



Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, March 29, 2008
Bloomington HS North, Room 408
10:15 a.m.-12: 52 p.m.

Attendance:

Officers: Angelika Becker, Silvana Falconi, Nicci Saari, Julie Canady

Non-officer directors: David Malcom (AATSP), Hannelore Weber (AATG), Mindy Zhang (ICLASS), David Banta (ICC), Nancy Doedens (Advocacy), Molly Jeon (AITJ), Molly Murphy (IN-NELL), Sylvia Hyde (Creative Project Contest Chair), Nancy Loriaux (Scholarships)

Ex-Officio: Adriana Melnyk (IDOE)

1. Angelika Becker , IFLTA President, called meeting to order at 10:15 a.m..
2. The minutes from Dec. 8, 2007 were posted to the IFLTA website and a printed copy was given to everyone present by Nicci Saari, IFLTA Secretary. Corrections to the minutes included Nancy Doedens to be added to the list of those in attendance and to change this meeting date to the correct date. Angelika asked for a motion by all those present to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded and approved.
3. Julie Canady distributed the Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance was \$39,286.36 and the ending balance was \$39,164.36. Upcoming expenses include the IFLTA Poster Contest, Strasheim Scholarship, and the Spring Newsletter. Angelika asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved.
4. Silvana Falconi, IFLTA Vice-President, presented the Conference Report. The theme for IFLTA 2008 Conference is World Languages: Connect to the Future. Silvana created registration forms with strands for technology, new teachers, and so on. All the registration forms are now on the IFLTA website. Members are encouraged to submit everything online. Nicci Saari sent out the 2008 IFLTA Call for Proposals electronically to all current IFLTA members. In addition, Silvana sent out the Call for Proposals form to all of the university-level World Language chairs. The deadline for conference proposals is July 21. IFLTA is still looking for a new meeting site for the 2009 Conference. The Hyatt downtown was proposed as a possible conference area but is not likely because of the cost. Some needs mentioned for the venue included a bigger venue, better placement for the Creative Project Contest, and wireless internet connection. A suggestion was given for workshops to occur on Thursday to be more competitive with other language conferences. Some workshop suggestions were Barb Snyder (communicative paired activities) and Laura Terrill. Some possible keynote speakers were suggested. Some of the possibilities discussed were Mark Watson from Georgetown

University, and Ellen Bernard Shrager, a speaker on classroom management and discipline and keeping up with the needs of today's demographic of students. Two others suggested for a keynote speaker were Gary Howard and Denny Hoopingardner (CLEAR Workshop—Center for Language Ed and Research). Silvana asked for input and suggestions for keynote speakers and topics.

5. Angelika distributed the Website Manager's Report as submitted by Carol Goss. Carol created a new website with a new design and organization to make it very easy to navigate. The Conference registration page and on-line session proposal form is on the website. Some forms regarding the conference need to be updated for the 2008 conference and sent to Carol to post to the website. In addition, Carol created the letterhead for the new logo. Everything should have the new logo now.

6. The Spring 2008 IFLTA newsletter created by Matt Miller, new Newsletter Editor, was posted on the website and mailed out. Input was given on the newsletter. Some of the comments included that the layout was professional and the content was interesting. The IFLTA board gives Matt a big round of applause. Angelika mentioned that it is necessary to have representation by all constituent organizations in the newsletter. The Meeting Connection was helpful in getting out the newsletter to members by providing a list of current addresses for all of the IFLTA members.

7. Adriana had some exciting news from the Indiana Department of Education—52% of high school students are currently taking a language. This is the first time we've ever broken 50%, with a 6% increase of enrollment in languages from last year. Every language but Russian was increased in enrollment. Adriana gave a list of language offerings/enrollment in Indiana for grades 9-12. Middle schools are cleaning up their data because of lots of misrepresentation. Part of this is due to the fact that districts aren't sure how to differentiate between FLES/Immersion/Exploratory programs when reporting information of course offerings to the DOE. FLAP grants are open for applications. FLAP Grants are only for critical languages-Chinese, Russian, Japanese, Hindi, Arabic. Hindi and Arabic Certification programs are starting at IU. IDOE is hosting a FLAP Grant Writing Workshop on Monday, Apr. 21 to help teachers who are trying to get funding for languages in their districts. Another immersion school is starting in Richmond, IN—there are now 7 in the state. Some language programs are dying across the state—the community can be mobilized to help save language programs. Adriana applauded Japanese and Latin teacher groups for their efforts in this area. It is up to us as teachers to act as advocates for our profession...there will be more discussion at the IFLTA Retreat on May 3. Chinese had a 334% increase in the last year. IU will require a HS language for admission next year. Purdue already has this in effect.

8. Angelika began the follow-up discussion of two Old Business items: finances and future conference venues. Regarding finances, Angelika talked to our accountant. IFLTA has too much money for a non-profit organization status. We need to channel money into different areas. How can we spend more money effectively? Angelika suggested that money be placed into CDs. Angelika asked Julie Canady if she would look into investing into CDs regarding terms for investing. Establishing more scholarships was proposed.

Some of the other possibilities discussed for spending included possible grants for professional development, conference attendance grants for some of the constituent organizations, donating to some of the constituent organizations by increasing the amount of the IFLTA mini-grants to \$300 for language organization groups, reimbursing the conference lunch for IFLTA officers, and using more of the IFLTA money for advocacy for language learning. Molly Murphy suggested looking at the NNELL model (sending out packets of advocacy materials)....IFLTA could team up with IDOE to come up with materials for packets that would discuss why language learning is important to Indiana. Nancy Doedens discussed putting together a brochure but said that one of the issues is determining the audience for the brochure. A follow-up discussion on Advocacy will occur at the May IFLTA board meeting and retreat. Higher mini-grants for the constituent organizations (up to \$300) was moved to be approved and seconded. Free lunch for the IFLTA Executive board during the IFLTA Conference was moved and seconded. Regarding future conference venues, Angelika mentioned that she is going to contact The Meeting Connection about looking for future venues that will suit IFLTA's needs. Asking The Meeting Connection to do this may cost IFLTA more money. All present agreed that this was money well spent. A motion was made to approve use of money for this and seconded.

9. Angelika presented some New Business items for discussion. Nancy Loriaux reported that there were 3 strong applications for the Strasheim Scholarship and that a decision will be made soon by the Scholarship Committee consisting of Lisa Calvin, Nancy Loriaux, and Angelika Becker. In the past, the Strasheim account has not been well contributed toward. IFLTA pays the difference between member donations and \$1500. Nancy reported that we also have a couple of mini-grant applications (one for \$100 for World Language Quiz Bowl in West Lafayette-Wabash Valley, and one for \$300 for AITJ –workshop for differentiated instruction— Deb Blaz is presenting a 2-day workshop)...both of those mini-grants will be awarded. Nicci Saari gave the CSC Delegate Report. She reported to other states some of the positives of the organization which included reaching out to new teachers with our conference's New Teacher Night, and the IFLTA Strategic Planning Retreat in May to attract future IFLTA leaders. Nicci reported that it was interesting to hear what other states are doing in regards to their language teacher organizations. On May 3, there will be a follow-up meeting which started last May as strategic planning for each of the constituent organizations. Adriana will check on parking for meeting to reserve spaces due to the Mini-Marathon.. Angelika noted that presidents of the constituent organizations should invite up to 5 future leaders. The strategic planning will be a follow-up for the constituent organizations--what has accomplished, and what has changed, if anything? Angelika will collect all of the documents from the May meeting and then the IFLTA Executive Board will make some determinations as steps to IFLTA's future. By Apr. 20, presidents of constituent organizations should e-mail Angelika with the names of people that will attend the retreat portion of the May meeting from 1-3. Elizabeth Bays has been selected to represent us as Best of Indiana at the 2009 Central States Conference.

10. Reports were given from the constituent organizations. Highlights from each organization include:

- ◆ AATG—discussed trying to meet the need for new membership
- ◆ AATSP--State Spanish Contest is being revamped by trying to be more invitational and reduce the competitive nature. In addition, some new, fresh members have been added to their leadership
- ◆ AITJ—recently finished Japanese Olympiad at DePauw University and was a successful event, recently had an event in KY which focused on AP
- ◆ ICLASS-- Chinese workshop was held in February which was very well attended—52 teachers, many in Saturday school programs and even teachers from KY and TN, also attempting to host a state contest in Chinese in Sept. 2008, certification and funding are issues that they continue to face
- ◆ ICC-- Apr. 4 & 5 is their annual conference at the University of Southern Indiana, in addition, ICC has been discussing and implementing the strategic goals discuss at the May 2007 IFLTA Retreat
- ◆ IN-NELL-- Jan 25 & 26 was the NNELL/IN-NELL joint conference--Jan 25 Terry Cacavalle (NNELL President) discussed languages and reading along with advocacy and Dr. Scott Hamilton did a presentation about languages and the brain

11. Some additional announcements and informational items were given. Shawn Whistler from Christel House Academy is the new Poster Contest Chair...the deadline is Apr. 25th. There has been a lack of entries from the elementary level so it was noted to get the word out to elementary language teachers to increase entries. Sylvia Hyde is the new Creative Projects Contest Chair. In the past, the categories were AV tech, tri-fold posters, and paper projects (arts and crafts). The possibility of refining the categories was discussed. Sylvia suggested to further clarify the categories, especially the paper projects. Some of the possible new categories included Visual Arts (painting/drawing) and Creative Writing. Regarding Creative Writing, the question was posed whether this included cultural reports in English or poetry/short writings in the target language. In addition, Sylvia mentioned that judging for the contest needs to be re-examined. Some of the possible candidates suggested for judging this event included exhibitors, grad assistants, student teachers, and conference grant attendees. Nicci suggested a deadline prior to the conference for the entries to ensure proper space to hold the entries. Angelika suggested that Sylvia research and bring back a proposal for the refined contest/categories at the August meeting. Adriana announced that the IDOE is developing HS level Spanish for Heritage Speakers state standards and also state standards for American Sign Language. Adriana proposed possibly including the ASL teachers' organization (ASLTA-Indiana Chapter) as a constituent organization of IFLTA as something to push the organization in an innovative direction.

12. Future Meeting Dates (all meetings at 10AM unless otherwise noted):

May 3, 2008 (Indianapolis, IN)

August 9, 2008 (West Lafayette, IN)

November 6, 2008 (conference)

IFLTA Conference 2008 November 6-8 at the Holiday Inn Select Airport, Indianapolis,
IN

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nicci Saari, IFLTA Secretary

Next meeting date: May 3, 2008 location pending (State House-Indianapolis)