVE AND PARLAMENTARIAN



Kerisa Baedke earned a B.A. in French and Spanish. Before earning her M.A. in Spanish from the University of Northern Iowa, she studied in Colima Mexico. She also served as an English assistant for one year in Beauvais, France.

She has taught Spanish and/or French in Iowa for the past twenty years at both the high school and middle school levels beginning at Wes Delaware and in the Des Moines metro area at Valley High School, Valley Southwoods and is currently at Prairieview School in Waukee where she is teaching Spanish to eighth and ninth graders.

IWLA has been an important part of her professional development for the twenty years that she has taught in Iowa. She has presented sixteen times, and has never missed a conference. For at least seven of those, she has served on conference committees and currently serving her second year as program chair. She has served on the Executive Board and as President of IWLA. While currently serving as Central States Representative she is seeking a second term to fully take advantage of what she has learned and the connections she has made. She feels that she can bring the benefits of Central States to IWLA. including the extension workshop, travel scholarships and the grants program. She has also presented at Central States, her presentation having been selected for Best of Iowa.

A Return to the Novice Level

By: Patricia Calkins

For Simpson College's May Term this year I accompanied a group of students on a tour through Spain, where I used my exceedingly modest Spanish skills in negotiating what is for me an unfamiliar culture. (I am a German professor, after all.) I was worried that three years of Spanish 35 years ago in high school, plus one semester at the college level last year, would not be sufficient preparation for a trip of this kind. Let's say that I was looking forward to that May Term adventure with a mixture of trepidation and excitement.

I actually came back from Spain amazed at what I was able to comprehend because I could call on years of experience using receptive listening skills in conversations with speakers of another language. I could easily follow discussions with a clear context: directions, architectural information, historical descriptions, information about free-time opportunities and the like. I could understand many direct questions about wishes, preferences, and well-being, although I couldn't reply to many of them in complete sentences. I was capable of participating in service exchanges in stores. And I could even catch the gist of television news broadcasts (thank goodness for images as visual aids!). In short, I could survive reasonably well in the Spanish speaking environment, but I was very happy to be in the company of students whose own Spanish skills far exceeded my own.

This experience has been good for me in a number of ways. First, I am reminded how difficult it really is to learn another language. It is a humbling experience to stammer out a question, all the while hoping to be able to understand the answer. We should applaud any student who tries to learn a language and celebrate each and every success that student has. Second, it was good for me to experience first-hand what kinds of skills a novice level learner has. There were clear boundaries for what I could and could not do, just as there were clear limits as to how much Spanish I was willing to use actively—I was much more comfortable sticking to listening and reading.

Finally, my experience highlights essential intercultural skills and critical thinking skills that are gained through language learning. These skills are transferable to other situations, and we should explicitly teach our students about these and other skills. First and foremost among my skills was my ability to extract key information from spoken and written resources. In fact, I was able to do this in only a rudimentary way—key information was about the only thing I could understand—but it still proves that novice level learners already develop this skill. A second

skill was my tolerance of ambiguity, especially in a linguistic context. I never experienced a feeling of total clarity in my interactions with speakers of Spanish, but was able to negotiate meaning with them anyway and to act on the information I received. This lack of clarity was tied to the skill of using context to guide my understanding and behavior—in many cases, context was all I had. Finally, I discovered myself engaging in extensive self-monitoring of my learning: with each new interaction I found myself consciously inserting the knowledge gained into my personal system of how to negotiate Spanish culture. I became, for a brief time, a reflective learner of Spanish culture.

My exposure to Spanish culture was too short and my linguistic skills too weak for me to assert that I have any deep understanding of Spain and its people. This is where the most important skill we can teach our students came into play for me: I was acutely aware that when I did not understand something, I should not try to force it into the American or German context. This is just one aspect of the respect for otherness that is promoted by the study of a foreign language.

Starting in January I will be accompanying a group of Simpson students for the sixth time on a semester-long study abroad program in Germany. I will try to keep my experiences in Spain in mind as I mentor the students in the program. But there are two other things I will do as well—I will share my Spanish experiences with them, and I will explicitly teach intercultural and critical thinking skills. In the long run, many of my German majors might not use German as a part of everyday life, but the skills they learn along with the language will be useful for a lifetime.

**CENTRAL STATES
CONFERENCE
March 19-21
Chicago, Illinois**

**Go to:
[http://
www.csctfl.org/2009conference.html](http://www.csctfl.org/2009conference.html)
for more information**

IWLA Conference 2008 –in the shadow of the capitol

I know that some of you are cleaning up from the storms and floods of 2008 and our thoughts are with you. In my former community of Waverly, three schools were flooded. I can't imagine what it must be like to loose everything at home or at school or both. Others of you are settling in for the mental rest of summer.

I am here to bring you “back to the future” to our fall conference, again held in Des Moines at the Embassy Suites on the River October 3 and 4. Fortunately they did not suffer flood damage and downtown Des Moines is up and running. Come to share stories of loss with colleagues, come to be refreshed and come to be stimulated.

The Power of Student Involvement in the Learning Process. It is with great anticipation that we welcome a renowned expert in curriculum, instruction and assessment, Dr. Ali Moeller. Her research focuses on assessment of student learning, student motivation and teacher quality. Please go to our website at www.iwla.net to read about her extensive accomplishments. She will be holding a break out session as well. Don't miss this marvelous opportunity and share this with your administration. It would be difficult to deny its relevance to themes of staff development.

Dr Robert Denson, president of the Des Moines Area Community College and a forward thinking educator will speak at our awards luncheon on Friday.

We are once again putting together a dynamite program of breakout sessions under the direction of Keeka Baedke and Lisa Sobotka. Did you know that there were more than seventy offered last year? There is still time to submit a proposal of your own. Find the form at the website. **NOTE:** Depending on your security fire wall, you may have to use your personal computer to access registration and hotel information.

REGISTRATION: Please find the new and easy registration form on the website. **Type in the information in the gray boxes and then print and mail with your payment.** This will streamline the registration process. **Pre-registration deadline is September 18.**

Your registration fee has increased but is in line with other two day educational conferences in the area. It costs more to pay for our conference. Have you noticed other expenses rising? We need to keep the organization on good financial footing.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Also please find information to make your reservations at the Embassy Suites Hotel on the reservation form. Tell them you are with the IWLA convention to get the special rate or use the link provided. Again, you may have to type this link in your browser on your personal computer. Rooms will be released on **Sept. 9, 2008** after which they will not guarantee rooms at the convention rate so

make your reservations early. You might want to double up to save money. The rooms are ample and easy to share. Use the Google groups to double on rides and save money on gas.

PARKING: We have addressed the parking concerns by providing a link on our website which includes detailed maps of downtown. There is a map showing you locations of public parking garages which are only blocks from the hotel. It will save you time if you plan ahead and download the maps. I found the downtown Des Moines 3 D map to be especially helpful. Embassy Suites is the building at 101 E. Locust on the river and next to City Hall. There is a public garage at 3rd and Court which will be about five blocks from the hotel.

Please be reminded that guests of the hotel should take advantage of the free, prepared to order breakfast in the atrium area. It is excellent. A light continental breakfast will be available both days for those who commute. There will be plenty of coffee. You are also invited for a free cocktail at the manager's reception at 5:00 P.M. if you are a hotel guest. A bar will be set up from 5:15 until 6:15 in the atrium area with snacks if you are not a hotel guests. Take advantage to visit the exhibits and converse with colleagues.

SCHOLARSHIPS: We have not been offering scholarships for the past few years as we have been so tight on funds. We have a crying need for world language educators. Let's show we care. There will be opportunity for a free will offering at the registration table. Don't forget to get your sticker for your name tag indicating that you donated to the scholarship fund.

CAUSES: Remember our letter writing campaign of last fall? On the front page of the website is the response of the Iowa Department of Education. Please write or call your legislator and insist that as Iowa looks to the future, we must have bilingual/bicultural workers. A good place to start is by securing a World Language Consultant at the Department of Education who will advance staff development and program. Right now IWLA and the AAT's are the only organizations providing staff development in our field--- and we a full time educators. **HELP**

We are in the “Shadow of the Capitol” Let's make our voices heard!!

A different language is a
different vision of life.

Federico Fellini

2008 Conference Registration: In the Shadow of the Capitol



IWLA

Iowa World Language Association
www.iwla.net

Embassy Suites on the River

101 East Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Name: First (Given): _____ Last (Family): _____

Level taught: Elementary Middle Secondary Post Secondary

Language(s) taught _____

Please check if you are a: _____ 1st year teacher _____ 1st time attendee

Please provide BOTH addresses below & check your preferred mailing address:

_____ Home Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

_____ School Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone (with area code): _____

E-mail: (for IWLA purposes only; necessary to receive receipt)

Registration Options:

_____ \$125 Early Registration (by 9/18) _____ Vegetarian meal

_____ \$135 Late (after 9/18) or On-site Registration

_____ \$70 Saturday only (On-site \$70)

_____ \$50 Student / Retiree CONF. (*Please check*)

_____ \$10 Student / Retiree DUES ONLY (*Please check*)

_____ \$20 IWLA dues only (*for those unable to attend*)

Donation \$ _____ to IWLA Scholarship fund

TOTAL \$ _____ (No refunds issued after September 18, 2008)

PAYMENT METHOD: (NO PURCHASE ORDERS ACCEPTED)

Personal Check # _____ School Check # _____

PRIVACY OPT-OUT:

_____ I do not want my image included on the IWLA website.

Return this form with payment by September 18, 2008 to:

Stacy Amling, IWLA Membership Chair
Des Moines Area Community College
1125 Hancock Dr.
Boone, IA 50036

Have a question? Call Stacy at: 515.559.4266

Your Registration Fee Includes:
Conference Registration
IWLA Annual Membership Dues
Continental Breakfast both days
Friday Luncheon
Refreshments

Please make your own lodging arrangements.

IWLA has negotiated a special conference rate with Embassy Suites of \$109.00. Please use the online link at:

<http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/DSMDNES-AIW-20080930/index.jhtml>

You may also call 515-244-1700 (or 1-800-EMBASSY) and request the IWLA block.

IWLA Direct Link at http://www.iowawla.org/2008_confinfo.html



Luncheon Speaker **Rob**

Denson

IOWA: Great by Nature

Rob Denson was appointed the fourth president of Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) on November 1, 2003. He grew up on a farm near Homestead, Iowa, south of the Amana Colonies and graduated from high school in Marengo, Iowa. He is the first native born Iowan to be president of DMACC.

Rob has a B.S. in Political Science and Economics and a Masters Degree in Higher Education Administration from Iowa State University. He worked for Iowa State as an Assistant Dean for three years before moving to Florida where he served as an Assistant Dean of Students. He graduated from Law School at the University of Florida in 1979 and was an Associate University Attorney for three years before operating his own law practice for 16 years. He is a board certified civil trial lawyer. In 1996, he became Assistant to the President and Dean for Institutional Advancement at Santa Fe Community college in Gainesville.

In 1998, Rob returned to Iowa as President of Northeast Iowa Community college in Calmar, Iowa, where the college saw a 58% enrollment increase during his five year tenure. Rob believes in success, teams and positive thinking.

Teaching resources

<http://www.langsource.umd.edu>

<http://www.nflc.org/reach>

<http://www.frenchteachers.org/technology/index>

<http://www.uni.edu/becker>

<http://www.suelebeau.com/languages.htm>

<http://www.ilovelanguages.com>

IWLA Conference Preview

Conference Presenters and Session Titles

(Editor's note: this is the list as of July 15, please check the website (www.iwla.net) for the complete list when it becomes available and for conference updates.

- * Exploring Culture through Cultural Learning Weblog, Chinatsu Bachmann
- * The ABC's of Using Music in the Spanish Classroom, Kerisa Baedke
- * Making the Transition to College: Tips for Student Success in College-Level World Language Study, Dawn Bratsch-Prince
- * Drama Games for the FL classroom, Paulino Brener
- * Poesias y canciones para los más pequeños, Paulino Brener
- * Exploring Languages and Cultures in a Hybrid Space: the *Classroom/Lab* at Indiana University Northwest, Adrian Garcia
- * Practice Makes Perfect: Promises and Pitfalls of Online Workbooks on Skills Development and Speaking Proficiency, Eduardo Garcia
- * "I like Spanish Lessons Online": A study of students' attitudes toward learning Spanish with technology, Eduardo Garcia
- * Maintaining the Lines of Communication During the Foreign Language Student Teaching Semester, Lowell Hoeft
- * « Ratatouille » : exemple typique de la culture française, Anne Lair
- * Blanc, Beur: Yourth Urban Cultures and Political Protest in France, Luther French Students
- * The Battle of France! (and Spain and Germany), Wade Petersen
- * A Plethora of Pirated Plans, Pleasant Valley Teachers
- * Add A Little "Spunk" to Your Teaching, Duronda Schlue
- * Why Should One Learn Chinese, Lijun (Eric) Shi
- * Making Life Easier with Technology, Amy Van der Meer
- * Getting to the Point: Using Abstracts to Facilitate the Writing Process, Stacey Weber-Feve
- * Akademie für DeutschlandStudien - Sommer 2008, Carol White
- * Visiting Teachers from Spain and Other Programs Offered by the Embassy of Spain, Adolfo Carbon, Julie Wilhelm
- * Comment va la France depuis Sarkozy?, Michel Wolf
- * Elizabeth Zwanziger-Page Pourquoi tu parles français ? Pourquoi parles-tu français ? Tu parles français pourquoi ? : What's with the wacky word order in French questions? Elizabeth Zwanziger-Page

Rethinking Homework

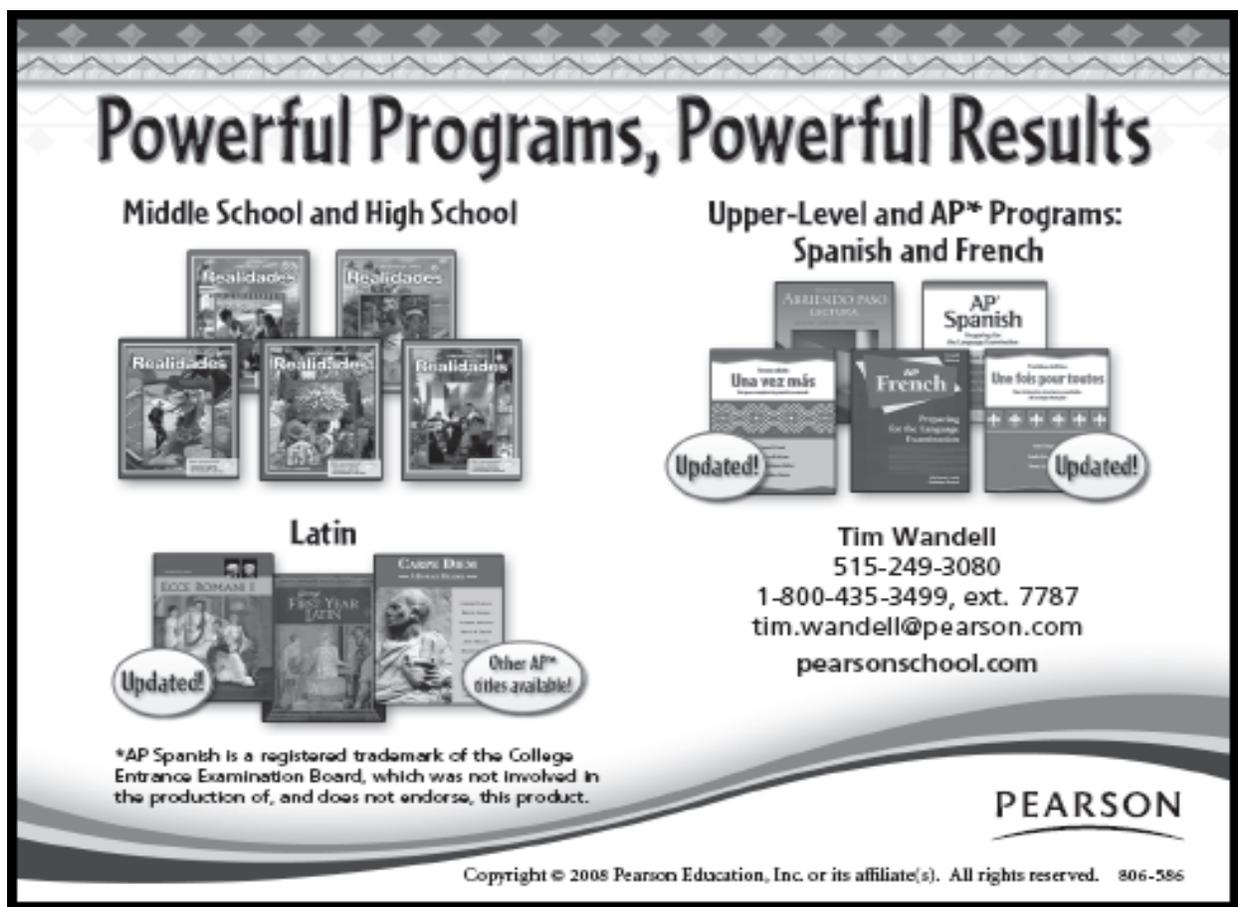
By: Sara Blanco

Homework. Some of us loved it, some of us hated it, some of us never did enough of it to care. This summer I was required to read the book The Homework Myth by Alfie Kohn in preparation for my last week of graduate classes at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Mr. Kohn was also the guest speaker for our last day of Proseminar week. While it is not exactly light reading to wind-down with before bed, I do recommend his thought provoking book that challenges a common teaching practice. You may not agree, but my thinking has always been that any worthwhile practice is worth challenging.

In his book, Kohn challenges the purpose of homework such as teaching responsibility, study skills and promoting higher achievement. He explains what research has shown (or not shown) in regards to these expected outcomes. Kohn is very extreme in the book, a bit exaggerated in my opinion. I've come to think of him as the Michael Moore of education. In person he is a very intense, passionate and lively person but I must admit brilliant. I don't want to deter anyone from reading the book by giving a Cliff notes

version of it but I would like to summarize my interpretation of what Kohn ends with. After shaking your brain up for the majority of the book he offers in his last chapter some recommendations for assigning homework. First, he suggests taking away homework for a period of time to test whether or not homework is producing the desired outcome. He also recommends designing your own assignments rather than taking them from workbooks or textbooks as it will increase the quality and typically the quantity. Next, he suggests assigning homework according to student needs, not the same assignment for all. Kohn also recommends not grading homework as it should be an opportunity to make mistakes and share learning. In person his message was that homework should have a very high standard and specific criterion with the default being no homework.

In the spirit of new beginnings and a new school year ahead, I hope you too might take a new look at an old practice through Kohn's book The Homework Myth. Whether or not you agree with his findings or decide to implement his suggestions, it is an opportunity to challenge your beliefs about homework



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IWLA GRANT APPLICATIONS GUIDELINES

- Grant recipients must be members in good standing of the Iowa World Language Association.
- Grants from the Iowa World Language Association will be determined by the availability of funds from year to year, not to exceed the budgeted \$1500 in total grants. Individual grants do not normally exceed \$500.
- The deadlines for applications are October 1 for November notification, and April 1 for May notification.
- Grants are primarily for, but not limited to, innovative projects. Priority is given to requests which are unique in nature, and which clearly demonstrate an ability to reach greater numbers of teachers and students.
- **Applications for conference attendance will be considered.** **NEW!**
- Request to support applicants' travel to target cultures will not be considered, nor should applicants submit requests to be paid for the time they spend on the project.
- All expenses must be justified by receipts, and a follow up written report is required for total reimbursement.
- Upon notification of acceptance, the applicant will be allotted one-half the funds allocated. The remainder of the grant will be forwarded only upon receipt of a report from the awardee to the IWLA Vice-President providing verification that the project was completed.
- **If a project is funded, the recipient is expected to share his or her work in one of two ways:**
 - (1) a brief article submitted to the IWLA Bulletin, or
 - (2) a presentation at a plenary session of the annual IWLA meeting.**This must be done within one year after termination of the project.**
- Applications will be coded to ensure anonymity of applicants and are decided "blind" by members of the grants committee. Applicants should avoid language on the application form(s) which would make it easy to identify the person, school or district involved.

-----**INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH YOUR IWLA GRANT APPLICATION**-----

IWLA GRANT APPLICATION: IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

Date: _____ Code (will be assigned by IWLA) _____

Applicant's name and position: _____

School name and address: _____

Phone: _____ e mail _____

Home address: _____ Phone: _____

THE PORTION BELOW IS TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR PRINCIPAL, SUPERINTENDENT, OR DEAN.

I understand that _____ has applied for a grant from the Iowa World Language Association to support a project involving:

I am confident that s/he is capable of completing this project as described in the application, and I support this work.

Signed _____
Position _____
Date: _____

IWLA GRANTS APPLICATION FORM

Please type or print neatly so that materials made be clearly copied for members of the Grants Committee.

I. Language(s) taught: _____

II. Level: _____ FLES _____ MS _____ HS _____ Post-Secondary

III. Description: Please write a brief description of your project for which you are seeking IWLA funding.

IV. What, if anything, about this project makes it innovative or unique?

V. How many people will benefit from your project? Who are they?

VI. Total amount you are seeking for funding: \$ _____.

VII. You have attached a detailed, projected budget with this application. (required)

VIII. If it is not possible to provide you the total amount requested, do you wish to be notified about

Possibly funding your project at a lower amount?

_____ Yes _____ No

IX. Do you understand that, if funded, you will be expected to share your work with members of the

IWLA, either through the Bulletin, or a presentation at the annual meeting?

_____ Yes _____ No

Please mail this completed form, along with a detailed budget, and the identification form on the back of this page to:

Grace Valdez
IWLA Grants Committee
1927 Clay St.
Cedar Falls 50613
E-mail: valdezg@cedar-falls.k12.ia.us

REMEMBER TO KEEP A COPY OF THESE DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

Iowa World Language Association
Advisory Council and Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, April 5th, 2008
Ames City Hall
Ames, Iowa

President Dawn Frye called the meeting to order at 9:05AM.

Attendees: President – Dawn Frye, President-Elect – Patricia Calkins, Vice President – Sara Blanco, Past President – Mary West, Secretary – Carrie Mulvihill, Keeka Baedke – Central States/Program Chair, Rosa Bailey - AATSP, Bea Houston – Community Colleges/Membership, Julio Rodriguez - Webmaster, Juan Trujillo - Historian, Coralie Turner – Private Colleges, Julie Wilhelm – Bulletin Editor/Exhibitor Liaison

Secretary's report

- Attendees reviewed minutes from Executive Board meeting of February 2, 2008.
- Clarification from the minutes RE the Educator of the Year editions to nomination form and website. Keeka Baedke moved that the minutes be approved and Mary West seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Balance at the bank as of 3-28-08 \$6,456.25
- Since the last report Lora paid the rest of the 07 Conf Speaker's expenses of \$132.53, and reimbursed Kerisa Baedke \$395 and \$472.51 and Wade Petersen \$852.64 for Central States
- Lora has moved to her district's central office. She will stay on until fall conference. There is currently a candidate for the ballot. Coralie Turner moved that the report be approved and Keeka Baedke seconded. Motion carried. Treasurer's report approved.

Constituency Reports

Web Administrator – Julio Rodríguez

- Julio hasn't gotten much to update, but has done some cleanup. People in many of the pictures he has need to be identified, etc. In registration sheet, will include a check box for those who do NOT wish to be identified in photos on the website since it is a public domain.
- There are 15-20 new visitors per day to the site. He is looking to get a copy of some ACTFL PSA's for the website.
- There are still messages sent on Google groups and include very focused questions. Job openings likely will increase as we get later in the year.
- He recommends that we look at www.itec-ia.org for ideas on improvements. Once we have by-laws approved, we will put on website. We'd talked about merging conferences with them.

- Mary will update conference information, key-note, and luncheon speaker once all information is available. We will also include topics of conference breakout sessions.

- There was interest in sending a mass e-mail with a link to the new Bulletin to let folks know it is online. We need new readers. We need to work with the AEAs, like Rosa does with AATSP, in order to reach all foreign language teachers in the state. We also need to work with colleges training teachers, so they know about IWLA.

- A raffle for conference registration is being planned for new folks who sign up for the Google group. We also want to include information for the Google group to all who register for the conference, perhaps an e-mailed receipt could include a link to sign up.

An organization we'd talked at the February 2 Executive Board meeting about merging with for the conference was the ICCLA. Theirs was in February with 1000 attendees, so if we were to join with them, we would likely have to change for their schedule. ITEC may be better choice to join with, about 500 attendees. With them, we could go to the convention complex and then name a couple conference hotels. The ITEC conference is around the same time.

Advocacy - Tammy Dann (report)

- Tammy's report and response letter from Department of Education in regard to a full-time foreign language consultant will be distributed to members through Bulletin. It may be worthwhile to talk to ISEA folks about foreign language teacher issues. The legislative agenda for next year has been set, but perhaps it could be added to the list for the following session. In the meantime, Keeka can submit a resolution.

- Tammy recommends an advocacy committee in order to get notice from the Department of Education. Efforts could be built up from regions. The group discussed dividing the state into northwest, northeast, southwest, southeast and central. Other states have said that it took 3-4 years to get their consultants.

- We should have some committee members involved before the conference but we need to find more members at the conference. Committee members could be part of a rapid response team to legislative actions, contact legislators, talk to other teachers and interested parties.

- Possible members for the committee that the group thought of were Holly Parmer, Bea Houston, Marianne Sandberg, Duronda Schlue, Jim Gerrans, Dawn Bratsch-Prince, Lowell Hoef, and Keeka Baedke.

- Tammy will not be able to attend the conference in the fall and asked if the Executive Board would want to name another advocacy chair. The Board refused.

Tammy asked in her report about appropriate publicity for Teacher of the Year. The recognition process was changed after the last conference such that the IWLA contacts superintendents, nominators, and local papers to award winners.

AATG – Patricia Calkins

○ With high need of other language courses, German is mistakenly being sacrificed at the expense of other courses, when offerings should be expanded without this sacrifice.

There was a Fullbright German teacher in Marshalltown who was terminated so that Chinese could be taught. The Chinese teacher could have been added, but instead the district chose to terminate German.

AATF – Sherri Condon

AATSP – Rosa Bailey

○ Café Latino is continuing. About every AEA has been in contact. Some events were cancelled due to weather, but those cancelled will be held this month.

○ A contact person is needed for northwest Iowa. (Bea Houston, who was present, agreed to work with Rosa.)

○ Very encouraging to see how participating teachers are. Keeka, Beth VanderWilt, and Jim Gerrans have all presented to Café Latino groups. The program can be what members want it to be—some always meet at the same location, others in schools around the district, and others at the AEA.

○ Once Carmen Sosa (our current contact at the Department of Education) leaves, it may be difficult to get her replacement to work with us, as her principal responsibilities are with ESL.

○ Need to focus on teachers in rural areas where many teachers are isolated and they are the department. Schools often can't send people to conferences, so regional meetings are helping. Groups average 10 teachers.

○ Folks who wish to contact foreign language teachers in the state can contact AEAs to get e-mail addresses. AEA has hard copy of list of all the schools they serve, and this list is also accessible on their websites.

○ Our organization needs to reach as many new people who haven't heard of us as possible, also colleges and universities. As Vice-President, Sara is going to work on these outreach steps. It could help to get an increase in participants in fall conference. If by end of May, new people see there is a newsletter, and they see there is a conference coming up, this may help to keep them involved.

AEAs are currently going through reorganization, some AEAs combining. May not have the same consultants that Rosa is working with now.

ACTFL – Mary Doyle

Mary has not yet attended ACTFL, therefore she has no report.

Central States – Kerisa Baedke

ACTFL sponsored a student podcast competition about the reasons to study a foreign language.

ACTFL is looking at continuing this every year. Go to <http://www.actflvideocontest.org/> to view this year's winners. According to the President, language study is important to our nation for three reasons: national security, economic dependency, and quality education.

There are many bills in the Legislature that deal with foreign language education and study abroad. Among them are several English only bills, but there are also several English plus bills. One initiative that JNCL-NICLS is working on is to put foreign languages into our national bureaucracy, in other words, getting a professional into a position that is not dependent on political appointments. Talked about StarTalk grants and FLAP grants. For more information go to <http://www.languagepolicy.org/>.

After the national highlights, each state delegate shared. There were many common successes and many common concerns. It was a great opportunity to hear from other states and to make connections.

Of the most important points that came out of the discussion--the need for a state supervisor. Minnesota and Kansas both just got one. And both say that it was due in great part to the state association's persistence in lobbying and letter-writing. It was a 3-4 year process for some states. In the legislation for one consultant's position, it was required that they give an annual report over the next three years.

CSC grants have been used to bring student teachers to the Minnesota conference. 20 students attended at no cost and they served as presidors for sessions. Pay for a bus to pick up teachers and transport them across the state to the annual Kansas conference. Pay for six new teachers' membership and attendance at the Kansas conference, as well as inviting them to have dinner with the conference keynote speakers. Hold a state-wide legislative day called "Languages and Legislators". Could hold smaller one-day satellite conferences.

Only CSC Advisory Council members may apply for grants. Currently Katya Koubek, Elaine Park, Marcia Rosenbusch, Pat Westphal, and Keeka are members of the Advisory Council. Anyone who attends the conference may join the Advisory Council. If you do then your registration is free. For more information go to <http://www.csctfl.org/>.

CSC Leadership Program - State affiliates nominate people to participate in the leadership program, which

is a two-way peer-mentoring model. Participants have to attend two consecutive Central States conferences. They submit proposals for projects and work with other emerging leaders and mentors during the leadership workshop. Central States works with participants and helps them with their projects. CSC also helps coordinate the funding. Participants can then present at their local conferences.

According to the CSC website, projects have focused on professional development, action research, advocacy, K-16 articulation, increasing membership in state organizations, and writing or implementing new world language standards and/or standards-based assessments. For more information go to <http://www.csctfl.org/pdfs/LeadershipProgram2008.pdf>. The Missouri participant began a project to put together grade level standards for the state of Missouri. This person finally got someone at the Department of Education to listen and the project is being undertaken and fully funded by the state.

CSC Extension Workshop-- On Thursday there is a full-day workshop that is free to attendees (though they must be registered for the conference). Participants are selected by their state affiliates. They then disseminate the information gleaned from the workshop in some fashion, likely in the form of a session at the state conference and an article in the Bulletin.

Our own Pat Westphal has been one of the coordinators for the Extension Workshop and every year she asks if anyone from Iowa will attend. Iowa has not had any attendees in several years. Unfortunately, the Extension Workshop, the Leadership Program and the Delegate Assembly all take place on Thursday, so as a state we would need to ask three different people to represent us at these outstanding CSC programs.

Applications are generally due in early February. Keeka suggests that we post something on the website and ask for people who are going to attend the CSC to apply. The next two years' conferences are Chicago and Minneapolis so likely more teachers from Iowa will likely attend.

IWLA Bulletin – Julie Wilhelm

○ If folks want the Bulletin out on time, Julie needs to receive things on time. She extended deadline last time, due to lack of material and often has to chase down people to get things submitted that are normally in Bulletin.

○ When we elect new ACTFL and CSC reps, they need to know to write something for the Bulletin and the deadlines for submission. All nominees and award winners should be included also, including nominees in fall Bulletin. Then in the winter Bulletin, we need to acknowledge who won, perhaps with a picture and

introduction. Mary will be sure that is sent—it could be a responsibility for the conference chair or maybe the president.

○ We need to generate new submitters and also maintain articles that come from those who normally submit things. If we want articles in the Bulletin, Julie is glad to ask folks individually to write things if we know who has something to write about.

○ Julie would like to change the summer deadline to July 1, as she is in Spain most of June. Since most things come late, this makes it difficult to get the Bulletin to the printer by August 1 so we can get it to teachers in the first few days of school.

Julie questioned the relevancy of having the Bulletin online when often the winter Bulletin has things in it that are posted on the website. One benefit of the Bulletin is that there is always an archive.

Folks are encouraged to make nominations for Teacher of the Year. The Bulletin will not be out in time for the deadline of April 30 for Teacher of the Year submissions.

AMICI – John Gruber-Miller (report)

Latin and Greek are continuing to do well, even thrive, in some programs, while others have suffered cutbacks or changes that bode less well. After a minor setback a year ago, with no new Latin I class scheduled, Amanda Woodruff at Valley High School/Valley Southwoods was able to fill three sections of Latin I for this school year. Added to the twenty students in Advanced Latin, she has 67 students this year. Next year looks

good too, with two new sections of Latin I coming on board in the fall. Thanks to her efforts her program looks to be in good shape in the immediate years ahead.

As far as college and university offerings are concerned, likewise, there were a few setbacks, but most programs continue to do well. The University of Northern Iowa teaches three classical studies courses from within the history program, but offers no major or minor in the area. Loras College continues to offer only a minor in the field of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies, but since all those courses are now being taught by a single professor they will have to be cycled through in a rotation though so far there are no calls to eliminate the minor.

○ Both Cornell College and the University of Iowa report that enrollments are stable or slightly increasing in some areas Cornell is ready to hire a second full-time Classicist, and both schools report welcome “rumors” of Iowa City high schools reviving a Latin program.

○ AMICI still offers its annual translation contest which awards certificates to outstanding high school students at three different levels of Latin. It is a visible way to honor both the students and the teachers. This year 67 students participated.

○ AMICI still meets once each Fall to share ideas and promote the teaching of Latin and Greek. Next Fall's meeting will be a joint one between AMICI and the Illinois Classical Conference, to be held in the Quad Cities and hosted by Augustana College.

○ *Amicitia*. John Gruber-Miller of Cornell College continues to write and publish this informative and upbeat newsletter about some of the events and activities connected to teaching Latin and Greek in Iowa. In the Fall issue of 2007 he highlighted names of Iowa towns and cities with classical connections or roots. Several programs mentioned an increased interest in study/travel abroad programs and courses. Next spring the department will offer a new upper-level undergraduate course on teaching in the classics. The course will focus on instructional approaches and issues in teaching ancient language and civilization at the high school and college levels. Their chapter of Eta Sigma Phi (the undergraduate classics honor society) is flourishing, with three members going to the national convention this year. Iowa State University in Ames continues to do well and this year is supplying a "practicum" student who observes and helps out in Valley High School/Valley Southwoods; it looks like there is the possibility of student teachers coming out of ISU and Cornell next year.

Scholarships – Moratorium, position vacant

○ Scholarships are currently not offered. Messages have been received with suggestions for people that would be great candidates for conference scholarships.

○ To reinstate them, various strategies for raising funds were discussed including various raffle strategies.

○ Once there is scholarship money, there needs to be a committee person for scholarships. The last time scholarship money was given, the scholarships ended. If money is given for scholarships, then scholarships need to be given.

The group determined that it would be easiest to ask for scholarship funds at the registration table. There will be a container for people to contribute and they would then be given a sticker (like the shape of a globe) for their nametag that shows their support for IWLA scholarships.

FLES – Shelly Power (report)

Shelly plans to host a networking session for FLES/FLEX and middle school teachers at next fall's conference. She would like to contact any interested teachers and let them know what we there is in terms of curriculum, materials, and ideas to share.

Jr. High/Middle School – Susan Sandholm-Petersen (report) Nothing new to report for the Middle School--no activity on the email list of Middle School teachers. Susan will be sending out an email to encourage the group to submit program proposals for the conference.

Japanese – Sachiko Murphy

Community Colleges – Bea Houston

WIT is planning a variety of study abroad programs. Started study abroad for students at WIT, 4 students during Winterim, putting out on consortium website. Bea communicating with other colleges to get more students.

Julie is having trouble filling the program in Spain, and may end up having to cancel program. Hardly any response in Iowa. Embassy of Spain scholarships still available. They don't pay for whole program but still available. Pays for half tuition and housing and you pay for airfare.

WIT will be piloting Spanish for Heritage Speakers in the fall and going to curriculum next year. DMACC's commission recently approved Spanish for Heritage Speakers and DMACC plans to offer a course in the fall.

DMACC will have a booth at the fall conference. As of late, there has been increased presence for community colleges in IWLA.

Private Colleges and Universities – Coralie Turner

As funding for the organization and private support is discussed, Coralie has found that often business folks don't understand the plight of foreign languages, and often times are willing to financially support certain efforts. We need to be messengers to the business world. Not language per se that interests them, but all the things about diversity, language learning, adaptability, working with people who don't speak English are useful themes. They may want to have a presence at our conference or visit classrooms.

Coralie has made efforts to draw some attention to the need for foreign language education through being included and including her students in various events. A group of college students were helping with elementary quiz bowl in West Des Moines. Coralie was asked to do a colloquium on culture at Grand View and was then asked to do the presentation for administration folks. Activities like these and coming to our conference can help others who can support us to see what the issues are.

Coralie needs advice on how to work with other colleges. Patricia offered to get her the list of private colleges and universities from the private colleges' association. Coralie would like to invite department heads and invite them to present.

There has been a lack of success in the past getting colleges and universities to participate, but recently with the involvement of UNI and Iowa State, this is improving, but we need more from private colleges.

There has been discussion with Duronda Schlue to help create some relationships with business, as this is an area in which she is interested.

Public Universities – Linda Quinn-Allen

Parliamentarian – Position vacant

○ We need to put someone in place to advise in regard to the bylaws. It should be a minimal time involvement.

Keeka Baedke would like to serve. Carrie to send bylaw revisions from February 2 to Keeka.

Grants – Grace Valdez

No one had applied. If you are awarded a grant, you are asked to present if you come to the conference on a grant. Grant information needs to be revised.

Dept. of Public Instruction – Carmen Sosa(**Note:** Carmen Sosa passed away on April 19, two weeks after this meeting. On April 22, Mary West was planning to send a small memorial on behalf of IWLA.)

Historian/Archivist – Juan Trujillo

○ Julio will write names of people in photographs so that they can be put on the website with correct information.

Juan has 2-3 boxes of paper copies of the Bulletin and wasn't sure if he still needed to be keeping them. He also has been keeping the photos from each year on CD. Julie has put all back issues of the Bulletin on the website. Juan will check to see how far back his issues go. Julio can have issues scanned.

Juan plans to have pictures from old conferences shown as a slide show before the general session. If folks want copies of the photos they see, they can contact him and for a small donation for the scholarship fund, he can print the pictures. He's considering a trivia quiz or "what year was it?" sort of questions with the photos.

Exhibitor Liaison – Julie Wilhelm/Regina Schantz

○ 31 booths. Up by 3-4 from year before. Due to lack of space, more than 31 could be problematic. \$180 charge per booth. Was \$170 before, added extra 10 for security. Charged extra for extra tables. \$5280. Made 5-700 extra on extra tables. Was extra charge for skirting that was included in 180 dollar fee.

○ Vendors didn't like fountain on—too loud. Have fountain turned off, but there is a charge of \$300. If we want them happy, may want to turn it off.

○ Security was \$258 a night, only for Friday night. Increased price to cover security. Exhibitors wouldn't be upset to pay extra for security. We may want to consider raising exhibitor fee.

○ Other big complaint was that the plants blocked exhibitors from the rest of the group and didn't get as much traffic. Were told that plants cannot be moved, but need to see if they can get slid over a bit.

○ Suggest no box lunches for exhibitors unless purchase needed for food minimums. Cost us \$20 each. Vendors don't feel need to have box lunch.

○ Had wine and cheese reception and the vendors didn't like staying later for it. They want to be done at 4:30-5:00 on Friday. Had them stay until 11:00 Saturday morning, they thought too long. They want to close down as soon as general session starts up. Set 7:30-10:00 for exhibits to be open. One exhibit break on Saturday after AAT's. Final exhibit break from 10:20-11. Exhibit break from 9:20-10, then have drawings at 10:00 or from 8:00-10:00.

○ If we show them we're taking their suggestions into consideration, may be happier. Perhaps have them open at 7:30AM on Friday and close at 6PM. Then Saturday 8-10AM. When program done, Keeka will tell Julie about exhibit break times.

○ People not from conference were eating breakfast food from our tables. Though this would be prevented by moving the tables, we need to keep food by exhibitors to keep them satisfied.

○ Faith Bloomer is new convention contact at Embassy Suites.

○ Identify people who will direct folks at the conference. Have folks act as hosts to help new people. An ASK ME tag to help others. Can add Advisory Council note to nametags. People who come in on grants could be presidors and have small roles at conference.

○ \$20-\$25 registration for students, Bea talking about bringing Spanish Club students. Coralie mentioned requiring her nursing students taking Spanish to attend the conference. Need people at registration table who know how to direct people to parking. Folks at table are expected to be first contact. Duronda Schlue was asked to help, and she may have a group that she could bring like a hospitality group and rotate them near the registration area. Badges, folders, and nametags for exhibitors are needed also.

Local Conference Chair – Susan Sandholm-Petersen

Membership – Stacy Amling/Bea Houston

Five people have completed registration forms since the conference, which with the 390 we had register for that brings the total membership to 395 currently.

Program Chair – Kerisa Baedke/Lisa Sobotka

○ Keeka will contact old presenters by e-mail, as well as the advisory council, and executive board to ask them to present. Only one session proposal has been submitted.

○ June 15 is deadline for presentation requests. The names of presentations, presenters, and the presentation topics will be listed in the Fall Bulletin. Keeka hopes to have a good full slate. She also wants to get sessions from the AAT's. Let Keeka know if there are

people in constituency groups that should be contacted about presenting.

Keynote Ali Moeller, from Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln. Assessment should be big theme of conference and could help with schools to get teachers released. If you have presentation ideas for assessment, those should be included in the conference.

Old Business

- **Financial concerns of the association**

- In minutes from February 2 Executive Board meeting, there were ideas of many ways to save money to keep the organization going including conference support from private companies and organizations. A budget committee was also created.

- Still want to maintain scholarships and grants, but have to work on getting more in the reserves. The organization has belt-tightened as much as possible. Some private companies are going through a rough financial year also and are hesitant to donate. Need to use whatever influence we have to get money for the organization. We need to consider increasing the membership fee and charging more for conference registration, and also come up with a plan for a CSC grant.

Laptop for IWLA secretary

○ Thanks to reading the meeting minutes, Julie Wilhelm was kind enough to offer the laptop that had been purchased for her to do the Bulletin. She hasn't used it lately as she uses her own laptop to create it. She brought the laptop and it will now be used at meetings for the Secretary to take minutes. (Thanks, Julie!)

She only asks that IWLA purchase a jump drive for her so she can put all the Bulletins on it and it will be easy to hand on to the next person.

Bylaw revisions

Carrie will get copies of the bylaw revisions from the February 2 Executive Board meeting to Julie for Bulletin and to Keeka as new Parliamentarian.

New Business

- Conference 2009/2010 will continue in Des Moines. The Sheraton in West Des Moines and the Embassy Suites are being considered though there are still other possibilities and there is no site to be announced yet. Want to be sure get best proposals.

- Sheraton folks have been able to look up last time conference was there (when it was the University Park Holiday Inn) and rooms have since been improved. The room cost a little lower than the Embassy Suites, and parking is free. \$102 room price estimate. Maybe can negotiate \$99. Sheraton is the strongest possibility at this point.

- Nominations for 2008 – Treasurer, Central States Representative, and Vice-President will be on the bal-

lot, and we would like there to be a good slate of candidates for each office.

Bea Houston and Stacy Amling are doing membership/registration until conference, then Mary Steinbeck will be working with Bea, as Stacy is currently the only candidate for Treasurer. Bea and Mary have accepted to serve for 2009-2010.

Reminders

- Bulletin deadline for the fall issue is July 1, this is the one that is mailed and received at the beginning of the school year

- Deadline for proposals for the conference is June 15. The form is available on the web site.

- Nominations for Teacher of the Year are due to Patricia Calkins by April 30th. Improvements have been made to this section of the site and also to the nomination form. Nominations can likely be received a bit late, as there should still be time to get things in for plaques, etc.

- Check out the website and check for any updates that need to be made

- E-mail Dawn Frye and she will contact Julio to make the corrections

Next Advisory Council meeting – Thursday, October 2nd, 2008

Announcements

- Conference planning meeting was set for June 4, but some schools still in session and Mary hasn't been able to find a date that works for all.

There will be a conference call, then Mary will meet with Dawn, Elizabeth, and Julie to go down to Embassy Suites and meet separately. The call will be in April or May, so watch for e-mails for conference call.

Adjournment

Julie Wilhelm made a motion to adjourn and Sara Blanco seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:50PM.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Mulvihill.

Iowa World Language Association Conference

October 3 & 4

Des Moines

**Registration Deadline:
September 18**

Iowa World Language Association

Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, April 5th, 2008

Ames, Iowa

President Dawn Frye called the meeting to order at 1:10PM.

Attendees: President – Dawn Frye, President-Elect – Patricia Calkins, Vice President – Sara Blanco, Past-President/Conference Chair – Mary West, Secretary – Carrie Mulvihill

Increasing membership/registration fees

Discussed at Executive Board Meeting in February and mentioned again today in meeting with Advisory Board. May need to do it, but there is concern about losing membership. The organization needs to make up a little over \$8,000. Attendance may already be lower due to high gas prices.

Currently \$95 (in advance) and \$105 (on-site) for registration including membership. If we can get 390 or 400 attendees and have \$10 increase, that's 4K. Need to have money in reserve. In comparison the ICCLA conference, which is also 2 days in DSM, has a \$120 registration fee.

People will likely understand increased conference fee as long as we keep membership the same. Attendees should see that the money goes back to them and we're not going to profit, but just want to keep group solvent. Discussion to increase registration to \$125 and may have to sustain this price for 2 more years.

Patricia moved that we set fees at \$125/\$135 fees including membership. Sara Blanco seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Decreasing conference expenses

Need creative ideas for entertainment that don't cost anything, especially things that don't reach as many people. For example, lunch on last day. Lunches were ordered for 300, and probably 150 lunches were left.

Mary has told the Embassy Suites that we need costs to be \$7,000 less. This results in a 20% reduction in per person costs. To a certain point, we can do that but it's unknown how prices will balance as we will have to spend money in rooms or food with the hotel.

Contracts look to include a lot of waste. If you don't spend a certain amount on food, will spend them on room rental. If not deluxe continental breakfast, can get pastries and coffee and bananas. Hot water and tea bags. Will have average of \$100 per person in food. At the Central States conference, there is no food or coffee at all and

The advertisement features a banner at the top with four pairs of headphones and the words "Hello", "Ni Hao", "Bonjour", and "Hola". Below this is the main headline "LANGUAGE. WHO WANTS SECONDS?". A testimonial from Georges Detiveaux, Language Lab Coordinator and Lead French Faculty at Lone Star College-CyFair, is presented in a quote box. To the right of the quote is a photo of a woman wearing a headset. Below the testimonial is contact information for Ken Busam. At the bottom, logos for SOLOIST, VIRTUOSO, and SANS are displayed, along with the website URL and copyright information.

attendees had to buy tickets for lunches. Instead of cans of soda for \$3.25, may go for lemonade and iced tea containers.

No entertainment at reception, can serve cheese and crackers and folks can buy own drinks. We could choose not to have one, though the atrium will still need to be rented due to exhibitor location.

Perhaps we could do without marshals to save the \$360 expense for pizza from the hotel. If grants are given to student teachers, they could serve as presiders. Presiders could hand out evaluations.

Have students provide entertainment or hire the pan flute player again because he didn't need any space and was not expensive. Space was at a premium in the room.

WIFI costs \$50 a day per hookup, but the system is being re-worked. Should have it in exhibitor area and have one room with WIFI access, which was what we did last time. ISU was billed and were upset that others were able to use it.

Exhibitor fees

Group gives discretion to the conference committee but gives recommendation to raise the exhibitor fee up to \$200. If the conference committee would like the fee set lower, they should tell why. The last time fee was increased, was by \$10, and may have just been set by the conference committee. Due to additional costs and exhibitor requests, costs to vendors need to increase. If it will cost \$300 to get the fountain shut off, then exhibitors should pay for it.

2008 Conference

Rob Denson, President of DMACC, invited to be luncheon speaker. Luncheon is always rushed, and it is a bit longer now with the Friend of IWLA award. If add 30 minutes to luncheon, then allow sessions to go to 6:00. Have the meal, the speaker, and then the raffle, so the speaker isn't waiting during the raffle. Just need to make sure that exhibitor times work. This still would result in exhibitor time from 6-6:30.

Lunch needs to be served at exactly 12:05 to allow for serving time. The main goal of lunch is awards, then the speaker, then hospitality, allowing time for folks to talk, and then the raffle.

Should pre-draw the raffle winners and put them on overhead with a prize number after announcing the businesses that donated prizes or listing them on the overhead.

If membership folks get the final count at 11:00, this should ensure that all at lunch will be in the drawing. Then take 2 minutes to thank the businesses that donated, then give 5 minutes to the hospitality folks to tell about events and things in the area.

But will stick to current lunch time, from 12:05 to 1:50. If it still feels rushed, then will change the time for next year.

2009/2010 Conference

Still considering hotels for 2009. Location usually announced in Bulletin, but want to make the right

choice. There is nothing magic about announcing at that time.

Conference committee folks are hard to find. Don't like to keep asking same people. There is a lot of work that goes into program chair, conference chair, exhibitor liaison. Perhaps current folks would be willing to continue. Perhaps folks who want to serve on Executive Board and don't get the position will be interested in conference responsibilities.

Advocacy

Support Tammy's idea for advocacy committee. Need to discuss theme of letter to get to her. We can go to ACTFL and Central States for further support.

We need to consider good letter themes. We are the only organization that provides staff development for all language teachers. We are one of few states without representation. We need to take the things we most disagree with from the letter and focus on them.

We should also outline the job description for the potential position at the Department of Education for foreign languages, and what this person could do.

We need to consider another letter writing campaign and act on advisory council ideas. Dawn will follow through with Tammy.

Plan for area advisory council folks to deliver letters or include postage in budget for letters.

Other items

Need to find people to participate in Central States leadership program. Perhaps the Best of Iowa winner could go to the leadership program as an additional responsibility of winning. The application deadline is at an odd time, but Dawn can follow up with Keeka and work with Best of Iowa idea.

We should plan to apply for grants, but need to determine how it fits in. Perhaps apply for conference fee and membership for 20 student teachers. Could be responsibility of outreach person or private colleges chair or universities chair.

Need to consider if the Central States grant process is complex and determine if it fits into our goals if we give grants to student teachers. How can we do the most with it? Sara will work with Keeka to get the paperwork and tell her that this is on the agenda for the next Executive Council meeting so it can be completed well in advance of the January 15 deadline.

Next Executive Council meeting

For future conference planning, it would be best to have a binder that's passed from person to person that outlines all the needed documents and deadlines.

Adjournment

Mary West made a motion to adjourn and Sara Blanco seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:01PM.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Mulvihill.

ADVOCACY REPORT

By: Tammy Dann

Letter Writing Campaign

This fall 120 conference attendees participated in a letter campaign to lobby the state legislators for a world language consultant. The letters were delivered to both the representative and senator for each person, which means 240 letters were sent! Carrie Mulvihill, Susan Sanholm-Petersen and I were contacted by a handful of legislators who had received letters for their constituents. A few followed through and contacted the state department of education on the issue of no world language consultant. I have attached a copy of the response from the state department on the next page. An article about the campaign was included in the winter bulletin. I have just submitted an update for the spring bulletin on the campaign.

I would recommend doing another letter-writing campaign next year. I have been trying to find the key people in Minnesota that spearheaded their effort. Once I find those people, I will get advice from them on how Iowa can proceed. I would like the exec board to choose the themes for the letters and I will work on composing them. I will be unable to attend the conference this fall, but I'm willing to do as much of the prep work ahead as you need. If you would rather find another Advocacy Chair to spearhead this effort, I understand.

Advocacy Committee

Carrie and I have been talking about creating an advocacy committee. It would be nice to have people around the state to help spearhead and carry out any advocacy activities. I ask that the exec board please discuss this proposal.

Response from the Legislative Liaison, in the Iowa Department of Education to the IWLA Letter Writing Campaign

Dear Ms. Corkery:

Senator Staci Appel forwarded your letter regarding the addition of a foreign language staff member at the Department to me for response. Thank you for your interest in this subject and your support of foreign language instructional issues.

You are correct in saying the Department does not have a staff member whose sole responsibility is foreign language support. Carmen Sosa does, however, address issues related to foreign language instruction and provides technical assistance in this area. Unfortunately, health issues have prevented her from being more active in this area in the last couple of years.

As with all Departmental funding issues, this begins and ends with the legislature. I will tell you

that the level of obligation already made to new funding for existing expansion of effort (allowable growth, teacher compensation, and preschool, among others) makes this proposal a tough sell this year. The legislature was very generous last session providing funding for Department staff positions that were badly needed and we certainly appreciated that support.

While the Department would certainly staff this position if funding were made available, we are uncertain that there is enough work in this area alone to support a position at the Department solely for this purpose. We would want flexibility to use this staffing position for other related duties. We are also confident in saying that a staff position at the Department will not solve the statewide professional development dilemma in this content area.

A better vehicle to promote professional development supports for your teachers may be through some existing statute. The current law related to individual teacher professional development plans requires those plans to include goals for the individual teacher beyond district and building goals. It seems to make sense that foreign language teachers could use this mechanism to ensure that there are objectives related to specific content areas in those individual plans.

The Department does, however, understand that there are some clear shortage areas in foreign language instruction. Believe it or not, we have a steeply increasing need for Mandarin Chinese teachers. We have also imported 17 teachers from Spain to teach Spanish in our schools. Some sort of legislative effort to develop new or incent existing educators to go into foreign languages would clearly be helpful.

The Department also believes that an expansion of the teacher development academy concept is another way to potentially address needs in this area. Of course, that is another issue that tracks directly to funding. In short, while we agree that there is a need to provide better supports for foreign language teachers statewide, we aren't convinced that a staffing position dedicated to that purpose at the Department will accomplish this goal. We are certainly willing to continue to work with you on this issue.

Thanks again for your advocacy and I look forward to working more on this issue during the upcoming legislative session.

Sincerely,
Jeff Berger
Legislative Liaison
Iowa Department of Education
Cc: Senator Staci Appel
Bridget Godes

IOWA WORLD LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION BYLAWS
ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 3.2. Qualifications of Members.

Regular Members. Any person may become a Regular Member by applying for membership in the Association and paying all dues assessed pursuant to these Bylaws.

Student Members. A post-secondary student may become a member by applying for membership and paying all dues assessed pursuant to these Bylaws.

c. **Retired Members. Persons who are retiring from a language profession and have been members in good standing for the previous 5 years are eligible for Retired Member status.**

Section 3.7. Dues.

All membership (regular, student and retired) dues shall be set through a vote by the Executive Board. **Increases in dues may not** to exceed 25% of the current dues amount annually. (i.e. October 1 through September 30).

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 4.1. Annual Spring and Fall Meeting. The annual meeting of the members shall be held at such a date, **location**, and time as determined by the Board of Directors

Section 4.2. Special and Regular Meetings. Special meetings of the members, for any purpose(s), may be called by the President or Board of Directors. If twenty percent of the Association's voting members so request, the President shall call a special meeting.

Section 4.2a4.3. Place of Special Meetings. The membership or the Board of Directors may designate any place for special meetings of the members called by the Board of Directors or the President

Section 4.2b 4.4. Notice of Regular and Special Meetings. Written, printed or electronic notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting of members and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered either personally, by mail, or **electronically** by telephone to each member not less than ten nor more than fifty days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the Board of Directors, the President, or the Secretary or persons calling the meeting. If mailed, The notice of the meeting shall be deemed delivered **when it is posted on the official website of the association, iwla.net**, when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at such member's address as it appears on the records of the Association, with postage thereon prepaid.

Section 4.3 4.5. Change in number only.

Section 4.4 4.6. Change in number only.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 5.4. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or a majority of the Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any place., either within or without the State of Iowa, as the place for holding any such special meetings.

Section 5.9. Informal Action by Directors. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of Directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing or **electronically**, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the Directors entitled to vote.

Section 5.10. Meetings by Conference Telephone. Members of the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board by conference telephone or similar communications equipment. All persons participating in the meeting shall be able to **communicate** hear each other, and participation in a meeting pursuant to this provision shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. Records of the meeting shall be kept as required by these Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - ADVISORY COUNCIL

Section 6.2. Membership; Tenure.

6.2a. The Advisory Council shall consist of the members of the Board of Directors, the Conference Exhibitor Liaison, presidents of the AAT's and equivalent language associations, the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages delegate from Iowa, the Central States Conference representative from Iowa, the Editor of the Iowa World Language Bulletin, the Iowa Department of Education World Language Consultant, **the Webmaster...**

Section 6.5. Notice. Notice of any special meeting of the Advisory Council shall be given at least five (5) days previously thereto by personal delivery, by telephone, mail, or telegram **or by any electronic means** to each Advisory Council member at such member's address as shown by the records of the Association. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed delivered when deposited in the United States mail so addressed, with postage thereon prepaid. If notice is given by telegram, such notice shall be deemed delivered when the telegram is delivered by the telegraph company. ...

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Section 7.4. Vacancies. A vacancy in the office of President, for any reason, shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Vice-President (President-Elect). A vacancy in any other office, for any reason, shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by a vote of the majority of directors.

Section 7.5. President. ... (viii) appoint a Conference Exhibitor Liaison to the Advisory **Council** Board,

Section 7.7. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall **(i) shall be responsible for membership outreach (ii) assist the President-Elect in seeking funding for plan and direct the membership outreach efforts of the Association; (iii) perform such other duties as may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Directors.**

Section 7.8. Treasurer. ... (vi) perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors. The books will be **audited** reviewed and tax return shall be filed annually.

Section 7.10 Past President. Change in number only.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

Section 8.1. Standing Committees. The Association shall have the five following standing committees: (i) Nominating Committee, (ii) Awards Committee, (iii) Budget Committee, (iv) Grants Committee and (v) Conference Committee. Unless otherwise indicated in these Bylaws, the chairs of these committees shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. All committee members must be members in good standing of the Association. The duties of the standing committees shall be such as their titles imply and in particular as described in this Article. **Any committee member may be removed by the President, if, in the President's judgment, and with the consent of the Board of Directors, the best interests of the Association shall be served by such removal.**

Section 8.2. Nominating Committee. ... The Nominating Committee shall **submit in time for publication in the Fall Bulletin** not less than seven days prior to the annual meeting, prepare for the membership a slate of nominees for officers along with relevant information on the nominees.

Section 8.4. Budget Committee. The Budget Committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer and include **the Immediate Past-President, and up to two other members** appointed from the Association's membership. The Budget Committee shall provide direction for Association funds.

Section 8.11. Informal Action. Any action required or permitted to be taken by a committee at a meeting may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, **setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the members of the committee.**

Section 8.12. Meetings by Conference Telephone. Members of a committee may participate in a meeting of the committee by conference telephone or similar communications equipment. All persons participating in the meeting shall be able to **communicate** hear each other, and participation in a meeting pursuant to this provision shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. Records of the meeting shall be kept as required by Article X of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE X - DELEGATES TO AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

... Delegates so elected and funded by the Board of Directors must submit a report of said meetings to the Board of Directors at the spring meeting, **the Spring Bulletin**, and make a presentation at the fall conference.

ARTICLE XI - CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

Section 11.3 Checks, Drafts, etc. All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association, shall be signed by the Treasurer. In the absence or incapacity of the Treasurer, the president shall have the authority to apply **to be** as the co-signer to the accounts.

ARTICLE XII - BOOKS AND RECORDS

Section 12.3. Audit. The Board of Directors **shall** may have the books and records of account of the Association audited annually by a certified public accountant and, if audited, shall present the report at the annual meeting of members.

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<http://www.language.iastate.edu>

LANGUAGE MATTERS AWARD FROM ISE

ISE is pleased to inform you that we will again sponsor for IWLA our ISE Language Matters Award for the fall conference. The criteria for the award are the same as in previous years; the award will consist of an award certificate and a \$250 honorarium. ISE is pleased to make available to IWLA a special recognition award for its membership.

ELIGIBILITY: The applicant selected for this award shall be a high school teacher of a world language who has achieved outstanding success in getting his / her students to speak the target language through exemplary motivation and creative methods; in addition, the winner shall be a teacher who has provided authentic immersion experiences outside the classroom for students to apply their speaking skills; and the recipient is a member in good standing of IWLA.

No prior association or experience with ISE is required of the nominee.

How to nominate: Please send your nomination to Sara Blanco at sara.blanco@uni.edu by **August 31, 2008**. Include with your nomination the name and contact info of your nominee as well as a statement of why you feel he/she merits this award. Also, you must include your name and contact information for the nomination to be considered.

Dennis Meredith
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United States Needs to Invest in Foreign Language Competency to Maintain Competitiveness

(Taken from the American Council on Education Website, www.acenet.edu)

Washington, DC (January 8, 2007)—Citing the fact that only six staff members in the United States Embassy in Iraq are fluent Arabic speakers, the grass roots campaign *Solutions for Our Future*, in support of a coalition of international education groups, today called for an increase in federal investment in foreign language competency programs in a full-page advertisement in the congressional daily newspaper *Roll Call*.

The advertisement features an oversized number six and the caption: Number of fluent Arabic Speakers in the United States Embassy in Iraq. Explanatory copy states: "It's hard to represent America's interests abroad when we can't speak the language. While the U.S. has a number of programs that are ideally suited to increasing America's foreign language competency—Fulbright Hays, the National Security Education Program, the Foreign Language Assistance Program, and Title VI of the Higher Education Act—federal support for them has lagged for years. Increased investment in these programs today will yield big and lasting dividends." The data point is from page 92 of *The Iraq Study Group Report: The Way Forward-A New Approach*. "For nearly five decades, the United States has built and maintained a number of initiatives designed to ensure that higher education produces the expertise on foreign lan-

guages, cultures, and international business vital to our national security interests and global economic leadership," said David Ward, president of the American Council on Education, which manages the *Solutions for Our Future* campaign for a coalition of colleges, universities and community and business partners. "Over the past decade funding for these critical programs has been uneven and today we find them significantly under funded when adjusted for inflation. Increasing our investment in these critical programs today will return dividends for decades."

In fact, funding for key foreign language and area studies programs in the U.S. Department of Education is roughly 30 percent below their FY1967 funding high point in constant dollars.

Solutions for Our Future is a national campaign to increase public awareness of the many ways that American colleges and universities serve the public. Launched in March 2006, *Solutions* is managed by the American Council on Education on behalf of a coalition encompassing the full range of public and private colleges and universities, along with community and business partners including TIAA-CREF, NCAA and Campus Compact. For more information about *Solutions for Our Future*, visit the web site: www.solutionsforourfuture.org.

Founded in 1918, ACE is the major coordinating body for all the nation's higher education institutions, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents, and more than 200 related associations, nationwide. It seeks to provide leadership and a unifying voice on key higher education issues and influence public policy through advocacy, research, and program initiatives.



IWLA FALL CONFERENCE

Embassy Suites, Des Moines

October 3 & 4

Keynote Speaker:

Ali Moeller

University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Registration Deadline:

September 18

**Iowa World Language Association
% Julie Wilhelm, IWLA Bulletin Editor
1185 Quail Avenue
Goodell, IA 50439**

To the addressee below or his or her successor:

**E-mail the Bulletin:
farm5@frontiernet.net
Deadline for the Winter issue
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